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WTO DRAFT MINISTERIAL DECLARATION: FIRST NEGOTIATIONS DRAFT

After a month of deliberations and proposals over a framework Ministerial Declaration outline, WTO Members on 8 October concluded a first full draft of the Ministerial Declaration text that will be the outcome of the Third Ministerial Conference to be held in Seattle late next month (see *BRIDGES* Weekly Trade News Digest Vol. 3, Issue 39, 4 October 1999, <http://www.ictsd.org/html/story1.04-10-99.htm>). The 14-page document (available at <http://www.icts.org/html/seattleministerial.htm>) is intended "to help advance delegations' work towards a final agreed text"; its wide scope reflects the continuing divergences between the negotiating positions of the WTO's 134 delegations. The final Declaration will set out the terms and structure of future negotiations in the WTO -- still dubbed the Millennium Round -- expected to last three years.

The political process to shape the document begins 8 October. Members have a great deal of work before them as much of the text is in square brackets, indicating areas where little or no agreement exists. One official did say, however, that industrial tariffs would likely make it on to the negotiating agenda, but that investment and competition were unlikely to gain wide enough support to become substantive negotiating issues. Currently, the draft contains a proposal to negotiate with the aim of establishing a multilateral framework of rules on foreign direct investment. New negotiations on agriculture and services are already slated as part of the WTO's built-in agenda.

Chair of the WTO General Council Ambassador Ali Mchumo of Tanzania, on whose responsibility the text was issued, attempted to integrate a wide variety of demands emanating from

approximately 180 Member proposals. However, officials from some developing country delegations expressed displeasure with the draft. "At a minimum," stated one diplomat, "all our proposals must first be put into the draft text. Otherwise this text is dead on arrival." Strong reactions against drafts prepared by the Chair are not unusual at this stage -- as most countries attempt to gain negotiating leverage by elucidating polarised positions -- but some developing countries are concerned that the U.S. might have had a chance to unduly influence the structure and content of the Declaration before the release of the draft text.

With respect to sustainable development and the environment, the draft text reaffirms commitment to the Marrakesh Preamble -- wherein lie the general principles of the WTO -- which mentions protection of the environment and promoting sustainable development as systemic objectives. Embedded in square brackets, the Declaration contains text advocating a continued advisory role for the Committees on Trade and Environment and Trade and Development. Finally, under the section marked "New Negotiations," and also in square brackets, protection of the environment is listed under the subtitle "improvements in the rules and disciplines as appropriate".

The draft Declaration left out any reference to the contentious issue of a working party on labour rights.

The General Council has set 7 November as the deadline for producing a semi-final text, although haggling over the Declaration is expected to continue right up to the start of the Seattle meeting on November 30, and even throughout the meeting. U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky has said that negotiations must begin "in earnest" at the start of 2000, with proposals tabled by mid-year.

"Text: Draft Ministerial Declaration," WTO, 8 October 1999; "WTO Has Initial Draft of Ministerial Declaration," WASHINGTON TRADE DAILY, 12 October 1999; "Mchumo presents first declaration draft, shows wide disagreement," INSIDE US TRADE, 8 October 1999; "Trade: Dead-on-arrival draft declaration text?," SUNS, 8 October 1999. ICTSD Internal Files.

QUINT AGRICULTURE MINISTERS MEET IN ADVANCE OF SEATTLE

Agricultural ministers from the so-called Quint Group of countries (the U.S., EU, Japan, Canada and Australia) met for an informal ministerial conference on 1 October to discuss the upcoming round of WTO talks on agriculture scheduled to launch at the Third WTO Ministerial in November. As expected, no major negotiating developments emerged from the meeting, which was intended more for ministers to test the negotiating waters in advance of WTO talks on agriculture. *Inter alia*, Ministers discussed the need to reduce export subsidies as part of the new round and the need for WTO agricultural talks to address labelling of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

In advance of the Quint meeting, Japanese Agriculture Minister Shoichi Nakagawa said the WTO talks must address shortcomings in the current Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), "namely the imbalance that exists between the rights of importing and exporting countries." Japan, the world's largest food importer, wants especially to strike a balance between the importance of food self-sufficiency and exporting countries' use of export restrictions related to maintaining domestic food supplies. Mr. Nakagawa also said the WTO farm talks must address the needs of the more than 800 million people around the world suffering from hunger.

