



ICTSD

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR
TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

BRIDGES

Weekly Trade News Digest

28 November 2001

ISSN 1563-003X

Volume 5, Number 40

BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest is also available online and is updated every week.
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NEW ICTSD E-PUBLICATION

NEW ICTSD PUBLICATION ON TRADE AND BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. 'BRIDGES Trade BioRes' is produced in collaboration with IUCN - The World Conservation Union, and its Commission on Environment, Economic and Social policy (CEESP), in an effort to complement the activities of both organisations on the increasingly important intersection of trade and biological resources. To subscribe to BRIDGES Trade BioRes send a blank email to: subscribe_biores@ictsd.ch. The issues will also be posted on the ICTSD website at <http://www.ictsd.org>.

NEGOTIATIONS IN HOLDING PATTERN AS COUNTRIES AWAIT TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

WTO Members have yet to begin significant negotiations on areas mandated by the Ministerial Declaration agreed to in Doha on 14 November at the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference. Instead, staff from trade missions in Geneva and ministries in capitals remain in a study phase with regard to the text, trade sources say, and are using the interval between the end of the Ministerial and the end of January 2002 to further refine their negotiating positions and engage in exploratory informal talks.

By 31 January 2002, all WTO Members will convene for the first session of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC), at which point negotiations will effectively begin in earnest on the range of areas specified in the Declaration, including implementation, industrial tariffs, subsidies, anti-dumping, regional trade agreements, environment, and dispute settlement. The TNC would likely consist of a meeting of the General Council (all WTO Members) under another name under a new Chair. In previous negotiations in the Uruguay Round, the TNC was chaired by the presiding Director-General, though sources say this precedent may not necessarily be followed, and Members may choose a senior-level trade diplomat not necessarily based in Geneva.

Talks will nevertheless continue this week and next on services and agriculture, which have been part of the WTO's built-in negotiating agenda since early on in 2000. In addition, a meeting of the General Council on 19 December will address technical assistance issues stemming from a 23 November Budget Committee meeting (see related story, this issue) and document de-restriction, among others.

"Members are taking the time to let the dust settle after Doha, so it's business as usual right now at the WTO," said one WTO source.

Anti-dumping and subsidies on the table

However, informal discussions are already underway in some areas. For instance, some developing countries are seeking specific forums to address implementation concerns --

such as the special sessions on implementation that preceded the Doha Ministerial. For its part, the EC is resisting such a mechanism on this issue, though EC sources say there cannot be any a priori exclusion of a specific implementation negotiating forum.

Countries have already met informally on implementation concerns, particularly on subsidies and anti-dumping: a Special Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices will meet on 7 December, and the Subsidies Committee will meet informally on 13 December to review Ministerial decisions on subsidies, including review of countervailing duties investigations and subsidy notifications.

The antidumping and subsidies negotiations launched at the Fourth Ministerial are expected to proceed in two phases, with the first aimed at framing the scope of the work as it relates to trade remedy laws and disciplines on trade-distorting practices. A US official said on 23 November that proposals in these areas are likely to be tabled in the first six months of next year, though he cautioned that timelines have yet to be finalised.

Lamy-Zoellick on environment

Environment has yet to be discussed as a negotiating topic in the wake of Doha. However, in a 14 November letter from EC Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy to US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick, Lamy assured his US counterpart that Europe would not use the negotiations agreed in Doha on environment "as a vehicle to justify illegitimate trade barriers" in connection with biotechnology trade and implementation of the trade aspects of current or future multilateral biosafety agreements. He further reassured Zoellick that the EU would not use negotiations on environment to alter the balance of rights and obligations at the WTO with respect to precaution. The Doha environment text commits Members to negotiations on the relationship between WTO rules and trade obligations contained in multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). This would likely result in a clarification or footnote to the existing agreements, rather than an explicit rule change.

The US is concerned that MEAs such as the Biosafety Protocol under the Convention on Biological Diversity could be used as a trade barrier to its biotech products, particularly genetically-modified agricultural goods. Sources say the Lamy letter might represent an attempt on the part of the EC Trade Commissioner to stave off internal EU demands from health and consumer officials that the WTO environment negotiations be used to expand the use of the precautionary principle, which is enshrined in a number of MEAs.

"WTO Environment talks get mixed reviews, as Lamy assures US," *INSIDE US TRADE*, 23 November 2001; ICTSD Internal Files.

CTD LOOKS TO MOVE ITS NEW MANDATE

The Committee on Trade and Development (CTD) met on 26 November, in its first sitting since the adoption of a comprehensive new round at the Doha Ministerial (see BRIDGES Weekly, 15 November, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-11-15/story1.htm>). The agenda for the meeting dealt with items ranging from Special and Differential Treatment (S&D), a Secretariat report on the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), E-Commerce, to the CTD's work programme for 2002.

The nature of the 2002 work programme and beyond has been greatly impacted by both the Ministerial Declaration and the Implementation- Related Decision coming out of the Ministerial Conference. Most specifically, paragraph 51 of the Declaration mandates the CTD to identify and debate development aspects of the negotiations, "in order to achieve the objective of having sustainable development appropriately reflected." With the path towards this goal being left largely undefined in either document, many experts foresee an enlargement in both the scope and workload of the CTD. This is especially the case with regards to proceeding on issues relating to special and differential treatment.

Special and Differential Treatment (S&D)

As a longstanding issue on the CTD's agenda, both the Implementation Decision (para. 12) and the Ministerial Declaration (para. 44) call for the "examination" of a number of key areas surrounding the S&D debate. Specifically, the CTD must identify which S&D provisions are mandatory in nature as well as those that are non-binding in character - with a view to making them mandatory and/or strengthening them. Some trade experts foresee a dispute arising on this issue depending on which document is ascribed higher priority and which language is most binding. While the Implementation Decision does explicitly mandate the CTD to "identify those [provisions] that Members consider 'should' be made mandatory," the Declaration on the other hand does not use the word mandatory per se but rather states that "all [S&D] provisions 'shall' be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective, and operational."

