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### **ANNOUNCING BRIDGES WEEKLY TRADE NEWS DIGEST SPECIAL ISSUE**

BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest and BRIDGES Between Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD's printed monthly review) are publishing a special summary report on government positions on issues discussed during the WTO Ministerial Meeting in May which will shortly be distributed to all BRIDGES subscribers. It will also be made available through ICTSD's and IATP's websites.

For reports on NGO activities during the Ministerial, see BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest No. 19, 25th May 1998, on ICTSD's web-site at <http://www.ictsd.org>

### **EMISSIONS LIMITS NOT AN OPTION FOR DEVELOPING NATIONS**

At the June 2 - 12 Meeting of the Subsidiary Bodies of the 1992 U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), developing countries again rejected any consideration of emissions limits for developing countries. The Group of 77 (G-77) and China, representing more than 100 developing countries, issued a statement at the Bonn Subsidiary Body meeting, in advance of the November 1998 Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, where a review of commitments made under the UNFCCC will be held. The Group statement said that the Buenos Aires meeting "must not be distracted from carrying out that review ... by the introduction of any extraneous matters such as the consideration of new commitments," on emissions limits for developing nations.

The U.S. responded to this statement by saying it was important to reevaluate the countries which should be bound to reducing emissions of greenhouse gasses under the 1992 Convention, especially since a number of developing countries have become "nearly industrialized" since the 1992 agreement was made. A Saudi Arabian official responded to this by pointing out that the issue of developing countries accepting emissions limitations had been settled at the 1997 Kyoto meeting, where the idea was rejected. Chinese officials further added that "The position of the G-77 and China is clear: no new

commitments in whatever guise or disguise . . . [Industrialized countries must bear the burden of greenhouse emissions reduction] because they have to pay to the Earth the debt they owed since the Industrial Revolution."

Meanwhile, the European Commission (EC) on June 8 outlined a proposal for implementing an international trading regime in greenhouse gas allowances. A system for trading in greenhouse gasses was established under the December 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The Kyoto Protocol requires industrial nations to collectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 5.2 percent below 1990 levels by 2008-2012. The protocol allows countries to meet some of their reductions by purchasing unused greenhouse gas allowances from other industrialized nations.

The EC proposal calls for a ceiling on the amount of allowances that could be used to reach emissions reduction commitments. "We believe that the domestic actions should provide the main means for meeting the commitment," according to the proposal. However, the proposal does not clearly define what the emissions trading ceiling would be. It also called for intra-EU trade in emissions allowances to be considered a domestic effort and therefore exempt from any ceiling.

The U.S. has proposed that there be no limit on the use of emissions- allowance purchases in meeting emissions targets. "International emissions trading will be more effective in achieving emissions reduction at lowest costs if there are no restrictions on the quantity of [unused allowances] able to be transferred or acquired to contribute to compliance" with Kyoto Protocol emissions targets, according to the U.S. proposal for emissions trading.

Greenpeace and the Climate Network Europe criticized the EC proposal, arguing that "A ceiling or cap would help focus attention on domestic action by limiting activities such as the buying of another countries 'hot air'."

In related news, on Monday, despite a plea from the U.S. delegation for tough action on pollution and global warming, environment ministers of 18 Pacific Rim countries have been unable to produce a specific plan beyond more studies and consultations.

"Developing countries reject possibility of emission limits in 1992 treaty review;" "EU, U.S. offer differing proposals on international emissions trading regime;" "Commission outlines 'step-by-step' plan for emissions trading under Kyoto protocol," INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT REPORTER, June 10, 1998; 98.06.15-20:43 "APEC Makes Little Progress on Climate Treaty" IPS, June 15, 1998.

## **WTO ENVIRONMENTAL SUBSIDIES FRAMEWORK COMPLETED**

The WTO Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Committee June 2 completed a framework for environmental, regional and research and development (R& D) subsidy programs. The mechanism, which allows certain subsidies aiming at environmental protection, regional subsidies and subsidies for research and development, is now fully operational. The Committee also established a binding arbitration mechanism to review member-country complaints regarding the so-called "non-actionable" class of subsidies.

Under Article 8 of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, subsidies established for research and development activities, for helping disadvantaged regions within a member-country or for helping an existing enterprise adapt to new environmental requirements, may be called "non-

actionable," and thus protected from dispute settlement or countervailing-duty actions. Article 8.5 of the same agreement prohibits government subsidies contingent on export performance and/or which cause injury to a domestic industry in another member-country.

