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### LEAD STORIES

#### **TNC STOCK-TAKING SESSION: NEGOTIATIONS NEARING GRINDING HALT**

The WTO Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) convened on 4-5 February for its first meeting in 2003 to take stock of progress in negotiations under the Doha mandate and to consider outstanding implementation issues. In his opening address, TNC Chair/WTO Director-General Supachai Panitchpak noted uneven progress across negotiating bodies, and emphasised the need to move away from restating well-known positions and shift into an intensive phase negotiating in order to achieve progress. To address the current lack of movement, he suggested gathering high-level officials from capitals in the TNC in April or June. Members generally responded positively to this initiative. During a formal segment of the meeting, the Chairs of several negotiating bodies -- dealing with agriculture, services, the dispute settlement body (DSB), trade and development, market access, trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPs), rules, and trade and environment -- provided their reports. These were followed by informal discussions, convened by TNC Chair Supachai to allow for a frank exchange of views.

#### **Negotiating Chairs' reports**

Stuart Harbinson (Hong Kong), Chair of the Committee on Agriculture (CoA) special session, expressed concern with regard to the group's prospects of meeting the 31 March deadline for agreeing on negotiating modalities (see BRIDGES Weekly, 29 January 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-01-29/story1.htm>). He noted a lack of willingness to compromise on the part of Members. He said he had not received enough guidance to come up with a balanced new document on modalities -- setting out the scope of the negotiations, the methodology to be followed during the actual process, and the end- results expected -- but would draft one as soon as possible. He said he would circulate the new draft to all Members at once, rather than first test the water with some Members (the Chair's

report, TN/AG/7, is available at <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

Ambassador Péter Balás (Hungary), Chair of the special session of the DSB, reported that negotiations had entered into a fourth phase with the discussion of specific draft text of possible clarifications and improvements to the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU). He said he had received a number of new proposals covering issues relating to all stages of the dispute settlement procedure. Commenting on the heavy agenda in his area, he said Members needed to "engage very actively" in order to reach their 31 May deadline to finish negotiations (see related story in this issue of BRIDGES Weekly -- the Chair's report, TN/DS/5, is available at <http://docsonline.wto.org>).

Council for Trade in Services (CTS) special session Chair Ambassador Jara (Chile) reported on progress (document TN/S/5). He said links to other negotiating areas shouldn't block progress in the services area. He said substantial activity was taking place in the current request/offer phase in the services negotiations, during which WTO Members are to respond to requests for additional commitments received by trading partners by the end of March. He noted that there were 30 requests on the table and more to come.

In delivering his progress report (TN/CTD/6), Ambassador Ransford Smith (Jamaica), Chair of the special session of the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), said the group would finalise a report for the General Council next week. He noted that at this point, some Members were adding proposals rather than narrowing them down, and said special and differentiated treatment (S&D) of developing countries was likely to remain on the agenda "for a while" (see related story in this issue of BRIDGES Weekly).

In the ensuing discussion, a number of developing country Members expressed regret and disappointment at the general lack of movement. India warned against an enormous overload in the negotiations, placing an impossible burden on the Ministerial in Cancun in September. Some speakers indicated that they did not want conclusions now, but preferred to keep issues such as S&D on the table for Cancun. Other interventions cautioned that negotiations were nearing a grinding halt, with any progress made being purely technical rather than political. Several interventions supported high-level TNCs to create negotiating momentum.

#### **Supachai to lead discussions on outstanding implementation issues**

Moving to the second agenda item of the agenda -- approximately 80 implementation issues that Members

agreed to address in the Decision on Implementation-related Issues and Concerns at Doha -- TNC Chair Supachai noted that the issues had been on the agenda for a long time. He said there were five courses of action for each item: to resolve it; to agree that no further action was needed; to refer the issue to a negotiating body; to continue work in a relevant subsidiary body with a clear deadline; or to undertake more work at the level of the TNC. He said he would take leadership with regard to these issues, and seek to come up with a compromise with the help of the eight chairs that had been involved in negotiations on the issues. He will report back at the next TNC meeting on 4-5 March. The TNC will be meeting on a monthly basis.

ICTSD reporting.

