

World Trade Forum Kursaal, Bern, Switzerland 25–26 September 2015

PROGRAMME

“20 Years of the World Trade Organization”



Day 1: Friday, 25 September 2015

12:00–13:00	Registration for delegates	<i>Foyer</i>
13:00–13:15	Welcome by Joseph Francois (Managing Director WTI) and Peter V. Kunz (Dean Faculty of Law, University of Bern)	<i>Szenario 2</i>
13:15–14:45	Plenary session I with roundtable <i>Expectations and Early Developments</i>	<i>Szenario 2</i>
Chair:	Carl B. Hamilton (Swedish Entrepreneurship Forum) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Victor do Prado (Director Council, WTO)• J. Michael Finger (former Chief of TPR, World Bank)• Judith Goldstein (Stanford University)• Luzius Wasescha (former WTO Ambassador, Switzerland)• Frieder Rössler (former Executive Director ACWL)	
14:45–15:15	Coffee	<i>Foyer</i>
15:15–16:45	Parallel session A: WTO at 20 topic session	<i>Szenario 1</i>
	Parallel session B: Non-Tariff Measures and New Trade Issues	<i>Szenario 2</i>
16:45–17:15	Coffee	<i>Foyer</i>
17:15–18:45	Plenary session II with roundtable <i>Operational Issues (Performance over 20 Years)</i>	<i>Szenario 2</i>
Chair:	Chad P. Bown (World Bank) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eveline Herfkens (SAIS, Johns Hopkins University)• Alejandro Jara (King & Spalding)• Carlos A. Primo Braga (Evian Group, IMD)• Pascal Kerneis (European Services Forum)	
20:00	Dinner at Restaurant Kornhauskeller	

Day 2: Saturday, 26 September 2015

9:00–10:30	Parallel session C WTO at 20 topic session	<i>Bellavista 5</i>
	Parallel session D: WTO at 20 topic session	<i>Szenario 1</i>
	Parallel session E: PTAs, Megaregionals and the WTO	<i>Szenario 2</i>
10:30–11:00	Coffee	<i>Foyer</i>
11:00–12:30	Plenary session III with roundtable <i>Looking Ahead – Challenges and Opportunities</i>	<i>Szenario 2</i>
Chair:	Bernard Hoekman (European University Institute)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joakim Reiter (Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD)• Ricardo Cortés-Monroy (General Council and Chief Legal Officer, Nestlé S.A.)• Remigi Winzap (WTO Ambassador, Switzerland)• Lu Xiankun (University of International Business and Economics, China)• Richard Baldwin (Graduate Institute Geneva)	
12:30–13:45	Lunch	<i>Foyer</i>
13:45–15:15	Parallel session F: WTO at 20 topic session	<i>Szenario 1</i>
	Parallel session G: The Dispute Settlement Understanding: The Jewel in the Crown?	<i>Szenario 2</i>
15:30–15:45	Closing remarks followed by alumni reception	<i>Szenario 2</i>

Conference Venue:

Kursaal, Kornhausstrasse 3, Bern

The World Trade Forum 2015 is organized by the World Trade Institute (University of Bern), the European University Institute (Florence), the Graduate Institute (Geneva) and the Centre for Economic Policy Research (London).



Parallel Session Descriptions

Parallel Session A: WTO at 20 topic session

The World Trade Organization: Past Performance and Ongoing Challenges

Chair: Manfred Elsig, World Trade Institute

- Thinking about Performance in the Context of the World Trade Organization: An Interdisciplinary Perspective (Manfred Elsig, World Trade Institute; Bernard Hoekman, European University Institute; Joost Pauwelyn, Graduate Institute Geneva)
- The GATT's Starting Point: Tariff Levels circa 1947 (Chad P. Bown, World Bank; Douglas A. Irwin, Dartmouth College)
- Rules and Norms as Constraint: The Origins of the Trade Regime and Implications for Future Trade Liberalization (Judith Goldstein, Stanford University)

15 minutes per paper presentation, rest for discussion

Parallel Session B: Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) and New Trade Issues

Chair: Joseph Francois, World Trade Institute

Differences in rules, regulations, and standards that were pure domestic issues decades ago are now important features in the landscape of factors driving trade, investment, and productivity in an increasingly globalized economy. This session is devoted to the challenges these new non-tariff issues pose for the rules-based system that governs the global economy.

