

**Paper for the House Committee****Report on S Rajaratnam School of International Studies and the World Trade Organization Parliamentarian Workshop on International Trade 2015 submitted by Hon SIN Chung-kai****Purpose**

This report summarizes my observations during my attendance at the Parliamentarian Workshop on International Trade 2015 ("the Workshop") held in Singapore from 25 to 27 May 2015.

**Background**

2. Against the backdrop of growing global trade and increasingly complex trade issues, the role played by parliamentarians in paving the way for good international trade relations is now more pivotal than ever. In light of the need to enhance the capacity of parliamentarians in dealing with trade-related issues and keep them updated with the latest developments, the Centre for Multilateralism Studies at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies ("RSIS")<sup>1</sup> and the World Trade Organization ("WTO")<sup>2</sup> organized the RSIS-WTO Parliamentarian Workshop 2015 from 25 to 27 May 2015 in Singapore. The Workshop was co-sponsored by the WTO Secretariat, and the Temasek Foundation<sup>3</sup> under the auspices of the Temasek Foundation Series on Trade & Negotiations.

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<sup>1</sup> RSIS was established in 2007 as an autonomous school within the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Its mission is to be a leading research and graduate teaching institution in strategic and international affairs in the Asia Pacific region. The Centre for Multilateralism Studies is one of the five centres of RSIS and is dedicated to facilitating policy dialogue and academic debate on regional cooperation and integration through the conduct of scholarly and policy research, teaching/training, and networking on cooperative multilateralism in the Asia Pacific region.

<sup>2</sup> Established in 1995, WTO is an international organization dealing with the rules of trade among states and separate customs territories. WTO provides a forum for negotiating agreements aimed at reducing obstacles to international trade and ensuring a level playing field for all. It also provides a legal and institutional framework for the implementation and monitoring of trade agreements, as well as for settling disputes arising from their interpretation and application. WTO currently has 162 members, accounting for over 95% of world trade. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has been a WTO member since 1 January 1995.

<sup>3</sup> Set up in 2007 by Temasek, an investment company based in Singapore, the Temasek Foundation is a Singapore philanthropic organization that seeks to build a more prosperous, stable and connected Asia through building human and social capital. It supports training programmes that build capabilities in health care, education, public administration and disaster-response, and programmes that promote positive networks of cooperation in and across communities in Asia.

3. The Legislative Council ("LegCo") received an invitation from RSIS in February 2015 to nominate two LegCo Members to attend the Workshop. As the theme of the Workshop fell within the terms of reference of the Panel on Commerce and Industry ("the Panel"), President of LegCo had referred the invitation to the Panel for consideration on whether to accept the invitation. The Panel agreed at its meeting on 17 March 2015 to accept the invitation and to open the invitation to all other LegCo Members and that the expenses incurred by Members attending the Workshop would be charged to the Members' Overseas Duty Visit accounts.

4. Subsequently, the House Committee endorsed at its meeting on 17 April 2015 the recommendation of the Panel to nominate me to attend the Workshop and the related funding arrangements.

### **The Workshop**

5. The three-day Workshop brought together 15 speakers and more than 60 parliamentarians from 18 countries in the Asia Pacific region to discuss new trends and topics confronting the multilateral trading regime. The Workshop comprised eight sessions, covering topics in the following key areas of international trade:

- (a) How the WTO Works;
- (b) The Bali Package and Beyond: How to Finish the Doha Business;
- (c) Climate Change and Trade;
- (d) The Trade Facilitation Agreement: State of Play and Way Forward;
- (e) The Trade Facilitation Agreement: What Impact for the Asian Region;
- (f) Singapore's Experience of Trade Facilitation;
- (g) Encouraging New Trade Patterns: Joining Global Value Chains; and
- (h) Managing Disputes Over Trade.

6. The keynote address of the Workshop entitled "The World Trade Organization at the age of 20: what challenges for the future?" was delivered by Mr Roberto Carvalho de Azevêdo, Director General of WTO. The agenda, biographies of speakers and list of participants of the Workshop are in **Appendices I, II and III** respectively.

