

Global Commodities Forum

Palais des Nations, Geneva 22 - 23 March 2010

Commodities, Governance and Economic Development under Globalisation- A Book Launch in Memory of Alfred Maizels

by

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"The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD"

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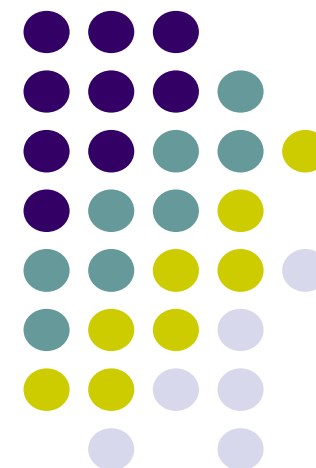
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Contemporary Issues



- Globalisation is at a cross road
- Visible cracks in 2007-8 on the **three fronts**: a) the world food crisis and fuel crisis (**commodity** issues); b) the global financial crisis(in globalised finance and **regulations**); c) the **environmental** crisis; These three are all interlinked.
- Huge **Collateral Damage** to DCs - from Global **Financial** Crisis to **Economic** Crisis and to **Development** Crisis- both **Market Failure** and **Governance Failure**
- The poor functioning of the international economic system in performing a vital role for global development
- The need for fundamental reforms over the globalisation process beyond the issues of bank supervision and regulation
- The intensifying two-way interactions between the commodity and financial markets as one of powerful transmission mechanisms of the global financial crisis to commodity export dependent LICs

Contemporary Issues (cont'd)



- The huge swings in commodity prices in 2002-8 (with excessive volatility in particular for 2006-8) are at least partly a reflection of the increasing linkages between commodity markets and financial markets
- The case for **innovative** commodity price stability schemes
- Implications of commodity price volatilities for economic development of LICs, in particular those commodity-export dependent LDCs in SSA
- The case for a new contingent financing facility as **counter-cyclical** demand management as a part of a new architecture of global governance and aid-financing facility
- The need for resolution of the “**Commodity-Dependence Trap**” facing LICs, so that they could focus on investment in productive assets and diversification/structural transformation of their economies for broad-based economic development and job-creating economic growth.

Contributions of Alfred Maizels



- A brilliant technical economist with pragmatism – a realist and a **visionary**, through academic research and policy advices for a better & fair world
- Examples of Alf's far-sights:
 - On the inter-linkages between **finance** and **commodity**: in the early 1990s: “instability in the commodity markets and in the financial markets feed on each other, and constitute an inbuilt mechanism of short-term destabilization and uncertainty in the world economy”
 - On the need for Debt Crisis resolution of Commodity-dependent LDCs
“The **debt crisis** of poor countries coincided with the **commodity crisis** in the 1980s – the need to deal with commodity crisis and a call for global compensatory financing facility (Maizels 1992)
 - The effects of simultaneous expansion of low-skill labour intensive manufactures on the TOT –South-South Issues
 - Increasing fragmentation of producers in LICs and their govts, together with TNCs' consolidation in global production, trade and marketing
- Promoting open academic & policy debates necessary for arriving at better informed development strategy and policies

Book Contents



Foreword by Richard Jolly and Introductory remarks

Part 1: Commodities, Trade and Governance: Reflections on Alfred's Maizels' life, work and Legacy

1. *Commodities, Co-operation, and World Economic Development: The Mission of Alfred Maizels, 1917-2006 : John Toye*
2. *Poverty, Power and Global Economic Governance : Gerry Helleiner*

Part 2: Commodities and the global economy in the 21st Century

3. *Issues and Challenges for Commodity Markets in the Global Economy: An Overview Machiko Nissanke*
4. *Commodity Market Structures, Evolving Governance and Policy Issues Machiko Nissanke*
5. *Commodities still in Crisis? David Sapsford, Stephan Pfaffenzeller and Harry Bloch*
6. *Asian Drivers, Commodity Prices and the Terms of Trade Raphael Kaplinsky*
7. *Uncertain prospects of commodity-dependent developing countries Alice Sindzingre*

Contents (cont'd)



Part 3: Case Studies of Cotton and Copper

8. Crises in Cotton of Francophone Africa: Fatality or Challenge for Multi-dimension Cooperation?

Michel Fok

9. Exchange Rate Management for Commodity Dependent Countries: A
Zambian Case Study

Elva Bova

Part 4: Finance and Governance under Globalization

10. A Role of Compensatory finance in the 21st century after the 2008
Global Financial Crisis

Adrian Hewitt

11. The “Bottom Billions”: A Critique and Alternative View

Charles Gore

12. Global Rules and Markets: Constraints over Policy Autonomy in
Developing Countries *Yilmaz Akyüz*