

Agricultural Price Volatility: Prospects, Challenges and Possible Solutions

Barcelona, Spain – May 26 – 27, 2010

Speaker Biographies

Opening

Ramon Torrent

Ramon Torrent is Professor of Political Economy at the University of Barcelona (UB) and Director of its Observatory of Globalization. Coordinator of the WTO-Regional Integration Chair created in 2006. He was formerly a member of the Legal Service of the Council of the European Union from 1988 until 1998 and Director for international relations since 1993. He has published extensively on issues of regional integration and international economic relations. He has also specialized in Mercosur integration.

Carlo Trojan

Carlo Trojan is Professor of International Trade and European Studies at the Maastricht School for Management and associated with the Chair for International Trade and Regional integration at the University of Barcelona. Mr. Trojan studied Law at the University of Leyden specializing in European and International Law. He started his professional career as legal adviser in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food in the Netherlands. He joined the European Commission in Brussels in 1973 as Deputy Chief of Staff of Commissioner Lardinois (Agriculture). In 1977 he was Agricultural Counselor at the Dutch Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels. In 1981 Mr. Trojan became Chief of Staff of Frans Andriessen, Vice-President of the European Commission dealing successively with Competition Policy and Agriculture. In 1987 he was appointed Deputy Secretary General of the European Commission to become Secretary General in 1997. His last posting was in Genève (2001-2007) where he acted as Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the European Commission to the WTO and other International organizations. In that capacity he was the EU Negotiator in the WTO Trade negotiations (Doha Round). Presently Mr. Trojan is Chairman of IPC, member of the Dutch Advisory Council for International Affairs and of the Dutch Energy Council.

Keynote Speaker

Carlos Escribano

Carlos Escribano is the General Director for Agricultural and Livestock Resources for the Spanish Ministry of Environment, Rural and Maritime Affairs. He previously held the post of Director General of Livestock in the Ministry of Agriculture. Escribano holds a degree in Veterinary Science from the University Complutense of Madrid and is a member of the National Veterinary Corps.

Joaquim Llena

Joaquim Llena is the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Action at the Generalitat of Catalonia. He holds a Ph.D. in Medicine and Surgery from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Between 1995 and 2006, he was major of the Alt Àneu Town Council for the PSC (spell out). In May 2006, he became Secretary General of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. He has been the first secretary of the PSC on the Territorial Federation of Lleida since 2000. He has been a deputy in the Parliament of Catalonia for the PSC since 1999 and vice-president of the Parliamentary Commission for Town and Country Town and Public Works. In 2003 he also became secretary of the Parliamentary Commission for Agriculture. From 1988 to 1999 he was a practicing doctor at the Hospital Clínic in Barcelona and a number of other hospitals.

Session I

Moderator: Charlotte Hebebrand

Charlotte Hebebrand has served as Chief Executive of the International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC) since February 2006. The IPC is committed to promoting a more open and equitable global food system and is composed of a diverse mix of distinguished international agricultural trade experts from around the world. Charlotte came to IPC from the European Commission's Washington Delegation, where she served as Special Advisor on international development, trade, agriculture and food safety issues. Prior to her time with the EC, Charlotte worked at the Brookings Institution's Foreign Policy Division. Charlotte has a B.A. from Georgetown University and a M.A. in International Relations and Economics from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Relations.

Josef Schmidhuber

Josef Schmidhuber is a Senior Economist with FAO's Liaison Office in Geneva. He started his professional career in 1990 as a consultant with the World Food Council, worked as an Econometrician and Economist with the FAO, as a Senior Economist with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and as Head of FAO's Global Perspective Studies Unit. He has assumed numerous short-term assignments with other international institutions such as The World Bank, the OECD and the European Investment Bank (EIB). He holds an MSc in Agricultural Economics and a PhD in Economics from the Technical University of Munich. Mr Schmidhuber is co-author of "World agriculture: towards 2015/2030", FAO's long-term perspective of global agriculture. His work has also been published in several books, peer reviewed journal articles, or as documents of international organizations such as the OECD, the IPCC or the FAO. His work areas include commodity market analysis and outlook,

trade and investment in agriculture, global food and nutrition issues, climate change, as well as links between bioenergy and agricultural markets.

