

Economic Integration: Shape of FTAA

QUESTION

What will a final FTAA look like? How deep will it go? Will it be like NAFTA?

SUGGESTED REPLY

- The FTAA will be balanced, comprehensive, consistent with WTO rules, and will constitute a single undertaking (meaning that signatories will take on the full package of obligations).
- The FTAA will co-exist with bilateral and sub-regional agreements such as the NAFTA, to the extent that the rights and obligations under these agreements are not covered by or go beyond the rights and obligations of the FTAA.
- While the final FTAA package has not been established, Ministers have agreed that negotiations will be held in the following areas for which they have established negotiating groups: market access; investment; services; government procurement; dispute settlement; agriculture; intellectual property rights; subsidies, antidumping & countervailing duties; and, competition policy.