



**UNCTAD**

**UNCTAD XIII Pre-Conference Event**

**Policy Dialogue: Redefining the Role of the Government in  
Tomorrow's International Trade**

**26 – 27 March 2012  
Room XVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

**PROGRAM**



UNCTAD XIII Pre-Conference Event  
Policy Dialogue: Redefining the Role of the Government in  
Tomorrow's International Trade

26 – 27 March 2012, Room XVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Monday, March 26, 2012

**Opening session (9:30-10:00)**

9:30 **Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi**, Secretary-General of UNCTAD

9:45 **H.E. Ms. Anábel Gonzalez**, Chair of the Policy Dialogue, Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica

**Session 1: Trade policy for inclusive growth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy**

**Moderator: Mr. Robert Wolfe**, Professor, School of Policy Studies, Queen's University, Canada

**Session 1.a: Mapping the challenges for government (10:00-12:30)**

This session discusses what constitute the new landscape of international trade, what we mean by "inclusive growth" and what new challenges are posed to trade policymakers in Tomorrow's international trade for inclusive and sustainable development.

10:00 **Panel discussion**

**The new landscape of international trade: Questions that address the way forward for government**

**Mr. Christophe Bellmann**, Programmes Director, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

*A plethora of "global" factors - e.g. the shift of the growth pole from the North to the South, growing demand for "green" products & services, etc. - set the future path of international economy in the coming decades. With a view to achieving sustainable and inclusive growth, what are the key questions to be addressed in redefining the role of the government in tomorrow's international trade?*

**Inclusive growth through trade**

**Mr. Bernard Hoekman**, Director, International Trade Department, World Bank

*What constitute "inclusive growth"? If international trade can enhance it, how? What is the role of the government in achieving inclusive growth through the gains from trade?*

**Challenges from the currency misalignment to trade policymakers**

**Ms. Vera Thorstensen**, Professor, São Paulo School of Economics (EESP), Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV)

*The currency misalignments have significant impacts on the application of trade principles and instruments: it can affect market access concessions. They can affect the balance of tariff negotiation achieved through several multilateral trade rounds. Their effects on tariffs can represent commercial advantage gains for countries with devaluated currencies.*

**The role of Government in adjustment**

**Mr. Craig VanGrasstek**, Executive Director of the Program on Trade and Negotiations, Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University

*The state of the debate over trade, employment, inclusive growth, and the role of government in promoting adjustment to liberalization and globalization is a muddled one. The debate on inclusive growth tends to replicate the broader, perennial disagreements between the pro-trade and trade-sceptical sides. There is recognition on both sides that some form of trade adjustment assistance may be needed to ease the process of trade liberalization. But even there, we find significant disputes, both strategically and tactically.*

10:40 – 12:30 **Interactive debate**

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch break**

**Session 1.b: Export diversification in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (March 26, 14:00-15:45)**

This session examines various ways through which the government and the business sectors collaborate in trade policymaking. The key question is the role of the government in balancing the business needs on the one hand, and the overall socio-economic development objectives on the other hand.

14:00 **Panel discussion**

**Export diversification: Views from the field**

**Mr. Otaviano Canuto**, Vice President and Head of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (PREM) Network, World Bank

*What are challenges to a country's export diversification policy? Observations from the Bank's "Trade Competitiveness Diagnostics", a field-oriented assessment of factors that explain a country's trade performance.*

**Challenges to Africa**

**Mr. Nadir Merah**, Head of Trade Division, African Union Commission

*Export diversification has been a long-standing challenge to African states. But the new landscape of the international trade can open up a wide window of new opportunities to Africa.*

**Export diversification: The perspective from the Gulf region**

**Mr. Abdulaziz Sager**, Chairman, Gulf Research Centre

*The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states continue to grapple with the lack of real long-term alternative and effort to create sustainable diversification from oil. Some of this gap is reduced by the presence of SME's, but there are also problems that arise within the SME sectors. What approaches are required to induce more citizens into SME ownership, encourage entrepreneurship, etc. that would lead to higher inclusive growth?*

**Innovation for economic diversification: For exporting "weightless" products**

**Mr. John Malcolm Spence**, Senior Coordinator of Intellectual Property, Science and Technology Issues, CARICOM Secretariat

*International trade policy has expanded over time from the simple reduction of tariffs to include disciplines in a wide range of areas. But we cannot simply anticipate that this trend will continue into the future. Trade policy of the vulnerable nano-States of the Caribbean must look towards the inclusion of issues that can further integrate them into the global economy while providing them with the flexibility to respond to new opportunities and the resilience to respond to natural, social and economic disasters. Two key issues are the movement of people (immigration and the Diaspora) and participation in global innovation systems aimed at exporting "weightless" products.*

