



WTO CHAIRS PROGRAMME REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN CHAIRS

FOSTERING RESILIENT AND RESPONSIBLE TRADE FOR CHANGING GLOBAL ORDER

organised by

**Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi
(WCP India Chair)**

Centre for Trade and Investment Law | Centre for WTO Studies

SCHEDULE OF THE WCP REGIONAL CONFERENCE

27 and 28 September 2024

Room 22
Vanijya Bhawan, 16 Akbar Road, New Delhi



DAY 1

27 September 2024 (Friday)

Registration starts at 09:00 AM

INAUGURAL SESSION

| TIME | ADDRESS |
|----------------------|---|
| | Welcome Address |
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Prof. James J. Nedumpara , Head and Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi and WTO Chairholder – India |
| | Vice Chancellor's Address |
| 10:10 – 10:20 | Prof. Rakesh Mohan Joshi , Vice Chancellor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade |
| | Ambassador's Address |
| 10:20 – 10:30 | H. E. Dr. Senthil Pandian C. , Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to the WTO, PMI, Geneva (<i>Virtual</i>) |
| | Address by Deputy Director General, WTO (<i>pre-recorded</i>) |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Amb. Xiangchen Zhang , Deputy Director General, WTO |
| | Additional Secretary's Address |
| 10:45 – 11:05 | Shri Ajay Bhadoo , Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce and Industry Government of India |
| | Pre-Recorded Address by Donor Member Missions in Geneva |
| 11:05 – 11:15 | Ms. Emmanuelle Ivanov-Durand , Permanent Delegate of France to the WTO H.E. Mr. Jung Sung Park , Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva |
| | Vote of Thanks |
| 11:15 – 11:20 | Mr. Ridhish Rajvanshi – Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi |



11:20– 11:35: TEA / COFFEE BREAK

| TIME | PARTICULARS |
|---------------|---|
| 11:35 – 13:00 | <p>SESSION 1: REGIONAL ASPECTS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF GLOBAL NORMS AND REGIONAL REALITIES</p> <p>Session Chair and Keynote Speaker (10 min)</p> <p>Amb. (Dr.) V.S. Seshadri (Retd. IFS), Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group</p> <p>Panelists (7 min)</p> <p>Dr. Pritam Banerjee, Head and Professor, Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi</p> <p>Dr. Umid Yakubkhodjaev, Dean, Faculty of International Law, University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan and WTO Co-Chairholder – Uzbekistan</p> <p>Dr. Pinar Artiran, Director of the Research Center for International Trade Law and Arbitration, İstanbul Bilgi University, and WTO Chairholder – Turkey</p> <p>Dr. Aristide Maniriho, Lecturer, University of Rwanda</p> <p>Discussants (4 min)</p> <p>Dr. Maarten Smeets, Senior Non-Resident Fellow, World Trade Institute, Switzerland (<i>Virtual</i>)</p> <p>Mr. Ridhish Rajvanshi, Senior Research Fellow, CTIL</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p> |



13:00 – 14:00: LUNCH

| TIME | PARTICULARS |
|----------------------|--|
| 14:00 – 15:00 | <p>SESSION 2: TRANSFORMING TRADE, TRANSFORMING LIVES: INCLUSIVE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FOR INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Session Chair and Keynote Speaker (8 min)</p> <p>Dr. Henry Gao, Professor, Singapore Management University and Lee Kong Chian Fellow</p> <p>Panelists (6 min)</p> <p>Dr. Werner Zdouc, Former Director, WTO Appellate Body Secretariat and Knowledge Management Division; and External Faculty, WTI, Switzerland</p> <p>Dr. Maarten Smeets, Senior Non-Resident Fellow, World Trade Institute, Switzerland</p> <p>Dr. Boopen Seetanah, Professor, University of Mauritius and WTO Chairholder – Mauritius</p> <p>Dr. Tabitha Kiriti-Nganga, Professor of Economics, University of Nairobi, Kenya and WTO Chairholder – Kenya</p> <p>Dr. Ndikey Njoya Nabil Aman, Lecturer, International Relations Institute of Cameroon, University of Yaoundé II, Cameroon</p> <p>Discussants (4 min)</p> <p>Dr. Yueh-Ping Yang, Associate Professor/Director, Asian Center for WTO & International Health Law and Policy, National Taiwan University, Chinese Taipei and WTO Chairholder – Chinese Taipei (Virtual)</p> <p>Ms. Sunanda Tewari, Consultant (Legal) Assistant Professor, CTIL</p> <p>Ms. Monika, Consultant (Legal), CWTOS</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p> |



