

First Trade Knowledge Workshop for Parliamentarians



Foro Interparlamentario de las Américas
Fórum Interparlamentar das Américas



Forum interparlementaire des Amériques
Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas



Final Report

Ottawa, Canada

March 18 - 20, 2007

First Trade Knowledge Workshop for Parliamentarians Report

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**Report prepared by Dr. Laura Dawson of the Centre for Trade Policy and Law and
the FIPA Secretariat**

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1. Introduction

From March 18 to 20, 2007, the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA) held its first *Trade Knowledge Workshop for Parliamentarians*, hosted by the Canadian Section of FIPA in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Despite cool temperatures outside, parliamentarians from across the hemisphere gathered for lively and enriching discussions.

The pilot workshop was attended by 16 parliamentarians from Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Dominica, El Salvador, Haiti, Jamaica and Mexico. The participation of countries of varying sizes and economic development, and a mix of representation from both government and opposition parties, ensured a range of views on all subjects. The exercise of sharing experiences and information enhanced the key issue seminars led by specialists and academics from Canadian and regional organisations.

1.1 Workshop Rationale

The increasing proliferation of trade agreements and domestic policies related to them has made trade policy knowledge a priority for parliamentarians. One participant in the Ottawa workshop described the role of parliamentarians as providing “a voice for the voiceless”. However, in order to effectively represent constituent interests in the local implementation of international trade agreements, parliamentarians must themselves be familiar with this complex issue area.



The purpose of the first *Trade Knowledge Workshop for Parliamentarians* was to provide essential information on trade regulation and politics to parliamentarians in a manner that was relevant to their concerns and those of their constituents. Furthermore, because trade politics touch on so many other spheres – poverty, development, social movements, and gender, among others – this workshop attempted to provide a framework for dealing with these issues within the trade policy context.

1.2 Program Overview

The workshop program was designed to provide modules that would incorporate information about current issues followed by a discussion about how the issue relates to the experience of parliamentarians. In order to provide foundational knowledge for all participants, the workshop began with two modules providing a comprehensive overview of trade rules and governance and their effects at the local level. Once the basic framework was established, subsequent modules attempted to provide some of the analytical and policy tools needed to adapt global trade rules to engender sustainable development, growth, and equity.

The first of these ‘tools’ modules focused on the unique contribution that parliamentarians and parliamentary organizations can make in creating trade and economic policy that is responsive to local needs. This issue is particularly salient for developing countries that are trying to adapt the trade regimes of larger, industrialized countries to generate growth in

smaller or poorer states. Having discussed how to communicate within and between legislative groups, the workshop then moved outward to examine policy consultation and communication with constituent groups. One of the central analytical modules was the presentation on trade liberalization and poverty reduction during which parliamentarians explored the myths and realities associated with the effect of liberalized trade on growth and income distribution.

An important module related to the differential effects of trade policy on constituent groups was the discussion of gender equality and trade. During this module participants not only identified areas where trade and economic changes affected men and women in different ways, they also explored mitigating strategies in order to promote gender equality.

See annex 2 for the full workshop program.

1.3 Sponsors and Hosts

FIPA and the Canadian Section of FIPA were supported in their efforts by various governmental and non-governmental organizations. Financial support was provided by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Trade and Poverty Trust Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank and the Canadian International Development Agency. Subject specialists for the workshop were provided by the Centre for Trade Policy and Law (Carleton University), the Parliamentary Centre, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the North-South Institute.



During their time in Ottawa, FIPA parliamentarians enjoyed social events at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, hosted by Mr. Ted Menzies, Canadian Member of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade and to the Minister of International Cooperation; at Parliament Hill, hosted by Mr. Leon Benoit, Canadian Member of Parliament and Chair of the Standing Committee on International Trade; and at the Embassy of Brazil, hosted by His Excellency Valdemar Carneiro Leão, Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil in Ottawa. Member of Parliament and Chair of the Canadian Section of FIPA, Mr. James Bezan, also hosted a dinner for participants on the opening day. These events provided important opportunities for networking and sharing experiences among FIPA members.

