



High Level Symposium to Enhance Regulator Expertise on the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

Casa de California

Carmen No 1, Chimalistac,
Del. Álvaro Obregón, CP 01070, Mexico City
February 9 - 10, 2016

Tuesday February 9, 2016 – Day 1 Discussion

09:10 – 09:15 Announcements and Logistical Notes.

09:15 – 09:30 Keynote Welcoming Remarks.

Rosaura Castañeda, Head of the International Negotiations Unit, SE.

Brian Brisson, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs to introduce: Jeff Weiss, Senior Advisor for Standards and Global Regulatory Policy, Office of the Secretary at U.S. Department of Commerce.

09:30 – 09:40 Photo opportunity.

09:40 – 10:20 Relevance of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.

Erik Wijkström, Counsellor, Trade and Environment Division, World Trade Organization.

10:20 – 10:35 Questions and Answers

10:35 – 11:35 Session 1: The Right to Regulate – Regulate When It's Necessary, But Not Necessarily To Regulate.

- Key considerations for the development of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures: when and how to regulate.
- Regulatory Impact Assessment and Cost-Benefit Risk Analysis.

Moderator: Juan Antonio Dorantes, Director General for International Trade Rules, SE.

Mario Emilio Gutiérrez, Director General of COFEMER.

Jeff Weiss, Senior Advisor for Standards and Global Regulatory Policy, Office of the Secretary at U.S. Department of Commerce.

11:35 – 11:50 Questions and Answers

11:50 – 12:05 Break

- 12:05 – 13:35 Session 2: Technical Regulations – How to Develop, Adopt and Implement Qualitative, Necessary and Effective Regulations?”
- Good regulatory practices: application of the principles of the WTO TBT Agreement (Non Discrimination, Necessity and Proportionality, Transparency, Use of international standards, Periodical Reviews, Performance based Regulations).
 - The Mexican process for the preparation, adoption and implementation of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures.
 - The WTO Jurisprudence on TBT disciplines regarding technical regulations and standards.
- Moderator: Eduardo Romero, General Coordinator for Regulatory Impact Assessments, COFEMER.
- [Juan Antonio Dorantes, Director General for International Trade Rules, SE.](#)
[Aaron Szabo, Policy Analyst, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.](#)
[Alberto Esteban, Director General of the General Bureau of Standards, SE.](#)
- 13:35 – 13:50 Questions and Answers
- 13:50 – 15:50 Luncheon (at Casa de California)
- 15:50 – 17:20 Session 2 (Cont.): The WTO Jurisprudence on TBT Disciplines Regarding Technical Regulations and Standards.
- Moderator: Jennifer Stradtman, Director, Technical Barriers to Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative.
- [Erik Wijkström, Counsellor, Trade and Environment Division, World Trade Organization.](#)
[Carlos Vejar, General Counsel for International Trade, SE.](#)
[J. Sloane Strickler, Senior Associate General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative.](#)
- 17:20 – 17:35 Questions and Answers
- 17:35 – 17:50 Conclusions and close of session
- [Ricardo Aranda, Director for International Trade Rules, SE.](#)
- 18:00 – 19:00 Cocktail at Casa de California, co-sponsored by *Mezcales de Leyenda* and *Underwriters Laboratories Inc.*

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 – Day 2 Discussion

- 09:00 – 09:05 Announcements and Logistical Notes.
- 09:05 – 12:05 Session 3: Different Approaches to Conformity Assessment – How to Ensure That We Choose the Best Conformity Assessment Procedures Available, Given our Options.
- Accreditation, approval, inspection, verification, test results, certification, self-declaration of conformity, etc.
 - The application of the principles of the WTO TBT Agreement (Non Discrimination, Necessity and Proportionality, Transparency, Use of international standards, Periodical Reviews)
 - The WTO Jurisprudence on TBT disciplines regarding conformity assessment procedures.
- Moderator: Ann Weeks, Vice President, Global Government Affairs, Underwriters Laboratories LLC.

Panel A

Erik Wijkström, Counsellor, Trade and Environment Division, World Trade Organization.

Maribel López, Executive Director of the Mexican Accreditation Entity.

Abel Hernández, Director General of the National Association for Normalization and Certification (ANCE).

Questions and Answers (10:35 – 10:50)

Panel B

Paul Moliski, Vice President, Accreditation, Intertek and ANSI-Regional Standing Committee Chair for the Americas.

Orlando Pérez, Director General for North America, SE.

Questions and Answers (11:50 – 12:05)

12:05 – 12:20 Break

12:20 – 13:50 Session 4: Advancing Implementation TBT and Regulatory Coherence in Trade Agreements and the Work of the WTO TBT Committee.

Moderator: Erik Wijkström, Counsellor, Trade and Environment Division, World Trade Organization.

Ricardo Aranda, Director for International Trade Rules, SE.

Jennifer Stradtman, Director Technical Barriers to Trade, Office of the United States Trade Representative.

Ravi Bharwani, International Policy Analyst, Food and Drug Administration.

13:50 – 14:05 Questions and Answers

14:05 – 16:00 Luncheon (free)

16:00 – 17:00 Session 5: Regulatory Cooperation: When and How to Use It?

- Cosmetics Annexes in the TPP and Pacific Alliance
- Produce Safety Partnership

Moderator: Eduardo Mendoza, Head of the Regulatory Cooperation and Competition Unit, SE.

Carlos Berzunza, Director General of the National Chamber of Cosmetic Products.

Edmundo Garcia Jr., Director, Latin America Office, U.S. FDA, Food and Drug Administration, Health and Human Services.

17:00 – 17:15 Questions and Answers

17:15 – 18:15 Session 6: The Private Sector Perspective Regarding the Elaboration, Adoption and Implementation of Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures

Moderator: Jesús Lucatero, Deputy-Director General of the General Bureau of Standards, SE.

Rafael Nava, President of the Mexican Council for Standardization and Conformity Assessment (COMENOR).

Wayne Morris, Vice President of Technical Operations and Standards, AHAM, and Chair of the U.S. Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Standards and Technical Barriers

18:15 – 18:30 Questions and Answers

18:30 – 18:45 Conclusions and Closing Remarks

Juan Antonio Dorantes, Director General for International Trade Rules, SE.