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LEAD STORIES

INCHING TOWARDS COMPROMISE ON MEDICINES AFTER SYDNEY MINI- MINISTERIAL

On 19 November, the Chairman of the WTO Council for Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) released draft legal language for a decision by the General Council on the implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPs Agreement and Public Health. The release of the draft followed discussions on this issue at the 'mini-Ministerial' in Sydney on 14-15 November and at an informal session of the TRIPs Council on 18 November. While most countries stated at the meetings that they could accept the Chair's preferred legal solution (i.e. a long-term waiver until an amendment to TRIPs comes into force), disagreements remained on some of the elements of the solution, including the coverage, eligible countries and safeguards against diversion.

According to paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPs Agreement and Public Health, the TRIPs Council must find an expeditious solution to the problems countries may face in making use of compulsory licensing (i.e. allowing the use of a patent without the consent of the patent-holder under certain conditions) if they have insufficient or no pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity. The TRIPs Council is mandated to report to the WTO General Council on this by the end of 2002. Article 31 (f) of the TRIPs Agreement indicates that production under compulsory licensing should be predominantly for the domestic market. However, many developing countries facing public health problems are unable to produce pharmaceuticals with their existing domestic capacity.

Chair proposes moratorium-plus-amendment solution

TRIPs Council Chair Ambassador Eduardo Pérez Motta (Mexico) has forwarded to Members draft legal language for an eventual General Council Decision on para. 6. The draft language includes a moratorium on disputes regarding any measure taken in conformity with the provisions of a possible waiver. This

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moratorium would remain in force until an amendment to the TRIPs Agreement has been accepted by all Members. The draft language does not include a deadline by which the amendment would need to be in place, leading one observer to note that this omission runs counter to the mandate defined in the Doha Declaration, which instructs the TRIPs Council to find an expeditious solution by the end of 2002. Furthermore, the language only refers to an amendment in general, thereby on the one hand limiting the scope of possibilities (i.e. no interpretation as called for by Brazil and others), while on the other hand providing flexibility regarding which Article to amend (i.e. Articles 30 or 31).

The Chair had chosen the moratorium-plus-amendment solution from three possible legal options he had identified in a 10 November note: an amendment of article 31(f) combined with an interim waiver or moratorium until an amendment comes into force; an agreed interpretation of Article 30; or a waiver of the obligation in Article 31(f) of long duration.

While most countries signalled their willingness to accept the moratorium-plus-amendment solution, they differed over the timeframe and need for an amendment. In a paper circulated prior to the Sydney mini-Ministerial, the EC indicated its support for a waiver, but only in conjunction with a political agreement on the content and scope of an amendment, which it said should be adopted as soon as possible (at the latest with the final agreement of the current trade round). For its part, Switzerland during the 18 November TRIPs Council session favoured a waiver, followed by considerations over whether anything else was needed. The US also supported the waiver approach until an amendment was in place, but did not specify whether the amendment should be agreed now or later.

Brazil -- reflecting the position of developing country generic producers -- expressed its willingness to consider the waiver plus amendment solution, but said it would nevertheless prefer an interpretation of Article 30. The Africa Group in its 14 November submission (IP/C/W/389, searchable at <http://docsonline.wto.org/>) also included a long-term waiver as part of a possible solution, which they said should stay in place until all Members accepted the amendment to Article 31(f). Some developing countries furthermore stated that they would not accept negotiations on an amendment that would be linked to other Doha negotiations.

Coverage, eligibility and other matters

Regarding product and disease coverage, the draft language covers those public health problems referred to in paragraph 1 of the Doha Declaration on TRIPs and

health (i.e. HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other epidemics). Most Members supported this reference, with some noting that it should not be understood to limit the diseases to the three listed in the Declaration. The draft furthermore states that coverage should also include "the active ingredients used in their manufacture as well as diagnostic kits needed for their use", as repeatedly called for by some developing countries, in particular the Africa Group.

According to the Chair's draft, all least-developed countries would automatically be eligible as importers, while all other Members would be eligible following a once-off notification to the WTO. The proposal does not differentiate between high-income and low-income developing countries, nor does it exclude developed countries from eligibility, as called for by the EC. Also, all Members would be eligible to supply other Member countries under the system, but would need to notify the WTO. The compulsory licence would be subject to certain conditions, including limiting the amount produced to that needed by the importing Member, clearly identifying the products produced under the licence and posting relevant information on a website. Notifications would also need to be submitted by importing countries. Several countries expressed concern that these notification procedures might be overly burdensome, in particular for small countries.

Other issues of interest are safeguards to prevent flow-back of generics to developed country markets, which saw Members divided over whether the TRIPs Agreement was sufficient to deal with this issue or whether additional measures, such as packaging or labelling requirements, were needed. According to the draft legal language, eligible importing Members would take "reasonable measures proportionate to their administrative capacities and to the risk of trade diversion" to prevent diversion. Members to which products might be diverted would need to ensure effective legal means to prevent importation.

Technology transfer

The Africa Group, in its submission, reiterated the need for a long-term solution that would include the building of manufacturing capacity. This latter point was not expanded upon by the legal language proposed. Only a general call to give special attention on technology transfer work under article 66.2 of the TRIPs Agreement dealing with technical transfer to least-developed countries and in the Working Group on Trade and Technology Transfer was included.

Mini-Ministerial symbolic rather than substantive

The TRIPs and health discussion appears to have dominated the talks at the mini-Ministerial in Sydney,

followed by other development-related issues, including implementation, special & differential treatment and trade-related technical assistance. Also on the agenda were discussions on market access (agricultural products and industrial goods), a notification system for geographical indications (to be finalised by 2003), the "Singapore issues" (competition, investment, trade facilitation and government procurement), trade and environment, WTO rules (in particular anti-dumping) and the 'road to Cancun' (including deadlines and Ministers' involvement in the process). Rather than focusing on substance, Ministers used the short meeting to engage in a frank, off-the-record discussion and share their broader, political views on these matters.

