



– CALL FOR REGISTRATION –

It is our pleasure to announce the Annual Conference 2011 of the Trade Standards Practitioners Network (TSPN):

**"Standards in South-South Trade  
and Opportunities for Advancing the Sustainability Agenda"**

**on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011  
in Washington DC in the World Bank Building.**

The enhanced South-South economic integration leads to growing interest in regional harmonization and equivalence among trade standards. In order to judge the role of standards in South-South trade regarding their potential development benefit, the conference will draw a detailed picture, taking the diversity of products traded and the spatial heterogeneity of trade flow into account, and explore the related impacts, potentials, and limitations of standards. A focus will be put on the drivers of standardization and harmonization, co-regulation in the timber sector, and the specific perspective of small and medium enterprises.

The TSPN is an international network of multilateral agencies, bilateral organizations, research institutes, NGOs, and other practitioners in the field of sustainability standards. Bringing together the know-how of all members, our mission is to better enable developing countries to take advantage of and participate more effectively in standard-based markets.

The conference, together with the member meeting, is the major annual event of the Network. It will not only guarantee for versatile professional discussion on the South-South trade topic; it also provides the opportunity to personally connect with representatives from diverse stakeholders in the standards field from all over the world.

**APPLY NOW!**

For **registration**, please use the form at [the TSPN 2011 Conference web page](#).

Please add your name to the file name and send it to [info@tradestandards.org](mailto:info@tradestandards.org) until the end of October. There is no participation fee.

**GET INVOLVED!**

At the **market place**, conference participants will have the opportunity to present what is relevant to their work in the context of South-South trade, e.g. projects, studies, or lessons learned. If you would like to contribute with an exposition stand, please contact us soon.

Please feel free to disseminate this invitation to your colleagues or other interested parties. We want to increase the engagement of standards practitioners from developing countries in TSPN therefore especially encourage the attendance and involvement of your partners from the South. For those who cannot make it to Washington in person there will be an option for online participation.

For further information, please go to [the TSPN 2011 Conference web page](#). (<http://www.tradestandards.org/en/Article.299.aspx>)