Also at the meeting, Japan informally proposed that the WTO establish a working party on biotechnology. Following the meeting, Canada formally proposed the idea for a working party to assess existing WTO rules' capacity to deal with biotechnology products (both agricultural and pharmaceutical products). Further, Canada wants the working party to assess WTO Members' ability to implement WTO rules related to biotechnology, in part to address developing countries' need for technical assistance with implementation of WTO agreements. Canada called for the working party to report its findings within one year.

In related news, Néstor Osorio Londoño, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture of the WTO, earlier this month outlined the expected negotiating objectives for WTO talks on agriculture. Regarding developing countries, Amb. Osorio said these countries are likely to call for more equitable conditions with respect to agriculture: at present developing countries must compete with developed countries' more protected agricultural sectors. Developing countries, in line with their broader negotiating objectives, will also be looking for improved market access to developed countries' markets. Further, special treatment for developing countries' needs relative to rural development, food safety and reasonable levels of protection must be considered.

"Key national agriculture ministers agree on need to limit export subsidies," REGULATION, LAW & ECONOMICS, 4 October 1999; "World agriculture negotiations take shape," IPS, 1 October 1999; "Canada calls for WTO working party on biotechnology," INSIDE US TRADE, 8 October 1999; "Quint ministers hope for fast farm talks," REUTERS, 1 October 1999; "Japan wants new rules for agriculture," REUTERS, 30 September 1999; "Japan too stress self-support in food at Montreal confab," KYODO NEWS INTERNATIONAL, 27 October 1999.

MONSANTO PLEDGES IT WON'T COMMERCIALISE TERMINATOR TECHNOLOGY

The multinational life sciences company Monsanto on 4 October announced it would not commercialise sterile seed technology.

In a letter to Gordon Conway, president of the Rockefeller Foundation (a U.S.-based charitable organisation), Monsanto chairman and chief executive officer Robert Shapiro said Monsanto was "making a public commitment not to commercialise sterile seed technologies, such as the one dubbed 'Terminator.' We are doing this based on input from you and a wide range of other experts and stakeholders, including our very important grower constituency."

"We welcome this move as a first step toward ensuring that the fruits of plant biotechnology are made available to poor farmers in the developing world," Mr Conway said in response to Monsanto's pledge. In June of this year, Mr. Conway called on Monsanto not to commercialise sterile seed technology, urging the company to consider the impacts on farmers in developing countries.

Monsanto does not currently own any sterile seed technology, but it is in the process of acquiring Delta & Pine Land Company, a U.S. based seed company, which developed the so-called terminator technology. (Delta co-owns its seed sterilisation patent with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.) Terminator technology renders seeds sterile after one planting, or in some cases deactivates value-added biotechnology traits (e.g. pest resistance). Opponents to sterile seed technology argue that it puts poor, subsistence farmers at risk as it could end the historic practice among farmers of saving seeds for subsequent year's planting. Supporters of sterile seed technologies argue that it is

necessary to protect and achieve an adequate return on investments in agricultural innovation. Supporters argue that the returns derived from sterile seed technology is needed to fund future agricultural research. Environmental groups argue that not enough research has been conducted to show that sterile-seed technology is safe for the environment.

Monsanto's announcement comes after a nearly two-year campaign by various civil society organisations, farmers, and scientists around the world opposed to sterile seed technology. Addressing a business conference organised by the environmental group Greenpeace last week, Mr. Shapiro acknowledged that Monsanto had "irritated and antagonised more people than we have persuaded" in its efforts to enlist support for biotechnology and genetically-modified organisms (GMOs).

