

Magdi Farahat (Ph.D.)

Magdi Farahat is the Principal Advisor on Trade to the UN Economic Commission for Africa, and head of its Inter-Regional Advisory Services; headquartered in Geneva.

Dr. Farahat had previously been the Chief of the Africa Office at the UNCTAD/WTO International Trade Centre in Geneva; where he had developed a number of innovative trade development and capacity building programmes for sub-Saharan Africa.

Prior to that, he had served for 30 years with the Egyptian Ministry of Trade & Industry (ex. Economy & Foreign Trade), representing Egypt commercially in a variety of overseas posts in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. His last post with the Ministry was as Minister Plenipotentiary Commercial and Head of Egypt's trade negotiation team at the WTO and UNCTAD from 2000 till 2005; all the while chairing the WTO Committees on Agriculture and Market access, chairing the International Textiles & Clothing Bureau, acting as focal point for the WTO Africa Group on Agriculture and as member *ad personam* of the WTO's Textiles Monitoring Board.

During his long professional career, Dr. Farahat's work has centred on trade policy formulation, trade development and promotion, investment promotion, institution building & design, debt relief and management, international relations, international negotiations and diplomacy.