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**New Trade Facilitation Support Program to Provide Technical Assistance for  
Developing Countries**

**GENEVA, June 10, 2014**--The World Bank Group (WBG) Office in Geneva together with the European Commission, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Canada, Switzerland, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs today announced the establishment of a new Trade Facilitation Support Program (TFSP). The Program will help countries reform their trade facilitation practices in a manner consistent with the main components of the new Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), reached at the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2013.

*“The Program will focus on the effective implementation of trade facilitation reforms in developing countries to enhance private sector competitiveness, thus leading to increased trade, investments and job creation.”* **said Selina Jackson, Special Representative to the UN and the WTO, World Bank Group Office in Geneva.**

The Program will have two main components – the provision of Technical Assistance (TA), where the WBG will help developing countries reform their trade facilitation laws, procedures, processes and systems in a manner consistent with the WTO TFA. The second component will focus on Knowledge, Learning and Measurement where the TFSP will also complement and underpin project interventions with the development of knowledge, learning and measurement toolkits and related initiatives.

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**For more information** on the Trade Facilitation Support Program (TFSP), please visit [www.TradeFacilitationSupportProgram.org](http://www.TradeFacilitationSupportProgram.org) and/or contact [TFSP@worldbankgroup.org](mailto:TFSP@worldbankgroup.org).