Sterile seed opponents such as the Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI) and the environmental group Greenpeace welcomed Monsanto's pledge but expressed concern over Monsanto's intention to pursue closely related technology, worrying that it could nullify the progress seemingly achieved by last week's announcement. RAFI called on governments to address the issue of sterile seed technology at the WTO and other forums. "Monsanto has taken a positive step, but let's not forget that farmers can never depend on the charity and goodwill of the Gene Giants to reject immoral technologies," Pat Mooney, Executive Director of RAFI said. "Without government action to firmly reject Terminator [and similar] technology, these technologies will be commercialised within a few years with potentially disastrous consequences," Mr. Mooney warned.

"Monsanto vows not to sell sterile seed tech," *ECONOMIC TIMES* (India), 6 October 1999; "OGM: Monsanto fait marche arrière," *LE FIGARO*, 6 October 1999; "Monsanto drops GM terminator," *THE GUARDIAN*, 5 October 1999; "Monsanto issues pledge on sterile seeds," *FINANCIAL TIMES*, 5 October 1999; "Monsanto surrenders 'suicide seeds' but continues work on other Traitor Technologies," *RAFI PRESS RELEASE*, 4 October 1999; 'Terminator' gene development halted," *BBC NEWS*, 4 October 1999; "Monsanto apologises for arrogance," *FINANCIAL TIMES*, 7 October 1999.

FLORENCE MEETING ADVANCES EU TRADE POSITIONS IN RUNUP TO SEATTLE

Trade ministers from the European Union met last week in Florence, Italy, aiming to consolidate the EU's negotiating mandate for the upcoming WTO Ministerial conference in Seattle. Among the issues discussed were investment rules, labour, developing country concerns, and WTO accessions.

Regarding investment, EU Foreign Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy stated that the EU negotiating mandate should not specifically address international investment rules as they could bog down the trade liberalisation talks, which the EU has advocated to be concluded in three years.

Although the EU ministers stated they were closer to reaching a consensus on labour rights and have agreed on the importance of establishing core labour standards, the ministers were unclear as to how these standards would be protected.

The need to address the concerns of developing countries in the new round of trade talks was emphasised by the ministers. Said Pascal Lamy, "we've got a new actor involved and that is the developing countries...their positions have become much stronger since the Uruguay round." Lamy also noted that the EU wanted to see China join the WTO in the near future. Italian trade minister

Piero Fassino, advocating that WTO membership of countries such as China and Russia be a priority, stated "the more countries become members, the easier it will be to apply common rules to the global economy."

The EU foreign trade ministers were able to reach general agreement on their negotiating agenda for Seattle, emphasising their commitment to holding a comprehensive round that avoids any "early harvest" in certain sectors. They will meet again on 11 October in Luxembourg in order to finalise the agenda.

"EU trade ministers fine-tune strategy ahead of WTO talks" AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, 1 October, 1999; "Developing Nations Must Be Heard At WTO, Say EU Trade Mins", DOW JONES NEWSWIREs, 1 October 1999; "Lamy Says EU Should Tread Lightly in WTO Investment Talks" DOW JONES NEWSWIREs, 1 October, 1999; "EU Edges Towards Adopting WTO Negotiation Stance" DOW JONES NEWSWIREs, 4 October, 1999.

ACP SUGAR PRODUCERS FORGE COMMON STANCE TOWARD LOMÉ & WTO TALKS

Sugar producing states from the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of developing countries met in Swaziland last month to forge a common negotiating position toward a Lomé V trade and aid agreement with the EU. Lomé IV is set to expire in February 2000: Lomé V must be negotiated in such a way as to comply with WTO trade rules. Ministers also used the meeting to discuss positions toward WTO talks on agriculture scheduled to launch later this year.