2. Workshop Proceedings

2.1 Opening

The workshop was opened by its host, Mr. James Bezan, Canadian Member of Parliament, Chair of the Canadian Section of FIPA, and FIPA Executive Committee member. After welcoming participants Mr. Bezan reviewed the program, noting that over the next three days the workshop would focus on five issue areas:

1. Trade Rules and Politics
2. The Role of Parliament in Trade and Development
3. Public Consultation in the Formulation of Trade Agreements
4. Trade Liberalization and Poverty Reduction
5. Gender Equality and Trade

After reviewing the program Mr. Bezan turned the floor over to the presenters and the workshop began.

Please note that copies of the Power Point presentations of each presenter are available on the FIPA website at www.e-fipa.org.

2.2 Trade Rules and Politics (Modules 1 and 2)



Given that laws and regulations resulting from the World Trade Organization and regional and bilateral trade agreements have profound effects at the local and national levels, it is essential that elected representatives are able to both influence the international trade policy development process and understand its implications for their constituents. Developing countries face a dual challenge in that they are the most vulnerable to the changes of economic globalization and have the fewest resources with which to manage or even benefit from these changes. The presentations on trade rules and politics, given by Mr. William Dymond¹ of the Centre for Trade Policy and Law, provided participants with an overview of

¹ *William A. Dymond* is the Senior Executive Fellow of the Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL), a Canadian non-profit trade training and advisory organization that works with developing countries around the world. Prior to joining the CTPL, Mr. Dymond was the Director-General of the Policy Planning Secretariat in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. His other appointments included Chief Negotiator for Canada for the OECD Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), and Senior Advisor to the Trade Negotiations Office for the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement. Mr. Dymond also served as Ambassador to Brazil, Minister-Counsellor in the Canadian Embassy in Washington, Minister-Counsellor in the Canadian Mission to the European Union in Brussels and First Secretary in the Canadian Mission to the United Nations, Geneva. Following a distinguished career as a

the essential elements of trade regulations and the political dynamics surrounding them. These included:

- the fundamentals of, and rule-making in, the international trade system;
- roles/priorities of multilateralism, regionalism and bilateralism as approaches to trade policy objectives; and
- trade agreement implementation and administration.

The sessions on trade rules and politics provided core information to participants and served as a basis for later discussions throughout the workshop. As a starting point, Mr. Dymond presented the foundational dynamics of the WTO system (which are extended to global regional and bilateral agreements). These include the principles of non-discrimination (most-favoured nation and national treatment status) and transparency. Balanced with the objective of reducing discriminatory trade practices worldwide is the reality that national governments will wish to provide some type of support or special treatment to domestic economic interests. These modules were attentive to that balance and the challenges it imposes on parliamentarians. One of the cases presented examined whether Mexico's decision to impose on tax on beverages sweetened by corn syrup and not cane sugar – a product produced in Mexico - constituted a violation of that country's non-discrimination commitments under the WTO.

Another instrument of domestic protection/support is the practice of subsidization. In his presentation, Mr. Dymond reviewed the differences between permissible and actionable subsidies and the various remedies and dispute settlement mechanisms associated with the latter. Cases such as the dispute between Canada and Brazil over export subsidies for aircraft helped illustrate the issue.

International trade rules are also balanced against domestic interests in order to make rules to protect public health and safety. States can make such rules in the public interest as long as they are not used as disguised barriers to trade. However, questions of what is necessary to protect the public have been the subject of various recent trade disputes such as the US-Canada challenge to the European ban on hormone-raised beef. This case and its implications for other states was discussed by participants.

The question of why countries cede sovereignty over national trade matters to multilateral agreements was a central theme of the day, since participants recognized that governments negotiate international agreements to solve a problem that cannot be dealt with through national actions alone. At the same time, the size and scope of the World Trade Organization has made it difficult to achieve much progress on new negotiations, especially when those negotiations have the added responsibility of achieving meaningful results for international development. During the latter part of the day, participants discussed the future prospects for the Doha Round.

