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AGRICULTURE: LITTLE PROGRESS IN EXPORT COMPETITION DEBATE

WTO Members on 18 June wrapped up a two-day informal special (negotiating) session of the Committee on Agriculture (CoA) focusing on export competition without agreement on any of the agenda items, including future disciplines on the use of export subsidies; export credits, guarantees and insurance; food aid, state trading enterprises; and export restrictions and taxes.

Many Members -- including WTO newcomer China -- orally presented various proposals for modalities, or negotiating formulas, for further export competition commitments. However, key agriculture players such as the EC, US and Australia did not respond with counterproposals, arguing that more information was needed or that they needed to track developments in other agriculture negotiation areas. The fact that current agriculture negotiations are being conducted mainly in oral mode without written proposals or minutes led to an unprecedented event, as a group of Members including Australia, Cuba, Canada, Brazil and India challenged the appropriateness of the Chair's summary of the informal sessions presented to the subsequent 20 June formal special session. Nevertheless, their demand to amend the Chair's report was opposed by most of the Members.

In its final observations on the session on export competition, Agriculture Chair Stuart Harbinson (Hong Kong/China) called the work undertaken "focused, business-like and interactive," but further remarked that "a greater degree of concrete and interactive engagement will be required if we are to develop a sound basis for an overview paper in December". By that date, Members are striving to forge a draft modalities document based on what countries have put forward during the current phase

Export subsidies

The Cairns Group of agriculture exporting countries reiterated their call to phase out export subsidies within a three-year term (six years for developing countries), with an initial down-payment of 50 percent. This position was supported by many non-Cairns developing countries. To the disappointment of the Group, the US -- a former supporter of Cairns positions -- proposed a five-year period, but without the down-payment. China aligned itself with the Cairns Group position, but was less clear on the down-payment issue, sources reported. The EC, which is a key user of export subsidies, remained silent on its position but generally questioned whether the Doha mandate envisaged the elimination, or just the reduction, of export subsidies. Switzerland -- the only Member tabling a written proposal -- suggested the option of modulating reduction commitments by which Members were allowed to cut expenses more moderately for some sensitive products in return for steeper cuts in others -- a proposal which was vigorously opposed by the Cairns Group. Japan and Korea did not propose any specific modalities.

On special and differential treatment (S&D), India and Like-Minded Group members such as Pakistan and Sri Lanka called for exemptions for developing countries along the lines of Article 27 and Annex VII of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM) (which exempts certain developing countries from the general

prohibition to use export subsidies). However, this was opposed by Cairns Group developing countries, who said it would worsen distortions and damage South-South trade. Switzerland proposed outlawing all exports supported by export competition to least-developed countries (LDCs) and other vulnerable economies unless such exports were explicitly approved by the importing state. It was further reported that Switzerland showed some flexibility to extend this S&D measure to other developing country Members.

Export credits, etc.

During the negotiations, two general approaches emerged. For its part, the Cairns Group suggested a "rules-based" approach by which "commercial terms" such as duration of credit (e.g. 180 days) and benchmarks for interest rates and appropriate insurance premiums would be defined, with everything else forbidden. In contrast, the EC proposed a "reduction commitment" approach where the subsidy component of credit, insurance and guarantee would be calculated and then treated the same as export subsidies. The US supported the Cairns Group version but insisted that export credits were very different than export subsidies and less trade distortive. Together with Korea, Japan, Malaysia and Cuba, the US further cautioned that export credits were sometimes useful in times of currency reserve crises.

State trading enterprises

Regarding agricultural state trading enterprises (STEs), the debate centred on the question of whether the operation of STEs as such would automatically lead to trade distortions, as argued by the EC, or whether transparency through the notification of purchases and sales prices and transaction costs could appropriately control government-granted agriculture monopolies. Australia, New Zealand and Canada, which all maintain STEs, expressed reservations regarding the EC and US approach on the grounds that private companies (Cargill etc.) were subject to such transparency provisions.

Export restrictions and taxes

Switzerland, which -- along with Japan and Korea -- considers export restrictions as a food security concern for net food importers, proposed to 'tariffy' all export restrictions into export taxes and to subsequently bind and reduce them. Notably, Switzerland inscribed its proposal on export restriction partly in the category "NTC" (non-trade concerns) used in its technical elaboration.

Switzerland was one of the six organisers of the 14 June Ministerial Conference on Non-Trade Concerns (NTC-IV), where supporters of the concept of multifunctionality of agriculture stated that non-trade concerns such as rural development, food security and environment needed to be effectively taken into account in the WTO negotiating modalities (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 June 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-06-20/story4.htm>).

Food aid

At the 17-18 June meeting, Members agreed that food aid provided at the request of relevant international organisations such as the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) should not be subject to new WTO disciplines. Regarding bilateral food aid, some Members said that this was often used to dump surpluses, whereas others argued that individual governments could respond to food emergencies faster than intergovernmental bodies. Nevertheless, most Members said that food aid should only be given in grant form.

Background

Together with the 3-4 June intersessional consultations (see BRIDGES Weekly, 4 June 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-06-04/story4.htm>), this negotiating session was the first of a set of three meetings based on the three pillars of the Agreement on Agriculture (export competition, market access, and domestic support). A subsequent meeting in mid-November will provide Members with the opportunity to address so-called inter-pillar issues. In these sessions, Members are required to translate their proposals tabled during phases one (2000-2001) and two (2001-2002) into legal and technical language applicable to modalities. Article 14 of the Doha Declaration provides that modalities are to be established by 31 March 2003.

The agreed timetable for the forthcoming negotiations are: 29-30 July: intersessional consultations on market access; 2-4 September: special sessions on market access; 5-6 September: intersessional consultation on domestic support; and 23-15 and 27 September: special sessions on domestic support.

ICTSD reporting; Geneva Watch, 20 June 2002.

