

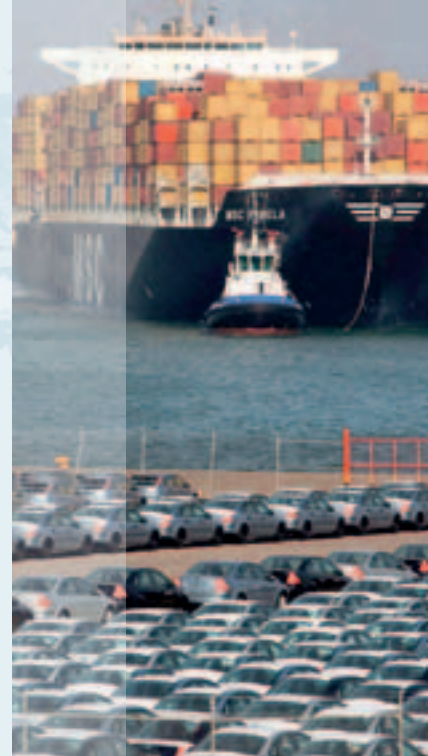


Dialogue on Globalization

December 13-18, 2005

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung at the
6th WTO Ministerial Conference in
Hong Kong, China

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The Friedrich Ebert Foundation is a non-profit political public interest institution committed to the principles and basic values of social democracy and the labour movement.

The 6th WTO Ministerial Conference will be a significant event in global policy making. Hong Kong will not only decide on the future of the Doha Development Round, it will also provide an opportunity for a debate on the broader context of trade and development. The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) will contribute to this debate in many ways – by hosting panel discussions and meetings, by providing briefing and background material and by supporting the participation of representatives from trade unions, NGOs and journalists from the South.

LIST OF FES EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Public Panel Discussion 1:

■ G20 and the WTO Development Agenda

The appearance of a new coalition of developing countries – called the G-20 – during the 5. WTO-Ministerial Conference in Cancún two years ago changed profoundly the dynamics of the multilateral trade negotiations. The creation of the G-20, that represents almost 60% of the world population, was a political statement in favor of revitalizing the debate on development issues in international fora. Seeking to strike a balance between the interests of trade liberalization and development objectives, the G-20 presents itself as an advocate of the Doha Development Agenda. However, the Group's positions are focused above all on concrete interests in the ongoing negotiations on agriculture. Within the group there is a clear predominance of big developing countries, in particular Brazil and India. The panel will debate whether the G-20 really succeeded in maintaining the development issues on the Doha Agenda and to what extent it strengthened the negotiation power of the developing countries? Will the G-20 be a passing phenomenon or definitely marks a change in the political geography of international trade?

Moderator: **Ramesh Jaura**, IPS-Inter Press Service Europe, Germany

Speakers: **André Meloni Nassar**, Institute for International Trade Negotiations (ICONE), Brazil

Dr. George Nangale, East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), Tanzania

Jessica Reyes-Cantos, Action for Economic Reform, Philippines

Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Research and Information System (RIS) for the Non-Alligned and other Developing Countries, India

Erika Mann, Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Tuesday, 13 December 2005, 16.00 -18.00h, NGO Forum, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Room A

Public Panel Discussion 2:

■ China in Africa: Focus on trade and investment

China is vastly becoming a trade and investment power in Sub-Saharan Africa. What kind of trade and investment relations do evolve? Are China-Africa trade & investment relations following a pattern of South-South-cooperation, guided by development needs of both sides? Or are China-Africa trade & investment relations just replications of the classical North-South-model, where Africa's economy remains resource based and where its hope of building a manufacturing sector gets another beating?

Moderator: **Jean-Christophe Servant**, Le Monde-Diplomatique

Speakers: **Hon. Abdirahin Haji Abdi**, Eastern African Legislative Assembly (EALA), Kenya

Montle Peloentle, Botswana Export Development & Investment Authority (BEDIA), Botswana

Godfrey Marawanyika, Journalist, Zimbabwe

Tanja van Meelis, Confederation of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), South Africa

NN, Agriculture / Cotton Sector, West Africa

Wednesday, 14 December 2005, 15.00 -17.00h, NGO Forum, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Room D

Public Panel Discussion 3:

■ GATS – Mode 4

The temporary movement of natural persons under Mode 4 is one of the most controversial issues of the outgoing GATS negotiations. Whereas developing countries and least developed countries regard Mode 4 as an important export and employment opportunity, developed countries have not responded to this interest accordingly as some of the most sensitive migration policies are affected. Within the Mode 4 debate, the categories of natural persons and their skill levels are one of the main issues, as well as the definition of the duration – the term "temporary" remains undefined – and the conditions governing the provision of services. This panel deals with "offensive" interests regarding Mode 4 and the liberalization of services and with those of a more "defensive" position in favour of employment conditions and "decent jobs".