**From trade-in-goods to trade-in-tasks: How does it change the scope of trade policy?**

**Mr. Ari Van-Assche**, Associate Professor, Department of International Business, HEC Montréal

*The changing trade patterns triggered by the rise of global value chains (GVCs) require policymakers to adapt their thinking about trade. A key assumption that underlies traditional models of trade and much of our thinking about trade is that firms produce their entire output in their home country and within their firm boundaries. But this approach of thinking about international trade is no longer correct. First, exports are not necessarily made in the exporting country. Second, export-based measures of international competitiveness are unreliable. Third, imports do not necessarily reflect foreign competition. Fourth, international competition is increasingly vertical between actors within the same GVC. How does the new reality affect the scope of trade policy, particularly with respect to export diversification?*

14:40 – 15:45 **Interactive debate**

15:45 – 16:00 **Coffee break**

**Session 2: The government and the business sector in trade policymaking (March 26, 16:00 – 18:00)**

This session examines various ways through which the government and the business sectors collaborate in trade policymaking.

**Moderator: Mr. Peter Draper**, Director, Tutwa Consulting, and Senior Research Fellow at the South African Institute of International Affairs

**16:00** Panel discussion**Views from the world businesses on tomorrow's multilateral trade agenda**

**Mr. Stefano Bertasi**, Director, Department of Policy and Business Practices, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

*A report of the discussions at the ICC Business: World Trade Agenda symposium (14 March 2012), in particular the views of CEOs on the future direction of trade policy.*

**Government-business coordination: A forward-looking approach for trade policymaking**

**Mr. Isidoro Hodara**, Chair of Foreign Trade, School of Management and Social Sciences, ORT University

*The speed of change in international trade requires willingness and ability to look into the future, not just to the past, when dealing with trade policy. Protecting yesterday's jobs will not suffice, particularly if it is done in ways that harm better jobs that should be there tomorrow. There is no constituency speaking for those novel jobs in novel activities, and the burden to look forward is rather heavy for some government entities and officials. The private sector may provide insights and the public sector should try to discern trends relevant to the knowledge economy as it develops. But all these forward looking attitudes should not forget that the political economy of trade policy continues in effect and that private sector representatives' interests may not necessarily coincide with a national interest.*

**The role of International Business in the Aid-for-Trade initiative**

**Ms. Selina E. Jackson**, Special Representative to the UN and the WTO, World Bank

*For the private sector, the Aid for Trade initiative is largely a government to government activity, but trade capacity building is an inherent part of companies' global strategies in developing markets. While these efforts benefit the company's long term business, they also have an important impact on local trade capacity. The study, "The Role of International Business in Aid for Trade: Building Capacity for Trade in Developing Countries" demonstrates the important role the private sector can play in building capacity, incorporating producers into global value chains, improving quality and safety standards, and promoting trade facilitation. It sheds light on private sector involvement in the aid for trade agenda through a collection of 40 case stories from a range of private sector actors.*

**The role of African private sector in trade policy formulation & negotiation**

**Mr. Francis Mbroh**, Director, Research, Planning and International Cooperation, African Export-Import Bank

*The Pan African Private Sector Trade Policy Committee (PAFTRAC) Initiative, originated from a meeting organized jointly by the WTO and the African Development Bank on "Trade Finance and Trade Facilitation in Africa", on 27 October 2010 in Tunis, where it was recognized that there was limited private sector participation and engagement in trade issues in Africa, particularly in trade policy making and trade negotiations. PAFTRAC provides a framework for African private sector involvement in trade policy matters, including multilateral trade negotiations. Specifically, the role of PAFTRAC is to enhance private sector participation in trade policy formulation (including negotiations and implementation of trade agreements) and to galvanize the views of the private sector on the ground and transmit such views to policy makers at the national, sub-regional and regional levels; and is so doing, strengthen dialogue between business and government on the broad African and multilateral trade negotiations agenda and their potential impact on the economy.*

**16:40 – 18:00** Interactive debate

End of Day 1

**Tuesday, March 27, 2012****Session 3: An "inclusive" process for trade policymaking (March 27, 10:00 – 12:30)**

This session examines possible socio-economic impacts of trade policy, and what could be an effective interface, or partnership, between the government and civil society as a whole.

