



## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on International Trade and Investment**

**'Financial Crisis and Trade and Investment in Developing Countries'**  
**24-26 October 2012, Le Meridien Hotel, Mauritius**

**Organized by the University of Mauritius (UoM) and the WTO Chairs Programme (WCP)**

Over the past decade, many developing countries, especially from Africa, have enjoyed sustained growth. However, the financial turmoil, originating in the developed world in August 2007, has since spread to developing countries, including those from Africa, rendering the latter vulnerable to the secondary effects of the global financial crisis. Though, the limited depth and low integration of their financial systems with the advanced markets appeared to be sheltering them from the direct transmission of the crisis, many developing countries, proved to be vulnerable to trade linkages and to the disruption of the trade finance accompanying the financial crisis. In addition, the evidence reveals that remittance flows have contracted, foreign direct investment has decreased and private sector financing has been restricted.

The impact of the financial crisis has only contributed to make matters worse because one should not forget that it coincided with a period of highly volatile commodity prices and exchange rates. The combination of these two phenomenon has led to increased uncertainty and strengthened the vicious circle of falling trade flows and investment which unfortunately has started to restrain developing countries' development perspectives which unfortunately are likely to stall and reverse many years of efforts by developing and least developing countries to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

As such, the second international Conference on **International Trade and Investment** with the theme **'Financial Crisis and Trade and Investment in Developing Countries'** aims at providing a forum not only to academics working on issues related to Africa and developing countries but also to policy makers from the region where they could discuss

the impact of the financial crisis on trade and investment flows to and within the region and find ways and means to alleviate the negative impact and any further potential disastrous effect of such a crisis. In addition, it is expected that discussions will also centre around buttressing development and poverty-reduction efforts globally, particularly in developing countries, and on establishing the necessary ingredients to avert future crises and facilitate a sustainable process of economic transformation for all countries

The 2<sup>nd</sup> UoM-WCP (ICITI2012) conference will also provide academics and policy makers with an opportunity to get acquainted with the latest thinking in international trade, investment, aid, regional integration, trade competitiveness, climate change, labour market issues and poverty.

The conference thus invites conceptual, empirical research presentations, and country context case studies which should enable academics and practitioners to understand the implications and effects of the financial crisis on trade and investment in developing economies. Delegates are invited to present completed research projects and/or work in progress. Submissions and presentations must address both the theoretical and practical implications of the findings.

Parallel tracks of refereed presentations will enable authors to obtain constructive feedback on their study. Furthermore, the innovation of this year's event will be the holding of a half day round table which will regroup academics, policy makers and Ministers from the region. Finally, in addition to a high quality and enriching research experience, we will also provide delegates with the opportunity to explore the beautiful island of Mauritius.

### **About WTO Chairs Programme**

The WTO Chairs Programme (WCP) seeks to enhance knowledge and understanding of the trading system among academics, citizens and policy makers in developing countries by stimulating teaching, research and public debate on international trade and trade cooperation at the level of tertiary education and research institutions.

The WTO provides financial support for a period of four years to academic institutions (The University of Mauritius being one), and facilitates continuous interaction between institutions, ministries, civil society, private sector, students and academics. It also supports academic institutions and associated individual scholars from developing countries in the following areas: course preparation, teaching, research and information dissemination. The ultimate objective of the WTO Chairs Programme is to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of universities from developing countries to support governments in the formulation of sound trade policies. One of the main objectives of WCP

is to promote research focused on extending specialized knowledge and explaining the policy relevance of existing research.

### **Call for Papers**

The organizing committee invites abstract submission (Max 300 words) from researchers and practitioners in the field of international trade, finance and investment. All abstracts should be formatted to facilitate the review process. Author's names and details, including names of all co-authors plus affiliations and addresses for general correspondence (including email address) of each author, and a brief personal profile (maximum 100 words) of the presenter, should appear on a separate cover page. In submitting an abstract, at least one author undertakes to attend the conference if the final paper is accepted. In addition, one author should not have more than two submissions, either a single or a co author. All submissions should be forwarded via email (as a word.doc attachment) at [rvsan@uom.ac.mu](mailto:rvsan@uom.ac.mu) and [v.tandrayen@uom.ac.mu](mailto:v.tandrayen@uom.ac.mu). Researchers are encouraged to register upon acceptance of their abstract.

Authors of accepted abstracts will need to submit the completed paper (maximum 5,000 words) by September 15, 2012 for inclusion in the Conference proceedings (ISSN 169412225), subject to a blind review. Selected papers may be considered for possible publications in the *The World Economy* and *African Development Review*.

Preference will be given to those submissions which indicate a clear contribution to the present body of theoretical knowledge in international trade and investment. In particular, for the 2012 Edition, we welcome papers addressing, but not limited to the following themes:

- Financial Crisis and International Trade
- Financial Crisis, International Investment and Capital Flows
- Financial Crisis and ODA
- Globalisation and Developing Countries
- Macroeconomic Policies and Financial Crisis
- Trade and Sustainable development
- Trade and Food Security
- Trade, Governance and Economic Development
- Aid for Trade
- Trade Barriers and NTMs
- Competition Policy and Trade Liberalisation
- Trade in Services
- Regional Trade Agreements
- Trade and the Labour Market Dynamics

- Trade, Gender and Poverty Alleviation
- International Trade and Finance Services Law

**Abstract Submission Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

**Notification of Acceptance (Abstract): 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

**Submission of Full Paper: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012**

**Notification of Acceptance (Full paper): 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012**

**Deadline for Early Bird Registration: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

**Latest Deadline for Registration: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

### **Conference Fees**

Early Registration (by 15 <sup>th</sup> September , 2012):	US \$200
Normal Registration (by 30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2012):	US \$250
Student Registration: (by 30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2012):	US \$150

For more information on the conference, please visit our website <http://sites.uom.ac.mu/wtochair/>

**Keynote Speakers:** We are delighted to announce that we will have plenary sessions on each day.

**Organising Committee:** Dr R. V. Sannasee (Co-Conference Chair), Dr B. Seetanah (Co-Conference Chair), Dr V. Tandrayen-Ragoobur (Co-Conference Chair), Dr B. Nowbutsing, Mr M. Lamport, and Dr H. Kasseeah

**Scientific Committee:** Prof. David Greenaway (University of Nottingham), Prof. Tony Venables (University of Oxford), Prof. Chris Milner (University of Nottingham), Prof. Oliver Morrissey (University of Nottingham), Prof. Desire Venkatachelum (African Development Bank), Prof. Olivier Cadot (Universite de Lausanne), Prof. Satish Chand (University of South Wales), Prof. Taleb Awad (University of Jordan), Prof. Jan Priewe (HTW-Berlin), Prof Sebastian Dullien (HTW-Berlin), Prof. John Anyanwu (African Development Bank), Prof. Chris Brooks (University of Reading), Prof Mike Morris (University of Cape Town), Prof Daniela Prates (UNICAM), Prof Yang Laike (East China Normal University) and Prof Manoj Pant (JNU), Mr Sven Callebaut (Senior Trade Policy Adviser), Dr Sunil Boodhoo (International Trade Division, Mauritius), Dr Sawkut Rojid (World Bank), Dr Myriam Velia (Uni of K Natal, S Africa), Dr Charles Abuka (Bank of Uganda), Mr U Subadar (UoM).