Overall, it was acknowledged by participants that a thorough understanding of trade policy is necessary for policy makers but that these are very complex issues. It also became clear during the proceedings that the underlying assumptions relating to market liberalization

trade negotiator, Mr. Dymond has been an advisor to more than 20 developing and transition economies around the world regarding matters related to trade agreement negotiation and implementation.



and development demand further debate and refinement by decision makers in the hemisphere.

2.3 Parliament's Role in Trade and Development (Module 3)

This module was presented by Mr. Robert Miller² of the Parliamentary Centre (Canada). His presentation identified parliamentary entry points on trade and development issues, focusing on committees and inter-parliamentary organizations. He identified a number of determinants of parliamentary effectiveness, focussing on organization and consistency of parliamentary engagement and information and research support. He also identified ways that functional and/or technical cooperation could overcome certain types of partisan divisions and promote effective, inclusive policy formulation. The positions presented by Mr. Miller were supported by examples of parliamentary capacity building around the world.

One of the examples provided by Mr. Miller was FIPA itself. “[P]arliamentary diplomacy has the potential to deepen knowledge and understanding – provided it is conducted effectively. In the past, inter-parliamentary meetings were often ‘meet and greet’ occasions, more given to speeches than serious discussions. FIPA is an example of a newer, more useful parliamentary diplomacy.” Among the reasons cited for FIPA’s success were pragmatism, narrow focus, carefully prepared agendas, and working group-style operations.

Because this module focused on the role of parliamentarians in policy, much of the expertise on this topic was to be found with the FIPA parliamentarians themselves, many of whom had impressive professional credentials and/or extensive political experience. To capitalize on the knowledge around the table, the second part of the session took the form of a roundtable discussion on the various opportunities parliamentarians have to educate themselves and influence policy. This session emphasized the role of “parliamentary diplomacy” - the direct engagement of parliamentarians in international exchange and discussion of trade policy.

Some participants voiced strong political statements about trade policy in general while others focused their remarks on the role of parliamentarians and ways to strengthen their capacity to influence policy.

² *Robert Miller* is Executive Director of the Parliamentary Centre, a Canadian not-for-profit, non-partisan organization devoted to improving the effectiveness of representative assemblies around the world. Mr. Miller has served as senior advisor to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee where he prepared a series of studies on foreign aid, relations with Latin America, human rights and democratic development. Since the early 1990s, Mr. Miller has led the Centre in establishing an international reputation in the field of democratic development, overseeing the building of programs to assist parliamentarians in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and the Americas. The FIPA Secretariat is housed at the Parliamentary Centre.

2.4 Public Consultation: From Citizen to Policy (Module 4)

Dr. Laura Dawson³ of the Centre for Trade Policy and Law was the facilitator for this module discussing the importance of public consultation in the formulation of trade agreements and the tools for improving effectiveness in this area. Key stakeholders were identified – including interest groups, business, and labour – and various strategies for their effective inclusion were discussed.

One of the strategies highlighted by Dr. Dawson involved identifying the right kind of communication tool for different audiences and the essential role of education in eliciting meaningful policy input from constituent groups. As an example of matching the communications instrument to the desired audience, Dawson recounted the example of Nicaragua's public information campaign on the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). The government there provided a humorous, comic-book style publication that had much more public appeal than a technical article or editorial would have. At the same time, it is important to have technical information available for those requiring more detailed analysis.

Presentations and discussions during this module also examined the power of the media today – with technology allowing anyone with a computer and a phone line instant, global access to the general public, governments now have a much harder time making factually accurate information on trade issues heard. Though some non-governmental organizations are known for their anti-trade campaigns built on inaccurate or incomplete information, governments are responsible for providing factually accurate (if less publicly appealing) information. Other themes discussed in this module included international influences on domestic non-governmental organizations and changing perceptions of international trade agreements in public discourse.