**Moderator: Mr. Mark Halle**, Director of Trade and Investment, European Representative, International Institute of Sustainable Development

**10:00** Panel discussion**Human Rights Impact Assessment in free trade agreements (FTAs)**

**Ms. Isolda Agazzi**, Trade Policy Officer, Alliance Sud

*There is a need for conducting a human rights impact assessment (HRIA) before negotiating trade and investment agreements as these can strongly influence a country's ability to guarantee human rights. When human rights clash with trade commitments, governments tend to give precedence to the latter. The problem is that FTA negotiations normally lack transparency, consultation and participation and this violates the right to information and participation.*

**A new industrial policy growth paradigm for developing countries**

**Ms. Esther Busser**, Assistant Director, International Trade Union Confederation Geneva Office

*The global employment and decent work challenge is tremendous. A sustainable growth model requires a focus on creating decent employment with a revival of industrial policy for developing countries. The trade union movement has campaigned extensively for decent work and has highlighted the importance of industrial development in such a strategy. Questions should be asked about how much any development model perpetuates existing production structures or natural comparative advantage, and how much it can allow for the establishment of an independent strategy for industrial development by moving into higher value added industries and higher wage jobs.*

**Civil society participation in trade policymaking: Experience of the CUTS International**

**Mr. Pradeep S. Mehta**, Secretary-General, Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) International

*Trade measures are no longer confined to borders; behind-the-border measures are becoming important determinants of international trade and they have more direct linkage with human development impact of trade. Other than trade measures, there are trade-related measures and linkages between trade and non-trade issues. The civil society is in a better position to evaluate social, economic and environmental sustainability impact of trade. A cursory glance of the trade policy of many countries tells us that there is hardly any policy on imports that align consumer interests with producer interests.*

**Multi-stakeholder consultation in trade policymaking**

**H.E. Ms. Khemmani Pholsena**, Vice Minister, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR

*Lao PDR has recently updated the country's Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS), which comes at the time when the country prepares for WTO accession and implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community. The current DTIS has a strong focus on the inclusive participation of all key stakeholders, e.g. the active involvement of various Government Departments, innovative consultative mechanisms with the Development community and the private sector, and a strong focus on key crosscutting issues such as poverty and gender in the analysis.*

**Inter-Ministerial Coordination in Trade Policy Making: Coherence and Complementarity in a changing environment**

**Mr. Raymond Saner**, Professor, Economic Department, Basle University 6 Co-founder, Centre for Socio-economic Development (CSEND)

*Economic competitiveness can only be attained through better trade policy coordination and strengthened value chain integration. Since different elements of the supply and value chain are linked to particular ministries, mechanism and practice of inter-ministerial coordination (IMC) becomes crucial to ensure successful implementation of trade policy. A fragmented approach to trade policy development is not sustainable. IMC is crucial in bringing about coherence and complementarity to the trade policy making process.*

**10:50 – 12:30** Interactive debate**12:30 – 14:00** Lunch break

**Session 4: Trade agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (March 27, 14:00 – 16:30)**

This session will discuss what constitute the trade agenda in the coming decades.

**Moderator: Mr. Jean-Pierre Lehmann**, Professor of International Political Economy at IMD, Senior Fellow at the Fung Global Institute (FGI) and Founder of Evian Group, IMD

- 14:00** Panel discussion
- Mr. Stuart Harbinson**, Senior Trade Policy Advisor, Sidley Austin LLP
- Mr. Nicholas Imboden**, Executive-Director, IDEAS Centre
- Mr. Harsha Vardhana Singh**, Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization
- Mr. Robert Wolfe**, Moderator of Session 1
- Mr. Peter Draper**, Moderator of Session 2
- Mr. Mark Halle**, Moderator of Session 3

**15:00 – 16:30** Interactive debate

**16:30 – 16:45** *Coffee break*

**Closing Session (16:45 – 17:30)**

- 16:45** **The Chair's Summary**
- H.E. Ms. Anábel Gonzalez**, Chair of the Policy Dialogue, Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica



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**Bio of the Chair, the Moderators and the Panellists**

**Chair**

**Anabel González**, Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica

Ms. Anabel González was appointed Minister of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica on May 8, 2010. In such capacity, she oversees the country's international trade and investment portfolios. Ms. González has extensive experience in the formulation and advocacy of trade and investment policies; negotiation and implementation of trade agreements; building of trade-related institutional capacity; management of trade capacity building projects; enhancing the investment climate; and, promoting foreign direct investment.