The 17 September Swaziland talks focused on the future for ACP sugar exports in light of globalisation and liberalisation. While ministers acknowledged the need to improve processes and competitiveness of sugar enterprises, there was general agreement that an adequate adjustment period must be afforded ACP producers. Regarding Lomé, Ministers called for the continuance of preferential market access to the EU market via the Lomé sugar protocol and Special Preferential Sugar Agreement (SPS). Ministers noted that these market access agreements were essential to poverty reduction in ACP sugar producing states. ACP states enjoy a quota allocation for their sugar exports to the EU, where sugar is sold well above market prices. Mauritius, Fiji, Guyana, Jamaica and Swaziland are the largest sugar exporters to the EU; over 30 percent of the workforces in those countries depend on the sugar sector for employment.

With respect to WTO talks on agriculture, ministers echoed much of the sentiment voiced by the broader community of developing countries by calling on WTO Members to correct the imbalances of the Uruguay Round with respect to the lack of benefits enjoyed thus far by the developing world. Ministers called for the issue of special and differential treatment for developing countries to be fully addressed within the next round.

Despite the generally co-operative spirit of the ACP sugar talks in Swaziland, ACP sugar producers later in the month objected to increased sugar exports from Zambia. The countries are looking to protect their shares of the EU quota allocation against increased sugar exports from Zambia, which has a strong export capacity for sugar.

In related news, at a 25-26 September meeting of non-governmental (NGO) and governmental EU-ACP experts in Helsinki, NGOs agreed that the EU is attempting to cancel its preferential trade

relationship with ACP countries under the banner of liberalisation. At the meeting, Tuomas Tapio, Finland's chief negotiator at ongoing EU-ACP trade talks, argued that a new trade arrangement needed to conform to WTO rules, which disallow preferential schemes such as Lomé. However, Simon Stocker, director of Brussels-based Eurostep NGO coalition, stated that it would be possible to seek a new WTO waiver allowing the continuation of a Lomé IV-type arrangement. "The EU is insistent that new trade arrangements have to be WTO-compatible but first, all compatibility with the rules as they now stand is open to interpretation and certainly the EU interprets the rules more narrowly than the WTO secretariat," he said. To be approved, a waiver requires three-quarters majority support by WTO Members.

Some of these issues will be raised at an EU-ACP Joint Assembly from 10-15 October in Nassau, the Bahamas. One of the most important outputs from the Assembly will be a vote on a resolution on the "Kinnock report," which spells out the future of post-Lomé EU-ACP relations.

"Need for constant search for better efficiency - PM," SWAZI OBSERVER (Swaziland), 15 September 1999; "Zambia, currently trading under the special preferential sugar (SPS) arrangement," TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 29 September 1999; "Les pays ACP exportateurs de sucre demandent que le protocole sucre de la Convention de Lomé soit maintenu dans le contexte du Millenium Round," BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN EUROPE, 21 September 1999; "ACP sugar nations to form Lomé stance," REUTERS, 15 September 1999; "WTO rules used to kill Lomé convention, NGOs say," IPS, 6 October 1999.

ASEAN GEARING UP FOR AFTA

Economic ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) met from 30 September-2 October in Singapore to discuss plans for an ASEAN free trade area (AFTA). ASEAN last year agreed to move forward with an ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) partially ahead of its original 2003 implementation schedule. Under that agreement, the six founding ASEAN members (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand) will from 1 January reduce import tariffs on about 85 percent of agricultural and manufacturing goods to five percent and implement a free trade area by 2002. Less-developed ASEAN countries would have until 2006-2008 to come into the fold.

ASEAN comprises Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Myanmar.

At the Singapore meeting, ministers agreed on a Protocol on the Special Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products. Under the Protocol, ASEAN countries would phase out tariffs on more sensitive agricultural products by 2003 for the more developed ASEAN countries, with flexible implementation dates for the less-developed members. "This is a major advance because for some time we kept certain things as sensitive -- not to be negotiated, not even to be talked about," Singapore's Trade and Industry Minister George Yeo remarked. Ministers agreed last week on 2015-2018 as the deadline for zero tariffs in the region.

