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LEAD STORIES

TNC PONDERES WAY FORWARD

The WTO Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) met in Geneva from 2-4 April, bringing together high-level officials from capitals. Many officials expressed disappointment with regard to the mounting number of missed negotiating deadlines in the Doha Round, including the most recent failure in the area of agriculture negotiations (see BRIDGES Weekly, 2 April 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-04-02/story1.htm>).

In advance of the TNC meeting, TNC Chair/WTO Director-General Supachai Panitchpakdi had sent out three questions for consideration by delegates, on: how Members can show greater flexibility; what the keys are to moving forward; and how Cancun can become a success. Several of the officials arrived early in order to engage in discussions with their counterparts prior to the TNC.

Supachai stresses need to meet overall negotiating deadline

In his opening statement to the TNC, Supachai Panitchpakdi stressed the importance of completing the current round of negotiations by the 1 January 2005 deadline, commenting that this would secure the economic growth and development prospects for all Members, and would "make an irreplaceable contribution to achieving a more stable, more equitable -- and ultimately more peaceful -- world". He cautioned that too much unfinished business could lead to a heavy burden at the Ministerial in Cancun, and urged negotiators to resolve as many issues as possible in advance of the meeting.

Negotiations progress report

With regard to specific negotiating areas, Members acknowledged that four deadlines now have been missed, relating to: trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPs) and access to essential medicines; implementation issues; special and differential treatment (S&D) for developing countries; and modalities for the agriculture negotiations.

On agriculture, technical and other consultations on a range of matters will continue at the WTO, with immediate effect, while larger political deals will need to be struck in the future.

In the area of services negotiations, the current "request-offer" phase for increasing market access is ongoing, and 14 countries have submitted their initial services offers (see BRIDGES Weekly, 2 April 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-04-02/story2.htm>). The US and Canada have indicated that their offers will be circulated as unrestricted documents, and other countries may follow their example.

The TRIPs Council special session has been focusing on a multilateral register for geographical indications (GIs) for wines and spirits, with positions remaining entrenched (see BRIDGES Weekly, 2 April 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-04-02/wtoinbrief.htm>). These negotiations, now taking place informally, are to be completed by Cancun in the form of an "early harvest" in the overall negotiations, and WTO Director-General Supachai urged Members to work diligently to reach this goal.

The work on trade and environment, at the special session of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), is still at an early stage, with mainly procedural issues resolved. The CTE special session is currently in an analytical phase, considering specific trade obligations contained in multilateral environmental agreements (see BRIDGES Weekly, 19 February, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-02-19/story4.htm>).

Two negotiating deadlines remain prior to Cancun, on non-agricultural market access and reform of the dispute settlement understanding (DSU), both at the end of May. No significant progress has been made in either area, and negotiators risk these deadlines slipping as well. The next negotiating session on market access is scheduled for 14-16 April, while the next special session on the DSU is taking place from 10-11 April.

Members express concern, question "development" round

During the gathering in Geneva, Members expressed their disappointment at the lack of progress in negotiations. However, some also said that after a series of failure, the time is ripe for "real" negotiations to begin. Some noted that Members have progressed more than during the initial stages of the Uruguay Round, which really got underway only in the third year. Others commented with concern that with eight areas of negotiation linked together, the potential for gridlock is high. On the question of the workload at Cancun, some countries cautioned against overburdening the agenda,

whereas others said that it was the job of ministers to resolve issues that could not be resolved at the government official level.

Brazil commented that four major negotiating deadlines now have been missed, all in areas of great concern to developing countries. The Brazilian representative also said an early decision on agriculture was needed to restore confidence in the process. China emphasised the need to consider developing country concerns as a priority. Chile stressed that the most challenging part of the negotiations had yet to begin, and said ministers would need to cut the necessary political deals.

