



ICTSD

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR  
TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

# **BRIDGES**

## Weekly Trade News Digest

19 March 2002

Volume 6, Number 10

**BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest** is also available online and is updated every week. To subscribe to **BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest**, please visit the ICTSD website at

<http://www.ictsd.org/subscribe>

If you require any assistance setting up your **BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest** subscription, please contact Hugo Cameron, Editor, by email at: [hcameron@ictsd.ch](mailto:hcameron@ictsd.ch), or by telephone at: (41-22) 917-8336.

### CONTENTS

<b>SERVICES: MEMBERS AGREE TO FURTHER EXTEND ESM DEADLINE</b>	2
<b>EUROPEAN AND CHINESE BIOTECH RULES UNDER THE MICROSCOPE AT WTO</b>	5
<b>UNEP FISHERIES TRADE WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS CHALLENGES FACING POLICYMAKERS</b>	6
<b>ENVIRONMENT IN DOHA DECLARATION ON CTE MENU THIS WEEK</b>	8
<b>EXPORT INCENTIVES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ADDRESSED AT FIRST SUBSIDIES NEGOTIATIONS MEETING</b>	9
<b>NEW EU STRATEGY PAPER ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRADE; EU TO INCREASE ODA</b>	10
<b>In Brief</b>	12
<b>PHILIPPINES MULLS WITHDRAWAL FROM WTO, CAIRNS</b>	12
<b>USTR SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT IN DEVELOPMENT OF US TRADE POSITION</b>	12
<b>UN FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE UNDER PRESSURE TO PRODUCE</b>	13
<b>CITES TRADE MEASURES PROMPT GOVERNMENTS TO IMPROVE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT</b>	14
<b>SWIFT RENEWAL OF US-ANDEAN TRADE DEAL URGED, 'LIFE OR DEATH' FOR PERU</b>	14
<b>OECD, UNCTAD AGREE TO JOIN TO HELP POOR NATIONS</b>	15
<b>WTO In Brief</b>	15
<b>WTO ISSUES NEGOTIATION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2002</b>	15
<b>DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: MEMBERS DISCUSS 'SEQUENCING' AND TIMEFRAME CONSTRAINTS</b>	16
<b>WTO AND NGOS ADDRESS ASSESSMENT OF SERVICES TRADE</b>	17
<b>Events &amp; Resources</b>	17
<b>EVENTS</b>	17
<b>RESOURCES</b>	21

## **SERVICES: MEMBERS AGREE TO FURTHER EXTEND ESM DEADLINE**

Over the past week, WTO Members met for a series of services-related meetings as part of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) work programme. After a final 2-day delay on a decision on the extension of a deadline for the establishment of an emergency safeguard mechanism (ESM) for the GATS WTO Members agreed on 15 March to prolong the period for negotiating such an instrument until 15 March 2004. In the GATS subsidiary bodies, Members mainly discussed how to organise and advance future work of the Working Party on Domestic Regulation (WPDR), the Working Party on GATS Rules (WPGR), and the Committee on Specific Commitments (CSC) so as to avoid replication of work undertaken at the special sessions of the Council for Trade in Services (CTS).

The extension of the EMS deadline, originally proposed by the Services Council Chair, was supported *inter alia* by the EC, Mexico, Brazil, Canada, New Zealand, Argentina, Korea, Japan and Turkey. The deadline had originally been mandated within the GATS Article X (Emergency Safeguard Measures) as being not later than three years after the entry into force of the WTO agreement (i.e. 1 January 1998). The deadline was most recently extended to 15 March 2002 ('guidelines' paragraph 7) (see BRIDGES Weekly, 26 February 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-26/story4.htm>).

The new deadline had been suggested by the outgoing Chairperson of the Working Party on GATS Rules (WPGR), Mr. Hugo Cayrus from Uruguay, who also proposed in separate notes the addition of two further elements to the decision, i.e.: firstly, to use the opportunity of the Fifth WTO Ministerial to be held in 2003 to conduct a stock-taking exercise; and, secondly, to establish a work program for the WPGR on the organisation of its future work. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) group, which had originally called for a one-year prolongation of the deadline, finally accepted the Chair's proposal under the condition that the second additional element be modified: "The Chair will carry out consultations in order to establish" a program structuring future work of the Working Party. Members finally agreed to the two-year option together with the modified Chair's notes. As an ASEAN source commented, ASEAN Members welcome this compromise provided that "Members get down to business now." The ASEAN group is a key demandeur for an ESM and therefore sought a short extension so as to accelerate the ESM negotiation process. Ideally, one trade source said, the outgoing Chair Mr. Cayrus would now commence informal consultations with Members on the work programme in order to come up with draft proposals in the next services cluster scheduled for the end of May. "Members have no time to lose" in the ESM negotiations, the source added.

### **Subsidiary bodies**

According to observers, Members are currently in a phase of determining what the future role of the subsidiary bodies to the CTS will be. Following the 3 February decision of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) to hold the services negotiations in a special

session of the CTS, the latter's subsidiary bodies have recently been paralysed due to an overlap with CTS activities, as "Members do not want to duplicate their work", a trade source explained. Whereas some Members would like to see a further shift of discussions towards the special sessions of the CTS (CTS-SS), some point to the services negotiation guidelines which specify that "existing subsidiary bodies shall be utilised to their maximum capacity." As some sources cautioned, however, a relocation of the work done at the subsidiary bodies to the CTS-SS would not necessarily improve the pace of negotiations as the issues dealt with at the CTS-SS were so diverse that an in-depth discussion of specific subjects was hardly possible. Furthermore, there are concerns that in such a case issues would more likely be dealt with in the bilateral context, thereby undermining the multilateral nature of the process.

### CSC

Observers regarded it as a positive signal that at an 11 March Committee on Specific Commitments (CSC) meeting, Australia as well as MERCOSUR submitted proposals for consideration by the CSC. Whereas Australia, on the one hand, tabled a supplement (S/CSS/W/67/Suppl.2; S/CSC/W/32, searchable at:

[http://docsonline.wto.org/gen\\_search.asp](http://docsonline.wto.org/gen_search.asp)) to its negotiating proposals on legal services (S/CSS/W/67, S/CSS/W/67/Corr.1 and S/CSS/W/67/Suppl.1/Rev.1), and MERCOSUR introduced its proposal on postal and courier services (S/CSS/W/108) which had already been discussed at the CTS, this development could, said one source, nevertheless be seen as an effort by some Members to shift work back to the subsidiary bodies.

