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LEAD STORIES

DEVELOPMENT, AG CONCERNS DOMINATE WTO NEGOTIATIONS STOCKTAKING

At a 3-4 October meeting of the WTO's Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) -- the body established to monitor progress in the negotiations launched last November in Doha, Qatar -- many developing countries expressed grave concern over lack of progress on Special and Differential Treatment (S&D) and Implementation issues. Members also focused heavily on lack of advancement in agriculture (see BRIDGES Weekly, 2 October 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-10-02/story3.htm>), which many say could hold up decisions in other aspects of the negotiations.

Developing countries warn of negative consequences if commitments unfulfilled by end- December

Pointing to a pushed-back deadline in S&D (see related article, this issue) and little progress achieved at the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD) and on Implementation issues, Malaysia's ambassador to the WTO M. Supperamaniam warned the TNC that the patience of developing countries at the organisation was "wearing thin".

Speaking on behalf of a group of developing country Members, Supperamaniam reminded the Committee that not only had the CTD been unable to complete its mandate of reviewing S&D provisions with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational by the 31 July deadline, but that the new deadline of 31 December 2002 for dealing with issues related to S&D, Implementation, and access to essential medicines "must take centre stage" of the negotiations. "Early completion of work on these issues will allow developing countries, most of which have limited resources at their disposal, to participate more fully in the negotiations," Supperamaniam said.

Para. 12 (b) of the Doha Declaration states that implementation issues "shall be addressed as a matter of priority by the relevant WTO bodies," who must report to the TNC by the end of 2002, for appropriate action. Members have failed to progress on this issue as well, missing an end-of-July deadline for action on freeing up import restrictions -- principally growth in quota levels -- on textiles and clothing in importing countries (primarily the Canada, the EC and the US) (see BRIDGES Weekly, 6 August 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-08-06/story1.htm>). Malaysia's comments on S&D, Implementation, and TRIPs and public health were echoed by Zimbabwe, speaking on behalf of the African and least-developed country (LDC) groups of WTO Members (for background on the TRIPs and public health issue see BRIDGES Weekly, 3 July 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-07-03/story1.htm>). Zimbabwe also referred to the need for implementation by developed country Members of their commitments under TRIPs Art. 66.2, which provides for incentives for technology transfer to LDCs.

EU Ambassador Carlo Trojan conceded that Members were facing "some worrying looming deadlines." The deadlines, he said, "will be the first test of the viability of these [Doha round] negotiations," adding that progress on S&D, Implementation, and access to medicines would be a "priority" for the WTO in the coming months.

Chair of the CTD special (negotiating) sessions, Amb. Ransford Smith (Jamaica), struck a cautious note, saying that the Committee was in a "difficult position" to come up with solutions on S&D by the end-2002 deadline.

These comments were reinforced by WTO Director-General Supachai Panitchpakdi, who in his first address as chair of the TNC said that Members, particularly developed countries, needed to find a way to generate movement on the three development-related issues, "so that they become part of our forward process, not an obstacle to it." Supachai targeted the next TNC meeting on 4-6 December as a particularly important date for developing country concerns to be addressed. Responding to concerns around the WTO's overloaded meeting agenda, the D-G announced that Deputy Director-General Roderick Abbott would be looking at ways to fit in the necessary number of meetings.

Dr. Supachai also made reference to comments made by leaders at the recent World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa. He reminded the TNC that some leaders had made "strong" commitments in agriculture and in other trade-related areas, and urged Geneva-based ambassadors to take note of these developments.

Agriculture

Interventions made at the TNC by many countries on agriculture fell along traditional faultlines, with those Members favouring a multifunctional approach (i.e. the EC and Japan) countering those who favour a more market-based orientation for agriculture trade (i.e. the Cairns group of agriculture-exporting countries). Many said that unrealistic and extreme positions, such as those espoused by the two groups, were not helpful for advancing the negotiations and could be detrimental to progress.

Chair of the agriculture talks Amb. Stuart Harbinson (Hong Kong-China) said that while much work had been done on the three pillars of market access thus far -- domestic support and export subsidies -- it was now time to move towards convergence in positions in advance of a special session of the Ag Committee on 22 November.