The framework agreed to last week formally puts in place a binding arbitration mechanism through which challenges to "non-actionable" subsidies would be facilitated. The process will mirror the dispute settlement system, with binding decisions and a panel consisting of three arbitrators appointed by consensus of the parties involved.

"WTO completes framework for environmental, regional and R&D subsidies," WTO, June 3, 1998; "WTO agreement reached on environmental subsidies," INTERNATIONAL TRADE REPORTER, June 10, 1998.

### **EU WRANGLES OVER LOMÉ, BANS FISH IMPORTS, EXPRESSES VIEW ON ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF TRADE**

The EU Council of Ministers met June 8-9 in Luxembourg to work out a mandate for upcoming negotiations for the Lomé V agreement with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. This agreement will be the successor to Lomé IV which expires in 2000 and must be replaced with a pact or pacts that meet WTO rules, which preclude the present Lomé Convention's system of trade preferences and a five-year aid package currently worth US\$16.2 billion dollars.

EU Ministers, who were unable last week to come up with an agreement on the post-Lomé IV negotiating mandate, were divided over whether or not free-trade agreements with regional groups should begin in 2002 or be phased in by 2005. France, Italy, Spain and Portugal want the longer phase in period, while Germany and the Nordic countries are pushing for a more rapid transition. Voices in the U.K. have called the European Commission (EC) proposal "immoral" and "unacceptable" (see BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest No. 21).

Also very divisive is the issue over a number of specific protocols between the EU and ACP countries, most notably the EU banana import regime. Here, too, the issue seems to be more moral than macroeconomic for EU members who favour keeping the banana regime largely in place. The WTO ruled last year that the current EU banana import regime violates global trade rules by discriminating in favor of imports from four Latin American countries (namely, Costa Rica, Colombia, Venezuela and Nicaragua) and from African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) nations, against all other producers.

The reform proposal put forward by the EC would keep the existing 2.2 million-ton tariff rate quota (TRQ) at 75 ECUs per ton, and adds a 353,000-ton quota at 300 ECUs per ton to account for EU expansion. ACP producers would also receive technical and financial assistance to help them compete with the low-cost Latin American producers.

EU members led by France and the U.K. wish to maintain market access for ACP banana producers who cannot yet compete effectively against the large low-cost multinational producers like Chiquita or Dole out of Central America. A number of EU countries led by Germany want to bring more competitive banana prices to European consumers and have called for an overhaul of the regime, preferably based on a tariff-only scheme.

Banana producing economies like the Windward Islands face financial ruin should they lose a substantial part of the EU banana quota. Critics of the EC proposal say it merely enables less-competitive banana producers to remain so, with no real incentive to improve production practices.

Meanwhile, the EU is said to have effectively banned fish imports from Kenya and other East African countries in a move likely to cripple the multi-million shilling fishing industry in the region. As of July and until February, only 32 countries will be allowed to export fish to the EU market according to a Food and Agriculture Organisation newsletter.

Also last week, the EU issued its response to a WTO Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) paper outlining the environmental benefits-especially to the least developed countries - of removing trade restrictions and distortions. The response statement said that the EU "supports the point made that the removal of trade restrictions and distortions is rarely synonymous with unambiguous improvements in environmental quality per se: there may be positive effects but they are not automatic ... In developing countries, for example, [agricultural] trade liberalization and the resulting price changes could, under certain conditions, lead to an intensification of production and soil degradation particularly if, as mentioned in the Secretariat's Note, production shifts from food crops to export crops."

"EU ministers' debate shows split on replacement for Lomé Convention," INTERNATIONAL TRADE REPORTER, June 10, 1998; "Comment la banane a divisé l'Europe," LE FIGARO, June 9, 1998; "EU Response to Trade and Environment Committee Paper on Benefits of Trade Liberalization," WTO, June 10, 1998; "European Union Bans Fish From Eastern Africa", PANAFRICAN NEWS AGENCY, June 15, 1998.

## **TOURISM: THE NEXT DEVELOPMENT FRONTIER**

The U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) last week held an expert meeting focusing on ways to strengthen the tourism sector in developing countries. Tourism is the only major sector in international trade in services that has experienced consistent surpluses, with positive balances in developing countries travel accounts having grown from US\$6 billion in 1980 to US\$62.2 in 1996. At present developing countries account for 30 percent of world tourism receipts. UNCTAD Secretary-General Rubens Ricupero last week indicated that tourism could replace the traditional textile and apparel sectors - which are hampered by excessive competition and restricted market access - as a launching pad for economic growth in developing countries.

