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The Vienna Institute
for International Economic Studies (WIIW)

Wiener Institut
für Internationale Wirtschaftsvergleiche (WIIW)

WTO Round: Basic Issues

Vienna, 25 April 2003

Federation of Austrian Industry
Haus der Industrie,
Schwarzenbergplatz 4,
A-1031 Vienna

Sponsored by:

Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB),
Bank Austria Creditanstalt AG,
Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation,
Federation of Austrian Industry

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Programme

- 10:30 – 11:00 **Introductory remarks**
Manfred Schekulin, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Labour
- 11:00 – 12:30 **Trade Policy Conflicts: EU-USA**
Speakers: **Patrick Messerlin**, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris
Chris Wilson, U.S. Mission to the EU, Brussels
Chair: **Michael Landesmann**, WIIW
Discussion
- 12.30 – 14.00 L u n c h
- 14.00 – 15:30 **Regionalism vs Multilateralism**
Speakers: **Arvind Panagariya**, University of Maryland
Joe Francois, Rotterdam University
Chair: **Wilhelm Kohler**, University of Linz
Discussion
- 15.30 – 16.00 C o f f e e
- 16.00 – 17:30 **Doha – The Development Round**
Speakers: **Mohan Rao**, University of Massachusetts
Rolf Langhammer, Kiel Institute for World Economics
Chair: **Fritz Breuss**, Research Institute for European Affairs, Vienna
Discussion

Outline

This conference is designed to bring together prominent international trade economists and senior economists involved in trade negotiations to discuss some of the fundamental issues which currently drive the WTO Agenda. Around these issues a large theoretical and applied literature has developed and it will be the aim of this conference to relate these analytical insights to the agenda which has opened up in international trade policy negotiations. The conference will address the following topics:

Trade Policy Conflicts: EU-USA

It is clear that the WTO negotiations will be fundamentally affected by the two big players in international trade, the USA and the EU. Prominent analysts of US-EU trade policy relations will present their insights on these issues. There has been an enormous progress in recent years in the theoretical analysis of trade policy conflicts and this session will discuss the main areas in which such conflicts between the two regions have emerged and the likely evolution of the negotiating stances on these issues.

Regionalism vs Multilateralism

The development of regional trading arrangements and their impact upon the global trading system has been a major theme in theoretical and applied analysis in recent years. The two speakers are two of the most distinguished contributors to this debate. In this session we shall discuss how the new trade round agenda has taken on board the issues arising from these recent analytical insights.

Doha – The Development Round

The Doha meeting has declared the current WTO Round as a 'Development Round'. The purpose of this session will be to look at the current round from the point of view of developing countries. The principal issues will be the opening up of agricultural trade, further liberalisation of services, patent rights, etc. The two speakers have a deep understanding of the positions of developing countries in the international trading system and will present a critical view of the WTO trade policy agenda from this point of view.