

CEFTA Week 2020 Conference
CEFTA in pandemics: Achievements and Challenges
Jahorina, Bosna and Herzegovina
17December 2020

10.30-11.10 Opening of the conference and Welcome Remarks

Speakers:

Stasa Kosarac, Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, BIH
Genoveva Ruiz Calavera, Director for Western Balkans, DG Near, EC
Emir Djikic, Director, CEFTA Secretariat
Majlinda Bregu, Secretary General, RCC (tbc)
Matej Zakonjsek, Director, Transport Community (tbc)
Marko Cadez, President of the Managing Board of WB6 CIF

Moderator: Dusko Krsmanovic, Advisor to the Minister for International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, BIH

Press conference

11.15-12:15 Panel discussion – Regional Economic Cooperation: Milestone of the region's response to COVID19 and path for a lasting economic recovery

Speakers:

Representative of Chamber of Commerce Bosnia and Hercegovina
Gjoko Tanasoski, Director, Customs Administration of North Macedonia (tbc)
DG TAXUD
Nenad Zdravkovic, Milsped Group, Member of WB6 CIF Business Council

Moderator: Edna Karadza, SEED+ Project Manager, CEFTA Secretariat

The panel should discuss trade implications of pandemic situation for the CEFTA Parties and region's response to COVID19 pandemic. The speakers would be invited to share their views on how the recently adopted Action Plan for the Common Regional Market for 2021-2024 could support and accelerate the recovery of the CEFTA region.

12.30-13.30 Panel discussion – CEFTA Mutual recognition programmes: Potential for boosting the trade in CEFTA

Speakers:

Lidia Ababii, Customs Administration, Moldova
Chamber of Commerce, Kosovo*

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

**Zorka Prljevic, Directorate for FoodSafety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Affairs,
Montenegro
ITC expert
PTB expert**

Moderator: Danijela Gacevic, Senior Technical Expert on Trade Facilitation, CEFTA Secretariat

CEFTA Parties made a far-reaching commitment to remove obstacles, and cut costs and time needed for goods, services, capital and people to move freely across the region. This should be achieved through mutual recognition programmes (MRP). Aim of the panel is to promote and further enhance the use of MRA in intra-CEFTA trade and beyond. As well as to exchange views on stepping up work regarding the MPR and assess the opportunities for boosting the trade in CEFTA.

13.30-14:15 Lunch Break

14.15-15.15 Panel discussion – E-commerce: Pathway to economic recovery of the CEFTA region

Speakers:

Irena Malolli, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Albania

Business representative, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Milan Dobrijevic, Ministry of Trade, Tourism, and Telecommunications, Serbia

GIZ expert

Representative of international organisation

Moderator: Zdravko Ilic, Senior Technical Expert on Trade in Services, CEFTA Secretariat

Trade in goods is undergoing a digital revolution. E-Commerce offers an additional way to spur economic growth, even more in these challenging times where physical purchases and customer relations are restricted. A sound E-commerce environment helps big and small enterprises to work on their economic recovery and promote their products. The panel will take stock of current opportunities and provide an overview of the e-commerce situation in CEFTA Parties. The panel will also address the way forward.

15.30-16.15 CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE: Key achievements and way forward

Speakers:

Stasa Kosarac, Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Kreshnik Bekteshi, Minister, Ministry of Economy, North Macedonia (tbc)

Emir Djikic, Director, CEFTA Secretariat