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## **OTHER NEWS**

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### **TRIPS COUNCIL BACK AT 'SQUARE ONE' ON MEDICINES ISSUE**

The Council for Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) made no headway on paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on TRIPs and public health at its 5 February informal meeting, prompting the chair, Ambassador Eduardo Perez Motta (Mexico), to note that discussions on the disease coverage were back at the stage they had been before the Doha Ministerial meeting in November 2001. Several delegations said that continuing the discussions was a waste of time and that efforts should instead focus on building confidence among the pharmaceutical industry, the key stakeholder group strongly opposed to a widely supported deal in December 2002.

According to paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPs Agreement and Public Health, the TRIPs Council must find an expeditious solution by the end of 2002 to the problems countries may face in making use of compulsory licensing (i.e. the practice by a government to authorise itself or third parties to use the subject matter of a patent without the authorisation of the right holder for reasons of public policy) if they have insufficient or no pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity. The perceived need to address this issue arose from concerns related to Art. 31(f) of the TRIPs Agreement, which requires that production under compulsory licensing must be primarily for the supply of the domestic market.

Discussions continued on a proposal from the EC to include a list of at least 22 diseases, and with the option of consulting the World Health Organization (WHO) on other public health problems (see BRIDGES Weekly, 29 January 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-01-29/story2.htm>). Only Hungary and the Slovak Republic supported the proposal, while the African Group, supported by Brazil and India, stated that they could not accept a narrowing of the scope of the Doha Declaration on TRIPs and health. Kenya added that the efforts should focus on building domestic production capacity, not on limiting the disease coverage.

Late in the meeting, Japan submitted a proposal, which would include the EC's list of diseases in an "addendum", while stating more clearly that this list only constituted examples. Rather than naming the WHO directly, Japan's proposal would allow the TRIPs Council to confirm "as necessary" the inclusion of other diseases, with the advice of outside experts, also "as necessary". Little discussion took place on the proposal. Kenya rejected Japan's initiative, arguing that it would deprive governments of the right to determine what constituted a public health problem.

Deputy US Trade Representative Peter Allgeier made no references to the EC proposal nor did he indicate whether the proposal might help to find a compromise. He noted that attempts to interpret the Doha Declaration in a way other than what was intended in Doha would raise suspicion among pharmaceuticals that intellectual property rights could be undermined. Their confidence needed to be rebuilt, he stressed.

South Africa, "wholeheartedly" supported by Norway, believed that it was time to focus energy on other core issues in the negotiations, as continued discussions on the scope of the paragraph 6 solutions was a waste of time with little hope for consensus in sight. South Africa added that many smaller delegations would prefer to use their often limited resources for negotiating other core issues. Efforts to address TRIPs and health should rather focus on working with the pharmaceutical industry directly in an effort to appease concerns that the 16 December draft decision could weaken intellectual property protection. The need to build confidence was also acknowledged by Chile and Bulgaria, while Thailand echoed South Africa's view that efforts to settle on the disease coverage of the solution were "non-starters".

The Chairman will report on the discussions at the General Council's next meeting on 10-11 February. He will continue informal consultations in the meantime.

The 16 December draft decision is available at [http://www.ictsd.org/ministerial/cancun/docs/TRIPs\\_par\\_a6\\_16-12-02.pdf](http://www.ictsd.org/ministerial/cancun/docs/TRIPs_par_a6_16-12-02.pdf).

ICTSD reporting.

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### **NEW DRAFT REPORT ON S&D AS MEMBERS CONFRONT THIRD DEADLINE**

Continuing their string of informal meetings in hopes of preventing a third deadline on the review of special and differential treatment (S&D) from slipping away unfulfilled, the special session of the Committee on Trade and Development met informally on 29 January, as well as on 3 and 6 February. The group met previously on 17 and 24 January (see BRIDGES Weekly, 29 January 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-01-29/wtoinbrief.htm>).

On the morning of 6 February, Members met briefly to receive a new draft report from Chair Ransford Smith (Jamaica), on which Members hope to be able to base a report "with clear recommendations for a decision" due for submission to the General Council at its 10-11 February meeting (see BRIDGES Weekly, 15 January 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-01-15/wtoinbrief.htm>).