ASEAN ministers hope continued progress toward an AFTA will help restore confidence in the region which has been struggling to recover under the weight of economic crises since 1997.

Also at the meeting, ASEAN ministers announced that the grouping might establish a free trade area with New Zealand and Australia by 2010. Ministers said such an agreement would allow ASEAN to exert more influence in international trade. Trade between ASEAN countries and New Zealand-Australia was around US\$16 billion in 1998. A joint ASEAN-New Zealand-Australia task force is expected to assess the feasibility of such an agreement and issue a report within 12 months.

"ASEAN zooms to zero tariff for free trade," KYODO NEWS INTERNATIONAL, 29 September 1999; "SE nations agree to open up "sensitive" farm sector," AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, 30 September 1999; "ASEAN econ ministers to discuss investment, free trade," DOW JONES NEWSWIRE, 25 September 1999; "ASEAN may establish free trade area with Australia, NZ," DOW JONES NEWSWIRE, 1 October 1999.

IN BRIEF

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) on 4 October launched a campaign to put trade and environment linkage on the WTO negotiating agenda. WWF officials said that the threat of trade disputes is holding up progress on existing and proposed international environment agreements such as the Biosafety Protocol and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Agreement. (See *BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest* Vol. 3, No. 8, 1 March 1999, <http://www.ictsd.org/html/story1.01-03-99.htm> ; and Vol. 3, No. 36, 13 September 1999, <http://www.ictsd.org/html/story2.13-09-99.htm>) Putting trade and environment linkage on the WTO negotiating agenda, WWF officials said, "gives the WTO a chance to show its green credentials by allowing nations to impose trade restrictions needed to implement international environmental agreements." "Sustainable Trade for a Living Planet," WWF PRESS RELEASE, 4 October 1999; "WWF launches trade rules campaign," FINANCIAL TIMES, 5 October 1999. ICTSD Internal Files. For English, Spanish, Russian or French copies of the sustainable trade advocacy packet, contact: charles.arden-clark@wwfnet.org

West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) officials last week confirmed that the regional grouping would move forward by 1 January with intra-regional liberalisation plans. In addition to adopting a common external tariff, UEMOA countries will lift customs duties on produce and manufactured goods from member countries. UEMOA comprises Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. UEMOA is also considering working as a bloc in external trade negotiations. "W.Africa CFA zone on target for 2000 customs union," REUTERS, 4 October 1999.

WTO IN BRIEF

The WTO on 6 October approved the accession of the former Soviet republic of Georgia. Pending approval from Georgia's parliament and a mandatory 30-day waiting period, the country could join the WTO in time for the Third WTO Ministerial in November. Currently Estonia is next in line to join the 134-Member WTO; Georgia is expected to be the WTO's 136th Member. "Georgia cleared to join World Trade Organisation," DOW JONES, 6 October 1999.

The WTO's Economic Research and Analysis Division is this week releasing its Trade and Environment Report. On 14 October, the WTO will present the paper, which addresses the economic and political economy dimensions of the interface between trade and environment. According to a WTO press release, "the report argues that there is no basis for the sweeping

generalisations that are often heard in the public debate, arguing that trade is either good for the environment, or bad for the environment. The real world linkages are a little bit of both, or a shade of grey." To access the press release, which comes with a summary of findings, visit <http://www.wto.org/wto/new/press140.htm>.

On 7 October the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) held an informal meeting. At the meeting Members prepared for the 12-13 October, 1999 formal CTE meeting and discussed the draft 1999 CTE Report. The report is expected to be adopted and released during the week of 11 October. For further information contact Bernard Kuiten, WTO (41-22) 739-5676. ICTSD Internal Files.