### **Observation and conclusion**

7. Parliamentarians play a key role in the facilitation of good international trade relations. As negotiating and managing a country's participation in trade agreements has grown increasingly complex, it is pivotal for parliamentarians and trade officials to gain the knowledge and skills to deal with the complexity of negotiations, day-to-day policy-making, and implementation in relation to trade issues and agreements.

8. The Workshop equipped participants with a deeper understanding of WTO, as well as the current and future negotiating issues in international trade and a sustained focus on the particular concerns of developing states in the relevant negotiation process. The knowledge I gained in the Workshop was conducive to the discharge of my role as parliamentarian in facilitating trade, as well as in considering and ratifying international agreements for domestic implementation. The Workshop also provided parliamentarians with good opportunities for networking, knowledge sharing and exchange of views as the participants were from various countries around the region. Although Hong Kong champions free trade, we should continue to participate in different levels of international dialogues and forums. This seminar is more useful for countries with more trade barriers such as more tariffs on import or export. But I believe Hong Kong's participation is necessary. I consider the Workshop effective and worthy of participation by LegCo Members.

Hon SIN Chung-kai  
13 June 2016

**Temasek Foundation Series on Trade & Negotiations:  
RSIS-WTO Parliamentarian Workshop 2015  
Agenda**

**Dates: 25-27 May 2015**

**Venue: Marina Mandarin Hotel (Singapore)  
Vanda Ballroom, Level 5**

<b>Monday, May 25</b>	
0830 – 0900	<b>Registration</b>
0900 - 0930	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keith Rockwell, Chief Spokesman, World Trade Organization</li> <li>• Baey Yam Keng, Chairman, Singapore Government Parliamentary Committee on Culture, Community and Youth</li> <li>• Benedict Cheong, CEO, Temasek Foundation</li> <li>• Ong Keng Yong, Executive Deputy Chairman, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University</li> </ul>
0930 – 1000	Coffee Break
1000 - 1015	Photo-taking session Venue: Pool Garden Pavilion, Level 5
1015 – 1045	<b>Keynote Address – The World Trade Organization at the age of 20: what challenges for the future?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roberto Carvalho de Azevêdo, Director-General, World Trade Organization</li> </ul>
1045 - 1130	<b>Session I: How the WTO Works?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Said El Hachimi, Counsellor, External Relations, WTO</li> </ul>
1130 - 1300	Lunch Venue: Pool Garden Pavilion, Level 5
1300- 1430	<b>Session II: The Bali Package and beyond: How to finish the Doha business?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Pulch, Ambassador of the European Union to Singapore;</li> <li>• Keith Rockwell, Chief Spokesman, WTO</li> <li>• Fook Seng Kwok, Chief Negotiator for Climate Change and former Ambassador to the WTO</li> </ul>
1430-1545	<b>Session III: The Trade facilitation agreement : State of play and way forward</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Said El Hachimi, Counsellor, External Relations, WTO</li> </ul>
1545 - 1615	Coffee Break
1715 - 2000	<b>Tour of Peranakan Museum followed by Dinner</b> Peranakan Museum: 39 Armenian Street Singapore 179941 Dinner: <i>The Glass House</i> , Hotel Fort Canning, 11 Canning Walk Singapore 178881  Participants to gather at 1st floor lobby at 1700

<b>Tuesday, May 26</b>	
0900 – 0945	<p><b>Session IV: Climate Change and Trade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Said El Hachimi, Counsellor, External Relations, WTO</li> <li>• Peter Govindasamy, Director, International Trade Cluster, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore</li> </ul>
0945 – 1115	<p><b>Session V: The Trade Facilitation Agreement: What impact for the Asian Region?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: Keith Rockwell, Chief Spokesman, WTO</li> <li>• Gerard McLinden, Lead Trade Facilitation Specialist, World Bank</li> <li>• Ambassador Esteban B. Conejos, Permanent Representative of the Philippines in Geneva, Chair of the Preparatory Committee on TFA at the WTO</li> <li>• Alan Bollard, Executive Director, APEC Secretariat</li> </ul>
1115 – 1130	Coffee Break
1130 – 1230	<p><b>Session VI: Singapore experience of Trade Facilitation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Ewing-Chow, WTO Chair holder, National University of Singapore</li> </ul>
1230 – 1400	Lunch Venue: AquaMarine, Level 4
1500 - 1630	<p><b>Study Mission Visit – PSA Port of Singapore Tour</b></p> <p>Participants to gather at 1st floor lobby at 1445</p>

