



INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

SPECIAL OFFICE IN EUROPE

INTEGRATION AND REGIONAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT
INSTITUTE FOR THE INTEGRATION OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), through the Special Office in Europe and the Integration and Regional Programs Department (through the Institute for the Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean (INTAL) and the Integration, Trade and Hemispheric Issues Division) launched in October 2002 the Euro-Latin Study Network on Integration and Trade. The main objectives of the Network are to generate research, studies and debate on integration and trade issues relevant to Latin America and the Caribbean, draw on the rich European experience, and increase interaction between European and Latin American researchers.

We would hereby like to invite you to participate at the *First Annual Conference of the Euro-Latin Study Network on Integration and Trade* that will take place in Barcelona, Spain, on November 6-7, 2003. The conference will be hosted by the Center for Research in International Economics (CREI) from Barcelona, under the sponsorship and co-organization of the IDB Special Office in Europe and Integration and Regional Programs Department through the Institute for the Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean in Buenos Aires.

The conference will discuss the papers selected through a call for papers launched in January 2003, on the basis of a decision by the Network's Steering Committee comprising the IDB, the Center for Research in International Economics (CREI), Barcelona, Spain, the Kiel Institute for World Economics (KIEL), Kiel, Germany, and the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies of the European University Institute (RSCAS), Florence, Italy. The topics identified for the call for papers were: first, macroeconomic dimensions of regional integration, second, European Union enlargement and adjustment policies during the transition, and third, the impact of regional integration on economic convergence and growth. Each of the three topics will be covered by a half-day session at the conference. The sessions are being coordinated, respectively, by the three centers as mentioned above. Each paper will be commented upon by an invited Latin American expert. The working language of the conference is English. A preliminary agenda of the conference is attached.

Most conference participants are staying at the Park Hotel, Av. Marques de l'Argentera 11 in Barcelona (Tel. + 34 933 196 000; Fax +34 933 194 519) The hotel is close to the conference venue.

We would like to kindly request that you respond to this invitation by contacting Karen Ortega (kareno@contractual.iadb.org).

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

Carlo Binetti
Special Representative in Europe
IDB

Juan José Taccone
Director
Institute for the Integration of Latin
America and the Caribbean
IDB

Attachment