Provisional Programme

Thursday, 13 June, 2013

10 a.m.–10.15 a.m.
Welcoming remarks
Mr. Guillermo Valles, Director, DITC, UNCTAD
Ambassador Faizel Ismail, South Africa

10.15 a.m.–1 p.m.
Session I: What do we know about the effectiveness of performance requirements in green sectors and their implications for competitiveness?
One of the most critical questions concerns the ways governments pursue green industrial policy and steer their economies toward competitive advantage in the production of new green goods and services. Localizing an increasing share of value-added along a value chain is an important part of sustainable development and diversification. Countries that use performance requirements such as local content do not use them in isolation, and they are certainly not a mere protective policy. What are the effects of, and linkages among, local content requirements and other policies and measures?

Speakers
Mr. Bernard Hoekman, Professor and Research Director, Global Economics, European University Institute
Ms. Doaa Abdel Motal, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director General, WTO
Mr. Brendan Vickers, Chief Director, International Trade and Economic Development Division, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa
Mr. Alexandre Comin, Director, Industrial Competitiveness Department, Ministry of Development, Industry and Trade, Brazil
Mr. Robert Howse, Lloyd C. Nelson Professor of International Law, New York University School of Law

1 p.m.–3 p.m.
Lunch break

3 p.m.–4.30 p.m.
Session II: Is there anything unique about renewables that makes them a special case for performance requirements?
Countries around the world use the multitude of policies to support renewable energy, particularly solar and wind. All these policies ultimately affect trade but some do so more directly than others, e.g. policies that are intended to ensure that a large share of their demand is met by domestic suppliers. Is it possible to support green energy without distorting trade? Are there any upsides for developing countries in a world where performance requirements are extensively used?

Speakers
Mr. Reinhold Buttgereit, Secretary General, European Photovoltaic Industry Association
Mr. Ronald Steenblik, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD
Mr. Tom Moerenhout, Project Researcher IISD

Discussants
Ms. Janet Chakarian-Renouf, Secretary of the Committee on TRIMS, WTO
Mr. Joachim Monkelbaan, Global Platform Programme Officer, ICTSD

4.30 p.m.–6 p.m.
Session III: Renewables: globalization or localization?
Clearly, the development of renewable energy could take place along two quite different paths. One path would see the bulk of demand for renewables met by finished products
exported from a handful of developed and bigger developing countries to the developing country markets. The other path would see an increasing allocation of component manufacturing to developing country industries. Can a case be made for an international deployment strategy for renewables, i.e. expanding the number of countries that are shouldering the burden of deployment policies and enhancing international cooperation? How can countries promote backward linkages, without increasing costs or limiting competitiveness? What is the scope for regional deployment schemes and regional content targets?

Speakers

Mr. Mao Xianqiang, Director, Center for Global Environmental Policy, School of Environment, Beijing
Mr. Oliver Johnson, Researcher, German Development Institute
Mr. Christoph Kost, Renewable Energy Innovation Policy, Fraunhofer-Institut für Solare Energiesysteme, Germany
Mr. Sacha Silva, Associate, World Trade Institute Advisors, Geneva

Discussants

Mr. Dereje Agonafir Habtewold, Head, Environmental Units Programme Directorate, Ethiopian Environmental Authority
Mr. Patrick M. Maingi, Chief Economist, National Environment Management Authority, Kenya

6 p.m. Cocktail, Bar Escargot, 3rd Floor

Friday, 14 June, 2013

10 a.m.–11.30 a.m. Session IV: Does greening the value chains provide a new rationale for performance requirements?
The proliferation of global value chains means that trade-related measures such as local content taken in pursuit of sustainable development should be seen in terms of broader, cumulative effects. This is all the more important if the multilateral trading system were to deal with global challenges which are not addressed under existing rules. However, are these effects sufficiently taken into account? How effective are intellectual local content or patent working requirements in inducing foreign patent owners to bring human and financial capital into the territory of patent granting countries? Can they be seen as a form of protectionism?

Speakers

Mr. Robert Teh, Counsellor, Economic Research and Statistics Division, WTO
Ms. Cathleen Cimino, Research Analyst, Peterson Institute for International Economics, Washington
Mr. Thomas Cottier, Managing Director, World Trade Institute

Discussant

Ms. Tomoko Miyamoto, Head, Patent Law Section, WIPO

11.30 a.m.–12.50 p.m. Session V: Does better governance make a difference?
What is it that makes local content policy contentious in some cases and innocuous in others? How best can countries address the procedural, governance and competitiveness concerns of their trading partners? What is the scope for commercial and science diplomacy in bringing objective evidence to bear on policy making? Which international organizations may help?

Speakers

Mr. Luca Rubini, Deputy-Director, Institute of European Law, Birmingham Law School
Ms. Sherry Stephenson, Senior Fellow at the ICTSD
Mr. Raymond Saner, Co-founder CSEND, Director, Diplomacy Dialogue Branch
Mr. Daniel Peat, University of Cambridge

Discussant

Ms. Anja von der Ropp, Legal Officer, Global Challenges Division, WIPO

12.50 p.m.–1 p.m. Concluding remarks
Ambassador Faizel Ismail, South Africa
Mr. Guillermo Valles, Director, DITC, UNCTAD

For further information, please visit: http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=325