<b>Wednesday, May 27</b>	
0900 – 1030	<p><b>Session VII: Encouraging New Trade Patterns: Joining Global Value Chains</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gerard McLinden, Lead Trade Facilitation Specialist, World Bank</li> <li>• Keith Rockwell, Chief Spokesman, WTO</li> </ul>
1030 - 1100	Coffee Break
1100 - 1200	<p><b>Session VIII: Managing Disputes Over Trade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Margaret Liang, Adjunct, Senior Fellow, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies</li> </ul>
1200 – 1330	Lunch Venue: AquaMarine, Level 4
1400 – 1600	<p><b>Tour of Singapore’s Parliament Building</b></p> <p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singapore Parliament</li> <li>• WTO</li> <li>• Barry Desker, Distinguished Fellow, , S Rajaratnam School of International Studies</li> </ul> <p>Participants to gather at 1st floor lobby at 1345</p>

**Please note**

That all sessions will be conducted in English and no translation will be provided.  
The agenda and speakers are subject to changes.

### **Biographies of Speakers**

#### **Roberto AZEVÊDO**

WTO Director-General

Ambassador Azevêdo holds degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Brasilia and in international relations from the “Instituto Rio Branco”, the graduate school of international relations and diplomacy run by the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Relations. He joined the Brazilian Foreign Service in 1984.

His first diplomatic posting was to Washington in 1988. He subsequently served in the Brazilian embassy in Montevideo before being assigned to the Permanent Mission of Brazil in Geneva in 1997.

In 2001 Roberto Carvalho de Azevêdo was named head of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry’s Dispute Settlement Unit where he remained until 2005. During his tenure he acted as chief litigator in many disputes at the WTO and served on WTO dispute settlement panels.

From 2006 to 2008 he was Vice-Minister for Economic and Technological Affairs at the Foreign Ministry in Brasilia. In that capacity he was Brazil’s chief trade negotiator for the Doha Round and represented Brazil in MERCOSUR negotiations.

In 2008 he was appointed Permanent Representative of Brazil to the WTO and other International Economic Organisations in Geneva.

Ambassador Azevêdo has been a frequent lecturer on topics related to international economics and has published numerous articles on these issues.

He is married to Ambassador Maria Azevêdo. They have two daughters and two granddaughters.

#### **BAEY Yam Keng**

Member of Parliament for Tampines GRC

Mr Baey entered the Singapore Parliament in 2006 and is serving his second term. He is Advisor to Tampines North Grassroots Organisations and Chairman of Tampines Town Council. He chairs the Government Parliamentary Committee (GPC) for Culture, Community & Youth, is Deputy Chairman of the GPC for Communications & Information and a member of the Education GPC. He is also Director of Chinese Development Assistance Council and REACH Supervisory Panel Vice Chairman. He sits on the board of National Museum of Singapore.

He started his career with the public sector, at the Economic Development Board, Ministry of Trade & Industry, then Ministry of Information, Communications & the Arts and National Arts Council. In 2006, he joined CapitaLand Limited as Vice President, Corporate Marketing & Corporate Social Responsibility. Mr Baey joined Hill+Knowlton Strategies in 2009, was its Managing Director during 2011-2012, and is currently its Senior Advisor.

Mr Baey graduated from Imperial College, London with a BSc in Biotechnology and he obtained an MSc in Biochemical Engineering from University College London. He is married with two daughters and a son.

### **Alan BOLLARD**

Executive Director, the APEC Secretariat, Singapore

Dr Alan Bollard is the Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat based in Singapore, the body that promotes trade, investment and sustainable economic growth in the Asia-Pacific. Dr Bollard advances APEC's agenda by executing APEC's work programmes as mandated by Leaders and Ministers.

Prior to joining APEC, Dr Bollard was the Governor of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand from 2002 to 2012. In that position, he was responsible for monetary policy and bank regulations, helping steer New Zealand through the global financial crisis.