The UNCTAD meeting, attended by experts from over 50 countries, focused on ways to encourage developing countries to actively participate in multilateral negotiations on trade in services in order to improve market access and export earnings in tourism-related services. The need for coherent and consistent policies in the tourism and air transport sectors was also discussed: air transport - as part of the General Agreement on Trade and Services, is scheduled to come up for negotiations in 2000.

Tunisia's Minister of Tourism Slaheddine Maaoui noted that developing countries' significant dependence on large tour operators from developed countries has hindered developing countries' bargaining power, resulting in price decreases and lower quality services. Mr. Maaoui said developing countries should work together to develop a policy that would help preserve the interests of weaker partners against large tourism companies.

In related news, the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) last week established a conference of tourism ministers, which will attempt to coordinate the tourism sector among its seven

member countries. The conference will also seek to harmonize tourism legislation between CPLP countries. CPLP members include Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, and Sao Tome and Principe.

Meanwhile, the minister of tourism for the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh said the state government would soon announce a tourism policy. This plan would build upon previous tourism policies, positioning Andhra Pradesh as "the destination state for tourism in the Asia Pacific region." The plan is also expected to build on the dramatic increase in the 1997-98 tourism budget, which increased to about US\$10 million up from US\$250,000 in 1996-97.

"Developing countries could target tourism to boost economic growth," UNCTAD PRESS RELEASE, June 9, 1998; "AP tourism policy soon, to spend over Rs 90 crore," ECONOMIC TIMES, June 14, 1998; "Portuguese-speaking countries form tourism body," PANAFRICAN NEWS AGENCY, June 4, 1998.

### **ETHICAL TRADING INITIATIVE LAUNCHED**

The first independently accredited global standard for ethical sourcing was launched last week in London at Intrade 98, an international trade fair. The U.S.-based Council on Economic Priorities developed the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI), with participation from a number of retail associations, non-governmental organizations and trade unions. ETI certification, to be known as SA8000 (the SA stands for "social accountability") will be awarded to companies which meet verifiable standards in the areas of child labor, forced or slave labor, worker safety and freedom of association. The Swiss firm SGS-ICS, the world's largest certification company, will administer certification.

"Today's consumers care about more than price and quality," said SGS-ICS corporate director Jeff Horner. "They want to know that items they buy are not made by children, by companies paying slave wages, or by organisations with little regard for their employees' health and safety. We will be auditing interested companies which meet verifiable standards to identify who does and does not deserve the SA8000 mark." The Cosmetics company Avon last week was the first company to receive SA8000 certification.

ETI officials caution that the initiative is not a mechanism for the North to impose labour standards on the South. "The ETI is certainly not in the business of imposing standards. The standards under development are based around core International Labour Organization conventions that have been agreed and signed up to by the vast majority of governments in the North and South. There is no question of imposing arbitrary standards which do not suit the needs of poor working people in the South. The ETI has an international dimension by including members with close links with organizations representing workers interests in the South," according to an ETI press release.

"Independent global ethical standard launched," FINANCIAL TIMES, June 11, 1998; "Everything you need to know about the ethical trading initiative," PRESS RELEASE.

### **GERMANY REVISES RE-CYCLING SCHEME**

Germany's upper house of parliament, the Bundesrat, May 29 voted to revise its nationwide recycling scheme - the so-called Green Dot program. Germany's major food retailers and distributors threatened to pull out of the Green Dot program over the payment of licensing fees: food retailers are required to pay a fee to the non-profit organization which administers the programme, including the recycling of recyclable food packaging on retailers' behalf.

However, major firms including the giant food-distributor Metro AG - which alone pays about US\$14 million in annual fees to the programme - complained that independent bakers and butcher shops were not required to pay licensing fees, while still benefiting from the Green Dot programme. This, the major food retailers and manufacturers claimed, resulted in a competitive advantage for the independent bakers and butchers who saved an estimated US\$16.8 million annually on Green Dot fees. The major food firms threatened to pull out of the Green Dot program all together if the law was not revised: this would most certainly have meant the economic ruin of the Green Dot program.

