

Future prospects for FTAs in the Asia-Pacific region

Mark Sinclair

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