

WCP Annual Conference

25-27 July 2022

PROGRAMME

Day 1 (Monday 25 July 2022)

Room E (Capacity - 99)

WELCOME COFFEE AND REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS (8:30 – 9:00)

1 OPENING CEREMONY (9:00 – 10:00)



Inaugural Address: Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (WTO)

Introductory remarks: Deputy Director-General Xiangchen Zhang (WTO)

Remarks by WCP Donors¹:

Ambassador Etienne Oudot de Dainville, Permanent Representative of France to WTO
Director-General Cynthia Zimmermann, Ministry for Labour and Economic Affairs of Austria
Minister-Counsellor Jeremy Green, Deputy Permanent Representative of Australia

Overview/Agenda of the Conference:

Werner Zdouc, Director, Knowledge and Information Management, Academic Outreach and WTO Chairs Programme Division (WTO)

2 PANEL I: *WCP IN PRACTICE: APPLIED RESEARCH*: (10:00 – 11:15)

Research is a vitally important part of WCP activities. In this session Chairs from different Programme cycles and Academic Advisory Board Members explore best (past) practices and what to learn from them for current and future challenges. Research outputs are undertaken bearing in mind the specific areas which stakeholders are interested in to ensure results that are relevant to them, and which can be implemented by policymakers and the private sector. Speakers are invited to address the following issues:

- How to conduct needs assessments with stakeholders prior to research activities?;
- How to involve policymakers in co-designing and advancing research projects of relevance to them?;
- How to ensure both stakeholder relevance and high scientific quality of research?;
- What is the role of stakeholders under the research pillar? (Coordinating peer reviews, gathering contributions and fostering implementation of result and recommendations);
- How to ensure diversity of research topics;
- How to coordinate interdisciplinary research within the WCP Network, including with advice from the Advisory Board?;
- How to coordinate research with the relevant experts in WTO research and TA divisions;
- How to effectively involve (graduate) students and future academics in research?;
- Presentation of some success stories.

Moderators: Alexandros Sarris, Academic Advisory Board Member

Speakers:

- WTO Chairs from Phases I and II:
Charlemagne Babatoundé Igue (Benin)
Adama Gueye (Senegal)
Wilma Viviers (South Africa)

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¹Sarah Ahn, Director-General for International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, also a key donor of the WCP, will be delivering the opening statements during the joint public session of the WCP and the Aid for Trade global review on 27 July 2022.

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- ii. WTO Chairs from Phase III:
Rosmery Hernández Pereira (Costa Rica)
Victor Saco (Peru)
- iii. Academic Advisory Board Member:
Peter Van den Bossche, *online*

3 COFFEE BREAK AND LOGISTICS (11:15 – 11:45)

4 PANEL II: THE MC12 RESULTS AND BEYOND: FOOD SECURITY AND THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE NEGOTIATIONS (11:45 – 13:00)



This session is organized jointly with the Agriculture and Commodities Division

Agricultural and food supply chain disruptions, droughts, floods and climate change are on the rise. Commodity and food prices skyrocket due to these disruptions and developments affecting the domestic and international political system and world trade and security architecture.

This session will cover MC12 results relating to the international food crises, and it will explore the way forward for WTO negotiations relating to agriculture. While progress has been made, many issues relating to public stockholding for food security purposes, export prohibitions or restrictions, export competition, domestic support, market access, the special safeguard mechanism, cotton, and transparency are not yet fully resolved. The MC12 results and unfinished issues in the negotiations are both very relevant to future research and outreach by WTO Chairs in advising policymakers and training trade experts of the future. The session will cover matters including:

- The MC12 Declaration on the Emergency Response to Food Insecurity;
- MC12 Decision on World Food Programme Food Purchases Exemption from Export Prohibitions or Restrictions;
- The role of special and differential treatment, especially for least-developed countries (including relevant elements of the MC12 Outcome document);
- The state of play and unfinished business regarding public stockholding, export restrictions, export competition, domestic support, and market access etc; and,
- Work done by other international and regional organizations.

