



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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Agenda

Submitted by: United States



**Capacity Building for Negotiating Labor
Provisions in FTAs Workshop
Medan, Indonesia
28-29 June 2013**

Draft Agenda
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Capacity Building for Negotiating Labor Provisions in FTAs Workshop
June 28-29, 2013
Aryaduta Hotel - Medan, Indonesia

DAY 1	
8.30 am – 9.00 am	Arrival/Registration/Coffee
9:00 am – 9:05 am	Welcome Remarks <i>Timothy Wedding, Deputy Assistant United States Trade Representative for Labor Affairs</i>
9.05 am – 9.15 am	Introduction/overview of workshop <i>Timothy Wedding, Deputy Assistant USTR for Labor Affairs</i>
Session 1 9.15 am – 10.15 am	Introduction – the Trade and Labor Nexus <i>The first session will introduce participants to how labor and trade are related and the rationale for including labor provisions in trade agreements. The session will include short presentations by 3 speakers, which will discuss the economic, political, development and human rights aspects of the trade and labor nexus.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pierre Bouchard, Director for Bilateral and Regional Labour Affairs, Canadian Department of Human Resources and Skills Development</i> • <i>Pablo Lazo, Attorney Advisor, General Directorate of International Economic Affairs, Chile Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i> • <i>Peter Rennert, Office of Trade Negotiations, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i> Discussion (Questions & Answers)
10.15 am – 10.45 am	Coffee Break
Session 2 10.45 am – 12.00 pm	How Have Labor Provisions Been Incorporated into Trade Agreements? <i>The second session will focus on the history of labor provisions in trade forums and agreements, including at the multilateral, regional, and bilateral level. The speaker(s) will focus on more recent agreements, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement, and highlight comparisons between different FTA models (e.g. US-Korea and EU-Korea FTAs) and FTAs involving different regions and levels of development (e.g FTAs involving Australia, Canada, and Peru). In this session, the speakers will highlight key labor provisions in past trade agreements and how these provisions have evolved over time and in various trade agreements.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pablo Lazo, Chile Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i> • <i>Mr. Kevin Kolben, Associate Professor, Rutgers Business School</i> • <i>Mr. Alvaro Diaz Bedregal - Economic Studies and Consulting Manager, Peru Society of Foreign Trade (COMEXPERU)</i> • <i>Pierre Bouchard, Director for Bilateral and Regional Labour Affairs, Canadian Department of Human Resources and Skills Development</i> Discussion (Questions & Answers)
12.00 pm – 1.30 pm	Lunch

<p>Session 3</p> <p>1.30 pm – 3.00 pm</p>	<p>What are International Labor Rights?</p> <p><i>The third session will provide a primer on labor rights and the ILO. The speaker(s) will discuss the ILO as an institution, the origin of the ILO's 1998 Declaration and the relationship of the Declaration to core labor conventions. The session will include a detailed discussion of each of the fundamental labor rights:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;</i> • <i>The elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour;</i> • <i>The effective abolition of child labour; and</i> • <i>The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.</i> <p><i>The speaker will provide participants both an overview of each of these rights as well as practical examples of how countries protect these rights in law and practice. The speaker(s) will also discuss other internationally recognized labor rights, such as those related to minimum wages, hours of work, occupational safety and health, and migrant workers, which while not covered by the 1998 Declaration, have been included in trade agreements.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pablo Lazo, Attorney Advisor, General Directorate of International Economic Affairs, Chile Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i> • <i>Kevin Kolben, Associate Professor, Rutgers Business School</i> <p>Discussion (Questions & Answers)</p>
<p>3.00 pm – 3.30 pm</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>Session 4</p> <p>3.30 pm – 5.00 pm</p>	<p>Labor Provisions - Core Obligations, Public Submissions, Consultations, Enforcement (Dispute Settlement), Institutions, Domestic Procedures, and other issues</p> <p><i>The fourth session will cover each of the major labor provisions found in the most recent trade agreements which participants may be expected to negotiate in the future. Speakers will discuss each of these types of provisions. Participants will review text from actual agreements and speakers will highlight key aspects and nuances from those agreements. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the type of obligations being made, including what is required by the parties to meet the obligations. Speakers will provide examples and practical experience of how parties to agreements with these labor provisions have implemented these obligations in their own countries.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Timothy Wedding, Deputy Assistant USTR for Labor Affairs</i> • <i>Peter Rennert, Office of Trade Negotiations, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i> • <i>Mr. Alvaro Diaz Bedregal - Economic Studies and Consulting Manager, Peru Society of Foreign Trade (COMEXPERU)</i> • <i>Pierre Bouchard, Director for Bilateral and Regional Labour Affairs, Canadian Department of Human Resources and Skills Development</i> <p>Discussion (Questions & Answers)</p>
<p>5.00 pm – 5.05 pm</p>	<p>Wrap- up and overview of Day 2</p>

