



How to make International Trade Policy Supportive of the Paris Agreement

13 December, 14.00 - 15.30, Room 511, CCK Cultural Centre, Sarmiento 151, Buenos Aires, Argentina

The adoption of the Paris Agreement 2015 has created a new context for the interface between climate change and trade policy. Various national policy measures with trade consequences are contemplated in nationally determined contributions (NDCs), with international trade as a facilitator for achieving numerous climate goals. Moreover, calls for trade measures have intensified following the announcement that the United States will withdraw from the Agreement. Trade rules and environmental protection should be made mutually supportive, in particular with a view to climate change. In light of recent developments both in the trade and in the climate regimes, there is a need to explore new potentials and pitfalls of the trade and climate policy nexus.

Against this background, this side event seeks to contribute to improving the understanding of the interface between trade and climate change policy. As leaving the fate of climate action to the WTO's dispute system creates uncertainty, a set of general regulatory options that have been identified for trade and climate policy makers to pursue will be presented and discussed. Furthermore, institutional and procedural aspects of future interactions between the regimes of the UN, WTO and regional free trade agreements are elaborated. Last but not least, we will highlight the role of Argentina and the EU for bringing about mutual supportiveness.

SPEAKERS

Susanne Dröge, Senior Fellow, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)/Climate Strategies

H.E. Cyrus Chu, Permanent Representative of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO in Geneva

Madelaine Tuininga, Head of Unit for Trade and Sustainable Development, DG Trade, European Commission

James Bacchus, Chair of Global Practice, Greenberg Traurig

MODERATOR

Hubert René Schillinger, Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Geneva Office

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