Ms. González began her involvement in the area of trade and investment in 1990 at the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica, first as Director General (1990-97) and then as Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade (1998-2001). She then became Director General of Costa Rica's Investment Promotion Agency (2001-02), before returning to the Ministry of Foreign Trade to lead free trade negotiations with the United States as Chief Negotiator of CAFTA-DR (2002-04). Ms. González then moved to the international arena, serving as Director of the Agriculture Division at the World Trade Organization (2006-09); and then as Senior Consultant on trade and investment issues for the Inter-American Development Bank (2009-10). In the course of her career, she has published and lectured extensively in more than 25 countries on trade and investment issues. Ms. González has a law degree from the University of Costa Rica and a master of laws degree from Georgetown University.

**Moderators**

**Robert Wolfe**, Professor, School of Policy Studies, Queen's University, Canada

Dr. Wolfe is an Associate for IISD's Trade and Investment program. He is Professor in the School of Policy Studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Canada, where he teaches policy analysis and trade policy. He was a foreign-service officer for many years, serving abroad in Dhaka, Bangladesh (1977-79) and in the Canadian Delegation to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris (1981-85). In Ottawa he worked in the National Security Section; the U.S. Trade and Economic Relations Division; as Executive Assistant to the Ambassador for Multilateral Trade Negotiations and Prime Minister's Personal Representative, Economic Summit; and in the International Economic Relations Division. Dr. Wolfe has published widely on trade policy and institutions, and on public opinion about trade.

**Peter Draper**, Director, Tutwa Consulting, and Senior Research Fellow, South African Institute of International Affairs

Mr. Draper has extensive consulting experience encompassing governments, companies, business organizations, and non-government organizations. His current South African affiliations include: Senior Research Fellow in the Economic Diplomacy programme at the South African Institute of International Affairs; Adjunct Professor at Wits Business School; Programme Director of the India, Brazil, and South Africa think tank consortium at the Centre for Development and Enterprise; and Research Associate of the Department of Political Science at the University of Pretoria. His current international affiliations include: board member of the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis; non-resident senior fellow of the Brussels-based European Centre for International Political Economy; chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Trade; member of the brains trust of the Evian Group at IMD Lausanne; and member of the World Economic Survey Expert Group coordinated by the Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich. He holds a Master of Commerce degree from the University of Natal (now University of KwaZulu-Natal).

**Mark Halle**, Director of Trade and Investment and European Representative, International Institute of Sustainable Development (IISD)

Mr. Halle's career began in the field of international negotiations, serving in the diplomatic secretariat of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. He then spent five years with the United Nations Environment Programme, starting in the Policy Planning Unit and ending up working on the global State of the Environment report published ten years after UNEP's establishment. From UNEP, he worked with WWF and IUCN. Halle then moved to WWF-International, serving for three years as conservation assistant to HRH The Prince Phillip, President of WWF, and both establishing and directing the WWF programme in China. He moved to IUCN in 1983 to establish the Conservation for Development Centre. Since his departure from IUCN, he has worked for the International Institute for Sustainable Development, both as its European Representative and now as its global director for Trade and Investment. In this capacity he supervises a team of eight professionals based in Europe and North America. He also runs the Trade activities of the IIED – Ring of Sustainable Development Organizations. He is founder and former Chairman of the Board of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development. He was born in the United States but grew up in Switzerland. He holds a degree in history and environmental sciences from Tufts University (Massachusetts, USA) and a postgraduate degree in history from the University of Cambridge (UK).

**Jean-Pierre Lehmann**, Professor of International Political Economy at IMD, Senior Fellow at the Fung Global Institute (FGI) and Founder of Evian Group, IMD

Professor Lehmann acts in various leading capacities in a number of public policy institutes and organizations, as an adviser to governments and corporations, and as a frequent commentator in the international media. He is the author of several books and numerous articles and papers primarily dealing with globalization, modern East Asian history and East Asia and the international political economy. In 1995, Professor Lehmann launched the Evian Group. Prior to joining IMD, his academic and business careers encompassed activities in virtually all Asian and Western European countries, as well as North America. He was founding director of the European Institute of Japanese Studies (EJJS) at the Stockholm School of Economics (from 1992) and Professor of East Asian Political Economy and Business. He established and directed the East Asian operations of InterMatrix, a London-based business strategy research and consulting organization (1986-1992). During this time he was concurrently Affiliated Professor of International Business at the London Business School. Previously, Jean-Pierre Lehmann was Associate Professor of International Business at INSEAD, Visiting Professor at the Bologna Center (Italy) of the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, twice Visiting Professor and Japan Foundation Fellow at the University of Tohoku (Japan), and founding director of the Center for Japanese Studies at the University of Stirling (Scotland), where he also taught East Asian history. He also directed the EC-ASEAN 'Transfer of Technology and Socio-Economic Development Programs' (1981-1986).