Moderator: Pierre Sauv , Academic Advisory Board Member

Speakers:

- i. Deputy Director-General Jean-Marie Paugam (WTO)
- ii. Edwini Kessie, Director, Agriculture and Commodities Division (WTO)
- iii. Annalisa Conte, Director, World Food Programme Geneva Global Office
- iv. Stephen Fevrier, Senior Advisor to the Director-General, Office of the Director-General (WTO)
- v. Roberta Piermartini, Senior Counsellor, Economic Research and Statistics Division (WTO)
- vi. Eddy Bekkers, Research Economist, Economic Research and Statistics Division (WTO)

Discussants:

- i. WTO Chair from Phase I:
Michael Ewing-Chow (Singapore)
- ii. WTO Chairs from Phase III:
Ren  Urue a (Colombia)
Umid Yakubxodjayev (Uzbekistan)
Achyut Wagle (Nepal)
- iii. Academic Advisory Board Members:
Marcelo Olarreaga
Clemens Boonekamp

5 LUNCH (13.00 – 14:30)

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6 ROUNDTABLE: "TRADE POLICY AND GENDER EQUALITY" (13:00 – 14:30) – ROOM D

This is a joint session (brown bag lunch) WCP – Aid for Trade Global Review Pre-Event Programme

The trade and gender project represents an attempt to offer an all-encompassing systematic interdisciplinary approach to trade and gender issues. This session is meant to explore and develop the debate over a range of cutting-edge issues of trade policy and gender. A broad range of research should address the issues of gender in international trade and international investment. Even though a number of studies, individual book chapters, and journal articles are emerging in this field, more comprehensive academic study dedicated to the intersections between trade law and gender is necessary. The subject needs to be explored from the perspectives of trade policies and trade negotiations including global and regional approaches. Contributions on trade and gender from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia will be covered.

Moderator: Mustapha Sadni Jallab, Technical Assistance and Academic Networks Coordinator, Knowledge and Information Management, Academic Outreach and WTO Chairs Programme Division (WTO)

Speakers:

- i. Anoush der Boghossian, Head of Trade and Gender Unit, Development Division (WTO)
- ii. Simonetta Zarrilli, Chief of Trade, Gender and Development (UNCTAD)
- iii. WTO Chair from Barbados: Jan Yves Remy
- iv. WTO Chair from Chile: Dorotea López
- v. WTO Co-Chair from Mexico: Amrita Bahri
- vi. Nicole Mensa, Special Assistant and Advisor on Gender, Office of the Director General, (WTO)

7 PANEL III: THE MC12 RESULTS AND BEYOND: TOWARDS A GREEN AND BLUE ECONOMY: TRADE, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FISHERIES? (14:30 – 15:45)

This session is organized jointly with the Trade and Environment Division

The move towards a green and blue economy has been given a boost with key results of MC12, the Fisheries Agreement, the sustainable trade and development components of the Ministerial Package and the Structured Discussions on Trade and Environmental Sustainability. The COP in Glasgow and the work under the umbrella of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change as well as national and regional measures to combat climate change are also highly relevant to the work of WTO Chairs in advising policymakers and training trade and climate change experts of the future.

Speakers of this session are invited to address these issues including MC 12 outcomes:

- The new WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies: What are the successful results (e.g., illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing; overfished stocks; transparency) and their impact? What is required to secure speedy ratification and implementation of the Fisheries Agreement?;
- What business remained unfinished (overcapacity and overfishing subsidies, indirect fossil fuel subsidies, special and differential treatment)? What will be the impact of those gaps?;
- Brief overview of the recent declarations and resolutions adopted by different committees (Committee for Trade and Development, Committee for Trade and Environment) of interest to Chairs where they shape research agendas;
- the state of play of the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions;
- the Informal Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade, Circular Economy; fossil fuel subsidies reform; the role of MSMEs;
- the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow and the WTO, the Climate Change Convention and national/regional responses to climate change and WTO issues (measures to combat climate change, border tax adjustment, issues under WTO subsidy rules);
- the Trade and Climate Change Network at the WTO;
- the WTO World Trade Report on Climate Change and Trade;
- research on the EU's carbon border adjustment mechanism.

