



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



BASEL CONVENTION



ROTTERDAM CONVENTION



STOCKHOLM CONVENTION



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

2017 Meetings of the Conferences of Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Side Event

Working for a better economy and a better environment: Cooperation between the WTO and BRS Conventions

Panel organized jointly by the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions, the Food and Agriculture Organization, UN Environment, and the World Trade Organization (WTO)

Tuesday 2 May 2017 18:15-19:45

**Room 15, Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG)
17 rue de Varembé, Geneva, Switzerland**

Managing hazardous chemicals and wastes in a way that fosters environmental protection, economic growth, and social inclusion is a global policy priority reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Progress on this front, including through the full implementation of the BRS Conventions, has important ramifications for human well-being, and may greatly strengthen the ability of societies to achieve many Sustainable Development Goals, from better health and a cleaner environment to poverty eradication, food security, access to potable water and cleaner cities.

Efforts to manage hazardous chemicals and wastes take place against the backdrop of a globally interconnected world where production is organized into complex value chains that span multiple countries. The trade flows that underpin such value chains have proved to be powerful drivers of economic growth and poverty reduction. Governments and stakeholders thus need to pay close attention to the opportunities and challenges resulting from the growing linkages and interactions between trade and their efforts on chemicals and wastes.

This side event will offer a unique occasion to consider those linkages and interactions, and to discuss how the synergies between the BRS Conventions and the WTO contribute to bringing about a better economy, a better environment, and better health by seeking to ensure that trade and the sound management of chemicals and wastes are mutually supportive. It will draw on the concrete experiences of governments, the private sector, and the work of the BRS Conventions and the WTO.

A panel of experts moderated by **Aik Hoe Lim**, Director of the WTO Trade and Environment Division, will kick off the discussions:

- **Malika Amélie Taoufiq-Cailliau**, Legal Officer, Secretariat of the BRS Conventions
- **Karsten Steinfatt**, Counsellor, WTO
- **Henrique Pacini**, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- **Jennifer Sanford**, Director of International Trade & Energy Policy, CISCO

EVENT OPEN TO REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS IN THE BRS COPS MEETINGS

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