## Panelists

**Christophe Bellmann**, Programmes Director, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

Mr. Bellmann is the Programmes Director at ICTSD. In his current position, he is responsible for fundraising, management and overall supervision of ICTSD's research, dialogue and capacity building programme in Geneva and in the regions. Before joining ICTSD, Bellmann worked for the Swiss Coalition of Development Organizations (SCDO) where he was responsible for activities on multilateral trade and sustainable development issues. During that time he produced several papers and articles related among others to public participation in the WTO, possible multilateral disciplines on foreign direct investment (FDI), and trade preferences for developing countries, agriculture trade reform and trade-related technical assistance. He has also worked as a Research Associate at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chile, on the relationship between trade and the environment. He has edited and published a wide range of books, articles and opinion pieces in English, French and Spanish on trade and sustainable development. He holds an MA in International Relations from the Graduate Institute for International Studies in Geneva. Bellmann is a citizen of Switzerland.

**Bernard Hoekman**, Director, International Trade Department, World Bank

Dr. Hoekman manages the World Bank's international trade department. Prior positions at the World Bank include Research Manager of the trade and international integration program in the Development Research Group; the manager of the trade capacity building program of the World Bank Institute; and working as a trade economist in the Middle East/North Africa and Europe and Central Asia departments. He has published widely on the multilateral trading system and economic development, trade in services, and preferential trade agreements. Between 1988 and 1993 he worked as a research economist in the GATT Secretariat in Geneva. He is a graduate of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan and is a Research Fellow of the London-based Centre for Economic Policy Research.

**Vera Thorstensen**, Professor, São Paulo School of Economics (EESP), Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV)

Ms. Thorstensen is professor at the São Paulo School of Economics (EESP) from Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) and Head of the Center on Global Trade and Investment (CGTI). She worked as economic advisor of the Mission of Brazil to the WTO from 1995 to 2010. She was an invited professor at Sciences-Po, IELPO-Barcelona, IEE-Lisbon, where she lectured on Trade Negotiations. She was Chair of the Committee of Rules of Origin for seven years.

**Craig VanGrasstek**, Executive Director of the Program on Trade and Negotiations, Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University

Dr. VanGrasstek teaches courses on the political economy of trade policy in both the executive education and degree programs of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He is also on the faculty of Georgetown University, where he teaches an innovative course on literature and foreign policy. His firm, Washington Trade Reports, specializes in monitoring and analyzing current issues in trade policy. Dr. VanGrasstek has worked as a consultant for the World Trade Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, and other international organizations, as well as government agencies and private firms. Dr. VanGrasstek received his doctorate in Politics from Princeton University in 1997. He also holds the degree of Master of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University (1983), and received a bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Minnesota (1981). In addition to numerous reports to international organizations, book chapters, and journal articles, his publications include (with Stephen Lande): *The Trade and Tariff Act of 1984: Trade Policy in the Reagan Administration* (Lexington, Massachusetts: Lexington Books, 1986).



**Mr. Otaviano Canuto**, Vice President and Head of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (PREM) Network, World Bank

Dr. Canuto is Vice President and Head of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (PREM) Network, a division of more than 700 economists and other professionals working on economic policy, poverty reduction, and analytic work for the World Bank's client countries. He took up his position on May 4, 2009, after serving as the Vice President for Countries at the Inter-American Development Bank since June 2007.

Dr. Canuto provides strategic leadership and direction to Regional PREM units as well as groups working on economic policy formulation in the area of growth and poverty, debt, trade, gender, and public sector management and governance. He is also involved in managing the Bank's overall interactions with key partner institutions including the IMF, the OECD and regional development banks. Dr. Canuto was Executive Director at the Board of the World Bank in 2004-2007. He also served in the Brazilian Ministry of Finance, where he was Secretary for International Affairs. He was Professor of Economics at the University of São Paulo and University of Campinas (UNICAMP) in Brazil.

**Abdulaziz Sager**, Chairman, Gulf Research Center

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager is chairman and founder of the Gulf Research Center. He is also President of Sager Group Holding in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which is active in the fields of information technology, aviation services and investments. In November 2003, Dr. Sager was appointed as a member of the Makkah Province Council. In addition, he serves as a member on the advisory board of the Arab Thought Foundation; the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF); the Faculty of Economics and Administration of King Abdulaziz University; the Ministry of Higher Education, Saudi Arabia; the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP); the German Orient Foundation; and on the advisory group for the 4th Arab Human Development Report for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Dr. Sager has special research interest in Gulf strategic issues and is a regular contributor and commentator to international and regional media. He also regularly participates in regional and international forums and conferences held on issues relevant to the Gulf region. He is the author of numerous publications. Dr. Sager holds a Ph.D. in Politics and International Relations from Lancaster University and an M.A. from the University of Kent, United Kingdom.