ACP GEARING UP FOR NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH EU

Ministers from the governments of the Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries met in Brussels over the past week for sessions of the ACP Ministerial Trade Committee (19 June) and the Joint Meeting of the ACP Trade and Finance Ministers (20-21 June). The ACP is moving to finalise its negotiating guidelines for upcoming negotiations with the EU at the end of the month.

On 27 September 2002, negotiations between the ACP and the EU are set to begin under the auspices of the Cotonou Agreement. These negotiations, which are to finish by December 2007, are aimed at negotiating reciprocal, WTO-compliant trading arrangements between the two groupings of countries. The central objective of the Cotonou Agreement -- and by extension of the 'Economic Partnership Agreements' that are to be negotiated between the EU and the various ACP sub-regional groupings -- is to

promote sustainable development and thus eradicate poverty, while gradually integrating ACP countries into the world economy.

Ministerial Trade Committee

The ACP Ministerial Trade Committee is one of the bodies charged with preparing for and monitoring the upcoming negotiations. The sixth meeting of the body, on 19 June, focused on the adoption of the draft procedural guidelines for the negotiation of the EU-ACP 'Economic Partnership Agreements' (EPAs). In addition, trade ministers were to consider the elements for a draft ACP negotiating mandate, as prepared by the ACP Secretariat. A report was then compiled and forwarded for consideration by the ACP Ministers of Trade and Finance.

On a related note, Spain deposited its instruments of ratification on 19 June, bringing the number of EU countries to ratify the Cotonou Agreement up to eight (all 15 must ratify). 56 ACP countries have already ratified the agreement, five more than the requisite number.

Joint Meeting of ACP Ministers of Trade and Finance

This two-day meeting in Brussels looked at how the ACP would approach the forthcoming negotiations and also considered the draft ACP guidelines for the negotiation of the EPAs. Some of the key issues discussed included the erosion of ACP trade preferences; the fiscal, economic, social and other aspects and implications of the future EPAs; and mainstreaming trade in national and regional programmes. A discussion was also held on the post-Doha agenda at the WTO and on a coordinated approach for the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference, scheduled for September 2003.

Draft guidelines for the upcoming negotiations

The draft guidelines were broken up into five sections: i) approach to the negotiations; ii) principles; iii) objectives (strategic and specific); iv) negotiating structure; and v) timeline. While they have been recommended in their current state for adoption at the 75th Session of the ACP Council of Ministers (see below), final approval will only come at the 3rd ACP Summit of the ACP Heads of State and Government in Fiji on 16-19 July.

The draft guidelines (ACP/61/056/03 Rev.6) are available on the ACP's website (<http://www.acpsec.org>). One element stressed is the call for continued solidarity and unity amongst ACP countries. The document cites the impact this approach has had in past EU negotiations, and specifically at the recent WTO Doha Ministerial. Another recurring theme is the need to actively participate in the current WTO negotiations "so as not only to inject flexibility in the WTO rules, especially those relating to regional trade agreements and to have the development dimension better taken into account, but also to make the future EPAs compatible with the WTO." The guidelines further touch on the need to operationalise and make legally binding existing and new special and differential treatment (S&D) provisions.

With respect to the timeline envisioned by the ACP, the guidelines look to two phases, the first of which runs until September 2003, upon which a broad ACP-EU Agreement would be concluded, focusing on objectives and principles of the EPAs and issues of common interest to all ACP countries. In addition to objectives and principles, phase one could include the discussion of issues such as S&D, financing adjustment costs, rules of origin, treatment of trade-related issues (competition, investment, environment), supply-side constraints, impact of the reform of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy and technology transfer. During this time, the ACP states would undertake research and capacity- building activities to prepare for the next phase of negotiations on the sub-regional EPAs. Phase two would cover, inter alia, tariff negotiations and other specific sectoral commitments at national or regional levels.

This timeline contrasts that which the European Commission is believed to support. In a meeting organised by the European Parliament's Development Committee following the adoption of the EU's mandate on negotiations with the ACP (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 June 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-06-20/inbrief.htm>), a Commission representative indicated that the EU would want a first phase to last only three months, after which negotiations with the sub-regional groupings could begin (even though those groupings would not yet be defined). A direct comparison of the respective mandates cannot be made, however, as the EU's mandate will not be made public: the Commission has argued that the 'opponents' in the negotiations should not be able to view their strategies.

Council of Ministers meetings 26-28 June

Moving over to the Dominican Republic, the 75th Session of the ACP Council of Ministers will meet on 26 & 27 June, followed by the 27th Session of the ACP-EC Joint Council of Ministers. Most notably, ministers at the former meeting are expected to discuss, inter alia, the draft ACP guidelines on negotiations with the EU as well as eligibility criteria for ACP non-state actors. The latter meeting is expected to discuss, inter alia, progress on the ratification of the Cotonou Agreement, development finance cooperation, participation of ACP non-state actors in the implementation of the Cotonou Agreement (including access to funding under the European Development Fund), and the ACP-EU Forum on Research for Sustainable Development (Cape Town, July 2002).

BRIDGES Weekly will provide further coverage of these meetings in forthcoming issues.

For further information, visit the ACP Secretariat website at <http://www.acpsec.org> and the European Commission's ACP page at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/bilateral/acp/acp.htm>.

ICTSD reporting; "EU Adopts Mandate for Trade Negotiations with the ACP But Document Remains Confidential - Reactions" PROACTIVE FILE # 276, 21 June 2002.

ACCESS TO MEDICINES IN SPOTLIGHT AT TRIPS COUNCIL

Discussions on the contentious paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on TRIPs (Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) and Public Health are set to continue at the meeting of the TRIPs Council on 25-27 June based on proposals submitted by the EC, the US and a group of developing countries. Members will also resume the long- running debate on the Article 27.3(b) review (patentability of life forms), traditional knowledge, biodiversity and observership (see BRIDGES Weekly, 22 May 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-05-22/story4.htm>).