Countries that took part in the meeting included Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Egypt, the EU, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, and the US. Japan is reportedly considering holding another mini-Ministerial in the coming months.

The next informal session of the TRIPs Council will be held on 21 November. The next regular session is scheduled for 25-27 November.

ICTSD reporting.

DOUBTS EMERGE AT WTO AG COMMITTEE OVER WHETHER DOHA TIMELINE CAN BE MET

In discussions at the 18-20 and 22 November special (negotiating) session of the WTO Committee on Agriculture (CoA), several countries voiced their concern over whether Members would be able to come up with finalised negotiating modalities by end-March 2003, as provided for in the Doha Ministerial Declaration. In particular, new submissions tabled by Japan and Norway led observers to forecast new "diverging tendencies" in the already highly polarised farm trade talks. Frustration was also felt over the fact that the EC had still not tabled a concrete proposal including clear numbers and targets for further reductions in tariffs and subsidies. Members are convening for the last special session of the CoA before Chair Stuart Harbinson is to present, by 18 November, an overview paper outlining the major positions on the specific issues under negotiation.

Japan's proposal called "step backwards" by some Members

In its new specific drafting input on market access, domestic support and export competition (not yet derestricted), Japan indicated no willingness to move away from its positions already tabled in previous negotiations. In keeping with the approach of its 'Friends of Multifunctionality' group -- which includes the EC and Switzerland -- Japan said it could not agree to use the so-called 'Swiss formula' for tariff reductions as proposed by the US and the Cairns Group of agriculture exporters in July this year (see BRIDGES Weekly, 6 August 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-08-06/story5.htm>). Japan also indicated that it wanted to "maintain the current basic framework of Green, Blue and Amber Boxes [i.e. 'only minimally trade-distorting support'; 'less-distorting, production-linked support'; and 'trade-distorting support', respectively]" and that the Uruguay Round (UR) formula (i.e. an average reduction over all products and a minimum reduction for each product) should be used when reducing trade-distorting support.

Furthermore, Japan demanded several modifications of AoA provisions, for example in the area of the special agricultural safeguard (SSG) and minimum access commitments. On the SSG, which currently applies only to declared products that were "tariffied" during the Uruguay Round, Japan said it would like the safeguard clause to be extended to cover also seasonal and perishable goods. It further proposed to narrow its current minimum access import quotas on rice from the current 7.2 percent to 5 percent of domestic consumption as well as to "abolish additional access volume due to delayed tariffication." Under AoA Annex 5, Japan has been granted "special treatment" with respect to its sensitive rice sector by exempting it from the requirement to convert all border measures into ordinary customs duties during the UR. However, Japan had to maintain and gradually increase minimum access opportunities for rice exporters to the Japanese market. In their responses to the Japanese proposal, the US and the Cairns Group urged their trading partner to present specific targets in tariff reduction and other areas, with Japan suggesting instead to address the issue of which formula -- the Swiss or UR -- should be used.

New paper by the Like-Minded Group

The Like-Minded Group (LMG) of developing countries, comprising Members such as Pakistan, Nigeria, Venezuela and Sri Lanka, tabled a paper compiling and detailing previously made proposals. Inter alia, the Group proposed to bring down all tariffs to 50 percent within three years, with further reductions on an average basis of another 50 percent and a minimum

rate of 20 percent starting from this threshold. According to their proposal, developing countries should be able to exclude certain agricultural products from reduction commitments in order to address food security, rural development, poverty alleviation and rural employment objectives. Otherwise, they should be given the flexibility to apply lower reduction rates than developed Members.

On domestic support, the LMG suggested putting an overall cap on all Amber, Blue and Green Box support at 10 percent of the value of agricultural production. With respect to the Green Box, any support provided by a developing country should be deemed to be only minimally trade-distorting, provided the productivity of the country is less than world average and the exports of the supported product present less than 3.25 percent of world trade of that product for five consecutive years. Moreover, the LMG said, several Green Box support categories should be deleted from AoA Annex (the Green Box) and others should be modified, with special and differential treatment (S&D) granted to developing countries.

The LMG also demanded to extend the S&D Box (AoA Article 6.2), to eliminate the Blue Box, and to reduce Amber Box support on a disaggregated basis. Developing countries, however, should be allowed to maintain Amber Box commitments at the aggregate level, they said. The Group further detailed their suggestion to replace the SSG with a new safeguard mechanism only eligible for developing countries.

Still some consensus emerging?

In a statement presented on 19 November, Switzerland urged Members to recognise that if rapid round was desired they should "examine and build on what we already have as an emerging consensus" instead of insisting on applying a "one size fits all" Swiss formula approach on farm products, eliminating Amber and Blue Boxes as well as significantly modifying the Green Box. This, Switzerland said, "would take us ages to agree on the modalities." Inter alia, Switzerland pointed to certain common understandings, e.g. that new disciplines should be developed for export credits and that the "essentials" of the Green Box should be maintained. Some trade sources further indicated that -- mainly due to Cairns Group pressure -- the S&D Box eligibility for developing countries would basically remain untouched and not be extended. It was also said that there were only small chances for agreeing on the concept of a new SSG for developing countries as proposed by the LMG or the idea of a Special and Differential Countervailing Measure (SDCM), as brought up by countries such as Argentina and the Philippines, especially as some Members, including the US,

indicated they would not support a scheme lacking any sort of 'injury test'.

The road to Cancun

According to sources, Chair of the CoA special session Stuart Harbinson said that when preparing the overview paper by 18 December, he would sort out the peripheral positions presented by Members and focus on the stances in the mainstream. Sources further indicated that Japan intends to hold a mini-Ministerial in mid-February in Tokyo, bringing together both agriculture and trade ministers from a selected group of Members in an attempt to create further consensus before Harbinson comes up with his first modalities draft at the end of February. Nevertheless, sources do not expect much to come out of this, especially as it is assumed that the EU will not be provided with a new agriculture negotiating mandate prior to an EU Council meeting scheduled for March next year. Therefore, observers cautioned, one should not expect modalities with concrete targets and numbers to emerge from the 25-31 March 2003 meeting or prior to the next WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in September in Cancun, Mexico.

