

BRIEFING OF HIGH LEVEL DECISION MAKERS AND NEGOTIATORS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING SYSTEM

(Geneva and Bern, 21-25 September 2009)

Monday 21 September - THE STATE OF PLAY IN GLOBAL TRADE

VENUE: WORLD BANK, CHEMIN LOUIS-DUNANT 3, 1202 GENEVA

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
08:30 - 09:15	Introduction: The state of play in global trade	Richard Newfarmer, Special Representative, World Bank Group Geneva
09:15 - 10:00	The threat of rising protectionism	Veena Jha, Visiting Professorial Fellow, Warwick and IDRC research Fellow, Canada
10:00 - 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10:30 - 11:15	WTO Legal recourses	Petros C. Mavroidis, Professor of Law, University of Neuchatel
11:15 - 12:00	WTO Ministerial Conferences: Deal Makers or Low-Key Events? Key issues for the 7th WTO Ministerial conference	Esperanza Duràn, Executive Director, Agency for International Trade Information and Cooperation (AITIC), Geneva Informal Ministerial meetings have taken place regularly during the negotiations under the Doha Work Programme. However, the WTO ministerial conference, the highest decision-making body, should meet <i>at least</i> every two years. Four years have elapsed since the 6 th Ministerial Conference held in Hong Kong in 2005. The forthcoming 7 th Ministerial Conference will take place from 30 November to 2 December. The presentation will focus on points of special interest for Vietnam to be discussed at the ministerial meeting.
12:00 - 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>	

Monday 21 September

AFTERNOON VISITS

TIME	NAME	ORGANISATION
14:00 - 14:45	Ms. Gabrielle Marceau Counsellor, Office of the Director General, WTO	WTO, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL Director General's Conference Room
15:15 - 16:00	Ambassador Walker Chair of agriculture negotiations	THE PERMANENT MISSION OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE WTO Chemin des pins 2 1209 Geneva Theme of discussion: update on the negotiations in agriculture, and issues/future commitments that are directly related to Vietnam
18:00	Cocktail reception hosted by H.E.M Ambassador Luzius Wasescha Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the WTO and the EFTA Chairman of the negotiations on Non Agricultural Market Access (NAMA)	THE RESIDENCE OF H.E.M LUZIUS WASESCHA Promenade du Pin 1, 2 nd floor 1204 Geneva Theme of discussion: update on the negotiations in NAMA, and issues/future commitments that are directly related to Vietnam

Tuesday 22 September - THE DOHA ROUND AND CURRENT MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS

MORNING PRESENTATIONS

VENUE: WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION, ROOM C

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
09:00 - 09:45	Introduction	Stuart Harbinson, Senior Trade Policy Advisor, Winston & Strawn, Geneva
09:45 - 10:30	Current positions and implications for developing countries like Vietnam (position of G33)	M. Zhao, Permanent Mission of China to the WTO, Geneva
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 - 11:45	Current positions and implications for developing countries like Vietnam (position of the G20)	Faizel Ismail, Head of the South African Delegation to the WTO, Geneva
11:45 - 12:30	The evolution of trade in services	Pierre Sauvé, Deputy Managing Director and Director of Studies at the World Trade Institute, Bern
12:30 - 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>	

Tuesday 22 September

AFTERNOON VISITS

TIME	NAME	ORGANISATION
14:00 - 14:45	David P. Shark Deputy Chief of Mission David Shark U.S. Permanent Representative to the WTO	THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE WTO Route de Pregny 11 Geneva Labour issues in the trade and investment agreements
15:00 - 15:45	Harsha Singh Deputy Director General, World Trade Organization (WTO)	WTO SECRETARIAT, ROOM C Briefing on major negotiating issues of the Doha Round of Interest for Vietnam (Agriculture, NAMA, Anti-Dumping rules and services) Theme of discussion: update on the discussion of export duties and possible outcome Assessment on protectionist measures in the global economic downturn, as a viability check according to the WTO rules and commitments Experiences, opportunities and restraints of least-developed and developing countries in participation and use of WTO DSM
16:00- 17:00	Paul H. Dembinski Director, Observatoire de la finance Andrew Conford , Research Fellow at the Financial Markets Center	OBSERVATOIRE DE LA FINANCE 24, rue de l'Athénée, 1206 Geneva Theme of discussion: WTO negotiations on financial services and any other issues under the heading of trade in banking services which the group want to raise
17:30 -18 :15	Eckart Guth Ambassador and Permanent Representative, European Communities	THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES TO THE WTO Rue du Grand-Pré 66, 1202 Geneva Theme of discussion: labour issues in the trade and investment agreements

Wednesday 23 September - OPERATING DAY TO DAY IN THE WTO AND ITS LEGAL SYSTEM

MORNING PRESENTATIONS

VENUE: WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION, ROOM B

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
09:00 - 09:45	The WTO and the role of the private sector	Laurent Matile, Senior Officer, Business and Trade Policy. International Trade Centre (ITC)
09:45 - 10:30	Negotiating mechanisms, the various interest groups (LDCs, African group, G20 etc...) and their functioning	Manzoor Ahmad, Director, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Liaison Office, Geneva (former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the WTO)
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 - 11:45	Trade defence and monitoring mechanisms	Serge Pannatier Baker & McKenzie Geneva
11:45 - 12:30	Trade deficits and the WTO Balance of Payments provisions (The case of Ecuador and Ukraine)	Angelo Silvy, Trade Policy Review Division, WTO Secretariat, Geneva
12:30 - 13:45	<i>Lunch</i>	

