

**August 6, 2007**

# **What is DDA?**

*On its Significance in the Future Trade  
Regime*

**Akira Kotera**

*Professor of International Law  
The University of Tokyo*

# Categories of Negotiation Round

## 1. Market Access

Cf. Kennedy Round (1964-'67)

## 2. Regulations

Cf. Tokyo Round (1973-'79), Uruguay Round (1986-'94)

## 3. Enlargement of Areas

Cf. Uruguay Round (1986-'94)

**As for DDA?**

# Characteristics of DDA

- **Market Access Round**

1999: Emphasis on enlargement of area  
Singapore issues (investment rules,  
competition policy etc.), trade and  
environment

2007: Two Main Areas – Agricultural  
products and non-agricultural market  
access (NAMA)

# Why has DDA been so Delayed?

- Narrow Down the Agendas: *Exclusion of “trade and” issues* – competition policy, investment rules
- Narrow Down the Players
  1. Developing countries (LDCs)
  2. NGOs  
→G4 or G6
- Barely Touched Agendas – *politically sensitive*
  1. Subsidies on agricultural products
  2. Tariff capping for agricultural products
  3. NAMA for developing countries

*DDA has been advancing, but very slowly!*

# Questions Remain

- US: *Defense*: Agricultural support  
*Offence* : Tariff capping for agricultural products, NAMA
- Developing Countries, India in particular:  
*Defense*: NAMA  
*Offense* : Agricultural support
- *How to Reconcile* – US is the Key Player

# What is DDA?

- The result of DDA *will not change* the present structure of the WTO
- NAMA and negotiations of agricultural products will *expand the liberalization* of trade
- Substantial liberalization of trade in services will again *not have been done* and will be taken to the next round

# On the Future Trade Regime

- Present Structure of Trade Regime
  - Trade of goods, trade in services and intellectual property rights – WTO + FTAs
  - Investment rules, environmental protection, labor rights, etc. – outside the WTO
- How to Change this Structure
  - Depend on the next round
  - DDA has shown that such change is very difficult