

OPEN FORUM

China's role

in the
new
global
order

with guest speaker
Long Yongtu

Since its accession to the WTO China has become the world's second largest economy. What role will China play in the new global economic order – particularly in relation to a stronger multilateral system?

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 10 November 2011, 15:00–17:30
World Trade Organization (WTO), Room CRI

WELCOME ON BEHALF OF WTO AND ITC

Ms. Patricia Francis, Executive Director, ITC

OPENING REMARKS

H.E. Mr. Yi Xiaozhun, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the WTO

DISCUSSION

Moderator:

Mr. Jean-Marie Paugam, Deputy Executive Director, ITC

Speaker:

Mr. Long Yongtu, Chief Negotiator of China's accession to the WTO and former Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC)

Discussants:

Mr. Pierre Defraigne, Executive Director, Madariaga - College of Europe Foundation

Mr. Herbert Oberhänsli, Vice President, Head Economics and International Relations (Chief Economist), Nestlé S.A. and Assistant for Economics to the Chairman of the Nestlé Group

Mr. Rajesh Aggarwal, Chief, Business and Trade Policy, ITC
WTO Accession: Strengthening Trade Policy and Business Competitiveness Interface for Export Success

CONCLUSIONS

Mr. Pascal Lamy, Director-General, WTO

CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Jean-Marie Paugam, Deputy Executive Director, ITC

RECEPTION

A reception will follow the Open Forum in the lobby of the new building in front of room CRI from 17:30-18:30.

GUEST SPEAKER LONG YONGTU



Mr. Long Yongtu was elected Secretary-General of the Boao Forum for Asia on 21 January 2003.

Mr. Long was Chief Negotiator for China's resumption of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) contracting party status and its accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). He dedicated over ten years to the trade negotiations to bring China into the global trading system.

Apart from leading trade negotiations, Mr. Long was also in charge of the multilateral economic and trade affairs between China and the United Nations (UN) development agencies. He was fully involved in Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) affairs and attended the APEC meetings of trade ministers each year from 1992 to 2001. Mr. Long has also been active in promoting regional economic cooperation. He was involved in creating the Regional Economic Development Cooperation Committee of the Tumen River Area in Northeast Asia and chaired the committee's first ministerial meeting in Beijing in April 1996.

Mr. Long received his BA Degree of British and American Literature from Guizhou University in 1965 and completed his post graduate studies in economics at the London School of Economics in 1974. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC) in 1965 and served as a diplomat in the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations in New York from 1978 to 1980. From 1980 to 1986 he worked in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), first at its New York headquarters and then in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as the Deputy Resident Representative of the UNDP office.

After diplomatic service abroad from 1978 to 1986, Mr. Long returned to China and became Deputy Director-General of the China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE). In January 1992 Mr. Long was appointed Director-General of the Department of International Relations, MOFTEC, and Assistant Minister of the Ministry in April 1994. In February 1997 he was appointed Vice Minister and Chief Representative for Trade Negotiations of MOFTEC.

In addition to his official duties Mr. Long is the Dean of the School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University and visiting professor of many renowned Chinese academic institutions including Peking University, Tsinghua University, Renmin University, Nankai University, Zhejiang University and Wuhan University. He is also a board member of Shantou University. Mr. Long was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science (Economics) by the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in July 2006.

Mr. Long received a special award by Mr. Kofi Annan, the then UN Secretary-General, in October 2004 for his outstanding contribution to the UN partnership with China and to promoting the values of the UN. On 8 August 2005 His Majesty King Albert II of Belgium awarded the Insignia of Officer in the Order of Leopold to Mr. Long for his outstanding contributions to the facilitation of regional cooperation in Asia and the promotion of Sino-European and Sino-Belgian economic and trade relations.

DISCUSSANTS

PIERRE DEFRAIGNE



Pierre Defraigne has been Executive Director of the Madariaga - College of Europe Foundation since April 2008. An economist and European civil servant from 1970 to 2005, he retired as Deputy Director-General in DG Trade in March 2005 after having been Head of Cabinet for Pascal Lamy, European Commissioner for Trade (1999-2002).

Previously, he was Director for North-South Relations and Head of Cabinet for Etienne Davignon, Vice-President of the European Commission (1977-1983). He has set up the Brussels branch of the French Institute for International Relations (Eur-Ifri), which he managed from 2005 to 2008.

Mr. Defraigne is a lecturer in economics at the College of Europe (Bruges) and at the Institute for European Studies (UCL and FUSL). He is also a visiting professor at Zhejiang University (China). His interests focus on international economic policies, political economy and relations with developing countries.

HERBERT OBERHÄNSLI



Herbert Oberhänsli has been Vice President, Head Economics and International Relations (Chief Economist) and Assistant to the Chairman of the Nestlé Group – Economic Affairs, Nestlé S.A. in Vevey/Switzerland since 2010.

Mr. Oberhänsli joined Nestlé S.A. in 1985 and served consecutively as deputy head investors relations, assistant for economic affairs to the CEO and chairman of Nestlé Group. Recently the main focus of his work lay on risks related to both food security and global water shortages.

Previously, he worked for the Swiss Ministry of Economics, Bern, in the economics department and directorate for the export credit insurance within the Federal Office for Foreign Economic Affairs, where he focused on competitiveness of Switzerland in the global economy. While there, he was responsible for building up a country risk evaluation system (1982-85).

From 1974-1982 Mr. Oberhänsli participated in and later led various projects at the Swiss Institute for International Economics at the University of St. Gallen in international economics and innovation research mandated by industry, the Swiss National Bank, the Swiss Ministry of Economics and the government financed by the Swiss Science Foundation. The projects covered subjects such as imports from developing countries, impact of exchange rate changes on Swiss competitiveness, risk from foreign debt, innovation in small and medium sized enterprises, and stabilisation of commodity prices in times of inflation.

“China’s accession to the WTO will bring benefit not only to itself, but also to all WTO members and contribute to the development of the multilateral trading system. It will certainly create far-reaching and deep impact on the economy of the world as well as of China in the new century.”

Long Yongtu, speaking at the first WTO General Council Meeting with China as full-fledged member, 19 December 2001

“China gains more than any other country from the open global trading system. Its trade-to-GDP ratio is double that of the United States’ and triple that of Japan’s. It is one of the most open economies in the world. It is not festooned with protection. It is highly open, and it has benefited enormously. China therefore has a huge interest in maintaining and strengthening the openness of the global trading system. But where is it in terms of presenting that position and furthering the outcomes we need?”

C. Fred Bergsten, Peterson Institute for International Economics, speaking at ‘Asia-Pacific Perspectives on the Future of the World Trade System’, East-West Center, Washington, 23 May 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION

About the event

www.intracen.org/ten-years-on-china-chief-negotiator-accession-wto/

International Trade Centre (ITC)

www.intracen.org

World Trade Organization (WTO)

www.wto.org