Moderator: Rohinton Medhora, Academic Advisory Board Member

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Speakers:

- i. Deputy Director-General Angela Ellard (WTO)
- ii. Ambassador Santiago Wills, Chair of Fisheries Negotiations, Permanent Representative of Colombia
- iii. Aik Hoe Lim, Director, Trade and Environment Division (WTO)
- iv. Ambassador Simon Manley, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the WTO, Chair of the Committee on Trade and Environment
- v. Yuvan Beejadhur, Senior Advisor to the Director-General, Office of the Director-General (WTO) *online*
- vi. Xu Ankai, Research Economist, Economic Research and Statistics Division (WTO)

Discussants:

- i. Daniel C. Esty, Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy, School of the Environment and Clinical Professor of Environmental Law & Policy, Yale Law School
- ii. WTO Chair from Phase II:
Osman Gulseven (Oman)
- iii. WTO Chair from Phase III:
Chahir Zaki (Egypt)
James Nedumpara (India)
Xinquan Tu (China, University of International Business and Economics)

8 COFFEE BREAK (15:45 – 16:15)

9 PANEL IV: WCP IN PRACTICE: OUTREACH TARGETING STAKEHOLDERS: (16:15 – 17:30)

Outreach is a crucial part of WCP activities. This session will focus on dissemination and outreach in relation to research conducted through the WCP and the effective integration of this research into policymaking, activities of other stakeholders (businesses, NGOs). Chairs from different Programme cycles and academic advisory board members will explore best (past) practices and what to learn from them in order to tackle current and future challenges. Participants can discuss how to tailor outreach activities to the specific areas which stakeholders are interested in so as to ensure results which are relevant to policymakers and the private sector. Speakers are invited to address the following questions/issues:

- How can key stakeholders be involved on a regular basis in dissemination activities and in designing and targeting outreach activities at key audiences? Experiences with setting up a taskforce or board comprising capital-based policymakers, Geneva mission representatives, university authorities, business associations, NGOs and other stakeholders for the Chair's activities;
- Signing MoUs with stakeholders or research, teaching and outreach partners;
- Outreach in Geneva vs. with domestic stakeholders: which is the best avenue?;
- Inviting stakeholders to participate in events and following up after their participation;
- Ensuring implementation of research results when policies are formulated and implemented;
- Providing background consultations or advisory opinions to governments;
- Joining advisory boards of policymakers and stakeholders;
- How to ensure sustainability of the Chair beyond four years: what steps to take in the first year(s) to anticipate institutional and budgetary needs later and when funding ends?;
- Methods of dissemination: liaising in person, virtually, or through publications?;
- Experiences with Virtual Platforms/Maintaining an active and engaging online presence;
- Building partnerships and sustainability into the future.

Moderator: Ronald Saborío Soto, Academic Advisory Board Member

Speakers:

- i. WTO Chairs from Phases I and II:
Ricardo Gamboa (Chile)
Leila Baghdadi (Tunisia)
- ii. WTO Chairs from Phase III:
Tsothang Tsietsi (Lesotho)
Rama Rao Bokka (Rwanda)
- iii. Academic Advisory Board Member:
Trudi Hartzenberg, *online*

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Day 2 (26 July 2022)

Room E (Capacity - 99)

10 TA MONITORING AND EVALUATION (FOR PHASE III CHAIRS) (9:30 – 10:30)

This session will focus on the framework for Technical Assistance monitoring and evaluation, in particular the modalities of assessment under Key Result 3 of the TA Plan 2022-23. A brief overview of the TA Annual Report, the figures which will be reported to donors, the role of the baselines, the templates for reporting, and the frequency of reporting will be provided by the WCP Team.

