



MEDIA ADVISORY-- For Immediate Release

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NOTE TO EDITORS: *Press interviews can be arranged in advance.*

Commodity Dependency and LDCs

WHO: CFC and UNCTAD

WHAT: *Special Event on Commodity Dependence and the Impact of the Multiple Global Crises on LDCs*

WHEN: 8 May 2011.

WHERE: Hamidiye Hall, the Istanbul Congress Centre, Istanbul, Turkey.

BACKGROUND: The **Common Fund for Commodities**, an international financial institution established by the United Nations, jointly with UNCTAD have organized a side event at the 4th United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (UN-LDC IV) in Istanbul, 9-13 May 2011.

The event is subtitled “Mapping the exposure to market volatility and building resilience to future crises”—takes place from **14:00 to 18:00 hrs, 8 May 2011 at the Hamidiye Hall** at the Istanbul Congress Centre, Istanbul. The theme is meant to suggest concrete and actionable strategy, policies and recommendations for reducing LDCs’ risks and for ushering in more stable, inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the affected countries.

Speakers at the special event will include selected Ministers from LDCs; **H.E. Cheick Sidi Diarra**, United Nations Special Advisor on Africa and High Representative for LDCs, Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), and Small-Island Developing States (SIDS); **H.E. Ambassador Ali Mchumo**, Managing Director of the CFC; a representative of UNCTAD, and a series of national and international consultants and experts who have carried out case studies on the effects of recent crises on LDCs. Also addressing the meeting will be the heads of several other commodity-based agencies.

The Amsterdam-based Common Fund finances commodity development projects for smallholder farmers, as well as small and medium sized enterprises in commodity production, processing and trade in developing and least developed countries. For additional information about the meeting, please visit www.common-fund.org

The Common Fund for Commodities-www.common-fund.org- is a 105- member state international financial institution based in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The Fund’s specific mandate is to support developing countries that are commodity dependent to improve and diversify commodities production and trade.