

TESS Conference on Trade, Climate, and Sustainable Development (TCSD) 2025

Trade Cooperation Pathways for Climate Action, Resilience, and Justice

Geneva | 23–24 October

Draft Agenda

(Updated version with confirmed speakers, thought-starters, and partners will be circulated in late September 2025)

TIME	DAY 1	DAY 2
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	Morning Coffee
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome and Introduction to the Conference	Morning Plenary to Review the Day Ahead
9:15 – 10:30	Panel 1 – Setting the Scene Opportunities, challenges, and pathways for enhanced cooperation on trade, climate, and sustainable development <i>What is changing? Where are the core political challenges and opportunities? Where is action happening? What to prioritize and where to move things forward?</i>	Panel 2 Navigating the climate crisis amidst trade uncertainty and challenges of multilateralism: Where are the opportunities and where should we invest effort? <i>A conversation among a diverse group of Geneva-based WTO ambassadors</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
Thematic Sessions with Cross-cutting Threads <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interlinkages with cooperation on technology, investment, and finance Shifting from emissions-intensive to net-zero, nature-positive trade flows that support sustainable development Pathways, strategies, and building collaborations 		
11:00 – 13:00	Thematic Session 1A Trade, climate, and sustainable agriculture	Thematic Session 3A Trade-climate measures: Pathways for fostering cooperation
	Thematic Session 1B Trade, industrial policies, and the drive for net-zero and climate-resilient development: What priorities and prospects for cooperation?	Thematic Session 3B Trade, critical minerals, and net zero: Navigating the complexity of climate, security, and development priorities
13:00 – 14:00	Light Lunch [Lunchtime Dive: The recent ICJ advisory opinion on climate and implications for trade]	Light Lunch [Lunchtime Dive: Trade, climate, and sustainable development at COP30]
14:00 – 16:00	Thematic Session 2A Building resilience to the impacts of the climate crisis: What kinds of trade cooperation to support adaptation and promote climate-resilient development?	Thematic Session 4A Climate, trade, debt, and finance nexus: How to foster an integrated approach and policy agendas?
	Thematic Session 2B Decarbonization of heavy industry: What priorities for a trade contribution?	Thematic Session 4B From fossil fuels to net-zero energy: Where to for trade cooperation that supports clean energy access, transitions, climate-resilient development, and climate action
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
16:30 – 18:00	Panel 2 Getting a grip on political realities and prospects for cooperation: National and regional perspectives	Closing Session What have we learned on pathways forward for international cooperation trade, climate, and sustainable development?
18:00 – 20:00	Reception – Cocktail Dînatoire	