Para 6 of the Declaration instructs Members 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. Compulsory licensing denotes the practice of requiring holders of intellectual property rights to make these rights available to firms within a foreign country, or sometimes to the government of the home country.

In its submission, the EC narrowed down its previously proposed four options, favouring an additional paragraph to TRIPs Article 31 which would set out an exception to the restriction imposed by Article 31(f), which states that production under compulsory licensing had to be primarily for the supply of the domestic market (see BRIDGES Weekly, 12 March 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-12/story2.htm>). This option, the EC argued, would guarantee a "sustainable, balanced and workable solution" to the problem raised in para. 6. The exception would apply to pharmaceutical products needed to deal with public health problems affecting developing and least-developed countries, especially those resulting from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other epidemics. The EC furthermore stressed the need for countries importing such products to implement the necessary measures that would prevent their re-exportation.

The US in its submission acknowledged the need for poor countries to be able to obtain pharmaceuticals for public health crises, including those with insufficient manufacturing capacity. While not proposing a specific legal mechanism at this stage, the US noted a growing consensus among Members to use the existing flexibility in Article 31 rather than modify other sections of the TRIPs agreement. "The first thing is to solidify the consensus on the broad approach and then to talk about various legal mechanisms for doing it," a US trade official said. The official also stressed the importance of finding a quick resolution, as TRIPs patent obligations become legally binding for developing country Members in January 2005. In addition, the US echoed the EC's call that Members should be encouraged to implement a monitoring mechanism that would prevent diversion of such medicines away from the intended recipient.

In contrast to the EC and US proposals, the developing country submission -- put forward by Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, China, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Peru, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Venezuela -- advocated that the solution envisaged by the TRIPs Council should apply to all countries, not only to developing, least-developed or "poor" countries, and that it should also apply to countries where no

patents existed. While considering various possible solutions, including deletion of Article 31(f) or amending Article 31 (k), the submission proposed an authoritative interpretation of Article 30 (exceptions to patent rights) as the preferred solution. Partial or temporary arrangements, however, such as a moratorium or waiver, were inappropriate, the group argued, as they did not "amount to sustainable or legally predictable solutions". The group furthermore called on the TRIPs Council to consider measures to encourage technology transfer to least-developed countries in order to strengthen local manufacturing capacities in their territories.

Civil society groups -- including Oxfam, Médecins sans Frontières, Third World Network and Consumer Project on Technology -- strongly criticised the EC and US, accusing them of backing out of the pledge made at Doha to ensure developing countries' access to affordable medicines to fight epidemics. They also expressed disappointment with the EC's decision to drop the previously proposed option of interpreting Article 30, which is the alternative favoured by many non- governmental groups. They furthermore voiced concerns regarding proposed requirements of border controls and other safeguards to prevent re-exportation. "The major problem is that the option that the EU is pushing...might impose a number of restriction which will make this 'solution' impracticable for most of the countries in concrete terms," said Gaelle Krikorian of ACT-UP, Paris.

BRIDGES Weekly and BRIDGES Trade BioRes will report on the outcomes of the meeting in forthcoming issues.

ICTSD reporting; "US proposing WTO drug licensing plan for health emergencies," WASHINGTON FILE, 24 June 2002; "EU proposal on poor countries' drugs access criticized," AP, 24 June 2002; "Activists say powers back out of AIDS drugs pledge," REUTERS, 24 June 2002.

N. AMERICAN ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MEET ON CROSS-BORDER ISSUES

The Council of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation of North America (CEC) convened in Ottawa, Ontario, for its two-day annual session on 18 June. The Council is the CEC's executive body and consists of the environment ministers from the three North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) parties -- Canada, Mexico and the US. Key issues discussed included environmental challenges and opportunities of the North American electricity market, transborder movements of hazardous wastes, and transparency in trade and environment areas. In related news, the CEC will be launching an investigation into allegations of transgenic corn contamination of Mexican crops in Oaxaca.

The Montreal-based CEC was created by a NAFTA side agreement to promote cooperation among Canada, Mexico and the US in the protection of the North American environment. The Council -- which currently consists of David Anderson, Minister of Environment for Canada, Victor Lichtinger, Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources for Mexico, and Christine Todd Whitman, Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency -- meets every year to review and direct the program activities of the CEC and, in the process, receive public input and advice from its public advisory committee and various stakeholders.

Greater cooperation on energy and electricity urged

In the sector of energy and the environment, the Council agreed to establish a North American Air Working Group to "provide guidance to the Council and facilitate future cooperative work on air related issues". Reflecting a general drive towards standardisation, the environment ministers also agreed to conduct a comparative study of the air quality standards, regulations, planning, and enforcement practices in the three countries, and to conduct a survey to obtain information on the comparability of North American environmental standards governing construction and operation of electricity generating facilities. They further committed to address challenges and opportunities around emissions trading systems.

Concurrent with the Council meeting, the CEC released a report on the environmental challenges and opportunities of the North American electricity market (see <http://www.cec.org>). Inter alia, the report advocates increased cooperation among the NAFTA parties on environmental protection, collection of emission information, improved impact assessment, the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency, and increased technology transfer. Despite the push towards standardisation of regulation in the electricity field, however, the report draws out a number of areas of incompatibility amongst the three parties that could make it difficult to achieve what one source termed a "harmonious regime".

Chemicals and hazardous wastes

Ministers agreed to develop a new North American Regional Action Plan targeting the harmful pesticides lindane and chlordane and proceed with a pilot project to track hazardous waste movement between Canada and the US by means of an electronic notification system. The Council also agreed to undertake a feasibility study for a pilot project on electronic tracking of hazardous waste movements between Mexico and the US, with particular attention to capacity building in Mexico and starting with a prioritised list of substances.

