

Press release

Geneva, March 31, 2010

Cotecna moderates UNCTAD Conference Panel

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) organised a Global Commodities Forum on March 22 & 23 at the UN headquarters in Geneva. The objective of this initiative was to encourage a comprehensive discussion of the key issues of the commodity economy, including commodity trade finance and logistics and their role in international trade and development. Issues of crucial relevance to the commodities sector were discussed in a number of conference sessions and panels.

Matthieu Delorme, Chief Operating Officer Cotecna Trade Services SA, was asked to moderate a panel of experts in Logistics and Collateral. Presentations and discussions during the panel covered topics such as logistics in developing countries, supply chain financing and financing products and the use of technology in supply chain solutions. Most significant among the panel's conclusions were the need for greater industry clarity in the respective roles of collateral monitoring and insurance, in-depth knowledge of the supply chain logistics and documentation for specialist trade financiers, and a more collaborative approach to information systems electronically processing documentary credits. The panel stressed the importance of progress in these issues to ensure costs efficiencies, improved risk management, better regulatory treatment and ultimately enhanced liquidity for trade finance.

Over 300 delegates attended the sessions over the two days including high level representatives from governments, financial institutions, insurers, commodity producers and exporters, collateral managers, lawyers, end consumers etc.

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Note to editors:

About Cotecna

Founded in Switzerland in 1974, the **COTECNA** Group offers a wide range of trade facilitation services, trade security services and quality certification standards. Cotecna is a pioneer in areas such as risk management, destination inspection and scanner integration projects and also offers Customs modernization programmes, Customs valuation assistance, trade security solutions and commercial inspections. For a full description of our services, please visit www.cotecna.com. The Cotecna Group has a combined workforce of about 4,000 employees and agents in close to 100 offices.