African Trade Blocks: Challenges and Prospects
8-9 August 2011

DAY 1
Monday 8th August 2011

0800hrs – 0900hrs: Registration of Participants and Distribution of Forum Material

0900hrs – 0910hrs: Welcome Remarks by the Executive Director, trapca, Mr. Peter Kiuluku

Session one: Dynamics in regional trade agreements

Session Chair: Germina Ssemogerere

0910 hrs – 0935 hrs: Francis Mangeni, COMESA, Regional Integration in COMESA: State of Play and Challenges

0935 hrs – 0955 hrs: Discussants: Godwell Nhamo and James Otieno-Odek


1020 hrs – 1045 hrs: Discussant: Philip Alege

1045 hrs – 1110 hrs: Wumi Olayiwola, ECOWAS, Regional Integration in ECOWAS: State of play and challenges

1110 hrs – 1140 hrs: Plenary

1140 hrs – 1200 hrs: TEA/COFFEE BREAK

1200 hrs -1225 hrs: James Gathii, Albany School of Law, The Neo-Liberal Turn in Regional Trade Agreements

1225 hrs – 1250 hrs: Discussants: Wumi Olayiwola and Ena Kameni

1250 hrs – 1320 hrs: Plenary

1320hrs- 1450hrs LUNCH
**Session two: BITs and RTAs**

**Session Chair:** Simon Ngona

1450 hrs – 1515 hrs: Uche Uwelukwa Arkansas School of Law, *Africa-China Investment Agreements: Trends, Tricks and Traps – implications for broader Africa-South Economic Cooperation*

1515 hrs – 1540 hrs: **Discussant:** Joakim Gullstrand

1540hrs – 1605hrs: Rafael Leal-Arcas, Queen Mary University, *Proliferation of Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements: Complementing or Supplanting Multilateralism*

1605 hrs – 1630 hrs: **Discussant:** James Gathii

1630 hrs – 1700 hrs: Plenary

1700 hrs – 1720 hrs: Book Launch: *African Regional Trade Agreements as Legal Regimes*, Cambridge University Press by James Thuo Gathii, July 2011,

---

**DAY 3**

Tuesday, 9th August 2011

**Session three: Exchange Rate Dynamics and Trade Outcomes**

**Session Chair:** Roberto Rios Herran

0900 hrs – 0925 hrs: Ronald Mangani University of Malawi, *Exchange Rate Sensitivity of the Trade Balance: Evidence from Malawi*

0925 hrs – 0950hrs: **Discussant:** Nichodemus Rudaheranwa

0950 hrs – 1015 hrs: Philip Alege, Covenant University, *Exchange Rate Policy and Africa’s Foreign Trade: A panel co-integration Analysis*

1015 hrs – 1040 hrs: **Discussant:** Joy Kiuru

1040 hrs – 1110 hrs: Plenary

1110 hrs – 1130hrs **TEA BREAK**

**Session four: Multilateral Arrangements and Institutions**

**Session Chair:** Anthonia Achike

1130hrs – 1155 hrs: Nicholas Sabwa, CMA *Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture and Doha Round Agreement on Agriculture Negotiations*

1155hrs – 1220 hrs: **Discussant:** Chandrakant Patel
1220hrs – 1245 hrs: Evans Osabuohien, Covenant University, *Trade Outcomes in Africa’s Regional Economic Communities and Institutional Framework: Some Policy prescriptions*

1245hrs – 1310hrs: Discussant: Francis Mangeni

1310 hrs – 1340 hrs: Plenary

1340hrs – 1500hrs **LUNCH**

*Session five: Bilateral Arrangements and Regional Integration Initiatives*

*Session Chair: Joakim Gullstrand*


1525hrs – 1550hrs: Discussant: Agu Chukwuma

1550 hrs – 1615 hrs: Enga Kameni, *EPA negotiations between the EU and the Central sub-region: Grounds for cautious optimism*

1615 hrs – 1640 hrs: Discussant: Roberto Rios Herran

1640 hrs – 1710 hrs: Plenary

1710 hrs: Closing Remarks by Academic Director Prof. Gote Hansson