Trade and environment

In their communiqué, the three environment ministers encouraged further public participation in the area of trade and environment. Specifically, they committed to "take the necessary steps to facilitate public input on the work on Chapter 11 [investment provisions] of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) underway by the

Chapter 11 Experts' Group of the NAFTA Free Trade Commission." The Council will be working together with the NAFTA parties' trade ministers to arrange a forum where interested parties can express their views on the operation and implementation of the Chapter.

The communiqué also made reference to a public symposium on the links between trade and the environment in North America being organised for early 2003. The Council views the symposium as providing "an opportunity to compare approaches underway at the national and international levels on environmental assessments of trade in North America, further engage the public in this work, and identify opportunities for policy integration in support of sustainable development." A call for papers is available on the CEC website (see link, above).

Ministers also agreed to set up a sustainable agriculture fund in order to encourage small and medium-size sustainable agricultural enterprises.

CEC to investigate GMO corn allegations

Responding to civil society concerns that corn varieties imported from the US to Mexico have contaminated native Mexican crops, a representative from the tripartite CEC said on 20 June that the organisation would launch an investigation in mid-July into the issue. Results could be forthcoming in nine to 10 months.

Researchers at the University of California at Berkeley published studies last year saying they had found genetically modified corn in the mountains of the Mexican state of Oaxaca. However, the cultivation of transgenic corn was banned in Mexico in 1998 due to fears it would contaminate the hundreds of wild domestic varieties. The region is believed by many to be the birthplace of corn. Many believe that the contaminated corn arrived on trucks carrying subsidised food to poor villagers.

Maria Colin, a legal adviser for Greenpeace in Mexico, said she expected the CEC study to confirm the presence of transgenic corn strains in Oaxaca and pressure Mexico's government to ban imports of the corn. "It's extremely difficult to stop (transgenic corn contamination) and to not have more cases like those already reported in Oaxaca," she said.

As with other reports initiated by the CEC secretariat under Article 13 of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC), the study will include input from competent international and national organisations, sector organisations, the private sector, interested members of civil society, as well as the three NAAEC Parties.

ICTSD reporting; "NAFTA group to study transgenic corn in Mexico," REUTERS, 21 June 2002.

CHRÉTIEN, BLAIR STRUGGLE TO MAKE G-8 SUMMIT MEANINGFUL FOR AFRICA

Strengthening world economic growth and sustainable development, fighting terrorism and an action plan/approval for the New Partnership For Africa's Economic Development (NEPAD) are on the agenda for the 26- 26 June Group of 8 (G-8) Summit starting on 26 June in Kanasaskis, Canada. Chaired by Canadian Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien the summit will attended by leaders of the seven most industrialised countries and Russia, as well as by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, South African president Thabo Mbeki and four other African leaders.

Chrétien will be pushing to prioritise the Africa Action Plan that G-8 leaders committed to creating at the Genoa Summit of July 2001 (see BRIDGES Weekly, 24 July 2001 at <http://www.ictsd.org/html/weekly/24-07-01/story3.htm>). The action plan will be based on the mutual responsibility of industrialised and African countries, with African leaders expected to ensure good governance, uphold human rights and commit to democracy as they call for USD \$64 billion in annual investment and support from developed countries to sustain a 15-year annual economic growth of seven percent. But talks on NEPAD have already been relegated to the latter part of the summit due to mounting pressure from some leaders to meet on US-European trade disputes over steel and farm subsidies. German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, who met Chrétien before the summit site in the Canadian Rocky Mountains, said the talks must focus on trade disputes and the economic crisis in Russia, rather than predominantly on African issues. Chrétien said he has agreed to help broker a deal between the US and the EU but will keep African development as the main issue of the summit.

Canada -- which has already earmarked USD 500 million for Africa ahead of the summit -- is being joined in its push for more African aid by the UK. But British Prime Minister Tony Blair has already run into US and Japanese opposition to his USD 6 billion aid plan proposal for Africa. As part of a push by both leaders on greater market access for African products, Chrétien will call upon G-8 countries to reduce trade barriers to African farm products, textiles and footwear while insisting that aid be focused on countries that did most to fight corruption and foster good governance.

Matthew Lockwood, UK head of campaigning at development group ActionAid, commented that while "a shower of recycled initiatives for Africa" would be witnessed at the summit, the truth was that "the mission to heal the scars of Africa has become bogged in the swamp of G- 8 politics". Lockwood said that the real test of Tony Blair's success will be if he can overcome Japanese and American resistance and get a new deal for Africa back on the road. Critics have also charged NEPAD with replicating donor-driven structural adjustment conditions by providing an emphasis on attracting foreign direct investment and privatising domestic assets, which they believe have failed to improve Africa's economic performance. The city of Calgary meanwhile saw peaceful protest marches ahead of the summit by individuals and groups angry at the perceived top-down decision-making style of the summit without involvement and input from local populations.

"Thousands Protest Peacefully In Canada Against G8," REUTERS/PLANETARK, 25 June 2002; "G-8: Leaders Prepare For Summit In Canada; Africa To Top Agenda," UNWIRE, 24 June 2002 at http://www.unfoundation.org/unwire/util/display_stories.asp?objid=27225; "Britain fights for huge G8 aid boost to Africa," " US and Japan Dig In Heels Over Blair's Call For \$6bn Of Extra Funds," THE GUARDIAN, 22 June 2002.

DSB UPDATE

Three more on board against US steel tariffs

At a 24 June meeting of the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB), the body approved requests by China, Norway and Switzerland to be included in a panel established last week at the request of the EC, Japan and S. Korea.(see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 June 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-06-20/wtoinbrief.htm#2>). The complaints, which target US steel safeguard tariffs imposed on 20 March, will be heard in one panel. The US reiterated its claim that its safeguards were fully compliant with WTO rules. Brazil and New Zealand are also expected to join the complainant parties later in the summer. The approval of China's bid for a panel ruling on the steel tariffs is the first dispute settlement case initiated by China since it joined the WTO in December last year.

Canada-Brazil aircraft

With regard to the long and bitter row between Canada and Brazil over aircraft subsidies (see BRIDGES Weekly, 26 February 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-02-26/story6.htm>), the DSB decided to set up an arbitration panel to evaluate Brazil's request to impose retaliatory sanctions against Canada. At the meeting, Brazil asked for approval to withdraw trade concessions totalling USD 3.36 billion as an "appropriate counter-measures" against Canada. According to Brazil, Canada had failed to implement the findings of an independent WTO team of experts that loans provided to the Quebec-based jet maker, Bombardier Inc., were illegal. The Canadian delegation countered by saying that the amount of damages claimed by Brazil "was inflated, unjustified and invalid".

India-US textiles

The DSB also approved the creation of a new panel over India's complaints that the US was blocking its exports of textiles and clothing with "complicated new rules." In India's view, the new rules, brought in after previous EU complaints, had created "extraordinarily complex rules of origin for textiles and apparel products" which were used "as instruments to pursue trade objectives" and that the rules were having "restrictive, distorting and disruptive effects on international trade". The US rejected the accusations, arguing that the regulations were fully in line with WTO rules. Developing country trade diplomats said the regulations were only the latest in a range of barriers put

up by the US, where they said lobbyists for textile manufacturers and workers are strong compared with the voice of exporters from poorer countries. The panel is expected to be created within the next month and will have six months to come up with a ruling.

ICTSD reporting; "China, Switzerland join WTO steel case against US," REUTERS, 24 June 2002; "WTO Sets Up Arbitration Panel In Brazil, Canada Dispute," ASSOCIATED PRESS, 24 June 2002; "WTO sets panel in India textile row with U.S.," REUTERS, 24 June 2002.

In Brief

OECS LEADERS ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN GENEVA

Leaders of the Eastern Caribbean states have agreed to establish a diplomatic mission in Geneva. The decision came at the end of a three- day summit in St. Kitts and Nevis on 20 June, and the mission will be established in Geneva within the next year. Leaders intend the office to help increase the international presence of the island states particularly with regard to trade. "Brussels has been the centre of activity for years. But with the WTO in Geneva, it is important for us to be there," remarked Prime Minister Denzil L. Douglas of St. Kitts, without giving details of the planned office. The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) also renewed its support for a common passport by January. While some of OECS leaders are pushing for 'fast track' towards a single market economy, other leaders have voiced fears about domestic job losses and an increase in crime as result of opening up labour markets. Established in 1981, the regional subgroup includes nine countries and jurisdictions, including Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Montserrat, with the associate members Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands. OECS already has a common currency, central bank, supreme court and administrations for aviation, telecommunications and pharmaceuticals.

"Eastern Caribbean Leaders Agree To Set Up Diplomatic Mission In Geneva," ASSOCIATED PRESS, 20 June 2002.

GLOBALISATION EMPHASISED AT ILO CONFERENCE

The 90th Annual Economic Conference of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) ended on 20 June with the adoption of measures aimed at addressing the challenges of globalisation and "anchoring" personal security through poverty reduction, job creation and improved workplace health and safety. Attended by country, labour and employer representatives from the agency's 175 member states, the conference brought globalisation, child labour and other issues into the ambit of what Director General Juan Somavia termed an "exceptionally rich discussion". Delegates pushed for more rigorous

and aggressive performance indicators on evaluating the needs of constituents and redressing decent work deficits in a globalising world. Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohammed of Malaysia stated that globalisation in its current form cannot be "the remedy for the social ills of the world" and called for "globalisation with a social dimension." Rt. Hon. Owen Arthur, Prime Minister of Barbados, condemned the linkage of labour standards and trade as "immoral and counterproductive" saying that the ILO "must have more clout in the formulating of global, financial and trade policy, and not just an advisory role."

For further information visit

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/ilc90/index.htm>.

"ILO Annual Conference Adopts New Measures To Tackle The Challenges Of Globalisation," ILO PRESS RELEASE, 20 June 2002; "ILO Ends Meeting By Adopting New Measures On Globalisation," UNWIRE, 21 June 2002.

INDONESIA ENACTS PERMANENT LOG EXPORT BAN

According to Indonesian Forestry Minister Muhammad Prakosa, Indonesia on 25 June imposed a permanent ban on log exports in order to protect its shrinking tropical forests. Prakosa said around 5,000 hectares (12,300 acres) of the country's lush forests had been lost to illegal logging every day for the past five years. "Starting on 8 June, the export of logs and wood chips, which were previously limited, has been banned," Prakosa said. A permanent ban has taken months to implement. In October 2001, the ministers of industry and trade and forestry issued a joint initiative that put in place a temporary ban on exports of logs for wood chips. A logging ban has been in place in Thailand since 1989. However, illegal logging for export continues to be a major problem in the region.

"Indonesia says permanent log export ban in place," REUTERS, 25 June 2002.

DEFIANT NORWAY TO RESUME WHALING AND EXPORT TO ICELAND

Norway announced plans last week to defy an international whaling ban and resume exports of whale meat to Iceland after a 14-year hiatus. Norway will reportedly issue licenses for the export of 10-15 tonnes of minke whale meat to Iceland within the next few days despite the listing of minke whales in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade In Endangered Species (CITES). CITES Appendix I lists species that threatened with extinction and CITES generally prohibits commercial international trade in specimens of these species. According to a CITES secretariat source, Norway, Japan and Iceland have refused to accept this classification for minke whales. Norway has been trying over the years, without success, to have minke whales classified under Appendix II, which imposes less stringent rules around trade in listed species. The whaling lobby group High North Alliance has said it hopes that Norwegian exports to Iceland could pave the way for trade with Japan.