### **Compilation of agreement-specific proposals**

According to a source closely monitoring the negotiations, the draft report (not publicly available) contains ten agreement-specific proposals that enjoy clear consensus among Members. These include four that were potentially ripe for harvest at year-end 2002 (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 December 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-12-20/story2.htm>), as well as six new proposals (covering, inter alia, services, dispute settlement, rules of origin and Least-developed Countries). At time of press, discussions were slated to continue in the afternoon of 6 February in order to add additional provisions to the current list of ten. One trade source speculated that Members would likely continue to meet informally right up until and including the morning of the 10-11 February deadline.

### **The way forward**

With perceptible progress on agreement-specific proposals to be adopted for early harvest, the second item in need of a solution is how to proceed in the future. The draft report tabled on 6 February reportedly offers three options, outlining that the special session will: 1) continue its work on agreement specific proposals until "[31 July 2003]" (the square brackets surrounding the date indicate the timeline is still up for

negotiation); 2) suspend its work on agreement-specific proposals (noting that the General Council could conceivably assign some of the work to be pursued in the negotiating groups or other relevant bodies); or 3) "actively" send those proposals to the negotiating groups and other relevant bodies. Work on the Monitoring Mechanism (to monitor the outcome of the S&D review) would continue in the special session. On cross-cutting issues (such as defining the principles and objectives of S&D), the report apparently indicated that these may also be discussed further.

The formal meeting scheduled for 6 February was, at time of press, rescheduled for 7 February. BRIDGES Weekly will report further on this item, including country perspectives, in the following issue.

## Background

The CTD received a mandate from Ministers in Doha agreeing "that all special and differential treatment provisions shall be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational." Major elements of this review were initially scheduled to make up a report to the General Council "with clear recommendations for a decision" by 31 July 2002, however at this time countries found themselves widely divergent on how to deal with (and interpret) the mandate (see BRIDGES Weekly, 8 August 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-08-06/story2.htm>). Pushing the deadline off to 31 December 2002, Members met fervently in hopes of moving forward with the S&D review, but by year-end 2002, agreement could only be found on four of the 85-plus proposals submitted since February 2002 (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 December 2002, link above).

ICTSD reporting.

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## EUROPEAN COMMISSION PRESENTS SERVICES LIBERALISATION OFFER

On 5 February, EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy outlined the initial EU offer to trading partners for additional services liberalisation commitments.

Lamy stated that the EU was willing to offer further market openings in areas such as banking and telecom, whereas it would not take new commitments in public services such as health and education as well as in audiovisual services. He further said that additional market access was negotiable in areas such as computer services, postal services, distribution, environmental services, tourism and transport.

Responding to demands by developing country trading partners, including India, to open up the EU market in mode four (movement of natural persons), Lamy said that the EU would allow professionals based overseas working e.g. in computer and engineering services to enter the EU market for up to six month. "This carefully constructed proposal will strengthen the EU's position in the Doha negotiations because it addresses the interests of others, particularly developing countries," Lamy said. "At the same time it ensures that services of collective interests in the EU such as education and health are preserved," he added. On audiovisual -- a sector that especially France wants to keep protected -- the Commissioner ruled out any commitments whatsoever.

The Commission's proposal will now be forwarded to the European Council and the Parliament for their consideration before it can be officially submitted to WTO trading partners prior to the agreed 31 March deadline. In the current request/offer phase in the services negotiations, WTO Members are to respond to requests for additional commitments received by trading partners by the end of March. In preparing the draft offer, the Commission has been holding public consultations in which a large group of European civil society groups have expressed their concerns that deregulated and privatised public services could negatively impact on the access to basic services such as health, education, water and energy (see BRIDGES Weekly, 23 April 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-04-23/story3.htm>).

In reaction to the EU announcement, European NGOs welcomed the Commission's proposal, though some expressed disappointment over the fact that postal, retail, environmental and transport services will be further opened to foreign competition. A representative of the Third World Network demanded that the EU withdraw its requests to developing countries to liberalise these same services, noting that developing countries have far weaker services sectors than the EU countries, and are in even less of a position to make further liberalisation commitments.

"Market liberalisation: EC suggest financial services, telecom for possible liberalisation, excludes others," WTO REPORTER, 6 February 2003; "WTO services: Commission submits draft offer to Council and Parliament -- public services fully defended," EU PRESS RELEASE, 5 February 2003; "EU likely to bar talks at Doha on four services," FT, 5 February 2003.