³ *Laura Ritchie Dawson* is the Senior Associate for Training and Research at the Centre for Trade Policy and Law. Dr. Dawson designs and delivers trade-related technical assistance projects in Latin America, China, Russia, and other developing or transition economies. She has conducted extensive research on trade policy consultation and formulation and worked extensively with a number of Central American governments on research and training related to public consultation. Among her other areas of interest are trade policy formulation, trade and labour migration, international negotiation, public participation in policy development, and the linkages between trade policy and poverty alleviation. Dr. Dawson has been a member of the CTPL faculty for eight years and also serves as an assistant professor at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs.

2.5 Trade Liberalization and Poverty Reduction (Module 5)

This module was presented by Mr. Erick Zeballos⁴ from the Integration, Trade and Hemispheric Division of the Inter-American Development Bank. It provided participants with an overview of the implications of trade liberalization reforms on poverty reduction and strengthened the participants' capacity to analyze and identify trade policy options that have a relevant poverty-reduction impact. Mr. Zeballos provided empirical evidence of trade and poverty trends and identified issues that limit the diffusion of the benefits of trade to a large majority of individuals in the region. To the extent permitted by time, parliamentarians discussed the implications of trade negotiations and trade reforms for the poor, with emphasis on the analysis of pro-poor domestic policy measures implemented in parallel to trade reforms.



The linkage between trade and poverty-reduction elicited a number of questions and lively debate among participants. Mr. Zeballos presented empirical research showing that a 20 percentage point increase in trade as a percentage of GDP tended to increase the annual growth rate by 0.5 to 1 percent. Therefore, trade contributes to growth but its affect on poverty reduction is more complicated. Trade provisions must be accompanied by other measures and reforms in order to contribute to economic development. Even if trade liberalization helps incomes rise in the aggregate, the benefits of this improvement may not reach all sectors of society and some people may even end up worse off. To counter this problem, governments need information, analysis and effective mitigation strategies to protect vulnerable groups.

Mr. Zeballos' presentation also brought to light the complexity of poverty reduction and the challenges for parliamentarians in understanding the issues and directing policy in an informed and proactive way. Similar to the earlier modules on trade rules and politics, a number of participants expressed interest in more extended analysis of this subject. This

⁴ *Erick J. Zeballos* is currently advisor on poverty and trade issues of the Trade, Integration and Hemispheric Issues Division of the Integration and Regional Programs Department of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) based in Washington, D.C. Before joining the IDB Group, he was advisor of the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom Government in private sector and economic development issues for Latin America (Bolivia, Peru, Brazil, and Nicaragua) and West Asia (Afghanistan). He served as advisor in the Ministry of Sustainable Development of the Bolivian Government and worked as coordinator of development programs of the Association of Institutions of Promotion and Education - AIPE (network of non-government organizations), in Bolivia. He has more than 13 years of experience in the formulation and implementation of development and poverty alleviation policies in the areas of trade, competitiveness, rural development and private sector. He is an Engineer with a Master Degree of Sciences in Tropical Agriculture, Post Graduate studies in Human Development and specialization studies for executives of Harvard University and the University College of London.

module was seen as particularly important since the positive or negative effects of liberalization can be unique for each country and there are no simple solutions or remedies.

2.6 Gender Equality, Trade and Development (Module 6)



The gender and trade module introduced key concepts in gender, trade and poverty. It was provided by gender specialist, Ms. Heather Gibb⁵, from the North-South Institute. Among the topics covered were the implications of international gender equality instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and the Beijing Platform for Action, Millennium Development Goals. Both Ms. Gibb's presentation and discussions among parliamentarians paid particular attention to how trade liberalization can have different

impacts on women and men in employment and wages. These differences were evaluated across employment sectors including manufacturing, agriculture and services.

One of the challenges that came to light in the presentation is that the gender effects of trade are not usually obvious when one first looks at a new trade or economic measure. To reveal the gender implications, careful study is required together with stakeholder consultation. For example, if a trade initiative is going to improve the competitiveness of industry but cause the agricultural sector to shrink, what will be the effect on men and women's employment? Are more men employed in manufacturing? More women in farm work? If the trade initiative requires people to relocate to find jobs (from rural to urban settings, for example) what effects will relocation have on care of families, education, etc.? Will families move or will one wage-earner leave and send remittances home to spouse and family? These sorts of social questions affect communities and families at the individual level. As such, the theme of gender and trade serves as an important reminder of the close proximity between the global and the local.