**John Malcolm Spence**, Senior Coordinator of Intellectual Property, Science and Technology Issues, Office of Trade Negotiations, CARICOM Secretariat

Mr. Spence is the Senior Coordinator, Intellectual Property, Science and Technology Issues in the Office of Trade Negotiation (OTN) of the CARICOM Secretariat, formerly the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM). Mr. Spence is the OTN's focal point for all Intellectual Property negotiations. He served on the CARICOM College of Negotiators as the Alternate Lead Negotiator on Intellectual Property in the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) negotiations and on the CARIFORUM College of Negotiators as the Alternate Lead Negotiator on Trade Related Issues in the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations with specific responsibility for the Chapters on Innovation and Intellectual Property, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and Technical Barriers to Trade.

Mr. Spence is currently on the CARICOM College of Negotiators for the CARICOM-Canada Trade and Development Agreement. Prior to joining the CRNM in 2001, Mr. Spence helped to establish the Intellectual Property system and Office in Trinidad and Tobago as a National Counterpart Consultant to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and worked in that Office as the Chief Technical Examiner. Mr. Spence is an Agricultural Engineer with a B.Sc. from the Cranfield Institute of Technology in the United Kingdom and a M.Sc. in Manufacturing for Agricultural and Industrial Development from the same Institution. He has had training in intellectual property, particularly in patent search and examination, through WIPO.

**Ari Van-Assche**, Associate Professor, Department of International Business, HEC Montréal

Dr. Van Assche is Associate Professor of International Business at HEC Montréal and senior researcher at LICOS-KU Leuven. He received a M.A. in Chinese Studies from KU Leuven in 1999, and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2004. His most recent research focuses on the organization of global production networks, and the role of China therein.

**Nadir Merah**, African Union

*(To be updated)*

**Stefano Bertasi**, Director, Department of Policy and Business Practices, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

Mr. Bertasi is the Director of the Department of Policy and Business Practices, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). ICC, the world business organization, is a representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. Founded in 1919, it groups tens of thousands of member companies and associations from 120 countries. Mr. Bertasi is responsible for the overall management and coordination of ICC's policy work. He first joined ICC's Department of Policy and Business Practices in 1996 as a policy assistant responsible for customs policy. He then assumed responsibility for ICC's work on international trade and investment policy, corporate responsibility, and international economic issues. Mr. Bertasi was appointed Deputy Director of the Department of Policy and Business Practices in 2000, became Director and Deputy Head of the Department in 2004, and was promoted to the position of Director in July 2010. Prior to joining ICC, Mr. Bertasi spent over six years as an associate with the Business Council on National Issues (now known as the Canadian Council of Chief Executives) -- Canada's CEO-led business organization -- working on a broad range of public policy issues including trade policy, economic competitiveness and constitutional reform. Mr. Bertasi holds a BA (Hons.) in Political Science and a BA (Hons.) in Spanish from the University of Ottawa (Canada), as well as an MA in International Affairs (international political economy) from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs of Carleton University (Ottawa, Canada).

**Isidoro Hodara**, Chair of Foreign Trade, School of Management and Social Sciences, ORT University

Mr. Hodara graduated as an economist from the Uruguayan University at Montevideo and undertook further studies in Geneva at the Graduate Institute for International Studies. Since 1972 he has been active in the field of foreign trade in positions of increasing responsibility. From 1976 to 1982 he was head of the Uruguayan Economic and Commercial Office in Geneva. From 1985 to 1990 he held the post of Director General for Foreign Trade with vice-ministerial rank. From 2002 to 2005 he coordinated trade negotiations with United States, appointed by the Uruguayan President. He has followed closely trade negotiations, whether regional (MERCOSUR, FTAA) or multilateral (GATT, WTO).

Since 1990 he acts as senior consultant on foreign trade matters to a number of firms and institutions, both local and international. Since 1990 he has held the Chair on Foreign Trade at the School of Management and Social Sciences of ORT University. Since 1999 he has been designated Academic Coordinator of Postgraduate Studies on International Affairs. Mr. Hodara is a full Member of the National Academy of Economics in Uruguay. Since 1997 he has become Vice President of Zonamerica, a Business and Technology Park near Montevideo Airport.