15:00 – 15:05: SESSION BREAK

| TIME | PARTICULARS |
|---------------|---|
| 15:05 – 16:15 | <p>SESSION 3: GREEN INDUSTRIAL POLICIES AND TRADE TENSIONS: NAVIGATING THE CHALLENGES OF A NET ZERO ECONOMY</p> <p>Session Chair and Keynote Speaker (8 min)</p> <p>Amb. Mohan Kumar, Former Ambassador of India to France and Dean, Strategic and International Initiatives Jindal School of International Affairs, Sonipat</p> <p>Panelists (6 min)</p> <p>Dr. Simon Lester, Non-Resident Fellow, Baker Institute of Public Policy (<i>Virtual</i>)</p> <p>Dr. Achyut Prasad Wagle, Registrar, Kathmandu University, and WTO Chairholder, Nepal</p> <p>Dr. Giorgio Sacerdoti, Former Member, WTO Appellate Body</p> <p>Dr. Yueh-Ping Yang, Associate Professor/Director, Asian Center for WTO & International Health Law and Policy, National Taiwan University, Chinese Taipei and WTO Chairholder – Chinese Taipei (<i>Virtual</i>)</p> <p>Ms. Sunitha Raju, Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade</p> <p>Discussants (4 min)</p> <p>Prof. James J. Nedumpara, Head CTIL and WTO Chairholder – India</p> <p>Dr. Pinar Artiran, Director of the Research Center for International Trade Law and Arbitration, İstanbul Bilgi University, and WTO Chairholder – Turkey</p> <p>Ms. Pallavi Arora, Consultant (Legal), CWTOS</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p> |

16:15 – 16:30: TEA / COFFEE BREAK

| TIME | PARTICULARS |
|---------------|---|
| 16:30 – 17:45 | <p>SESSION 4: CRITICAL MINERALS FOR A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE: WHAT IS NEXT FOR ASIA AND AFRICA</p> <p>Session Chair and Keynote Speaker (8 min) Dr. Harsha Vardhana Singh, Former Deputy Director General, WTO</p> <p>Panelists (6 min) Dr. Weihuan Zhou, Associate Professor, UNSW, Sydney (<i>Virtual</i>) Dr. Veda Vaidyanathan, Associate Fellow, Foreign Policy and Security Studies, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP) Dr. Saon Ray, Professor (Visiting), ICRIER Mr. Karthik Ganesan, Fellow and Director - Strategic Partnerships, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)</p> <p>Discussants (4 min) Ms. Aparna Bhattacharya, Consultant (Legal) Assistant Professor, CTIL Mr. Ashutosh Kashyap, Research Fellow, CTIL</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p> |
| 17.45 | TRANSFER TO HOTEL |
| 18:30 | TRANSFER FROM HOTEL FOR KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND GALA DINNER |



KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND GALA DINNER

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

**NILGIRI
THE OBEROI, NEW DELHI**

(INVITE ONLY EVENT)

| TIME | PARTICULAR | SPEAKER |
|---------------|------------------------------|--|
| 19:00 – 19:05 | <i>Introductory Remark</i> | Prof. James J. Nedumpara <i>Head and Professor, CTIL and WTO Chairholder India</i> |
| 19:05 – 19:20 | <i>Distinguished Remarks</i> | Shri B. V. R. Subrahmanyam <i>CEO, NITI Aayog</i> |
| 19:20 – 20:10 | <i>Keynote Address</i> | Prof. Joel P. Trachtman <i>Professor of International Law Henry J. Braker Professor of Commercial Law The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University</i> |
| 20:10 – 20:15 | <i>Vote of Thanks</i> | Mr. Satwik Shekhar <i>Consultant (Legal)/Assistant Professor, CTIL and WCP India Coordinator</i> |

NETWORKING AND GALA DINNER (20:15 onwards)



DAY 2
28 September 2024 (Saturday)

