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Deutsches Institut für
Entwicklungspolitik



German Development
Institute

Dear colleague,

We would like to invite you of the webinar on:

A multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development: issues concerning implementation

held on Thursday, 30 April 2020, 15:00-16:00 Central European Time (CET)

This is the third of a webinar series on investment facilitation for development, organised jointly by ITC and DIE.

Negotiations on a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development will start in the World Trade Organization (WTO) among 101 WTO members as soon as circumstances permit. The main objective of the negotiations is to increase the flow of sustainable foreign direct investment with a view towards advancing sustainable development.

This webinar is held in the framework of a joint ITC/DIE project on Investment Facilitation for Development. It will discuss a number of issues that need to be considered during the negotiations concerning how such a framework would have to be implemented to meet its objective.

The webinar will be conducted in an interactive manner and allow for questions by participants.

Introduction: Marion Jansen, Director and Chief Economist, ITC

Moderator: Karl P. Sauvant, Resident Senior Fellow, Columbia University, CCSI

The panel:

- The state of play of the Structured Discussions: Felipe Henriquez, Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Chile to the WTO and Advisor to the Coordinator of the Structured Discussions

- The lay of the land: the adoption of investment facilitation measures in countries: Axel Berger, Senior Researcher, DIE
- The role of special and differential treatment: Bernard Hoekman, Professor, European University Institute
- The role of technical assistance and capacity building: Anabel González, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics
- Institutional arrangements: Committee on Investment Facilitation: Alexandre Guido Lopes Parola, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the WTO

(For the bios and background materials, please see below.)

To join the meeting, kindly click on the link below shortly before **15:00 am CET on 30 April** and follow the instructions. If you are not able to connect online, you could connect using the dial-up options provided at the end of this email.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

If you would like to send written questions or comments during the meeting, please feel free to type them in the chat window by clicking on the “chat” button on the middle-bottom pane of the Zoom window.

With kind regards,

Rajesh Aggarwal, Chief Trade Facilitation and Policy for Business, ITC

Axel Berger, Senior Researcher, DIE

Karl P. Sauvant, Resident Senior Fellow, Columbia University, CCSI

Bios:

Axel Berger

Axel Berger is a Senior Researcher at the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE). He works on the design, effects and diffusion patterns of international trade and investment agreements, with a focus on emerging markets and developing countries. Other areas of current research include the effects of an international investment facilitation framework, the impact of free trade agreements on upgrading within global value chains and the role of the G20 in global governance. He teaches international political economy at the University of Bonn and regularly advises developing countries, development agencies and international organisations on trade and investment matters.

Anabel Gonzalez

Anabel Gonzalez is non-resident senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington DC and a consultant on trade and investment. As former Senior Director of the World Bank’s Global Practice on Trade & Competitiveness, she led the

Bank's agenda on trade, investment climate, competitiveness, innovation, and entrepreneurship. She previously served as Minister of Trade of Costa Rica, where she headed the country's strategy to join the OECD, negotiated several trade agreements and contributed to attract over 140 foreign direct investment projects. She also worked as Director of the Agriculture Division at the World Trade Organization, and Director-General of Costa Rica's Investment Promotion Agency, among others. She is a member of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Trade and Investment and has presented on these topics in over 60 countries around the world.

Felipe Henríquez

Felipe Henríquez is a Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Chile to the WTO, in charge of Trade in Services, Investment, E-commerce, Trade and Environment and Government Procurement. He has professional experience as negotiator and head of negotiating teams of Free Trade Agreements (chapters on investment, services, temporary entry for business persons, telecommunications and e-commerce), participant in plurilateral and multilateral fora (TPP, Pacific Alliance, WTO, OECD, APEC, UNASUR) and negotiator of air services agreements and mutual recognition agreements.

Bernard Hoekman

Bernard Hoekman is Professor and Director, Global Economics at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute in Florence, Italy, where he also serves as the Dean for External Relations. Previous positions include Director of the International Trade Department (2008-13) and Research Manager in the Development Research Group (2001-08) at the World Bank. A CEPR Research Fellow, he holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI).

Marion Jansen

Marion Jansen is Director of the Division for Market Development and Chief Economist at the International Trade Centre (ITC) in Geneva. She oversees ITC's work on export strategy and trade facilitation and ITC's contributions to G20 processes. Ms Jansen previously held senior positions in the WTO and the International Labour Office. She has published widely on international trade and global economic governance, notably co-editing the volumes "[Internationalization of Financial Services](#)" and "[The Use of Economics in International Trade and Investment Disputes](#)". Ms Jansen holds a PhD in economics from the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Spain) and has lectured in multiple academic institutions, including the University of Geneva and the World Trade Institute (Bern). A German national, she grew up in the Netherlands. Next to German and Dutch, she speaks English, French, Italian, and Spanish.

Alexandre Guido Lopes Parola

Alexandre Guido Lopes Parola serves in the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and to other Economic Organizations in Geneva since October 2018. Previously, Ambassador Parola held various positions in the Brazilian Government: advisor

at the Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs (1991), at the Cabinet of the Minister of Economy, Finance and Planning (1992) and at the Special Advisory to the Presidency of the Republic (1999); Spokesperson for the President of the Republic of Brazil (2002, 2016-2018); Director of the Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2015) and President of Brazil Communication Enterprise - EBC (2018). Ambassador Parola has been a diplomat since 1988, with a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in 1985, a Master's in Economics from the University of Brasília in 1991, a PhD in Philosophy from the Catholic University of America in 2003, and a Post-Doctorate in International Relations and Foreign Policy from the University of Oxford in 2003.

Karl P. Sauvant

Karl P. Sauvant introduced the idea of an International Support Program for Sustainable Investment Facilitation in the E15 Task Force on Investment Policy in 2015. From there, the proposal was taken forward in the WTO. He has written extensively on this subject (see <https://ssrn.com/author=2461782>), participated in various events relating to it and currently assists the ITC and DIE on a project on Investment Facilitation for Development. He retired in 2005 as Director of UNCTAD's Investment Division and established, in 2006, what is now the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), stepping down as its Executive Director in 2012, to focus his work, as a CCSI Resident Senior Fellow, on teaching, research and writing.

Background materials

[WTO Joint Ministerial Statement on Investment Facilitation for Development \(December 2017\).](#)

[WTO Joint Ministerial Statement on Investment Facilitation for Development \(November 2019\).](#)

[Investment Facilitation for Sustainable Development: Index Maps Adoption at Domestic Level, DIE Longread.](#)