Members are currently meeting to address matters requiring follow-up from the previous 'pillar-based' meetings as well as to allow Members to address cross-cutting issues. As BRIDGES Weekly went to press, it was not clear whether the session would be concluded on 20 November or whether Members would resume on 22 November.

ICTSD reporting; "Japan Calls For Flexibility In Tariff Cuts For Farm Products," KYODO NEWS, 16 November 2002; "Japan Under Fire At WTO Over Farm Tariff Cuts," KYODO NEWS, 18 November 2002.

OTHER NEWS

MEXICO PRESENTS PROPOSAL ON WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT REVIEW

At a 13 November meeting of the special session of the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB), Mexico presented a proposal for the review of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU), the WTO agreement outlining procedures for settlement of disputes between Members. The proposal addresses what Mexico says is the "fundamental problem" of the WTO dispute settlement system, namely the "period of time which a WTO- inconsistent measure can be in place without the

slightest consequences" to the offending party. Inter alia, Mexico advocates for a significant acceleration of proceedings for obtaining WTO authorisation to retaliate against countries that maintain trade measures deemed WTO-inconsistent. It also urges retroactive application of panel/Appellate Body rulings and a change in DSU provisions to allow countries to take preventive measures against an alleged illegal measure while dispute proceedings take place.

Mexico's proposal states that the value of the amount of trade lost while a complainant's case makes its way through the dispute settlement process averages close to USD 370 million per case, a figure that would be much greater if the EU complaint against US foreign sales corporation tax benefits were taken into account. According to Mexico, "This amounts to a de-facto waiver in which a Member can maintain a WTO-inconsistent measure which unduly harms exporters, service suppliers or holders of intellectual property rights of other Members and seriously undermines the objectives of security and predictability that the DSU seeks to pursue."

Mexico further proposed that WTO panels be given the authority to determine the level of retaliation that may be imposed on a Member for noncompliance once it has issued an interim ruling determining that the measure in question is in violation of WTO rules. The retaliation could then be applied once the ruling was formally adopted by the DSB.

Reactions to the Mexican proposal at the special session were decidedly mixed. US officials said that what Mexico was proposing amounted to a "radical transformation" of the DSU that needed "thorough consideration". Canada said that while it shared Mexico's concerns regarding the underlying problems related to noncompliance with WTO rulings, the focus should be on getting Members to comply rather than on bolstering mechanisms for retaliation. Brazil said the Mexican proposal stood out because "it brought to the centre issues which are difficult, complex and debatable," but nevertheless important.

Other developing countries expressed various degrees of support for the ideas outlined in the Mexican proposal, although Chile said it "raised more questions than answers." Uruguay said the ideas outlined by Mexico were so far-reaching that they should not be considered within the context of the current negotiations on dispute reform, which are due to conclude by next May.

Under current rules, arbitration proceedings on possible retaliation can only be initiated after a ruling is issued and after the "reasonable period of time" for complying with a ruling (usually up to 15 months) has expired.

Retroactivity

The Mexican submission also suggested that WTO rulings be made retroactive to the date when the illegal measure in question was adopted or when dispute proceedings against the measure were initiated. Such a proposal would prevent measures from delaying proceedings through tactics such as blocking the establishment of panels on first request, Mexico said. Canada objected to this proposal as well, noting that the notion of retroactivity was widely condemned by Members when a panel applied it in the US-Australian dispute over Australian automotive leather subsidies (Australia-Subsidies Provided to Producers and Exporters of Automotive Leather, WT/DS126, available at <http://docsonline.wto.org/>).

Mexico said that if a measure targeted in a dispute was "causing or threatening to cause damage which it would be difficult to repair," the complaining Member should have the right to request that the panel ask the defendant country to suspend the measure while the proceedings take place. If the defendant refuses refused to do so, the panel should, under "exceptional circumstances," allow the complainant to "take measures to prevent the damage." Mexico said this idea was consistent with numerous WTO agreements (including those on antidumping, safeguards and textiles) that contain provisions on the application of preventive measures. On this point also Canada voiced its objections, arguing that allowing the imposition of preventive measures in dispute proceedings was "close to permitting a unilateral determination" of noncompliance by the complaining Member.

Japanese proposal

Japan also presented its proposal (TN/DS/W/22) on the same day. The proposal revisits a number of issues including the issue of sequencing of retaliation procedures between Articles 21.5 and 22 of the DSU (see BRIDGES WEEKLY, 24 July 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-07-24/story5.htm>). With regard to an earlier -- and somewhat contentious -- Japanese proposal to increase the number of panellists and Appellate Body members, Japan recommended flexibility in the rules "so that the number of the Appellate Body members could be modified as required, by a decision of the DSB or the General Council."

ICTSD Reporting; "Mexico Presents Radical Proposal for DSU Reform," WTO REPORTER, 14 November 2002.

IN BRIEF

**CONSERVATIONISTS MAKE HEADWAY
AT CITES CONFERENCE**

The UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) wrapped up its 12th Conference of the Parties (COP-12) on 15 November in Santiago, Chile. The conference attained mixed results according to some outsiders, but was seen as a triumph for conservationists in general. The Japanese were denied a proposal to allow limited trade in certain types of whales, while Botswana, Namibia and South Africa were granted a one-off sale of ivory stockpiles, a move some conservation groups deemed as a "death warrant to elephants" (see BRIDGES Weekly, 14 November 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-11-14/story3.htm>). In one of the more high profile decisions of the COP, big-leaf mahogany was, for the first time, moved onto the Appendix II list. Countries with endemic species -- primarily Latin American states such as Brazil -- will have one year to bring their practices into compliance with the new rules. Brazil, together with Bolivia and Peru, opposed the move, saying its conservation policies were enough to protect its mahogany, and that imposing tighter controls would harm free trade. Delegates also voted to place the basking and whale sharks on CITES Appendix II -- a move which was widely considered a landmark decision as CITES has not traditionally played an important role in global fisheries. While the proposal by Australia to list commercially valuable Patagonian and Antarctic toothfish was withdrawn, CITES Parties agreed to assist the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) in its efforts to eliminate illegal fishing of toothfish.

