

## NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Series

Javier A. Gutiérrez, Executive Director, Secretariat for the Economic Integration of Central America (SIECA)

### Challenges and opportunities for Central America's process of economic integration

Friday, 27 May 2016, 12.30 – 13.30

Silva Casa Auditorium, World Trade Institute, University of Bern  
Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern, Switzerland

#### Abstract

Former MILE student Javier A. Gutierrez will discuss the challenges and opportunities for Central America's process of economic integration. The talk will focus on the recent efforts towards the creation of a Central American customs union and the decision by the republics of Guatemala and Honduras to expedite the creation of a customs union between their territories. He will share the experience of SIECA providing technical assistance to Central American countries in the negotiation and implementation stages of the process.

#### Biography of the Speaker

The Executive Director at the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), Javier Antonio Gutiérrez, has extensive experience in public administration and negotiation of trade agreements. He is originally from El Salvador, where he was a preferential trade agreement negotiator for the Ministry of Economy. He has also worked in multilateral organisations such as the International Labour Organization and the World Trade Organization where he served in the information external relations division during the 9th Ministerial Conference in Bali.

He has a BA in Economics from El Salvador's ESEN and has a Master's Degree in International Law and Economics from the World Trade Institute of the University of Bern, Switzerland.

At SIECA, he was a counsellor to the Secretary General before his appointment as Executive Director in October 2015.

**Participation is free of charge, no registration is needed.  
We warmly welcome you to join our seminar at the World Trade Institute!**

NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Seminars are 30-minute presentations, given by external or in-house researchers. The presentations are followed by a 30-minute Q&A session. The Brown Bag concept comes from the US; it means that people bring their own lunch and eat it during the presentation.