



**Focus on Services Domestic Regulation -
Regulatory disciplines in economic integration initiatives
and economic benefits deriving from their implementation**

Tuesday, 21 September 2021 at 15:00 – 17.00 (Geneva time - CEST)

WTO premises and Zoom platform

With a view to finalizing negotiations on services domestic regulation (SDR) by the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference, participants in the Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation have produced a stable set of draft SDR disciplines. On this basis, recent analysis has examined the following questions:

- (1) How are the SDR disciplines designed by the Joint Initiative comparable to those included across economic integration initiatives, in particular some of the most recent trade agreements?
- (2) What could be the economic impact of implementing the SDR disciplines at the national level?

This Simply Services Seminar will provide an occasion to share and discuss recent research on the topic by US-SEGA, the OECD, and the WTO Secretariat.

PROGRAMME

Welcoming Remarks and Introduction

15:00-15:10

- **Xiaolin Chai**, Director, Trade in Services and Investment Division, World Trade Organization (WTO)
- **Jeremy Schanck**, Deputy Chief of Party, US-Support for Economic Growth in Asia (US-SEGA) Project (Moderator)

Session 1

15:10 – 15:55

Services Domestic Regulation Disciplines in Economic Integration Initiatives

- **Markus Jelitto**, Counsellor, Trade in Services and Investment Division, World Trade Organization (WTO)
- **Elena Bertola**, Legal Affairs Officer, Trade in Services and Investment Division, World Trade Organization (WTO)
- **Felipe Sandoval**, Senior Services Specialist, US-Support for Economic Growth in Asia (US-SEGA)

Questions and Answers

Session 2

15:55 – 16:40

Potential Economic Benefits from Implementation of the Services Domestic Regulation Disciplines

- **Sebastian Benz**, Trade Policy Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)
- **Janos Ferencz**, Trade Policy Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)
- **Laura Baiker**, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade in Services and Investment Division, World Trade Organization (WTO)

Questions and Answers

Commentary

16:40 – 16:55

- **Jane Drake-Brockman**, Industry Professor, Institute for International Trade, The University of Adelaide

Closing Remarks

16:55 – 17.00

- **Jeremy Schanck**, Deputy Chief of Party, US-Support for Economic Growth in Asia (US-SEGA) Project

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