

MEGA-REGIONALS AND PLURILATERALS

Second Round Table Dialogue on Surveying the Post-Bali Landscape

Date: Wednesday, 23 April 2014

Time: 15:00 to 18:00

Venue: Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
Villa Rigot, Avenue de la Paix 9, Geneva

PROGRAMME

WELCOME COFFEE	From 14:30
Welcome and Introduction Ricardo MELENDEZ ORTIZ	15:00 – 15:10
Mega-regionals – dividing the world in two? Recent developments introduced by Richard BALDWIN Followed by an open discussion moderated by Ricardo Melendez	15:10 – 16:30
Plurilaterals – a way to breaking the deadlock in WTO? Recent developments introduced by Joost PAUWELYN	
SHORT BREAK	
Interactive discussion Moderated by Miguel Rodriguez	16:40 – 17:50
Wrap-up Richard BALDWIN	17.50 - 18:00
RECEPTION	18:00 onwards

Meeting organisers

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

- **Richard Baldwin**, Professor of International Economics and co-Director, Centre for Trade and Economic Integration
- **Theresa Carpenter**, Executive Director, Centre for Trade and Economic Integration

ICTSD

- **Ricardo MELENDEZ ORTIZ**, co-founder and Chief Executive Officer
- **Sofie H. Flensburg**, Manager Strategic Partnerships

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Mega-regionals

Introduced by Richard Baldwin, this session will explore the following questions:

- What are the realistic prospects of these entering in force in the coming years?
- Is there anything we can do now to ensure that these agreements will be complementary to the multilateral system?
- Are the megaregions linked politically, i.e. are they all likely to fail or all succeed.
- What happens if TPP is delayed for years to come?

Plurilaterals

Introduced by Joost Pauwelyn, this session will explore the following questions:

- What are the legal limits on plurilaterals ?
- What is the requirement for consensus ?
- What is the relevance of MFN ?
- Can the RTA exceptions be adapted ?
- Why inside or outside WTO ?