Speakers:

- i. WCP Team
- ii. Claude Trolliet, Chief of Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Section, Institute for Technical Training and Cooperation (WTO)
- iii. Academic Advisory Board: Henry Gao
General discussion/Q&A

11 COFFEE BREAK (10:30 – 11:00)

12 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (11:00 – 13:00)

There will be a separate meeting agenda for Academic Advisory Board Members.

The Chairs are encouraged to use this time to arrange for meetings with permanent missions and partners based in Geneva.

13 LUNCH AND COFFEE (13:00 – 14:30)

Coffee will be available at the reception area near room E prior to the meeting with the DG.

14 DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND THE CHAIRS AND ACADEMIC ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS (14:45 – 15:30)

Moderator: Richard Newfarmer, Academic Advisory Board Member and Tabitha Nganga, WTO Chair in Kenya

This meeting is meant to be a "fireside chat" where the Director-General will respond to questions from the WTO Chairs and the Academic Advisory Board Members.

This is an opportunity for the entire WCP Chairs Network and the Academic Advisory Board to discuss with the Director-General and, building on that discussion, design research projects, customize courses, target outreach and identify priority areas to focus their activities in order to be relevant to the agenda of the DG, the WTO and Members' policymakers and stakeholders in their regions.

FAMILY PHOTO WITH THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

15 PANEL V: THE MC12 RESULTS AND BEYOND: TRADE, PUBLIC HEALTH, ACCESS TO VACCINES AND MEDICINES AND PREPAREDNESS FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS (15:30 – 17:15)

This session is organized jointly with the Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division



Trade in medical products, access to public health, and economic resilience in facing pandemics are topics which are of great interest to Members and citizens alike given the unprecedented challenges of Covid-19 and other pandemics. The MC12 TRIPS waiver decision and the Declaration on the WTO's Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic and Preparedness for Future Pandemics have been gamechanger and are now being operationalized. To facilitate tailored research and curriculum development on these issues, the speakers at this session are invited to address these outcomes of the MC12 negotiations as well as give a brief overview of the direction of current WTO research on trade and public health topics, including:

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- The Ministerial Decision on the TRIPS Agreement; what will be the impact? Is it workable in terms of vaccine and medication supply and building up pharmaceuticals production in the South? What criticism by NGOs and public health representatives is justified?
- The WTO's Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Ministerial Declaration and the work on how to foster preparedness for future pandemics;
- The work of the Task Force on COVID-19 Vaccines, Therapeutics and Diagnostics for Developing Countries and the WTO-IMF COVID-19 Vaccine Trade Tracker;
- The WTO's work with WIPO, WHO, the World Bank and the pharmaceuticals sector.

Moderator: Henry Gao, Academic Advisory Board Member

Speakers:

- Deputy Director-General Anabel Gonzalez (WTO), *recording*
- Ambassador Lansana Gberie, Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone, TRIPS Council Chair, *online*
- Ambassador Dacio Castillo, Permanent Representative of Honduras, Facilitator on Issues relating to Resilient Recovery from the Pandemic and former General Council Chair
- Antony Taubman, Director, Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division
- Edward Kwakwa, Assistant Director-General (WIPO)
- Aletta Petronella Susarah Terblanche, Managing Director, Afrigen Company, *online*
- Ankur Mutreja, Senior Manager – Lower- and Middle-Income Countries Engagement (Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations), *online*

Discussants:

- WTO Chair from Phase I:
 - Lei Zhang (China, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics)
 - Taleb Awad Warrad (Jordan)
- WTO Chairs from Phase III:
 - Tsai Fang Chen (Chinese Taipei)
 - Azam Choudhry (Pakistan)

