

*You are invited to the launch
of the WTO/Cambridge University Press publication:*

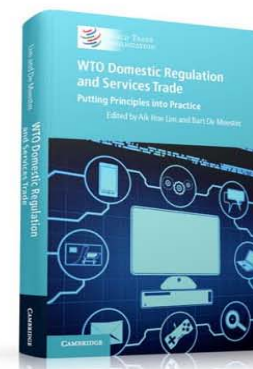
WTO Domestic Regulation and Services Trade: Putting Principles into Practice

12.30pm Wednesday, 7 May 2014

WTO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland
Centre William Rappard – Room D

The book delves into the main domestic regulation principles which trade negotiators have been seeking to craft, under the mandate of the WTO's General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), as a means of reducing the impact of regulatory diversity, simplifying procedures, making procedures more transparent and avoiding unnecessary complexity or disguised restrictions. The book also includes country and sector-specific case studies on how some of the issues discussed in the domestic regulation disciplines have been addressed.

The editors of the book are Aik Hoe Lim, Counsellor in the Trade in Services Division of the WTO Secretariat, and Bart De Meester, member of the Legal Service of the European Commission and formerly a Legal Affairs Officer at the WTO.



PROGRAMME

Moderator: Mr Hamid Mamdouh (Director of Trade in Services Division)

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| 12.30-12.45 | Invitation to refreshments/sandwiches |
| 12.45-12.55 | Welcome and opening remarks: Deputy Director-General Xiaozhun Yi |
| 12.55-13.20 | Presentation of the book: Mr Aik Hoe Lim and Mr Bart De Meester |
| | Selected case studies:
Ms Ruosi Zhang (logistics)
Ms Joan Apecu (mobile banking) |
| 13.20-14.00 | Panel/general discussion

Prof. Carlos Braga, International Institute for Management Development (IMD) in Lausanne
H.E. Ambassador Mariam Salleh, Malaysia
Ms. Caroline McCarthy, Counsellor, Australia |
| 14.00 | Closing |

Registration is mandatory for those who do not have WTO accreditation. Should you wish to register, please send an email to elizabeth.debayle@wto.org. Registered participants will need to leave their passport or ID card at the registration office before entering the building.

Launch event sponsored by Cambridge University Press.

Trade Liberalization & Domestic Regulation



Scheduled commitments

Market Access
(Article XVI)
Mainly quantitative restrictions

National Treatment
(Article XVII)
Discriminatory measures

Domestic Regulation

Article VI
Qualitative requirements
Regulatory autonomy of Members subject to GATS rules aimed at containing trade restrictive effects

Recurring issues

- Liberalization needs re-regulation
- Market access and national treatment commitments are not sufficient
- Development of new services challenges fragmented regulatory frameworks
- Recognition and role of international standards
- Transparent, reasonable, objective and impartial rule-making and supervision
- Reducing regulatory burden

For further consideration...

- Would it be interesting to consider a package of measures aimed at “services trade facilitation”?
- Can advance knowledge of the negotiated outcome help Members ?
- Should more use be made of existing GATS instruments allowing for flexibility ?
- Can more be done in a trade context to improve regulatory cooperation and capacity building ?