"Conservationists score wins at U.N. meeting," REUTERS, 15 November 2002; "UN body shields basking and whale sharks," REUTERS, 18 November 2002; "CITES conference ends with strong decisions on wildlife conservation," CITES PRESS RELEASE, 15 November 2002; "CITES meeting endorses sea change," TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE, 15 November 2002.

**MEXICO TO REINTRODUCE
GUARANTEED PRICE SCHEME FOR
BASIC CROPS**

On 18 November, the Mexican government announced that it would reintroduce certain forms of price support for some basic grains as well as boost other farm

subsidies in a move to help Mexico's agricultural sector compete with US farm producers. Mexico's move comes before a January 2003 deadline for removing most agricultural tariffs under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Mexican President Vicente Fox said his country would push developed states to bring down their own farm support and to grant technical and financial assistance to Mexico's agricultural distribution capacities. "My administration is protecting our farmers, helping them become more efficient, and ensuring that they have equal conditions - and I stress, equal conditions -- as those of our major competitors," Fox stated at a ceremony launching the new billion-dollar farm programme. The plan further seeks to strengthen food safety regulations and labelling rules for imported farm products, and will introduce an improved regulatory framework for subsidy and antidumping investigations. A central part of the new programme is the reintroduction of a per-ton price support, use of which Mexico gave up in 1993 in favour of a per-acre subsidy, which it considered to be more WTO-compliant at that time. Mexican farmers have been complaining that they could not compete with the US agricultural sector, which is supported through a much larger farm subsidy budget. However, Mexico's support per ton already surpasses US subsidies. For instance, corn subsidies on average amount to some USD 150 per ton in Mexico, compared to USD 85 paid to US farmers. Still, Mexico's 8.6 million farmers reach only around 15 percent of the agricultural output of their 3 million US counterparts.

"Mexico To Boost Farm Subsidies," AP, 18 November 2002.

US, SINGAPORE ON LAST STAGE OF FTA

On 19 November, the US and Singapore announced agreement "in substance" on a bilateral free trade agreement (FTA) which would be the first ever between the US and an Asian country, putting Singapore on an equal standing with the US' other free trade partners -- Canada, Israel, Jordan and Mexico. Following discussion of the agreement details with Singapore Trade Minister George Yeo, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick said, "Singapore and the United States have completed the substance of the free trade agreement that we have been negotiating, except for one issue." The last issue to resolve, which both sides hope will be settled by year's end, deals with the free transfer of capital during financial and economic crises. The two parties, who have been negotiating the arrangement since December 2000, hope to have a completed document drafted and ready to sign in early 2003. The deal virtually eliminates tariffs on Singapore's exports to the US, which largely comprise electronics and chemicals, offsetting the costs for multinational

companies looking to set up manufacturing bases in Singapore. For the US, the deal is expected to open up access to Singapore's services sector, particularly the banking and financial services sector. The US has indicated that the deal will result in increased transparency in the investor-state dispute settlement process, and that Singapore has accepted a US proposal for labour/environment dispute settlement involving the use of monetary assessments.

For further information, see:
<http://www.ustr.gov/regions/asia-pacific/regional.shtml>

ICTSD reporting; "U.S. and Singapore conclude free trade deal," REUTERS, 19 November 2002.

US HOUSE RESPONDS TO WORLDWIDE COFFEE CRISIS

The United States House of Representatives on 13 November passed a resolution calling for the US to adopt a global strategy concerning the current coffee crisis that is plaguing farmers around the world. Specifically, the resolution adopted by the House advises the US government to formulate a global strategy with the aim of responding to the crisis through coordinated activities with Latin America, Africa, and Asia. It also urges private sector coffee buyers and roasters to work with the US government to find a solution to the crisis which is economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable. Since 1997, the world market price for coffee has dropped nearly 70 percent, creating a crisis for over 25 million farmers -- primarily in developing countries -- who depend on coffee as a source of income. Coffee amounts to approximately 80 percent of the export revenues for Burundi, 54 percent for Ethiopia, 34 percent for Uganda, and 31 percent for Rwanda, areas that have been hit exceptionally hard by the crisis. Central America has also sustained significant hardships, with over 600,000 permanent and temporary coffee farmers in the region unemployed for the past two years. The United Nations World Food Programme has recently approved a USD 66 million relief operation for Central America to aid 690,000 people who have been hit with recent droughts as well as the coffee crisis.

"House Resolution 604," US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 13 November; "Starbucks official tells industry: stop pointing fingers," FORBES, 11 November; "UN: Drought and Coffee Crisis Hitting Central Americas Hard," AGWEB, 30 October.

NAFTA CHAPTER 11: NEW INFORMATION REGARDING POPE & TALBOT CASE RELEASED

On 18 November, pursuant to an amended confidentiality order by a NAFTA tribunal ruling in the Pope & Talbot v. Government of Canada case (see BRIDGES Weekly, 4 June 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-06-04/inbrief.htm-2>), most written arguments from the parties were made public. These submissions consist of parties' written arguments submitted to the Pope & Talbot tribunal throughout the various stages of the case. However, not all documents have been released, and some key documents from the Canadian government in particular have yet to be de-restricted. Canadian trade officials have said they are continuing to consult with Mexico and the US prior to making the documents available to the public. Not all observers are completely satisfied with the release. According to University of Windsor legal analyst Todd Weiler, "one can only marvel at how this lack of disclosure can possibly be squared with the official policies of each government upholding transparency."