A number of Cairns group members stressed the need for reducing and eliminating protectionism and agricultural subsidies in developed countries. Notably, one trade source said that some of these Members also referred to support for their positions from the non-governmental (NGO) community, saying that most NGOs "that they knew of" backed a Cairns-type approach to agricultural reform. Brazil and Uruguay, both members of the Cairns group, warned that without progress on agriculture, nothing would be achieved in other negotiating areas.

For their part, the EC and Japan said that progress must be made in all negotiating groups. While the EC said that the agricultural talks had begun well, it stressed the need for proposals to be put forward in a 'realistic and pragmatic' manner.

ICTSD reporting; "WTO Members Cite Concerns About Impending Doha Round Deadlines." WTO REPORTER, 4 October 2002; GENEVA WATCH, 3 October 2002; "Developing Countries - WTO Members Cite Concerns About Impending Doha Round Deadlines," WTO PRESS RELEASE, 4 October.

WTO: LITTLE MOVEMENT ON SPECIAL & DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT DESPITE NEW WORKPLAN

7 October saw the first formal meeting of the WTO's Committee on Trade and Development (meeting in special sessions) since the extension of the 31 July 2002 deadline on the review of special and differential treatment (S&D) provisions. With a new deadline of reporting "with clear recommendations for decision by

31 December 2002" and a detailed workplan in hand (see BRIDGES Weekly, 25 September 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-09-25/story4.htm>), developing country Members were hoping for a significant upturn in the pace of these talks. However, since Members for the most part maintained traditional positions on the same 'core' issues of the debate, sources reported little progress. Due to the meeting running overtime, Chair Ransford Smith (Jamaica) indicated that an additional date would be sought to complete the meeting's agenda.

Some of these core issues include how and where to proceed with the 80- plus agreement-specific proposals already on the table; how, and to what extent, would a monitoring mechanism operate; and broader cross-cutting issues (including, inter alia, what are the principles and objectives of S&D and how, if at all, to differentiate amongst developing countries at different levels of development). The three new proposals officially submitted at this meeting, coming from the EC, Switzerland, and Paraguay respectively, were not discussed independently, but rather in terms of these issues listed above (TN/CTD/W/13, W/14, & W/15 are searchable at <http://docsonline.wto.org/>).

Agreement-specific proposals

One developing country delegate described the general mood as "frustrating", citing his continued belief that some Members simply do not appear willing to move forward on this review -- particularly on the agreement-specific issues, which many developing country delegates view as the only area of the work programme that was in fact mandated for review by Ministers at Doha. He went on to say that most of the discussions on the cluster of agreement-specific proposals scheduled for this meeting were met by responses (by mostly, but not exclusively, developed countries) of being 'impractical', 'overly ambitious', 'altering the balance of rights and obligations', and/or 'still requiring further study'. Rarely, if ever, was an alternative offered, he noted, although some developed countries were quick to point out how much they felt they were doing for the least- developed countries.

Such responses resonated in both the EC and the Swiss submissions, which envisaged the bulk of the agreement-specific proposals being passed on to other "relevant" WTO bodies.

Clustering approach

Members agreed that the post-July work programme would deal with the agreement-specific proposal by clustering them into relevant groups. The three clusters that formed the focus of the 7 October meeting were: 1) provisions aimed at increasing the trade opportunities

of developing country Members; 2) provisions under which WTO Members should safeguard the interests of developing country Members; and 3) 'flexibilities of commitments and use of policy instruments. The agreements to be discussed within these clusters included GATT 1994, the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, the TRIMs Agreement, the Agreement on Import- Licensing, and the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries.

With respect to the third cluster of issues -- what one trade expert referred to as 'spaces for development policy' -- developed countries reportedly put forward that sufficient flexibilities were already present in the system. In an exchange with Japan, India noted that they wanted to reach the same level of economic development as Japan by climbing the same 'ladder' they had used, implying that flexibilities in the current rules were needed to enable this to occur. Here the Indian delegate was alluding to the recent book by Cambridge economist Ha-Joon Chang, entitled "Kicking Away The Ladder: Development Strategy in Historical Perspective", where Dr. Chang outlines that many of the 'industrial, trade and technology' instruments used by most OECD countries during their early development periods would not have been allowed were the current WTO rules in place at the time. India continued citing Dr. Chang's work, saying that in the same way as the developed countries, developing countries would also support full integration, but only once they had reached the level of development of Japan or the US.