A 29 September submission by the U.S. to the WTO's Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) slammed a European Commission Regulation (881/98, "Traditional Terms") that imposes restrictions on imports of wine that use what the EC has termed "traditional expressions." The U.S. objected to the attempt by the EC to treat terms such as "extra," "reserve," "vintage," and "superior" as proprietary property, arguing that these words did not identify any particular geographical indication or specific product. "Does the Commission really believe that if it did not implement this regulation on "traditional terms" that European consumers purchasing California wine labelled as "vintage" would be deceived into believing that they were buying a Spanish or Portuguese wine?", the Submission stated. The U.S. argues that there are other less trade-restrictive alternatives that could achieve the EC's objective of preventing deceptive practices. ICTSD Internal Files.

Pursuant to its responsibilities as a WTO Member, Papua New Guinea has formally notified the Committee on Trade and Development of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), a preferential trade agreement composed of the developing countries Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands. Established in 1984, the agreement allows for duty-free trade in selected products among the member countries. Papua New Guinea submitted its notification under the provisions of the Enabling Clause, which refers to the 1979 Tokyo Round's "Decision on Differential and More Favourable Treatment, Reciprocity and Fuller Participation of Developing Countries". ICTSD Internal Files.

In similar news, the Free Trade Agreement Between Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic, and its Protocol on the Creation of a Free-Trade Area finalised on April, 1999, have been notified to the WTO by the Kyrgyz Republic last week. "Duties and other restrictive regulations of commerce have been eliminated on substantially all trade between the signatories" states the notification document. ICTSD Internal Files.

EVENTS & RESOURCES

For a more complete list of events, please refer to ICTSD's web calendar at <http://www.ictsd.org/html/calendar.htm>

▪ WTO MEETINGS

An updated list of forthcoming WTO meetings is posted at <http://www.wto.org/wto/about/meets.htm>. Please bear in mind that dates and times of WTO meetings are often changed, and that the WTO does not always announce the important informal

meetings of different WTO bodies. Unless otherwise indicated, all WTO meetings are held at the WTO, Centre William Rappard, Rue de Lausanne 154, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland.

1-3 November: Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. For information contact Luis Ople, WTO, tel: (41-22) 739-5374.

OTHER EVENTS

14 October, Geneva: Pre-UNCTAD X Seminar: MAKING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT WORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. For information contact Mr. Helge Müller, UNCTAD secretariat, Palais des Nations, Room E 8035, CH-1211 Geneva 10 tel: (41-22) 917-5791, fax: 917-0247, email: Helge.Mueller@UNCTAD.org

18-29 October, Geneva: UNCTAD: THE FORTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD. The agenda for this preparatory process for UNCTAD X includes sessions on interdependence and global economic issues from a trade and development perspective, UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, and a review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the 1990s. For information contact the UNCTAD secretariat, Intergovernmental Support Services, Palais des Nations, CH 1211 Geneva 10, tel: (41 22) 907-5636, fax: 907-0056; e-mail: correspondence@unctad.org

18-20 October, San Salvador, El Salvador: THE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR LATIN AMERICA IN 2000, AND THE FTAA: AN INTERIM ASSESSMENT. These seminars will be presented by Dr. Jerry Haar, Senior Research Associate, North-South Center. For information contact the North-South Center, <http://www.miami.edu/nsc>

18-22 October, Arusha, Tanzania: Southern Seminar for the WTO Millenium Round. Hosted by the MS-Training Centre for Development Co-operations(MS-TCDC), the purpose of the seminar is capacity building in the South in order to deal with the WTO. The seminar will provide participants with input regarding how to address trade issues within a national and regional context. NGOs and government officials are invited to participate. The seminar will be conducted in English. For information contact: MS-TCDC, P.O. Box 254 Arusha Tanzania, tel: (255) 57-4098 or (255) 811-651715, fax: 811-512141, email: ngo@mstcdc.or.tz