To this end, CTD Chairperson Ambassador Irumba, along with a number of developing country Members, requested the WTO Secretariat to write at least one background note as a stock-taking of what other committees are doing relating to S&D and what issues are to be dealt with in undertaking the questions raised by the Ministerial documents. Perhaps as a precursor to the lack of clarity referred to above, no agreement could be found on the content or the scope of this background paper, or on the need for single or multiple papers, and so an informal meeting has been scheduled for Thursday 29 November. One industrialised country source noted that the contentious issues revolve around whether the focus should be on either moving to mandatory provisions or strengthening of current provisions (which sources say developed country members favour). Another item to be worked out, noted this source, is whether to wait for other committees to complete their work before taking action, "so as to be able to reinforce what they are doing." "The informal meeting on Thursday should be considered a litmus test of how bogged down

the initial phases of this new mandate is going to be," said one expert following these issues.

Report on Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)

The Secretariat's 5 October 2001 report entitled "The Generalised System of Preferences: A Preliminary Analysis of the GSP schemes in the Quad" (WT/COMTD/W/93) (the Quad being Canada, US, EC, and Japan) was noted by one EC delegate as being "one of the best documents on GSP". The aim of the study undertaken "is to provide an introduction to the functioning of GSP, including the preferences provided by developed countries and the benefits drawn by developing countries." In addition, so far as data permit, the study makes a comparison on Most Favoured Nation (MFN) and other preferential schemes -- including those under regional trade agreements. At press time, the document was still restricted, however it is expected to be available via the WTO's online document centre upon adoption by the CTD.

ICTSD Internal Files.

BUDGET COMMITTEE BEGINS TRANSLATING DOHA AGENDA INTO PRACTICE

The WTO Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration met on Friday 23 November for the first of a series of meetings to develop a plan on how to translate the technical assistance (TA) provisions of the Doha Ministerial Declaration in the organisation's budget. In a preliminary exchange of views, Members discussed a proposal by WTO Director-General Mike Moore on how to fund TA activities.

In his proposal, Moore suggested two financing tracks, namely CHF 2.8 million for the WTO Training Institute (formerly Trade Policy Courses) paid from the regular WTO budget, and what Moore called the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund -- envisaged to amount to CHF 15 million for 2002 -- financed through voluntary (bilateral) contributions. In addition, monitoring mechanisms would be implemented to see that sufficient funds are available on a timely, predictable and longer-term basis. Members also discussed holding a 'pledging conference' at the beginning of next year where interested donors could get together to formally pledge their contributions in order to ensure early on that sufficient funds would be available throughout the year.

Some Members have expressed concerns regarding the Fund proposed by Moore, arguing that the provision of adequate funds could only be ensured when paid from the regular budget since bilateral donations are often only supplied for a limited time and frequently come with restrictions on what the money can be used for. Also, if TA activities were financed from the regular budget, all Members would be required to contribute to the Fund according to their share of international trade. Bilateral donations, in contrast, are likely to result in the same countries again having to foot the majority of the bill.

As mandated by para. 40 of the Ministerial Declaration, the Committee is required to develop a plan for adoption by the General Council in December 2001 "that will ensure long-term funding for WTO technical assistance". The Committee will continue to meet formally and informally until this year's last meeting of the General Council, scheduled for 19 December, where the plan is expected to be adopted along with the budget for 2002.

In related news...

Inter-agency meeting on technical assistance and capacity building

Director-General Mike Moore convened a meeting on 23 November with representatives of the IMF, the World Bank, UNCTAD, and the International Trade Centre to discuss inter-agency cooperation in light of the commitments on technical assistance and capacity building emerging from the Doha Ministerial. Representatives agreed to explore an appropriate mechanism for ensuring a proper coordination of efforts - a mechanism that would be as simple and automatic as possible, the WTO said. In addition, work will be done to compile systematic information on the sources of technical assistance and details of programmes being carried out.

ICTSD Internal Files.

SERVICES WEEK: TIME RUNNING OUT FOR SAFEGUARD MEASURES

As WTO Members entered a new so-called 'Services Week' yesterday -- the last of 2001 - the question of the establishment of an Emergency Safeguard Mechanism (ESM) under the GATS appears as the most urgent and contentious issue on the agenda, with the deadline for its adoption expiring on 15 March 2002. While this question is being addressed in one of the subsidiary bodies to the Council for Trade in Services, the week will also include further market access discussions within the Services Council as part of the 'GATS 2000' negotiating process. In view of these Special (negotiating) Sessions, several new negotiating proposals have been, or are in the process of being, tabled; Colombia, in particular, has submitted a series of sectoral proposals, relating, inter alia, to distribution, telecommunication, environmental and tourism services.

Emergency Safeguards

Pressure is mounting on Members to reach consensus on the establishment of an ESM as the deadline of 15 March 2002 closes in. Mandated by GATS Art. X, negotiations on the adoption of an ESM were initially to be settled in 1998. This and other deadlines have lapsed and been extended; according to trade sources prospects now "look gloomy" that the 15 March deadline will be met.

As BRIDGES Weekly went to press, Members were meeting in the Working Party on GATS Rules (WPGR) -- a subsidiary body to the Council for Trade in Services -- in an ultimate attempt to reach the consensus necessary to start drafting an ESM. Members had already agreed in earlier meetings that in order to be able to meet the March deadline, the Working Party would have to be able to work on a draft text in November at the latest. However, despite intensive informal consultations undertaken by WPGR Chair Hugo Cayrus (Uruguay) last week, Members have not as yet been able to reach consensus to start working on a draft instrument.

Considered by many developing countries as a precondition for further opening of their markets, countries such as the US, the EC, Japan and Mexico remain strongly opposed to the adoption of an ESM, arguing that the GATS is flexible enough to accommodate all kinds of situations. India also fears that emergency safeguards will in fact not serve developing countries, but would be used against them, in particular in the supply of services by natural persons (mode 4). Other Members, such as Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica and Switzerland, occupy a middle ground. These countries are not convinced that "a clear case" has been made in favour of an ESM, but are willing to compromise, as they feel the adoption of safeguard measures is important to many developing countries and thus necessary for the success of market access negotiations.

BRIDGES Weekly will report on the outcome of the meeting in next week's issue.