Monitoring Mechanism

According to trade sources, discussions on the monitoring mechanism proceeded more smoothly, with all Members agreeing that the objective of such a mechanism would be to assess the implementation of S&D provisions by both developed and developing countries. However, some Members reportedly expressed serious concerns regarding a proposal by Switzerland, in that references to the use of 'consultants or other institutions' and the need to increase WTO visits to countries, would imply that the Secretariat, and not Members themselves, would drive the mechanism. This, noted an African delegate, would be "unacceptable."

Principles & objectives of S&D

The heart of the so-called 'cross-cutting issues' lies with the question of what are the principles and objectives of special and differential treatment. On this, most developed countries are adamant that a coherent vision must be agreed upon before reviewing any of the

specific S&D provisions. In their view, the principle of S&D is to integrate developing countries into the multilateral trading system, to be done by solving developing country implementation problems, but not at the expense of 'damaging' the entire system in the process.

Developing countries, on the other hand, note that firstly, as a matter of process, Ministers at Doha mandated that "all [S&D] provisions shall be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective, and operational" and not that a discussion on the broader cross-cutting issues must take place prior to such an exercise. Substantively, they add that the principles and objectives of S&D are already embodied in Part IV of the GATT, dealing with trade and development, and specifically in Article XXXVI of the GATT, entitled 'Principles and Objectives'. As such, many developing country delegates have voiced their opinion that the move by developed countries to change the mandated work of the body (as per their reading of the Ministers' instructions from Doha), in combination with the varied replies seeking to delay substantive discussions on the specific proposals already made, are merely attempts at putting off any gains in this area for developing countries until gains in other areas of the negotiations of importance to developed countries are more visible.

Other cross-cutting issues

The cross-cutting issues of both whether the WTO should be a single- tiered, two-tiered, or multi-tiered system, and issues related to graduation were not discussed, as the meeting ran overtime. As such, the Chair indicated that a new date would be sought to conclude these agenda items. At time of press, however, a date had not been set.

Two informal meetings of the special session of the CTD are scheduled for 23 October and 13 November respectively; with two formal sessions scheduled for 25 November and 2 or 3 December.

ICTSD reporting.

OTHER NEWS

SPLIT ON EU'S AG POLICY REINFORCED BY BRITISH MINISTER'S COMMENTS

At a 30 September conference of the UK's Labour party, UK trade secretary Patricia Hewitt heavily criticised some EU Member states for being "two-faced" as they were "demanding market opening from the poor" but at the same time "practising protectionism to defend their own special interests." Hewitt further said that Britain should take the lead in the campaign for a more equitable global trading system and for reforming the "unjust" subsidy regime under the Union's Common Agriculture Policy (CAP). Justin Forsyth, head of policy at development organisation Oxfam welcomed Hewitt's pledge as "a significant and welcome ratcheting up of the government's opposition to the CAP." Reportedly, Hewitt will now demand reform from the French government, which is a major beneficiary of the CAP and which so far has been a strong defender of the Policy's subsidy system. According to the French government, the CAP should remain unchanged until the expiration of the 2000-2006 'Agenda 2000'. This despite concerns voiced by several fellow EU Members that the enlargement of the EU to encompass possibly ten additional Eastern European countries -- expected to take place well before 2006 -- could lead to a collapse of the Union's agricultural budget.

Germany, together with the UK, the Netherlands and Denmark, another European demandeur for quick CAP reform, is brokering a compromise deal with France, under which Paris would support the establishment of guidelines for reform by 2004, but which would not start real reforms before 2006. Related to this issue, EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy said in Paris at a 3 October conference on the future of the CAP that "to wait much longer [with the reform] would run the risk of entrenching the positions of the pro-CAP and anti-CAP camps". Supporting Agriculture Commissioner Franz Fischler's latest reform proposal, Lamy further added that he "would advise strongly against a policy of sticking one's head in the sand," Lamy stated. Under Fischler's plan, farmers would still get support from Brussels, but aid would be more de-coupled from production and linked to compliance with environmental, safety and animal welfare standards (see BRIDGES Weekly, 17 July 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-07-17/story3.htm>).

