

Roundtable discussion on:

FREE ALLOWANCES, TRADE AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

World Trade Organisation (WTO), Room C
28 June 2010, 16h00 - 18h30

SUMMARY

The purpose of this roundtable discussion is to focus on free allowance of carbon permits, the tool which is being used within the European Union's Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS) and forms the basis for compensating potentially-affected industries under the proposed Waxman-Markey Bill in the US. Free allocation of allowances to domestic producers is one of the options available to industrialized countries (together with Border Carbon Adjustments and other measures such as aid to industry or sectoral approaches) for addressing competitiveness and leakage issues.

The goals of this meeting are to:

- inform poorer countries about EU and US free allowance policies
- analyse which sectors will receive the right to free allocation of emissions and what this means for poorer countries
- identify the type of measures that could be implemented to avoid negative impacts on poor development countries (development aid for energy-efficient industries)

The roundtable will explore the EU and proposed US approaches to greenhouse gas-free allowances, with a particular attention to free allowances under the EU Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS).

Participants will benefit from an overview of climate change mitigation measures which are currently in place (free allowances) or are being discussed (BCAs). The understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of the various policy options- border adjustments, free allowances - may assist them in the definition of a position and facilitate their participation in the trade and climate change debate.

Discussions will be based on the concept paper which is being distributed along with this invitation.

PROGRAM

Moderator: Nicolas Imboden, Executive Director, IDEAS Centre

Location: WTO, Room C

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
16:00 - 16:45	Competitiveness and Carbon leakage: what are the main issues?	Joost Pauwelyn, Professor, Graduate Institute, Geneva, and Co-Director, Centre for Trade and Economic Integration
16:45 - 17:30	Emissions Allowance Allocation designs under EU Emission Trading System	Jorge Vittorino, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the WTO
17:30 - 18:15	Free allowances and poorer countries: trade and development implications	Vicente Paolo B. Yu III Programme Coordinator Global Governance for Development Programme South Centre

Registration: please send an email to solange.guye@ideascentre.ch by June 24.