The Bundesrat voted May 29 to shift some of the burden of the licensing program onto the producers of paper, plastic and cardboard packaging. Producers had been exempt from paying the licensing fees previously. The major food manufacturers and retailers are expected to remain in the programme as a result of the legislative change. However, some of the sector is still opposed to certain aspects of the law, including mandatory quotas for returnable beverage containers, which the European Commission has warned could be a trade barrier for foreign firms.

The Green Dot programme is considered largely effective as a system for collecting and recycling bottles, cans and wrappers. Environmentalists support the program since it reduces the amount of waste going into landfills. A number of food industry officials would like to see more competition in the Green Dot program: at present, only one firm is chartered to run the nationwide program. Food manufacturers and retailers want to see more firms carrying out the Green Dot program in the hope that competition will drive down costs.

"Bundesrat saves national recycling plan through revisions to packaging ordinance," INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT REPORTER, June 10, 1998; "Germany regulations: packaging decree revised," ECONOMIST INTELLIGENCE UNIT, June 8, 1998.

### **FTAA WORKING GROUPS MEET THIS WEEK**

Working groups are to get underway this week to begin preliminary work on negotiations for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) trade agreement. The FTAA will link economies from the Yukon to Patagonia in the world's largest single market, estimated to be worth US\$10 trillion dollars. Nine working groups will convene in Buenos Aires on June 17-18 to hammer out the brass tacks of negotiations: these include market access, investment, services, government procurement, dispute settlement, agriculture, intellectual property rights, subsidies, anti-dumping and countervailing duties and competition policy. Canada will chair the negotiations until October 1999, at which time Argentina will take over the role until April 2001.

The nine working groups were agreed to after much wrangling at the Second Summit of the Americas held this past April in Santiago, Chile. "It was an entire process just to agree to the groups. Remember the pitched battle we had just for the agriculture group to exist. Now the discussion is: what are these groups and what do they do?" Argentine Foreign Trade Secretary Jorge Campbell said last week.

While negotiators in the nine working-groups forge a direction for themselves, the more compelling discussions will likely be around the role of civil society in the negotiating process. At the Second Summit of the Americas in April, hemispheric leaders agreed to create a committee to address public participation in FTAA negotiations in which governmental representatives will receive, analyze, and present for ministerial consideration, input from all sectors of civil society, including business, labour,

environmental and academic groups. In their Declaration of San José, Ministers stated, "We reaffirm our commitment to the principle of transparency of the negotiation process, to facilitate the constructive participation of the different sectors of society."

According to Mr. Campbell, "Without a doubt the participation of civil society will be the issue that is argued most." He said that large economies like the U.S., Canada and the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR) are prepared for the participation of civil society, while smaller economies fear the civil society committee "will just become a forum where the biggest and richest lobbies will shout to be heard."

In related news, analysts warn of impending problems within MERCOSUR if administrative issues such as the different tax regimes, labour and social security systems between countries are not addressed. The real worry is that without increased harmonisation and integration, MERCOSUR could be gobbled up by FTAA. Regional observers also worry that the lack of a formal MERCOSUR administrative institution and dispute resolution mechanism may hinder intra-regional trade growth. There is further concern that trade between MERCOSUR countries has grown as a natural result of economic stabilization in the member-economies rather than as a direct benefit of MERCOSUR's formation. MERCOSUR includes Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay: intra-MERCOSUR trade last year exceeded US\$20 billion. Meanwhile, the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) - which includes MERCOSUR, the Andean Community, Mexico and Chile, reports that LAIA exports to the rest of the world grew by 12% in 1997. This compares to a three-percent growth in world trade for 1997. Imports to the region grew by 19 percent, resulting in a LAIA-global trade deficit of US\$12.6 billion in 1997. Export growth is expected to be slower this year due to greater competition from Asian exports. LAIA intra-regional trade exceeded US\$40 billion last year, 45 percent of which took place between MERCOSUR members.

"Free trade of Americas talks start on nuts and bolts," REUTERS, June 11, 1998; "Brazil/Argentina: trade concerns," ECONOMIST INTELLIGENCE UNIT, June 11, 1998; "Latin American economy: Mercosur integration comes to fruition," ECONOMIST INTELLIGENCE UNIT, June 8, 1998.