"Berlin and Paris close to farm reform deal," FINANCIAL TIMES, 4 October 2002; "Minister attacks 'two-faced' EU subsidies," THE GUARDIAN, 1 October

2002; "EU's Lamy warns against farm reform delay," REUTERS, 3 October 2002.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN SUMMIT PUSHES FOR FURTHER REGIONAL INTEGRATION

On 3 October, this year's summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) concluded in Luanda, Angola. While issues around the current famine and the AIDS pandemic in the region dominated the agenda, leaders also addressed the process of regional integration in a bid to speed up development and improve its ability to deal with crises. In his concluding remarks, SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Prega Ramsamy noted that with peace and stability in the region, the prospects for enhancing and consolidating the integration process were now brighter. He indicated that substantial progress had been achieved in the Restructuring of SADC institutions, a process aimed at consolidating and deepening the SADC integration agenda. He also highlighted the inclusiveness aspects of the exercise.

According to SADC sources, the regional market is seen as a "spring-board" for the member states to integrate themselves into the global economy.

SADC foreign ministers, meeting for their annual summit at the same venue but ahead of the heads of state and government, called on the international community to accelerate emergency relief in the form of foodstuffs, cancel the debt of affected countries and promote fairer trade and market access for developing countries, in particular those affected by famine. Such a debt cancellation would affect six of the 14 SADC members - Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. SADC Ministers also noted the risk of famine in Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo, which are emerging from decades of civil war.

The SADC Council of Ministers also noted the ongoing controversy surrounding genetically modified food products in the region and requested the World Health Organisation to provide further clarification on such foods. Of the six countries affected, Zambia has formally refused genetically modified organisms (GMOs), while others such as Zimbabwe have accepted them, but with strict controls. The Council approved setting up an advisory committee to develop guidelines on GMOs. It also sanctioned the dispatch of 20 SADC officials and scientists to the US "with a view to enhancing the region's knowledge and understanding of GMOs".

Outgoing SADC chair, President Bakili Muluzi of Malawi, spoke about "the need for sustainable development" and emphasised that it required

acknowledging people and putting them at the centre of development policies." He called for the empowerment of all peoples, particularly women and the poor, in order for them to play a meaningful role in the management of the region's abundant natural resources. The new Chair will be President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos of Angola. The next summit meeting is scheduled for next October in Tanzania.

Background

SADC was established in August 1992 in Windhoek, Namibia, to replace the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). It currently groups 14 member states; Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. A free trade protocol was signed by the SADC countries in 1996.

According to the SADC secretariat, Europe is SADC's largest trading partner, with the top country destinations of SADC exports including the USA, UK, Japan, Italy and Germany. With the coming into effect of the US-Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), exports to the US have increased substantially. In recently-begun negotiations between the EU and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group, SADC supports a unified ACP approach in negotiating new WTO-compatible Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU (see related In Brief, this issue).

In related news, Ablasse Ouedraogo, the first African WTO Deputy Director-General (DDG), who recently ended his three-year DDG term of office, stated on 3 October that, "African countries must stand together and closely follow developments at the WTO to better defend their interests." He noted that while developing countries currently make up 80 percent of the WTO membership, they account for less than 27 percent of global trade.

To access the SADC Summit final Communiqué, visit http://www.sadc.int/english/news/comm10_07102002.html.

"2002 SADC Summit Final Communiqué" SADC Secretariat website, <http://www.sadc.int/> 4 October; "Africa must better defend interests at WTO," BUSINESS REPORT, 3 October.

IN BRIEF

**DISCOUNTED AIDS DRUGS FOR AFRICA
RESOLD IN EUROPE**

USD 18 million worth of antiretroviral drugs produced by the British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline, which had been intended for distribution in five central African countries at discounted prices, are believed to have been diverted back to Europe between July 2001 and July 2002. "There are indications that perhaps some of these batches never even left Europe," said Alan Chandler on behalf of Glaxo. The drugs, which were sold in Europe for USD 5.50 each as opposed to 78 cents in Africa, ended up on pharmacy shelves in the Netherlands and Germany. Glaxo officials assured that they would continue making discounted drugs available to developing countries, but would also press for tighter controls and change the packaging of these medicines. How to prevent the diversion of discounted drugs away from the recipient country continues to be discussed in the WTO Council for Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (see BRIDGES Weekly, 25 September 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-09-25/story2.htm>).