For the newly released information and other background, see the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's website at: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/pope-e.asp> and <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/phases-e.asp>, as well as <http://www.naftalaw.org/>

"NAFTA Chapter 11 on Investment: Pope & Talbot v. Government of Canada," DFAIT, 18 November 2002. "NAFTA News Flash - Pope & Talbot Submissions Now Available," NAFTALAW.ORG, 20 November 2002.

EU-CHILE TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES SERVICES, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

On 18 November, the EU and Chile signed an 'Association Agreement' covering most of their imports and exports, worth over EUR eight billion per year. In addition to increased market access for goods on both sides, the agreement includes free trade in services that will apply to public procurement markets and liberalisation of investment, and a sanitary and phytosanitary agreement intended to facilitate trade in animals, animal products and plants while safeguarding public, animal and plant health. It further contains rules on competition, intellectual property and a dispute settlement mechanism. The Agreement will enter into force once it has been adopted by the Chilean Congress. Provisions of the Agreement related to

political dialogue, services, establishment, current payments and capital movements, intellectual property and cooperation require ratification by both the European Parliament and the national parliaments of the EU member states before they can enter into force. Chile has in the past exported copper, wood pulp, and fishmeal to the EU, and has recently expanded its fruit, wine, salmon, and processed foods exports. Commenting on the Agreement, European Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy said, "The trade pillar [section] of this agreement is the most innovative and ambitious result which we in the EU have ever negotiated".

For further information, see: http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/chile/assoc_agr/ip02_1696.htm.

ICTSD reporting; "EU, Chile sign ambitious trade accord," REUTERS, 18 November 2002.

WTO IN BRIEF

NEW STUDY QUESTIONS US CONNECTION TO KYOTO IN THE WTO

On 15 November, the US Council for International Business (USCIB), a US industry group, released a study questioning the compatibility of WTO rules with the Kyoto protocol on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Based on statements by the EU, Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth, the study discusses the possibility that US exports could face sanctions under WTO rules if the US were to experience "unfairly" low energy costs in light of Kyoto non-compliance. Timothy E. Deal, USCIB senior vice president, believes that there is an urgent need for the WTO to create an understanding between the institution and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and that this particular issue regarding Kyoto could "cause an absolute train wreck in the rules-based international trading system." The study looks at past WTO disputes, such as that on the 1998 Shrimp-Turtle case (see BRIDGES Weekly, 1 February 2000, <http://www.ictsd.org/html/weekly/story3.02-02-00.htm>) to argue that the door may have been opened for the use of trade measures to promote environmental objectives based on the way a product is made. The USCIB notes other interpretations that open the possibility of using countervailing duties in the correction of "imbalances" during the manufacturing process, and suggests that under the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, the US may in fact

be bound by Kyoto -- even if it does not ratify. Under the Doha mandate, the WTO is currently addressing the relationship between WTO rules and specific trade obligations in MEAs (see BRIDGES Weekly, 14 November 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-11-14/story1.htm>).

For further information, see: <http://www.uscib.org/>.

"Can the WTO and the Kyoto Protocol Co-Exist?" UNITED STATES COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, 15 November 2002.

CANADA-US DISPUTE PANEL ESTABLISHED

On 8 November, the WTO established a panel to rule on a dispute brought forward by Canada concerning countervailing duties (CVDs) imposed on softwood lumber from Canada into the US (see WT/DS257/4, available at <http://docsonline.wto.org>). The panel will be composed of Chairman: Elbio O. Rosselli, and Members: Wieslaw Karsz and Remo Moretta. The European Communities, India, and Japan have reserved their rights as third parties in the dispute. Canada is arguing that the final determination of CVDs imposed last year by the US on Canadian softwood lumber imports are inconsistent with WTO rules. The series of softwood lumber disputes involves a US contention that Canada's system of charging lower fees to lumber producers who harvest wood from government-owned land amounts to subsidies for the industry, while Canada accuses the US lumber industry of seeking unfair duties to compensate for its lack of competitiveness (see BRIDGES Weekly, 6 November 2001, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/01-11-06/story4.htm>).

"United States-Final Countervailing Duty Determination With Respect to Certain Softwood Lumber from Canada," WTO, 12 November 2002.

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: 20-28 November

21 November, Brussels, Belgium: TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE TRADE -- A NEW APPROACH. Commissioner Pascal Lamy is keynote speaker at a meeting concerning the Sustainable Trade and Innovation Centre (STIC) project. This new global partnership is geared to enable developing country producers to benefit from growing market pressures to integrate environmental and social factors into their export strategies. The project is designed by the Commonwealth Science Council (CSC), European Partners for the Environment (EPE) and the Dutch Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), with the support of DG Trade. For further information on this meeting, visit http://trade-info.cec.eu.int/civil_soc/meet.php?action=consult&critere=82.

21 November, Brussels, Belgium: SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND INNOVATION CENTRE EUROPEAN BRIEFING. Events will include workshops and lectures on various areas of sustainable development with the primary focus being the European arena. For further information, fax: +32 2 539 48 15 or e-mail: info@epe.be.

21-22 November, London, England: CLIMATE POLICY FOR THE LONGER TERM: FROM HERE TO WHERE? Organised by the Royal Institute for International Affairs (RIIA). The past 18 Months have revolutionised the landscape of climate policy. The Kyoto Protocol is now widely expected to enter in to force, but in very different circumstances than originally envisaged. The rescue of the Protocol in the face of the US rejection has raised the issue to new heights and strengthened the resolve of many countries to move towards effective implementation of their commitments. At the same time, the international framework is weakened and the economics of the international trading system undermined. For further information on this conference, contact Georgina Wright, RIIA, London, UK, at conferences@riia.org.

