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## IPC Appoints Ellen Terpstra as President and CEO

The IPC Board of Directors approved the appointment of A. Ellen Terpstra as Chief Executive Officer.



IPC CEO Ellen Terpstra

Ms. Terpstra will replace Charlotte Hebebrand, who left IPC in July to head the International Fertilizer Association.

Chairman of the Board Carlo Trojan welcomed Ms. Terpstra to IPC: "I am delighted to have Ellen on board. Her experience and background constitutes an important asset for IPC in advocating a more open and equitable global food and agricultural system."

Ms. Terpstra spent much of her career working for liberalized agricultural trade on the basis of internationally recognized rules. For the past three years, Ms. Terpstra has worked as a consultant, providing strategic advice on U.S. food and agricultural policy issues, particularly international trade and development matters. Before this, she served as Deputy Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services and Admin-

istrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), where she participated in the Doha Development Agenda's agricultural negotiations and many bilateral trade discussions with America's trading partners.

Prior to her service at the USDA, Ms. Terpstra led the USA Rice Federation and the U.S. Apple Association, and served as an agricultural trade policy advisor in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, and for the U.S. Congress.

"I am excited to join an organization that advocates for the crucial role that trade plays in food security, sustainability, and development. I look forward to working with the members to achieve IPC's objectives," Ms. Terpstra said.

The IPC search committee was excited by Ms. Terpstra's experience as a trade negotiator, in the policy realm dealing with food security, development, technology, and trade, as well as her experience leading agricultural industry associations. Ms. Terpstra will be headed to Geneva later in September to participate in the WTO Public Forum and meet with IPC stakeholders.

## IPC Session at the WTO Public Forum

IPC will host a session entitled "**Moving towards a Demand-Driven Agricultural Sector: Implications for Trade Policy**" at the WTO Public Forum in Geneva this September.

This session will explore the ramifications of the changes to the global food system in the 21st century and explore what they portend for the future of international food and agricultural trade flows and rules. The session will begin with an overview of the changes that have taken place in the global agricultural trade system and of projections through 2050. It will then highlight three initiatives underway intended to explore whether and how international trade rules might need to be adapted to better reflect new realities. An exchange of views with the audience will be launched by comments from several discussants.

Confirmed speakers include IPC Member Tim Josling, Tim Yeend, Australian Ambassador to the WTO, and Manzoor Ahmad, Senior Fellow for ICTSD. The session will take place during on **September 25 during lunch session 20.**



## IPC and ICTSD kick off new Expert Group Dialogue on Agriculture and Food Security Challenges

IPC has partnered with the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) to host an Expert Group Dialogue focused



Protesters hold up a piece of bread in Egypt

on the challenges pertaining to agricultural

trade and food security in the 21st century. The group will examine how the global food system has changed and how it is projected to change in order to determine whether a new intellectual framework is required for international food and agricultural trade policy, and if so, what such

a framework should consist of, and to encourage consensus around key priorities.

The global food system has changed, and will continue to change, in the 21st century. There has been a proliferation of regional trade agreements, the fragmentation of production through highly complex value chains, and the rapidly growing demand for agricultural feedstocks to produce biofuels. There has also been growing awareness of both the effects of climate change on agricultural production, and the effects of agricultural production on the environment.

The 18-month project will include evidence-based analysis and dia-

logue among a diverse group of food and agricultural experts in order to explore whether a new substantive and institutional framework for addressing food and agricultural trade and trade policies is necessary. The objective of this project would be to arrive at a set of well reasoned policy options for food and agricultural trade policies from a group of diverse and well respected experts geared towards decision-makers, at a time when the debate on these matters risks becoming polarized and inconclusive.

A first meeting of the experts' group will take place in Geneva on September 27 and 28.

## WTO law on export restrictions has evolved

In September, IPC released a study, "Agricultural Export Restrictions and International Trade Law: A Way Forward" by Professors Robert Howse and Tim Josling, which significantly modifies the hitherto prevailing view that the WTO rules governing export restrictions are necessarily ineffective. By exploring the implications of recent WTO jurisprudence, primarily the China-Raw Materials case, the authors conclude that: "...a country may not respond to a food crisis in a manner that is indifferent to the food security impacts on import-dependent countries."

The authors also present a compelling case for a procedure that involves an internationally recog-

nized and respected food security institution or initiative to help determine, from a food security perspective, whether in any particular situation export restrictions can or cannot be justified. This procedure would evaluate the likely impact on individual importing countries, considerations that are clearly beyond the WTO's remit.

*"...a country may not respond to a food crisis in a manner that is indifferent to the food security impacts on import-dependent countries."*

This paper was sponsored by the Center for Global Development and its working group on Food Se-

curity and the Rome-based Agencies ([http://www.cgdev.org/section/topics/food\\_and\\_agriculture/food\\_security](http://www.cgdev.org/section/topics/food_and_agriculture/food_security)). It is available on IPC's website (*see box, next page*).

Given concerns about reduced agricultural productivity and the increased likelihood of both supply and demand shocks, questions pertaining to global food security governance have justifiably become more pressing. Efforts to streamline food security governance must also consider how to ensure that trade disciplines on export restrictions are implemented in order to enhance rather than threaten food security both at the national and global levels.