(See also BRIDGES Weekly, 18 April 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/html/weekly/story4.18-04-00.htm> and BRIDGES Weekly, 12 March 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-12/inbrief.htm>)

"Norway To Defy International Ban, Export To Iceland,"
REUTERS/PLANETARK/UNWIRE, 24 June 2002; <http://www.cites.org>.

POP GROUP DRUMS UP SUPPORT FOR REFORMING TRADE RULES

Top British rock band Radiohead have joined the Trade Justice Movement, a mass lobby backed by over 40 charities and pressure groups hoping to force the reform of international trade rules onto the political agenda of the British parliament. Profoundly affected by the 1999 Cologne summit of the G-8 nations, Thom Yorke, the group's singer, went on to support the Jubilee 2000 campaign of debt relief for the poorest countries. He is however convinced that debt relief is not enough and remarked on 19 June that "these countries are going to stay on their knees until western people are made aware that these tariffs are being put on these countries' exports." Ed O'Brien, the group's guitarist, has attacked farm support in the west as "an absolutely ludicrous situation", pointing out that surplus EU grain was being exported to these [developing] countries "which then can't impose any taxes on it to protect their farmers." The Trade Justice Movement has three main objectives: to make multinational companies responsible for their actions in developing countries, to change the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) which, campaigners contend, forces developing countries to privatise public services, and to change tariff rules that shut out developing country exports from rich country markets while opening up their own markets to imports.

"Radiohead Tune In To Trade Campaign," FINANCIAL TIMES, 19 June 2002.

WTO In Brief

INFORMAL CTD SPECIAL SESSION DISCUSSES ROAD MAP

On 18 June, WTO Members met in an informal special session of the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), where they discussed primarily procedural matters that have been plaguing the negotiations since the body first met on 5 March (see BRIDGES Weekly, 5 March 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-05/story2.htm>). The CTD special session is the body tasked with reviewing special and differential treatment (S&D) in the WTO Agreements. Of particular focus was how to proceed with discussions on the 'objectives and principles' of S&D as well as a proposed S&D monitoring mechanism (as per Africa Group submission, TN/CTD/W/3/Rev.1; not as yet de-restricted, see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 June 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-06-20/story2.htm>). Further debate was also held on how to move forward on the S&D review

itself: sources said that most developed countries pushed for the dispersion of the various proposals to the relevant subsidiary bodies, while most developing countries wanted to keep the task in the hands of the CTD. A suggestion was also offered to discuss similar issues from the various proposals in a 'cluster' -- such that all similar elements from the various proposals could be dealt with together. With a deadline of reporting "with clear recommendations for action" to the General Council by 31 July 2002, the body has two formal sessions (2 and 17 July) and one half-day informal session (27 June) left to fulfil its mandate.

ICTSD reporting.

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: 25 June - 1 July

24-25 June, Maastricht, Netherlands REGULATORY ISSUES OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs). This course will address emerging legal problems and policy questions in relations to the most recent advancements in Biotechnologies. Organised by the Amsterdam-Maastricht Summer University. For further information and application, visit: <http://www.amsu.edu/courses/law/law42002.htm> or contact: Mr. Ruggero Lala, Course Co-ordinator: ruggero.lala@amsu.edu.

24-27 June, Monterey, California, US: SECOND WORLD CONGRESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMISTS. The four-day program will consist of plenary sessions with key-note speakers, parallel sessions with contributed papers, and some sessions with invited papers and panels on special topics and environmental and resource economics. The keynote speakers are: Kenneth Arrow, Parth Dasgupta, Daniel McFadden, and Martin Weitzman. For further information visit: <http://weber.ucsd.edu/~carsonvs/>.

26-28 June 2002, Rome, Italy: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION. For further information contact: Secretariat of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme; tel: (39-06) 5705-1; fax: 5705-4593; email: codex@fao.org. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal/>.

26-27 June: G-8 SUMMIT. The Group of Eight industrialised countries will meet to focus on three priorities: strengthening global economic growth; building a new partnership for Africa's development; and fighting terrorism. In addition, leaders will

review progress since their last meeting in four areas related to global poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals as stated in the UN Millennium Declaration: promoting universal primary education; fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases; bridging the digital divide; debt reduction and the HIPC initiative. For further information contact: Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, G8 Summit Management Office (G8C), 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0G2; Internet: <http://www.g8.gc.ca/menu-e.asp>.

26-28 June, Geneva, Switzerland: UNCTAD EXPERT MEETING ON THE DIVERSIFICATION OF PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS IN COMMODITY-DEPENDENT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. Convened by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Specialised agencies and intergovernmental bodies wishing to participate in the session, as well as NGOs in the General Category and those in the Special Category wishing to participate as observers, are requested to inform the UNCTAD secretariat of the names of their representatives by 27 May 2002. For further information contact the UNCTAD secretariat, Intergovernmental Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; fax: +41(0)22 917 0056; email: correspondence@unctad.org.

30 June-5 July, Rome, Italy: 25TH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION. For further information contact: Secretariat of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme; fax: (39-065) 705-4593; email: codex@fao.org. From IISD Linkages: <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/journal/>.

1-2 July, Leeds, United Kingdom: CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. Speakers will address such topics as Sustainable Development and Tourism, Environmental Management in SMEs, Biodiversity and Conservation, And Business and Sustainable Development. For further information contact: Elaine White; tel: (44-0- 127) 453-0408; fax: 453-0409; email: Elaine@erpenv.demon.co.uk; Internet: <http://erpenvironment.org/>.

WTO Events

An updated list of forthcoming WTO meetings is posted at: http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/meets.pdf. 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.

