

Asian Launch of WTO Report 2012
“Trade and public policies: A closer look at non-tariff measures in the 21st century”
25 July 2012

Public Foyer, United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok

Panellists



Ravi Ratnayake is the Director of Trade and Investment Division of the United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand. He was also the Director of Poverty and Development Division and Chief Economist of UNESCAP as well as the Coordinator of regional MDG programme. Prior to joining the United Nations in the early 1980s, he was with the Ministry of Finance and Planning of Sri Lanka and worked as the Research Director for the Presidential Commission on Tariffs and Trade. He was a Senior Lecturer in economics at the University of Auckland, New Zealand from 1991 to 1999. He is an economist with over 30 years of experience in teaching and research on issues related to development and international trade and has published many referred journal articles, books and working papers and supervised the preparation of a large number of publications, including the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* (annual) at the United Nations and the Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report.

Cosimo Beverelli has worked at the Economic Research Division of the WTO since April 2009. Before joining the WTO, he worked at the Graduate Institute, Geneva, and at UNCTAD. Since 2009, he has also been invited lecturer at the University of Geneva. He holds a PhD in International Economics from the Graduate Institute, Geneva, where he wrote a thesis on "The Consequences of Offshore Outsourcing". He has co-authored various book articles, and two of his most recent research papers have been published in the Journal of Industry, Competition and Trade and in International Economics and Economic Policy.



Edward Tower is a Professor of Economics at Duke University and a visiting Professor at Chulalongkorn University. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard in 1971. He has held appointments at the Australian National University, the University of Auckland in New Zealand, the Economics Institute, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, the Helsinki School of Economics and Business Administration, Nanjing University in the Peoples' Republic of China, Simon Fraser University in Canada, and the University of Zagreb in Croatia. He has also consulted on economic development problems at the World Bank and the U.S. Agency for International Development, and in Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, and Sudan, and has written on development problems in Malaysia, Malawi, the Peoples' Republic of China, Sudan, and Taiwan. John Gilbert and he recently completed a book *AN INTRODUCTION TO NUMERICAL SIMULATION FOR TRADE THEORY AND POLICY* (World Scientific Publishing, January 2013).

Apiradi Tantraporn is an Executive President, International Institute for Asia Pacific Studies (INSAPS), Bangkok University. She served in the Royal Thai Government Ministry of Commerce since 1975 before retiring in 2009. Starting her career as a Trade Policy Officer after receiving her Master Degree in International Trade from Syracuse University, USA, she served in various Departments and held the position Director General at Department of Business Economics, Department of Trade Negotiations (2002-2006) and Foreign Trade Department (2006-2009). She was posted to Geneva first as a Counsellor (1985-1989), Minister (1995-1997) and Ambassador to the WTO (1999-2002). She was involved in and appointed as chief negotiator of Thailand in various bilateral and multilateral negotiations. She was Senior Economic Officer in ASEAN SEOM and APEC and thus was involved in AFTA, CEPT and AEC negotiations.



Ambassador Laurie Markes retired from the New Zealand foreign service in 2011 after a forty year diplomatic career. Most recently he was New Zealand's Ambassador to Italy and Permanent Representative to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and World Food Programme in Rome. Prior to these positions he was New Zealand High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea (2003-07), Ambassador to Saudi Arabia (2000-2003), Ambassador to Mexico (1993-1997) and Ambassador to Iran (1990-1993). Concurrent with these appointments Ambassador Markes served as New Zealand's official diplomatic representative to Turkey, Pakistan, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Egypt, Greece, Portugal, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus and Malta. Previous overseas service has also include the UN in New York and in New Delhi. In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Wellington Ambassador Markes has worked in the Economics, Asian, European and Middle East divisions of the Ministry. He also spent three years with the New Zealand Treasury. Ambassador Markes currently lives in Bangkok with his wife and two children who are all Thai citizens.

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