

RIETI-JETRO Symposium
Global Governance in Trade and Investment Regime
- For Protecting Free Trade -
Handout

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Current status and Prospects of Doha round and the WTO

- DDA stalled since July 2008
- The G-20 & G5
- Stuck on industrial tariffs (and not agriculture)
- It is not a problem of the number of Member (156) nor a North/South
- What has changed, among the many things:
 1. China – emerging economies
 2. Trade policies
 3. Crisis
 4. Agriculture appetite

A different balance of interests and expectations, with the same mandate and organization.

- PTA's:
 1. A struggle against discrimination
 2. Bound to increase
 3. 16% preferential trade (1/2: duty free; 1/3 dutiable MFN) (Goods)
 4. Most trade is MFN (Services)
 5. The main problem for convergence could be on the regulatory front.
- Single undertaking, are "packages" "necessary"?
Could a Parliament (Diet) approve a result only on agriculture, without NAMA and Antidumping?
Do we need smaller or bigger packages?
How to organize the negotiations? It seems the "big bang" doesn't work. Nor the "sequencing". A brick-by-brick?
- Consensus – not a problem. Legitimacy and Credibility.
- Special and Differential treatment, one size doesn't fit all
- The case for variable geometry, flexibilities and MFN plurilaterals
- Reform of WTO? How has the multilateral trading system evolved?