Future prospects for FTAs in the Asia-Pacific region

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Markets

• Fundamental change in structure of international trade
• “Vertical specialisation”, “production sharing”, “trade in tasks”, “supply chain trade”...
• Asia-Pacific – including Americas, Oceania - at the forefront of change
• Redefines nature of trade relations
• Momentum toward deeper regional integration
Governments

Trends:

• Convergence (CER + AFTA = AANZFTA)
• Regionalisation (AANZFTA, TPP, FTAAP, RCEP)
• Quality
Issues

• Scope of the agenda – especially in the regulatory space
• Further development and improvement – the “living agreement” challenge
• Ambition and management