16 BOARD MEETING CONTINUED (17:15 – 18:15)

17 WCP RECEPTION HOSTED BY DDG XIANGCHEN ZHANG AT THE WTO ATRIUM AT 18:30

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DAY 3 (27 JULY 2022)

Room E (Capacity - 99)

18 AID FOR TRADE: OPENING PLENARY SESSION (9:00 – 10:30) – ROOM W

See separate programme of Aid for Trade Global Review available [here](#)

19 PANEL VI: MAPPING THE WTO MEMBERSHIP'S PRIORITIES: ADDRESSES FROM COORDINATORS OF COUNTRY GROUPS OF DELEGATIONS REGARDING KEY AREAS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS IN WCP RESEARCH AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES (11:00 – 12:30)

Coordinators from regional developing and least-developed country groups of WTO Members will discuss key areas of interest in applied research, customized training, and targeted outreach, in the light of key priorities in WTO subject matter areas and/or regions.

The WTO Chairs Network provides topical research to stakeholders both within their countries, regionally and for the WTO level. The perspective which they bring enables Members to negotiate based on research which is customized to Members' domestic and regional needs. To facilitate this process, Coordinators of the Country Groups are invited to share their current priorities with the Chairs but also speak about "bottlenecks" which sometimes occur between the delegations in Geneva and domestic decision makers. With a view to opening channels of communication, Country Group Coordinators and delegates are invited to share insights with WTO Chairs on how best to interact with host governments and effectively customize and disseminate research which is undertaken based on needs assessments. This, in turn, will enable WTO Chairs to focus their research and other activities on areas of particular interest to Geneva delegations and capital-based stakeholders thereby ensuring policy relevance of their activities.

The key questions to be answered through this session are:

- What are the current priorities for applied research, customized training, targeted outreach, and fact-based advice needed by Members and WTO country groups?
- How can Chairs best liaise with their Permanent Missions in Geneva?
- Where can technical assistance through the WCP help Members the most?
- What are some areas where training and curriculum development offered by the Chairs would be most needed?

Moderator: Dr Bright Okogu, Chef de Cabinet, Office of the Director-General (WTO)

Speakers:

- i. Ambassador Mujtaba Piracha, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the WTO, and former Chair of the Committee for Trade and Development
- ii. Ambassador Eduardo Ernesto Sperisen, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the WTO, Coordinator of the Small and Vulnerable Economies (SVE) Group
- iii. Ambassador Eheth Salomon, Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the WTO, Coordinator of the African Group
- iv. Ambassador José Cancela, Permanent Representative of Uruguay, Coordinator of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC)
- v. Ambassador Cheryl Spencer, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the WTO, immediate past Coordinator of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP) Group

Discussants:

- i. Academic Advisory Board Members:
Rohinton Medhora
Henry Gao
- ii. WTO Chairs from Phases I and II:
Vera Thorstensen (Brazil)
Pinar Artiran (Turkey)
- i. WTO Chairs from Phase III:
Michel Levi (Ecuador)
Thi Thu Huong Trinh (Viet Nam)

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20 LUNCH (12:30 – 14:00)

21 PANEL VII: *WCP IN PRACTICE: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT* (13:45 – 15:00)

Curriculum development contributes immensely to the goals of the WCP and of technical assistance at the WTO. In this session Chairs from different Programme cycles and Academic Advisory Board Members explore best (past) practices and what to learn from them for current and future challenges. This session would focus on how successful curriculum development activities are run under the WCP for students, government officials and representatives of other stakeholders. This comprises new courses and degrees as well as modernizing/updating existing courses. Speakers could address the following questions/issues:

- Curating courses for and co-designing courses for stakeholders: assessing stakeholder needs prior to developing and conducting courses;
- Developing courses online and creating sustainable resources for future students;
- Training students for careers in international trade;
- Assessing the degree of stakeholder customization and impact of courses;
- Using digital means for teaching and dissemination;
- Expanding and maintaining access to databases and other library resources;
- Presentation of some success stories.