Romania and Switzerland called for a pragmatic and "realistic" approach, especially with regard to agriculture negotiations. Uruguay disagreed, calling for much more ambition in agriculture negotiations. Morocco, speaking for the Africa group, stressed agriculture as the key concern, especially on the continent with the highest percentage of people living on and of the land. India stressed S&D and implementation as keys to the Doha "development" agenda. The EC said there is no deadlock in the negotiations, and stressed that the single undertaking cannot be seen as a zero-sum game, as the outcome will be beneficial for all, and said negotiators must keep on moving. The EC also said it wants negotiating modalities on the Singapore issues -- investment, government procurement, trade facilitation and competition policy -- confirmed at Cancun.

The US said it wants to find a solution to the TRIPs and health issue by Cancun, and commented that governments and the pharmaceutical industry will have to work together in this regard.

In conclusion, Members seemed to agree that while negotiations are not completely deadlocked, a serious show of political will is required. Many developing countries indicated that they felt that the rich, developed countries should take the first steps, as they were the greatest users and beneficiaries of the world trading system.

Another TNC meeting involving high-level officials is planned for early June in Geneva.

ICTSD reporting.

OTHER NEWS

WTO SEARCHING FOR PATH TO MOVE AHEAD ON S&D REVIEW

After holding informal consultations with both developed and developing country Members in late March and early April, General Council Chair Perez del Castillo (Uruguay) circulated an 'approach paper' on 7 April outlining how Members might move ahead with the deadlocked negotiations on special and differential treatment (S&D) for developing countries. While the paper was characterised by one source as "nothing radical", it reportedly attempts to assuage developing country fears that the core proposals on strengthening S&D provisions would disappear into the vortex that is the WTO's ominous work programme.

As indicated by a source close to the negotiations, the approach paper (currently restricted) is based on two premises. The first is that all proposals are still on the table, and the second is that the best way to proceed is to informally categorise (although not attempt to prioritise) the 80-plus proposals made to date. Perez del Castillo offers three categories, which as it were, do not differ greatly from those that have been on the table since late 2002 (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 December 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-12-20/story2.htm>).

Potential categorisation of S&D proposals

The first category relates to those proposals with the best chance of success -- which would include the 12 identified as being 'ripe for harvest' (see BRIDGES Weekly, 6 February 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-02-06/story3.htm>).

Added to these would be others identified by the Chair as having potential for movement, as well as some identified as having real developmental value (even though they may not have been responded to positively in the past). The second category encompasses those proposals that overlap with other negotiating areas and/or are already under consideration elsewhere. These proposals would be sent to the relevant bodies, which would be instructed that the item(s) be "addressed as a priority". This, reports one trade source, would include areas such as dispute settlement, subsidies, anti-dumping and agriculture, but also items such as investment-related measures, technical barriers to trade, and sanitary and phytosanitary measures. The third and final group comprises those proposals that, as they currently stand, would be difficult to move forward.

The first basket is essentially intended as the 'down-payment' for developing countries to accept moving

ahead with the other two categories. Most developing countries have expressed their wanton for this 'basket' to include meaningful proposals and not just procedural items. Developed countries for their part have noted a willingness to engage on the matter further, but have reportedly indicated that they have already been as flexible as possible. Some, including Canada and Australia, have reportedly been very hesitant to proceed without looking at the controversial cross-cutting and systemic issues first (which include differentiating between developing countries, with some gaining more flexibilities than others).

The latter two categories, however, pose a serious concern to developing countries. Most developing countries have long opposed the second category in particular. This concern stems mostly from their experiences with implementation issues (see Doha Round Briefing, Vol.1 No.1, <http://www.ictsd.org/pubs/dohabriefings/doha1-implement.pdf>), where numerous issues were delegated to other bodies, often "to be addressed as a priority", but which in their opinion saw continual discussion and little, if any, movement. The concern is that S&D issues would follow a similar path, and the Doha mandate "that all special and differential treatment provisions shall be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational" will be rendered essentially worthless. The Chair has reportedly made attempts to ensure that the special sessions of the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD) will retain oversight on all three baskets.