### WPDR

In an attempt to overcome the general lack of progress in the work of the subsidiary bodies, Members mainly discussed at a 12 March Working Party on Domestic Regulations (WPDR) meeting how to organise their future work. According to sources, Members were able to agree to "move away from the abstract and go to the concrete". This development was seen as an important step as Members had previously addressed the issues revolving around the GATS Article VI.4 debate -- i.e. necessity and transparency in particular -- from a rather theoretical and conceptual point of view (see BRIDGES Weekly, 4 December 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-12-04/story1.htm>). Members are now invited to submit examples and measures relating to those regulatory issues, which they potentially regard as trade barriers. With only four (informal) submissions by Members including Japan and the US, Members have so far been rather reluctant to engage in identifying practical examples for potentially trade-restricting domestic regulations as listed in Article VI.4. However, interventions by some Members, in particular Guyana, have recently demonstrated a renewed interest in a broader engagement in discussions.

### Other issues

On 18 March, Members met at the CTS for a review of the GATS Annex on Air Transport Services. At present, most of the air transport sector -- traffic rights and services directly related to traffic rights -- is excluded from the coverage of the GATS.

However, the GATS mandates a review by members of this situation. Talks have stalled, however, due to an impasse between a camp of countries promoting further liberalisation such as Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, and Chile on the one hand, and the US on the other. Therefore, at the 18 March meeting, the 'liberalising' group hinted at the possibility to take a plurilateral approach as e.g. chosen in the Agreement on Government Procurement (AGP) so as to move the process at least between the more proactive Members. Other Members took note of the proposal but requested more time to reflect. The date for the next review is not yet determined, but might take place in July, October or even in May next year.

Also on 18 March, Members convened in the Committee on Trade in Financial Services (CTFS) *inter alia* to review the acceptance of the Fifth Protocol to the GATS (see BRIDGES Weekly, 16 October 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-10-16/story5.htm>). The acceptance of seven Members is still pending, but both the Dominican Republic as well as Poland indicated that they may be able to finalise the ratification processes within the next six months.

For the current 19-22 March special session of the CTS (CTS-SS), the following submissions have been circulated for discussion at the three- day negotiating session:

- Proposal (supplement) by Australia on Legal Services (S/CSS/67/Suppl.2 and S/CSC/W/32)
- Proposal by EC on autonomous lib. (S/CSS/W/133) (see BRIDGES Weekly, 26 February 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-26/story4.htm>)
- Proposal by HK-China on autonomous liberalisation. (S/CSS/W/134)
- Proposal by Australia on Business Services other than legal services (S/CSS/W/135)
- Proposal by Australia on Distribution Services (S/CSS/W/136)
- Proposal by Japan on Education Services (S/CSS/W/137)
- Communication by Korea on MFN exemptions (S/C/W/204)

For an overview on the agenda of the CTS-SS, see BRIDGES Weekly, 26 February 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-26/story4.htm>). BRIDGES will report on the outcomes of the CTS-SS in its forthcoming issue.

See also WTO In Brief, this issue, on both a WTO and an NGO event on assessment of liberalisation in services trade.

"Trade: GATS Emergency Safeguards Talks To Be Extended?," SUNS, 14 March 2002. ICTSD Internal Files.

## **EUROPEAN AND CHINESE BIOTECH RULES UNDER THE MICROSCOPE AT WTO**

Biotechnology regulations in the EU and China and were among the topics of discussion at meetings of the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) on 15 March and the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) on 19-21 March.

### **EU labelling and traceability rules**

Regarding the EU labelling and traceability requirements for genetically modified (GM) foods -- proposed by the European Commission and currently under discussion in the European Council (see BRIDGES Weekly, 31 July 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/html/weekly/31-07-01/story5.htm>) -- Argentina, Canada, Australia and the US enquired after the objectives of the proposal, questioning how the requirements are meant to protect consumer health. The US furthermore questioned the rationale behind extending the regulations from food to feed. Canada, for its part, stated that the proposed regulations could be discriminatory as they would only apply to foods derived from GMOs (e.g. oil made from GM soy), but not to foods made with GMOs (e.g. certain wines and cheeses made with GM enzymes). In response, the EC argued that the proposed rules were not discriminatory as they applied equally to all food products from all countries.

Regarding the continued EU de facto moratorium on the approval of GMOs (see BRIDGES Trade BioRes, 7 March, <http://www.ictsd.org/biores/02-03-07/story1.htm>), Canada reiterated its belief that the moratorium did not have a scientific basis. Using GM canola as an example, Canada argued that no health, food safety or environmental reasons existed to block its approval, especially in light of two favourable opinions from the EU's Scientific Committee on Plants, and highlighted the significant trade loss that had resulted from the failure to approve GM canola.

In its statement, the EC stressed that the proposed rules aim to ensure consumer safety and social acceptance of GM foods, and to allow consumers to make an informed choice. The EC furthermore pointed out that the proposed labelling and traceability regulations could, at the earliest, be finalised by the end of the year, but that discussions were likely to continue into next year. Regarding comments raised by other WTO Members, the EC said it would respond in writing.

### **China's GM regulations**

The US, Canada and Argentina also addressed China's recent biotechnology regulations, which require importers of agricultural biotechnology products to apply for official safety verification approval from China's Ministry of Agriculture. The regulations were originally scheduled to enter into force on 20 March, but have been temporarily waived in response to US concerns (see BRIDGES Weekly, 12 March 2002; <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-12/inbrief.htm>). While welcoming the interim waiver granted by China, Canada and the US used the Chinese regulations as an example of the

importance of transparency and notification. In particular, they argued that the Chinese rules, whose details were announced on 7 January, did not leave a reasonable time for compliance, and that China had not developed the regulations in a transparent way. In response, China contested that the new regulations had been developed prior to its WTO accession when China had not been under transparency obligations.

SPS Committee to discuss biotech and equivalence

China's import regulations for GMOs, the EU de facto moratorium on the approval of new agricultural biotechnology products, and labelling and traceability of food and feed products derived from GMOs are also on the agenda of the SPS Committee meeting on 19-21 March (see G/SPS/N/EEC/149 and 150; searchable at <http://docsonline.wto.org>). Delegates will also discuss a work programme to further the implementation of Article 4 of the SPS Agreement on the equivalence of SPS measures in different Member states, as instructed in the Decision on the Implementation of Article 4 adopted in October 2001 (see G/SPS/19). BRIDGES Weekly will report on the outcomes of the meeting in next week's issue.

ICTSD Internal Files.