New proposals tabled for market access discussions

From 3 to 7 December, Members will be holding negotiating sessions within the Council for Trade in Services as the 'GATS 2000' negotiations proceed (on precedent session, see BRIDGES Weekly, 9 October 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-10-09/story3.htm>). During these five days, discussions will include all proposals and all sectors, as well as horizontal issues such as assessment, mode 4 (movement of natural persons) and the implementation of GATS Art. IV (Increased participation of developing countries in services trade). The aim of the talks is to clarify any obscure points in the proposals, and also to organise future work which, with the decision to launch a new round of global trade talks, will constitute a major point of the session, sources said. The need for organisation and coordination also stems from the interconnectedness of work being carried out in special session and in the subsidiary bodies. Some trade sources predict that discussions on certain sectors or horizontal issues will be moved to some of the subsidiary bodies; for instance, financial services may henceforth be removed from the special session agenda to that of the Committee on Financial Services

The process of actual negotiations, which according to the GATS negotiations' 'Guidelines and Procedures' will be carried out mainly through a "request and offer" approach, are to begin in June 2002 as agreed in the Ministerial Declaration adopted in Doha, Qatar on 14 November.

New proposals tabled

In view of the 3 to 7 December Special Session, several Members have submitted new negotiating proposals stating their interests. Specifically, Colombia yesterday circulated several proposals relating to services sectors such as telecommunications, distribution, tourism and environmental services (proposals S/CSS/W/119-123, available at the WTO web site, <http://www.wto.org/>. At press time, these proposals were only available in Spanish).

In its proposal on telecommunications (S/CSS/W/119), Colombia stresses the importance of this sector for the productivity of the economy as well as a means to reduce the digital divide between developed and developing countries. However, Colombia also says that many developing countries will only further open up their markets for this sector, in particular in relation to commercial presence (mode 3), if they are given meaningful concessions in other services sectors of particular interest to them.

In relation to environmental services, the Colombian communication underscores that liberalisation in the sector, above all through the commercial presence of foreign companies, could be favourable to developing countries in terms of technology transfer and the environmental quality in these countries. However, the proposal says, in negotiating commitments in this sector, account must be taken as to the level of development of each Member. Colombia also stresses that the current classification of environmental services is not an appropriate basis for negotiations, as it does not contain new services in the sector. Furthermore, the communication says that in order to have a balanced outcome of liberalisation in the sector of environmental services, developing countries must be granted market access for the movement of natural persons providing environmental services at the international level.

Regarding tourism services, the Colombian proposal stresses the importance of the sector for developing countries in terms of the foreign exchange earnings and employment that it generates. Given this importance, the communication calls for the removal of economic needs tests in relation to market access for tourism services, and also points to the importance of adequate visa legislation. Though the proposal stresses the problems developing countries are facing in relation to anti-competitive practices by tour operators enjoying dominant positions, it makes no mention of the Annex to the GATS on tourism, proposed by the Dominican Republic and others in order to address the problem (see BRIDGES Weekly, reference of this article).

BRIDGES Weekly will report on developments during the services week in forthcoming issues.

ICTSD Internal Files.

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT UPDATE: SHRIMP-TURTLE & US-CAN LUMBER

The WTO Appellate Body (AB) final ruling in the so-called 'Shrimp- Turtle' case continues to draw criticism as several Members voiced their concern at the occasion of its adoption during a 21 November Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) meeting. Meanwhile, US and Canadian negotiators are stepping up efforts to find an extra-judicial solution to their longstanding dispute over softwood lumber, which as it stands is allegedly causing the loss of thousands of jobs in Canada.

'Good faith' negotiations finding in shrimp-turtle case makes Members tilt

As the final AB ruling was adopted on 21 November in the much- publicised 'shrimp-turtle case -- thus far the only example to date in GATT/WTO history where a unilateral, extraterritorial national measure involving trade restrictions has been upheld on environmental grounds -- several WTO Members seized the occasion to voice their concerns regarding the ruling.

The AB ruling, issued on 22 October (see BRIDGES Weekly, 23 October 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-10-23/wtoinbrief.htm>, BRIDGES Monthly, October 2001, p. 6, <http://www.ictsd.org/monthly/archive.htm>), upheld a US ban on imports of shrimp caught by countries or vessels not using turtle by-catch excluding techniques, under the condition that the US enter 'good faith' negotiations to solve the issue multilaterally.

Australia, Canada and India all questioned the aspect of the ruling that justifies the import ban as long as it shows "ongoing, serious good faith efforts" to reach a multilateral agreement on the protection of sea turtles in the Indian Ocean and the Southeast Asian region.

According to Australia, the initial Panel ruling, upheld by the AB, incorrectly relied on whether the US was engaged in serious, good faith negotiations in determining the compatibility of the shrimp ban with GATT article XX. "The key issue should have been whether the measure itself...was justified," Australia argued. Pointing to the progress achieved through the Indian Ocean initiative on sea turtle conservation, Australia also said that if the US thought that recourse to trade restrictive measures were necessary for conservation purposes, "it can pursue these proposals through the Indian Ocean initiative rather than through unilaterally determined import restrictions. This would reaffirm the importance of multilateral solutions to transboundary environmental problems."

India also declared itself "disappointed" with the upholding of the "good faith" negotiations justification of the ban, while Canada said it supported the ruling in essence, but believed it could cause future systemic problems regarding its interpretation. "We recognise that it could be difficult for panels in future disputes to determine whether a country has met the requirement of "ongoing, serious good faith efforts. Perhaps more important, it may be difficult for WTO Members themselves to determine when they

have met the criteria," Canada said. "For these reasons, we remain somewhat concerned that future determinations in these types of cases are essentially left to a case-by-case approach," Canada added.

Other developments at the 21 November DSB meeting included a statement from the US, which affirmed that it is now in compliance with the AB ruling that declared its temporary safeguard measure on combed cotton yarn from Pakistan contrary to WTO law. The AB ruling, issued on 8 October, upheld an earlier Panel decision which found that a US safeguard investigation leading to restrictions in imports of combed cotton yarn from Pakistan was not carried out in accordance with WTO rules (see BRIDGES Weekly, 15 May 2001, <http://www.icts.org/weekly/15-05-01/story4.htm>). According to US Ambassador to the WTO Linnet Deily, the limit on Pakistani yarn imports had effectively been eliminated on 9 November. For Pakistan and other developing countries, the decision was considered important, as it marked a victory in their struggle with the US's 40-year old textile trade policy, which many poorer countries contend imposes limits on their clothing and fabric exports.

