

Observatory on Latin America

Policy Research Conference

“Food, Energy, and Social Justice in Latin America”

November 10, 2008

The New School
Lang Student Center

55 West 13th Street
New York

Program

Session I

9:30 am: Welcome

Dr. Michael Cohen, Director, Observatory on Latin America

9:40 am: Opening Remarks: “Food and Energy in an Environmental Context”

Dr. Joseph Westphal, Provost and Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs,
The New School

10:00 am: “Chinese and East Asian Demand for Commodities: the Coming Skids Marks!”

Dr. Deepak Bhattasali, Lead Economist, East Asia and Pacific Region, The
World Bank

Chaired by **Dr. Michael Cohen**

Session II

10:30 am: "Food or Bio-fuels in Latin America? Real Choices or False Tradeoffs?"

Dr. Oscar Tangelson, Director, Instituto de Planeamiento Estratégico para el Desarrollo Económico y Social (IPEDES), and former, Secretary of Economic Policy, Ministry of Economy, Government of Argentina

Presentation and Discussion

11:30 am: Coffee Break

11:45 am: "Food, biofuels and social inequality in Mexico"

Dra. Michelle Chauvet-Sánchez, Professor. Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana Mexico

Presentation and Discussion

12:30 pm: "Food, Energy and Social Justice in Brazil"

Dr. John Wilkinson, Professor, Rural Federal University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Presentation and Discussion

Chaired by **Prof. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr**, The New School, former director of the UNDP Human Development Reports

1:15-2:30 pm: Lunch Break

Session III

2:30 pm: "The Social Impacts of Rising Prices in Latin America"

Dr. Bernardo Kliksberg, Senior Advisor for Latin America, UNDP

3:00 pm: "The View of Civil Society"

Alberto Croce, Director, Fundación SES

Prof. Alberto Minujín, Commentary

Presentation and Discussion

Chaired by **Dr. Margarita Gutman**, The New School

Session IV

4:15 pm: "The Impact on Latin America of Policy Decisions in the United States"

Dr. Sean Costigan, Director, Program on Environmental Security, Zurich Center for Security Studies and Adjunct Faculty, The New School

Presentation and Discussion

5:00 pm: Roundtable discussion

Speakers

Session V

5:45 pm: Closing Remarks

Dr. Michael Cohen