

NURTURING MINDS WEEKLY SEMINAR SERIES

We are having two special seminars this week apart from Regular Wednesday seminars on Thursday and Friday. You are cordially invited to the Special Seminar on

“Two Opportunities to Deliver on the Doha Development Pledge”

by
David Orden

on Thursday 13 July, 2006
at 11:00 AM,
PIDE Seminar Hall

The abstract of the paper and introduction of the author is given below

ABSTRACT

Reaching a final agreement has eluded the WTO Doha Development Round trade negotiations for more than four years. There was little consensus at the December 2005 Hong Kong conference and a meeting of trade ministers in Geneva broke up last week without further agreement. In this seminar, the effects of a possible Doha agreement based on proposals from the U.S., EU, and G20 group of developing countries are evaluated in a general equilibrium model of the world economy. The results demonstrate modest market access and global income gains from a plausible but not very ambitious basic Doha scenario. Middle income countries achieve income gains that are more than proportional to their initial share of world income, but incomes of the least developed countries (LDCs) are raised by only \$1 billion. Two development-oriented alternatives demonstrate that more can be accomplished in the Doha Round if specific steps are taken to achieve further market access. First, granting LDCs 100 percent free access to OECD markets targets the poorest countries and dramatically increases LDC income gains as their terms of trade improve and exports expand. Second, limiting the number of sensitive and special agricultural products that receive the smallest tariff cuts provides

broad-based gains compared to the basic scenario. These results demonstrate that trade can be a stimulus to development. But it is not clear there is political will to achieve even a basic agreement as the negotiations head toward resolution or collapse.

INTRODUCTION

David Orden is Senior Research Fellow in the Markets, Trade and Institutions Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and professor of agricultural and applied economics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He is engaged in active research and public policy education programs on the economics and political economy of domestic support policies, international trade negotiations, and technical barriers to trade. Orden has been a Visiting Fellow at the University of New South Wales in Australia (1990), chairman of the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (1996 and 1997), and Visiting Professor at Stanford University (1998-99). His book Policy Reform in American Agriculture: Analysis and Prognosis (co-authored by Robert Paarlberg and Terry Roe) received the American Agricultural Economics Association Quality of Communication Award in August 2000. A second book Food Regulation and Trade: Toward a Safe and Open Global System (co-authored with Timothy Josling and Donna Roberts) was published in March 2004 by the Institute for International Economics. Orden received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota.