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DEVELOPMENT

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## **"DEVELOPMENT" STILL STUCK ON PROCEDURE -- SUBSTANCE SLOWLY EMERGING**

With ten weeks left before the reporting deadline ascribed to it in Doha, the Committee on Trade and Development's (CTD) special session on special and differential treatment (S&D) met for the third time on 16 May. Under the weight of a heavy agenda -- the floor being open for proposed amendments to S&D language in 7 different WTO agreements -- discussions snagged once again on the procedural item of whether the session was in fact a 'negotiating' body or not (see BRIDGES Weekly, 5 March, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-05/story2.htm>).

After spending the better part of the first two meetings bogged down in primarily procedural items, Chair Ambassador Ransford Smith (Jamaica) envisaged the 16 May meeting as the first of two whereby Members would table and discuss proposals mandated under paragraph 12.1 of the Decision on Implementation taken in Doha -- i.e. those which fall under the 31 July deadline of reporting to the General Council "with clear recommendations for action". Generally, these proposals are to be aimed at those non-mandatory provisions that could be made mandatory and/or operational via a clarification of ambiguous terminology (see BRIDGES Weekly, 15 May, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-05-15/story3.htm>).

To negotiate or not to negotiate

The initial focus of the meeting quickly descended upon the recurring debate as to whether the special session was actually a negotiating body. Sources in attendance noted that the EU, supported by the three other Quad members of the US, Canada and Japan, protested against the circulation of proposals under the TN series (i.e. as part of work of the Trade Negotiations Committee). Underscoring their belief that the special session is not a negotiating body, they stated that these proposals should rather be submitted to the relevant negotiating bodies. In retort, numerous developing countries, led by India, Malaysia, Uganda, and China, indicated that these special sessions were indeed negotiations and that their intention was to amend certain WTO agreements as such.

This debate revolves around the mandate given to S&D at the Doha Ministerial (see BRIDGES Weekly 15 November, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-11-15/story1.htm>). This mandate, provided in both the Ministerial declaration (para 12 & para 44) and the Decision on Implementation (para 12), lay out the framework by which the CTD is to review all S&D provisions "with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational." Last February, the body responsible for supervising the new round of negotiations -- the Trade Negotiations Committee -- created the special sessions specifically in order to carry out that mandate (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 February, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-20/story1.htm>).

One developing country delegate noted that the Quad attitude towards S&D were not very positive, but conjectured that they were likely more a negotiating tactic than anything else. An LDC delegate said if this attitude was in fact the position the Quad

intended to maintain, "it would contradict the reasoning behind the whole special session exercise" and poked gaping holes in the rhetoric around any 'development' agenda. Perhaps, surmised a third source, the approach taken at the coming informal session dealing with the submissions from the Africa Group and the LDCs would better illuminate their intentions on the S&D issues (see below).

Chair Smith, noting the continued disagreement, indicated he would undertake further consultations and the meeting moved on to discuss some of the specific submissions made to date.

Three of five submissions see debate

Prior to the 16 May session, one unofficial communication had been made and two proposals had been officially circulated -- the former coming >from India and the latter two coming from slight variations of the 'Like-Minded Group' (comprising Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Zimbabwe) (The two official submissions are currently searchable under the TN/CTD/ series at <http://docsonline.wto.org/>).

Two further unofficial communications were made at the 16 May meeting, namely one on cross-cutting issues from the Africa Group and another >from the least-developed countries (LDCs). However with Members not having sufficient time to review these communications, Ambassador Smith indicated that the first three would take the focus of the current session and that he would arrange an informal session prior to the next formal session to discuss the others. Sources speculate this informal meeting will take place the second week of June (with the next formal meeting scheduled for 14 June).

#### Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM)

In the first official submission made to the CTD, the 'Like-Minded Group' proposed that article 27.1 of the SCM Agreement be amended such that subsidies were recognised as playing an important role in economic development for developing countries (i.e. removing the word 'may' from the article). Both developed and developing country Members diverged over whether all subsidies were beneficial for development.

#### Proposals on sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS)

With regards to the proposed amendments on the SPS Agreement (articles 9.2, 10.2, 10.3), developing country Members generally requested increased time allowances in order to adapt to new SPS measures as well as that when an importing nation is notifying the Membership of its measure, a list of equivalent systems of compliance and a list of developing country Members potentially affected by the measure are included. Further, they requested that technical help from importing nations to adapt to new measures be made mandatory.

While recognising the difficulties of compliance faced by developing countries, most developed countries were apprehensive of any position that would incline them to lower

their SPS standards, and added further that technical assistance was already well represented on these matters. In that regard, some noted the potential for huge budget implications should this technical assistance be made mandatory.

#### Import Licensing Agreement

India has proposed changing the 'should' to 'shall' in article 3.5 of the Import Licensing Agreement such that special consideration "shall given to those importers importing products, originating in developing countries Members [...]" One Quad member raised concerns over the impact this could have in the agriculture negotiations.

No discussions were held on the three amendments proposed on the Dispute Settlement Understanding (articles 4.10, 12.10, 21.2).

Future (formal) special sessions of the CTD are scheduled for 14 June, 2 July, and 17 July 2002.

ICTSD Internal Files.

### **DSU: MEMBERS DISCUSS 'SEQUENCING' AND SELECTION OF PANELLISTS**

At the second special (negotiating) session of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) convening on 21 May, Members discussed a new proposal put forward by a group of 14 countries suggesting reforms of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU) to settle the so-called 'sequencing' issue as well as procedures to effect withdrawal of retaliatory action once its underlying WTO ruling has been correctly implemented. Based on a list of questions prepared by India on several points raised in an earlier EC proposal, the DSB further addressed the issue of reforming the selection process of WTO panellists.