Key questions on the path ahead

A few key questions also come to the fore regarding the process proposed by Perez del Castillo. Will Chair Perez del Castillo simply work on resolving the deadlock at the General Council level, allowing the rest of the work to go in CTD special sessions, guided by Chair Ransford Smith (Jamaica); or will Chairs Smith and Perez del Castillo tackle both the process and the substance at the General Council level and in the CTD special session? This all remains to be clarified. Another question revolves around timelines, an item that Members have had great difficulty in respecting so far on S&D. A third question -- brought up by a number of developing country Members -- is what happens to the 10 February CTD report (TN/CTD/7, available at <http://docsonline.wto.org>) requesting that the General Council clarify the mandate on S&D (see BRIDGES Weekly, 13 February 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-02-13/story3.htm>).

Thus a number of questions remain to be addressed before the process gets back underway -- one of the main ones being, should the process be accepted by all

Members, which proposals will fall into which categories? To this end, the Secretariat reportedly is looking to circulate a draft categorisation of the proposals in the next two weeks.

No further meetings have been scheduled at time of press.

ICTSD reporting.

SPS COMMITTEE ADOPTS CANADIAN PROPOSAL ON TRANSPARENCY OF S&D

The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) at its meeting on 2-3 April addressed a proposal by Canada on enhancing the transparency of special & differential treatment (S&D) of developing countries under the SPS Agreement. The proposal was generally seen as "one piece of the jigsaw puzzle" to address developing countries' difficulties in keeping up and conforming with SPS notifications.

Also of interest at the meeting were discussions on the EC's complaint regarding the Australian approval and risk assessment procedures, and a report submitted by China highlighting poor compliance by most countries with notification procedures.

One step forward in addressing S&D in the SPS Agreement

The Canadian proposal, adopted in principle at the SPS meeting, consists of two components (G/SPS/W/127, available at <http://docsonline.wto.org/>). First, Members that may be affected by a notified measure under the SPS Agreement are encouraged to enter into bilateral consultations with the notifying Member in an effort to address any issues of concern. The result of these consultations could be specific S&D treatment with respect to the notified measure or other mutually-acceptable solutions. Second, in order to ensure transparency, the result of the bilateral discussions would be reported in an Addendum submitted by the notifying Member, specifying the S&D treatment requested and provided. Canada stressed that its proposal aimed to recognise the practical difficulties of anticipating in advance who the importers would be for what products.

The proposal had been submitted in response to a suggestion by Egypt to include a box in the notification form for countries to state what S&D measures were included to facilitate compliance with the notified SPS measure (see BRIDGES Weekly, 26 March 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-03-26/story4.htm>). While welcoming Canada's proposal, several countries, including Egypt, the Philippines, Malaysia and India,

noted the need to continue discussions on this issue, both with regard to the procedural details of the notification procedure and other measures that could be implemented to support developing countries' efforts to comply with SPS measures. These countries have repeatedly expressed concerns over difficulties to pinpoint and react to notifications of particular concern to them due to the large number of notifications submitted by Members.

Other matters

The EC, supported by several South-East Asian countries and others, raised concerns regarding Australia's lengthy risk assessment and approval process. The disagreement had attracted significant attention in the past days due to the timing of the announcement that the EU would initiate dispute settlement proceedings in this regard. Even before launching the proceedings, which are now underway, the European Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy had made public the EU's intention to challenge "Australia's protectionist food import regime". The announcement was made on 31 March, the deadline for finalising the agriculture modalities, prompting Australia to accuse the EU of diversionary tactics to detract attention from its intransigent position and the resulting lack of progress in the agriculture negotiations. Rather than dealing with specific products, the EC has requested the WTO to examine the Australian quarantine system for imports of agricultural products, the slow speed of which has repeatedly frustrated a number of countries in the past.

According to a report submitted by China at the meeting, many Members do not give the recommended 60 days comment period for routine SPS notifications. Members agreed that they should conduct informal discussions on how to address this issue. China had compiled the report in response to criticism of its notification practices by Canada and the US at the November SPS Committee meeting. At the meeting, China, supported by Mexico, had noted widespread problems with regard to late notifications that allowed only limited time for comment. Similar criticism had also arisen in the context of China's biotech regulations. Argentina, Canada and the US had criticised the country for not providing sufficient time for comments and compliance when publishing the regulations on 7 January 2002 and for not developing the regulations in a transparent way (BRIDGES Trade BioRes, 4 April 2002; <http://www.ictsd.org/biores/02-04-04/story7.htm>).