## **UNEP FISHERIES TRADE WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS CHALLENGES FACING POLICYMAKERS**

On 15 March, a Workshop on Impacts of Trade-Related Policies on Fisheries and Measures for Sustainable Fisheries Management organised by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) brought together government and non-governmental participants to address some of the most difficult and politically sensitive issues in the trade and sustainable development interface.

The meeting was one of the first opportunities for attendees to discuss fisheries trade issues after trade ministers agreed to address these at the WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar in November 2001. The meeting was attended by approximately 80 participants, including environment and trade officials, representatives from the WTO, the OECD, the FAO, UNCTAD and numerous non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The active participation of both governments and NGOs demonstrated the strong interest in addressing these issues, though the diversity of views on many aspects of the debate also indicated that there remains considerable room for advancement. While participants agreed that fisheries development, conservation and trade could be mutually supportive, there remained disagreement on the scope and sequence of issues to be examined, including on subsidies.

The meeting focused on general impacts of trade liberalisation and fisheries management via the presentation of a group of case studies, while discussion principally focused on

subsidy-related issues. These included a working definition of the term 'subsidy' in the fisheries sector; establishing causal links between types of subsidies, conditions of management and the state of fish stocks; and special treatment for developing countries on subsidies reform. Three UNEP-commissioned case studies were presented. These included country studies for Bangladesh, Mauritania and Uganda as well as a study performed by Japan on management and macroeconomic factors affecting fisheries. These were complemented by presentations from collaborating international organisations and NGOs

Among the major fisheries management issues discussed was the participation of foreign fleets in fisheries and the ability of governments to assess the benefits and drawbacks of access agreements, and their ability to enforce them once entered. Similarly, the impact on specific fisheries by unregulated entry of non-members, where management agreements exist, was pointed out as a critical factor in addressing fishery sustainability and effective trade.

Although attendees generally favoured addressing subsidies that were harmful for fisheries and trade, they were divided on how to approach them, with some participants calling for advancing a broad-based understanding of the specific factors that impacted individual fisheries (referred to as a matrix approach). Others called for a targeted approach of studying a few key areas where subsidies were thought to be particularly distortive or beneficial.

Participants also discussed the definition of subsidies in the fisheries sector and their inclusion in talks at the WTO. Among the benefits of a clearer definition, according to some, would be to improve the framework for notifications in the WTO. Most participants seemed to favour a narrower definition that built on the current definition in the WTO's Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Agreement and perhaps extended to sector specific clarification; there was little support for expanding the definition of subsidies to include the costs of fisheries management services or of inadequate enforcement. Several participants also expressed considerable concern for the treatment of artisanal fisheries and their particularly sensitive role in providing food, employment and broader development.

Participants called for UNEP to continue to conduct case studies and advance its work by continuing to provide an open forum for discussion. Many participants also supported continued coordination between intergovernmental organisations and NGOs working in the fisheries area.

ICTSD Internal Files.



## **ENVIRONMENT IN DOHA DECLARATION ON CTE MENU THIS WEEK**

The WTO's Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) is scheduled to hold its first regular CTE session of 2002 on 21 March. It will be followed by a formal special (negotiating) session of the CTE on 22 March.

The CTE meeting of 21 March will address items relevant to the market access cluster, with particular attention to: (a) paragraph 32(i) of the Doha Declaration -- "The effect of environmental measures on market access, especially in relation to developing countries, in particular the least-developed among them, and those situations in which the elimination or reduction of trade restrictions and distortions would benefit trade, the environment and development"; (b) other items in the market access cluster of the CTE work programme (items 2, 3, and 4; see [http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/envir\\_e/cte00\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/cte00_e.htm)); (c) Paragraph 33 of the Doha Declaration -- on technical assistance and environmental reviews; and (d) Paragraph 51 of the Doha Declaration -- on identifying and debating developmental and environmental aspects of the negotiations, in order to help achieve the objective of having sustainable development appropriately reflected.

At the last meeting of the CTE, Members agreed to postpone discussion of the requests for intergovernmental observer status pending discussions in the General Council, including the latest request from the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) (WT/CTE/COM/9). The list of all organizations which have been granted observer status in the Committee and those whose request is pending is contained in WT/CTE/W/41/Rev.8. This remains a contentious issue in the special sessions, with India concerned primarily that granting observer status at the negotiating level in the CTE could have wider systemic impacts. While observers will not be allowed to attend the special sessions on Friday, trade sources indicate that observers might be authorised to attend future special sessions once this issue is more fully addressed, perhaps at the level of the Trade Negotiations Committee. Given that one of the CTE negotiating topics is information exchange between the WTO and multilateral environmental agreement secretariats, some trade sources have pointed out that not allowing observers in these sessions makes little sense.

At the 21 March meeting, Members will also address a recent submission by New Zealand on the fisheries sector (WT/CTE/W/204) put forward for discussion under paragraph 32(i) of the Doha Declaration (see above).

ICTSD will report further on these meetings in its next issue.

ICTSD Internal Files.



## **EXPORT INCENTIVES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ADDRESSED AT FIRST SUBSIDIES NEGOTIATIONS MEETING**

On 13 March, the WTO Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM) met for the first time in formal special (negotiating) session, followed by an informal session. The Committee held discussions on requests by developing countries -- under a Ministerial Decision on Article 24.7 of the Subsidies Agreement taken in Doha -- to extend their use of export incentives (e.g. tax and duty exemptions for exporters and free trade zones). At the meeting, a number of developing countries appealed for extensions, citing their particular economic and developmental needs. In January, 25 extension requests were received, mostly from Members from Latin America and the Caribbean (see BRIDGES Weekly, 22 January 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-01-22/story2.htm>).

Under the existing rules of Article 27.4, WTO Members can seek an extension to the phase-out deadline (1 January 2003), provided the request is submitted one year prior to the expiration date. This extension is then eligible for renewal based on annual consultations with the SCM Committee, taking into account "all relevant economic, financial and development needs" of the requesting Member. The new procedures adopted at Doha (see document G/SCM/W/471 at [http://docsonline.wto.org/gen\\_search.asp](http://docsonline.wto.org/gen_search.asp)) allow for an extension mechanism that can run through to the end of 2007. Under these terms, the annual review process will still occur; however, it will be in the form of further notifications submitted by the requesting Member to ensure that certain transparency requirements are met.

At the 13 March meeting, extension requests were submitted by Colombia, Guatemala, Panama, and Thailand.

