



GLOBAL TECHNICAL FORUM OF LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES on Food Security and the Sustainable Development Goals

Tashkent, Uzbekistan | 7–8 October 2026
Hyatt Regency Tashkent Hotel

PROGRAMME AGENDA

DAY 1 Wednesday, 7 October 2026

Venue: Regency Ballroom

14:00 – 14:15

Group Photo

High Level Opening

Moderator: Master of Ceremony - Nodirkhon Muhammadkhonov

14:15 – 15:00

Plenary Statements

- **Mr. Ibrokhim Abdurakhmonov**, Minister of Agriculture of Uzbekistan
- **Dr. Qu Dongyu**, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- **Ms. Rabab Fatima**, Under Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States ([video message](#))
- **Ms. Sabine Machl**, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan
- High-level representatives from participating countries

15:00 – 15:30

Keynote Address

"From Vulnerability to Resilience: Accelerating the 2030 Agenda in LLDCs"

SPEAKER

- **Mr. Maximo Torero**, FAO Chief Economist

TECHNICAL SESSION #1

Combating Climate Change and Environmental Vulnerability

15:30 – 16:45

Moderator: Ms. Xiangjun Yao, Director, FAO Office for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs)

SPEAKERS

- **Mr. Nodirbek Rakhimjonov**, Country Director, Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)
- **Mr. Bahtiyor Rajabov**, Senior Officer, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
- **Dr. Bakhtiyor Pulatov**, Rector of Central Asian Green University
- **Dr. Shinan Kassam**, Regional Director for Central Asia, Caritas Switzerland
- **Mr. Roger Rabbat**, Partner, Strategy& Middle East
- **Mr. Ingolf Sonnleitner**, MBA, CEO of SolidGreen and NUMY

16:45 – 17:00	Coffee break
TECHNICAL SESSION #2 Trade, Market Access, and Regional Integration	
17:00 – 18:15	Moderator: Mr. Ahmed Raza, Senior Policy Officer, FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia SPEAKERS • Mr. Azizbek Urunov, Representative of the President of Uzbekistan on WTO issues / Chief Negotiator for Uzbekistan's WTO accession, Chairman of the Committee on Food Safety • Mr. Jean-Marie Paugam, Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization (WTO) • Ms. Dildora Atadjanova, Representative, DALATECH SYSTEM • Ms. Navruza Tulkunova, Representative, Fermapolis • Mr. Mondher Mimouni, Director, Division of Market Development, International Trade Centre (ITC) • Mr. Javlon Vakhabov, Director, International Institute for Central Asia (IICA)
EVENING Cultural Event & Gala Dinner at Zebu Zar Restaurant	

DAY 2 Thursday, 8 October 2026

Venue: Samarkand

TECHNICAL SESSION #3**Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in Agriculture****09:30 – 10:45**

Moderator: Ms. Munira Aminova, Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Rector of International Agricultural University

SPEAKERS

- **Mr. Vladimir Norov**, Chairman of the Central Asian Association for Artificial Intelligence (AICA)
- **Mr. Zakaria Kehel**, Research Team Leader – Genetic Resources & Prebreeding / ICARDA Country Director, Morocco
- **Dr. Flavio Breseghello**, Global Wheat Program Director, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
- **Mr. Murod Khusanov**, CEO and Co-founder of GROWZ
- **Mr. Ramzi Hage**, Partner, Strategy& Middle East, part of the PwC network

10:45 – 11:00*Coffee break***TECHNICAL SESSION #4****Evidence-Based Policymaking and Sustainable Financing****11:00 – 12:15**

Moderator: Mr. Nuriddin Kushnazarov, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan

SPEAKERS

- **Mr. Andi Aranitasi**, Director and Head of Uzbekistan, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- **Ms. Anastassia Alexandrova**, Country Program Coordinator for Uzbekistan, World Bank (WB)
- **Mr. Christos Marazopoulos**, First Counsellor and Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Uzbekistan
- **Dr. Shihab Elborai**, Partner, Strategy& Middle East, part of the PwC network
- **Mr. Akalu Dafisa**, Program Manager at the Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI) of Ethiopia / EFSTN Expert
- **Mr. Naoufel Telahigue**, Regional Director, Near East, North Africa, Europe and Central Asia Division, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) *[remote participation]*

12:15 – 13:00**Closing Ceremony**

With high-level participation from the Government of Uzbekistan and FAO

- **Adoption of the Communiqué**

13:00 – 14:00*Lunch***14:00 – 16:00****Field Visit to Xorrot Fish**