ICTSD reporting; "European Union to challenge Australia's protectionist food import regime at WTO," EU PRESS RELEASE, 31 March 2003.

IN BRIEF

**US AND SACU SET TO LAUNCH TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS IN LATE MAY**

The first round of discussions concerning a free trade agreement (FTA) between the US and the member countries of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU, which includes Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland) is scheduled to take place at the end of May or beginning of June this year. The two sides will meet every six to ten weeks until negotiations are concluded at the end of 2004. US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick said the agreement would benefit the SACU member countries by increasing trade, creating new jobs, boosting economic growth and development, and promoting regional integration. In turn, he contended that access to the expanding southern African market would benefit US farmers, workers, businesses, and families. According to Josette Shiner, associate US Trade Representative, this will be the first bilateral agreement that will "pair" trade and aid. As part of the trade negotiation process, a separate group -- consisting of government and non-government trade experts -- will be established to concentrate on issues surrounding the lack of trade expertise and infrastructures in SACU member countries.

A number of sensitive topics -- including agriculture, compulsory licenses and parallel imports to ensure access to essential medicines, South Africa's black economic empowerment laws, transparency with regard to government procurement, and access to the telecommunications and financial services sectors in southern Africa -- will have to be approached as negotiations begin. Some southern African economists assert that this agreement could put a strain on the economies of the smaller SACU member nations, as they would have to significantly increase exports in order to make up for lost tariff revenue. Another concern has been raised surrounding the recent restriction of the use of compulsory licences in the US-Singapore FTA and the fear that the same restriction would be implemented in this case.

ICTSD Reporting; "Southern Africa: free trade area with US proposed," INTEGRATED REGIONAL INFORMATION NETWORK (IRIN), 26 March 2003; "Date set for US/SACU free trade talks," I-NET BRIDGE, 9 April 2003.

**TRADE UNION STATEMENT MAKES
DEMANDS ON CANCUN MINISTERIAL**

In a recently released statement, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) sets out its main demands for outcomes at the WTO Cancun Ministerial meeting in September this year. The statement makes proposals for more democracy and transparency at the WTO, and emphasises the need for negotiators to put the concerns of developing countries before those of developed countries. Increased debt relief, enhanced development assistance, and fundamental reform of IMF/World Bank adjustment policies, are just part to the 26-point statement. It also sets out how workers' rights and the protection of core labour standards can be progressed at the WTO. The statement proposes various safeguards that are needed to ensure that public services and other services of general interest cannot be undermined by private sector competition under WTO disciplines. The statement urges caution with regard to the "Singapore issues" (investment, government procurement, competition policy and trade facilitation), and makes the case for multilateral investment rules built around the promotion and protection of social policies through binding and enforceable investor obligations, which it notes are absent from the proposals tabled at the WTO. Also highlighted are closer links between the WTO and international organisations, particularly UN special agencies such as the International Labour Organisation, and adequate funds for the poorest countries to participate in WTO decision-making. Specific measures are proposed so that sustainable development is incorporated effectively into every aspect of WTO work.

To view the ICFTU statement, visit:
<http://www.icftu.org/displaydocument.asp?Index=991217396&Language=EN>.

"Global Trade Unions state Position for WTO Cancun Meeting," ICFTU PRESS STATEMENT, 7 April 2003.

