



Noel Brown
Board of Directors



Trust for the Americas, Organization of American States

Global Trade is likely to be a dominant feature of the economics of the 21st century and a rule-based system will inevitably result, providing the necessary frame works for order, fairness and recourse.

The decision of leaders of the recent Summit of the Americas to consider the establishment of a "free trade zone" stretching from the Arctic to the Antarctic and including some 600 million people can only add scope and momentum to this process.

The challenge now however, is how to stay abreast of these trends with the necessary knowledge, skills and capacity required to facilitate the effective performance of the system and ensure that the rules are applied equitably and consistently.

The proposed World Trade University is an immediate and direct response to this challenge. Its timing could not have been more propitious and its possibilities more welcome.

It is a vision worthy of the broadest support as it will undoubtedly add to global learning, capacity building and skills enhancement.

Noel Brown