#### **AMBASSADORS AND NGOS DISCUSS MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK ON INVESTMENT**

On 10 June, ambassadors to the United Nations met with NGO representatives in Geneva, Switzerland under the auspices of UNCTAD and NGLS and in cooperation with Oxfam, WWF International and the Third World Network. Following meetings with selected non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and trade unions in Morocco in June of 1977 and with the European Round Table (ERT) of industrialists in December 1977, the consultation last week was convened to discuss a possible Multilateral Framework on Investment (MFI). In exchanging views about development concerns in this context, several ambassadors from the developing world recognised the benefits of foreign direct investment (FDI), but warned against its dangers, as exemplified by the recent and ongoing financial crisis in Asia. Others underlined the importance of maintaining governmental control over FDI flows, as well as that of granting developing countries special and differential treatment to minimise adverse effects of FDI and to maximise its benefits.

NGO representatives answered that FDI was a matter of the utmost importance for developing countries because of its potentially devastating effects. One participant said that the small- and medium-size enterprises in developing countries were unable to compete against large transnational corporations (TNCs) and that they were therefore not on a level playing field. He added that developing countries have much to learn from industrialised nations in the field of FDI management and gave the

example of Japan to argue that openness to FDI is not a necessary component of development. The need for sound fiscal and competition policies was stressed, as well as the importance of a fair balance between the rights of investors and their obligation to respect social and environmental standards. Reiterating a view expressed by the ambassadors, a NGO representative called for more UNCTAD research on the topic of FDI effects on developing countries.

On the theme of the role of investors, an ambassador from a developing country reminded participants that investors' objectives are not social but financial, adding that his country welcomed FDI and does not intend to hinder it by adopting burdensome regulatory measures. Another ambassador encouraged NGOs to press harder at the national level for the inclusion of social and environmental standards in a possible MFI.

NGOs responded that if a balance between the rights of investors and their obligations to respect social and environmental standards isn't established within a MFI, rapid outflows of FDI from developing countries would bring economic catastrophe and political instability detrimental to both investors and recipients. A participant criticized what he called the "neo-liberal model" adopted by OECD during the MAI negotiations and suggested the sustainable development model as an alternative.

During the discussion, confusion was evident between the treatment of medium- and long-term productive investment and more volatile short- term portfolio investment. In this context, it was mentioned that any sound MFI should make this distinction clear in order to address development concerns more effectively.

In closing the discussion, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Rubens Ricupero reminded the audience of UNCTAD's upcoming conference in November 1998 in Lyon, France during which the question of a possible framework for consultation between UNCTAD and civil society will be addressed. Ricupero added that 24 studies were being conducted by UNCTAD to assess various technical aspects of investment and development. Finally, he stated that if any negotiations for a possible MFI were to take place, they should, unlike the MAI, include both industrial and developing nations.

ICTSD Internal Files

## **IN BRIEF**

**WTO SEEKING NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL:** The WTO has decided to find a new head for its Secretariat by December this year. No candidates have yet formally been declared, but diplomats said at least five senior figures - Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and Commerce Minister Supachai Panitchpakdi; Canada's former Trade Minister Bruce MacLaren; former New Zealand Prime Minister Michael Moore; Brazil's Foreign Minister and former Ambassador to the WTO Luiz-Felipe Lampreia; and South Africa's Trade Minister Alec Erwin - could soon be on the list to replace outgoing Director General Renato Ruggiero when he steps down next April 30. The formal selection process will be launched on July 15. "WTO to start search for new chief", REUTERS, June 7, 1998.

**RUSSIA/UKRAINE WTO ACCESSION:** Russia could join the WTO by 2000 but first needs to overhaul its antiquated tax system and improve the legal environment for business, the top EU official in Russia, Ottokar Hahn, said Sunday. On the other hand, Ukraine's bid to join the WTO ran into stormy weather yesterday as trading partners vented strong criticism of recent actions to raise tariffs and grant preferential investment treatment to Daewoo, the Korean carmaker. "Russia could join EU by 2000: EU



envoy", AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, June 7, 1998. "Doubts cast over Ukraine's fitness for WTO", FINANCIAL TIMES, June 11, 1998.

BYE BYE DRIFTNETS: The European Union agreed to ban drift-net fishing from 1 January 2002 in order to protect dolphins and other marine life. Recognising the possible adverse economic and social effects of this decision, the Council and Commission agree to provide support to affected fisherfolk. "Politics This Week", THE ECONOMIST, June 12, 1998; Council Press Release, June 11, 1998.

CHINA TO ADAPT OIL PRICES: China plans to bring domestic crude oil prices into line with the international market after keeping them artificially high for almost 50 years. INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, June 8, 1998.