From 1998 to 2002, Dr Bollard was the Secretary to the New Zealand Treasury. As the government's principal economic adviser, he managed the Crown's finances and helped guide economic policy. He has served as New Zealand's Alternate Governor to the International Monetary Fund, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank. From 1994 – 2008, he was the Chairman of the New Zealand Commerce Commission. Prior to this from 1987 to 1994 he was Director of the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research.

Dr Bollard has helped rebuild the famous MONIAC hydraulic model of the British economy. He has also designed a computer simulation game called OIKONOMOS where you play at being Minister of Finance. He wrote a best-selling account of the GFC called "Crisis: One Central Bank Governor and the Global Financial Collapse". More recently he has published a novel entitled 'The Rough Mechanical'.

He is married to venture capitalist Jenny Morel and has 2 sons. Dr Bollard has a PhD in Economics from the University of Auckland. He has since been awarded several honorary doctorate degrees. In 2012 he was honoured as a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

**Esteban B. CONEJOS, JR.**

Permanent Representative of the Philippines in Geneva

Ambassador Esteban B. Conejos, Jr. graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the College of Law of the Ateneo de Manila University, and a Master of Laws degree (International Trade Law) from Georgetown University. He was appointed as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Philippine Mission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva in July 2012. He served as Chairman of the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment from 2013 to 2014. Ambassador Conejos was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation, a position which he still holds to date. He has led the committee in the legal review of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and the adoption of the Protocol of Amendment to incorporate the TFA into the WTO Agreement. Currently, he tirelessly leads the committee in receiving Category A commitments and instruments of ratification, and in preparing for the entry into force and efficient operation of the TFA. He has also been a Member of the Management Board of the Advisory Center on WTO Law since 2012.

**Benedict CHEONG**

Chief Executive Officer, Temasek Foundation

Benedict CHEONG is the first Chief Executive Officer of Temasek Foundation, a non-profit philanthropic organisation set up by Temasek Holdings Singapore. Before this, Mr Cheong was the Chief Executive Officer of the National Council of Social Service, where he served for nine years from 1998 to April 2007. He also served in the Singapore Police Force for fifteen years, from 1982 to January 1998, where he held various appointments at headquarters and in the operational units.

Mr Cheong currently serves on the Ministry of Home Affairs Independent Review Panel (IRP), Medifund Advisory Council and on the boards of the Caritas Singapore Community Council and Temasek Cares in Singapore.

**Barry DESKER**

Distinguished Fellow, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

Ambassador Barry Desker is Distinguished Fellow and Bakrie Professor of Southeast Asia Policy at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU). He is a Member of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights, Singapore and a Member of the Board of Directors of the Lee Kuan Yew Exchange Fellowship.



He was the Chief Executive Officer of the Singapore Trade Development Board from 1994 to 2000 and was Singapore's Ambassador to Indonesia from 1986 to 1993. He was the founding Dean of RSIS from 2007 to 2014 and was Director, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies from 2000 to 2014.

Ambassador Desker is currently also Non-Resident Ambassador of Singapore to the Holy See and Spain and Chairman of Singapore Technologies Marine.

A President's Scholar, he was educated at the University of Singapore, University of London and Cornell University. He was awarded a honorary doctorate by Warwick University in 2012 and by the University of Exeter in 2013.

**Peter GOVINDASAMY**

Director, International Trade Cluster  
Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore

Peter Govindasamy works for Singapore's Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI). As Director of the International Trade Cluster, he is overseeing WTO Policy and Negotiations; Climate Change Negotiations; and Services & Investment Policy and Negotiations. Before joining the Ministry of Trade and Industry, he spent 8 years with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where he specialised in Foreign Economic Policy issues, European Union matters and International Organisations such as the UN, ILO, IAEA and the WTO. Since joining the Ministry of Trade and Industry in 1998, he has had extensive FTA experience as lead services and rules negotiator in a number of Singapore's FTAs. In addition, he has served two stints in Geneva, 1995-98 (as First Secretary) and 2003-09 (as Counsellor). Between 2005-09, he chaired the WTO negotiations on Domestic Regulations in services, and has circulated a draft text. He also served as the Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Import Licensing Measures in 2005 and 2006. In addition, he has chaired the ASEAN-India FTA (services) negotiations.