⁵ *Heather Gibb* is a Senior Researcher (Workers' Rights) for the North-South Institute (NSI). NSI is a non-governmental, non-partisan Canadian research institute focused on international development. It provides research and analysis on foreign policy and international development issues for policy-makers, educators, business, the media and the general public. Ms. Gibb has led projects addressing gender issues for APEC's Human Resources Development Working Group. She also contributed extensively to gender mainstreaming initiatives in APEC and is currently developing a Workers' Rights research program for NSI. Gibb has had a lengthy career in the study of the Asia-Pacific region, including jobs as the Director of the International Division's Pacific Group at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian National Committee on Pacific Economic Cooperation and the ASEAN-Canada Business Council. She was a writer/researcher for Mr. Joe Clark during his tenure as Prime Minister and later during his term as Opposition leader.

Given that this session was limited in time, participants noted their interest in a longer session which would permit additional discussion on the effects of globalization on both men and women's work.

2.7 Closing

The workshop was closed by Colombian Senator Nancy Patricia Gutierrez, member of the FIPA Executive Committee. On behalf of FIPA Senator Gutierrez thanked Mr. Bezan and the Canadian Section of FIPA for hosting the event, and noted the support of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Trade and Poverty Trust Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank and the Canadian International Development Agency, without which the workshop could not have taken place. Special thanks were given to the expert presenters from the Centre for Trade Policy and Law (Carleton University), the Parliamentary Centre, the Inter-American Development Bank and the North-South Institute for their interesting and informative presentations.

3. Moving Forward

The *Trade Knowledge Workshop for Parliamentarians* was born of a need for more and better capacity building opportunities for Parliamentarians, particularly in the area of international trade. Based on the responses from FIPA parliamentarians, this pilot project was greatly successful and there were several requests to make it an annual event. Suggestions regarding possible future areas of focus included small economies, policy reform case strategies, and channelling positive elements of globalization for local benefit. The range of interest and expertise among the participants indicated the value of including a greater role for parliamentarians in directing sessions and sharing lessons learned in future workshops.

The pilot project highlighted a number of similarities in the challenges faced by parliamentarians, among them the complexity of trade issues, the predominance of US and European interests in global trade, and balancing domestic interests in effective policy making. At the same time, the workshop also highlighted the diversity of FIPA members – states of different size and composition with varying levels of industrialization and development, etc.

This diversity underscores the strength of FIPA as a vehicle for sharing information, promoting dialogue and generating new understandings in the hemisphere. The Trade Knowledge Workshop for Parliamentarians falls well within the goals and capacities of FIPA and, given the need for greater understanding of trade issues and the success of the event for both participants and organisers, it is a project that is likely to be replicated.

4. Annexes

4.1 Annex 1: List of participants

Host and Chair of the Canadian Section of FIPA

James Bezan, Member of Parliament

Bolivia

Deputy Elsa María Guevara Aguirre

Canada

Mauril Bélanger, Member of Parliament

Leon Benoit, Member of Parliament

Senator Michel Biron

Larry Miller, Member of Parliament

Colombia

Senator Nancy Patricia Gutiérrez Castañeda

Senator Cecilia Matilde López Montaña

Dominica

Norris Charles, Member of Parliament

El Salvador

Deputy Ingrid Berta Bendix

Deputy Sonia Farfán de Cuellar

Haiti

Senator Edmonde Supplice Beauzile

Deputy Gérard Théràmène

Jamaica

Charles Learmond, Member of Parliament

Mexico

Deputy Luis Fernando Rodríguez Ahumada

Deputy Salvador Ruiz Sánchez

Facilitators

Laura Dawson, Centre for Trade Policy and Law

William Dymond, Centre for Trade Policy and Law

Heather Gibb, North South Institute

Robert Miller, Parliamentary Centre

Erick Zeballos, Inter-American Development Bank

Other Participants

Cora Capurro, FIPA Secretariat
Emmanuelle Pelletier, FIPA Secretariat
Sabra Ripley, FIPA Secretariat