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## HEAVY WORKLOAD IN DSB NEGOTIATING SESSION

Meeting from 28 to 30 January, the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) special session discussed specific draft text for the clarification and improvement of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU). Members are currently reviewing the DSU, with a 31 May 2003 deadline (Doha Declaration paragraph 30). Discussions have previously centred around a "check-list of issues," with Members submitting general and conceptual proposals (see BRIDGES Weekly, 20 December 2002, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/02-12-20/wtoinbrief.htm>). The negotiations have now moved into a fourth phase, with the discussion of specific draft text. While the negotiations are in their advanced stages, progress has been slow, and some delegations have expressed frustration with regard to the procedure adopted in the negotiations, claiming it is tedious, confusing and that the "sense of the actual proposals is lost".

On 27 January, Ambassador Péter Balás (Hungary), Chair of the special session, circulated a Compilation of Draft Text Proposals (Job (03)/10), on the basis of which the latest discussions were held. They focussed on delegations' propositions on Articles 3 through 9 of the DSU, pertaining to general provisions, consultations, good offices, conciliation and mediation, establishment and Terms of Reference of panels, composition of panels, and procedures for multiple complainants. At least 23 other Articles remain outstanding. According to sources, the deadlines may still be met with the current pace of negotiations. Commentators noted that much of the textual language in the DSU was likely to remain as it was, due to the vested interest of some key players.

There was some focused discussion on a proposal from the least- developed country group (LDC) with respect to Article 4.10, which spells out the need to take developing country interests into consideration during consultations. LDCs have proposed that the article be amended to the effect that special attention also be given to LDCs during consultations and that possibilities of "holding consultations in the capitals of LDCs shall always be explored and a joint note to this effect." Members reportedly met this proposal with "sympathy." Canada, however, suggested that satellite transmission could be used for this purpose. Haiti, who presented the proposal on behalf of the LDC group, responded to questions asked on the practicality and workability of the proposed amendment. The Haitian delegate explained that the spirit behind the proposed amendment was that -- should an LDC be involved in consultations -- a lot of input would be needed from capital-based officials. Costs of bringing in such officials

to Geneva would be unreasonably burdensome to LDCs.

There was also some discussion on the issue of third party rights, which went hand in hand with a proposal from Thailand on Article 5 (Good Offices, Conciliation and Mediation). The proposal was for making the use of the "good offices of the Director General" obligatory. On third party mediation, some members are of the view that the increased use of compulsory third party mediation is simply cumbersome and does not add value to the already established system of compulsory panel procedures. To date, parties have hardly used this provision, and there is not much experience or practice around it. In any event, the time that will be taken for the mediator to understand the issues, enough to bring the parties to a common understanding may as well be taken up during the panel process. Members agreed that no third party should be allowed during the consultations phase, even though the whole issue of enhancing third party rights was favourably received.

On the issue of the composition of panels, some Members such as Thailand proposed a "lighter position" of having a roster of "permanent panel chairs" instead of permanent panellist. The African Group has stated that not much in the current process justifies moving to a system of permanent panellists, whereas the EU has proposed it. The latest proposal on permanent panel chairs seems to strike a compromise. The next round of meetings will be held 17 and 18 February and Members are expected to proceed with the negotiations based on the Chair's Compilation of Draft Text Proposals.

ICSTD Reporting.

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## IN BRIEF

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### FUNDING AND MERCURY CONCERNS RAISED AT UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL

The 22nd session of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council meeting from 3-7 February in Nairobi, Kenya, highlighted issues related to mercury pollution as well as funding concerns. The Governing Council, which was in session at the time of publication of BRIDGES Weekly, is gathering ministers and senior representatives from over 100 countries, and other major stakeholders. Plenary sessions have addressed a number of policy issues of relevance to

UNEP, including international environmental governance and UNEP's programme of work, and a ministerial segment will focus on the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Reflecting on results achieved over the past two years, the Governing Council's outgoing President, Canadian Environment Minister David Anderson, pointed to the adoption of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the completion of the first global mercury assessment, the Great Apes Survival Project, the adoption of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and the release of the third Global Environment Outlook (GEO-3) report in 2002. Following the release of the global mercury assessment Klaus Töpfer, UNEP's Executive Director, suggested that global reliance on carbon-based energy resources should be reduced as the report "shows that the problems (relating to mercury release and exposure) remain and appear, in some situations to be worsening as demand for energy, the largest source of human-made mercury emissions, climbs."