Colombia requested an extension for its Special Import-Export System for Capital Goods and Spare Parts (SIEX), which grants tax and duty exemption to capital equipment for use by exporting companies, and its Free-Zone Regime. Colombia argued that these programmes do not discriminate against imports, and that they covered only a very small amount of total exports.

Guatemala requested an extension for its tax and duty exemption on machinery, parts and accessories required for 1) production process of companies under special customs regimes; 2) for managers and users of Free Zones; and 3) for enterprises operating in Industrial and Trade Free Zones (ZOLIC).

Panama requested an extension for two programmes: Official Industrial Register, tax exemption and other benefits for exporting companies; and Export Processing Zones.

Thailand requested an extension for the following subsidy programmes: Investment Promotion Incentives, Export Market Diversification Promotion Programme, and Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (industrial zones in rural areas). As the questions

and answers on Thailand's programmes were received only very recently, it was decided to postpone consideration of this request until the next meeting.

Australia, the EC, Japan, Switzerland and the US provided most of the written questions to these requests. They were primarily concerned about obtaining more detailed information and assurances that these programmes did not discriminate against imports. As such, no final agreement was reached on the extensions, and Members will come back to this point at the next meeting of the special session, scheduled for 30 April.

Kenya and Sri Lanka indicated their reservation of rights as Members listed in Annex VII(b) of the Subsidies Agreement (i.e. countries with less than \$US1,000 GNP per capita, which are exempted from disciplines on export subsidies). They have to make this reservation in order to take account of the possibility that they may graduate from the list.

Kenya said it continues to aim for export-oriented industrialisation, and thus needs to continue its incentives programmes (Export Processing Zones, Export Promotion Programme under Customs and Excise Regulations, and Manufacture under Bond) even after it graduates from the list. It said these programmes have been a big contributor to increasing employment, transfer of technology and building backward linkages in Kenya. The EU, Switzerland, Australia and the US urged Kenya to notify in full its subsidy programmes.

In its reservation, Sri Lanka listed a number of incentives for exporting companies, including income tax holidays, internal tax exemptions, import duty exemption and exemptions from exchange controls. It stressed that it was only reserving its right, and was not yet graduated from the list.

At the informal session, Members discussed both notification-related issues and review of the provisions of the SCM Agreement regarding countervailing duty investigations.

ICTSD Internal Files.

## **NEW EU STRATEGY PAPER ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRADE; EU TO INCREASE ODA**

EU Foreign Ministers on 11 March approved a European Commission strategy paper on the integration of environmental considerations into foreign and trade policy. Further, following the EU's contribution to the technical assistance fund at the WTO pledging conference on 11 March, Heads of State at the 15-16 March EU summit agreed to step up efforts to increase development assistance as part of the overall package aimed at meeting the UN target of 0.7 percent of GNP.

### New strategy paper on environment and trade

EU Foreign Ministers on 11 March approved a European Commission strategy paper on the integration of environmental considerations into foreign and trade policy, which establishes a "framework for a coherent and ambitious approach to environmental concerns by the European Union in its external relations". Regarding future trade negotiations, the paper stresses the European Commission's commitment to a "much stronger and more integrated sustainable development component" in its policy approach in line with the Commission's wider commitment under its Sustainable Development Strategy (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 February 2002; <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-20/story3.htm>). In this context, the paper reiterates the Commission's commitment to Sustainability Impact Assessments of all major policy initiatives, including trade policy, which will aim to "inform negotiators about potential impacts of negotiated results, with a view to adjusting their objectives and proposals as appropriate."

The paper is available at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/miti/envir/envintegr.htm>.

### Barcelona summit agrees on position for Monterrey

The 15 Heads of State and Government of the EU at the summit of the European Council in Barcelona, Spain, on 15-16 March reached an agreement on their common position for the International Conference on Financing for Development, currently underway in Monterrey, Mexico (18- 22 March). In particular, the Council Conclusions stress the importance of development financing of the "Doha Development Agenda" while at the same time highlighting developing countries' responsibility for their own development, including the creation of a sound macroeconomic environment, an appropriate framework for investments, good governance, transparency and elimination of corruption.

In addition, member states that have so far failed to reach the 0.7 percent target of ODA per GDP have committed themselves to individually increase their ODA volume in the next four years in an effort to collectively reach an EU average of 0.36 percent by 2006, which would mark an increase of 0.03 percent from the current average of 0.33 percent. "All the EU Member State will in any case strive to reach...at least 0.33 percent ODA/GNI by 2006," the Conclusions state. According to Oxfam UK, this agreement would leave EU contributions to aid less than they were a decade ago and would generate less than a quarter of the money needed for the UN Millennium Development Goals of halving global poverty by 2015.

EU member states furthermore reiterated their commitment to increased assistance for long-term trade-related capacity building and immediate trade-related technical assistance to improve developing countries' negotiating capacity. This statement comes in the wake of the EU's recent contribution of \$US 8.3 million to the "Doha Development Agenda Trust Fund", which makes up almost 60 percent of the total amount pledged for 2002 (see BRIDGES Weekly, 12 March 2002: <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-12/story1.htm>). As part of its overall technical assistance strategy, the EU furthermore agreed in February to a new programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP) to support trade

in fisheries products by improving their capacity to respond to sanitary requirements in the fisheries sector.

The Council Conclusions are available at

<http://www.ue2002.es/DetalleNewsletters.asp?idioma=ingles&opcion=1&subopcion=1&id=1004>.

"Commission welcomes boost for trade-related technical assistance," EU PRESS RELEASE, 13 March 2002; "EU foreign ministers fail to agree timetable to increase aid levels," EUROSTEP PAF, 15 March 2002; ICTSD Internal Files.

## **In Brief**

### **PHILIPPINES MULLS WITHDRAWAL FROM WTO, CAIRNS**

Philippine Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas on 15 March said the country was considering withdrawing from the WTO over what he claims is the trade body's discrimination between its developed and developing country Members. The Trade Secretary also cited the recent decision by the US to impose tariffs of up to 30 percent on imported steel and the EU's preference to import tuna from Africa and the Caribbean over the Philippines. Earlier, on 13 March, Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo voiced her support for calls for the country to reconsider its membership in the Cairns Group, a coalition of 18 agricultural exporting countries. Some members of Arroyo's cabinet, particularly Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas, have urged the withdrawal from Cairns due to the group's failure to back the country's bid to access the European tuna market. The Philippines has been seeking better access for its tuna in the European market and has complained of tariff barriers.

"Philippines reviewing its membership in WTO," RADIO AUSTRALIA NEWS, 15 March 2002; "Pres Arroyo Backs Philippines Withdrawal from Cairns Grp," DOW JONES, 13 March 2002.

### **USTR SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT IN DEVELOPMENT OF US TRADE POSITION**

On 18 March, the Office of the US Trade Representative issued a call for detailed public comment from "all sectors and interests" on the US negotiating objectives for the new round of global trade talks at the WTO agreed last November in Doha, Qatar. These views will be considered as the Administration develops its positions for US participation in the negotiations. "We need to hear from all sectors and interests to ensure that we are aggressively pursuing issues of concern and making full use of the opportunities in the WTO to expand market access and strengthen the rules of the trading system," said USTR Robert Zoellick in a press release. The request for comments, to be published in

the US Federal Register, seeks input on general US negotiating objectives, as well as country-specific and product-specific issues. The request is being posted on the USTR website, <http://www.ustr.gov>.

Comments are due at the Office of the USTR by 1 May 1, the press release said. For further information contact Richard Mills, tel: (1- 202) 395-3230.

USTR PRESS RELEASE, 18 March 2002.

### **UN FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE UNDER PRESSURE TO PRODUCE**

The first UN Conference on Financing for Development is occurring in Monterrey, Mexico, this week, from Monday, 18 March to Friday, 22 March. The conference, to be attended by more than fifty world leaders, is addressing issues such as how to help the world's poorest nations mobilise development funds, foreign direct investment (FDI), and trade towards development. The conference's draft declaration encourages freer trade, greater foreign investment, more government-to-government development aid and debt relief in an effort to collect the necessary funds. Expectations for payoffs in greater market access for developing countries, however, are not high (see BRIDGES monthly review, Year 6 No. 1, January 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/monthly/archive.htm>) as critics view the conference's declaration as too broad. In statements released before the Conference, the UN Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the World Bank have attempted to highlight that import tariffs are not the only trade-related barriers to development. Developing countries, they indicate, also suffer from serious market access concerns from non-tariff barriers such as subsidies and technical and sanitary standards. For its part, the UN Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) will be addressing two key development elements, including E-finance for development and the role of FDI in implementing the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Last week, in anticipation of the conference, both the US and the EU moved toward increases in their development aid contributions. The US said it would add \$US5 billion to its foreign aid budget over three years, starting in October 2003, while the EU announced its members would increase their aid by \$US4 billion by 2006, averaging 0.39 percent of gross national product (see related story, this issue). Both figures, however, fall short of the benchmark 0.7 percent of GNP nations set for themselves at the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio.

To follow progress at the Financing for Development conference, visit:  
<http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/>.

"Bush Promises \$5bn Aid to Combat Global Poverty," FT.COM, 14 March 2002; "Bush to Unveil New aid Plan for Poor Nations," REUTERS, 14 March 2002; "World Bank Praises US, EU Moves to Boost Poor-Country Aid," DOW JONES, 14 March 2002; "World Bank Pushes Open Trade Ahead Of Monterrey Event," UN WIRE, 14 March 2002; "Poor nations need help meeting import standards," REUTERS, March 15 2002; "U.N. Summit Targets New Ways to Fund Development," REUTERS, 15 March 2002;

"UNCTADs Role in Monterrey," UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS No. 34 TAD/INF/NC34, 15 March 2002, "UN meet opens on sharing wealth with poor states," REUTERS, 18 March 2002; "UN meet opens on sharing wealth with poor states," REUTERS, 18 March 2002.

### **CITES TRADE MEASURES PROMPT GOVERNMENTS TO IMPROVE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

At the close of a four day meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, a Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) agreed on 15 March to lift or modify imposed trade measures in response to pledges by four countries to reform their wildlife management and practices. Kenneth Stansell of the United States, chairman of the Standing Committee, stated that, "As this week has demonstrated, the CITES regime is effective because we can create powerful incentives for motivating governments to follow the rules and cooperate with one another...CITES is an invaluable instrument for promoting the conservation and sustainable management of wild plants and animals." According to sources, trade suspensions or threatened trade suspensions helped to prompt the United Arab Emirates, the Russian Federation, Fiji, and Vietnam to commit to enacting legislation that would conform with CITES standards. CITES requires that all Parties should refuse any import of specimens of CITES-listed species from, and any export or re-export of such specimens to those countries whose legislation does not meet the requirements of implementation of CITES and that are engaged in significant amounts of international trade in specimens of CITES species. Fiji, Viet Nam and Yemen have been identified as such Parties. CITES was adopted in 1973 to ensure the long-term survival of any species that are potentially threatened by international trade.

For further details see the CITES Press Release at:  
[http://www.cites.org/eng/news/press\\_release.shtml](http://www.cites.org/eng/news/press_release.shtml).

"Trade Sanctions Motivate Change in Wildlife Mavericks," ENS, 18 March 2002.

### **SWIFT RENEWAL OF US-ANDEAN TRADE DEAL URGED, 'LIFE OR DEATH' FOR PERU**

On 13 March, Deputy Minister of Integration and International Trade Negotiations, Alfredo Ferraro, announced that the swift renewal of a US trade deal for Andean nations - the Andean Trade Preferences Act, which expired in December 2001 -- was critical for Peru's economy. "The US Congress should understand the (deal's) impact. It has little or no effect on the US, but for Peru and the Andean region it is crucially important -- a life or death matter," Ferraro said. Another top Peruvian official noted that the implementation of such a deal could play a major role in quashing illegal drugs and rebel groups, both a large problem within Peru. Expanding foreign trade and investment is a hot topic for Peru, whose economy, ranked number seven in Latin America, grew just 0.2 percent in 2001. Lima has lobbied hard for new products, such as textiles, to be included in the treaty's list of duty-free imports when the deal is voted on by the US Senate,

possibly in April. ATPA, which went into effect in 1992 for products from Bolivia and Colombia, and was extended to Ecuador in April 1993 and to Peru in 1994, is aimed at providing trade-related incentives to stimulate job creation and generate alternatives to coca farming in the Andean region. The US Congress has renewed the bill every year since it was passed in 1991 to grant duty-free or reduced-rate treatment to imports >from four Andean nations -- Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru -- to help generate economic alternatives to the drug trade. But last year the annual renewal process was held up in the Senate due to differences over the new products to be incorporated, particularly textiles. An automatic six-month extension kicked in on 4 December, at the end of which time the law will be repealed unless the US Senate votes to renew it.

"U.S.-Andean Trade Deal 'Life or Death' for Peru," REUTERS, 13 March 2002; "Textile Industry Hopes for Access to U.S. Market," INTER PRESS SERVICE, 24 January 2002.

