



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DEL COMERCIO



**WTO/ESCAP REGIONAL SEMINAR ON
THE WTO AND REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS (RTAs)
FOR ASIAN ECONOMIES**

Meeting Room F, United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), ESCAP
Bangkok, 25-27 July 2011

PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 25 JULY

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| 08h30 | Registration of participants |
| 09h00 | Opening statements

<i>Mr Ravi Ratnayake, Director, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP</i>
<i>Ms Jo-Ann Crawford, Counsellor, RTA Section, WTO</i> |
| 09h30 | Photo session |
| 09h45 | Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) and the WTO: An Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Facts and figures: the global dimension of RTAs</i> |
| 11h00 | Coffee break |
| 11h30 | Characteristic elements of RTAs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Preferential market access liberalization in trade in goods</i> |
| 12h30 | Lunch break |
| 14h00 | Characteristic elements of RTAs (cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>RTAs liberalizing trade in services</i> |
| 15h15 | Exercise: Characteristic Elements of RTAs |
| 15h30 | Coffee break |
| 16h00 | Presentations by regional secretariats / experts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Database (APTIAD) – and its use in evidence-based trade policy making (Mia Mikic, TID, ESCAP)</i> |
| 16h45 | End of day one |

TUESDAY, 26 JULY

- 09h00** **WTO Rules and Procedures related to RTAs**
- *Rules on RTAs in trade in goods*
 - *Rules on RTAs in trade in services*
- 11h00** **Coffee break**
- 11h30** **WTO Rules and Procedures related to RTAs (cont.)**
- *Transparency mechanism on RTAs*
- 12h30** **Lunch break**
- 14h00** **Presentation by regional secretariats /experts (cont.)**
- *The Trans-Pacific Partnership: State of Play and Implementation Challenges (Professor Chin Leng Lim, Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong)*
- 15h00** **Coffee break**
- 15h30** *The Trans-Pacific Partnership: continued*
- 16h15** **DDA Negotiations on WTO provisions on RTAs**
- *State of play of the negotiations*

WEDNESDAY, 27 JULY

- 09h00** **Group Exercise: RTAs' rules and procedures**
- 09h45** **Presentations by regional secretariats / experts (cont.)**
- *Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT): Effective Implementation of RTAs, the case of Sri Lanka (Ms Dushni Weerakoon, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS))*
- 10h30** **Coffee break**
- 11h00** **Presentations by regional secretariats / experts (cont.)**
- *ASEAN (Wan Joon Lian, Senior Officer, External Economic Relations)*
 - *APEC (Carlos Kuriyama, Senior Analyst, Policy Support Unit)*
- 12h30** **Lunch break**
- 14h00** **Exercise: The RTA Transparency Mechanism**
- 15h00** **Coffee break**
- 15h30** **Roundtable Discussion: The Role of RTAs in the Development Process**

Moderator: Jo-Ann Crawford (WTO)

Introductory remarks made by:

Alan Deardorff (Professor, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

16h45 End of Seminar

17h00 Presentation of the World Trade Report 2011 “**The WTO and preferential trade agreements: From co-existence to coherence**”

Robert Teh, WTO