24-26 NOVEMBER, NEW DELHI, INDIA: ASIA PACIFIC SEMINARS ON INVESTMENT AND COMPETITION. Organised by CUTS Center for Trade Economics & Environment (CUTS-CITEE). The objectives of the seminar are to share research findings of the project with the civil society and disseminate information on the various issues relating to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). On 25 Nov, a half-day Project Interim Meeting of the project, "Investment for Development". The meeting will provide an opportunity for project partners to take stock of achievements in the project so far and to plan ahead. On 26 Nov, two parallel one-day events: a Regional Seminar on Competition Issues, and Research Seminar on Foreign Direct Investment and Development - The Policy

Dimension. For further information, visit <http://www.cuts.org/>.

25 November, Johannesburg, South Africa: WORKSHOP ON RULES OF ORIGIN. The Trade Law Centre for Southern Africa (Tralac) will host this workshop. Participants will discuss rules of origin relevant to trade in Southern Africa. The object of the workshop is to identify areas within the rules of origin that may require further activities by Tralac, such as training or research. As such, agreements having an effect on Southern Africa, such as the SA-EU Free Trade Agreement, AGOA, Comesa and the Cotonou agreement will be analysed, with particular focus on the SADC region. For further information on this event, visit <http://www.tralac.org/scripts/content.php?id=911>. To read the working paper which will be the basis for discussion, visit <http://www.tralac.org/scripts/content.php?id=920>.

25-26 November, London, England: THE WORLD FOOD AND FARMING CONGRESS (WFFC). In the next few years, national policy decisions and international agreements will determine where and how much food will be grown around the world. Policy decisions will determine who produces food and how much food is traded across national borders. This Congress offers the opportunity to hear divergent views on the future of world agriculture; to debate critical issues and to offer key recommendations to the world's food and farming leaders. For further information on this conference, visit <http://www.wffc.co.uk/>.

25-29 November, Rome, Italy: SIXTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION AND 14TH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL. For further information, visit <http://www.unep.org/ozone/meet2002.shtml>.

26 November, Leuven, Belgium: SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GLOBALISATION. The aim of this conference is to launch a call for a larger development consensus within the context of the Doha negotiating mandate. A panel of keynote speakers will initiate the debate. For further information on this event, visit <http://www.globalisationdebate.be/>.

27-28 November, New Delhi, India: OECD WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS AND MARKET ACCESS: ADDRESSING DEVELOPING-COUNTRY CONCERNS IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. The objective of this Global Forum workshop is to promote constructive dialogue among representatives of Member and non-Member economies on market access issues arising from environmental requirements (standards and

regulations), and ways to improve the capacity of developing countries to meet those requirements. Bearing on any such dialogue are developing- country trade interests, national regulatory agency mandates and their international obligations, donor support for capacity building in developing countries, and on-going trade and environment discussions in international forums, such as the OECD and WTO. It is hoped that this event will contribute to advancing the process initiated in Doha and contribute to the preparations for the WTO's Fifth Ministerial Conference to be held in September 2003 in Mexico. For further information on this workshop, contact Ronald Steenblik, OECD, Paris, France: tel: (33-1) 45 24 95 29; email: ronald.steenblik@oecd.org.

27-29 November, Cusco, Peru: MEETING OF THE GROUP OF LIKE-MINDED MEGADIVERSE COUNTRIES. Initial two days of the meeting will be an expert meeting on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing (ABS) and traditional knowledge. Experts and government representatives will look at progress in national and international ABS policies and legislation; they will also address genetic resources markets, demand and how the biotechnology industry perceives the CBD ABS rules; discussions will also focus on the new FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and finally, how to address the issue of legally protecting indigenous traditional knowledge. The final segment of the meeting will bring together Ministers and high-level representatives of the Group to analyse and approve a political statement. Participants include Ministers, CBD representatives, FAO representatives, industry representatives, indigenous peoples representatives, among a wide range of stakeholders. For further information on this event, visit <http://www.gefoodalert.org/Calendar/detail.cfm?whichevent=503>; to view the declaration forming this group, visit <http://www.embamexcan.com/english/Environment/CanDeclaration.html>.

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.

21 November, 13:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT. Discussion is to focus around

the Agreement on Agriculture (TN/CTD/W/3/Rev.2, TN/CTD/W/4).

21 November, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING GROUP ON THE INTERACTION BETWEEN TRADE AND COMPETITION POLICY. Meeting will focus on review and approval of the draft report (2002) of the Working Group to the General Council.

21 November, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE. Various items will be discussed from the annual report to the Council for Trade in Goods.

22 November, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS. Items to be discussed include: review of the operation of the TRIMs agreement under Article 9; and transitional review under Paragraph 18 of the Protocol of Accession of China.

22 November, 15:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE. Items to be discussed include programme March 2002-March 2003 under Paragraphs 13 and 14 of the Doha Development Agenda (TN/AG/1).

25-27 November, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COUNCIL FOR TRADE- RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. Discussion will include, among other items, Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS agreement and public health.

25-27 November, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO NEGOTIATING GROUP ON RULES. Discussion will include: anti-dumping; subsidies and countervailing measures, including fisheries subsidies; and regional trade agreements.

25 November, 08:30, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES.

27 November, 15:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO TRADE POLICY REVIEW BODY - VENEZUELA. Reports to be discussed include a report by the government of Venezuela and a report by the Secretariat concerning Venezuela.

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

28 November, 10:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. Discussion will focus around negotiation of

the establishment of a multilateral system of notification and registration of geographical indications for wines and spirits.

28 November, 14:00, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING GROUP ON TRADE AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. Items on the agenda include a presentation by the World Bank, other WTO bodies with a concern in this area, and various submissions by Member states.

Other Forthcoming Events

2-4 December, Geneva, Switzerland: UNCTAD TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD, THIRTIETH EXECUTIVE SESSION, ON LDCs. Organised by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Objectives of this meeting are: to make a substantive contribution to the policy debate on poverty reduction strategies, identifying policy measures at both the national and the international level, which can enable least-developed countries (LDCs) to escape the poverty trap; to promote consensus on national and international policies for effective policies of poverty reduction in the LDCs; and to encourage the wider dissemination and discussion of key messages of the LDC Report 2002 among policy makers from both LDCs and their development partners. For further information on this event, contact UNCTAD at: fax: +41(0) 22 917 0056; email: unctad.meetings.services@unctad.org.

