

**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**

# **Identifying core elements in investment agreements in the APEC region**

**UNCTAD Series  
on International Investment Policies for  
Development**



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## NOTE

As the focal point in the United Nations system for investment and technology, and building on 30 years of experience in these areas, UNCTAD, through DIAT, promotes understanding of key issues, particularly matters related to foreign direct investment and transfer of technology. DIAT also assists developing countries in attracting and benefiting from FDI and in building their productive capacities and international competitiveness. The emphasis is on an integrated policy approach to investment, technological capacity building and enterprise development.

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The following symbols have been used in the tables:

Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.

Rows in tables have been omitted in those cases where no data are available for any of the elements in the row;

A dash (-) indicates that the item is equal to zero or its value is negligible;

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A slash (/) between dates representing years, e.g. 1994/1995, indicates a financial year;

Use of a hyphen (-) between dates representing years, e.g. 1994-1995, signifies the full period involved, including the beginning and end years.

Reference to “dollars” (\$) means United States dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

Annual rates of growth or change, unless otherwise stated, refer to annual compound rates.

Details and percentages in tables do not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

The material contained in this study may be freely quoted with appropriate acknowledgement.

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## PREFACE

The secretariat of UNCTAD is implementing a programme on international investment arrangements. The programme seeks to help developing countries participate as effectively as possible in international investment rulemaking. It embraces policy research and development, including the preparation of a series of issues papers; human resources capacity-building and institution-building, including national seminars, regional symposia and training courses; and support to intergovernmental consensus-building. The programme is implemented by a team led by James Zhan.

This paper is part of the *Series on International Investment Policies for Development*. It builds on, and expands, UNCTAD's *Series on Issues in International Investment Agreements*. Like the previous one, this new series is addressed to government officials, corporate executives, representatives of non-governmental organizations, officials of international agencies and researchers.

The *Series* seeks to provide a balanced analysis of issues that may arise in the context of international approaches to investment rulemaking and their impact on development. Its purpose is to contribute to a better understanding of difficult technical issues and their interaction, and of innovative ideas that could contribute to an increase in the development dimension of international investment agreements.

The *Series* is produced by a team led by James Zhan. The members of the team include Bekele Amare, Hamed El-Kady, Anna Joubin-Bret, Joachim Karl, Marie-Estelle Rey, Jörg Weber and Thomas Westcott. Members of the Review Committee are Mark Kantor, Mark Koulen, Peter Muchlinski, Antonio Parra, Patrick

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This paper was prepared by Thomas Westcott with inputs from Joachim Karl. Comments were also received from Danie Beukman, Anna Joubin-Bret, John Kline, Roy Nixon and Jörg Weber.

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Supachai Panitchpakdi  
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

October 2008



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