Moderator: **Dr. Erfried Adam**, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva Office

Speakers: **Sumanta Chaudhuri**, Permanent Mission of India to the WTO, Geneva

Genevieve J. Gencianos, Public Services International, International Migration and Women Health Workers Program, Ferney Voltaire, France

Pascal Kerneis, European Service Forum, Brussels

William Gois, Migrant Forum in Asia, Quezon City, Philippines

Claudia Meyer, Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund, Germany

Thursday, 15 December 2005, 14.00 -16.00h, NGO Forum, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Room F

Public Panel Discussion 4:

■ "Gender & Trade"

Trade liberalizations have different impacts on women and men as their economic status varies. Especially in developing countries women can benefit from trade liberalizations as they might lead to growth in the export industry and therefore to formal work opportunities. But regarding increasing competition in the world market, working conditions and wages get under pressure which might lead to a "race to the bottom". Considering the gender aspect in trade will enhance growths since then the productive potentials of women would be utilized. This panel deals with ways to include the gender aspect in trade negotiations and strategies to empower women as entrepreneurs.

Moderator: **Meg Jones**, Deputy Director Evian Group, Lausanne, Executive Vice-President, Organization of Women in International Trade

Speakers: **H.E. Dr. Mia Horn af Rantzien**, WTO Ambassador of Sweden, Geneva

Sarojini Ganju Thakur, Commonwealth Secretariat, Adviser (Gender) Social Transformation Programmes Division – Gender Section, London

Elisabeth Tang, Chief Executive, Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions, Hong Kong People' Alliance on WTO, Hong Kong

Amandine Bach, Women in Development Europe (WIDE), Brussels

Martin Khor, Third World Network, Malaysia (requested)

Friday, 16 December 2005, 10.00 -12.00h, NGO Forum, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Room 407

Public Panel Discussion 5:

■ Chinas Role in the Global Economy: its Impact on Emerging Economies

China's rapid growth over the last two decades has shaken the world. The "big dragon" has increasing relevance for the world economy and is often seen as a "role model" for other emerging economies. But the initial euphoria with which other advanced developing economies welcomed the increased Chinese economy as a possible strategic partner, in the meantime has given way to a rising fear of China as a fierce competitor. This panel brings together experts from different regions of the world to discuss the experienced as well as the expected impact China has on the economies and labour markets of other advanced developing countries. Will the economic exchange with China benefit emerging economies or will predominate damaging effects? To what extent are China's development lessons instructive for other emerging markets? Is there a potential for common positions in the multilateral trade negotiations and the debate on how to shape globalization?

Moderator: **John Evans**, TUAC

Speakers: **André Meloni Nassar**, Institute for International Trade Negotiations (ICONE), Brazil

Feng Jun, Shanghai WTO Affairs Consultation Center, China

Tanya van Meelis, COSATU, Trade and Industry Co-ordinator, South Africa

Pradeep Mehta, Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CUTS), India

Alejandro Villamar, Red Mexicana de Acción frente al Libre Comercio (RMALC), Mexico (requested)

Saturday, 17 December 2005, 14.00 - 16.00h, NGO Forum, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Room F

Other activities

■ Supporting Journalists from the South

As part of its commitment to a free, independent and well-informed media, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is supporting the participation of a group of journalists from the least-developed countries in Hong Kong.

December 12 Monday	December 13 Tuesday	December 14 Wednesday	December 15 Thursday	December 16 Friday	December 17 Saturday
LCD Journalist Seminar	Panel 1: G 20 and the WTO Development Agenda	Panel 2: China in Africa: Focus on trade and investment	Panel 3: GATS – Mode 4	Panel 4: Gender & Trade	Panel 5: Chinas Role in the Global Economy: its Impact on Emerging Economies
9.00-17.00 h Room D	16.00-18.00 h Room A	15.00-17.00 h Room D	14.00-16.00 h Room F	10.00-12.00 h Room 407	14.00-16.00 h Room F

Conference Secretariat in Hong Kong

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Venues

NGO Centre

Hong Kong Convention and

Exhibition Centre (HKCEC)

1 Expo Drive, Wanchai

Hong Kong

Logistical Note

If not specified, all events will be held in English language only.

Although most speakers and dates are confirmed, changes may occur. For programme updates and for further information on our work on trade and development, please visit: www.fes.de/globalization

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