

in the DDA, there is no single, rigid "bloc" view held in common by all developed or developing countries. Different regions and different countries pursue their interests in a variety of ways, including through like-minded groupings that cut across North-South lines (e.g. for trade facilitation and for fair agricultural trade).

Among the concerns put on the DDA table are the long-term security of food supply at affordable prices should the European Union and the United States eventually cut farm export subsidies; the difficulty faced by smaller countries in participating in meetings and negotiations, both formal and informal; WTO constraints on trade-related investment measures (e.g. tax breaks conditional on export) and other policies favoured for economic development; and what many developing countries see as increasingly intrusive demands by developed countries for better governance, protection of the environment, respect for labour and human rights, and other factors contributing to sustainable development.

Another factor that is harder to weigh but is clearly significant in determining the trade policy of many developing countries is the matter of vested interests. If trade restrictions (tariffs or quotas) have created distortions in some areas of world trade (e.g. clothing, bananas, sugar), trade preferences have created vested interests in maintaining those distortions. For instance, developing countries with a preferential access quota to a protected market get to share in the economic rent generated by the protection; it may be rather more lucrative for them to continue to accept restrictions (as long as they get their share!) than to press for liberalization—and the heightened competition it brings from other exporters. This naturally has its counterpart in importing countries: importers of goods whose import is effectively limited (e.g. by tariff rate quotas) usually reap higher profits thanks to the rents, and have as much of a vested interest in maintaining restrictions as the industries or sectors that are the intended beneficiaries of protection.

There is a new emphasis on substantial investments in developing economies to address supply-side constraints and allow them to reap the benefits of improved access abroad. This manifests itself through the intended articulation of trade considerations with