Canada-US negotiations on lumber intensify as companies turn to NAFTA

"It is not business as usual when you have 15,000 workers who have lost their jobs going into Christmas," Canadian International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew said last Friday regarding a decades-old Canada-US dispute on lumber, following the minimal progress achieved during the latest round of "working group" discussions between Canadian and US officials on 19-23 November.

Talks between the two countries have continued to concentrate on possible changes to provincial stumpage fees (a tax on each harvested tree), cut mandates and tenure policies, US and Canadian industry sources said on 23 November. More working group discussions aimed at finding a negotiated settlement to the dispute are being held this week (26-30 November), and will also take place in Washington on 3-7 December.

US industry contends that the low stumpage fees levied by Canadian provinces in practice amounts to subsidies for the Canadian softwood industry, leading the US to impose anti-dumping and countervailing duties on Canadian wood exports that now amount to 32 percent (see BRIDGES Weekly, 6 November 2001, <http://www.icts.org/weekly/01-11-06/story4.htm>). Canada in turn accuses US industry of protectionism and contends that domestic lumber mills, in particular in British Columbia (BC) where half the country's exports originate, have been shutting down under the impact of the US duties and an economic slump. In BC alone, unemployment due to closures could reach 30,000 by Christmas.

Issue could lead to NAFTA Chapter 11 case

Despite lack of progress in discussions so far, Pettigrew said last Friday that the "elements" of a deal to end the dispute could be in place by mid-December. However, Canfor Corporation, one of the companies affected by the US duties, on 5 November

filed a Notice of Intent to Submit a Claim to Arbitration against the Government of the United States for damages under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Canfor alleges that the US has violated several provisions of the "Investment Chapter" (Chapter 11) of the NAFTA, and will ask for US\$ 250 million of compensation for the damages resulting from the US duties.

A Canadian request for the establishment of a dispute settlement panel is still pending in the WTO regarding the US imposition of countervailing duties on 9 August 2001. The US blocked Canada's request for a panel at the 5 November DSB meeting; however, if Canada persists in its demand at the next DSB on 18 December, the US can no longer oppose, and a panel will be established.

"Canadian Trade Minister hopes for 'elements' of softwood deal by mid- December," COMTEX, 23 November; "Canfor Corp. press release," Reuters, 5 November 2001; "US-Canada lumber talks stalled on question of timber auctions," INSIDE US TRADE, 23 November 2001; "WTO Members question Dispute Body on 'good faith' finding in shrimp-turtle case," WTO REPORTER, 26 November, 2001; "US affirms compliance with WTO ruling on Pakistan textile import restrictions," WTO REPORTER, 23 November 2001; "Canfor Corp. files notice of intent," CANFOR PRESS RELEASE, 5 November 2001.

INDIA, EU BOOST TRADE AND INVESTMENT TIES

During a 22-23 November EU-India summit held in New Delhi, India, the two WTO Members agreed to advance their trade and investment relations in order to put aside a previous logjam in their bilateral talks resulting from, inter alia, deep discrepancies on textiles and on environment and competition rules at the WTO. Instead, the commitments set out in the Doha Ministerial Declaration were to be "translated" in the negotiations during the next three years, "and in this we want to cooperate with the Indian government," stated EC Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy during his speech in the Indian capital last Thursday.

At the conclusion of the talks, the two sides signed an accord on scientific and technological cooperation, agreed to negotiate agreements on customs cooperation, and agreed to raise two-way trade to EURO 50 billion within five years' time.

The EC and India had just recently been able to iron out sharp differences over the inclusion of investment, competition rules and environment in the new WTO trade talks initiated earlier this month in Doha, Qatar. Indian Trade Minister Murasoli Maran's brinkmanship in opposing a new round comprising talks on these so-called Singapore issues, for which the EU had been a major demandeur, had almost led to a collapse of the Doha Ministerial, but an agreement was hammered out after India's reservations over opening talks on the new issues had been acknowledged.

"It is not all about confrontation between the EU and India. What matters in the end is that together we have succeeded," the EU trade chief said after the summit.

Said India's Economic Minister Maran, "we sincerely hope the EU will fulfil its promise to speed up implementation of the pending issues within the WTO in the interest of the developing countries."

According to Indian trade officials, the meeting had been scheduled long before the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference took place, and regardless of its outcomes. Referring to the question whether the EU's move and its timing needed to be seen in a wider context including India's reservations on investment and competition, an EU official stated: "I wouldn't bet on any relationship".

Textiles

Prior to the summit, Lamy announced on 22 November that the EU was willing to provide increased market access for Indian textiles by entering into a bilateral agreement in which India would commit itself to cut high tariffs on textile products from the EU. The EU has previously negotiated similar textile trade deals with Sri Lanka, Ukraine and Pakistan (see BRIDGES Weekly, 23 October 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-10-23/inbrief.#2.htm>), providing these countries' textile exports with greater access to the EU market. Textile products account for about 15 percent of India's total exports, and the EU is the most important destination.

"If India is ready to open more of its markets for our textile and clothing industry which Pakistan did, then we are ready to go in that direction," Lamy stated at a press conference.

The European Commission, which is equipped with a Council mandate for bilateral textiles negotiations, has been asking New Delhi for a year to agree to such an arrangement, but had not achieved any substantial progress so far.

Other areas

Lamy and Maran also met separately to discuss the setting up of working groups in areas such as steel, marine and farm products, telecommunications, information technology, and environment.

Another priority was given to the Joint Initiative for enhancing Trade and Investment, which had been prepared at the first EU India Summit and officially launched in February this year by the EU-India Joint Commission.

"EU, India To Improve Trade," WALL STREET JOURNAL, 26 November 2001; "India, EU Reach Trade Agreement," LOS ANGELES TIMES, 23 November 2001; "India, EU Put Trade On Fast Track," LOS ANGELES TIMES, 22 November 2001; "EU Open More Access For Indian Textiles -- Lamy," REUTERS, 21 November 2001; "India PM

Seeks Market Access For Developing Nations," REUTERS, 23 November 2001; ICTSD Internal Files.

REGIONAL TRADE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WAKE OF DOHA

Chile seeks FTAs with US and EU

On 27 November, Chile and the US began their ninth round of talks on a free trade agreement (FTA) between the two countries with intellectual property, government procurement and the services sector on the agenda. According to the US, the contentious issues of labour and environment, as well as dispute settlement mechanisms will not be discussed at this meeting, but will instead be postponed until the US Congress approves Trade Promotion Authority (TPA; formerly "fast-track"). Congress will vote on TPA -- which would allow the Congress to only approve or reject trade agreements negotiated by the US President, but not amend them -- on 6 December, two days after the end of the US-Chile meeting.

The two countries had originally hoped to complete the bilateral deal, seen as a model for a future hemispheric trade agreement, by the end of the year, but US resistance to amend its anti-dumping laws had slowed down the negotiations. If the TPA bill is passed next week, Chile intends to hold a tenth and final round of talks in the second half of January.

In related news, the US has released the environmental review of the proposed Chile-US FTA with a request for comments by 20 November 2001 (available at <http://www.ustr.gov/environment/draftchileer.pdf>).

On the other side of the Atlantic, Chile is also set to continue talks on an FTA with the EU, which it expects to finalise by May 2002. In the past, negotiations were hindered by disagreements over EU farm subsidies and lack of market access for some Chilean products. According to Deputy Foreign Minister Heraldo Munoz, Chile hopes that the outcomes of the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha -- where Chile has successfully put its priorities, i.e. agricultural subsidies and anti-dumping rules, on the WTO agenda -- will facilitate the negotiations.

Canada to launch free trade talks with Central American countries

Following the FTA between Canada and Costa Rica signed in April 2001, Canadian International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew on 21 November announced the launch of free trade talks with El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala, set to begin in December. While the Central American countries only account for a fraction of Canada's international trade and investment, the FTAs are thought to show Canada's commitment to a hemispheric free trade deal and give new impetus to multilateral trade talks in the WTO. According to Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the bilateral deals will also include labour and environment-related provisions. To date,

Canada has signed FTAs with the US, Mexico, Israel and Chile, and is holding free trade talks with Singapore.

Singapore advocates FTAs to speed up WTO negotiations

FTAs are thought to speed up free trade talks at the WTO, according to a statement released on 23 November by Singapore's Ministry of Trade and Industry. "WTO negotiations are cumbersome because of [the WTO's] huge membership," the statement said. Bilateral FTAs, in contrast, which Singapore has actively pursued in the past, "push the envelope for trade liberalisation and generate new ideas which can catalyse the WTO process," as individual economies might be prepared "to move at a faster pace". Singapore has recently completed free trade talks with New Zealand and Japan, and is currently negotiating with the US, Australia and Mexico.

Europe agrees to free trade talks with Iran

The European Commission on 19 November approved a proposal for negotiating directives for a Trade and Cooperation Agreement with Iran. The contractual relationship for negotiations will contribute to improvements for trade, business and investment conditions and to Iran's further economic liberalisation and deregulation. The agreement will also strengthen co-operation with Iran in certain key areas, including drugs, refugees, energy and the environment. The EU is Iran's largest trading partner.

"Chile-US trade round avoids labor, environment," REUTERS, 27 November 2001; "Chile says Doha talks help pacts with US and EU," REUTERS, 19 November 2001; "Canada, Central American Countries Launch Trade Talks," GLOBE AND MAIL, 21 November 2001; "Canada Begins FTA Negotiations With El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua," WORLD TRADE ONLINE, 21 November 2001; "Singapore Min: Free trade deals can speed up WTO process," AP, 23 November 2001; "EC Agrees to Negotiate For Trade Agreement with Iran," WORLD TRADE ONLINE, 19 November 2001; ICTSD Internal Files.

In Brief

US WILL NOT GRANT ZERO-TARIFF ACCESS FOR BANGLADESHI TEXTILES

US Ambassador Mary Ann Peters said on 13 November that the US would not be able to grant zero-tariff entry for Bangladeshi textiles due to economic recession in the US. The US imports 40 percent of Bangladesh's annual clothing exports worth approximately \$US 5 billion and which account for more than 75 percent of the country's total annual exports. Bangladesh, which is classified as a least-developed country (LDC), is concerned about access to the US market following the US' decision last year to allow

duty-free market access to 72 African and Caribbean countries as part of the 2000 African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). WTO Members at the Fourth Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar, committed themselves to the objective of duty-free, quota-free market access for products originating from LDCs.

"No duty-free entry for Bangladesh textiles: US," GULF TIMES, 14 November 2001.

GERMANY BOOSTS 'GREEN' ENERGY SUPPORT

On 19 November, Germany's Bundestag voted for a significant increase of next year's financial support for solar, thermal, biogas and geothermal energy, thereby rejecting the proposal of Economics Minister Mueller to cut down subsidies for the sector. The budget committee of the parliament decided to boost payments to the renewable energy sector from DM 300 to 400 million in 2001, as reported by a source from the Green Party. For his part, the politically independent Mueller had wanted to cut the spending by DM 100 million. In addition, he further proposed to cut the government's research budget by DM 65 million, but the budget committee overruled Mueller by deciding to cut the 300 million-budget by only some DM 30 million. "It is positive that Mueller's plans could be partially averted," the source stated.

"German Parliament Ups Subsidies For Green Energy," REUTERS, 19 November 2001.