Brian Wright

Brian Wright's interests in economics uncertainty and innovation date from his early experiences on his family's sheep station in the Riverina district of New South Wales, Australia. He is the Chair of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, and previously taught at Yale University's Economics Department. He has co-authored or co-edited several books, including *Storage and Commodity Markets; Reforming Agricultural Commodity Policy; Saving Seeds: The Economics of Conserving Genetic Resources at the CGIAR Centers*, and *Accessing Biodiversity and Sharing the Benefits: Lessons from Implementing the Convention on Biodiversity*. He has published extensively in the leading journals in Economics and Agricultural Economics. Wright is a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association. He served as the economist member of the Subcommittee on Proprietary Science and Technology of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). He served on the Committee on Intellectual Property in Genomic and Protein Research and Innovation of the National Academies' Board of Science, Technology and Economic Policy. Wright has been involved with numerous projects and has been invited to give lectures on grain markets and their stabilization. He received a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics (First Class honors) from the University of New England, Armidale, and won one of two Frank Knox Fellowships given annually to Australian students by Harvard university, where he received an A.M. and Ph.D. in Economics.

Maximo Torero

Maximo Torero is the Division Director of the Markets, Trade, and Institutions Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute, leader of the Global Research Program on Institutions and Infrastructure for Market Development and Director for Latin America. He has fifteen years of experience in applied research and in operational activities. In this capacity as director and research program leader, he directs the activities of an IFPRI unit that conducts research, with special emphasis on M&E of infrastructure and rural development interventions in urban and peri-urban areas through the use of randomized experimental design. Prior to that, he was a senior researcher and member of the executive committee at Group of Analysis for Development (GRADE). He received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles Department of Economics, is a professor on leave at the Universidad del Pacífico, was postdoctoral fellow at the UCLA Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), and an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at University of Bonn, Germany. Dr. Torero's major research work lies mostly in analyzing poverty, inequality, importance of geography and assets (private or public) in explaining poverty, and in policies oriented towards poverty alleviation based on the role

played by infrastructure, institutions, and on how technological breakthroughs (or discontinuities) can improve the welfare of households. He has won twice the World Award for Outstanding Research on Development given by the Global Development Network (GDN).

Keynote Speaker

Harsha V. Singh

Harsha Vardhana Singh serves as the Deputy Director General of the World Trade Organization. His responsibilities include the areas of Agriculture, Services, Trade and Environment, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, and Technical Barriers to Trade. He came to the WTO from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), first working as Economic Advisor, then as Secretary. During this time he was a key part of the initiative to reform and improve the telecom sector in India. Prior to his work with TRAI, he served in various parts of the GATT/WTO Secretariat, including the Office of the WTO Director General, Trade and Environment, Technical Barriers to Trade, Rules, Trade Policy Review, and Economic Research and Analysis. In addition to his work with the Secretariat, he also worked as a secretary for the Dispute Settlement Panels, serviced the Uruguay Round negotiations on Safeguards and Subsidies, and performed a range of other activities in the Director General's office. He has also served as a consultant to various organizations such as the ILO, UNCTAD, World Bank, and Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (Ministry of Industry, Government of India). He was appointed Adjunct Professor in the Centre for International Legal Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University for a period of two years starting in 2009. Earlier he was an honorary Professor at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), and Visiting Faculty at the TERI School of Advanced Studies for their M.A. in Regulatory Studies. He has a BA and MA in Economics from Delhi University, was a Rhodes Scholar from India and earned a M. Phil and PhD in economics at the University of Oxford.