Michael Holden, Parliament of Canada
Kerrie Rodier, Parliament of Canada

Dean Moser, Canadian International Development Agency
Sandra Berberi, Canadian International Development Agency

Danuta Tardif, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Anouk St-Arnaud, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Mary Rose, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

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Participating Parliamentarians

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4.2 Program

Trade Knowledge Workshop

Parliament of Canada
 Ottawa, March 18-20, 2007

| PROGRAM | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Saturday, March 17, 2007 | |
| | Arrival and greeting of participants at the Ottawa International Airport Registration of Participants and Receipt of Documents at the Lord Elgin Hotel Lobby (4pm-8pm) |
| Sunday, March 18, 2007 | |
| 8:45 am | Assemble in the hotel lobby / Departure for Old City Hall 111 Sussex Drive |
| 9:00 – 9:30 am | Words of Welcome <i>Mr. James Bezan, MP, Chair of the Canadian Section of FIPA</i> Speech of the President of FIPA <i>Mr. Luiz Carlos Hauly, Brazilian Chamber of Deputies</i> |
| 9:30 – 10:45 am | First Module: Trade Rules and Politics 1 Facilitator: William Dymond, Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL) Given that laws and regulations that result from the WTO and regional and bilateral trade agreements have profound effects at the local and national levels, it is essential that elected representatives are able to both influence the international trade policy development process and understand its implications for their constituents. Developing countries face a dual challenge in that they are the most vulnerable to the changes of economic globalization and have the fewest resources with which to manage or even benefit from these changes. Working from the perspectives and priorities of elected officials, modules 1 and 2 will provide an overview of the essential elements of trade regulations and the political dynamics surrounding them, covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the fundamentals of, and rule-making in, the international trade system; • roles/priorities of multilateralism, regionalism and bilateralism as approaches to trade policy objectives; • trade agreement implementation and administration |
| 10:45 – 11:00 am | Coffee Break |
| 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | (Continued) First Module: Trade Rules and Politics 1 |
| 12:30 – 2:00 pm | Lunch Hosted by <i>Mr. James Bezan, MP, Chair of the Canadian Section of FIPA</i> Le Café du Musée, Canadian Museum of Civilization 100 Laurier St., Gatineau |
| 2:00 - 3:15pm | Cultural Visit Canada Hall - Canadian Museum of Civilization 100 Laurier, Gatineau |

