Climate Change, Agriculture, and Trade: Promoting Policy Coherence

October 29, 2009

Hotel Monaco, 700 F St NW
Washington, DC

As the global community aims to reach a new international climate change framework, it is also faced with pressing food security needs among the world’s poor. The production and trade of food and agricultural products will be impacted by climate change, as well as by policy responses to climate change. An increased understanding of the nexus between climate change, agriculture, food security and trade is required so that greater policy coherence can be attained at both the international and national level.

• How can the international community achieve climate change adaptation and mitigation as well as food security?
• Is a new paradigm required for investment in the agricultural sector?
• Do international trade rules need to adapt to climate change?

IPC and ICTSD are grateful to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for funding this Seminar.
AGENDA

8h30-9h:00  Registration

9h00-9h30  Introductions and Welcome
• The Honorable Carlo Trojan, IPC Chairperson
• The Honorable Friis Arne Petersen, Danish Ambassador to the US

9h30-11h00 Panel I: Climate Change Policies and Food Security
With global food demand expected to double by 2050, how can we ensure that policies to address climate change do not jeopardize food security?

Speakers:
• Joachim von Braun, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute; IPC Member – Climate Change and Food Security
• Ajay Vashee, President, International Federation of Agricultural Producers; IPC Member - Priorities for the Farmer

Moderator:
Carlo Trojan, IPC Chairperson

11h00-12h45 Panel II: US Domestic and International Policy
The United States is making progress towards a domestic climate change framework and will play a decisive role in the upcoming Copenhagen Summit and implementation thereof. This panel will address the US position on climate change and agriculture.

Speakers:
• Roger Beachy, Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, US Department of Agriculture – Priorities for Agricultural Research in the Context of Climate Change
• Michael Yates, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade Bureau, USAID – Climate Change and Agriculture from a Development Perspective
• Bill Hohenstein, Director, Global Climate Change Program, US Department of Agriculture – Climate Change and Agriculture: US Legislation and International Climate Change Negotiations

Moderator:
Melinda Kimble, Senior Vice President, UN Foundation
12h45-13h45 Lunch

13h45-15h30 Panel III: African Agriculture and Climate Change
With 70% of Africa’s population engaged in farming, what specific challenges does climate change present for the continent? What kinds of policies make the most sense for adaptation and mitigation?

Speakers:
• Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, Chief Executive Officer, Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN), South Africa - Priorities for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Africa
• Christoph Kohlmeyer, Chair, Global Donor Platform for Rural Development; Executive Director, African Development Bank – Need to Rethink Business as Usual for Development Assistance
• Bernard Hoekman, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit, Trade Department, World Bank – Policy Responses to Climate Change

Moderator:
Robert Thompson, Agricultural Policy Chair, University of Illinois; IPC Member

15h30-15h45 Coffee

15h45-17h30 Panel IV: ICTSD-IPC Platform Recommendations
The ICTSD-IPC Platform on Climate Change, Agriculture and Trade has been convening a multidisciplinary group of international experts since December 2008 for analysis and dialogues. This panel will outline the platform’s key findings and recommendations: the need to ensure that policies to address climate change do not jeopardize food security, and the need for coherence of climate change policies with international trade and agricultural development policies.

Speakers:
• Daniel Martino, Carbosur, Coordinating Lead Author of the Agriculture Chapter for the 4th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – The Treatment of Agriculture in a New Climate Change Regime
• Carlos Perez de Castillo, former Chairman of the WTO General Council; IPC Member – Climate Change and Trade
• Gary Hufbauer, Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute – “Climate Change Proofing” the WTO

Moderator:
Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz, Chief Executive, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development

17h45-18h45 Reception