

## HOW MIGHT THE DRAFT DOHA DEAL ON AGRICULTURE AFFECT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?

### AN EXAMINATION OF THE CHAIR'S 'MODALITIES' TEXT

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND  
15 JULY 2009

After 8 years of negotiations, the draft modalities text issued by the chair of the WTO agricultural negotiations in December 2008 reflects the considerable progress that has been made to date. However, a number of outstanding issues still need to be resolved before a final Doha deal can be concluded. By providing a forum for stakeholders to discuss the implications of the draft text for developing countries, ICTSD hopes to enable a range of different actors to understand better the issues at stake.

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08.45 – 9.00	<b>ARRIVALS</b>
09:00 - 09:30	<b>WELCOMING REMARKS</b> Christophe BELLMANN Programmes Director, ICTSD
9:30 – 11:15	<b>SESSION I: DOMESTIC SUPPORT</b> This session will explore the impact of subsidies on prices for key commodities, and examine how the draft modalities could affect spending among the major subsidising countries. It will look in particular at the implications of the modalities for products of special importance to developing countries and least-developed countries, such as cotton.  <b>POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR SPENDING AMONG SUBSIDIZING COUNTRIES</b> Prof. David BLANDFORD Professor, School of International Affairs, The Pennsylvania State University  <b>IMPACT OF SUBSIDIES ON PRICES FOR KEY COMMODITIES</b> Mário JALES Ph.D. Candidate, Cornell University  <b>IMPLICATIONS OF THE MODALITIES FOR COTTON</b> Abdoulaye ZONON Economist, Centre d'Analyse des Politiques Economiques et Sociales (CAPES)
11:15 – 11:30	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>  COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11:30 – 13:00	<b>SESSION II: CHINA AND INDIA</b> This session will explore how the draft modalities could affect market access in both China and India, two developing countries with large and growing populations that have both experienced unusually high levels of economic growth in recent years. While exporting countries have argued that access to these two countries' markets is an essential component of an eventual Doha deal, trade negotiators and policy-makers from these countries have also drawn attention to the need to balance market opening with the protection of the millions of poor, low-income farmers whose livelihoods and food security may be at risk in the event of sudden or extensive market opening.  <b>CHINA</b> Prof. TIAN Zhihong Professor, Department of International Trade, China Agricultural University  <b>INDIA</b> Prof. Munisamy GOPINATH Director, Graduate Program in Applied Economics, Oregon State University
	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>

13:00 – 14:15

LUNCH

14:15 – 16:15

### SESSION III: ASSESSING MARKET ACCESS FLEXIBILITIES

This session will explore outstanding negotiating issues that will need to be resolved before a Doha deal can be agreed. It will assess flexibilities on special products for small, vulnerable economies (SVEs), and the implications of the December 2008 proposals for the special safeguard mechanism (SSM). It will also examine how the draft modalities could affect countries that have historically benefited from trade preferences, and discuss the implications of the draft text for tariff peaks, sensitive products, and tropical products.

#### SPECIAL PRODUCTS AND THE FLEXIBILITIES FOR SVEs

Prof. E. Olawale OGUNKOLA

Professor, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

#### IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED MODALITIES FOR THE SSM

Mr. Raul MONTEMAYOR

President, Federation of Free Farmers Cooperatives, Inc., the Philippines

#### IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED MODALITIES ON TARIFF PEAKS AND SENSITIVE PRODUCTS

Ms. Valeria CSUKASI

First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Uruguay

#### OPEN DISCUSSION

#### IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED MODALITIES ON PREFERENCE EROSION

Mr. Gowreeshankursing RAJPATI

Agricultural Trade and Policy specialist , former Executive Director of the Mauritius Sugar Authority

#### IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED MODALITIES ON TROPICAL AND DIVERSIFICATION PRODUCTS

Ms. Ivania DOBLES

Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica

#### OPEN DISCUSSION

16:15– 16:30

COFFEE/TEA BREAK

16:30 – 17:30

### SESSION IV: LOOKING FORWARD

This session will analyse the future of the Doha Round agriculture negotiations and possible strategies for developing countries.

#### THE FUTURE OF THE DOHA ROUND AGRICULTURE NEGOTIATIONS

Ambr. Stuart HARBINSON

Senior Trade Policy Advisor, Winston & Strawn LLP

#### CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Ambr. Mario MATUS

Ambassador of Chile to the WTO

#### OPEN DISCUSSION

17:30 – 18:00

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

Christophe BELLMANN

Programmes Director, ICTSD