4-5 December, Sao Paulo, Brazil: LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL SEMINAR ON INVESTMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT, organised by CUTS-CITEE. The seminar will be held under the 'Investment for Development', which is being conducted by CUTS-CITEE in collaboration with UNCTAD with support from Department for International Development (DFID), UK. The objectives of the seminar are to share research findings of the project with the civil society and disseminate information on the various issues relating to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The project researcher from Brazil will present his research findings. For further information, visit <http://www.cuts.org/>.

5 December, 9:00, Geneva, Switzerland: ENHANCING THE WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT UNDERSTANDING. Presented by The UK Federal Trust for Education and Research. The Working Group has met regularly over the past 8 months, taking evidence from a range of governments, non-governmental organisations, commercial interests, lawyers and academics. Members have also consulted with a number of national representatives to the WTO and members of the WTO secretariat, as well as paying close attention to papers tabled in the formal DSB talks

in Geneva. Discussion panellists for the discussion include: Roderick Abbott, Deputy Director General, World Trade Organisation; Mateo Diego- Fernandéz, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Mexico to the WTO; Brendan McGivern, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Canada; and Rachel Thompson, Associate Director, Global Trade Practice, APCO Worldwide. For further information on this event or to register, contact Alexis Krachai, London, UK; tel: +44 (0)20 7735 4000 or email: alexis.k@fedtrust.co.uk.

9-17 December, Geneva, Switzerland: FOURTH SESSION OF THE WIPO INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND GENETIC RESOURCES, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND FOLKLORE. For further information on this conference, contact the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, Switzerland; tel: +41-22-338-9111 or email: WIPO.mail@wipo.int.

9-13 December, Geneva, Switzerland: SIXTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE BASEL CONVENTION. Meeting will provide an opportunity for sharing ideas and building partnerships between governments and organizations focused on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal. Exhibition stands will also be available to groups that wish to present material pertaining to the subject matter. During meetings, provisions and annexes will be made to the Basel Convention concerning the monitoring and movement of hazardous wastes. For further information, visit <http://www.basel.int/>.

Electronic Events

21 November, 18.00-20.00 CET: ONLINE CHAT "NEW WTO TRADE ROUND: TALKING TRADE - WHAT'S GOING ON?" Does trade make a difference? What's up in the World Trade Organisation (WTO)? Are trade negotiations also good for development and environment? One year after the launch of the new trade negotiations round, European Union Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy, the Egyptian Trade Minister Youssef Boutros-Ghali and a representative of WWF, Dr Keith Tyrell, will debate whether this round is on track and voice their hopes and concerns. For further information concerning this discussion, visit http://europa.eu.int/comm/chat/lamy9/index_en.htm.

2003 Events

2-7 January, Hyderabad, India: ASIAN SOCIAL FORUM. The main themes of the forum are the following: Peace and Security; Debt, Development and Trade; Nation State, Democracy and Exclusions; Ecology, Culture and Knowledge; Social Infrastructure,

Planning and Cooperation; and Alternatives and Peoples Movements. The events that are envisaged over a period of 6 days are: 2 public/ plenary sessions; 2 conferences daily (total 6-8); 25 parallel seminars daily (total 50-100); Up to 50 workshops daily (total 100-200); Testimonials, and open "spaces" for mass movements; A Youth Camp; Cultural Events; and a Film Festival. For further information on this conference, visit <http://www.wsfindia.org/>.

3-7 February, Nairobi, Kenya: UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL. For further information on this event, visit <http://www.unep.org/>, or contact beverly.miller@unep.org.

19 February, Geneva, Switzerland: COMPETITION POLICY AND PRO-POOR DEVELOPMENT. A symposium based on a two-year research and advocacy project titled "The 7- Up Project" by CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CUTS-CITEE). The meetings propose to answer three main questions: How does Competition Policy and law help the poor?; What type of competition law should a country have?; How do developing countries deal with cross-border issues? For further information on this symposium, visit <http://www.cuts.org/>. To view the completed study, visit <http://www.cuts.org/7-up>.

30 May - 12 June, Havana, Cuba: IV INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. Global Exchange and its partners are organising a 200-person delegation of US environmentalists to attend and participate in Cuba's 4th International Conference on Environment and Development in Havana, Cuba in June 2003. Leading professionals from various environmental fields and environmental justice groups will participate in the conference through the presentation of scientific and policy papers, poster displays, active participation in specific US-Cuba sessions during the conference, and through productive networking with their Cuban colleagues during the entire delegation tour. Interested and pre-registered participants will continue after the conference on a symbolic 3-day environmental walk to inaugurate Planet Walk-Cuba with UNEP Special Ambassador, Dr. John Francis. For further information on this convention, visit <http://www.globalexchange.org/>. To print an application form for this conference, visit <http://www.globalexchange.org/tours/forms.html>.

30 June - 5 July, Rome, Italy: 25TH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION. For further information on this conference, visit <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/timetab.htm>.

10-14 September, Cancun, Mexico: WTO FIFTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE. For further information on this conference, visit <http://www.wto.org/>, or email: enquiries@wto.org.

RESOURCES

If you have a relevant resource (books, papers, bulletins, etc.) you would like to see announced in this section, please forward a copy for review by the BRIDGES staff to resources@ictsd.ch. Submissions of publications to ICTSD's documentation centre would also be welcomed (see mailing address below).

TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT IN THE EC AND THE WTO. June 2002. By Jochem Wiers. This study describes and compares the rules of the European Community and the World Trade Organisation on the liberalisation of trade in goods and measures taken by the members of these organisations for the protection of the environment. It analyses the interpretation of these rules by the European Court of Justice and WTO panels and the Appellate Body, placing them in their institutional context and comparing them. Attention is paid to how the rules relate to Community and international harmonisation, and to the status of trade-restrictive measures that are based on environmentally damaging production methods. To obtain a copy of this publication, visit <http://www.europalawpublishing.com/>.

GLOBAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS KNOWLEDGE, ACCESS, AND DEVELOPMENT. November 2002. Edited by Peter Drahos and Ruth Mayne. Co-published by Oxfam Publishing and Palgrave (Macmillan). The WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) globalises a set of intellectual property standards for the world's information economies. According to this publication, these rules are becoming a focus of one of the most intense struggles to reform globalisation. For developing countries, access to knowledge and technology will be crucial to meeting their development objectives. Access to patented drugs to meet the health needs of their populations, and access to copyrighted material to meet the demand for mass education are two examples of many, the authors note. The publication analyses these potential threats, and suggests ways in which the intellectual property system can be changed to serve development goals. To obtain a copy of this publication, visit <http://www.oxfam.org.uk/publications>.

POWER POLITICS IN THE WTO. November 2002. Prepared by Focus on the Global South. According to this publication, the WTO prides itself for being a 'rules-based' organization. Without its rules, we are told that world trade will descend into the anarchy of the jungle.

This publication reveals a different reality. Behind the veneer of trade 'rules', anti-democratic processes are used in WTO negotiations, as the powerful coerce developing countries into trade deals. The document draws on in-depth interviews with many developing country delegates to the WTO. Its first chapter provides accounts personally written by three delegates on their experience of the pressures and undemocratic processes they have encountered in the process of fighting for better positions in trade negotiations. To obtain a copy of this publication, visit <http://www.focusweb.org/publications/Books/power-politics-in-the-WTO.pdf>.

Call for Papers

LIFE-CYCLE MANAGEMENT: STATE-OF-THE-ART THEORY AND PRACTICE. Greenleaf Publishing invites contributions for a Special Issue of "Greener Management International." The life-cycle metaphor plays an important role in a number of management disciplines, from its most common manifestation as the product life-cycle, to the market life-cycle and more recently the rise to prominence of the environmental life-cycle. This latter development has even led to the implementation of an international standard on life-cycle assessment (LCA). Papers are invited in the following areas: Conceptual and theoretical approaches to life-cycle management which further the understanding of the term; Links between life-cycle management and neighbouring fields such as integrated chain management, closed-loop supply chains, green supply chain management and industrial ecology; Managerial applications of LCA on the corporate, chain or public policy level; Actors' perspectives on life-cycle management, addressing who is responsible for single activities along the life-cycle and how they interact; Empirical research such as surveys, case studies or action research on successful life-cycle management applications; and others. Abstract submission deadline is 31 December. To express interest, an abstract of no more than 300 words should be sent to: Konrad Saur (k.saur@fivewinds.com) and Stefan Seuring (Stefan.seuring@uni-oldenburg.de).

Position Vacancy

The Institute of European Studies of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel has a vacancy for a full-time researcher for a research project on "THE IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT LAW (AND VICE-VERSA?)". The research project will address the impact of the process of globalisation, and in particular of the strengthening of the WTO and its dispute settlement procedures, on the implementation and further development of EC environmental law, as well as on the implementation

and further development of the EC's development law, i.e. the legal framework of trade relations, development cooperation and environmental cooperation between the EC and developing countries, especially the ACP States, in the context of sustainable development. In other terms, the project will look at the effects of globalisation on the internal and external sustainable development policies of the European Union. Requirements for the position include: basic law degree with good study results; knowledge/experience in the field of European law, environmental law, international trade law and/or development law; and excellent command of English. This appointment is for an initial period of two years, renewable once; starting on 1 January 2003. The deadline for applications is 29 November. For further information, visit <http://www.ies.be/>.

Electronic Resource

TRADE CAMPAIGN CASE STUDIES. November 2002. Prepared by Christian Aid. This website provides access to eight different case studies concerning farmers and producers in the developing world and their struggles with global trade policies. Christian Aid is campaigning to make trade work for the poor by rewriting the rules and practices that govern trade, with poverty reduction as their highest priority. To view these case studies, visit <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/campaign/trade/stories/index.htm>.

WTO RESOURCES

These recently released WTO documents of note from a sustainable development perspective are available on the WTO website at: <http://docsonline.wto.org/>.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 66.2 OF THE TRIPS AGREEMENT: INFORMATION FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRY MEMBERS (IP/C/W/388). 12 November. Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. Submission by Canada. Document provides an update from the 2000 submission by Canada providing information on the provision of incentives to domestic enterprises and institutions, to promote and encourage technology transfer to least-developed country Members.

ELEMENTS OF A PARAGRAPH 6 SOLUTION (IP/C/W/389). 14 November. Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. Communication from Kenya, the Coordinator of the African Group.

A TAXONOMY ON COUNTRY EXPERIENCES ON INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS (WT/WGTTT/W/3). 11 November. Working group on

Trade and Transfer of Technology. Note by the Secretariat. The document is a factual compilation of country experiences in order to aid the examination of government policies and experiences relating to transfer of technology.

VENEZUELA - IMPORT LICENSING MEASURES ON CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (WT/DS275/1). 12 November. Request for Consultations by the United States. Document requests consultations pursuant to Articles 1 and 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, as well as others, concerning Venezuela's current trade practices and its commitments to the WTO.

STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE CHINESE DELEGATION OF THE TRANSITIONAL REVIEW OF CHINA TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES (G/SCM/W/522). 11 November. Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. Statement includes updated information regarding subsidies and pricing policy in China and China's Countervailing Regulations.

TRANSITIONAL REVIEW MECHANISM PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 18 OF THE PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION (G/L/586). 12 November. Committee on Trade-Related Investment Measures. Report of the Chairman. The minutes of the meeting held on 14 October are reproduced in this document. Substantive discussions on China's Transitional Review Mechanism are reflected.

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