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 3:15 – 4:45 pm | Second Module: Trade Rules and Politics 2 Facilitator: William Dymond, CTPL <i>See description of modules 1 and 2 under First Module</i> |
| 4:45 – 5:00 pm | Coffee Break |
| 5:00 – 6:15 pm | (Continued) Second Module: Trade Rules and Politics 2 |
| 6:15 pm | Return to the hotel |
| 7:15 pm | Assemble in the hotel lobby / Departure for restaurant |
| 7:30 – 9:30 pm | Dinner Le Tartuffe, 133 Notre-Dame-de-l' île St., Gatineau |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Monday, March 19, 2007 | |
| 8:30 am | Assemble in the hotel lobby / Departure for Old City Hall 111 Sussex Drive |
| 9:00 – 10:30 am | Third Module: Parliament's Role in Trade and Development Facilitator: Robert Miller, Parliamentary Centre Module 3 will consist of three parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliamentary entry points on trade and development issues, focusing on committees and inter-parliamentary organizations. • Determinants of parliamentary effectiveness, focussing on organization and consistency of parliamentary engagement and information and research support. • Parliamentary capacity building, focussing on initiatives internal to parliament and external assistance and cooperation (e.g. FIPA). |
| 10:30 – 10:45 am | Coffee Break |
| 11:45 am – 12:00 pm | (Continued) Third Module: Parliament's Role in Trade and Development |
| 12:15 – 2:00 pm | Lunch Hosted by <i>Mr. Leon Benoit, M.P., Chair of the Standing Committee on International Trade</i> Room 601, Parliamentary Restaurant |
| 2:00 – 2:45 pm | Attendance at Question Period |
| 3:00- 4:15 pm | Fourth Module: Public Consultation: From Citizen to Policy Facilitator: Laura Ritchie Dawson, CTPL This module will help parliamentarians to explore various tools and strategies that may be used for effective dialogue with civil society including business, labour and other social groups. Included in the module will be discussions on changing public perceptions about international trade and the rationale for public consultation both as a tool for information exchange and as a means to build public support for government initiatives. |
| 4:15 – 4:30 pm | Coffee Break |
| 4:30 – 6:00 pm | (Continued) Fourth Module: Public Consultation: From Citizen to Policy |
| 6:00 pm | Return to the hotel |
| 6:45 pm | Assemble in the hotel lobby / Depart for restaurant |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 7:00 – 9:00 pm | Dinner Hosted by <i>Mr. Ted Menzies, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade and to the Minister of International Cooperation</i> Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada |
| Tuesday, March 20, 2007 | |
| 8:30 am | Assemble in the hotel lobby / Departure for Old City Hall 111 Sussex Drive |
| 9:00. – 10:30 am | Fifth Module: Trade Liberalization and Poverty Reduction Facilitator: Erick Zeballos, Integration, Trade and Hemispheric Division, IADB The 5th module will provide participants with a general understanding of the implications of trade liberalization reforms on poverty reduction and will strengthen the participants' capacity to analyze and identify trade policy options that have a relevant poverty-reduction impact. Participants will be introduced to conceptual frameworks for the analysis of trade and poverty linkages and exposed to different analytical frameworks for understanding the effects of trade liberalization on different groups of producers and consumers both, at the household and individual levels. Based on some empirical evidence of trade and poverty trends participants will identify and analyze the issues that limit the diffusion of the benefits of trade to a large majority of individuals in the region. Finally, participants will analyze and discuss the policy implications of trade negotiations and trade reforms for the poor, with emphasis on the analysis of pro-poor complementary domestic policy measures implemented in parallel to trade reforms. |
| 10:30 – 10:45 am | Coffee Break |
| 10:45 am- 12:00 pm | (Continued) Fifth Module: Trade and Poverty Alleviation |
| 12:00 – 1:30 pm | Working Lunch at Whitton Hall |
| 1:30 – 3:30 pm | Sixth Module: Gender Equality, Trade and Development Facilitators: Heather Gibb, North-South Institute (NSI) The gender and trade module will introduce key concepts in gender, trade and poverty, and discuss the international framework for gender equality in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Beijing Platform for Action, Millennium Development Goals, and others. Drawing on case studies, the module will discuss how trade liberalization can have different impacts for women and men in employment and wages in manufacturing, agriculture and services. |
| 3:30 – 4:00 pm | Event feedback and evaluation session |
| 4:00 – 5:45 pm | Return to the hotel / Free time |
| 5:45 pm | Assemble in the hotel lobby / Departure for the Embassy of Brazil |
| 6:00-8:00 pm | Reception Hosted by <i>His Excellency Valdemar Carneiro Leão, Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil in Ottawa</i> 400 Wilbrod Street |
| 8:00 pm | Return to the hotel |

4.3 Acknowledgements

The Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas and the Canadian Section of FIPA wish to thank the following organizations for their assistance in making this Trade Knowledge Workshop possible

The Trade Knowledge Workshop has been undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through:



The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT)

<http://international.gc.ca>

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca>

This event is also organized with the financial support of:



The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) through the Trade and Poverty Trust Fund (TP TF)

<http://www.iadb.org>

Many thanks to our partners:



The Centre for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL)

Ottawa, Canada

<http://www.carleton.ca/ctpl>



The North-South Institute • L'Institut Nord-Sud

The North-South Institute (NSI)

Ottawa, Canada

<http://www.nsi-ins.ca>



Parliamentary Centre
Le Centre parlementaire

The Parliamentary Centre (PC)

Ottawa, Canada

<http://www.parlcent.ca>

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