Wednesday 23 September - AFTERNOON VISITS

TIME	NAME	ORGANISATION
14:00- 14:45	<p>Frieder Roessler, Executive Director, ACWL</p> <p>Hunter Nottage, Counsel, ACWL</p>	<p>THE ADVISORY CENTRE ON WTO LAW (ACWL) Avenue Giuseppe-Motta 31-33 Case Postale 132 1211 Geneva</p> <p>Themes of discussion: On 10 August 2009, H.E. Mr Pham Gia Khiem, Minister of Foreign Affairs, signed the Instrument of Accession of the Viet Nam to the Agreement Establishing the ACWL. Accordingly, on 25 September 2009, Viet Nam will become the 74th WTO Member entitled to ACWL services.</p> <p>The presentation will provide an overview of the services provided by the ACWL (legal opinions on WTO law, assistance in WTO dispute settlement and training in WTO law) and how Vietnam can best take advantage of those services.</p>
15:00 - 15:45	<p>Marc Halle, Director, Trade and Investment, International Institute for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (IISD) International Environment House 2, 7-9 chemin de Balaxert 1219 Châtelaine</p> <p>Themes of discussion: IISD work in the field of trade and development</p>
16:00 - 16:45	<p>Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, Chief Executive, ICTSD</p> <p>Johannes Bernabe, Programme Coordinator, ICTSD</p> <p>Ambassador Sergio Marchi, Senior fellow, ICTSD</p>	<p>THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ICTSD) International Environment House 2 9 chemin de Balaxert 1219 Châtelaine</p> <p>Theme of discussion: presentation of ICTSD and open discussion on the new architecture of the international economic system.</p>
17:15 - 18:00	<p>H.E.M Matern Yakobo Christian LUMBANGA Ambassador, Permanent representative to the WTO Coordinator of the LDC Group in the WTO</p>	<p>WTO, ROOM 1021</p> <p>Theme of discussion: the development dimension of WTO (TBC)</p>

Thursday 24 September - MAIN CHALLENGES

MORNING PRESENTATIONS

VENUE: WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION, ROOM B

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
09:00 - 09:45	Regional trade agreements	Marcello Olarreaga, Professor, University of Geneva
09:45 - 10:30	Developing countries and participation in WTO Dispute Settlement	Roderick Abbott, former deputy DG at WTO and former deputy DG at the European Commission
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 - 11:45	Sutherland Report Issues / WTO in the 21st Century: is it still relevant?	Roderick Abbott, former deputy DG at WTO and former deputy DG at the European Commission
11:45 - 12:30	Should the WTO govern international investment activity?	Pierre Sauvé, Deputy Managing Director and Director of Studies at the World Trade Institute, Bern
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	

Thursday 24 September

AFTERNOON VISITS

TIME	NAME	ORGANISATION
14:30 - 15:15	Didier Chambovey , Deputy Secretary General, European Free Trade Association (EFTA)	THE EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION (EFTA) 9-11, rue de Varembé, CH-1211 Geneva 20 Theme of discussion: Free Trade Agreements: a growing dimension of international economic relations. EFTA's experience
16:00 - 16:45	Paulo Estivallet de Mesquita , Minister Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative to the WTO, Brazilian Mission	THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BRAZIL TO THE WTO Avenue Louis-Casaï 71, 12016 Cointrin
17:15 - 18:00	Jodie Mc Alister Chief Office for Asia and the Pacific Friedrich von Kirchbach Director of the Bureau of Policy and Programs, ITC Koen Oosterom , Country Manager for Vietnam	THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE (ITC) ITC, 54-56, rue de Montbrillant, 1202 Geneva Theme of discussion: support Vietnam in collection and analysis of trade database

DINNER (20:00)

Dinner hosted by Mr. Harsha V Singh, Deputy Director General, WTO
Residence of Mr. Harsha Singh, Chemin en Lochette, 1293 Bellevue.

GENEVA - BERN

- 7:30 am departure from the Permanent mission of Vietnam
- Arrival in Bern at approx. 9:00 am
World Trade Institute
Hallerstrasse 6
3012 Bern

MORNING PRESENTATION - ON “TRADE AND CLIMATE CHANGE”

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
09:15 - 10:30	What Can the WTO Do for Climate Change Mitigation: Potentials and Limits	Professor Thomas Cottier, Professor and Managing Director World Trade Institute (WTI), University of Bern
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 - 12:00	Reform of Energy Services in the GATS from the Climate Change Mitigation Perspective	Olga Nartova, Work Package Co-Leader Trade and Climate Change, Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) Trade Regulation
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch at the World Trade Institute (WTI)	Offered by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

AFTERNOON SEMINAR - “THE ROLE OF THE WTO IN NATIONAL TRADE POLICY: THE VIEW OF SWITZERLAND”

The seminar is based on presentations by Swiss government officials and a subsequent panel discussion, which is led by Dr Mira Burri Nenova.

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
13:30 - 14:00	Swiss Trade Policy Overview and Trade Policy Formulation towards the WTO	Mr Remigi Winzap , Minister-Counsellor, Head WTO-Division, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)
14:00 - 14:20	Swiss Trade Policy in the Area of NAMA	Mr Remigi Winzap , Minister-Counsellor, Head WTO-Division, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)
14:20 - 14:40	Swiss Trade Policy in the Area of Intellectual Property Rights	Mr Mathias Schaeli , Head of International Trade Relations, Legal & International Affairs, Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property
14:40 - 15:10	Coffee break	
15:10 - 15:30	Swiss Trade Policy in the Area of Agriculture	Ms Krisztina Bende , Head of International Trade Policy Unit, Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture
15:30 - 16:30	Joint Panel Discussion on all Presentations	Led by Dr Mira Burri Nenova , Work Package Co-Leader Innovation and Creativity in International Trade, Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) Trade Regulation

DINNER

Dinner hosted by Ambassador Nguyen Ngoc Son, Embassy of Vietnam in Bern