- Quantifying Barriers to Trade in Goods (Robert Stehrer, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies)
- Quantifying Barriers to Trade in Services (Joseph Francois, World Trade Institute)
- WTO Implication of Private Standards and Impacts of TTIP/TPP Megas Regulatory Coherence on the BRICS Economies (Vera Thorstensen and Lucas Ferraz, FGV Brazil, Center on Global Trade and Investment)
- Negotiating Modalities for NTMs: What we have Learned from TTIP (Bruno Maçães, Secretary of State for European Affairs, Portugal)

10 minutes per presentation, rest for discussion



Parallel Session C: WTO at 20 topic session

The World Trade Organization: Past Performance and Ongoing Challenges

Chair: Manfred Elsig, World Trade Institute

- Does Trade Comply? The Economic Effectiveness of WTO Dispute Settlement (Soo Yeon Kim, Singapore National University)
- About the Melting of Icebergs. Discovering Political and Economic Determinants of Dispute Initiation and Resolution in the WTO (Dirk de Bièvre, University of Antwerp)
- Twenty Years of Third Party Participation at the WTO: What Have We Learned? (Krzysztof J. Pelc, McGill University, Montreal)

15 minutes per paper presentation, rest for discussion

Parallel Session D: WTO at 20 topic session

The World Trade Organization: Past Performance and Ongoing Challenges

Chair: Joost Pauwelyn, Graduate Institute Geneva

- Mind the Gap: Defining the Relationship between Accession Protocols and the WTO Agreement (Julia Ya Qin, Wayne State University, Detroit)
- Balance of Power in the Deliberation: the Case of the Appellate Body (Hélène Ruiz Fabi, Max Planck Institute, Luxembourg)
- You Are Twenty Now. The Evolution of the Case-law of the WTO Dispute Settlement. Subsidies as Case-Study (Luca Rubini, University of Birmingham)

15 minutes per paper presentation, rest for discussion

Parallel Session E: PTAs, Megaregionals and the WTO

Chair: Andreas Dür, University of Salzburg

- Key Trends in Preferential Trade Agreements (Andreas Dür, University of Salzburg)
- TTIP and Third Countries (Charlotte Sieber, World Trade Institute)
- TTIP and the WTO: A View from Business (Pascal Kerneis, European Services Forum)
- TTIP and the Multilateral Trading System (Alan Winters, University of Sussex)
- TPP and Other Mega-Regional Negotiations: How Great is the Threat to WTO Multilateral Liberalization? (Richard O. Cunningham, Steptoe & Johnson LLP, Washington DC)

10 minutes per presentation, rest for discussion



Parallel Session F: WTO at 20 topic session **The World Trade Organization: Past Performance and Ongoing Challenges**

Chair: Bernard Hoekman, European University Institute

- Why Does the WTO Still Matter for the Private Sector? (Lu Xiankun, University of International Business and Economics, China)
- Applying WTO Disciplines through National Institutions: The US Steel Safeguard Cases of 2001–2003 (J. Michael Finger, formerly World Bank, Washington DC)
- The Presence of the WTO within PTAs (Todd Allee, University of Maryland; Manfred Elsig, World Trade Institute)
- The WTO and Regional Trading Agreements: Is it all over for Multilateralism? (Alan Winters, University of Sussex)

15 minutes per paper presentation, rest for discussion

Parallel Session G: The DSU: The Jewel in the Crown?

Chair: Michael Hahn, University of Bern

The panel brings together prominent actors in the dispute settlement arena as well as academics to take a look back, a long hard look at what we have now and a look into the future.

- Ronald Saborío (Chair of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body)
- Peter Van den Bossche (Chair, Appellate Body, Professor Maastricht University)
- Valerie Hughes (Director, Legal Affairs of WTO Secretariat)
- Hélène Ruiz Fabri (Director, Max Planck Institute Luxembourg)
- Philippe de Baere (Partner, Van Bael & Bellis, Brussels – Geneva)
- Niall Meagher (Executive Director, Advisory Centre on WTO Law, Geneva)

10 minutes per presentation, rest for discussion



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