### **OECD, UNCTAD AGREE TO JOIN TO HELP POOR NATIONS**

On 13 March, the Paris-based OECD and the Geneva-based UNCTAD, announced that they had signed an agreement aimed at combining resources to save on costs and improve the help they can offer developing countries. The new pact aims to combine the OECD's experience with developed countries and UNCTAD's background with developing countries and economies. OECD spokeswoman Helen Fisher said that, "It's a symbolism of the OECD's desire to work with developing countries." Earlier this year, the OECD published its first economic study of Africa's largest economies. The primary areas for cooperation will include poverty reduction, trade, and investment while other areas could include staff exchanges and information sharing.

"OECD, Unctad Sign Pact to Save Costs, Help Poor Nations," DOW JONES, 13 March 2002.

## **WTO In Brief**

### **WTO ISSUES NEGOTIATION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2002**

Following a discussion at the 15 February WTO General Council and subsequent consultations with Chairpersons of WTO bodies, WTO Deputy Director-General Miguel Rodriguez on 6 March issued the annual calendar of WTO meetings for 2002 to Member-country trade missions. According to Rodriguez's cover letter to Heads of Delegation, meetings have been programmed in compliance with the 1995 guidelines on the scheduling of meetings (WT/L/106, at [http://docsonline.wto.org/gen\\_search.asp](http://docsonline.wto.org/gen_search.asp)) and with the Trade Negotiations Committee practice and principles (TN/C/1), with the intent of avoiding more than one negotiating body meeting at the same time and more than two simultaneous formal meetings of WTO bodies. (See BRIDGES Weekly,



<http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-20/story1.htm>, 20 February 2002). Both formal and informal meetings are reflected in the plan. Trade sources indicate that while the schedule is a useful guide to when and how many meetings are being planned over the next year, changes continue to be made constantly as various constraints arise.

ICTSD will post the calendar on its website shortly; please check <http://www.ictsd.org> later on this week.

ICTSD Internal Files.

### **DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: MEMBERS DISCUSS 'SEQUENCING' AND TIMEFRAME CONSTRAINTS**

At a 14 March informal meeting, WTO Members convened for consultations on the reform of the WTO's dispute settlement mechanism, addressing issues such as "sequencing" and "carousel" retaliation. The talks are currently underway as the Doha Declaration mandates Members to carry out "negotiations on improvements and clarifications of the Dispute Settlement Understanding" (DSU) to be concluded by May 2003 (Doha Ministerial Declaration paragraph 30). Addressing the relationship of DSU Article 21.5 (compliance) and Article 22 (compensation and the suspension of concessions), the EC had submitted on 4 March a proposal suggesting WTO Members affirm in treaty language the need to obtain an Article 21.5 compliance ruling before seeking Article 22 authorisation to retaliate. The EC further said that parties in a dispute should be obliged to hold consultations on allegations of non-compliance before requesting an Article 21.5 ruling, and that Members should have the right to appeal against such a panel decision. So far, Members have tried to "sequence" the two tracks (Art. 21.5 and 22) through informal arrangements by resolving differences over compliance efforts prior to seeking authorisation to retaliate. Other Members such as Australia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Japan, Pakistan, and South Korea all agreed that sequencing was a key issue and should be a central focus of the DSU reform talks. Furthermore, the US stated at the 14 March meeting that it was open to any proposals on this issue. Addressing the concept of "carousel" retaliation, which systematically changes the list of goods targeted for retaliation in trade disputes, Australia proposed that the list of goods subject to retaliation measures, as well as any subsequent changes to the list, should be approved by the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body. Australia further pointed to the fact that the tight timeframe for the negotiation under paragraph 30 would make amendments to the DSU very difficult, so that Members should rather focus on the "consolidation of agreed DSU practices" by the May 2003 deadline and negotiate formal amendments at a later stage. Members such as Chile and South Korea agreed that more comprehensive talks could be suspended until the Fifth WTO Ministerial in Mexico in mid-2003.

"WTO Members Highlight Sequencing Issue As Main Focus of Dispute Settlement Talks," WTO REPORTER, 15 March 2002.

## **WTO AND NGOS ADDRESS ASSESSMENT OF SERVICES TRADE**

On 14-15 March, the WTO Secretariat organised a Symposium on Assessment of Trade in Services for WTO Members with presentations from the Secretariat, the World Bank, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Organisation on Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Member delegations, and researchers from institutes such as the African Economic Research Consortium. Inter alia, the two-day event included sessions on services performance in developing countries and national experiences regarding trade in infrastructural services and economic efficiency. In a Norwegian contribution addressing the need, objectives and instruments for assessing the impacts of international trade agreements, Norway stated that "assuming that the ambitious goals [for WTO cooperation, including GATS] reflect equally high expectations of concrete results and considering the consequences of a gap between results and expectations, the assessment exercise seems reasonable." The documentation of the WTO symposium will soon be viewable at the WTO website <http://www.wto.org>. Prior to the WTO event, on 12 March, WWF International, the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), Public Services International (PSI) and the World Development Movement (WDM) jointly organised an NGO Meeting on GATS Assessment aimed at "ensur[ing] that assessment truly moves forward and provides developing countries with the necessary information to formulate their negotiating positions." Unlike the WTO symposium, the NGO meeting was open for trade negotiators, intergovernmental organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and academia. In the discussions, participants pointed out that it was important that the GATS assessment remained an integral part of the negotiating agenda, as it was a central tool for developing countries to determine whether the Uruguay Round had delivered the promised benefits, and whether further services liberalisation would benefit their societies and economies. Furthermore, discussion centred on issues such as foreign direct investment (FDI) policy, liberalisation of water services, and experiences in the tourism sector.

ICTSD Internal Files.

## **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, 19-26 March

18-21 March, Cape Town, South Africa: 4TH SESSION OF THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY. The session will address issues regarding Africa's

regional integration, the Cotonou Agreement and NEPAD, among others. Additionally, there will be workshops on sustainable development, migration, and education and social development in South Africa. For further information visit:

[http://www.europarl.eu.int/intcoop/acp/south\\_africa\\_2002/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.eu.int/intcoop/acp/south_africa_2002/default_en.htm).

18-22 March, Monterrey, Mexico: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT. The UN International Conference on Financing for Development will bring together high-level representatives from governments, the UN, and other leading international trade, finance and development-related organisations. For further information contact: Harris Gleckman, Coordinating Secretariat; tel: (1-212) 963-4690; email: [gleckman@un.org](mailto:gleckman@un.org) or Federica Pietracci, tel: (1-212) 963-8497; email: [pietracci@un.org](mailto:pietracci@un.org); Internet: <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd>.