## IPC teams up with the IDB to focus on food security and trade

On May 17 and 18, 2012, IPC partnered with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to host a two-day seminar “Charting the Course: Food Security and Trade in the Asia-Pacific & LAC Region.” The seminar featured keynote speeches from IPC member emeritus Tim Groser, IPC member Marcos Jank, DuPont’s executive Vice President James C. Borel, and Cargill’s Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer Emery Koenig.



Yasuo Watanabe, Jikun Huang, HS Dillon, and Alberto Valdes speak during panel I

The topic of food security and trade in the Asia-Pacific region is most pertinent: the region encompasses agricultural powerhouses and net food importers, populations with rising incomes and transforming diets, alongside subsistence agriculture and urban poor, and there has been impressive growth of ag-

ricultural exports from the Latin American region to Asia.

Speakers discussed the root causes of food insecurity. In his keynote address, the Honorable Tim Groser, New Zealand’s Minister of Trade and Minister for Climate Change Issues, stated: “The issue of ‘food poverty’ is fundamentally an income, not an agriculture production problem. Singapore has no farms. As far as we know nobody starves in Singapore.” A key message emerging from the seminar was that an open and non-distorted trade system for food and agriculture is a crucial element for global food security, since it facilitates economies of scale and efficiencies and ensures that food can flow from areas of surplus to areas of deficit production.

Given the importance of trade to food security, regional trade agreements were also discussed, with special focus on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement. Whereas the Trans Pacific Partnership has been heralded as a “21st century agreement,” for tack-

ling new issues, such as the digital economy, speakers emphasized that it should also encompass a comprehensive approach to food and agricultural trade liberalization.

*“The issue of ‘food poverty’ is fundamentally an income, not an agriculture production problem. Singapore has no farms. As far as we know nobody starves in Singapore.”*

During the IPC-IDB seminar on Food Security and Trade in the Asia-Pacific and LAC Region, speakers provided a detailed look at the national priorities around food security and trade of their home countries, and discussed the potential reforms to national agricultural systems. Food security remains an important topic for national governments and groups such as the G-20 and APEC, as well as for various international institutions. On the trade front, while the Doha negotiations have reached an impasse, the number of FTA/RTAs being negotiated in the Asia and LAC regions keeps growing.

### IPC Publications

Agricultural Export Restrictions and International Trade Law: A Way Forward  
<http://www.agritrade.org/Publications/ExportRestrictionsandTradeLaw.html>  
 September 2012

Robert Howse and Tim Josling

*This paper was made possible through the generous support of the Center for Global Development.*



## IPC adds three board members

At IPC's May 19 plenary meeting, IPC members welcomed three new Board members:

**Jason Clay** (United States) is Senior Vice President, Market Transformation at World Wildlife Fund. He leads WWF-US' work on forests, fisheries, agriculture, aquaculture, and finance. Jason has been an IPC member since 2008.

**Jikun Huang** (China) is founder and director of the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Jikun has been an IPC member since 2002.

**Marcos Jank** (Brazil) is the Former President and CEO of the Brazilian Sugarcane Industry Association (UNICA). Marcos has been an IPC member since 2010.

## Thank you, Charlotte!

IPC's Chief Executive since 2006, Charlotte Hebebrand, left IPC at the end of July. She has joined International Fertilizer Association as of September 2012, where she will assume the position of Director General in January 2013.

At the May 2012 Plenary Meeting, IPC Chairman Carlo Trojan praised her managerial, financial and substantive contributions to IPC, referring to her efforts to "have IPC's work program better reflect the realities of the 21st century's global food system." Referring to IPC's membership as "a truly unique group of international food and agricultural experts," Ms. Hebebrand said that her tenure at IPC has strengthened her "commitment to fact-based dialogues and consensus-building." Ms. Hebebrand was also invited to continue her involvement with IPC as an IPC member.

## Membership of the International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council

Carlo Trojan, The Netherlands  
*Chairman*

Malcolm Bailey, New Zealand  
Debapriya Bhattacharya, Bangladesh  
Joachim von Braun, Germany  
Piet Bukman, The Netherlands  
Pedro de Camargo Neto, Brazil  
Jason Clay, United States  
Csába Csáki, Hungary  
H.S. Dillon, Indonesia  
Franz Fischler, Austria  
Ashok Gulati, India  
Eckart Guth, Germany  
Jikun Huang, China

Carl Hausmann, United States  
*Vice-Chairman*

Charlotte Hebebrand, United States  
Sarah Hull, United States  
Nicolas Imboden, Switzerland  
Marcos Jank, Brazil  
Robbin Johnson, United States  
Hans Joehr, Switzerland  
Timothy Josling, United Kingdom  
Willem-Jan Laan, The Netherlands  
Gerrit Meester, The Netherlands  
Raul Montemayor, Philippines  
Hidenori Murakami, Japan  
Namanga Ngongi, Cameroon

Carlos Perez del Castillo, Uruguay  
*Vice-Chairman*

J.B. Penn, United States  
Michel Petit, France  
Lord Henry Plumb, United Kingdom  
Marcelo Regunaga, Argentina  
Roberto Rodrigues, Brazil  
Hiroshi Shiraiwa, Japan  
James Starkey, United States  
Stefan Tangermann, Germany  
Robert L. Thompson, United States  
Ajay Vashee, Zambia  
Brian Wright, Australia