20 October, Brussels, Belgium: "Organisation mondiale du Commerce ou Ordre mondial du Commerce: Quelles perspectives pour le développement durable?". Author Susan George will speak on this topic. For information contact Anna Sellberg at ICDA, Rue Stévin 115, B-1000, Brussels, tel: (32-2)230-0430, fax: 230-5237, email: icda@skynet.be, web: <http://www.icda.be>

24-26 October, Tilburg, Netherlands: EUROPEAN CONFERENCE: GLOBALISATION, ECOLOGY AND ECONOMY - BRIDGING WORLDS. Organised by the European Centre for Nature Conservation. For more information contact: ECNC, e-mail: ecnc@ecnc.nl, web: <http://www.ecnc.nl/>

25-26 October, Geneva: THE COMING WTO NEGOTIATIONS: PERSPECTIVES AND BENEFITS FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. Hosted by the Foreign Trade Association

(FTA). For information contact the Foreign Trade Association, Avenue de Janvier 5, Bte 3, B-1200 Brussels, Belgium, tel: (32-2) 762-0551, fax: 762-7506, email: fta.knapp@pophost.eunet.be

25 October - 5 November, Bonn, Germany: UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE: FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES: COP-5. For information contact: the FCCC Secretariat; tel: (49-228) 815-1000, fax: 815-1999, email: secretariat@unfccc.de, web: <http://www.unfccc.de/>

28-29 October, Miami, Florida: ENVIRONMENTALLY-SOUND TRADE EXPANSION IN THE AMERICAS: A DIALOGUE OF TECHNICAL AND POLICY EXPERTS. Organised by the North-South Center, this workshop will explore the advantages of integrating environmental sustainability into production and marketing strategies and the long-term benefits for trade and international competitiveness. For information contact the North-South Center, (1-305) 284-8974, email: stross@miami.edu

4 November, Miami, Florida: ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT VERSUS SANCTIONS: EXPLORING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND EUROPE. This roundtable discussion is organised by the North-South Center and the Atlantic Partnership Program of the Council on Foreign Relations. For information contact Sara Muñoz, tel: (1-305) 284-6868, email: sarimunoz@miami.edu

RESOURCES

ASIA PACIFIC JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, VOLUME 4. 1999. By Donald R. Rothwell, Ed. This journal focuses on the development of regional and subregional law, analyzes the formation of environmental law, and the promotion of sustainable development through law with an emphasis on human rights and the environment. 4 issues, \$187.50. ISBN-1385-2140. To order contact: Kluwer Law International, Distribution Center, P.O. Box 322, 3300 AH Dordrecht, The Netherlands, tel: (31-78) 654-6454, fax: 654-6474, email: sales@kli.wkap.nl, web: <http://www.kluwerlaw.com>

AGAINST THE GRAIN - THE GENETIC TRANSFORMATION OF GLOBAL AGRICULTURE. 1999. By Marc Lappe and Britt Bailey. This book exposes the potential dangers surrounding the global shift towards genetically modified (GM) crop production and examines the catastrophic consequences of this practice. Issues discussed include the entry of GM crops into the animal livestock food chain, problems with labelling GM foods in stores and restaurants, etc. 163pp. £15.99, ISBN 1 85383 576 5. To order contact: Earthscan Publications, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1 9JN.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN THE 21ST CENTURY. 1999. By Gudrun Kochendorfer-Lucius and Boris Pleskovic, Eds. The articles in this volume were presented at the first Villa Borsig Winter Workshop, sponsored by the Development Policy Forum of DSE and the World Bank. The workshop addressed a wide range of themes, from the future of the Washington Consensus to politics of sustainable development. The discussions identified six trends that will define the institutional and policy matrix of sustainable development in the 21st century. 210 pp. ISBN-3-931227-94-4. To order contact: German Foundation for International Development (DSE), Development Policy Forum, Reiherwerder, D-13505 Berlin.

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