

The Vice Presidency for Sectors and Knowledge and the Integration and Trade Sector (INT) and
The International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC)

The Treatment of Agriculture in Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) in the Americas

October 30, 2009
09:30am – 11:30am

1330 New York Ave., NW,
Enrique V. Iglesias Conference Center
Room CR-201, Washington, DC



Agriculture presents a great deal of sensitivities for the negotiation and implementation of Regional Trade Agreements. This Presentation will present the findings of a new IDB publication, prepared with input from the IPC, which examines how the agricultural sector is treated in RTAs involving Latin American countries. Speakers will describe commitments undertaken in key areas such as tariffs, SPS, subsidies, and safeguards. The seminar will also compare the extent of liberalization achieved in RTAs in comparison with multilateral trade agreements; discuss possibilities for increased convergence among RTAs and the implications of RTAs for the multilateral system.

Agenda

09:30–09:45 Welcome

Antoni Esteveordal, Manager, Integration and Trade Sector (INT)
Carlos Perez de Castillo, former Chair of the Agricultural Negotiations, IPC Member

09:45-10:05

Agricultural Tariff Liberalization Commitments Undertaken in RTAs
Matthew Shearer, Integration and Trade Specialist, Integration and Trade Sector (INT)

10:05-10:25

How far have RTAs improved upon the Multilateral Framework on Areas such as SPS, TBT, Agricultural Safeguards and Subsidies?
Juliana Almeida, Trade Specialist, Integration and Trade Sector (INT)

10:25-11:00

Round Table: Multilateral vis-à-vis Regional Commitments in the Agriculture Sector
Discussants: Carlos Perez de Castillo, former Chair of the Agricultural Negotiations, IPC Member
Tim Josling, Sr. Fellow and Professor Emeritus, Stanford University, IPC Member

11:00 – 11:30 Discussion

For more information and to R.S.V.P.: Maria Rospide mrospide@iadb.org