Aside from his foreign and trade policy and negotiations experience, Peter has also had a stint in MTI's Energy Division. He is a member of the Singapore's delegation to the UNFCCC negotiations. He holds a honours degree (2nd Class Upper Division) in Economics from the National University of Singapore, and an LLM in International Commercial Law (with distinction) from the University of Nottingham (UK), under the Raffles-Chevening Scholarship programme.

**Said EL HACHIMI**

Counsellor, Information and Media Relations Division  
World Trade Organization

Said El Hachimi is a Counsellor at the Information & External Relations Division of the WTO. He is responsible for WTO relations with the Parliamentarians and the International Intergovernmental Organizations such as the United Nations, its agencies and OECD. His work includes a lot of interaction with all the stakeholders of the WTO including Government Officials; Members of Parliaments; Academics; Business organizations and NGOs.

He has been co-organizing the Annual Parliamentary Conference on WTO at the WTO Headquarters since 2011 with colleagues at the IPU and the European parliament.

Prior to joining the WTO in 2004, Mr El Hachimi worked for the Government of Morocco for thirteen years. He was the Sherpa for the Foreign Trade Minister of Morocco in 2003 and 2004 particularly, overseeing his country's relations with the European Union and the WTO. In his capacity as a trade official he took part to WTO negotiations within the Uruguay and current Doha Rounds as well as to Free Trade Agreements negotiations between Morocco and numerous countries including the European Union, United States, Turkey, Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan etc.

**Michael EWING-CHOW**

Associate Professor and the WTO Chair at the Faculty of Law  
National University of Singapore (NUS)

Michael Ewing-Chow is an Associate Professor and the WTO Chair at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore (NUS). He has a First Class Honours degree in law from NUS and a Masters from Harvard Law School. Michael worked in Allen & Gledhill before joining NUS where he started the first World Trade Law course in Singapore and was involved in the negotiations for some of Singapore's early FTAs. He has been a consultant to the Singapore Government, the ADB, ASEAN, UNCTAD, the World Bank and the WTO. Michael has advised government officials all over the world on trade and investment law as well as corporate governance. He also assisted the Singapore Company Law Reform and Frameworks Committee in 2001 with a major overhaul of corporate law and in 2008 was appointed to a Working Group of the Steering Committee to review of the Companies Act. He has taught in a number of universities in Asia, Europe and Latin America. Michael also co-founded aidha, an NGO which provides financial education and microfinance opportunities for domestic migrant workers. For his work, he was awarded the Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2007. He has received several Teaching Excellence Awards and was awarded the Inspiring Mentor Award in 2009.

**KWOK Fook Seng**

Chief Negotiator for Climate Change and former Ambassador to the WTO

Ambassador Kwok Fook Seng is Chief Negotiator for Climate Change at the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Kwok was previously the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the World Trade Organisation and the World Intellectual Property Organisation in Geneva from 2011 to 2014. He has also served as Director-General of the ASEAN-Singapore National Secretariat, Deputy High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur, and at the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations in New York. At the Ministry, he has held various portfolios including Malaysia, South Asia, Latin America, and Special Projects related to dispute settlement at International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and at International Court of Justice at The Hague. In 2001, he was Special Assistant to then Foreign Minister Professor S Jayakumar.

Ambassador Kwok graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Communications Studies from Murdoch University in Australia. He also has a Master of Public Management from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore.

**Margaret LIANG**

Adjunct, Senior Fellow, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

Ms Margaret Liang is Associate Trainer for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA); Senior Adjunct Fellow of the Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University Singapore and Senior Fellow of the MFA Diplomatic Academy.

She served as Director (Trade Policy) of the Singapore Trade Development Board and subsequently as Director of the International Economics Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She has served in Singapore Missions in Bonn and in Geneva. She was Singapore's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN/WTO in Geneva from 1999-2002. She has been actively involved in GATT/WTO negotiations since the launch of the Uruguay Round.