**EU-CHILE TRADE AGREEMENT ONE
STEP CLOSER TO IMPLEMENTATION**

The European Commission on 3 October adopted the EU-Chilean Association Agreement, bringing the Agreement one step closer to implementation (see BRIDGES Weekly, 2 May 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-05-02/inbrief.htm> - 4). Before the trade provisions of the Agreement can be put into practice, the Agreement must be adopted by both the European Council and the Chilean Congress, a development expected in early November. The accord covers all areas of trade relations. If and when approved, the commitments agreed on by the countries will go well beyond their current commitments in the WTO. The EU and Chile will create a free trade area in services and public procurement markets, as well as in investment. The agreement also includes strong rules and a focus on transparency in order to structure trade in goods, which will include provisions to assist trade in wine and spirits. At the same time, rules on competition, intellectual property, government procurement, and liberalisation of investment are also included in the package. Total trade between the EU and Chile in the year 2000 was equal to EUR 8.573 billion, making the

EU Chile's second most important trading partner after the US.

"Commission adopts EU-Chile Association Agreement," EU PRESS RELEASE, 3 October 2002; "Bilateral Trade Relations," <http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/bilateral/chl.htm>, October 2002.

**CIVIL SOCIETY QUESTIONS EU'S
REFUSAL OF ACP PROPOSAL ON TWO-
PHASE NEGOTIATIONS**

During a meeting on 3 October between the European Commission and civil society groups, discussion was raised on the subject of the Commission's new paper concerning trade and development (see Resources), and the EU's new round of negotiations to create Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the group of African, Caribbean and Pacific ACP countries. Negotiations began on 27 September between the EU and ACP countries around creation of EPAs over the next five years (see BRIDGES Weekly, 25 September 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-09-25/inbrief.htm> - 3). During the meeting, the Commission informed the civil society representatives that it could not agree to a proposal brought forth by the ACP group to divide the negotiations into two phases, with the first phase lasting one year. The Commission said that it felt the best way to pursue the negotiations was in a flexible manner, dealing with different regions as they are ready. Otherwise, the Commission said, the talks as a whole may be prolonged if the whole group must agree on a framework before the second phase could begin. A member of Eurostep, a civil society organisation, disagreed with this course of action, saying that the unity of the ACP may be compromised if the negotiations are undertaken on a region-by-region basis, and that Sustainable Impact Assessments may not be effective for the latter part of the negotiations.

"Commission Refuses to Agree to ACP Proposal on Firm Dates Regarding Phases in the Negotiations," EUROSTEP, 3 October 2002.

ON THE MOVE

SUPACHAI ASSIGNS RESPONSIBILITIES TO NEW DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL

On 1 October, the four new Deputy Directors-General (DDGs) appointed on 16 August by WTO Director-General Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi took up their new roles at the organisation (see BRIDGES Weekly, 13 September 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-09-13/story3.htm>). Mr. Roderick Abbott (UK) will take up the portfolio of 'institutional questions' that includes Market Access, Trade and Environment, and Trade Policy Review. He will also take up the duty assumed by previous DDG Mr. Rodriguez Mendoza of addressing the best way to organise the WTO's overbearing meeting schedule so as to meet internal transparency needs. Dr. Kipkorir Aly Azad Rana (Kenya) will be responsible for the areas of Development and Economic Research, Technical Cooperation, Technical Cooperation Audit, Textiles, and Trade Information Centre and Library. Mr. Francisco Thompson-Flôres (Brazil) adopts Agriculture and Commodities, Council and TNC, Intellectual Property, External Relations, and Trade and Finance. Mr. Rufus H. Yerxa (US) will take responsibility for divisions relating to legal issues, including the divisions of Trade in Services, Accessions, Information and Media Relations, Rules and Legal Affairs.

ICTSD reporting; "WTO DG Designate Dr Supachai Panitchpakdi selects deputies," WTO PRESS RELEASE, 16 August.

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>. If you would like to submit an event, please email events@ictsd.ch.