Session II

Moderator: Marcia Wiss

Marcia Wiss's practice, Hogan and Lovells, concentrates on international project finance and business transactions, with a particular focus on the financial structuring of international projects in emerging markets. Wiss has been in the private practice of law for the past 25 years and prior to that was the deputy to the assistant general counsel for finance at the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). She has been the lead counsel on numerous projects financed by the US Export Import Bank, OPIC, and the International Finance Corporation, as well as commercial banks and the capital markets. She has represented clients in international business transactions on the Indian Subcontinent, Latin America, the Far East, the Caribbean, Africa, Eastern and Central Europe, and the Middle East. Wiss also has taught a course on

international project finance and investment at Georgetown University Law Center for the past 20 years, and is currently teaching a class on international investment law at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Raul Montemayor

Raul Montemayor is currently the National Business Manager and Program Officer of the Federation of Free Farmers Cooperatives, Inc. (FFFCI), and its mother organization, the Federation of Free Farmers (FFF) of the Philippines. He was recently elected as Vice-President of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP). He is a private sector advisor to the Philippine government in the WTO and other negotiations involving agricultural trade. He serves on IPC's Board of Directors.

Hassan Zaman

Hassan Zaman is Lead Economist in the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management group at the World Bank. His current work focuses on issues related to food security, nutrition and safety nets particularly during economic crises. Previously Hassan was the country economist on Nepal for four years working mainly on the broad policy reform agenda and leading the Bank's Poverty Reduction Support Credit. He also worked on numerous pieces of analytical work on Bangladesh, including a recently completed Poverty Assessment. Between 1999-2002, Hassan was the country economist on Malawi where he worked on debt relief and public finance issues. He joined the World Bank group in 1998 as a Young Professional. Prior to joining the Bank, Hassan worked on micro-finance issues for an NGO in Bangladesh, BRAC, for four years. He has a PhD in Economics from the University of Sussex and an MSc and BSc in Economics from the London School of Economics.

Alberto Valdez

Alberto Valdés is research associate at the Universidad Católica de Chile, in Santiago. As a Ph.D. in Economics from the London School of Economics, Mr. Valdés has served as an advisor in the Agricultural Department of the World Bank in Washington DC and as Director of Trade and Food Security at the IFPRI. He is the author and editor of a number of books dealing with agricultural development and international trade, and has published in a variety of scholarly journals devoted to economics, policy and development.

Session III

Moderator: Ramon Torrent

Tassos Haniotis

Tassos Haniotis is the Director of the Economic Analysis, Perspectives and Evaluations Directorate in the Directorate General for Agriculture of the European Commission. He previously held posts as Head of Unit in the Agricultural Policy Analysis and Perspectives and in the Agricultural Trade Policy Analysis units in the same Directorate General, as Member and subsequently Deputy Head of the Cabinet of former European Commissioner for Agriculture Franz Fischler (with respective responsibilities the preparation of the 2003 reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, and the agricultural chapter of the Doha WTO Round and the EU-Mercosur negotiations), and as the Agricultural Counsellor of the European Commission's Delegation in the United States. He holds Ph.D. (1987) and M.S. (1984) degrees in Agricultural Economics from the University of Georgia, USA, and a B.A. (1980) in Economics from the Athens University of Economics and Business, in his native Greece. He also spent six months as a visiting Fellow at the Centre for European Agricultural Studies, Wye College, University of London (1988), where he studied EU-US agricultural trade relations in the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations.

Stefan Tangermann

Stefan Tangermann was the Director for Trade and Agriculture at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), until 2008. Currently he is professor emeritus at the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development at the University of Göttingen, Germany. Before joining the OECD in 2002, Mr. Tangermann was a professor of economics and agricultural economics at the universities of Frankfurt/Main and Göttingen. His academic work has concentrated, among other topics, on the need and options for reforming agricultural policies in OECD countries, and on strengthening the rules for agricultural trade, with a particular emphasis on the WTO. Mr. Tangermann has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture in Germany. He also was a member of the Science Council of Germany. He is a Member of the Academy of Science at Göttingen. He was awarded the Order of Merit, First Class, by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, and is Fellow of the European Association of Agricultural Economists. He has advised several governments and international organisations. Mr. Tangermann is an IPC member.

Session IV

Moderator: Michel Petit

Michel Petit has been a professor of agricultural economics in various French higher education institutions since 1968. He served as World Bank Director between 1988 and 1998, first for the Agriculture and Rural Development Department and then as founder of the Agricultural Research & Extension Group. In the 1970s he was for two years Program Adviser for Agriculture at the Ford Foundation in New Delhi, India. Petit co-founded the European Review of Agricultural Economics where he served as co-editor and as President. He has also served as President of the International Association of Agricultural Economics and is a Member of the Académie d'Agriculture in France. Petit is currently a Professor at the Institut Agronomique Méditerranéen in Montpellier. Mr Petit is an IPC member.