UK FORWARDS OWN EMISSION TRADING SCHEME

According to British officials, the UK is planning to introduce a system allowing its industry to trade emission rights, which is seen by the EC to be incompatible with its own envisaged scheme. Britain's Environment Minister Michael Meacher announced last week that the UK's voluntary trading system, which would be the world's first national pollution trading programme, was expected to commence in April 2002. The scheme provides that its participants are committed to cut their greenhouse gas emissions, either in-house or by trading allowances. In the event companies manage to top their targets, they can sell the surplus allowances. The programme, which includes all six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol, targets an emission reduction of 23 percent by 2010. Under the terms of the EC's compulsory trading regime adopted in October 2001, emissions were to be reduced by only eight percent before 2012. The EU scheme, which would solely cover carbon dioxide, is scheduled to be introduced by 2005. "By 2005 [Britain] will have to adapt our EU-wide system," the Union's Environment Commissioner Margot Wallstrom said. According to Meacher, "we believe it is far better to start with a voluntary scheme. There are bound to be glitches and problems at the beginning and we need the flexibility of a voluntary programme."

"UK Emission Trading To Go Ahead Despite EU Concerns," REUTERS, 22 November 2001.

ON THE MOVE: KLAUS TOEPFER RE-ELECTED AS UNEP HEAD

Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of the Kenya-based UN Environment Programme, has been re-elected for a second term by the 56th UN General Assembly. Toepfer, who is also UN Under Secretary-General and Director-General of the UN Office at Nairobi, expressed delight with his re-election and assured "the UN family of my determination to discharge my duties with all the vigour, intelligence and sensitivity at my disposal". Prior to his appointment as UNEP Executive Director in February 1998, Toepfer held a number of political posts in Germany, including Federal Minister for the environment, nature conservation and nuclear safety. UNWIRE, 26 November 2001.

IN MEMORIAM: MAXIMO KALAW

On 1 November 2001, Maximo "Junie" Kalaw, former Executive Director of the Earth Council, passed on after a courageous struggle with cancer. Despite his condition over the last few months, he continued to dedicate himself to the essential work of sustainable development. Maximo Kalaw's activism was rooted in his deep philosophical and spiritual nature from which he derived the values and ideals that were his compass in everything he undertook. As a gifted speaker and writer he articulated persuasively the values and ideals that motivated him and gave practical effect to them in every aspect of his work. His primary interest and special focus was always on people's involvement at the community and grassroots level. Following the first signs of his illness he dedicated himself exclusively to the Earth Council's work in advancing and supporting National Councils for Sustainable Development in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, S. Africa, in September 2002.

WTO In Brief

MEXICO FORWARDS ITS CANDIDACY TO HOST NEXT MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

On 27 November, Mexico became the first WTO Member since the trade body's last Ministerial from 9-14 November in Doha, Qatar, to offer to host the next Ministerial Conference, scheduled for 2003. South Africa has also reportedly expressed interest in acting as a host for the meeting, which would be the WTO's fifth Ministerial Conference. China, which is likely to enter the WTO later in December, is also a candidate. Trade

officials conjecture that the fifth Ministerial would be held around the middle of 2003 and would act as a midway point between the launch of negotiations after Doha and their projected termination date of 1 January 2005.

"Mexico offers to stage WTO conference in 2003," REUTERS, 27 November 2001.

PHILIPPINES AND EU TO START TALKS ON TUNA

The Philippines and the EU have tentatively blocked off 6-7 December in Brussels to begin talks around canned tuna as agreed in Doha earlier this month at the WTO's Fourth Ministerial Conference. The Philippines, together with Thailand, wants the EU to eliminate a 24 percent tariff on canned tuna exports, particularly in light of the EU's zero duty on tuna imports from countries in the Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific group. Philippines Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas said that talks should be completed by 30 April 2002, and that if results were not satisfactory, the issue would be brought to the WTO's dispute settlement system. "We are hopeful that the negotiations will lead to the drastic reduction, if not elimination of the current 24 percent tariff on canned tuna exports of the Philippines," said Roxas on 22 November. Although the discussions will proceed on a bilateral basis, trade sources said the issue had already been notified to the WTO's Council for Trade in Goods.

"Philippines to ask EU to eliminate high tariffs on canned tuna," AFP, 22 November 2001; ICTSD Internal Files.

WTO RELEASES REPORT ON DUMPING FOR FIRST HALF OF 2001

On 27 November, the WTO released a report documenting the 134 antidumping investigations initiated by Members in the period 1 January - 30 June 2001. The US came first on the list, with 39 cases, which represent a 44 percent increase over the same period last year. Canada ranked second, with 23 cases, followed by India with 16 and the EC with 13. Among the countries accused of dumping goods on others' markets, China, which will join the WTO next month, accounted for the largest number, with 22 cases. The WTO list confirms that China's exports, which are driven primarily by cheap labour costs, have been a major source of friction with its trading partners. Other countries weighing in heavily on the dumping side were South Korea with 10 cases, Taiwan nine, and India eight. Overall, the WTO list shows a growing tendency on the part of industrial countries filing antidumping charges against developing countries. For the WTO press release and accompanying information on this issue see http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres01_e/pr259_e.htm.

"U.S. ranks top in antidumping probes: WTO," KYODO NEWS INTERNATIONAL, 27 November 2001.

Events & Resources

EVENTS

For a more comprehensive list of events in trade and sustainable development, please refer to ICTSD's web calendar at: <http://www.ictsd.org/cal/index.htm>.

Coming Up This Week

26-30 November, Dakar, Senegal: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE CULTURAL APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA. This event will be held by the African Itinerant College for Culture and Development (AICCD) in collaboration with UNESCO and the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) and with the financial support of the International Development Research Centre of Canada. The conference will discuss development in Africa with respect to culture and develop frameworks for future collaboration. For further information contact: Burama Sagnia at the AICD; tel: (221) 823 10 20; fax: 28 42 68; email: b.sagnia@unidep.org.

26-30 November, Helsinki, Finland: AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE. For further information contact: CBD Secretariat, Montreal, Canada; tel: (514) 288-2220; fax: 288-6588; email: secretariat@biodiv.org; Internet: <http://www.biodiv.org>. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal/>.

27-29 November, Phnom Penh, Cambodia: WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ASIA PACIFIC PREPARATORY MEETING. For further information contact: Hiroko Morita-Lou, UN-DESA, New York; tel: (212) 963-8813; fax: 963-4260; email: morita-lou@un.org; Internet: http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/web_pages/asia_pacific.htm.