19-20 March, Geneva, Switzerland: UNEP WORKSHOP ON CAPACITY BUILDING ON ENVIRONMENT, TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT. This UN Environment Programme (UNEP) workshop will provide a forum for identifying capacity building activities needed to assist countries effectively engage in trade and environment negotiations, assess the environmental as well as the developmental implications of the WTO agreements, and develop and implement mutually supportive trade and environment policies. Documents and registration forms can be found at: [http://www.unep.ch/etu/etp/events/upcming/19March\\_CB.htm](http://www.unep.ch/etu/etp/events/upcming/19March_CB.htm), or contact: UNEP Economics and Trade Branch, Geneva, Switzerland; tel: (41-22) 917- 8243; fax: (41-22) 917- 8076; email: [etb@unep.ch](mailto:etb@unep.ch).

22 March, Washington, D.C., USA: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE EMERGING NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRICITY MARKET. Sponsored by the Trade, Environment, & Development Project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the event will feature a presentation by Scott Vaughn, Head of the Environment, Economy and Trade Program at the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation, with comments by Gary Horlick, Partner, O'Melveny & Myers LLP. Please RSVP for this event by Wednesday, 20 March, to Edward Sherwin; tel: (1-202) 939-2303; email: [esherwin@ceip.org](mailto:esherwin@ceip.org).

25 March - 5 April, USA, New York: THIRD SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2002 WSSD. During the meeting delegates will negotiate on the basis of the Chairman's paper, special emphasis will, inter alia, be put on the issue of Sustainable Governance at the international, regional and national level, on the mandate and financing for UNEP and on the CSD work programme. For further information, contact: Andrew Vasilyev; tel: (1-212) 963-5949; fax: (1- 212) 963-4260; email: [vasilyev@un.org](mailto:vasilyev@un.org); Internet: <http://www.johannesburgsummit.org>. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal>.

25-26, March, Lusaka, Zambia: REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "WTO DOHA MINISTERIAL AND THE NEW TRADE ROUND- AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE". Organised by CUTS- Africa Resource Centre (CUTS-ARC), Lusaka, the seminar will serve as a follow-up to the Doha Ministerial Conference. The objective is to make an assessment of the Work Programme adopted at Doha from a regional perspective and also

devise strategies for future research and advocacy. Representatives from government, intergovernmental organisations, consumer and research organisations, business, media and academia from the Southern and Eastern African countries are expected to attend. For further information contact: Sajeev K.S. Nair, CUTS-ARC, 4th Floor, Main Post Office Building, Cairo Road, Lusaka, Zambia; tel (260-1) 224992; fax: 225220, email: [cutsarc@zamnet.zm](mailto:cutsarc@zamnet.zm); Internet: <http://www.cuts.org>.

#### WTO Events

An updated list of forthcoming WTO meetings is posted at: [http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/meets.doc](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](mailto:enquiries@wto.org).

Please note that the next meeting of the Council for Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) is scheduled to take place on 25-27 June, rather than 25-17 July as stated in the last issue of BRIDGES Weekly.

18-19 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE- INFORMAL SPECIAL SESSION ON SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

18-19 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO INFORMAL COMMITTEE ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES. See WTO In Brief, this issue, for further details.

20-21 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES.

19 March (a.m.), Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES. See related story, this issue, for details.

19 (p.m.)-22 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES-Special Session.

21 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT. See WTO In Brief, this issue, for details.

22 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT- Special Session.

22 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS.

25-26 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO INFORMAL COMMITTEE ON ANTI-DUMPING PRACTICES - Working Group on Implementation.

25 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

26-28 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE-Special Session.

#### Other Forthcoming Events

2 April, Geneva, Switzerland: ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES, BENEFIT-SHARING AND THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY. This roundtable will discuss where the debate on access and benefit sharing stands today and how the international community can move forward to a more effective access and benefit-sharing regime in the future. Please complete registration form found at <http://www.environmenthouse.ch/> by 26 March. For further information contact: Aniket Ghai, International Environment House, 11-13 Chemin de Anemones, CH-1219 Chatelaine, Geneva, Switzerland; tel: (41-22) 917-8505/244/196; fax: (41-22) 797- 3464; email: [aniket.ghai@unep.ch](mailto:aniket.ghai@unep.ch); Internet: <http://www.environmenthouse.ch/>.

7-12 April, Manchester, UK: INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE. Organised by ERP Environment, the meeting will address issues such as corporate responsibility, natural resource management, public participation, and globalisation. For further information contact: Elaine White; tel: (44-1274) 530-408; fax: (44- 1274) 530-409; email: [Elaine@erpenv.demon.co.uk](mailto:Elaine@erpenv.demon.co.uk); Internet: <http://www.erpenvironment.org>. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal/>.

8-9 April, Toronto, Canada: CONFERENCE ON PARTNERING FOR SUSTAINABILITY. This conference will focus on how partnerships in sustainable development can benefit business, government and NGOs. For further information visit: <http://www.sustainabilitycanada.com/>. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal/>.

9-13 April, Honolulu, Hawaii: PROMOTING BEST PRACTICES IN SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL AND TOURISM. This meeting will be held in preparation for the WSSD to be held in Johannesburg this summer to take stock of what has been accomplished in incorporating sustainability into the practices of businesses within the tourism sector to date and how the challenges that lie ahead can be met. To register visit: <http://www.sustainabletravel.org/>. For further information contact: Anna Mersova, BEST/The Conference Board, 845 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022; tel: (1-212) 339-0374; email: [anna.mersova@conference-board.org](mailto:anna.mersova@conference-board.org).

17-19 June, Ottawa, Canada: NINTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CEC. During the session, the Council will examine opportunities and challenges for enhancing North American environmental cooperation and will identify priorities for 2003 and beyond. In parallel to the regular session of the Council, the Joint Public

Advisory Committee will hold a regular session, including round table discussions on education and capacity building opportunities for the Sound Management of Chemicals, as well as a session on NAFTA Chapter 11. For further information contact: Daniel Breve, CEC, Montreal; tel: (1-514) 350- 4313; fax: 350-4345; email: [dbreve@ccemtl.org](mailto:dbreve@ccemtl.org); Internet: <http://www.cec.org/>.