Also during the meeting, UNEP publicly declared that the programme faced a funding crisis. The fund for the programme reached a high point of approximately \$65 million following the Rio Summit, which one UNEP employee referred to as "an index of the world's post-Rio guilt." Töpfer stated that the current funding "fall(s) far short of what is required."

"Coal power stations emitting high levels of harmful mercury: study," SPACE DAILY, 3 February 2003; "22nd Session of the UNEP Governing Council and Fourth Global Ministerial Environment Forum: 3-7 February 2003," ENB, 3-5 February 2003; "Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum 22nd Session," UNEP PRESS RELEASE, 5 February 2003; "UN environment champ in cash crisis," BBC NEWS, 5 February 2003.

## **UNCTAD LAUNCHES TRADE AND GLOBALISATION PROJECT IN INDIA**

On 30 January, India, the UK and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) launched a project on trade and globalisation in India. India will receive USD 8.65 million from the UK Department for International Development (DFID) in order to fund the five-year project entitled "Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalisation in India." The project will help Indian policy makers, trade negotiators and other stakeholders understand development aspects of key trade issues. It will also fortify India's capacity to assess issues related to globalisation and will help pave the way for policies that

will make the globalisation process more balanced. The project focuses on specific themes, including agriculture and food security, the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), the impact of WTO agreements on small-scale industries, trade facilitation, dispute settlement, and investment and competition.

"New project on trade and globalisation announced by UNCTAD, India and UK," UNCTAD PRESS RELEASE, 30 January 2003.

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## **WTO IN BRIEF**

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### **US DELAYS WTO GMO CASE**

The US has postponed filing a case at the WTO against the EU's de facto moratorium on the approval of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). The decision was scheduled to be taken at a 3 February cabinet-level meeting. The meeting, however, was canceled and no new date has been set. Sources indicate that the delay should be seen as a move by the US to ease tensions with the EU in an effort to bring other countries onboard for a potential conflict with Iraq. In the words of one senior White House official, "there is no point in testing Europeans on food while they are being tested on Iraq." Pressure to launch a dispute had been growing in the US in recent weeks, including calls by US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick for a case to be brought "sooner rather than later" (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 23 January 2003, <http://www.ictsd.org/biores/03-01-23/story3.htm>).

"U.S. Delays Challenge to Europe's Ban on Modified Food," NY TIMES, 4 February 2003.

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## **INDIAN MINISTER SEEKS COALITION TO PROTECT FARMING SECTOR**

During a 20-22 January visit to Geneva, Indian Agriculture Minister Ajit Singh arrived with a clear message: his government would only consider slashing tariffs on farm imports if developed countries, such as the EU and Japan, agreed to eliminate export subsidies and significantly reduced domestic support. He told reporters he sought to "evolve a common strategy with like-minded countries" to protect their farming sectors and interests of farmers. He said "we are not going to agree to reduce [tariffs] without affecting other things that distort the market," and added that possible agriculture trade rules allowing developing countries to

support their farming sectors at higher levels than industrialised Members would be in vain, as countries like his do not have the financial means to use such flexibilities. Moreover, the farm minister expressed concern that Indian exporters have significant problems entering some richer countries' markets due to highly complex customs requirements or unjustifiably strict food safety standards.

During his stay in Geneva, Minister Singh is reported to have held separate meetings to advance his agenda with countries such as Switzerland, Japan, members of the so-called Like-Minded Group including Kenya, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, as well as several members of the Cairns Group of agricultural exporters. WTO Members are scheduled to have modalities for the ongoing agriculture negotiations established by end-March this year. Nevertheless, due to the many disagreements prevailing within the Membership, most observers are questioning whether this deadline could be met (BRIDGES Weekly, 29 January, <http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/03-01-29/story1.htm>).

"India Ag min: no tariff cuts until subsidies are addressed," AP, 23 January 2003; "India for common agriculture strategy at WTO," XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, 20 January 2003.

