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Introduction: Biotechnology, Food, and Agriculture Disputes or Food Safety and International Trade

Henry T. King Jr.

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Our next session is a very timely session, one in which there has been a lot of interest. It is Biotechnology, Food, and Agriculture Disputes or Food Safety and International Trade. Our first speaker is a long-time friend of mine, Shirley Coffield. She is a former Assistant General Counsel of the USTR. She has been involved in trade matters for many, many years; first on the government side of the issue, then on the private sector side. She is a graduate of Willamette College and the University of Wisconsin with an M.A. and a J.D. with honors from George Washington University. She is a friend of the Institute. She has been here before. She likes to come to Cleveland, for which I say hurrah.

Sergio Frechette is with Thomas & Partners in Ottawa. He has had a brilliant career with the Trade Ministry in Canada, and he has got an illustrious educational background. He has a B.C.L. from the Faculty of Law from the University of Ottawa. He has studied international economic and developing programs at its Institut de Coopération et de Development and he has taken post-graduate courses at McGill University and École des Hautes-Études Commerciales. We are honored to have him here today.