

**Aide Memoire  
on the  
Sudan Integrated Framework  
Preparatory Mission  
June 18–26, 2006**

Philip Schuler  
The World Bank

1. A mission to prepare for the Sudan Integrated Framework Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS) took place June 18–26, 2006. Philip Schuler (World Bank) led a team comprising Panos Antonakakis (WTO), Dirk Hansohm (UNDP-Khartoum), Luca Monge Roffarello (UNDP-Geneva), Marcel Namfua (UNCTAD), and Leendert Solleveld (World Bank).<sup>1</sup> The counterpart agency for the mission and for the IF program in Sudan is Commission on WTO Affairs (CWTOA), headed by H.E. Badr Eddin Suleiman, National Negotiator for the Accession of the Sudan to the WTO.
2. The mission's objectives were to brief the National IF Steering Committee on the IF program, refine terms of reference for the DTIS, and develop a tentative timeline for the Sudan IF program. The team conducted meetings with stakeholders in Khartoum and Juba. Mohamed Ali Dingle, Advisor to the CWTOA, coordinated meetings with stakeholders. He and Dr. Sami Balla Ibrahim, Consultant to the CWTOA, also attended meetings in Khartoum throughout the mission as part of the team. This aide memoire summarizes the state of the IF program and accomplishments of the mission.

**Governance structure of the Sudan Integrated Framework**

3. The CWTOA has solicited participation in the National IF Steering Committee from government, private sector, and international partners. A tentative committee met June 12 to prepare for the mission, and the team briefed the committee on June 20. Minister Suleiman serves as the chairperson of the committee. A core team of the steering committee is being formed. The CWTOA is soliciting funds from the Ministry of Finance to support a secretariat for the steering committee.
4. Dr. Dingle serves as the National IF Focal Point.
5. The government will designate an IF Donor Facilitator in July. The World Bank resident mission hosted an initial meeting of donors, international agencies, and representatives from major trade partners on June 25 to initiate dialogue with external partners on the IF. The list of those attending is attached.
6. To ensure that the needs of South Sudan are reflected in the Sudan IF, the CWTOA has solicited membership from the Government of South Sudan through the Office of the Vice President. The CWTOA will directly invite additional participation from civil society.

**Scope of diagnostic trade integration study**

7. The mission and the government agreed, in broad terms, on the focus and content of the DTIS. The overall theme of the DTIS will be increasing Sudan's competitiveness in world markets as a tool for economic growth and poverty reduction. WTO accession will feature prominently in the DTIS since the accession can play an important role in promoting policy

---

<sup>1</sup> Abdeslam Azuz (International Trade Centre) initially planned to join the mission but unfortunately had to cancel his travel at the last minute.

reforms that increase Sudan's competitiveness. Within this broad context, the DTIS will address the following cross-cutting issues:

- macroeconomic context (including Dutch Disease),
- trade policy and institutions: market access and preference utilization; Sudan's tariff structure and policies related to imports; trade policy making process; trade and investment promotion institutions
- trade facilitation: transportation infrastructure, trade logistics, and customs administration
- trade and poverty: potential for trade integration to alleviate poverty, adjustment costs

The DTIS will include a number of studies that illustrate constraints to and potentials for increase trade in particular sectors. These tentatively include the following:

- livestock and meat products
- agricultural products, such as cotton, sugar, fruits and vegetables
- food processing, such as oilseed processing
- backbone services, such as banking and telecommunications
- tourism

The concept note will finalize the topics to be addressed in the study.

#### **Availability of Window I funds for the national focal point**

8. Luca Monge Rofarello briefed Dr. Dingle and the UNDP resident mission on funds available from Window I to strengthen the capacity of the national focal point. The CWTOA prepared a formal letter of request for these funds, which it delivered on June 26 to the UNDP resident mission for forwarding to UNDP-Geneva.

#### **Requests for data and other information**

9. The mission requested trade data for 2004–2005; the 2006 tariff schedule; data on FDI by source country, sector, and destination; reports commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture and by the Ministry of Finance on export possibilities; and recent reports submitted to the WTO. The CWTOA gave the mission paper copies of reports prepared for WTO accession and will send by email the trade data and electronic versions of other reports.