From 1985-1992, she was Singapore's negotiator in the Uruguay Round, inter-alia, in the areas of Anti-Dumping, Subsidies and Countervailing Duty Measures, Safeguards, Dispute Settlement, GATT Articles and Government Procurement. Thereafter, she was involved in the negotiations in the run-up to the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth WTO Ministerial Conference in 1996, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2003 and 2005.

Ms Liang has considerable experience in international trade law cases before the GATT/WTO, both as advocate and panelist/Chairman. She was a member of the Singapore team in the WTO dispute settlement case on "Singapore/Malaysia-Import measures on certain petrochemical products."

She was panelist in Chile/EC Import Measures on Dessert Apples; US-EC Import Measures on Dessert Apples; arbitrator in EC-US Section 110(5) of US Copyright Act;

Chairman in Peru-EC Trade Description of Sardines; panelist in US Definitive Safeguards Measures on Imports of Certain Steel products and chairman in Korea: Measures affecting Import of Bovine Meat from Canada.

Her other key WTO appointments included being Chairman of the WTO Working Party on the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement (the Cotonou Agreement) in 2001 and Vice-Chairman of the WTO Committee on Regional Trade Agreements in 2002.

She has contributed to major academic/WTO seminars and conducted WTO Trade Policy courses at the International Development Law Organisation, Sydney, for Temasek Foundation Centre for Trade Negotiations for Asian developing countries, such as in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Mongolia, Abu Dhabi and Timor-Leste and under Singapore's Technical assistance programmes for Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. Ms Liang also conducts in-house training programmes on WTO and other trade-related issues for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Enterprise Singapore, the Monetary Authorities of Singapore and the Singapore Civil Service College.

She was the Academic Coordinator for the WTO Regional Trade Policy Course, for Asia-Pacific, a joint cooperation between the WTO and the National University of Singapore from 2008-2010

### **Gerard MCLINDEN**

Lead Trade Facilitation Specialist  
Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice  
World Bank Group

Gerard McLinden is currently Lead Trade Facilitation Specialist in the World Bank Group's Trade Practice. He is responsible for the design, development and implementation of a wide range of customs, trade facilitation and border management projects and knowledge products.

Gerard also coordinates the Bank Group's trade facilitation related partnerships with key international organizations including the World Customs Organization, UNCTAD, IMF and the OECD and manages the Bank's support for the World Trade Organization's trade facilitation agenda. He has written and presented widely on customs and trade facilitation issues and the implications of the WTO agenda for developing countries.

Prior to joining the World Bank, Gerard worked at the World Customs Organization where he was responsible for the customs reform and modernization program as well as a range of good governance, capacity building and training and technical assistance initiatives. Before joining the WCO, he served as Senior Australian Customs Representative for the Asian region based in Tokyo, Japan. He has extensive experience in all aspects of customs, trade facilitation and border management having worked in the Australian Customs administration for over twenty years in a variety of senior

positions. During this period he worked for three years as the project director for a series of Australian financed customs related development projects in the Asia/Pacific region.

He has worked in over 95 countries for the World Bank, the WCO and the Australian government and has undertaken assignments on behalf of a number of regional and international organizations. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and economics and a master's degree in management as well as an advanced diploma in business process improvement.

### **ONG Keng Yong**

Executive Deputy Chairman, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

Ambassador ONG Keng Yong is Executive Deputy Chairman of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies at the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Concurrently, he is Ambassador-at-Large at the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs, non-resident High Commissioner to Pakistan and non-resident Ambassador to Iran. Mr Ong also serves as Chairman of the Singapore International Foundation (SIF).

Mr Ong was High Commissioner of Singapore to Malaysia from 2011 to 2014. He served as Secretary-General of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), based in Jakarta, Indonesia from January 2003 to January 2008.

Mr Ong started his diplomatic career in 1979 and was posted to the Singapore Embassies in Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and the United States of America. He was Singapore's High Commissioner to India and concurrently Ambassador to Nepal from 1996 to 1998. From September 1998 to December 2002, he was Press Secretary to the then Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Goh Chok Tong. At the same time, Mr Ong held senior appointments in the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts, and the People's Association in Singapore. From 2008 to 2011, he served as Director of the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore.

Mr Ong graduated from the then University of Singapore with a LLB (Hons) and the Georgetown University (Washington DC, USA) with a MA in Arab Studies.

