

# **AGENDA**

## **WTO Chairs Annual Conference 2017**

**6-7 December 2017**

**Buenos Aires, Argentina**

### **Introduction**

The WTO Chairs Programme (WCP), launched in 2010, aims to enhance knowledge and understanding of the multilateral trading system among academics and students in developing countries through teaching, research and outreach activities in academic institutions. The programme has been successful in the publication of research papers, the launch of diploma and master's degree programmes, and promoting greater interaction among the WTO Chairs and national trade authorities.

The WTO Chairs Annual Conference of 2017 will take stock of the work undertaken by the 19 active WTO Chairs in 2016-17, identify the main achievements and challenges encountered in the delivery of activities, and the future direction of the programme. It will also highlight research conducted by the WTO Chairs on trade and poverty, promoting connectivity and trade behind the headlines.

Session 1 of the conference will report on the third year of activities on research, curriculum development and outreach conducted by Phase I and II Chairs. Sessions 2 to 4 will be interactive sessions among the Chairs, Advisory Board members and the Secretariat focusing on best practices, lessons learned and how the Chairs can sustain their activities after the programme ends. Session 5 will discuss matters from the last annual conference, including the WCP e-platform, the evaluation of the WCP, and start discussions about the future direction of the WTO Chairs Programme. Sessions 6 to 8 will feature selected research papers by WCP Chairs on a number of trade-related topics with Advisory Board Members serving as discussants.

**WTO Chairs Programme**

**Buenos Aires, Argentina**

**6 December 2017**

**OPENING SESSION: 2017 WCP Conference**

**09:00 – 09:10 Welcome Remarks**

**Luis Alberto Quevedo**, FLACSO Director

**09:10 – 09:25 Opening Remarks**

**High level official**, Argentina, **TBC**

**High Level Official**, Netherlands, **TBC**

**09:25 – 09:40 Introduction to the programme and objective of the conference**

**Mr. Robert Koopman**, Director, Economic Research and Statistics Division

**9:40 – 10:00 Coffee**

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The first session will take stock of the work undertaken by the Phase I and II Chairs on the basis of the annual reports on the implementation of their 2016-2017 work programmes.

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**SESSION 1**

**Chair: Mr Robert Koopman**, Director, Economic Research and Statistics Division

**10:00 – 11:15 Overview of WCP activities (Phase I and II) in 2016-2017 and planned activities**

**Presentation by WTO Secretariat**

**General discussion**

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The next three sessions will be interactive sessions among the Chairs (Phase I and II), AB members and the Secretariat focusing on best practices, lessons learned and how the Phase II Chairs plan to sustain their activities after the funding ends.

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## SESSION 2

**Chair:** Mr Robert Teh, (ERSD)

**11:15 – 12:30 Best practices, Lessons Learned and Ensuring Sustainability: Research Pillar**

**Panellists:**

- **Ms Vera Thorstensen**, Getulio Vargas Foundation
- **Mr Houcine Boughanmi**, Sultan Qaboos University
- **Mr Keith Nurse**, University of the West Indies
- **Ms Dorotea Lopez Giral**, University of Chile
- **Mr Michael Ewing-Chow**, National University of Singapore
- **Ms Tabitha Kiriti Nganga**, University of Nairobi
- **Mr Aly Ahmadou Mbaye**, Cheikh Anta Diop University

**General discussion**

**12:30 – 14:00 Lunch**

## SESSION 3

**Chair:** Mr Mustapha Sadni Jallab (ITTC)

**14:00 – 15:15 Best practices, Lessons Learned and Ensuring Sustainability: Curriculum Pillar**

**Panellists:**

- **Ms Leila Baghdadi**, Tunis Business School
- **Ms Pinar Artiran**, Bilgi University
- **Mr Riza Noer Arfani**, Universitas Gadjah Mada
- **Mr Taleb Awad Warrad**, University of Jordan
- **Ms Valentina Delich**, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales
- **Mr Azzedine Ghoufrane**, Mohammed V University-Souissi

**General discussion**

**15:15 – 15:45 Coffee**

#### **SESSION 4**

**Chair: Ms Fatima Chaudri (ITTC)**

**15:45 – 17:00 Best practices, Lessons Learned and Ensuring Sustainability: Outreach Pillar**

**Panellists:**

- **Mr Charlemagne Babatoundé Igue**, Université d'Abomey-Calavi
- **Ms Wilma Viviers**, North West University
- **Mr Boopen Seetanah**, University of Mauritius
- **Mr Sergei Sutyryn**, St. Petersburg State University
- **Mr Lei Zhang**, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics
- **Mr Bradley Condon**, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México

**General discussion**

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Session 5 will discuss matters from the last annual conference, including the WCP e-platform, the evaluation of the WCP, and the future direction of the WTO Chairs Programme.

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#### **SESSION 5**

**Chair: Mr Maarten Smeets (ITTC)**

**17:00 – 18:00 Matters from the Last Annual Conference/Future Directions**

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**Day 2: WCP Conference**

**Buenos Aires, Argentina**

**7 December 2017**

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Sessions 6-8 will feature selected research papers by WCP Chairs on a number of trade-related topics with Advisory Board Members serving as discussants.

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**SESSION 6**

**Chair:** Mr Robert Koopman (WTO)

**08:30 – 10:45 Trade and Poverty**

**Presentation by selected Chairs**

- **Mr Charlemagne Babatoundé Igue**, Université d'Abomey-Calavi
- **Mr Taleb Awad Warrad**, University of Jordan
- **Ms Leila Baghdadi**, Tunis Business School

**Discussants:**

- **Mr Stephen Karingi**, Advisory Board Member
- **Ms Trudy Hartzenberg**, Advisory Board Member

**General discussion**

**SESSION 7**

**Chair:** Mr Robert Teh (ERSD)

**10:45 – 13:00 Promoting Connectivity**

**Presentation by selected Chairs**

- **Ms Dorotea Lopez Giral**, University of Chile
- **Mr Riza Noer Arfani**, Universitas Gadjah Mada
- **Mr Azzedine Ghoufrane**, Mohammed V University-Souissi
- **Ms Wilma Viviers**, North-West University

**Discussants:**

- **Mr Pierre Sauvé**, Advisory Board Member
- **Mr Mark Wu**, Advisory Board Member

**General discussion**

**Lunch 13:00-14:30**

## **SESSION 8**

**Chair: Ms Valentina Delich** (Argentina)

**14:30 – 16:45 Trade: Behind the Headlines**

### **Presentation by selected Chairs**

- **Ms Vera Thorstensen**, Getulio Vargas Foundation
- **Ms Pinar Artiran**, Bilgi University
- **Mr Houcine Boughanmi**, Sultan Qaboos University
- **Mr Boopen Seetannah**, University of Mauritius

### **Discussants:**

- **Mr Clemens Boonekamp**, Advisory Board Member
- **Mr Alexander Sarris**, Advisory Board Member

### **General discussion**

## **Closing Session**

**16:45 – 17:00**