Article 30 of the Doha Declaration mandates negotiations on "improvements and clarifications" of DSU which are to be concluded by May 2003. In an effort to resolve longstanding frictions on ambiguities and inconsistencies of WTO dispute resolution rules, a large number of Members had previously stated that they regarded clarifying the relationship between DSU Article 21.5 (compliance) and Article 22 (compensation and the suspension of concessions) as a key issue for negotiation under the Doha mandate (see BRIDGES Weekly, 19 March 2002, at <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-19/wtoinbrief.htm#2>). DSU Art. 21.5 provides that where there is disagreement as to whether or not the party losing a dispute has complied with a panel ruling, a so-called compliance panel, if so requested, has to decide on the issue within a 90-day period. On the other hand, Art. 22 requires Members to file a request with the DSU to authorise retaliatory measures within 20 days after the expiration of the implementation period in case the losing party is in non-compliance and has not offered mutually acceptable compensation. So far, in order to reconcile the two procedural tracks and their differing

periods, parties to a dispute have frequently taken recourse to informal 'sequencing' arrangements by which compliance issues are to be resolved prior to requesting retaliation.

#### DSU 21.5 ruling prior to seeking retaliation

The group of 14 comprising Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Japan, Norway, Peru, South Korea, Switzerland, Uruguay and Venezuela said in their joint communication (JOB(02)42, restricted) that continuing with these informal arrangements did "little to enhance the security or predictability of the WTO dispute settlement system" and was "particularly detrimental to smaller and developing Members that have limited capabilities to work out such arrangements." The group proposed to amend the DSU so as to ensure that a compliance ruling needed to be sought prior to any request for authorisation to retaliate against non-compliance. Furthermore, the submission suggested that in case a Member is found to be in non-compliance with a panel ruling, the other party should be allowed to request the right to retaliate once the report of the compliance panel has been formally adopted by the DSB.

Addressing the question of how a member subject to retaliatory action could effect termination of the sanctions once it has achieved compliance, the group proposed to establish a parallel procedure where the Member retaliated against could ask a compliance panel to determine whether the original WTO ruling has now been correctly implemented. The EC, which set out similar ideas in its earlier proposal (see BRIDGES Weekly, 16 April 2002, at <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-04-16/story5.htm>), together with Members such as New Zealand, Argentina, Brazil and Mexico generally welcomed the ideas proposed in the group's communication. In addition, the US reiterated its openness to tackling the sequencing issue, but further added that it particularly wanted to see a requirement to conduct the compliance review within a certain timeframe to prevent additional delay of DSU proceedings. Similarly, Singapore and South Korea voiced some time frame-related concerns. Trading partner Australia, on the other hand, questioned the need to amend DSU rules to deal with sequencing, stating that, in practice, the problem had largely been settled.

#### Selection of panellists

Responding to a set of questions by India (TN/DS/W/5, searchable at <http://docsonline.wto.org> on points made in a recent EC proposal, the European trading bloc noted that the average time for selecting panellists had significantly increased since the establishment of the WTO -- 30 days in 1996 and 67 days in 2001 -- mainly as it had "become the rule" in recent years to rely on the WTO Director-General to determine the composition of a panel if the parties to the dispute could not agree on the panellists (DSU Article 8.7). India had asked the EC to explain why a system of more permanent panellists -- as suggested in the EC proposal -- would take less time to handle new procedural developments than the current ad hoc panellist scheme.

"Dispute Resolution: WTO Dispute Reform Advocates Outline Proposal To Resolve 'Sequencing' Issue," WTO REPORTER, 22 May 2002. ICTSD Internal Files.

## **WORLD SUMMIT HEADING TOWARDS ACRIMONY AND MINIMALISM AS LAST PREP BEGINS**

In lead-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the fourth and final preparatory meeting (PrepCom IV) will take place in Bali, Indonesia on 27 May to 7 June. Also taking in three days of informal discussions prior to the scheduled meeting, delegates will debate the latest proposed draft text, put forward by PrepCom Chair Emil Salim earlier this month (available at <http://www.johannisburgsummit.org>). In the ongoing debates around the Summit process, the draft text has been widely criticised by civil society groups, which have called on governments to show the political leadership necessary to develop a strong action plan.

Following delegates' failure to agree on a draft text at the last preparatory meeting (see BRIDGES Trade BioRes, 18 April 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/biores/02-04-18/story2.htm>), Chair Salim submitted a revised text on 9 May that includes compromise language on most issues with some points, mainly in the sections dealing with means of implementation, left bracketed for further discussion. Regarding references to trade, most of the more concrete points were moved to Section IX on 'Means of Implementation' as tentatively agreed at PrepCom III. The text largely reiterates commitments made during the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference in November 2001, including improved market access for developing countries and the need for technical assistance. More general references to trade are also included in Section V on 'Sustainable Development in a Globalising World', including references to the precautionary approach as set out in the Rio Declaration, but with the caveat that countries should avoid any "misuse that may restrict exports from developing countries", thereby responding to developing countries' concerns that precaution might be invoked by industrialised countries to justify protectionist measures.

In a joint letter to heads of state and UN General Secretary Kofi Anan, signed, inter alia, by WWF, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, Oxfam and ANPED, civil society groups sharply criticised the draft text, which they say "is entirely lacking in [the] specificity needed to make it deliverable". They propose developing a new text that clearly outlines targets and timetables, financial resources, means of implementation, institutional requirements and a monitoring and reporting mechanism. "Government leadership, which has been largely lacking so far, is desperately needed," the letter states.

Friends of the Earth International reiterated previously voiced concerns that sustainable development is being subjugated to trade liberalisation. The environmental NGO called for all references to the Doha mandate to be deleted from the text and demanded a comprehensive review of the impacts of trade liberalisation, with reform based on this analysis, before embarking on further liberalisation.

For its part, WWF has prepared a document outlining recommended elements of the proposed implementation document (programme of action) on a number of issues, including trade and investment and sustainable development governance. Regarding trade and investment, WWF requests governments to recognise that "global economic liberalisation is a process driven and controlled by national governments" that must,



together with other policies, contribute to environmental and social wellbeing. In particular, WWF calls on governments to conduct national sustainability assessments of trade agreements, to phase out environmentally and socially harmful subsidies, and to examine the impacts of foreign investment flows on sustainable development. Reports on these activities should be submitted to the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference in 2003.

In the context of sustainable development governance, WWF draws attention to the relative jurisdiction of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and the WTO. In addition to ongoing work in this area at the WTO, WWF calls on WSSD to undertake that MEA dispute settlement, compliance and enforcement mechanisms are strengthened, and that measures taken pursuant to MEAs should be presumed consistent with WTO rules. In addition, WWF would like to see a review of the role of the WTO Secretariat in independently promoting liberalisation, to be submitted to the next WTO Ministerial Conference in 2003. Despite repeated calls by civil society organisations that WSSD should reaffirm the authority and autonomy of MEAs and should clarify that "the objectives, principles and provisions of MEAs must not be subordinated to WTO rules" (see BRIDGES Trade BioRes, referenced above), no references to this issue were included in the revised Chair's text.

WSSD will take place on 26 September to 4 August in Johannesburg, South Africa

Documents of PrepCom IV and further information are available at <http://baliprepcom.org> and <http://www.johannesburgsummit.org> For daily coverage, see IISD Linkages at <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/2002/pc4>. The WWF document will be available in Bali on 25 May.

ICTSD Internal Files.

## **TRIPS COUNCIL SETS AGENDA FOR JUNE MEETING**

In what was described as a largely procedural meeting, the 17 May informal meeting of the WTO Council on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) discussed the agenda for the upcoming TRIPs Council meeting on 25-27 June and the special (negotiating) session on 28 June. During this latter special session, Members will continue their negotiations on the establishment of a multilateral system of notification and registration of geographical indications for wines and spirits (see BRIDGES Weekly, 12 March 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-12/story2.htm>).

Health discussion focuses on LDC extension

In the context of health, Members discussed the extension for least- developed countries (LDCs) granted in para. 7 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPs Agreement and Public Health, which allows LDCs to delay patent protection for pharmaceuticals until at least

2016. During the meeting, the issue arose whether the extension also exempted LDCs to implement the "mail box" provisions of the TRIPs Agreement, which require Members to provide means for inventors to submit patent applications and exclusive marketing rights for approved products while patent protection is not implemented. LDCs argued that the Doha Declaration also exempted them from these obligations, while several developed countries, including the US, disagreed. Members requested the Secretariat to compile background information on this issue.

Delegates also touched on para. 6 of the Doha Declaration, which had deeply divided the TRIPs Council at its last meeting (see 12 March 2002; <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-12/story2.htm>, but did not enter into substantial discussions. Switzerland asked the Secretariat to compile information on the extent of patent protection and production capacity. The issue will be taken up again at the June TRIPs Council meeting. According to one trade source, developing countries are currently working on a proposal on this issue. Para. 6 instructs Member to find an "expeditious solution" to the problem that Members with insufficient or no manufacturing capacities in the pharmaceutical sector could face in making effective use of compulsory licensing.

#### Observership issue remains unresolved

While Members agreed to grant ad hoc observer status to three organisations -- including the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization, L'Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle, and the Gulf Cooperation Council -- the US continued to oppose granting observer status to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), arguing that the CBD did not have a broad interest in TRIPs issues. The EU, Peru, Brazil and India, however, pointed out that the CBD Secretariat should be an observer given that the Doha mandate explicitly instructs the TRIPs Council to look at the relationship between TRIPs and CBD. Chile and Hungary called for a practical solution, suggesting that the CBD Secretariat could be an "invitee" rather than an observer.

Regarding observer status in the special (negotiating) session of the TRIPs Council, Chair Ambassador Eduardo Perez Motta (Mexico) proposed that organisations, which currently hold observer status in the TRIPs Council, should be granted ad hoc observer status for the special sessions until the Trade Negotiations Committee decided on this question (see BRIDGES Weekly, 2 May 2002; <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-05-02/story2.htm>). Egypt, however, preferred that the Council wait for the TNC's decision while India requested more time to consider the proposal. The issue remained unresolved.

ICTSD Internal Files.



## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS MAKE FARCE OUT OF US TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY BILL**

In a beleaguered effort to give US President George W. Bush Trade Promotion Authority (formerly 'fast-track'), the Senate backed an amendment that would allow Congress to veto specific provisions of trade pacts if they changed anti-dumping and other laws designed to protect US producers from unfair trade practices. The proposal put forward by Democrat Senator Mark Dayton of Minnesota and Republican Senator Larry E. Craig of Idaho was approved despite opposition and veto threats from the White House. The Senate also approved an amendment towards reciprocity in textile trade negotiations and extended a program giving lower tariffs for goods from the South American countries of Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador (see related 'In Brief', this issue).

Zoellick: "Protectionism under a Procedural Cover"

The Dayton-Craig proposal would enable the Senate to pull out any portion of a trade agreement weakening laws protecting US industries from unfair practices such as subsidies and dumping. Senators would debate that provision separately, under regular procedures, while allowing the rest of the agreement to proceed on a so-called 'fast track'. The questionable provision could then be altered, deleted or left alone. Supporters in both parties said the language was mainly meant to keep pressure on the administration not to undermine US trade remedies when it negotiates with US trading partners.