25-26 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES. On the agenda: Implementation of the agreement (G/SPS/GEN/49/Rev.4 and rev.4/corr.1), information from Members and observers on their experiences in equivalence (G/SPS/GEN/326), report of informal meeting on transparency and the SPS Agreement and developing countries in particular with regards to the implementation of the provisions for special and differential treatment. Also, the Committee will discuss the EC agricultural biotechnology approval process, the Fourth

Annual Report on the Procedure to Monitor the Use of International Standards (G/SPS/W/120), technical assistance and cooperation (G/SPS/GEN/295 and addenda) and the issue of observers and requests for observer status: request from the Convention on Biodiversity (G/SPS/GEN/121/add.2).

25-27 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. On the agenda: the TRIPS agreement and public health (with reference to paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration), relationship between the TRIPS agreement and the convention on biological diversity, protection of traditional knowledge and folklore, and implementation issues (tires 93 and 94 and proposal by LDCs on their transition period) (see also related story, this issue).

25-26 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING PARTY ON THE ACCESSION OF UKRAINE.

27 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS.

28 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. On the agenda: Negotiation of the establishment of a multilateral system of notification and registration of geographical indications for wines and spirits and observer status for Intergovernmental Organisations.

28 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT BODY.

28 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

28 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORIGIN.

1 July, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT. On the agenda: Technical cooperation and training including the Secretariat report on the 2002 Technical Assistance Plan and an update on the advanced training course for government officials on the WTO trade negotiations. A section of the meeting will also be dedicated to the issues of participation of developing countries in world trade (document to be issued), paragraph 51 of the Doha Declaration on identifying and debating developmental and environmental aspects of the negotiations, and a presentation by the NEPAD Secretariat on the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

1 July, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT -- DEDICATED SESSION ON SMALL ECONOMIES.

1-2 July, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING GROUP ON THE INTERACTION BETWEEN TRADE AND COMPETITION POLICY.

2 July, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT.

Other Forthcoming Events

June 27, Chicago, USA: LABELING GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOODS: COMMUNICATING OR CREATING CONFUSION? Hosted by the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology. Dan Charles, Contributing Science Correspondent for National Public Radio and author of "Lords of The Harvest: Biotech, Big Money and the Future of Food", will moderate the discussion with consumer activists, a major food company representative and academic researchers. For further information contact: DJ Nordquist, tel: (1- 202) 347 9132; email: djnordquist@pewagbiotech.org.

28 June, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic: 27th ACP-EU JOINT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS; 28 June: INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN COUNCIL AND CIVIL SOCIETY. While the Cotonou Agreement specifically provides for meetings between the Joint Council and civil society (Article 15 paragraph 3), this will be the first time that the ACP-EU Council will meet with civil society and business representatives in an informal gathering before the Council starts. The formal Council meeting will involve the adoption of papers on Eligibility Criteria For Non-State Actors' Access to Funding Under the EDF, and Conclusions on the Participation of Non-State Actors in the Development Process. For further information contact: Eurostep Secretariat, 115 Rue Stévin, 1000 Brussels, Belgium; tel: (32-2) 2311659; fax: 2303780; email: admin@eurostep.org; Internet: <http://www.eurostep.org>. 4 July, Brussels, Belgium: EUROSTEP DG TRADE MEETING ON ACP-EU NEGOTIATIONS. Hosted by the European Commission's DG Trade and Eurostep, in collaboration with other NGO networks in the Cotonou Monitoring Group and WWF. Issues on the agenda include: EU Sustainable Impact Assessments of new trade arrangements, and dialogue mechanisms for civil society participation. For further information contact: Eva Kaluzynska, email: Eva.Kaluzynska@cec.eu.int.

5 July, London, UK: DOING GOOD BUSINESS - WHAT CONTRIBUTING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MEANS AND WHY IT MATTERS. Lecture by Philip Watts, Chairman of the Committee of Managing Directors, Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies, and Chairman, The 'Shell' Transport and Trading Company. Hosted by Royal Institute of International Affairs. For further information contact: Meetings Department, Royal Institute of International Affairs, 10 St. James Square, SW1Y 4LE, London, UK; fax: 020 7957 5745; email: meetings@riia.org; Internet: <http://www.riia.org>.

18 July, Merida, Mexico: NORTH AMERICA REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS (FTAA). In this regional seminar hosted by the Mexican government, there will be three panels on "Market Access/Agriculture", 'Services/Investment' and 'Transparency & Civil Society Participation in the FTAA processes'; and each one will be followed by an exchange among all participants attending the seminar. For further information contact: <http://www.economia-nci.gob.mx/oc/eventos/html/invitaen.asp>.

RESOURCES

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

ICTSD Publication

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS: A REVIEW OF PROPOSALS AT THE TRIPS COUNCIL. June 2002, UNCTAD/ICTSD Capacity Building Project on Intellectual Property Rights and Sustainable Development. By Dwijen Rangnekar. Geographical Indications (GIs) are increasingly recognised as legal tools for strengthening the association between a product's distinctive quality and its geographical origin. While the Doha Declaration's mandate concerning geographical indication extension remains hotly contested, debate at the TRIPS Council is underway. This document examines TRIPS Council submissions on the subject as a means of clarifying where the interests of individual WTO Members may lie. The electronic version of the report can be downloaded at: <http://www.ictsd.org/issarea/iprs-sd/docs/GI%20paper.pdf>.

Other Publications

NEGOTIATING ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS IN EUROPE: CRITICAL FACTORS FOR SUCCESS. May 2002. Edited by Marc De Clercq. This book aims to further advance analysis on Negotiated Environmental Agreements (NEAs) in a multi-disciplinary and co-ordinated way. The authors advocate increased use of NEAs as policy instruments to deal with environmental problems. For further information visit: <http://www.e-elgar.co.uk>.

THE INTERNATIONAL YEARBOOK OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS 2001/2002: A SURVEY OF CURRENT ISSUES. May 2002, New Horizons in Environmental Economics series. Edited by Henk Folmer and Tom Tietenberg. There has been an explosion in the literature and research on environmental and resource economics in recent years. This annual publication provides a survey of current research by the leading experts in the field. For further information visit: <http://www.e-elgar.co.uk>.