**Michael PULCH**

Ambassador of the European Union to Singapore

Dr Michael Pulch is the European Union Ambassador to Singapore.

Before his arrival in Singapore in September 2013, Dr Pulch headed the Russia Division in the European External Action Service (EEAS) in Brussels, where he coordinated EU policies on Russia and chaired the EU Interservice Group on Russia. Prior to that from 2006 to 2011 he was posted to Beijing as Deputy Chief of Mission of the EU Delegation to China, in charge of EU policies on China and relations with Mongolia.

Dr Pulch entered the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1986, serving in the United Nations Directorate, before he was attached to the German embassy in Seoul as political officer. During his posting to Washington as deputy head of the Economic Section he covered economic aspects of security policy.

In 1995 Dr Pulch joined the US Division of the European Commission in Brussels focusing on US foreign and security policy. From 1999 to 2003, he was posted to the EU Delegation in Tokyo, where he headed the Trade and Commerce Section that defines EU trade policy objectives for Japan. As deputy head of the European Commission's East Asia Division in Brussels until 2006 he worked on political and economic aspects of EU relations with countries in the Far East/Australasia region. He also co-authored the EU's first East Asia Policy Guidelines.

Dr Pulch holds degrees in law and political sciences from the universities of Bonn, Paris and Cambridge. He received honorary citizenships of the State of Tennessee and the City of Little Rock, Arkansas.

He speaks English, German, French and Dutch.

He is married with two children.

**Keith ROCKWELL**

Chief Spokesman, WTO

Since 1996, Keith has been a Director at the World Trade Organization and the spokesman for the organization.

He is responsible for the overall co-ordination of the WTO's interaction with media, civil society, Parliamentarians and the United Nations. As Director of the Media and External Relations Division, Keith works closely with the Director General and his office to fashion messages reflecting the objectives and activities of the WTO. He appears before media regularly through press conferences, briefings and television and radio appearances.

In managing a division of 32 professional and support staff, Keith is responsible for coordinating WTO outreach activities that include the organization of seminars for parliamentarians, journalists and NGOs in developing countries. He has oversight responsibilities as well for the design and layout of the WTO website and publications.

Prior to joining the WTO, Keith worked as an editor, reporter and columnist for The Journal of Commerce, a New York-based financial daily. He focussed on international economic issues, US and European politics. He worked in New York City as the editorial page editor in the early 1980s before transferring to Washington where he was a White House and Congressional correspondent. He covered the 1988 Presidential Campaign. In his last two assignments at the JOC, Keith served as the London-based chief of European Bureaus and as the Washington Bureau Chief.

He received his Masters in Business Administration in International Business from George Washington University in 1991 and his Bachelor's Degree in History and Political Science from Tufts University in 1980. In 1989, he was invited by the European Commission to participate in the EU Visitors Programme during which he spent three weeks studying EU integration and the creation of the Single Market. In 1990 he authored 1992 AND BEYOND: How to Prosper in the World's Biggest Market, which was published by Knight-Ridder Inc.

Keith is a member of the US Council on Foreign Relations and he works very hard at improving his French – with mixed results.

He is married and has three children.

## Appendix III

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

No.	Country	Title	Name	Designation	Organisation
1	Bangladesh	Mr	Mohammed Hasan MAHMUD	Member of Parliament	Bangladesh Parliament
2	Bangladesh	Mr	Kazi Nabil AHMED	Member of Parliament	Bangladesh Parliament
3	Bhutan	Mr	Sonam Dondup DORJEE	Chairperson/Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Bhutan
4	Bhutan	Mr	Kinga TSHERING	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Bhutan
5	Bhutan	Mr	Tashi DORJI	Member of Parliament	National Council of Bhutan
6	Bhutan	Mr	Sangay KHANDU	Member of Parliament	National Council of Bhutan
7	Cambodia	Mr	Sothkun CHHIM	Head of Delegation, Director of Department	Senate of Cambodia
8	Cambodia	Mr	Vireak KOY MALAY	Deputy Director of Department	Senate of Cambodia
9	Hong Kong	Mr	SIN Chung Kai	Member	The Legislative Council, HKSAR
10	Indonesia	Mr	Mohammad NASIH	Member	The People's Consultative Assembly of Indonesia
11	Indonesia	HE Mr	Gusti Farid Hasan AMAN	Senate Member	The House Regional Representative Council of Republic of Indonesia



