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GTAP Advisory Board Members,
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Subject: activity report

economics
Volkswirtschaftslehre

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Dear Board Members,

I am writing in my capacity as the at-large member of the board to report on my GTAP-related activities (with colleagues) in the past year. I will be brief, but am happy to entertain questions by email or telephone if clarification is needed.

- (1) Extension of the GTAP database to include FSU republics: We are coordinating an EU-funded initiative (run through Kiel) to develop GTAP-compatible databases for the former Soviet Republics (Georgia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, etc.) These are being supplied to the Center on a flow basis, and we hope to have all countries supplied in time for the first public release.
- (2) Development of ATC quota estimates: We completed a project involving the development of inequality constrained least-squares estimation of NTBs in a gravity framework (working paper attached). We have used this framework to estimate the tariff equivalents of the ATC quotas, and these estimates have been incorporated in the GTAP 7 database (current pre-release).
- (3) Training: A post-doc workshop was held through CEPR (London) on GAMS-based modeling with the GTAP database. This will be extended to a full training module (roughly one week of material) over the next year. A similar workshop was also held as part of the EU-funded program on modeling trade policy in the FSU republics.
- (4) Policy Modeling: Policy modeling in the past year has included analysis for DG Trade, the ADB, and national governments, of various regional and bilateral trade agreements.
- (5) Moving: Finally, I am moving to Austria this Summer. My new coordinates are listed at the top of this memo.

With best regards,

Joseph Francois