

**WTO/ESCAP Second ARTNeT
Capacity Building Workshop on
Trade Research,
17-21 April 2006**

**Developing Countries in the
Trading System**

Trade, Development and the WTO

- Why accept international constraints on national policies?
 - Terms of trade
 - Advantages of reciprocity
 - Lower transactions costs
 - More symmetric information
 - Predictability, security of access
 - Rule of law
 - Discipline at home
-

Developing Countries and GATT/WTO

□ A brief history:

- Phase 1 (up to 1973)
 - Phase 2 (the Tokyo Round, 1973-79)
 - Phase 3 (1980 to 1995)
 - Phase 4 (post-1995)
-

Components of Special and Differential Treatment

- ❑ Market access for exports
 - ❑ Increased flexibility to restrict imports
 - ❑ Additional freedom to subsidize exports
 - ❑ Postponing application of rules
 - ❑ Technical assistance and capacity building
-

S&D: Where do we go next?

- Current impasses
 - Can we distinguish between core obligations and others?
 - Resource-intensity and development-relevance of some rules
 - Phase-in?
 - Opt-in, opt-out?
 - Soft law and consultation processes?
 - How to address graduation
-

S&D: Current Negotiations

- Category I and Category II proposals
 - Implementation proposals
 - Horizontal issues, monitoring mechanism
 - LDC decisions
 - Waivers
 - Duty-free quota-free market access, rules of origin
 - TRIMS
 - Technical assistance
 - Consistent conditionality
-