Coming Up This Week: 9-16 October

9 October, 15:30, Copenhagen, Denmark: FARMERS & MARKETS IN TANZANIA: HOW POLICY REFORMS AFFECT RURAL LIVELIHOODS IN AFRICA. Presented by Stefano Ponte, based on his recently published book of the same title. African agriculture has

profoundly changed its role in global markets and national economies. Economic reforms have forced the withdrawal of the state from agricultural markets. Livelihoods have become increasingly commercialised. Ponte's book analyses how structural and contextual factors shape the dynamics of rural livelihoods under policy reform in Africa. Drawing on extensive fieldwork in Tanzania, he examines not only the negotiation process between donors and the government in the formulation of the liberalisation agenda, but also the 'data politics' that justified continuing with adjustment policies. Centre for Development Research, Seminar room, 5th floor. For further information, visit <http://www.cdr.dk/seminars/default.htm> - Stefano.

9 October, Geneva, Switzerland: UNCTAD DISCUSSION PANEL ON DEVELOPING COUNTRY TRADE PERFORMANCE.. A panel of experts will examine what lies behind the good performance of developing countries in world trade and whether it has translated into an equally strong performance in manufacturing value added and economic growth. The experts are Mr. Wen Hai, Professor of Economics and Senior Deputy Director of the China Centre for Economic Research of the Beijing University; Mr. Bernard Hoekman, Research Manager of the International Trade Group in the World Bank Development Research Group; Mr. S. P. Shukla, Former Ambassador of India to GATT and former Indian Secretary to Development of Women and Children, Commerce and Finance; and Mr. Adrian Wood, Chief Economist and Director of Economics of the Business and Statistics Division of the UK Department for International Development. For further information, visit <http://www.unctad.org/en/whatnew.htm>.

10 October, Madrid, Spain: EIGHTH ANNUAL WORLD BANK CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ABCD-LAC 8). This year's ABCD-LAC conference will bring together top policy makers from Latin America and the Caribbean, leaders from the academic community, officials from international financial institutions, and development professionals involved in the Region. The goal of the conference is to facilitate the exchange of ideas between the public and private sectors, to disseminate them to the general public, and to provide countries' economic decision-makers with the opportunity to discuss alternative policies and experiences. For further information on the conference, visit <http://www.worldbank.org/>.

14-16 October, Luxembourg, Luxembourg: MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS. Ministers will discuss proposals concerning tracing and labelling genetically modified foods and animal feeds for approval. For further

information on this conference, visit http://europa.eu.int/news/index_en.htm.

17 October, Luxembourg, Luxembourg: MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTERS. Ministers will discuss proposals concerning tracing and labelling genetically modified foods and animal feeds for approval. For further information on this conference, visit http://europa.eu.int/news/index_en.htm.

17 October, London, England: THE FIFTH JOHN C WHITEHEAD LECTURE ON ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONS - DOHA DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: ENLIGHTENED EU/US LEADERSHIP OR RUTHLESS PURSUIT OF NARROW SELF-INTEREST? The Lecture will be followed by an open reception. For further information contact the Royal Institute for International Affairs (RIIA), London, UK; fax: +44 (0) 20 7957 5745; email: meetings@riia.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.

9 October, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT. Technical assistance plan for 2003 will be discussed, as well as issues related to generalised systems of preferences in various countries, and paragraph 51 of the Doha Declaration (on having sustainable development appropriately reflected in the negotiations).

9 October, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT. Meetings will focus primarily on paragraph 32 of Doha Declaration. Labelling requirements for environmental purposes, and the effect of environmental measures on market access will be discussed at length. Paragraphs 33 and 51 of the Doha Declaration will also be discussed during the meetings.

9 October, 09:30, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO TRADE POLICY REVIEW BODY - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

10 October, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING GROUP ON TRADE AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. Meeting will take place with a presentation by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO).

10-11 October, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT. Meeting will focus primarily around paragraph 31 of the Doha Ministerial on multilateral environmental agreements.

10-11 October, 15:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT.

11-12 October, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO RETREAT. Meetings will take place at two locations near Geneva to discuss challenges facing the organisation and the trading system as a whole. The retreat is intended to be an informal brainstorming session covering three themes: international trade relations and the role of the WTO; the WTO agenda and governance; and the WTO and the "world we serve."

15-16 October, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO GENERAL COUNCIL. Issues to be discussed include UNCTAD/WTO joint advisory group report, Marrakesh Ministerial decision concerning negative effects of the reform programme on least-developed countries, and a report by the Committee on Agriculture concerning implementation of Doha related issues.