19-22 August, Wellington, New Zealand: CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY. Organised by the International Institute of Fisheries Economics and Trade, this event will provide a forum for participants to consider future management of fisheries. For further information contact: Organizer; tel: (64-4) 389-3487; fax: (64-4) 389-3457; email: [bruce.shallard@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bruce.shallard@xtra.co.nz); Internet: <http://www.iifet2002.co/>. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal/>.

## 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](mailto:hcameron@ictsd.ch). Submissions of publications to ICTSD's documentation centre would also be welcome (contact Matteo Rizzolli, [mrizzolli@ictsd.ch](mailto:mrizzolli@ictsd.ch)).

### New ICTSD Publications

February 2002 edition of BRIDGES BETWEEN TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT monthly review is now available on the ICTSD website at <http://www.ictsd.org/monthly>. Featured articles include: Bold Development Box Proposals Meet with Stiff Resistance; Food Security and Rural Development - Africa in WTO Agriculture Negotiations; China's WTO Membership Reveals a Savvy Player; Doha Round Negotiating Structure, Chairs Agreed; and Revisiting the Technology Transfer Debate.

PASSERELLES: SYNTHÈSE MENSUELLE SUR LE COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE. 12 mars 2002. New monthly electronic bulletin in French produced in conjunction with ENDA Tiers Monde. Ce bulletin a pour ambition de soutenir la participation des pays d'Afrique francophone aux négociations commerciales à travers la diffusion régulière d'informations en français sur les négociations en cours à l'Organisation mondiale du commerce (OMC) et dans d'autres enceintes. To subscribe, send an email to [passerelles@ictsd.ch](mailto:passerelles@ictsd.ch) and put subscribe in the subject line. Or visit [http://www.ictsd.org/pass\\_synthese/](http://www.ictsd.org/pass_synthese/).

INDICATORS OF THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF IPRS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. By Sanjaya Lall with the collaboration of Manuel Albaladejo. November 2001. This paper focuses on the long-term structural issues concerning the impact of TRIPS on industrial and technology development in poor countries. It seeks to indicate the potential significance of intellectual property rights (IPRs) by differentiating developing countries according to the expected impact of stronger protection. Produced



through the UNCTAD-ICTSD Capacity Building Project on IPRs and Development. To access, visit <http://www.ictsd.org/unctad-ictsd/>.

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS INSIGHT. February 2002. A joint ECDPM-ICTSD-ODI quarterly publication on the major issues faced by African and ACP countries in their international trade negotiations at the WTO and with the EU in the context of the Cotonou Agreement. Available in French and English at: <http://www.ictsd.org/issarea/africa/index.htm>.

#### Resources

GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: FIVE OECD CASE STUDIES. Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), 2002. 352 pages. This publication presents five governmental experiments aimed at promoting sustainable development in Canada, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands and the UK. These countries were selected on the basis of their diversity in terms of size and natural conditions. The five case studies illustrate specific institutional and decision-making efforts to adapt governance frameworks in order to respond to sustainable development challenges. The country studies are introduced by an analytical section, which focuses mainly on the way governments (at all levels) could develop integrated approaches to decision-making, on how they could ensure effective participation of civil society, and how they could improve their capacity to "take a longer-term view" - that is to design policies that remain sustainable over the longer- term. To obtain a copy visit the OECD website at: <http://oecdpublications.gfi-nb.com/cgi-bin/OECDBookShop.storefront/EN/product/422002051P1>.

SUSTAINABLE TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING. Published by World Wide Fund for Nature, March 2002, compiled by Aimee Gonzales, WWF. A dialogue report from the Expert Panel on Trade and Sustainable Development (EPTSD). This publication is a follow-up to an international dialogue promoting sustainable trade in textiles and clothing held in London, UK on 24-25 January 2002 as part of a series of participatory dialogues convened under the EPTSD project to examine issues in the trade, environment and development interface and promote integrated solutions. The document is available in pdf format at: <http://www.panda.org/resources/programmes/trade/publications>.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE: A SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE FOR ALL EUROPEANS. Published by Committee of Agriculture Organisations in the European Union (COPA) and the General Committee for Agricultural Cooperation in the European Union, 11 February 2002. The paper begins with an overview of the European agricultural model, suggests that a better reform model is needed, lays out plans for the future common agricultural policy, and concludes with new conventions to start in the 21st century. The document is available, in different languages, on COPA/COGECA's website, <http://www.copa.be/>, under the section "factsheets".



"The relationship between environmental values and income in a transition economy: surface water quality in Latvia," by Richard C. Ready and Janis Malzubris Silva Senkane, in *ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS*, 7 (1, 2002): 147-156. A contingent valuation study measured citizen willingness to pay (WTP) for an improvement in surface water quality in Latvia. The average respondent was willing to pay 0.7 per cent of household income for the environmental improvement, but that amount was much less than needed to finance the required investments in treatment facilities. While the income elasticity of WTP for the average resident was low (0.56), it increases as income increases, reaching 0.9 at an income level double the current average. The paper concludes that as real incomes increase in Latvia, the demand for environmental quality by citizens can be expected to increase substantially.

#### Electronic Resources

EUROSTEP'S WEBSITE is now available at <http://www.eurostep.org/>. Eurostep -- European Solidarity Towards Equal Participation of People -- is a network of 19 major non-governmental development organisations (NGDOs) from 15 European countries collectively working in around 100 countries. The two main principals of the group are to influence official development co-operation policies of multilateral institutions, and in particular those of the European Union; and to improve the quality and effectiveness of initiatives taken by NGOs in support of people-centred development. Eurostep will also launch new features on its website by the end of March.

A searchable archive of **BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest**© can be accessed at: [http://www.newsbulletin.org/bulletins/WhichBulletin.cfm?Bulletin\\_ID=14&SID=](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 Alison Banks, Heike Baumuller, David Primack, Alex Werth, and Melissa Wilcox. This edition of **BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest** was edited by Hugo Cameron, [hcameron@ictsd.ch](mailto:hcameron@ictsd.ch). Managing Editor is Andrew Crosby. The Director is Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, [rmelendez@ictsd.ch](mailto: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 - 2002 through the generous support of the Government of the United Kingdom (DFID). Additional support is provided by ICTSD's core donors: the Governments of Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden; Christian Aid (UK), MISEREOR, NOVIB (NL), Oxfam (UK) and the Swiss Coalition of Development Organisations (Switzerland). The **Weekly** also benefits from support for the **BRIDGES** series of publications including: the Rockefeller Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and Swiss Development Cooperation.

ISSN 1563-003X