

# SYMPOSIUM ON TRADE IN PRIMARY PRODUCT MARKETS AND COMPETITION POLICY

September 22, 2011, Geneva, Switzerland

## AGENDA

### OPENING SESSION

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**Pascal Lamy**

Director General, World Trade Organisation

### SESSION 1: HOW DO PRIMARY PRODUCT MARKETS WORK?

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#### Issues

- 1) Recent trends
- 2) Determinants of supply and demand
- 3) Role of speculation and the “financialisation” of commodities
- 4) Anticompetitive practices
- 4) Government interventions
- 6) Effect on developing countries

#### Speakers

**Steve McCorriston**

Head, Department of Economics and Professor of Agricultural Economics, Exeter Business School, UK

**Marian Radetzki**

Professor of Economics, Lulea University of Technology, Sweden

#### Discussants

**Jamel Zarrouk**

Chief, Economics and Technical Department, Arab Monetary Fund, Abu Dhabi

**Khalid Sekkat**

Professor of Economics, University of Brussels, Belgium

### SESSION 2: ANTI-COMPETITIVE PRACTICES & MARKET STRUCTURES IN PRIMARY PRODUCT MARKETS

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#### Issues

- 1) International export cartels in primary products
- 2) Transnational mergers and concentration in primary products
- 3) Vertical exclusive arrangements
- 4) Monopsony power in international agri-food products

#### Speakers

**Frédéric Jenny**

Judge, Commercial, Economic and Financial Law Chamber of the Supreme Court of France

**John M Connor**

Professor of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, Indiana, USA

**Bibek Debroy**

Professor of Economics, Centre for Policy Research and International Management Institute, New Delhi, India

#### Discussants

**Aderbigbe Olomola**

Director, Agriculture and Rural Development Department and Professor, Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research, Abuja, Nigeria

**Professor Marc Ivaldi**

Professor, Toulouse School of Economics and Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Toulouse, France

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## SESSION 3: GOVERNANCE OF PRIMARY PRODUCT MARKETS & ITS IMPACT ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

### Issues

- 1) Transnational mergers and acquisitions in raw materials: What are the effects of such mergers? Which competition authorities examine them? Can developing countries impose effective remedies if they have a competition law instrument? What about the affected countries which do not have a competition law?
- 2) Export cartels and exemptions from domestic competition laws (e.g. material distribution).
- 3) Can transnational abuses of dominance be controlled easily by competition authorities in developing countries?

### Speakers

**Simon Evenett**  
Professor of International Trade and Economic Development and Director of Swiss Institute for International Economics, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

**Pradeep S Mehta**  
Secretary General, CUTS International, Jaipur, India

### Discussants

**Harak Singh**  
Chair, Caribbean Community Competition Commission, Trinidad & Tobago

**Eugenio Diaz-Bonilla**  
Executive Director for Argentina and Haiti, Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC, USA

**Abid Suleri**  
Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan

**Representative of Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD)\***

## SESSION 4: SYSTEMIC ISSUES & POLICY OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

### Issues

- 1) Can regulation help improve the performance of primary products markets? Can competition policy help?
- 2) To what extent are competition policy principles already built into or interface with WTO Agreements?
- 3) Conflicts of jurisdictions and overlapping remedies: issues and solutions.
- 4) How does the development of competition policy in major developing countries affect the issue?
- 5) How to fill the gaps in the governance of transnational markets (ban on export cartels, cooperation between national authorities etc.)

### Speakers

**Bernard Hoekman**  
Sector Director, Trade Department, World Bank

**Robert Anderson**  
Counsellor, Intellectual Property Division, World Trade Organization

### Discussants

**Welber Barral**  
Former Foreign Trade Secretary of Brazil

**Simon Evenett**  
Professor of International Trade and Economic Development and Director of Swiss Institute for International Economics, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

**Qian Hao**  
Associate Professor, China University of Political Science and Law, Beijing, China.

**D.K. Mittal\***  
Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Corporate Affairs

\*TBC

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