DAY 2	
8.30 am– 9.00 am	Arrival/Registration/Coffee
9:00 am – 9:05 am	<p>Introduction</p> <p><i>Timothy Wedding, Deputy Assistant USTR for Labor Affairs</i></p>
<p>Session 5</p> <p>9.05 am – 10.30 am</p>	<p>Improving Labor Capacity through Cooperation and Technical Assistance</p> <p><i>The fifth session will explore ways in which trade agreements can lead to increased cooperation and technical assistance—particularly for developing countries—in order to modernize and improve the labor law and practice. Speaker will discuss mechanisms within trade agreements to foster cooperation, dialogue, exchange of technical expertise, and technical assistance programs. Speaker(s) will provide examples of effective cooperative activities and the benefits to parties of improving labor law and practice for their workers, businesses, and economies.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pierre Bouchard, Director for Bilateral and Regional Labour Affairs, Canadian Department of Human Resources and Skills Development</i> • <i>Peter Rennert, Office of Trade Negotiations, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i> • <i>Nguyen Manh Cuong, Adviser to Vietnam Minister on International Labour Affairs</i> • <i>Timothy Wedding, Deputy Assistant USTR for Labor Affairs</i> <p>Discussion (Questions & Answers)</p>
10.30 am – 11.00 am	Coffee Break
<p>Session 6</p> <p>11.00 am – 12.30 pm</p>	<p>Challenges to Negotiating Labor Provisions in Trade Agreements</p> <p><i>The sixth session will discuss typical challenges faced in the negotiation of labor provisions in trade agreements. These include identifying appropriate expertise within both labor and trade ministries, understanding the relationship between trade agreements and domestic labor laws in a particular country’s legal system, identifying areas of domestic law and practice that may be inconsistent with international standards, and addressing the special needs of small or developing economies. In addition, issues related to labor rights can arise in other areas of trade agreements, such as government procurement and temporary entry. The session will also include a discussion of the labor rights aspects of these other areas.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Peter Rennert, Office of Trade Negotiations, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i> • <i>Nguyen Manh Cuong, Adviser to Vietnam Minister on International Labour Affairs</i> • <i>Mr. Alvaro Diaz Bedregal - Economic Studies and Consulting Manager, Peru Society of Foreign Trade (COMEXPERU)</i> • <i>Pablo Lazo, Attorney Advisor, General Directorate of International Economic Affairs, Chile Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i> <p>Discussion (Questions & Answers)</p>
12.30 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch

<p>Session 7</p> <p>2.00 pm – 3.00 pm</p>	<p>Looking Forward – Emerging Issues in the Trade and Labor Nexus</p> <p><i>The seventh and final session will discuss emerging and related labor issues in trade negotiations. These include such topics as supply chain management and multinational/transnational corporations; social compliance and monitoring programs; corporate social responsibility, efforts to promote decent work, job creation, training and modern labor practices; and public engagement, stakeholders and social media in improving labor rights and conditions for workers.</i></p> <p><i>Panel discussion: All Speakers to highlight 1-2 emerging issues</i></p> <p>Discussion (Question & Answers)</p>
<p>3.00 pm – 3.30 pm</p>	<p>Coffee Break/Wrap up and evaluations</p>