16 October, 18:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES.

Other Forthcoming Events

23 October, Ottawa, Canada: THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: A CIVIL SOCIETY WORKSHOP TO FOLLOW-UP ON THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WSSD). Participants will share their analysis of the WSSD and address the following questions: What were the outcomes of the WSSD? How can we as civil society organisations ensure that governments act upon the commitments made at Johannesburg? How can civil society organizations become involved in the WSSD implementation plan? How can we generate the interest and commitment of both nation-states and individuals to work towards integrating principles of sustainability into policy and our daily lives? For further information, or to reserve a space, email: wssd@canada.com; tel: (1- 514) 895-7664.

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 resources@ictsd.ch. Submissions of

publications to ICTSD's documentation centre would also be welcomed (see mailing address below).

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT: ASSISTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO BENEFIT FROM TRADE. 18 September 2002. Prepared by the European Commission. This paper describes the EU's strategy to assist developing countries to reap the benefits of trade and investment. To do this, the report sets out essential elements that must be accomplished in order to ensure a better contribution of trade to economic growth and sustainable development, and proposes some practical, concrete ways in which this can be achieved. To obtain a copy of this report, visit http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/pdf/comdev_170902.pdf.

LEADERS AND LAGGARDS: NEXT-GENERATION ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION. October 2002. By Professor Neil Gunningham. Consensus is growing internationally that traditional command-and-control approaches to environmental regulation have borne much of their low-hanging fruit. Yet it is far from clear what should complement or replace them. Regulatory agencies and policy-makers are struggling with a lack of information about regulatory reform, about what works and what doesn't, and about how best to harness the resources of both government and non-government stakeholders. Focusing primarily on the differing requirements for both corporations and small and medium-sized enterprises in North America and Europe, this book aims to complement existing initiatives and to expand knowledge of regulatory reform by showing how existing experience can best be put to practical use 'on the ground'. To purchase a copy of this publication, visit <http://www.greenleaf-publishing.com/catalogue/leadlag.htm>.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES: FROM POLITICAL SLOGANS TO LEGAL RULES. October 2002. By Dr. Nicolas de Sadeleer, Oxford University Press. This book traces the evolution of environmental principles from their origins as vague political slogans to their embodiment in enforceable laws. In particular it examines three important principles: the polluter pays principle, the preventive principle and the precautionary principle, and their legal effect at the national, regional, and international levels. By providing a range of ideas on the future of environmental law, the book provides the proponents of environmental law and policy with a multi-disciplinary approach, comprising aspects of ecology, political science, legal theory and positive law, of a number of environmental principles, and helps to explain the evolution, and complicated shape of environmental law. To order a copy of this publication, visit <http://www.oup.co.uk/isbn/0-19-925474-5>.

"The WTO post-Doha agenda: issues and challenges," in *THIRD WORLD RESURGENCE* 141/142 (May/June 2002) pp.24-62. Published by the Third World Network. This collection of ten articles examines the irregularity of the post-Doha work agenda and the reasons for it. The WTO post-Doha agenda: squeezing the south under an inequitable work programme (Martin Khor); The Singapore issue (Martin Khor); Developing countries call for principles and procedures for WTO Ministerial Conferences (Chakravarthi Raghavan); Prominent speakers criticize 'new issues' at official WTO symposium (Cecilia Oh); NGOs call for EU transparency in trade talks on services; US farm subsidies a blow to poor countries (Hardev Kaur); US farm bill 2002: its implications for world agricultural markets (Joseph Stiglitz); US farm bill sparks widespread criticism (Lean Ka-Min); US steel tariffs spark global concern (Martin Khor); Rethinking trade policy and the multilateral trade system (Martin Khor). To access, visit <http://www.twinside.org.sg/twr.htm>.

FISH, MARKETS AND FISHERMEN: THE ECONOMICS OF OVERFISHING. October 1999. By Robert Wieland, Suzanne Iudicello and Michael Weber. A concise overview of the world's fisheries documents the decline of fisheries worldwide. It gives the reader a clear understanding of the economics and population biology of fish and offers case studies of fisheries under different management regimes. It examines and compares the consequences of these regimes and concludes by considering the implications for policy making. To order a copy of this publication, visit <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=2028>.