**Selina E. Jackson**, Special Representative to the UN and the WTO, World Bank

Ms. Jackson is the World Bank's Special Representative to the UN and the WTO where she is responsible for managing the World Bank's relations with the WTO and the Geneva-based UN agencies, including Member governments, and other Geneva-based stakeholders. Ms. Jackson joined the World Bank Group in 2010 after a decade as Vice President of International Public Affairs at UPS, where she managed UPS' international trade policy and priorities, including trade facilitation and market access. Prior to UPS, Ms. Jackson served as U.S. Director of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD) which provides a platform for the private sector and the US and EU governments to collaborate on trade policy. She holds a Masters degree in international political economy from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, a Masters degree in European studies from the College of Europe in Belgium.

**Francis Mbroh**, Director, Research, Planning and International Cooperation, African Export-Import Bank

Dr. Mbroh is the Director of the Research, Planning and International Cooperation at the African Export-Import Bank. Prior to becoming the Director of RPIC, Dr. Mbroh worked as the Deputy Head of Planning and Business Development (P&D) department, the department responsible for the business development and Investment Banking activities, as well as research work of the Bank. Between June 2008 and April 2009, he served as the Head of P&D before his appointment as Director of the newly created RPIC department. Dr. Mbroh worked in 1995 as a Lecturer at the Center for Financial Management Studies (CEFIMS) (then known as Center for International Education in Economics), at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London and as a Senior Consultant with the FM Consultant, Ghana, before joining the Bank as Economic Analyst in January 1999. He rose through the ranks to the position of Director, Research, Planning and International Cooperation (RPIC) Department in January 2010. Dr. Mbroh holds an MSc and Ph.D (Economics) Degrees from (Birkbeck College and the School of Oriental and African Studies respectively) of the University of London, London, England.

**Isolda Agazzi**, Trade Policy Officer, Alliance Sud

Ms. Agazzi is a policy officer at Alliance Sud (the coalition of the largest Swiss development NGOs), in charge of international trade and investment. Beside this part-time activity, she is a professional free-lance journalist and writer of the journal of Bread for All, another Swiss NGO. Holder of a master in international relations from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, she has worked for 17 years in the field of international cooperation for bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, a research institute and NGOs, in Switzerland and in North Africa. She has taught at several universities and training programs around the world, particularly for three years at the University of Calabria, in Italy, within a master in development cooperation.

**Esther Busser**, Assistant Director, International Trade Union Confederation Geneva Office

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**Pradeep S. Mehta**, Secretary-General, Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) International

Mr. Mehta is the founder secretary general of the Jaipur-based Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS International), one of the largest consumer groups in India. Mr. Mehta studied law at the Rajasthan University, Jaipur. He has served on several policy making bodies of the Government of India, related to trade, environment and consumer affairs, including the National Advisory Committee on International Trade of the Ministry of Commerce and its working groups. He chairs the Advisory Board of the South Asia Network on Trade, Economics and Environment, Kathmandu. Mr. Mehta also serves on the advisory boards of Centre Advisory & Review Group of the Research Centre on Regulation and Competition, Institute for Development Policy and Management, Manchester University, UK; Institute for Consumer Antitrust, Loyola College, Chicago, USA; American Antitrust Institute (AAI), Washington DC, USA; Brains Trust of the Evian Group, Lausanne; the OECD's Advisory Committee for Investment in Africa, OECD, Paris; Advisory Committee of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, New Delhi. In the past, Mr. Mehta has been an NGO Adviser to the Director General, WTO, Geneva, besides serving on the governing boards of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai; the International Centre for Trade & Sustainable Development, Geneva and the Consumer Coordination Council, New Delhi. He has written and/or edited several books and monographs such as: Towards a Functional Competition Policy for India; Competition Regimes around the World; WTO and India: An Agenda for Action in Post Doha Scenario; Analyses of the Interaction between Trade and Competition Policy; Multilateralisation of Sovereignty.

**Khemani Pholsena**, Vice Minister, Lao Ministry of Industry and Commerce

H.E. Ms. Khemmani Pholsena is Vice-Minister of Industry and Commerce of Lao PDR. She is also the Chief of Lao IF Secretariat and the Lao Secretariat for Accession to the World Trade Organization. Ms. Pholsena has played a proactive role in the Integrated Framework process in Lao PDR since the beginning stage and has currently supervised the EIF focal point of Lao PDR. Previously, Mrs. Pholsena was the Director General of Foreign Trade Department and had been involved and experienced in the foreign trade issues of Lao PDR more than 10 years. She holds Bachelor and Master Degrees in International Economic Relations from Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Russia (1977-1982) and Master in Public Management from National University of Singapore under the Lee Kuan Yew Fellowship (2003).