#### **Tentative timeline of the IF program in Sudan**

10. The mission and the government agreed on a tentative schedule for the IF program.

- DTIS concept note: circulated in August and formal review conducted in September
- DTIS mission: October 2006 (N.B. The Darfur JAM and the Sudan Consortium are also tentatively scheduled for October. These events may require postponing the DTIS mission until early November.)
- DTIS draft: circulated in March 2007 and formal review conducted in April 2007
- National Workshop: May 2007

#### **Thanks**

11. The mission team thanks H.E. Suleiman, Drs. Dingle and Ibrahim, and the staff of the CWTOA for their support and dedication, which have made the mission a success.

### **Annex 1. Members of the National Steering Committee (tentative list)**

Mr. Fath Alrahman Abd Elmaged, Federal Governance Chamber  
Dr. Mutasim Abdel Rahim, Ministry of General Education  
Dr. Abdel Ati Jabir Alhaj, Ministry of International Cooperation  
Dr. Omer Aljili Alsheik, Ministry of Science and Technology  
Amb. Osman, The Presidency of the Republic  
Dr. Ismail Alkhalifa, University of Khartoum  
Mrs. Igbal Dirdiry, Ministry of Industry  
Mr. Wail Fahmi, Ministry of Finance and National Economy  
Mr. Gindeel Ibrahim, Sudanese Business Association  
Mr. Salah Alsheick, Bank of Sudan  
Mr. Abdel Aziz Abutalib, Ministry of Foreign Trade  
Eng. Ishag Adam, National Assembly  
Mrs. Nadia Hassan, Industry Research Centre  
Mrs. Huda Salih, Ministry of Foreign Trade  
Mr. Elamin Adam, Ministry of Finance and National Economy  
Mrs. Layla Omer, Ministry of Finance and National Economy  
Mr. Sultan Ahmed, National Council for Strategic Planning  
Dr. Abdel Azim Sulieman, Higher Council of Quality Assurance and Excellency  
Mr. Mohamed Basheer, CWTOA  
Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Dingle, CWTOA  
Dr. Ibrahim Dagash, CWTOA  
Dr. Sami Balla, University of Khartoum  
Prof. Elsidig Ahmed Elmustafa Hiati, University of Khartoum  
Miss Amani Musaad, CWTOA

### **Annex 2. List of bilateral meetings**

Commission on WTO Affairs: Minister Suleiman and senior staff  
Galal Abbas Ramadan, customs expert and retired director general of Sudan Customs  
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry: undersecretary and senior staff  
Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries, GOSS: minister, director general of planning  
Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries: undersecretary and senior staff  
Ministry of Commerce, Trade, and Supply, GOSS: minister, undersecretary, senior staff  
Ministry of Industry: undersecretary and head of economic studies department  
Ministry of International Cooperation: director general for multilateral cooperation  
Ministry of Investment: undersecretary  
Ministry of Trade: minister, undersecretary, senior staff  
Ministry of Transport: undersecretary  
Sudan Business Federation: chairs of export, transport, small industries, and women's chambers  
Sudan Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture: current and former presidents  
Sudan Customs: director general and senior staff  
Sudanese-French Bank: chairman and director  
U.K. DFID: advisor to the Ministry of Commerce, GOSS  
World Bank resident mission: country manager, Multi-Donor Trust Fund coordinator

### **Annex 3. Attendance at meeting of external partners**

Abdulla Tahir Bin Yehia, FAO  
Ambassador Elijah Matibo, Embassy of Kenya

Yochiro Toda, Embassy of Japan  
Peter Benger, Embassy of Germany  
Reddy Mompane, Embassy of South Africa  
Ambassador Mohamed El Shazby, Embassy of Egypt  
Jerzy Skuratowicz, UNDP  
Renato Fornocaldo, UNIDO  
Ambassador Ahmed Mubeideen, Embassy of Jordan  
I.W. van der Dyuer, Embassy of South Africa  
Mlyngisi Sisula, Embassy of South Africa