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TTIP's Collateral Impact on ACP States

Workshop

Venue: London

Tuesday 24th May 2016, 9:00a.m. to 5:30p.m.

Draft Agenda

Background

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is an ambitious and comprehensive trade arrangement being negotiated between the European Union (EU) and the United States (US). TTIP is expected to grant increased market access for both parties. The agreement sets out to liberalise the goods and services sectors, create a positive climate for investment, and further open public procurement markets. It also aims to enhance competitiveness, employment and overall growth. The legal arrangement shall primarily cut tariffs and regulatory barriers.

It is expected that TTIP could add £10bn to the UK economy, £80bn to the US and £100 billion to the EU every year. Since African Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP) and Commonwealth developing countries are engaged in extensive preferential and non-preferential trade and other commercial and investment relations with both the US and the EU it is inevitable that they will be affected. Studies have predicted that the agreement could provide benefits for third countries in terms of expanded trade volumes and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by almost £100 billion. It would however be helpful to assess the precise implications of the accord, both positive and negative the advanced developing countries like those of the ACP and Commonwealth states. The consequences could flow from increased competition for these countries in the EU or US markets and erosion of preferences, as well as indirect impacts on the functioning of the multilateral system.

In an attempt to better discern both the negative and positive results that TTIP could have on these countries, the Ramphal Institute shall be hosting a one-day high level conference in partnership with the ACP and Commonwealth Secretariats, King's College London (Africa Leadership Centre), the London School of Economics and the GIZ.

Participants will include ACP and Commonwealth policy makers and their representatives in London and Brussels, UK and EU country representatives, Commission, US Embassy, research institutions, business representatives, academics, civil society and Think Tanks.



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Main Objective

To provide information and enhance understanding and insight to African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) and Commonwealth Developing Country policy-makers and increase their understanding of the direct and indirect implications of TTIP for their countries' trade and investment.

Tuesday 24 th May 2016	
9:00-9:30 AM	Registration and coffee
9:30-10:00 AM	Opening and Welcome Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of the Ramphal Institute • Mr Viwanou Gnassounou, ACP Assistant Secretary General
10:00-10:10 AM	Technical Presentations: TTIP's Background, Content and its Implications for ACP/Commonwealth states-
10:10-10:15 AM	Presenter 1- Mr Peter Draper, WTI Advisor, 'Mega Trading Blocs and the ACP'
10:15-10:30 AM	Presenter 2- ' <i>Lessons from The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)</i> '
10:45-11:00 AM	(Joint 15 min Q&A session)
10:45-11:00 AM	COFFEE BREAK
11:00-12:00 PM	Interactive Panel Discussion 1: How might TTIP affect the Trade & Investment of ACP and vulnerable Commonwealth states (Brief initial 5 mins presentations followed by interactive Q&A session) Chair- Mr Edwin Laurent, Ramphal Institute Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Steve Woolock, London School of Economics: '<i>Investment</i>' • Representative from London School of Economics: '<i>Trade</i>' • Mr Axel Berger, German Development Institute (DIE): '<i>The EU Perspective</i>'
12:00-1:00 PM	Interactive Panel Discussion 2: How might TTIP impact multilateral trade governance structures such as the WTO and the governance environment (Brief initial 5 mins presentations followed by interactive Q&A session) Chair- Mr John Hilary, Executive Director, War on Want Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Rashid Kaukab, Director, CUTS International: '<i>Implications for the Multilateral System</i>' • ACP representative, to the WTO: '<i>Policy Implications at the Multilateral Level</i>' • Dr Lorand Bartels, Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge:



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	<i>'An International Political Economy Perspective (incl. Brexit)'</i>
1:00- 2:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK
2:00-2:15 PM 2:15-3:45 PM	Assignment to Working Groups Break Out Sessions on: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Trade (Chair- Mr Morgan Gittenjee, Trade Technician, ACP Secretariat);2. Investment (Chair- Commonwealth Secretariat representative); and3. Impacts on government structures and governance environment (multilateral and government system) (Chair- LSE representative)
3:45- 4:00 PM	COFFEE BREAK
4:00-5:00 PM	Resumed Plenary: Workgroup presentations with recommendations made and discussion of the working group results
5:00-5:30 PM	The Way Forward and Closing Remarks Representative of the Ramphal Institute Representative of Partner organisation(s)
5:30-7:00 PM	Cocktail Reception

***Please Note:** Preliminary agenda, subject to changes