No.	Country	Title	Name	Designation	Organisation
12	Indonesia	Mr	Shri I Gusti Ngurah Arya WEDAKARNA	Senate Member	The House Regional Representative Council of Republic of Indonesia
13	Indonesia	Mr	Adhityawarman DUDUNG	Staff	The House Regional Representative Council of Republic of Indonesia
14	Lao PDR	Mr	Sisaliao SVENGSUKSA	Member of Parliament	National Assembly
15	Lao PDR	Mr	Sanexay SADETTAN	Head of Legislation and Oversight Division	National Assembly
16	Malaysia	Dato'	Adam ABDUL HAMID	Senator	House of Senate, Parliament of Malaysia
17	Malaysia	Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr	Ibrahim Shah ABU SHAH	Senator	House of Senate, Parliament of Malaysia
18	Malaysia	Dato'	Zainudin HAJI ISMAIL	Member of Parliament	House of Representatives, Parliament of Malaysia
19	Malaysia	Mr	Rozman ISLI	Member of Parliament	House of Representatives, Parliament of Malaysia
20	Malaysia	Mrs	LEE Jing Jing	Secretary of Delegation	Parliament of Malaysia
21	Maldives	Mr	Mohamed MUSTHAFA	Member of Parliament	People's Majlis Secretariat, Male, Maldives
22	Maldives	Mr	Umar HUSSAIN	Member of Parliament	People's Majlis Secretariat, Male, Maldives

No.	Country	Title	Name	Designation	Organisation
23	Mongolia	Mr	Dashdorj TSEDEV	Member of Parliament	State Great Hural of Mongolia
24	Mongolia	Mr	Batkhuu GAVAA	Member of Parliament	State Great Hural of Mongolia
25	Mongolia	Ms	Bayaraa Temuulen	Interpreter	Embassy of Mongolia
26	Myanmar	Mr	Win MYINT	Member of Parliament	Myanmar Parliament
27	Myanmar	Mr	Win OO	Member of Parliament	Myanmar Parliament
28	Myanmar	Dr	Mya OO	Member of Parliament	Amyotha Hluttaw
29	Myanmar	Mr	Soe WIN	Member of Parliament	Amyotha Hluttaw
30	Pakistan	Mr	Muhammad Mueen WATTO	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Pakistan
31	Pakistan	Mr	Muhammad Arif CHAUDARY	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Pakistan
32	Pakistan	Mr	Mohsin AZIZ	Senator	Senate of Pakistan
33	Pakistan	Mr	Mian Muhammad Atique SHEIKH	Senator	Senate of Pakistan
34	Pakistan	Mr	Shaukat ALI	Secretary	National Assembly of Pakistan

No.	Country	Title	Name	Designation	Organisation
35	Papua New Guinea	Mr	Johnson TUKE	Member of Parliament	Parliament House
36	Papua New Guinea	Mr	Jeffery KOMAL	Member of Parliament	Parliament House
37	Philippines	Mr	Ronald R. GOLDING	Director-General, Senate Economic Planning Office	Senate of the Philippines
38	Chinese Taipei	Mr	WU Yu-Jen	Legislator	The Legislative Yuan Chinese Taipei
39	Chinese Taipei	Mr	HSU Tain-Tsair	Legislator	The Legislative Yuan Chinese Taipei
40	Timor-Leste	Mr	Antoninho BIANCO	Member of Parliament	National Parliament
41	Timor-Leste	Mrs	Izilda Manuela DA LUZ PEREIRA SOARES	Member of Parliament	National Parliament of Timor-Leste
42	Timor-Leste	Ms	Margarida RODRIGUES	Advisor	National Parliament of Timor-Leste
43	Vietnam	Mr	NGUYEN Quang Min	Senior Expert of Foreign Affairs Department	National Assembly Office of Vietnam
44	Vietnam	Mrs	BUI Thi THUY Linh	Senior Expert of Foreign Affairs Department	National Assembly Office of Vietnam