27-30 November, Raleigh-Durham, US: LMOs AND THE ENVIRONMENT: AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) will host a conference to promote dialogue between developed and developing countries on the underlying science for assessing transgenic organisms in the environment. For further information contact: OECD; tel: (33-1) 4524-8097; fax: 4524-9437; email: RaleighConference@oecd.org; Internet: <http://www1.oecd.org/ehs/raleigh/index.htm>.

28 November, Ottawa, Canada: CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND CULTURE. The Centre for Trade Policy and Law (Carleton University and University of Ottawa) is sponsoring a one-day conference on Trade and Culture. This conference will present perspectives and policy recommendations on issues in trade agreements as they relate to policy development in Canada. For further information contact: CTPL; tel: (1-613) 520-

6696; fax: 520-3981; email: ctpl@carleton.ca; Internet:
<http://www.carleton.ca/ctpl/upcoming.htm>.

28-29 November, Montevideo, Uruguay: SYMPOSIUM ON THE INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS. Organised by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the National Directorate for Industrial Property (DNPI), Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining of Uruguay. For further information contact: WIPO Secretariat, tel: (41 22) 338-9428; email: francis.gurry@wipo.int; Internet:
http://www.wipo.int/eng/meetings/2001/geo_mvd/index.htm.

29 November - 1 December, Flores, Peten, Guatemala: SECOND INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS OF SCIENTISTS: "PEASANT ECONOMY AND CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTHERN MAYA LOWLANDS OF GUATEMALA, MEXICO AND BELIZE." For further information contact: Silvel Elias at selias@flacso.edu.gt.

1-4 December, Pretoria, South Africa: FAO EXPERT CONSULTATION ON TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND TRANSFER. For more information visit the FAO calendar at <http://www.fao.org/events/index.asp>.

4-5 December, Calcutta, India: CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP: MEETING THE CHALLENGES. This conference, organised by the Centre for Social Markets, will bring together senior figures from business and industry, finance, media, government and NGOs for open discussion. For further information contact: Malini Mehra, Director, Centre for Social Markets; tel: (44-20) 7407-7625; fax: 7407-7082; email: info4csm@aol.com; Internet: <http://www.csmworld.org>.

WTO Events

An updated list of forthcoming WTO meetings is posted at: http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/meets.doc. 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 the different bodies. Unless otherwise indicated, all WTO meetings are held at the WTO, Centre William Rappard, rue de Lausanne 154, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland. For further information on WTO events contact: WTO Information and Media Relations Division, Geneva; tel: (41-22) 739- 5007; fax: 739-5458; email: enquiries@wto.org.

28 November, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO MEETING ON SERVICES: GATS RULES WORKING PARTY.

29 November, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS COMMITTEE (ITA).

29 November, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO DOMESTIC REGULATION COMMITTEE.

30 November, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SERVICES: SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS COMMITTEE.

3 December, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES.

3 December, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES - SPECIAL SESSION.

3-5 December, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: INFORMAL SPECIAL SESSION. Discussion topics on the agenda include: the environment (criteria for protection and differential treatment), trade preferences role in further reform, and consumer information and labelling (developing country aspects and improving methods).

3 & 5 December, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO TRADE POLICY REVIEW BODY - MALAYSIA.

4 December, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS.

4-6 December, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES - SPECIAL SESSION.

Other Forthcoming Events

8-10 January 2002, Paris, France: AGRICULTURE BEYOND TRADE. This event is organised by Solagral and the CIA (Technical Centre of Rural and Agriculture Cooperation), in partnership with Le Cirad, the European Commission, the French Ministry Of Foreign Affairs, and the French Ministry Of Agriculture and Fishery. For further information, contact: Solagral Paris; tel: +33 (0)1 43 94 73 33; fax : 43 94 73 36; email: solagral@solagral.asso.fr; Internet: <http://www.solagral.org/>.

21-25 January 2002, Geneva, Switzerland: COMMISSION ON INVESTMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND RELATED FINANCIAL ISSUES SIXTH SESSION. Key items for discussion include: the impact of international investment flows on development, international policy issues: measures to encourage transfer of technology especially in least developed countries, investment policy reviews, reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, and progress report on implementation. For further information, contact Ms. Lisanne Losier, Secretary of the Commission at (41-22) 917-4054. Or contact the UNCTAD Secretariat; fax: 917-0056; email: correspondence@unctad.org; Internet: <http://www.unctad.org/en/special/c2nos6.htm>.

28-29 January 2002, Midrand, South Africa: UNEP FI REGIONAL OUTREACH EVENT - AFRICA. Organised by the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiatives (UNEP FI). The conference aims to address the role of the African financial sector in the progression of sustainable development. The objective of the conference is

to highlight and encourage the active participation of diverse African financial institutions within the dynamics of sustainability. Both financial sector and non-financial sector participation is welcome. The conference will adopt a double roundtable format, focusing on: Day 1: The Financial Sector in Africa: The Business Case for Sustainability Performance. Day 2: Foreign Direct Investment: Creating a Sustainability Dynamic. For further information contact Niamh O'Sullivan, tel: (41 22) 917 81 78, Fax: 917 80 76; email: niamh.o.sullivan@unep.ch; Internet: <http://www.unepfi.net/africa>.

4-8 February 2002, Geneva, Switzerland: COMMISSION ON TRADE IN GOODS AND SERVICES, AND COMMODITIES SIXTH SESSION. Main items on the agenda include: energy services in international trade: development implications, market access issues facing developing countries, and a progress report on the implementation. For further information, contact: UNCTAD Secretariat; tel: (41-22) 917-5637; fax: 917-0056; email: correspondence@unctad.org; Internet: <http://www.unctad.org/en/special/c1nos6.htm>.

17-19 February 2002, Nürnberg, Germany: INTERNATIONAL HARMONISATION AND EQUIVALENCE IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. Organised by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), in cooperation with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, and the UN Conference on Trade and Development. For further information, contact the IFOAM Head Office, tel: (49 6853) 91989-0; fax: 91989-9; email: HeadOffice@ifoam.org; Internet: <http://www.ifoam.org/conf/index.html>.