## **EVENTS & RESOURCES**

### **EVENTS**

"Facilitating Public Access to Environmental Information in Europe and the CIS Region," 23-25 June, Aarhus, Denmark. This workshop is organized by INFOTERRA. For more information, contact Beth Ingraham, UNEP-INFOTERRA, tel: (254 2) 624 299, fax: (254 2) 624 269, e-mail: [ingrahb@unep.org](mailto:ingrahb@unep.org)

"Dispute Resolution in the World Trade Organization," 24 June, Washington D. C., USA. This conference will have as speakers experts on the subject, including present and former representatives from the USTR, the European Commission, Brazil and Canada. For more information, contact Cameron May Ltd, 69-71 Bondway, London SW8 1SQ, UK, tel: (44 171) 582 7567, fax: 793 8353, e-mail: [nickmay@cameronmay.com](mailto:nickmay@cameronmay.com)

"First Session of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee," 29 June - 3 July, Montreal, Canada. For more information, contact Jim Willis, UNEP-Chemicals, tel: (41 22) 917 8183, fax: (41 22) 797 3460, e-mail: [jwillis@unep.ch](mailto:jwillis@unep.ch)

"Trade, Investment and the Environment," a two-day conference organized by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, 29-30 October 1998, London, UK. For more information, contact Mai Gray, The Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, 10 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LE, UK, tel: (44 171) 957 5700, fax: 321 2045, e-mail: [mgray@riia.org](mailto:mgray@riia.org)

### **RESOURCES**

"An Introduction to the WTO Agreements", Penang, Malaysia: TWN, 1998, 138pp; and "The WTO Agreements: Deficiencies, Imbalances and Required Changes", Penang, Malaysia: TWN, 1998, 122pp. Two new books by former Ambassador of India to the GATT and former Director of International Trade at UNCTAD, Bhagirath Lal Das. Both texts bring valuable insights into the agreements and the interests of developing countries in the multilateral trading system. Published by Third World Network, 228 Macalister Road, 10400 Penang, Malaysia. Fax: (60 4) 226 4505. E-mail: [twnpn@twn.po.my](mailto:twnpn@twn.po.my)

"Trade and Environment: Conflict or Compatibility?", Brack, Duncan (ed.), London, UK: The Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA), 1998, 208 pp. This new book contains the proceedings from the RIIA's April 1997 conference on trade and the environment, which brought together prominent contributors from all sides of the debate, including industry, governments, academics, NGOs and

intergovernmental institutions such as the WTO, UNEP and UNCTAD. For more information, please Nikki Kerrigan at the RIIA, tel: (44 171) 314 3639, fax: (44 171) 957 5710, e-mail: [nkerrigan@riia.org](mailto:nkerrigan@riia.org)

"The Implementation and Effectiveness of International Environmental Commitments," Victor, David, Kal Raustiala, and Eugene Skolnikoff (eds.), Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1998, 686 pp. For more information, contact The MIT Press, Five Cambridge Center, Cambridge, MA 02142-1493, USA, tel: (617) 625 8569, e-mail: [mitpress-orders@mit.edu](mailto:mitpress-orders@mit.edu)

"The Basel Convention and Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes," Krueger, Jonathan, RIIA Energy and Environmental Programme Briefing Paper No. 45, May 1998, 5 pp. This briefing paper provides a short guide to the development and current status of the international effort to manage transboundary movements of hazardous wastes. For more information or to order, contact RIIA, Chatham House, 10 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LE, UK, tel: (44 171) 314 3639, fax: (44 171) 957 5710.

### **JOB OPENINGS**

The Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR) is seeking to recruit for the following three positions: Head of International Policy Department; Policy Officer for Trade; and Policy Officer for Asia. For more information, please contact the Executive Director: Ian Linden, CIIR, Unit 3, Canonbury Yard, 190A New North Road, Islington, London N1 7BJ, UK, tel: (44 171) 354 0883, fax: (44 171) 359 0017, e-mail: [ciir@ciir.org](mailto:ciir@ciir.org)

Greenpeace International is recruiting two Political Advisers for its Amsterdam-based headquarters: a specialist on Trade and Economics (to be responsible for WTO, environmental economics and multilateral development banks issues) and a specialist in Toxic Chemical Regulation (to work on issues related to Basel Convention and other efforts on international trade in toxic waste). For information, please contact: Human Resources Department, Keizersgracht 176, 1016 DW Amsterdam or [Lesley.Hatton@ams.greenpeace.org](mailto:Lesley.Hatton@ams.greenpeace.org) before 26 June 1998.

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