



**AGENDA FOR THE 36<sup>th</sup> IPC-NCIEC SEMINAR**  
**International Agricultural Trade and Sustainable Development in Southeast Asia**  
**MONDAY OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>, HANOI, VIETNAM**  
 Sofitel Plaza Hotel, 1 Thanh Nien Road, Ba Dinh District, Hanoi, Vietnam

09:00-09:45	<p><b>OPENING ADDRESS: Building a sustainable future for agriculture in Vietnam</b></p> <p>The convergence of Vietnam's impending accession to the WTO and the Doha Round negotiations presents a great opportunity for structured economic development through trade in Vietnam. Through ASEAN and the AFTA, Vietnam has formed strong partnerships within the Asian community, and has forged good international relationships as well. Still Vietnam must manage its industries to support long-term development and preserve its natural resources and rural communities as the economy grows. This means providing opportunities for Vietnamese farmers by building infrastructure, investing in research and development and educating stakeholders on harmonizing agricultural productivity with social and environmental goals.</p> <p><b>Cao Duc Phat</b>, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development – Vietnam</p>
09:45-10:45	<p><b>SESSION ONE: Multilateral Trade Negotiations: Update on The Doha Development Round</b></p> <p>With six weeks remaining before the Hong Kong ministerial meeting of the WTO, what can realistically be achieved and what are the challenges that remain? What do Southeast Asian countries need in Hong Kong to keep negotiations moving forward? What do other developing countries need from the developed world and what are developed countries ready to offer?</p> <p><b>Chair: M. Ann Tutwiler</b>, Chief Executive, IPC  <b>European Perspective: Rolf Moehler</b>, Former Deputy Director General, Agriculture, European Commission – Germany  <b>US Perspective: Robert Thompson</b>, IPC Chairman and Gardner Chair in Agricultural Policy, University of Illinois  <b>G20 Perspective: Marcelo Regunaga</b>, Former Secretary of Agriculture – Argentina</p>
10:45-11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-12:15	<p><b>SESSION TWO: Vietnam's Accession to the WTO</b></p> <p>Vietnam's recent economic growth has been spurred largely through trade. When it comes to strengthening ties with its main trading partners and securing its place in international trade, Vietnam sees its membership to the WTO as vital. Yet some of the concessions that will accompany accession, especially with regards to some of Vietnam's state dominated sectors, will be demanding and may cause significant shifts in certain industries and produce considerable political fallout. Drawing from the experiences of other countries, what can Vietnam expect from this process? More specifically how will accession affect Vietnam's regional competitiveness?</p> <p><b>Chair: Brian Chamberlin</b>, Former President, Federated Farmers of New Zealand  <b>Luong Van Tu</b>, Deputy Minister of Trade, Head of Governmental Delegation of Vietnam  <b>Eugenia Serova</b>, President, Analytical Centre of Agri-food Economics – Russia  <b>Jikun Huang</b>, Director, Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy – China</p>

12:15-13:30	<p><b>LUNCHEON ADDRESS: Balancing Environment and Growth</b></p> <p>The delicate ecosystems of the Greater Mekong Region hold resources of especially high global value. Therefore, managing and preserving these resources have become increasingly important goals of the international community. The population of Vietnam is also dependent on the sustainable use of these resources, but increasing demand under population pressures and competing uses between rural and urban areas has brought conflicting views on the prioritization of environment and economic development. These concerns, however, need not be considered in isolation from one another.</p> <p><i>Eric Coull, Director, WWF-Indochina</i></p>
13:30-14:30	<p><b>SESSION THREE: Getting Agriculture Ready to Compete</b></p> <p>In opening their agricultural sectors to trade reform, countries must consider their process of adjustment to international markets. The decisions made during this transition are of considerable importance in boosting the competitiveness for sectors in which a country holds a comparative advantage. Such decisions involve the deregulation of certain sectors, how to attract foreign investment, and how to allocate resources toward research and infrastructure in the pursuit of increased productivity. What needs to be done in the short term/long term to strengthen the agricultural sector?</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> <i>Ajay Vashee</i>, President, Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions  <i>Dang Kim Son</i>, Director General, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development – Vietnam  <i>Csaba Csaki</i>, Head of Department and Professor, Corvinus University, Budapest – Hungary  <i>Bui Quang Toan</i>, Director, Center for Agricultural Extension Volunteers – Vietnam</p>
14:30-15:30	<p><b>SESSION FOUR: Rural Development, Agriculture and Domestic Policy</b></p> <p>Though Vietnam is on track to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the tremendous pressures of urbanization and domestic consumption will fundamentally change the economic landscape of the country. China's experience tells us that the adaptation process poses some difficult challenges in addressing rural socio-economic concerns and poverty. What is the importance of developing a coherent plan for agriculture in terms of poverty alleviation and how can the concerns of rural areas be addressed in the context of agricultural policies? What is the role of small and medium enterprises, foreign direct investment, and official development assistance?</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> <i>Michel Petit</i>, Former Director, Rural Development, World Bank  <i>Chu Tien Quang</i>, CIEM, Research Department on Rural Economic Development Policies, Ministry of Planning and Investment – Vietnam  <i>H.S. Dillon</i>, Executive Director, Partnership for Governance Reform – Indonesia  <i>Raul Montemayor</i>, Business Manager, Federation of Free Farmers Cooperative – Philippines</p>
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-17:00	<p><b>SESSION FIVE: Sustainable Cocoa and the Value Chain</b></p> <p>This session grows out the IPC's collaboration with the WWF on sustainable cocoa production in Vietnam. The production of cocoa can present a compelling example of the potential to balance economic and environmental incentives in the concept of sustainable development. In some instances private actors have become quite active in the governance of the supply chain, and for various reasons some companies have included the credo of sustainability in their strategic plans. To what extent has sustainable production been driven by social and environmental sustainability and how do issues of quality, traceability and maintaining supplies factor into decision-making?</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> <i>Piet Klop</i>, Senior Environmental Economist, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs  <i>Doan Trieu Nhan</i>, Chairman, Vietnam Coffee and Cocoa Association (VICOFA)  <i>Vuong Dinh Tuan</i>, Head of the Forest Breeding Division, Forest Science Sub-Institute of South Vietnam (FSSIV)  <i>Ross Jaax</i>, Head of ACDI/VOCA-Vietnam</p>
17:00-17:30	<b>Closing Remarks: Robert L. Thompson, IPC Chairman</b>