**SAVE THE CHILDREN UK FORESEES
NEGATIVE GATS OUTCOMES**

Save The Children UK has released a report indicating concern over the possible effects of the General Agreement on the Trade of Services (GATS) on developing country Members affected by its implementation. Under the agreement, participating countries are permitted to choose which services sectors they are willing to commit, but once the decision is made it is irreversible, regardless of the outcome. The report raises concern over the services that are currently public, and the results that the privatisation of

these services could have on people in poverty, and children in particular. Sectors such as health, education, and water are all covered by the GATS, and are in many countries currently public services. Privatisation of these sectors could lead to price increases, and as a result, compromise children's rights to health and clean water, as mandated by the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In the report, entitled "GATS and Water: The Threat of Services Negotiations at the WTO", the authors show a specific concern over the possibility of major water companies pressuring smaller and less developed countries to commit their water sectors under the GATS, and the potential repercussions on the wellbeing of children. The authors present case studies showing the effects of privatisation of the water sector in developing countries such as the Philippines and Colombia, and in which water prices rose dramatically. According to the report, the European Commission intends to press for "real and meaningful market access" for its water companies in current WTO service negotiation rounds. Save The Children UK is urging all members of GATS not to commit the water sector to the agreement in the current round of negotiations, and for the EU to stop pressuring Members to make such commitments.

"GATS and Water: The Threat of Services Negotiations at the WTO," SAVE THE CHILDREN UK, 8 April 2003.

WORKSHOP EXAMINES TRADE, INVESTMENT AND MEAS

A two-day meeting on trade and sustainable development post-Doha, held in London from 7-8 April, focussed on investment and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). Organised by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and the Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA), the workshop focussed on investment, sustainable development and the WTO during the first day, and on MEAs and the WTO on the second day. Following presentations delivered by representatives of civil society, academia, the WTO, and trade negotiators, participants engaged in debate on issues ranging from institutions needed to manage investment at the domestic and international levels, and the ideal relationship between MEAs and the WTO, to implications for WTO negotiations in both areas. Participants generally agreed on the need for a framework to govern investment, but sharply disagreed on the appropriateness of the WTO as a forum in this regard. However, most conceded that negotiations were likely to be launched after Cancun, and cautioned against the implications of a situation where investment would mainly be used as a bargaining chip in the

overall negotiating package, rather than receive full attention in its own right. Citing specific examples, many speakers underscored the uniqueness of each situation concerning trade measures in MEAs and their relationship to WTO rules. Calling for greater coordination between MEA secretariats and the WTO, as well as greater domestic-level coherence, speakers emphasised that the future will bring a growing number of overlaps between MEAs and the WTO. This IISD-RIIA process is set to continue, and follow-up meetings will be held in Geneva, Brussels and Cancun over the coming months. The meeting proceedings will be posted on the IISD and RIIA websites (see <http://www.iisd.org> and <http://www.riia.org>).

ICTSD reporting.

FYROM BECOMES 146TH WTO MEMBER

On 4 April 2003, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) became the newest Member of the WTO. The WTO's General Council approved the FYROM's accession package on 15 October 2002, beginning the final stage of an accession process that has taken nine years to complete. With the inclusion of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the WTO expands its membership to 146, though several potential Members -- including Algeria, Nepal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Belarus, Ukraine, Cambodia, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam -- are presently negotiating their accession.

WTO PRESS RELEASE, 4 April 2003.

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.

ICTSD Events

11 April, Geneva, Switzerland: POLICY DIALOGUE ON A PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TREATY. This event, organised by ICTSD and UNCTAD, is part of a joint project with the goals of improving the understanding and implications of the development of the TRIPS Agreement, and strengthening the analytical and

negotiating capacity of developing countries in this regard. At the dialogue, the issues surrounding the implementation of an international science and technology treaty will be discussed. The event will take place from 10:00-13:00 at the Palais des Nations in room XXV. For further information, contact Marie Chamay at tel: +41-22-917-8497; e-mail: mchamay@ictsd.ch.

Coming Up This Week: 10-16 April

12-13 April, Washington, D.C., US: IMF-WORLD BANK SPRING MEETING. For further information, visit: <http://www.imf.org/external/am/index.htm>.

15 April, Washington, US: SERVICES 2003. This event, hosted by the Coalition of Service Industries, the Department of Commerce, and the US Trade Representative, will include two discussion panels on topics related to WTO trade and services negotiations and will include presentations from the Office of the US Trade Representative and the Chief Economist of the US Department of Commerce. The topics of discussion will be public services and the right to regulate, and challenges with regard to developing countries and environmental issues. For more information on this event, please contact: Jennifer Moll, Conference Coordinator, tel: +1-202-482-1316; fax: +1-202-482-2669; e-mail: OSImail@ita.doc.gov.