Room 22, Vanijya Bhawan

| TIME | PARTICULARS |
|---------------|---|
| 09:30 – 10:30 | ROUND TABLE of WTO Chairholders from Asia and Africa (closed door) |
| 10:30 – 11:45 | <p>SESSION 5: CAN WTO'S CROWN JEWEL BE PROTECTED? EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISMS FOR A CHANGING GLOBAL ORDER</p> <p>Session Chair and Keynote Speaker (8 min) Amb. Ujal Singh Bhatia, Former Member and Chair, Appellate Body, WTO</p> <p>Panelists (6 min) Dr. Giorgio Sacerdoti, Former Member, WTO Appellate Body Dr. Werner Zdouc, Former Director, WTO Appellate Body Secretariat and Knowledge Management Division; and External Faculty, World Trade Institute, University of Bern, Switzerland Prof. James J. Nedumpara, Head and Professor, CTIL and WTO Chairholder – India Ms. Aparna Ray, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of India to the WTO (Virtual) Dr. Prabhash Ranjan, Professor, Jindal Global Law School</p> <p>Discussants (4 min) Ms. Shailja Singh, Associate Professor Consultant (Legal), CTIL Ms. Ashita Jain, Associate, CTIL</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p> |



11:45 – 12:00: TEA / COFFEE BREAK

| TIME | PARTICULAR |
|---------------|--|
| 12:00 – 13:00 | <p>SESSION 6: AGRICULTURE TRADE, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND SUSTAINABILITY: STRIKING A BALANCE BETWEEN GREEN TRANSITIONS AND INCLUSIVITY</p> <p>Session Chair and Keynote Speaker (8 min)</p> <p>Shri Sudhanshu Pandey, Election Commissioner of Ladakh and Former Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India</p> <p>Panelists (6 min)</p> <p>Dr. Xinquan Tu, Dean, University of International Business and Economics, China and WTO Chairholder - China (<i>Virtual</i>)</p> <p>Dr. Denis Yuni, Senior Lecturer, National University of Lesotho</p> <p>Dr. Ngoc Thuan Hoang, Head of Advanced and High-quality Programs Division, Department of Undergraduate Studies, Foreign Trade University, Vietnam</p> <p>Dr. Aristide Maniriho, Lecturer, University of Rwanda</p> <p>Discussants (4 min)</p> <p>Dr. Ndikey Njoya Nabil Aman, Lecturer, International Relations Institute of Cameroon, University of Yaoundé II, Cameroon</p> <p>Ms. Sparsha Janardhan, Associate, CTIL</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p> |



13:00 – 14:00: LUNCH

| TIME | PARTICULARS |
|---------------|---|
| 14:00 – 15:00 | <p>SESSION 7: SUSTAINABLE CLIMATE ACTIONS AND JUST TRANSITION: ENSURING INCLUSIVITY AND JUSTICE IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY</p> <p>Session Chair and Keynote Speaker (8 min) Shri Amitabh Kumar, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce</p> <p>Panelists (6 min) Dr. Achyut Prasad Wagle, Registrar, Kathmandu University, and WTO Chairholder - Nepal Dr. Wenxing Cui, Associate Professor, School of Global Governance, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics Dr. Tabitha Kiriti-Nganga, Professor of Economics, University of Nairobi, Kenya and WTO Chairholder – Kenya Dr. Umid Yakubkhodjaev, Dean, Faculty of International Law, University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan and WTO Co-Chairholder – Uzbekistan Dr. Denis Yuni, Senior Lecturer, National University of Lesotho</p> <p>Discussants (4 min) Ms. Shiny Pradeep, Assistant Professor, CTIL Ms. Vishakha Srivastava, Senior Research Fellow (Legal), CWS</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p> |

15:00 – 15:15: TEA / COFFEE BREAK



CLOSING SESSION

| TIME | ADDRESS |
|----------------------|---|
| | Welcome Address |
| 15:15 – 15:25 | Prof. James J. Nedumpara , WTO Chairholder – India and Head and Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, IIFT |
| | Address by Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (IITC) |
| 15:25 – 15:35 | Dr. Harish Iyer , Head of the WTO Chairs Programme Unit in TA Coordination, Partnerships and Internship Programmes Section, Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation, WTO |
| | Special Address |
| 15:35 – 15:50 | Dr. Werner Zdouc , Former Director, WTO Appellate Body Secretariat and Knowledge Management Division; and External Faculty, World Trade Institute, University of Bern, Switzerland |
| | Address by WCP Donor Member |
| 15:50 – 16:00 | Mr. Julian Storm , Counsellor (Economic), Australian High Commission, New Delhi |
| | Distinguished Address |
| 16:00 – 16:15 | Shri L Satya Srinivas , Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce and Industry, Government of India |
| | Chief Guest Address |
| 16:15 – 16:35 | Shri Anup Wadhawan , Former Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry |
| | Vote of Thanks |
| 16:35 | Mr. Satwik Shekhar – Consultant (Legal) / Assistant Professor, CTIL and WCP India Coordinator |