

Beatrice Chaytor - Resume

Beatrice Chaytor is an international trade lawyer, called to the Bar in England and Wales as well as Sierra Leone, with over 25 years experience in providing advice and support to NGO's, governments and intergovernmental organisations on trade and investment legal and policy issues. She is currently Senior Expert - Trade in Services in the Department of Trade and Industry at the African Union Commission, based in Addis Ababa, and works on the negotiations for the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Prior to her position in the AUC, Ms Chaytor ran her own law firm, Chariot Eight in Freetown, Sierra Leone, providing legal services to local, regional and international clients on a range of corporate law matters including trade, investment, natural resources and environment. She holds a LLB (Hons) from University of East Anglia and a LLM from the University of London (University College).

From 2008 to 2010, while based in Sierra Leone, she worked with the International Lawyers and Economists Against Poverty (ILEAP) in providing capacity building support to a number of African regions in their negotiations with the European Union on trade in services under the EPAs, and in defining solutions and strategies for African countries' needs on Aid for Trade. From 2004 to 2008, Beatrice Chaytor was a Senior Trade Policy Advisor in the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Sierra Leone, on assignment by the Commonwealth Secretariat, providing technical advice and assistance on WTO issues, EPA issues and other trade and investment policy. Beatrice led the first Trade Policy Review for Sierra Leone in the WTO, and ensured that Sierra Leone became a beneficiary of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), which was the flagship Aid for Trade programme of the WTO and other development partners.

Prior to her assignment in Sierra Leone, Beatrice worked for nine years as Senior Lawyer, and then Programme Director, at the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD) in London, building capacity among developing country negotiators at the World Trade Organisation. She did pioneering work in advising developing countries in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) about their commitments under the WTO Agreements.

Ms Chaytor is interested in research and analysis on a range of economic policy issues affecting Africa. She has undertaken assignments for DFID, the European Union Commission, and the UN FAO. She also has private sector interests in horticulture, fashion, design and well-being.