Clearly disappointed by the vote, US Trade Representative Robert B. Zoellick denounced the Dayton-Craig proposal as "protectionism under a procedural cover", saying it would "cripple America's ability to open markets around the world." He added that the administration would fight to keep it out of the final version of the legislation. According to one trade source, the Bush Administration is also concerned about a proposed amendment by Senator Kerry that would tighten investor-state rules under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to make it more difficult for a company to challenge a country's domestic laws (see BRIDGES Weekly, 16 April 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-04-16/inbrief.htm#6>).

The Senate also approved an amendment adding detailed textile negotiating objectives to the TPA bill. This is supposed to put the United States on the offensive for textile trade talks and, in the words of the sponsoring Democrat Senator John Edwards, ensure that the US no longer enters "into trade agreements that are unfair to North Carolina textile workers". The amendment would instruct US negotiators to make further reductions in US textile and apparel tariffs only if other countries reduce their own tariffs to the same level.

The Senate, however, voted against an amendment offered by Senator Joseph Lieberman, a Connecticut Democrat, which would have allowed the use of sanctions to enforce labour and environmental provisions in trade pacts.

According to some observers, the support for the Dayton-Craig proposal and the textile amendments reflect growing concern among many in Congress and reinforced by voices from strong domestic industrial and agricultural lobbies on the impact of trade liberalisation and low priced imports on US jobs.

Five previous presidents enjoyed fast-track -- now renamed Trade Promotion Authority -- until in 1994, the Republican-controlled Congress refused to renew it for then-President Bill Clinton (see BRIDGES Weekly, 12 December 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-12-12/story5.htm>). Bush has argued that he must have the expanded power to advance US goals as the WTO enters a new round of talks to reduce trade barriers. He has also deemed the authority crucial to negotiate an expanded NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) with the 31 additional countries in the Western Hemisphere (minus Cuba) by the end of his first term in January 2005 (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 February 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-20/inbrief.htm#5>).

"Senate Adds Textile Objectives To Bush Trade Bill," REUTERS, 15 May 2002; "Daschle Urges Bush Defer Duties On Andean Imports," REUTERS, 15 May 2002; "Bush Loses a Vote on Trade: White House Still Hopes to Kill Curb on Trade Pact Powers," WASHINGTON POST, 15 May 2002; "Senate Defies Bush In Trade Bill Vote," AP, 15 May 2002; "Senate Adopts Controversial Amendment To ATPA Trade Package, Etc.," INTERNATIONAL TRADE TODAY, 15 May 2002; "Senate Adds Curbs to 'Fast Track,' Defying White House Veto Threat," WSJ, 15 May 2002.

## **DESPITE INTERNAL TRADE SPATS, OECD MEMBERS ADVOCATE FREE TRADE**

Convening for the annual Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Council at Ministerial Level held in Paris, France, on 15-16 May, member states reiterated their commitment to "reject the use of protectionism" and to "make significant progress on all elements agreed in Doha" where WTO Members had launched a new round of trade talks last November. The annual OECD ministerial meeting, however, was overshadowed by continued disagreements between the US and its trading partners on US steel safeguards and the new US farm bill (see related 'WTO In Brief', this issue). In order to prevent these "storm clouds...hanging over the multilateral trading system" from putting the new global trade round at risk, WTO Director-General Mike Moore together with representatives of the other Bretton Woods institutions called on OECD members to "move beyond rhetoric" and to "firmly resist protectionism".

Bretton Woods institutions call on OECD to implement Doha mandate

In a joint note to OECD members issued by Mike Moore, World Bank President James Wolfensohn and Managing Director of the IMF Horst Koehler, the representatives of the three Bretton Woods institutions warned that "any increase of protectionism by any

country is damaging" as it would send out the "wrong signal" -- to developing countries in particular. "How can leaders in developing countries or in any capital argue for more open economies if leadership in this area is not forthcoming from wealthy nations?" Koehler, Moore and Wolfensohn asked.

Pointing to the dangers of "economic trends, proliferation of disputes" as well as "increasing pressure for a return of protectionist measures," Moore, in his speech to the Council, asked OECD trading partners for their "visible commitment to the [Doha round] negotiations" and "reassurance from the majors that you will ensure that the issues you have before you currently will not undermine our work."

In response, OECD members declared in their Final Communiqué (available at <http://www.oecd.org/EN/document/0,,EN-document-0-nodirectorate-no-12-29673-0,00.html>) that "the implementation of the Doha agenda should not be hindered" and that negotiations would be conducted and concluded according to the schedules agreed in the Doha Declaration. In particular, signatories to the Communiqué called on WTO Members to "address the concerns of developing countries, including agriculture," and reaffirmed OECD countries' commitment to "address tensions in the steel sector, which have caused concerns in the multilateral trading system."

US committed to free trade, Deputy USTR says

On the sidelines of the OECD Council meeting, Deputy US Trade Representative (USTR) Peter Allgeier told a press conference that he had "reiterated [the US'] commitment to negotiate an ambitious reform package in agriculture, including all three pillars of market access, export subsidies and domestic support." Also, White House chief economist Glen Hubbard ensured that the US administration was "incredibly committed to free trade" which was US President Bush's "greatest single priority other than the war on terrorism". Regarding the new US farm bill, Hubbard restated that agriculture was not only an US issue but also remained an "area for analysis all over the world". He further noted that the US steel safeguard measures were "not a protectionist move" but part of a 18 month structural adjustment plan helping the US "steel industry survive trade pressures."

Commenting on the US' clarifications, EC Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy called it "a good signal that," although there were a few signals going in the other direction, "the US position remains anti-protectionist and pro-free trade."

OECD members EU, Japan and Korea had previously announced that they were considering challenging OECD partner US' additional safeguard tariffs of up to 30 percent on a range of steel imports (see BRIDGES Weekly, 16 April 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-04-16/story5.htm#3>), which they regard as WTO incompatible. In addition, the EU and Japan said they would impose sanctions on the US in case Washington would not agree to compensate them for its additional steel tariffs. Moreover, the EU and the Cairns Group of agricultural exporting countries, including OECD member Australia, recently threatened to appeal to the WTO against the farm subsidy regime under the new US farm legislation which will boost government support

to US farmers by some 80 percent (see BRIDGES Weekly, 15 May, 2002, at <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-05-15/story2.htm>). Due to these developments, several WTO Members, commentators and analysts have been cautioning that the looming trade spats between OECD members might result in a renaissance of unilateralism and could threaten the successful conclusion of the newly launched trade round at Doha.

#### Additional resources

For further information and documentation on the OECD Council, visit: <http://www1.oecd.org/subject/mcm/2002/index.htm>.

More information on the 13-15 May OECD Forum "Taking Care of Fundamentals: Growth, equity, education and security" held back-to-back with the Council can be viewed at <http://www1.oecd.org/forum2002>.

"WTO Chief warns Against Protectionism At OECD," REUTERS, 16 May 2002; "US Insists It Backs Free Trade, WTO Head Fears Return Of Protectionism," AFP, 16 May 2002; "US Pledges To Negotiate Broad Agriculture Issues In Doha Trade Round," AFP, 16 May 2002; "Japan, EU To Keep Close Contact On Steel Row With US," KYODO NEWS, 16 May 2002; "EU's Lamy: US Fast-Track Authority On Trade Key Issue," DOW JONES, 16 May 2002.

### **In Brief**

#### **EXPIRATION OF ANDEAN-US TRADE AGREEMENT POSES SEVERE CONSEQUENCES FOR EXPORTERS**

On 16 May, the 11-year-old Andean Trade Preferences Act (ATPA) between the US and the Andean countries (Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia) came to an end -- spurring strong feelings and bitterness among the Andean countries. Exporters from the region now face duties of up to 40 percent for goods, as well as retroactive duties of up to US\$400 million for exports since 15 February. The Act, which was created in 1991 to foster legal export alternatives to cocaine and heroine, was due to expire on 15 February when US President Bush extended it until 16 May (hoping in the meantime to attain formal renewal from the Senate). Its renewal has long been opposed by US textile interests, used by lobbies to gain leverage on differences and disputes with the concerned countries and has now become entangled in the ongoing negotiations in the US Senate over Trade Promotion Authority (see related article, this issue). Some officials from the Andean countries felt double-crossed in that they had put a great deal of effort into eradicating cocaine and heroine production and felt that greater market access to the US was minimal reciprocity for their efforts. Jose Vincente Maldonado, spokesman for the Andean Development Corporation, said "this is definitely going to cause unemployment, and decrease investment here. All agricultural producers and lumber and jewellery

manufactures are going to get hit hard." Despite the expiry of the Act, Bolivian Agricultural Minister Walter Nunez still sees some chances to renew it, saying, "we are still counting on President Bush's administration to come through for us." The struggle over ATPA underscores potential difficulties around the proposed Free Trade Area of The Americas (FTAA), which is scheduled to create a duty-free region throughout the western hemisphere by 2005. Some observers see the lack of renewal of the ATPA as fodder for the US to push the Andean nations to support a permanent agreement, as would be had in an FTAA.

"Duty-Free Trade with the U.S. Ends for Andean Region, and Businesses Brace for economic hardship," COMTEX, 16 May 2002; ICTSD Internal Files.

### **ZAMBIA TO SEEK CITES APPROVAL FOR IVORY SALE**

Zambia's Wildlife Authority announced on 8 May that it would ask the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) to approve a one-time sale of Zambia's 17-ton ivory stockpile collected from poachers and culled elephants. As reasoning, it cited the serious financial and security implications of managing the stockpile. South Africa has also indicated that it might seek to sell its Kruger National Park stockpile. The request is likely to revive the ongoing controversy over the sale of ivory, banned under CITES since 1989. Southern African countries have in the past argued that proceeds of such sales were required for conservation efforts and Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe have already held experimental auctions for Japanese buyers in 1999. Other countries, however, led by Kenya, are opposed to the sales, arguing that the demand arising from them would create opportunities for renewed poaching activities. The 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties of CITES will be held on 3-15 November in Santiago, Chile.

"Zambia says to apply to CITES to sell ivory," REUTERS, 9 May 2002.

### **CHINA-ASEAN LAUNCH FREE TRADE AREA TALKS**

A trade negotiation committee set up by China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) held its first meeting in Beijing on 15- 16 May launching discussions on a framework of understanding for the establishment of a free trade area between the eleven countries (China plus ten ASEAN members) within ten years (see BRIDGES Weekly, 15 May 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-05-15/inbrief.htm>). According to officials, the talks covered guidelines, principles, and scope and modalities for establishing the free trade area -- including early harvest, special and differential treatment and flexibility. The framework is expected to cover trade in goods and services, investment and human resources development. While officials characterised this meeting as "working level talks", more substantial progress is expected when China and ASEAN economic ministers meet in September 2002. The aim is to have the framework finalised at the China-ASEAN summit in Cambodia in November 2002. Long Yongtu, Chinese vice-minister of foreign trade and economic co-operation indicated "China and ASEAN's

bilateral trade volume grew 5.3 per year-on-year to US\$41.6 billion in 2001." Further he noted that "trade with ASEAN made up 8.2 per cent of China's total foreign trade last year" ranking fifth among the largest of China's trading partners.

"China, ASEAN Officials Discuss Free Trade Area," PEOPLE'S DAILY, 14 May 2002; "Free Trade Zone to Bring Nations Closer" PEOPLE'S DAILY, 17 May 2002; Minister: East Asian economic alliance to come gradually, CHINA DAILY, 21 May 2002.

