
PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON THE WTO

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the European Parliament

Twentieth (enlarged) session of the Steering Committee

1 December 2009, IPU Headquarters, Geneva

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of the agenda**
- 2. Exchange of views with Mrs. Valentine Sendanyoye Rugwabiza, WTO Deputy Director-General**

The Seventh Session of the WTO Ministerial Conference is the first of its kind to be held after nearly four years. Its general theme is "The WTO, the Multilateral Trading System and the Current Global Economic Environment". WTO Member States have agreed that the Conference would not be a negotiating session and that the Doha Development Agenda was on its own, separate track.

- 3. Exchange of views with Mrs. Mariann Fischer Boel, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, representing the European Commission at the Seventh WTO Ministerial Conference**

Members of the Steering Committee will be briefed on the current state of multilateral trade negotiations and possible scenarios for the conclusion of the Doha Round by the end of 2010 from the point of view of one of the major trading powers, the European Union.

- 4. Exchange of views with Mr. Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, Chief Executive Officer of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)**

ICTSD is an independent think tank providing non-partisan reporting and facilitation services at the intersection of international trade and sustainable development. Members of the Steering Committee will be privy to an analysis of the news emerging from the WTO in a broader context of trade-related issues including climate change, the economic and financial crisis, and the need for more effective global trade governance.

- 5. Reflections on the Seventh WTO Ministerial Conference**

Members of Parliament attending the Seventh Session of the WTO Ministerial Conference will have an opportunity to exchange views on its format and the role of parliamentarians in the multilateral trading system.

- 6. Any other business**