Joachim von Braun

Joachim von Braun is the Director for the Center for Development Research (ZEF), Department of Economic and Technological Change. He is an applied and agricultural economist, with a Doctoral degree from University of Goettingen, Germany. He joined ZEF in December 2009. von Braun was Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) based in Washington, DC, U.S.A. 2002 to 2009. His published research addresses international development economics topics, incl. science and technology; policy issues of trade and aid; poverty and famine; health, and nutrition, and a range of agricultural economics research issues. 2000-03 von Braun was President of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE), is member of Academies in Germany and China, Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences; among awards received by von Braun are a honorary Doctoral degree from University of Hohenheim, and the Bertebos Prize of the Swedish Academy of Agricultural Sciences for his research on food security. Mr. von Braun is an IPC member.

Carl Hausmann

Carl Hausmann has more than thirty years of experience in the agribusiness and food industry. Currently the managing director of global government and corporate affairs for Bunge Limited, Mr. Hausmann joined the company in 2002 when Bunge acquired a majority stake in Cereol S.A. He served as CEO of Bunge Europe and Bunge North America before moving to his new position in January 2010. Mr. Hausmann began his career in the industry in 1978 at Continental Grain and has since worked in South America, Europe, Africa and North America. Mr. Hausmann serves as Vice Chair of the International Policy Council for Food and Agricultural Trade and Vice Chair of the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). He is also a past president of Fediol, the European association of oilseed

crushers. Mr. Hausmann received a bachelor's degree in business from Boston College and an M.B.A from INSEAD.

Session V

Moderator: Sergio Marchi

Ambassador Sergio Marchi is Senior Fellow at ICTSD. Ambassador Marchi also teaches at Webster University and at the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations, in Geneva. As well, Mr. Marchi serves as a Special Advisor, to the Secretary General, of the International Catholic Migration Commission, in Geneva. Before this, Mr. Marchi enjoyed a distinguished political and diplomatic career. He served as the Canadian Ambassador to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Office of the United Nations (UN) in Geneva. During his diplomatic mandate, Mr. Marchi was elected Chair of the WTO General Council; Chair of the WTO Council for Trade in Services; Chair of the Working Party on the Accession of Ukraine to the WTO; and co-Chair the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources. He was also a member of WIPO's Policy Advisory Commission. In 2004, Ambassador Marchi was appointed as a Commissioner to the UN Global Commission on International Migration. Until recently, he also held the position of President, of the Canada China Business Council.

Carmel Cahill

Carmel Cahill is Head of the Policies, Trade and Adjustment Division of OECD's Directorate for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. In that capacity, she manages a multidisciplinary team of experts undertaking research on a wide range of agricultural policy issues - subsidy and protection measurement, structural adjustment issues, income risk management and agricultural trade policy. The trade effects of domestic policies are investigated and governments assisted in the design and implementation of policy instruments to meet domestic objectives efficiently, cost effectively and equitably without distorting trade. Before joining OECD, Ms Cahill held various positions in the Irish government. She has an M.A. degree in economics from the National University of Ireland and an M.Sc. degree in statistics from Trinity College, Dublin.

Carlos Perez del Castillo

Carlos Perez del Castillo is currently an independent international consultant involved in various assignments with governments, private sector, and international organizations. He is the Chairman of the WTO Panel established to examine the dispute over large civil aircrafts between the US and EC (Boeing-Airbus) and is currently working on an Independent External Evaluation of Governance of the Global Environmental Facility. He was a member of the core team assigned with the Independent External Evaluation of FAO until 2007. From March 2004 until October 2005, he was the Special Advisor on International Trade Negotiations to the President of the Republic of Uruguay. Mr. Perez del Castillo has had a long and distinguished career in public and international service that has spanned over 35 years. Most notably, he served as the Chairman of the WTO General Council, as Vice-Minister and Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay (1995-1998) and Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System (1987-1991).