



E15 – Midterm Review Dialogue on Global Value Chains: Development Challenges and Policy Options

ICTSD-IDB Expert Group Meeting

With the support of SECO

10 & 12 June 2013

World Meteorological Organization, 7bis, avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland

Agenda

Monday 10 June

9:00-12:30 **Session I: Global Value Chains – Policy Options for MC9 and beyond**

Chair: Ricardo MELÉNDEZ-ORTIZ (ICTSD)

The first meeting of the E15 Expert Group has shown that the WTO rules are not well equipped to handle the increasing importance of global value chains. The purpose of the Expert Group is to look into this situation, to make suggestions, and to develop policy options that will allow the WTO and its system of trade rules to move to greater relevance for the 21st century pattern of trade. During the first meeting a variety of policy options emerged.

This session will provide the group with an overview of these policy options presented by the theme leader, Sherry M. Stephenson (ICTSD). The discussion will be enriched by short presentations by the authors of think pieces, which were drafted on the basis of issues which emerged after the first meeting - Toni Estevadeordal (IDB), Grant Aldonas (Splitrock International), and Patrick Low (WTO).

Open discussion

12:30-14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00-17:30 **Open discussion (cont.)**

Chair: Toni ESTEVADEORDAL (IDB)

In the afternoon participants will continue the discussions and agree on preliminary policy recommendations to be presented to the Open Plenary on the morning of 12 June.

In addition Bernard Hoekman (European University Institute) will provide an overview of the report “Enabling Trade: Valuing Growth Opportunities”, written by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with Bain & Co. and the World Bank.

Tuesday 11 June

18:00 **Reception**

Wednesday 12 June

9:30-10:00 **Open Plenary: Presentation of Main Findings**

Chair: Ricardo MELÉNDEZ-ORTIZ (ICTSD)

The E15 Initiative – Strengthening the Multilateral Trading System: Process and Purpose

10:00-11:00 *During this plenary session, the theme leaders will inform a targeted audience of policymakers, trade negotiators, representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, academics, ambassadors and the private sector about the main findings of the E15 initiative and its (preliminary) policy recommendations on each respective topic. E15 experts and the audience will engage in substantive discussions in a non-negotiating context in order to transform the ideas and recommendations into action.*

- Global Value Chains - Sherry M. STEPHENSON (ICTSD)
- Agriculture and Food Security - Stefan TANGERMANN (University of Göttingen)
- Regional Trade Agreements - Kati SUOMINEN (IDB)
- Functioning of the WTO - Manfred ELSIG (WTI)

11:00-12:30 **Open Discussion**

12:30-14:30 **Lunch break**

14:30-15:00 **Presentation** by Anabel GONZALÉZ (Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica)

WEF Global Agenda Council on Trade and FDI report on “FDI as a Key Driver for Trade, Growth & Prosperity: The Case for a Multilateral Agreement on Investment”

15:00-18:00 **Closed Plenary: Summary and the Way Forward**

Chair: Ricardo MELÉNDEZ-ORTIZ (ICTSD)

In this closed plenary the theme leaders will summarize the discussions from the morning and engage all E15 experts in an open discussion about the policy recommendations as well as future steps. Possible proposals will be explored ensuring that the expert group process actively informs domestic and international policy-making, negotiations and decision-making on the respective topics of the E15 groups.