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Building Consensus on Services Reforms and Negotiations: the Private Sector and the Role of Services Coalitions

2-3 October 2009

Imperial Royale Hotel – Kampala, Uganda

Key Questions for National/Regional Private Sector Groups

Background

During the regional workshop, experiences will be shared from various organisations about the value and role of CSIs in the development of services trade policy. In addition to the guidelines provided in the agenda (see draft agenda) presenters are asked in each session to consider and speak on the following key points, in order to provide as much information as possible about the way their group works, how they are constituted and what (actual and potential) role they play in services reforms and negotiations.

- What is the mission or objective(s) of the organisation?
- What are the broad functions of the respective organisations? E.g. lobbying/advocacy, professional development, accreditation, other?
- What form does the organisation take and how is it constituted? What is the structure of the organisation? What subordinate bodies (e.g. sub-committees, etc) exist? How do regional bodies interact with national ones and vice versa?
- Who are its members/what types of members are represented in the organisation? What sub-sectoral interests are covered?
- How is the body organised institutionally? What partnerships or networks does the organisation participate in?
- What relationships does the organisation have with government or other groups such as the EABC or the EAC Secretariat?

- What, if any, role does the organisation play in policy making, decision-making or negotiations related to services?
- Is there any research input into the organisation? How is this organised? Is there a separate unit or is research capacity sub-contracted?
- Describe any relationships with similar third country service sector organisations.
- What are the sources of funding for the organisation? (existing or potential)
- What typical challenges/constraints are faced by the organisation/describe the operating environment in which the organisation functions? And how might a regional CSI help in addressing these?

For Session VI, discussants will be asked to comment specifically on the proposed regional CSI (see attached draft agenda).