Moderator: Désirée van Gorp, Academic Advisory Board Member

Speakers:

- WTO Chairs from Phases I and II:
Valentina Delich (Argentina)
Azzedine Ghoufrane (Morocco)
- WTO Chairs from Phase III:
Manfred Kouty (Cameroon)
Caiphos Chekwoti (Tanzania)
- Academic Advisory Board Member:
Giorgio Sacerdoti

22 COFFEE BREAK (15:00 – 15:15)

23 JOINT PUBLIC SESSION OF THE WTO CHAIRS PROGRAMME AND AID FOR TRADE GLOBAL REVIEW: INCLUSIVE, EMPOWERING, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE TRADE – THE CONTRIBUTION AND ROLE OF THE WCP IN FOSTERING THESE OBJECTIVES (15:15 – 16:30)

This panel discussion will focus on inclusive trade from several different angles including gender and trade, post-pandemic recovery and inclusive growth through better inclusion of MSMEs and the transition to the green and blue economy, thereby contributing to the overall theme of this year's Global Review. Conceptual statements will be followed by three case studies to illustrate how the research agendas of the WCP Network is closely related to sustainable and inclusive development issues, to the trade priorities of developed and least-developed countries and very much to the SDG agenda. The first presentation will highlight how circular economy (SDG12) and green economy imperatives are related to sustainable growth models and inclusive development. The second theme and presentation will focus on the nexus between trade policy instruments and gender equality (SDG5) and the importance of mainstreaming gender concerns into trade policy formulation. Lastly, the third will show the challenges and role of MSMEs and digitalization in resilient recovery from the pandemic, with a case study presenting the results of a survey of MSMEs in Mauritius which focused on women owned businesses and blue entrepreneurs.

Moderator: Ambassador Etienne Oudot de Dainville, Permanent Representative of France to WTO

Keynote Address:

Stephen N Karingi, Director, Regional Integration and Trade Division, UN Economic Commission for Africa, WCP Academic Advisory Board Member

Opening Statements:

Sarah Ahn, Director-General for International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea

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Presentations of Case Studies:

- i. Riza Arfani, WTO Chair from Indonesia: Trade, circular economy and sustainable development, SDG 12
- ii. Jan Yves Remy, WTO Chair from Barbados: Empower women into trade policy formulation, SDG5
- iii. Boopen Seetanah, WTO Chair from Mauritius: Enhance the private sectors and MSMEs as a catalyst to support resilient and inclusive recovery

Ambassadors round table and discussion:

- i. Ambassador Chad Blackman, Permanent Representative of Barbados to the WTO
- ii. Ambassador Dandy Satria Iswara, Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia in charge of WTO issues
- iii. Ambassador Cleopa Kilonzo Mailu, Permanent Representative of Kenya (ACP Group Coordinator)

Discussants:

- i. WTO Chairs:
 - Amrita Bahri (Mexico)
 - Tabitha Nganga (Kenya)
 - Leila Baghdadi (Tunisia)
- ii. Academic Advisory Board Members:
 - Trudi Hartzenberg, *online*
 - Richard Newfarmer

Concluding remarks:

Werner Zdouc, Director, Knowledge and Information Management, Academic Outreach and WTO Chairs Programme Division (WTO)

24 CLOSING SESSION: THE FUTURE OF THE WTO AND THE WCP (17:00 – 17:30)

Discussion on the way forward, concrete suggestions and recommendations to be adopted by Chairs and Academic Advisory Board Members for different groups of addressees: WTO Senior Management, Chairs from the first and second cycles of the WCP, Chairs from the third cycle of the WCP, the WTO Secretariat, and beneficiary countries.

Moderator: Eloi Laourou, Senior Advisor to the Director-General / Deputy Director-General Zhang (WTO)

Concluding remarks:

Werner Zdouc, Director, Knowledge and Information Management, Academic Outreach and WTO Chairs Programme Division (WTO)