13-17 May 2002, Maracay, Venezuela: BIOSAFETY 3 "ADVANCED ISSUES ON BIOSAFETY: RISK MONITORING AND PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY". The workshop, originally scheduled from 12 to 16 November 2001, has been rescheduled for May 2002 in Maracay, Venezuela (rather than Caracas as previously scheduled). Organisers: Efrain G. Salazar Yamarte (Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Agropecuarias/CENIAP, Maracay, Venezuela Rafael Rangel Aldao (Centro Tecnológico Polar, Caracas, Venezuela). For further information, contact: Dr. Efrain G. Salazar Yamarte, Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Agropecuarias (CENIAP); tel: 58-243- 2471066, 4519767; fax: 243-2471066; email: efra63@icnet.com.ve, efra63@hotmail.com.

4-5 July 2002, Versailles, France: EUROPEAN CONGRESS: PRAGMATIC APPROACHES TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY IN COMPANIES. Presented by the IAI 02 European Congress, a congress facing concerning the European Union and Eastern Europe. Guest speakers are members of civil society "who have made significant contribution to the practice of sustainable development." About 40 cases will be presented at this meeting. For further information, contact: Entreprises pour l'Environnement; email: info@iai-2002.org; tel: 33-1-55-69-1333; fax: 55-69-1330; Internet: <http://www.iai-2002.org/>.

RESOURCES

If you have a relevant resource (books, papers, bulletins, etc.) you would like to see announced in this section, please forward a copy for review by the BRIDGES staff to Hugo Cameron, hcameron@ictsd.ch. Submissions of publications to ICTSD's documentation centre would also be welcome (contact Marc Galvin, mgalvin@ictsd.ch).

THE GLOBAL EU: VISIONS FOR THE WTO. By Christian Friis Bach. Published by New Europe and Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke, 1 November 2001. The book argues that the WTO is at a significant crossroads; either the WTO continues as a narrow co-operation on trade barriers, or the course is set towards "The global EU" with social improvements, environmental protection and security policy as key issues. Further information is available online at: www.TheGlobalEU.dk.

WTO IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM: COMMENTARY, CASE LAW, LEGAL TEXT. Edited by Arun Goyal and Noor Mohd. Published by the Academy of Business Studies, September 2001. The book is a reference for international trade law and conduct of world trade and includes meeting texts of ministerial declarations from Doha. For further information contact the Academy of Business Studies: email: arung@nda.vsnl.net.in; wto@mantraonline.com.

EARTH SUMMIT 2002: A NEW DEAL. Edited by Felix Dodds with Toby Middleton. Published by Earthscan in association with UNED Forum, November 2001. The book is a useful resource for those who want to push the forward the agenda of global sustainable development, with information on the 2002 Earth Summit - The World Summit on Sustainable Development. Further information is available online at: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3524>.

YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT 2001-2002. By The Fridtjof Nansen Institute. Published by Earthscan, September 2001. The reference book explains the international community's position on specific environmental and developmental issues, the main obstacles to effective international solutions, and how to overcome them. Further information is available online at: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3484>.

FARMER INNOVATION IN AFRICA. Edited by Chris Reij and Ann Waters-Bayer. Published by Earthscan, October 2001. The book presents a series of detailed studies that demonstrate how small-scale farmers, both men and women, experiment and innovate in order to improve their livelihoods, despite the adverse conditions and lack of appropriate external support with which they have to contend. Further information is available online at: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3489>.

MALAYSIA - MAHATHIRISM, HEGEMONY AND THE NEW OPPOSITION. By John Hilley. Published by Zed Books, The book argues that Mahathir Mohammed has made considerable strides in building consent. This has involved developmentalist

strategies, a language of post-ethnic nationalism and the prospect of expanding social rewards. Further information is available online at: <http://www.zedbooks.demon.co.uk/>.

Electronic Resources

WEBSITES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROFESSIONALS. The Federation of International Trade Associates (FITA) offers a bi-weekly email containing numerous websites relating to international trade. Subscriptions and further information are available online at: www.fita.org.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Senior Adviser - Economics and the Environment, IUCN - World Conservation Union
Location: IUCN Headquarters, Gland, Switzerland, with frequent travel. Availability: immediate. The Senior Adviser - Economics and the Environment is a high-level post that reports to the Director, Global Programme and advises on all economic matters, including the strategic integration of economics into the IUCN Programme. Inter alia, the Senior Adviser will guide the integration of environmental economics into IUCN's Programme; and assist the Programme to develop economics capacity. Qualifications: inter alia, an advanced degree in economics; a minimum of 10 years of international professional experience with the practical application of economics to conservation, including linking global policy issues to field practice; a strategic approach to programme development and management; proven fundraising abilities; and fluency in written and spoken English. For further information visit <http://iucn.org/vacancies/econsradv.doc>. Applications should be submitted before 4 December 2001.

A searchable archive of BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest© can be accessed at:
http://www.newsbulletin.org/bulletins/WhichBulletin.cfm?Bulletin_ID=14&SID=

BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest© is published by the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), <http://www.ictsd.org>. Electronic distribution is carried out by the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP).

Contributors to this issue are Heike Baumuller, Morgan Croney, David Primack, Matteo Rizzolli, Alex Werth, Caroline Wiman, and Jayson Yost. This edition of BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest was edited by Hugo Cameron, hcameron@ictsd.ch. Managing Editor is Andrew Crosby. The Director is Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, rmelendez@ictsd.ch. ICTSD is an independent, not-for-profit organisation based at: 13, ch. des Anémones, 1219 Geneva, Switzerland, tel: (41-22) 917-8492; fax: 917-8093. Excerpts from BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest© may be used in other publications with appropriate citation. Comments and suggestions are welcomed and should be directed to the Editor or the Director.

BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest is made possible in 2001 through the generous support of: the Governments of Switzerland (SECO) and the United Kingdom (DFID) and the Rockefeller Foundation. It also benefits from ICTSD's core funders: the Governments of Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden; Christian Aid (UK), IUCN The World Conservation Union, MISEREOR, NOVIB (NL), Oxfam (UK) and the Swiss Coalition of Development Organisations (Switzerland).

ISSN 1563-003X