### **NEGOTIATIONS ON JAPAN-MEXICO TRADE AGREEMENT AIM FOR OCTOBER LAUNCH**

Senior ministers from Japan and Mexico agreed on 15 May that negotiations on a bilateral free trade agreement between the two countries would ideally be launched this October. Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Takeo Hiranuma and Mexican Economy Minister Luis Ernesto Derbez came to this agreement during sideline meetings at the annual ministerial Council meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which took place on 15 and 16 May (see related article, this issue). The two countries are awaiting a report later this year, prepared by a joint panel of experts tasked to undertake feasibility studies and make recommendations for the future negotiations.

"Japan, Mexico aim to launch FTA negotiations in October," KYODO NEWS, 15 May 2002.

### **INDIAN PHARMACEUTICAL FIRMS SET TO PRODUCE DRUGS IN KENYA FOR AIDS PATIENTS**

Three Indian pharmaceutical manufacturers intend to start producing cheap anti-retroviral drugs for HIV/Aids patients in Kenya as soon as possible, said the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Rajiv Bhatia, last weekend. Bhatia noted that the two countries were in similar situations regarding the negative economic effects arising from the HIV/Aids pandemic, and that Kenya stood to benefit a great deal from India with regards to pharmaceuticals, information technology, and the small business enterprise. Nairobi University don, Professor Elisabeth Ngugi, also underlined the need for access to cheap drugs in her keynote address at the memorial held by the International Candlelight Programme of HIV/Aids on 19 May as a tribute to the 1.2 million Kenyans who have died from HIV/Aids, adding that because of the lack of access most of those infected die within two years of being diagnosed. Ngugi further called on the Kenyan Government, politicians, religious leaders, and corporate executives to commit all their resources and time to address the problem.

"Nairobi to make HIV/Aids Drugs," EAST AFRICAN STANDARD, 20 May 2002.



## WTO In Brief

### CAIRNS GROUP JOINS IN CRITICISM OF US FARM BILL

In a joint statement issued on 15 May, the Cairns Group -- consisting of eighteen agricultural exporting nations -- strongly criticised the new US farm bill, warning that it would "hurt farmers around the world [...] particularly damaging on developing countries -- net food exporters and importers alike -- many of which are heavily reliant on their agricultural sectors for their economic development." The statement furthermore called on the US to renew the commitment stated in the Doha Ministerial Declaration to negotiate on the "reduction of, with a view to phasing out, all forms of export subsidies". The Group also said that the farm bill would be "damaging to the international economy and [it] could undermine efforts to achieve global reforms of this heavily subsidised and distorted sector". The US farm bill signed by George W. Bush on 13 May is expected to raise total US agricultural subsidies to US\$ 180 billion over ten years due to increases in subsidy rates for grain and cotton growers and reintroduces subsidies for wool and honey producers and new payments for milk, peanuts, lentils and dry peas. Several WTO Member States have already reacted sharply to the bill, among others the EC as well as Mercosur -- the largest trading bloc of agricultural exporting countries in Latin America (see BRIDGES Weekly, 15 May 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-05-15/story2.htm>).

"International Agricultural Trade Group Criticizes US Farm Bill," AP, 15 May 2002; 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: 21-27 May

22-24 May, Victoria, Canada: 4TH UNEP INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT. 800 children at the age of 10 to 12 from all over the world will learn and discuss the state of the environment, with the aim to produce a statement to the world leaders for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. For further information, contact: Theodore Oben, Children, Youth and Sport Programmes, UNEP, Nairobi; tel: (254 2) 623262; email: [theodore.oben@unep.org](mailto:theodore.oben@unep.org); Internet: [http://www.unep.org/children\\_youth/](http://www.unep.org/children_youth/). From IISD linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal>.

22-25 May, Montreal, Canada: SUSTAINABLE JUSTICE 2002-IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT LAW. Cosponsored by UNEP, the conference will assemble over 200 of the world's top legal experts to address key international issues of our day: the environment, the economy, social justice, human rights, health, and the inter-linkages among them. Conference panels and workshops will focus on a range of issues, such as: new legal mechanisms and instruments for implementing international law in the field of sustainable development, innovative measures for financing development that is both environmentally and socially sustainable, and promoting an attitude of compliance with international agreements. For further information contact: Centre for International Sustainable Development Law, 3661 Peel St., Montreal, Quebec H3A 1X1, Canada; tel: (1-514) 581-4984 or (1-514) 398-8918; email: [conference@cisdl.org](mailto:conference@cisdl.org); Internet: <http://www.cisdl.org>.

23-24 May, Washington D.C., US: OECD FORUM ON TRADE IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES. The forum will create a platform for discussion of the main issues and trends in the global trade of educational services. The Forum will bring together all the main stakeholders who have an active role in cross-border trade activities in education and training (post- secondary education and training institutions, private sector, students and learners, policy-makers from governments both in education and trade in services, professional associations, etc.). Some of the main topics that will be addressed are: (i) the views of all main stakeholders on the topic of trade in education; (ii) up-to-date information on the current negotiations on trade in educational services at the WTO; (iii) issues and problems with quality assurance of cross-border delivery of education and training; and, (iv) illustrative case studies of e-learning activities in post-secondary education and training. For further information contact: OECD Washington Centre; tel: (1-202) 785-6323; fax: 785-0350; email: [washington.contact@oecd.org](mailto:washington.contact@oecd.org). Internet: <http://www.oecd.org/EN/document/0,,EN-document-0-nodirectorate-no-20-25748-0,00.html>.

23-24 May, Brussels, Belgium: L'ACCORD DE COTONOU, UNE AUTRE PARTICIPATION POSSIBLE? Organised by GRESEA/ AITEC/ Groupe des Verts/ALE. For further information contact: GRESEA, tel: (32 2) 219 70 76; fax: 219 64 86; email: [greasea@skynet.be](mailto:greasea@skynet.be).

