

Webinar Series: Towards Model Provisions for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic in Regional and other Trade Agreements

Tentative Programme

Following the successful conclusion of a Policy Hackathon as part of the Initiative on Model Provisions for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic in Regional and other Trade Agreements, a webinar series is organized to discuss and build upon the top contributions received. The webinar series is organized by ESCAP, UNCTAD, WTO and SMU in collaboration with FAO and four other United Nations Regional Commissions.

Dates: 28, 29, 30 October and 2 November

28 October

Session 1:

17:00 – 17:10 Bangkok

Webinar series – welcome and opening remarks, ESCAP

17:10-18:10 Bangkok (11:10-12:10 Geneva)

Towards model RTA provisions for trade in essential supplies in times of crisis (UNCTAD Trade Policy Dialogue)

Moderator: *Miho Shirotori, Chief of Trade Negotiations and Commercial Diplomacy Branch, UNCTAD*

Presentation:

- *Divya Prabhakar, individual expert* [C142] Based on PH contribution [“Strengthening International Regulatory Cooperation for Medical Supplies in Times of Medical Emergencies”](#)
- *Joseph A McMahan, University College Dublin & Jianguan Fu Jianguan Fu, Chinese University of Hong Kong* [C46] Based on PH contribution [“More Restriction or Facilitation on PPE amid COVID-19: Limitations and Options of International Trade Law”](#)

Panel:

- *Paul Baker, Chief Executive, International Economics Consulting Ltd., Mauritius*
- *Simon J. Evenett, Professor of International Trade and Economic Development, University of St. Gallen*
- *Taisuke Ito, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD*

Session 2:

18:20-19:20 Bangkok

Towards model RTA provisions for building back better

Moderator: *Mia Mikic, Director of the Trade, Investment, and Innovation Division, UNESCAP*

Presentation:

- *Tracey Epps, Chapman Tripp* [C103] Based on PH contribution [“Facilitating a Coordinated International Response in Times of Crisis”](#)
- *Katrin Kuhlmann, New Markets Lab, Washington, D.C.* [C145] Based on PH contribution [“Re-conceptualizing Free Trade Agreements Through a Sustainable Development Lens”](#)

Panel:

- *Mark Wu, Professor, Harvard School of Law, Harvard University*
- *Stephen Olson, Research Fellow, Hinrich Foundation*
- *Gabrielle Marceau, Senior Counsellor, Research Division WTO*

29 October

Session 3:

16:00-17:00 Bangkok

Towards model RTA provisions for agri-food trade in times of crisis

Moderator: **Marcio Castro de Souza, Senior Fishery Officer, FAO**

Presentation:

- **Tang Yi & Yanxuedan Zhang, Shanghai Ocean University** [C20]

Based on PH contribution [“Provisions for trade of fish and fish products in trade agreements in times of crisis and pandemic: recommendations for negotiation and capacity building”](#)

- **Steven Clarke, Hinrich Global Leaders Team** [C108]

Based on PH contribution [“Practical Responses to Pandemics: Evidence and recommendations from case studies of agri-food trade in the EU, Asia-Pacific and American regions during Covid-19”](#)

Panel:

- **Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International**
- **Markus Pikart, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE**

Session 4:

17:15-18:15 Bangkok

Towards model RTA provisions for trade in times of crisis: regional perspectives

Moderator: **Sebastian Herreros, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECLAC**

Presentation:

- **Prachi Agarwal, Jawaharlal Nehru University** [129]

Based on PH contribution [“Impact of COVID-19 on International Trade: Lessons for African LDCs”](#)

- **Javiera Cáceres/Felipe Muñoz, University of Chile** [C134]

Based on PH contribution [“Towards Crisis-Sensitive Trade Provisions: An Analysis of the Pacific Alliance”](#)

Panel:

- **Deborah Elms, Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre and Vice Chair, Asia Business Trade Association**
- **Peter Draper, Executive Director, Institute for International Trade, University of Adelaide**
- **Simon Mevel, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECA**

30 October

Session 5:

16:00-17:00 Bangkok

Towards model RTA provisions for trade facilitation in times of crisis

Moderator: *Yann Duval, Chief of Trade Facilitation Unit, UNESCAP*

Presentation:

- *Sara Ashour, Decent Work for Women in Egypt and Tunisia Project, International Labour Organization* [49]

Based on PH contribution [“Lessons learned from Covid-19 Stress test: Filling the Gaps in Rules of Origin Provisions”](#)

- *Emmanuelle Ganne, Senior Analyst, WTO & Nadia Hewett, World Economic Forum* [86]

Based on PH contribution [“Super Charging Trade with A Trusted Global Digital Identity System”](#)

Panel:

- *Alexandre Larouche-Maltais, Trade Logistics Branch, UNCTAD*
- *Patrik Jonasson, Public Policy Director, Asia – Pacific, GS1 Global*
- *Mohamed Chemingu, Chief of regional integration section, ESCWA & Nathalie Grand, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA*

Session 6:

17:15-18:15 Bangkok

Towards model RTA provisions for E-commerce/digital trade in times of crisis

Moderator: *Henry Gao, Associate Professor, Singapore Management University*

Presentation:

- *Leslie Tay, Singapore Management University* [C175]

Based on PH contribution [“COVID-19 & the Little Red Dot- Important Lessons for Trade in Times of Global Pandemic Based on Singapore’s Experience”](#) (E-commerce chapter)

- *Javiera Cáceres/ Felipe Muñoz, University of Chile* [C134]

Based on PH contribution [“Towards Crisis-Sensitive Trade Provisions: An Analysis of the Pacific Alliance”](#) (E-commerce chapter)

Panel:

- *Paul Baker, Chief Executive, International Economics Consulting Ltd., Mauritius*

Session 7:

18:30-19:30 Bangkok

Towards model RTA/IIA provisions for investment in times of crisis

Moderator: *Henry Gao, Associate Professor, Singapore Management University*

Presentation:

- *Dhiraj Chainani, Singapore Management University* [C175]

Based on PH contribution [“COVID-19 & the Little Red Dot- Important Lessons for Trade in Times of Global Pandemic Based on Singapore’s Experience”](#) (Investment chapter)

- *Katrin Kuhlmann, New Markets Lab, Washington, D.C.* [C145]

Based on PH contribution [“Re-conceptualizing Free Trade Agreements Through a Sustainable Development Lens”](#) (Investment chapter)

Panel:

- *Mark Wu, Professor, Harvard School of Law, Harvard University*
- *Deborah Elms, Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre and Vice Chair, Asia Business Trade Association*

2 November

Session 8:

16:00-17:00 Bangkok (10.00-11.00 Geneva, 09.00-10.00 London)

Towards model RTA provisions on government procurement: ensuring efficient trade flows in public procurement markets in times of crisis

Moderator & Introduction to the topic: *Anna Caroline Müller, Legal Affairs Officer, Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division, WTO*

Presentation:

- *Anja Blaj, Future Law Institute* [C100]

Based on PH contribution [“Measures to Improve Transparency and Cooperation in Government Procurement & Trade in Times of Crisis”](#)

- *Nadia Garcia Santaolalla, School of Government and Public Transformation* [C57]

Based on PH contribution [“A Proposal to Reform ‘Security-Emergency’ Exceptions in Trade”](#)

Panel:

- *Mihály Fazekas*

17:00-17:15 Bangkok

Webinar series closing – way forward for the initiative, ESCAP