GLOBAL MEDIA GOVERNANCE: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE. By Siochru, Sean O. and Bruce Girard. Published by Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2002. This book is a primer on media governance at a global level and the key influencing forces and organisations, such as ITU, WTO, UNESCO, WIPO, and ICANN. Governance oversees regulation, and questions addressed include: Why do we regulate the various media at all? What currently are the major forms of global regulation, and how do they work? Who participates in, and who benefits from, media regulatory and governance structures? And what are the trends? To order a copy of this publication, visit [http://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/document.nsf/\(httpPublications\)/76DAEEEB47CCA7A2C1256C3E004D74D8?OpenDocument](http://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/document.nsf/(httpPublications)/76DAEEEB47CCA7A2C1256C3E004D74D8?OpenDocument).

WTO Resources

DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF SERVICES TRADE LIBERALIZATION (WT/CTE/W/218). October 2002. Prepared by the WTO Secretariat. This paper attempts to expose linkages

between services trade liberalisation and the environment in the areas of tourism, transport and environmental services. At the root of the discussion is the question: what are the constraints for the policy objective of protecting the environment when liberalising services trade? Three distinct issues arise in considering this question: (i) the need to identify, in each specific sector or sub-sector, economic policy tools that translate into incentives and/or disincentives that promote legitimate environmental objectives; (ii) the extent to which flexibility under current rules would allow for their implementation; and (iii) whether regulatory capacity (know-how, resources) exists to implement and enforce them. To obtain a copy of this paper, visit http://docsonline.wto.org/gen_search.asp.

SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT 1995-2002 (WT/CTE/W/49/ADD.1). October 2002. Prepared by the WTO. This paper provides a number of resources pertaining to the area of trade and environment. Over 23 pages of sources are given with specific areas pertaining to specific effects of multilateral trade areas and the environment, NGOs and environmental issues, TRIPs, and many others. To obtain a copy of this publication, visit http://docsonline.wto.org/gen_search.asp.

REPORT (2002) OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT (WT/CTE/W/217). October 2002. Prepared by the WTO. Report reviews the activities of the Trade and Environment Committee for the past year including the meetings held by the committee and issues discussed during the period. To obtain a copy of this report, visit http://docsonline.wto.org/gen_search.asp.

Electronic Resources

AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICY SIMULATION MODEL (ATPSM). October 2002. The ATPSM is a new UNCTAD/FAO software program for analysing trade policies. Given the increasing complexity of the issues at stake in multilateral trade negotiations, which cover their entire production and trade, developing countries can benefit from the use of ATPSM, particularly those with limited resources to develop a negotiating position. The model is truly global, covering almost every country individually, plus a wide range of commodities. It provides detailed information on a wide range of policies including out-of-quota and within quota tariffs, applied tariffs, import and export quotas, export subsidies and domestic support; it also treats quota rents. The interface allows users to modify model parameters and adapt equations; changes in the various policies can be readily specified by country and commodity and the results generated in a few minutes. The software is free of charge on CD-ROM. For further

information, visit <http://www.unctad.org/ditc/tab/index.htm>.

BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE NEW ROUND OF WTO NEGOTIATIONS: KEY ISSUES FOR CANADA. October 2002. The findings of the Standing Committee on Foreign Trade and International Affairs are found in this report, along with the Canadian government's response to those findings. The committee highlights some of the areas that are important for the government to address as well as the areas that have moved substantially forward in recent years. Key issues that are addressed include: industrial tariffs; trade and development; dispute settlement; and agriculture. To view this site, visit http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/gov_response-e.asp.

Call for Papers

CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL REGULATION. To be held at the University of Sussex, Brighton, UK, 29-31 May 2003. Regulation has recently come back to the centre of public and specialist attention. Contrary to the prediction of further liberalisation and deregulation, the trend in the past few years has been towards the construction of a thick maze of international regulatory structures and apparatuses. But what is the meaning of global regulation? This conference brings together scholars from a wide variety of disciplines working on grounded and theoretical issues pertaining to regulatory responses to contemporary capitalist globalisation. Papers are invited on the following aspects: Codes of Conduct and Corporate Responsibility; Regulation of the Body and Pornography; Communication, Emancipation and the Internet; NGOs, Expertise and Technology; Labour Market; Regulation & Migration; Resources and Property Rights; Accountancy and Transparency; and Private Military Security. Deadline for paper abstracts is 25 October 2002.

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