

**Invitation 3<sup>rd</sup> virtual meeting of Expert Network on a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development, 25 June 2020, 14:00-15:30 CET**

Dear Expert Network members,

Thank you very much again for your willingness to participate in the Expert Network on Investment Facilitation for Development, established in the framework of a project carried out by the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE).

The 3<sup>rd</sup> virtual meeting of the Expert Network will take place on **25 June May 2020** from 8:00am to 9:30am Eastern US Daylight Saving Time (EDT), 14:00 to 15:30 Central European Time (CET), 20:00 to 21:30 China Standard Time (CST). We would appreciate if you are able to participate. **Please register [here](#).**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will focus on the **relationship between a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development and international investment agreements**. More specifically, we would like to discuss the following questions with you:

- What are the experiences gained from investment facilitation provisions in IIAs?
- What are the provisions that are referenced most frequently in IIAs, especially in IIAs with high membership and would be the best candidates to be included in a multilateral framework?
- What is the relationship between a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development and IIAs, in particular with regard to market access clauses and most-favoured-nation provisions?
- How can the provisions of a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development be shielded from investor-state dispute settlement provisions in IIAs?

The discussion will be held under Chatham House Rule to enable frank and open exchange. The main results of the discussion will be summarized in a short report which will be fed into the WTO process on investment facilitation.

**Moderator:** Axel Berger, Senior Researcher at the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE).

**Opening speakers:**

Mr. Chi Manjiao, University of International Business and Economics

Mr. Jansen Calamita, National University of Singapore.

**Concluding remarks:**

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

To enhance the dialogue in the session and ensure that we address as many questions as practicable, we would like to hear from you – prior to the meeting – by submitting your questions through this [link](#). To join the meeting, kindly, click on the link below shortly before 14:00pm CET on 25 July 2020 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 request the floor to speak or send written questions or comments during the meeting, please feel free to type your question or request in the chat window by pressing on the chat icon in the middle-bottom pane of the Zoom window.

Thank you in advance for participating in the Expert Network and sharing your expert insights.

With best 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** 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.

**N Jansen Calamita** is Head of Investment Law & Policy, Centre for International Law, and Research Associate Professor (CIL), Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore. Prior to entering academia, Professor Calamita served in the Office of the Legal Adviser in the US Department of State and as a member of the UNCITRAL Secretariat. He began his career in private practice in New York. He is co-editor (with L Malintoppi) of *International Litigation in Practice* (Brill) and a member of the editorial board of the Yearbook of International Law and Policy (Oxford University Press).

**Chi Manjiao** is professor, Law School of University of International Business and Economic (UIBE), China, and founding director of the School's Center for International Economic Law and Policy (CIELP). He is also founding editor-in-chief of the Asian Yearbook of International Economic Law. His recent research focus includes international economic law, dispute settlement and sustainable development. He frequently advises international organizations, government bodies as well as private firms on legal and policy issues of his research fields.

**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.