VALUING ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES: THE ECONOMETRICS OF NON-MARKET VALUATION. May 2002, New Horizons in Environmental Economics series. By Timothy C. Haab and Kenneth E. McConnell. Non-market valuation has become a broadly accepted and widely practiced means of measuring the economic values of the environment and natural resources. In this book, the authors provide a guide to the statistical and econometric practices that economists employ in estimating non-market values. For further information visit: <http://www.e-elgar.co.uk>.

"Equity, international trade and climate policy", in *INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS: POLITICS, LAW AND ECONOMICS* 2 (1, 2002): 23- 48. By Claudia Kemfert, Richard S. J. Tol. According to the author, the literature of welfare-maximising greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies pays remarkably little attention to equity. This paper introduces various ways to consider efficiency and equity simultaneously.

'Modèles Et Financements En Panne: Developpement'. *COURRIER DE LA PLANETE*. Produced by Solagral. No: 67, Vol I, 2002. For further information contact: tel: (33-4) 99 23 22 80; email: solagral.mpl@solagral.asso.fr.

"Can eco-labels tune a market? Evidence from dolphin-safe labelling", in *JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT* 43 (3, 2002): 339- 359. By Mario F. Teisl, Brian Roe, Robert L. Hicks. In this paper the authors test whether dolphin-safe labels altered consumer purchases of tuna. The paper also provides a partial measure of the total welfare effects of the dolphin-safe labelling policy.

"Trade's dynamic solutions to transboundary pollution", in *JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT* 43 (3, 2002): 386-411. By Linda Fernandez. This study develops a differential game to examine the effects of trade liberalisation on transboundary water pollution. The article suggests that cooperation and trade liberalisation limit emissions from both the US and Mexico and curtail strategic behaviour from their pollution control efforts in a non-cooperative game. "Using Private-Public Linkages to Regulate Environmental Conflicts: The Case of International Construction Contracts", in *JOURNAL OF LAW AND SOCIETY*, vol. 29(1) [2002] 77-110. By Oren Perez. The article takes a pluralistic view of the 'trade-environment' conflict by exploring one of the settings of this conflict: the *lex constructionis* - international construction law. It seeks to unravel the way in which the unique structural-cultural attributes of this legal domain have affected its environmental (in)sensitivity. For a hard copy of the paper please contact the author, Oren Perez, email: perezo@mail.biu.ac.il.

UNCHARTED WATERS: IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES AND POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF LISTING TOOTHFISH IN APPENDIX II OF CITES. By Anna Willock. Published by TRAFFIC International and TRAFFIC Oceania, 2002. The issue of listing marine fish on the Appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has been repeatedly raised in meetings for the last decade, particularly with regards to those species that are subject to large scale commercial harvesting. The purpose of the report is to discuss some of the key implementation issues pertaining to a listing of toothfish in Appendix II of CITES, as that Convention stands, using the conservation measures established by CCAMLR as a basis for this discussion. For further information contact the author: Anna Willock, Senior Fisheries Advisor, TRAFFIC Oceania, GPO Box 528, Sydney NSW 2001 Australia; email: awillock@traffico.org.

WTO Documents

Unless otherwise noted, all the WTO documents can be downloaded at http://docsonline.wto.org/gen_search.asp.

APPLICANTS FOR OBSERVER STATUS (G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.2). Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. Note by the Secretariat, 13 June 2002. This document summarises the information contained in the application for observer status by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) with respect to Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the SPS Committee received on 29 May 2002.

DEVELOPMENT PROVISIONS (WT/WGTI/W/119). Working Group on the Relationship between Trade and Investment. Note by the Secretariat, 11 June 2002. "Development Provisions" is one of the seven topics that are listed in Paragraph 22 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, and are to be clarified by the Working Group, and this document summarises the main parameters that are to be taken into account within this multilateral framework.

EQUIVALENCE (G/SPS/GEN/326). Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. Submission by New Zealand, 17 June 2002. This paper collates the background information on equivalence and outlines New Zealand's views on associated issues.

MODALITIES FOR PRE-ESTABLISHMENT COMMITMENTS BASED ON A GATS-TYPE, POSITIVE LIST APPROACH (WT/WGTI/W/120). Working Group on the Relationship between Trade and Investment. Note by the Secretariat, 19 June 2002. "Modalities for pre-establishment commitments based on a GATS-type, positive list approach" is one of the seven topics listed in Paragraph 22 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration that is to be clarified by the Investment Working Group. This document aims to elaborate on one of the parameters specified in Paragraph 22 that "any framework should enable Members to undertake obligations and commitments commensurate with their individual needs and circumstances".

Electronic Resources

"The Future of ACP-EU Trade Relations: An Overview of the Forthcoming Negotiations". ECDPM - ODI Discussion paper by Sanoussi Bilal. The two- year ECDPM-ODI trade programme aims to contribute to the development of trade policies towards and by the ACP countries which promote sustainable development through the integration of the ACP countries into the world economy. Its focus is on the ACP-EU trade relations and the strengthening of capacity in ACP countries and groupings, in close cooperation with ACP actors. The paper is available at: http://www.ecdpm.org/pubs/dpt1_gb.pdf. Also available: report of the informal ACP brainstorming seminar held on 25-26 February 2002; Internet: http://www.ecdpm.org/pubs/final_report_brainstorming.htm. For hard copies of these publications contact: Jacquie Croucher; email: jc@ecdpm.org.

ICTSD Position Vacancy: Publications Manager

The Publications Manager will be responsible for ensuring the coordinated production, distribution and marketing of ICTSD's periodical and ad hoc publications from the conception and editing stage to their final distribution with an overall aim to make ICTSD more efficient, effective and responsive to its audiences across the range of publications it produces. For further information visit: <http://www.ictsd.org/jobs/>.

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

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