

APPLICATION FORM

Deadline for submissions: 15 June 2018

Please fill in the table below and the questionnaire on page 2

Name of organisations	NANTS, ROPPA, Bread for the World		
Countries where Organisations are based	Nigeria, Senegal, Germany		
Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> IGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade union	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private sector <input type="checkbox"/> Law firm <input type="checkbox"/> Journalist	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliamentarian <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>Please specify,</i>
Person(s) in charge of organising the session	Jacques Berthelot (to facilitate the link with the WTO Secretariat)		
Email	jacques.berthelot4@wanadoo.fr		
Telephone	Fixed: +33561412906; mobile: +33678700144;		
Webpage address	www.sol-asso.fr		
Participation in the Public Forum	Participated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2017 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2016 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2015 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2014 <input type="checkbox"/> 2013 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2012 <input type="checkbox"/> 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> 2010 <input type="checkbox"/> 2009 <input type="checkbox"/> 2008 <input type="checkbox"/> 2007 <input type="checkbox"/> 2006 <input type="checkbox"/> 2005 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2004 <input type="checkbox"/> 2003 <input type="checkbox"/> 2002 <input type="checkbox"/> 2001	Organised a Session <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2017 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2016 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2015 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2014 <input type="checkbox"/> 2013 <input type="checkbox"/> 2012 <input type="checkbox"/> 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> 2010 <input type="checkbox"/> 2009 <input type="checkbox"/> 2008 <input type="checkbox"/> 2007 <input type="checkbox"/> 2006 <input type="checkbox"/> 2005 <input type="checkbox"/> 2004 <input type="checkbox"/> 2003 <input type="checkbox"/> 2002 <input type="checkbox"/> 2001	

Please answer the following questions as completely and accurately as possible.

1. Title of the session.

Multilateralism vs bilateralism to reach SDGs in West Africa

2. Do you want to organise a Working Session or a Workshop?

Working Session

Workshop

3. Explain how your session relates to the theme of this year's Public Forum and provide a brief description of the session, including the objective(s) and relevant questions that will be addressed.

The multiplication of FTAs can as much explain the crisis of multilateralism than the reverse. As long as FTAs take place between countries/regions of the same development level one could argue they may be stepping stones to multilateralism. It is dubious this might be the case for the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) between the EU and Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)'s Regional Economic Communities (RECs), particularly West Africa (WA) with a per capita GDP 21 times lower than that of the EU28 in 2017. Implementing this EPA could render problematic the possibility for WA to reach the SDGs in 2030, particularly target 2 on ending hunger and promote sustainable agriculture and target 17.14 on policy coherence for sustainable development. Furthermore the recent confirmation of Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari that he will not sign the EU-WA regional EPA could destroy the lengthy process of regional integration of WA as the interim EPAs of Ivory Coast and Ghana will become permanent. His refusal at the same time to sign the AfCFTA (Continental Free Trade Agreement) of Africa before analyzing its possible negative impacts on his country.

So that the issues to be debated are:

- To what extent the EPAs were really imposed by the WTO rules, given that a WTO consensus was given to the USA to renew for 10 years, up to 2025, its non-reciprocal trade agreement with Sub-Saharan Africa (AGOA)?
- What are the provisions of the EU-WA EPA which might prevent WA to reach the SDGs 2 and 17.14 by 2030?
- To what extent facilitating the admission of the SSA RECs as full WTO Members could facilitate their implementation of the SDGs?
- To what extent the AfCFTA would accelerate or refrain the reinforcement of regional integration process within the RECs, especially of WA?

4. Provide an abstract of your session (no more than 150 words). An abstract summarizes your proposed session/workshop. If selected, this abstract will be inserted in the programme and posted on the website of the Public Forum prior to the event (compulsory).

As long as FTAs take place between countries/regions of the same development level they may be stepping stones to multilateralism. It is dubious this might be the case for the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) between the EU and Sub-Saharan Regional Economic Communities (RECs), particularly West Africa (WA) with a per capita GDP 21 times lower than in the EU28 in 2017. Implementing this EPA could render problematic for WA to reach the SDGs in 2030. To what extent the EPAs were imposed by the WTO rules given that a WTO consensus has allowed the United States to renew the AGOA for 10 years, up to 2025? Which provisions of the EPA might prevent WA to reach the SDGs 2 and 17.14? To what extent recognizing the RECs as full WTO Members could facilitate their implementation of the SDGs? Would the AfCFTA accelerate or refrain regional integration within the RECs?

5. Identify potential panellists for your session. Please note that we will **NOT** accept more than 5 panellists (including the moderator). Indicate their background (i.e., academic community, NGO representative, business community, government official, IGO

representative, journalist etc...). Please ensure that the panellists represent different perspectives on the topic to be addressed.

Ken Ukaoha, President of NANTS (National Association of Nigerian Traders) and Member of ECOWAS Task Force on Trade, business community.

Mamadou Cissokho, Honorary President of ROPPA (Network of small farmers organisations and agricultural producers of West Africa), Senegal, farmers' union.

Dr. Joachim Schuster, Member of the INTA (International trade) Committee of the European Parliament, Substitute member of the Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Germany, EU institutions representative.

Francisco Mari, Senior policy officer on Agritrade and Fisheries at Bread for the World, Germany, NGO representative.

Jacques Berthelot, retired academic, analyst of agricultural policies at SOL (alternatives agroécologiques et solidaires), France, NGO representative.