**Raymond Saner**, Professor, Economic Department, Basle University, Co-founder, Centre for Socio-economic Development (CSEND), Geneva

Dr. Saner teaches at Basle University, Dept of Economics and Management negotiations and dispute settlement at WTO and at Sciences Po, Paris where he teaches trade & development for low income developing countries. He also teaches negotiations in a multi-stakeholder environmental context at the Centre for Sustainability (CSM), Leuphana University, Lüneburg. Dr. Saner is co-founder of CSEND, a Geneva based NGRDO (non-governmental research and development organisation (since 1993) and the director of CSEND's Diplomacy Dialogue branch. His research and consulting focus on international negotiations at bilateral, plurilateral, multilateral and multi-institutional/multi-stakeholder levels in the field of trade (WTO), employment and poverty reduction (ILO, PRSP), trade and development (WTO, UNCTAD, EIF), human and social capital development in the educational sector (GATS/ES/WTO and OECD) and trade, investment and climate change (UNCTAD, WB).

**Stuart Harbinson**, Senior Trade Policy Advisor, SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP

Mr. Harbinson is a senior trade policy advisor in Sidley's Geneva office. He provides strategic advice to the firm's clients and assists the firm's trade lawyers on international trade policy and cases involving the World Trade Organization and other international organizations based in Geneva. Prior to this current position, Mr. Harbinson gained extensive trade experience in several high-level positions in the United Nations, WTO, and Hong Kong government. Mr. Harbinson served as senior adviser to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD after having served as a senior official at the WTO, including as special adviser to Director-General Pascal Lamy. He also represented Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China at ambassadorial level in the WTO in Geneva. While representing Hong Kong, Mr. Harbinson was elected at various times as chairman of the WTO's overarching General Council (successfully overseeing preparation for the launch of the Doha round of negotiations), chair of the negotiating group responsible for the formative Doha negotiations on agriculture, chair of the Dispute Settlement Body, chair of the TRIPs Council, and chair of the Council on Trade in Services. In addition, Mr. Harbinson chaired a number of WTO dispute settlement panels. Mr. Harbinson also served as chairman of the International Textiles and Clothing Bureau, an intergovernmental organization composed of developing countries with exporting interests in the textile and clothing fields. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Mr. Harbinson served as a senior official in the Hong Kong Government, including as deputy secretary for trade and industry and deputy secretary for the civil service.

**Nicolas Imboden**, Executive Director, IDEAS Centre, Geneva

Mr. Imboden, a Swiss national, graduated in law at the University of Geneva, holds a degree in development studies from the then African Development Institute; a M.A.L.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Boston and was an AMP student at Harvard. He is partner and cofounder of IDEAS Centre. Previous he was Senior Vice President of SGS (1999-2002), a Swiss Government trade and aid official with the rank of an ambassador (1992-1999), Governor of the regional development banks (ADB, AfDB, IDB) and Executive Director at the EBRD (1992). He was the Swiss negotiator for market access and agriculture during the Uruguay Round negotiations (1987-1992). He also worked in the World Bank as an agricultural economist (1978-1982), OECD (1974-1978 as researcher on aid monitoring) and UNDP (1972-1974 as Program Officer in Chad). He is currently a member of the International Food and Agricultural Policy Council (IPC). He has been a member of various Expert Groups of the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and of the UNDP Human Development Report.

**Harsha Vardhana Singh**, Deputy Director General, World Trade Organization

Dr. Singh's direct responsibilities as DDG, WTO include areas of Agriculture, Services, Trade and Environment, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, and Technical Barriers to Trade.

He worked as consultant with the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices in New Delhi, and ILO and UNCTAD in Geneva before joining the GATT Secretariat in June 1985. He has worked with GATT/WTO for 18 years, first from June 1985 to June 1997, and more recently since October 2005. In the GATT/WTO Secretariat he worked in the areas of Economic Research, Trade Policy Review, Rules (anti-dumping, subsidies and countervail, safeguards), Trade and Environment, and the Office of the Director-General. For past six years, he has been Deputy Director General at the WTO. From mid-June 1997 to September 2005, he was with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), initially as Economic Advisor and then as Secretary, TRAI. He was a core part of the team that introduced reform in the Indian telecom sector during the period from 1997 to early 2005. He has been member of several High Level Policy Committees of the Government dealing with international trade and regulation, served as Chair of WTO dispute settlement Panels, and been visiting faculty or Honorary/Adjunct Professor at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, The Energy and Resources Institute (Delhi), and Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi. After his Masters in Economics from Delhi University, Dr. Singh went to the University of Oxford (UK) as a Rhodes Scholar from India to obtain his M.Phil. and D.Phil. in Economics.