

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