15 April, Madison, US: ENERGY POLICY AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE - A PATH FORWARD. Organised by Alliant Energy, this regionally-focussed meeting will seek ways of moving beyond the rhetoric, toward practical steps to begin to limit the impacts that global climate change is starting to have on the environment. For further information, visit: <http://www.environmentalconference.alliantenergy.com/>.

15 April, New Delhi, India. PRESENTATION OF FIELD DATA ON BT COTTON AND A DISCUSSION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF INDIA'S FIRST GM CROP. This event, organised by the Gene Campaign, will assess the performance of India's first GM crop - BT cotton, based on a field survey conducted by the host organisation. For more information on this event, please contact Prabhu Ram, at tel: +91-11-26517248; fax: +91-11-26965961; or e-mail: mgc@genecampaign.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, and are open to WTO Members and accredited observers only.

10 April, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING PARTY ON THE ACCESSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

10-11 April, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT BODY.

14-15 April, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING GROUP ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRADE AND INVESTMENT.

14-16 April, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO NEGOTIATING GROUP ON MARKET ACCESS.

15 April, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION.

15 April, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT BODY.

16 April, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING PARTY ON THE ACCESSION OF CAMBODIA.

Other Forthcoming Events

29 April, Imperial College, London: THE FUTURE OF BIOTECHNOLOGY: A BAPTISM BY FIRE FOR THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION. As part of the lecture series on international and European environmental law, the British Institute of International and Comparative Law & IC Legal Environmental Affairs Centre, Imperial College London, is hosting a conference on biotechnology. For more information about the meeting, please contact: Meetings Secretary, tel: +44 20 7862 5163; fax: +44 20 7862 5152; e-mail: info@biicl.org.

4-6 May, San Francisco, California, US: GHG REGISTRIES - THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF CLIMATE POLICY. At this event -- hosted by the California Climate Action Registry, the International Emissions Trading Association and British Petroleum -- representatives from companies, governments, and NGOs will have the opportunity to enhance their knowledge on the evolution and importance of greenhouse gas registries in the US and internationally. For more information on this event, please go visit: <http://www.climateregistry.org/>.

28 May, Imperial College, London: PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW GOVERNING THE COOPERATION BETWEEN STATES IN RELATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES. As part of

the lecture series on international and European environmental law, Imperial College London is hosting a conference on international watercourses. For more information about the meeting, please contact: Meetings Secretary, tel: +44 20 7862 5163; fax: +44 20 7862 5152; e-mail: info@biicl.org.

19-20 June, Alexandria, Virginia, US: GREENHOUSE GAS TRADING SYMPOSIUM. This event, organised by the Center for Business Intelligence (CBI), will examine the future implications of recent policies requiring the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the US. Highlights will include: the international climate for GHG emissions trading (considering US, Canada, EU and Eastern European trade dynamics); the status of US regional and state trading programs and their effect on national policy; case studies covering utility GHG trading initiatives; and the implications of the US withdrawal from the Kyoto Protocol. For more information on this event, please visit: <http://www.cbINET.com/events/PB367/index.html>.

RESOURCES

STOCK-TAKE OF THE WTO AGRICULTURE NEGOTIATIONS - IMPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. By Tim Ruffer and Alan Swinbank, Oxford Policy Management, 2003. In this report, the authors examine the progress of agriculture negotiations set forth in the Doha Round, and proposals from the view of the developing world. It also analyses the Harbinson Draft on agriculture modalities and its ability to bridge the gaps and lead to an agreement. For a copy of this report, please go to: <http://www.opml.co.uk/docs/ACF71D6.pdf>.

"Increasing the Openness of the Trade Policy Process: Challenges and Implications", by Grant Isaac in THE ESTEY CENTRE JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND TRADE POLICY 4 (1, 2003). Trade policy is now a central concern on the public policy agenda as trade issues have become increasingly entwined with traditionally domestic policy issues. Consequently, demands have been made for more openness in trade policy formation and, in response, many governments have undertaken openness initiatives. In this paper, the general issue of increasing the openness of trade policy is examined, an openness framework is proposed and the implications for trade policy are assessed. Available at <http://128.233.58.173/estey/>.

TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AVIATION. Edited by Callum Thomas, David Raper, Paul Upham and Janet Maughan. This collection of papers focuses on environmental consequences of air transportation, diagnosing current problems such as air and noise pollution and pointing toward their possible solutions.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3892>.

"The EU as a frontrunner on greenhouse gas emissions trading: how did it happen and will the EU succeed?" By Atle Christiansen and Jorgen Wettstad in CLIMATE POLICY 3 (1, 2003). In the 1990's, when emissions trading was first internationally negotiated, the EU was very sceptical about implementing such a system. On 23 October 2001 however, the European Commission proposed a directive for a mandatory EU-wide emissions trading scheme that would begin in 2005. This article discusses the design and the future of the Commission's plan and the reasons for the turnaround in the EU's stance on emissions trading.

"The EU emissions trading scheme (ETS): how linked to JI/CDM?" By Catrinus Jepma in CLIMATE POLICY 3 (1, 2003). In this paper, the author points out the weaknesses that exist in the EU's emissions trading scheme such as: the fact that there is no collaboration with national climate policies in the Member States, the possibility of the distortion of intra-EU competition resulting from the allocation of allowances, and the lack of a clear and concise plan for the future of the scheme. The paper then focuses on the lack of compatibility between the scheme and the other flexibility instruments of the Kyoto Protocol - namely joint implementation and the clean development mechanism.

"Prices versus quantities: choosing policies for promoting the development of renewable energy." By Philippe Menanteau, Dominique Finon and Marie-Laure Lamy, in ENERGY POLICY 31 (8, 2003). In this article the authors examine the relative efficiency of the alternative incentive schemes for the objective of moving towards renewable energy sources. Such schemes may fall under two categories: quantity based approaches - such as those defining national targets, establishing bidding systems, or setting up quota systems and green certificate trading, or price based approaches - such as a feed-in tariff. This article looks specifically at the comparison criterion of adoption conditions of the two approaches, such as cost curves and learning effects.

POSITION VACANCIES

The Centre for Competition, Investment and Economic Regulation (C-CIER) of CUTS (Consumer Unity and Trust Society) is looking for a Director to independently manage the Centre. This is a full-time position, based in Jaipur, India. The main focus of the work includes developing and implementing a business plan, locating funding, developing C-CIER infrastructure, and managing C-CIER operations and growth. The

candidate should have a postgraduate degree in economics/law, be a senior executive from the corporate/non-corporate sector, and have an excellent command of the English language. For more information, please contact: CUTS; email: cuts@cuts.org; fax: +91 141 2207486.

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) is recruiting for the Young Canadian Leaders for a Sustainable Future (YCLSF) international internship program. These positions are up to 6 months in length and are based around the world. Candidates must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada. The application deadline is 30 April, 2003, with an August/September start date. For more information and a copy of the application, please visit: <http://www.iisd.org/interns/>. Additional inquiries can be made by contacting: Carolee Buckler, tel: +1-204 958 7700; fax: +1-204 958 7710; e-mail: intern-info@iisd.ca.

The Harrison Institute for Public Law in Washington DC has announced a fellowship opening in its public policy program on democracy and trade. The fellow's responsibilities will be to supervise law students in the institute's policy clinic and serve the clients of the institute. The institute focuses on international negotiations concerning investor rights, trade in goods and services, subsidies, and government procurement. The institute seeks a candidate who: (1) can show their commitment in strengthening federalism and democratic institutions, (2) has experience in state, local government, and international trade law, and (3) are members of the DC Bar or their home state Bar. Spanish, French, or Portuguese skills and teaching experience is also desirable. For more information contact Robert Stumberg, Harrison Institute for Public Law, tel: +1 202-662-9603; fax: +1-202-662-9613; e-mail: stumberg@law.georgetown.edu.

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