27 May - 7 June, Jakarta, Indonesia: CSD ACTING AS PREPCOM 4 FOR WORLD SUMMIT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WSSD). This meeting will include Ministerial and Multi-stakeholder Dialogue Segments, and is expected to give input to a concise political document to be submitted to the 2002 WSSD Summit. The document is expected to reinvigorate the global commitment to a North-South partnership and a higher level of international solidarity to accelerated implementation of Agenda 21 and the promotion of sustainable development. For further information visit: <http://www.johannesburgsummit>.

27-31 May, Geneva, Switzerland: INTERNATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION WEEK. Organised by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The principal events of this week are: 27-28 May: The 2002 plenary session of the Centre for Trade Facilitation and e-business; 28 & 31 May: The 2002 session of the Committee for

Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED); 2930 May: The International Forum on Trade Facilitation being organised together with the UNCTAD, the other UN regional commissions, the WTO, the World Customs Organization (WCO), and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), at the UN in Geneva; 31 May: The CTIED round table on, "Implementing Trade Facilitation in Transition Economies". For further information contact: Mario Apostolov, Forum Coordinator; UN/ ECE, Trade Division, tel: (41 22) 917 1134; fax: 917 0037; email: [mario.apostolov@unece.org](mailto:mario.apostolov@unece.org); Internet: <http://www.unece.org/trade/forums/forum02/index.htm>.

#### 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.

22 May, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO Dispute Settlement Body - Regular Session.

23-24 May, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO Council for Trade in Goods.

24 May, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO Sub-Committee on Least-Developed Countries (LDCs).

27-28 May, Geneva, Switzerland: Workshop on Government Procurement Agreement (GPA) Accessions.

#### Other Forthcoming Events

5-14 June, Bonn, Germany: 16TH SESSION OF THE UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC) SUBSIDIARY BODIES. For further information contact: UNFCCC Secretariat; tel: (49-228) 815-1000; fax: (49-228) 815- 1999; email: [secretariat@unfccc.int](mailto:secretariat@unfccc.int); Internet: <http://www.unfccc.int/>.

6-8 June, Rome, Italy: 28TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY. For further information, contact: Barbara Huddleston, FAO; tel: (39-06) 5705 1; fax: 5705-3152 email: [Barbara.Huddleston@fao.org](mailto:Barbara.Huddleston@fao.org); Internet: <http://www.fao.org/unfao/bodies/cfs/default.htm>.

6 June, Madrid, Spain: THE REFORM OF THE CAP AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; Proposals for the Spanish Presidency of the EU. Organised by OXFAM International and Union de Pequeños Agricultores (UPA). For further information, contact: email: [asisderi2@intermon.org](mailto:asisderi2@intermon.org). Internet: <http://www.maketradefair.com> or <http://www.intermonoxfam.org>.

3-5 July, Geneva, Switzerland: FOURTH SESSION OF THE UNCTAD INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY. Convening under the auspices of the UN Conference for Trade and Development's (UNCTAD) Trade and Development Board, experts will focus on (i) merger control: the balance between control of concentration and the ability of domestic firms to compete on world markets; and, (ii) the interface between competition authorities and regulatory bodies. For further information contact: UNCTAD Secretariat; tel: (41-22) 917- 5637; fax: 917-0056; email: [correspondence@unctad.org](mailto:correspondence@unctad.org). Internet: <http://www.unctad.org/en/subsites/cpolicy/english/c1em0702.htm>.

14-19 July, Geneva, Switzerland: WORLD SOCIETY FORUM. The project of the World Civil Society Forum is aimed at strengthening the cooperation between non-governmental organisations (NGOs) amongst themselves as well as with the UN System. It will encompass the different areas of the international arena (the environment, health, human rights, humanitarian rights, education, peace, security, information technology, etc.) and will allow, in each of these areas, the promotion of cooperation. The Forum will pay particular attention to those organisations in developing countries and of indigenous populations. It will also allow international organisations and interested specialised agencies to present their activities. For further information contact: World Civil Society Forum; fax: (41-22) 9598-851; email: [forum@mandint.org](mailto:forum@mandint.org). Internet: <http://www.worldcivilsociety.org/pages/1/en/presfor.htm>.

22-25 July, Dresden, Germany: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH. This meeting will be the third international conference in the series on water resources and environment research. The aim of the conference is to encourage and facilitate interdisciplinary communication among scientists, engineers and professionals working in the fields of ecological systems, sustainable management, development of water resources and conservation of natural systems. For further information contact: Cathleen Schimmek, Conference Secretariat; tel: (49-351) 463-33931; email: [icwrrer2002@mailbox.tu-dresden.de](mailto:icwrrer2002@mailbox.tu-dresden.de); Internet: <http://www.tu-dresden.de/fghhihm/hydrologie.html>. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal/>.

19-21 September, Ljubljana, Slovenia: EASTERN ENLARGEMENT OF THE EU: IMPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY. This is the 10th General Conference which is hosted every three years by the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI). For further information contact: Susanne von Itter, EADI; tel: (49 22) 8261-8101; fax: 8261- 8103; email: [itter@eadi.org](mailto:itter@eadi.org); Internet: <http://www.eadi.org/generalconference.htm>.

## 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 ICTSDs

documentation centre would also be welcome (contact Matteo Rizzolli, [mrizzolli@ictsd.ch](mailto:mrizzolli@ictsd.ch)).

FROM RIO TO JOHANNESBURG AND BEYOND: GLOBALIZING PRECAUTION FOR GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS, by Volker Lehmann, published by the Heinrich-Böll-Foundation, April 2002. This study focuses on the regulation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and traces back the history, components and future consequences of the precautionary principle. It scrutinizes the criticism on the precautionary principle based on the premises of 'sound science' and how for GMOs, disputes around the precautionary principle dominate the conflict between the USA and Europe, but also rifts between trade and environmental law. For this, examples of the implementation of the precautionary principle in international agreements of the Rio Earth Summit and the World Trade Organization are discussed and an outlook will be given, how the cause of precaution can be strengthened between Doha, Johannesburg and beyond. The report is available at:

<http://www.boell.org/docs/PrecautioninWTOandRIO.pdf>. The author can be contacted at: [vlehmann@prodigy.net](mailto:vlehmann@prodigy.net).

REFORMING THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE - ISSUES AND PROPOSALS. By Yilmaz Akyüz, 2002. The book's proposals for alternative measures draw on the latest economic thinking while also addressing the concerns of developing countries, and cover rules and institutions to set standards and regulate international capital flows; exchange rate systems that take account of fluctuating currencies and unstable international capital movements; better mechanisms to resolve the international debt problem; reform of the IMF; and the overall governance of international finance. For further information see

<http://zedweb.hypermart.net/cgi-bin/a.cgi?1%2084277%20154%20X>.

"Business And Social Networks In International Trade," by James E. Rauch in JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC LITERATURE 39 (4, 2001): 1177-1203. According the paper, business and social networks that operate across national borders can help to overcome informal trade barriers, adding that research can provide us with insight into how transnational networks overcome informal trade barriers, and at the same time can serve to document and even quantify the existence of these barriers. Determining the relative importance of contract enforcement versus informational barriers is especially important since they point to quite different areas of concern for policy makers.

"Trade And Environment : Evidence From China's Manufacturing Sector," by Joseph C.H. Chai in SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 10 (1, 2002): 25-35. Focusing on the Chinese manufacturing sector, the paper assesses the environmental impact of trade liberalisation in China. The results show that China's experience with the trade liberalisation-environment nexus is consistent with international evidence. On the one hand, trade liberalisation has had various positive effects on the environment. Firstly, it promoted specialisation in areas of comparative advantage, which, in general, included industries that contributed less to environmental degradation. Secondly, it allowed China to access and adopt the best international practices in pollution abatement technology. Thirdly, it enabled China to transfer environmental costs to other countries by importing

intermediate products whose production contributed to environmental degradation. On the other hand, these positive effects were overwhelmed by a negative scale effect, which was the result of a huge increase in the demand for Chinese exports. The paper concludes that if China is to prevent pollution from reaching a critical threshold, environmental regulations need to be tightened.

**REVIEWING THE SPS AGREEMENT: A DEVELOPING COUNTRY PERSPECTIVE.** By Michael Friis Jensen, published by Centre for Development Research, February 2002. Sanitary and phytosanitary measures are increasingly important in the international trade of agricultural products. According to the author they are implemented to ensure that food is safe for consumers, and to prevent the spread of pests or diseases among animals and plants, but they may also be used as protectionist devices to keep foreign competitors out. The SPS Agreement of the WTO has been created in order to distinguish between these two functions of SPS measures and to rule the latter out. This paper evaluates the Agreement from the viewpoint of developing countries. It is concluded that although developing countries have a high demand for an effective agreement of this sort, in practice they face a great number of difficulties when using the Agreement. A few larger middle-income countries appear to see clear benefits from the Agreement while most countries do not possess the financial, human, and technical resources necessary to use it. Some especially least developed countries are excessively burdened by the implementation costs of the SPS Agreement. For more information, visit [http://www.cdr.dk/working\\_papers/02-3-abs.htm](http://www.cdr.dk/working_papers/02-3-abs.htm).

**GLOBAL TRADE/GLOBAL POVERTY: NGO PERSPECTIVES ON KEY CHALLENGES FOR CANADA.** Released by the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC), 2002. This series of policy paper takes an in-depth look at issues of trade and poverty from several thematic and sectoral vantage points. The papers aim to frame and synthesise the experience, analysis and concerns of Canadian NGOs regarding the implications of international trade agreements for global poverty, the role of Canada, and recommendations for Canadian action. PAPER 1 is an introduction to the series and an overview of key analytic issues for trade and poverty; PAPER 2 addresses trade issues for the rural poor and for food security; PAPER 3 addresses intellectual property rights and biopatenting issues. Available at <http://incommon.web.ca/anglais/trade/index.html>.

**AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS 2002: DRAWN FROM THE WORLD BANK AFRICA DATABASE.** By the World Bank, April 2002. This publication provides the most detailed collection of development data on Africa in one volume. It presents data from 53 African countries, arranged in separate tables or matrices for more than 500 indicators of development. This volume provides data from 1970-2000 with indicators grouped into 15 chapters: background data; national accounts; prices and exchange rates; money and banking; external sector; external debt and related flows; government finance; agriculture; power, communications, and transportation; public enterprises; labour force and employment; aid flows; social indicators; environmental indicators; and HIPC debt initiative. For more information, visit [http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?item\\_id=866058](http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/catalog/product?item_id=866058).



"Demystifying The Relationship Between CITES And The WTO," by Marceil Yeater Juan Vasquez, in REVIEW OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (RECIEL) 10 (3, 2001): 271-276. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was designed more than 25 years ago to cope with circumstances where international trade was a strong factor in the threat of extinction of a species. It is known for its effective decision-making and compliance mechanisms to prevent unsustainable exploitation of wildlife, the author argues.

HANDBOOK OF WORLD MINERAL TRADE STATISTICS, 1995-2000. Published by UNCTAD, May 2002. The 380-page statistical guide contains commodity-specific data on international trade at the world, regional and country levels. For further information contact: Olivier Matringe, tel: (41-22) 907-5774; fax: 907-0247; email: [infocomm@unctad.org](mailto:infocomm@unctad.org), [olivier.matringe@unctad.org](mailto:olivier.matringe@unctad.org); or UNCTAD Press Office, tel. 907-1646; fax: 907-0043, email: [press@unctad.org](mailto:press@unctad.org).

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