## ARMENIA BECOMES 145TH WTO MEMBER

On 5 February 2003, Armenia became the newest member of the WTO. The WTO's General Council had approved Armenia's accession package on 10 December 2002 and officially notified the secretariat of Armenia's ratification in early January 2003. The accession took ten years, during which Armenia negotiated bilateral treaties with its trading partners, and made revisions to its domestic legislation to comply with WTO law. With the inclusion of Armenia, the WTO expands its membership to 145, though numerous potential Members are currently negotiating their accession. Six former Soviet republics are already Members of the WTO. Russia is one of seven former Soviet republics still in the process of accession talks.

"WTO membership rises to 145," WTO PRESS RELEASE, 5 February 2003. "Armenia Joins World Trade Organization," AP, 5 February 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](mailto:events@ictsd.ch).

### ICTSD Events

7 February, Geneva, Switzerland: MAKING THE WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT SYSTEM WORK FOR DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. This conference will be organised by ICTSD. For further information, please contact Victor Mosoti: tel: +41 22 917 8356; e-mail: [vmosoti@ictsd.ch](mailto:vmosoti@ictsd.ch).

11 February, 0900-1200, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT: WHAT NEXT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS? - CAFE & CROISSANTS DIALOGUE. ICTSD will hold an informal gathering to discuss the state-of-play and prospects of negotiations on environment at the WTO in advance of the CTE special and regular sessions on 12-14 February. The Cafe- Croissants series are small informal gatherings in Geneva meant to facilitate constructive exchange within the trade and sustainable development policy communities. These meetings are 'off the record' and no proceedings are kept, in order to promote the open flow of ideas. Ms. Lai-Peng Yap (Malaysia), Mr. Tobias Nussbaum (Canada), Mr. Eduardo Tempone (Argentina) and Ms. Sarah Huber (Switzerland) have been invited to briefly present various aspects of the negotiations. The meeting will be held in the Maison Internationale de l'Environnement (MIE), 13 Ch. des Anemones, Chatelaine, Geneva. ICTSD's previous Cafe & Croissants meetings are listed at <http://www.ictsd.org/dlogue/cc.htm>.

### Coming Up This Week: 6 - 12 February

3-7 February, Nairobi, Kenya: 22ND UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL. The 22nd Session of the UNEP Governing Council will address outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, linkages among and support to environmental and environment-related conventions, contribution to future sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters. For further information on this event, contact Beverly Miller, email: [beverly.miller@unep.org](mailto:beverly.miller@unep.org), or visit <http://www.unep.org/GoverningBodies/GC22/>. IISD Reporting Services' Earth Negotiations Bulletin will

be providing daily updates and a summary of the meeting, see <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/unepgc/22gc/>.

6-7 February, The Hague, Netherlands: CHANGING DIMENSIONS OF THE FOOD ECONOMY: EXPLORING THE POLICY ISSUES. This Conference is organised by the OECD in collaboration with the government of the Netherlands to examine the changes underway in the food economy and explore the policy implications. The main themes of the conference are: changing balance of power along the food supply chain; food lifestyles and challenges for the food industry; and Transparency and responsibility in the food economy. For further information, visit <http://www.oecd.org/oecd/pages/documentation/display.xml/0,3375,EN-document-0-nodirectorate-35999-0,00.html>.

6-9 February, New Delhi, India: DELHI SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2003. The deliberations at DSDS 2003 will essentially focus on translating the priorities set at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) into action. It will also add value to the WSSD process through many action-oriented suggestions for the global community to realize the goal of sustainable development. For further information, visit <http://www.teriin.org/dsds/2003/index.htm>.

7-8 February, Budapest, Hungary: EMISSIONS TRADING AND PROJECT-BASED MECHANISMS: SYNERGIES BETWEEN EMERGING REGIMES. This Concerted Action on Tradeable Emission Permits (CATEP) workshop is organised by FIELD, UNEP and the Central European University. It aims to explore synergies, possibilities for linking instruments and possible conflicts between the new and emerging frameworks for the implementation of GHG emissions trading at the domestic, regional and international levels. It includes workshops focusing on the following questions: What role can project-based activities play in domestic and regional trading regimes? How can coherent accounting and institution building be ensured? (How) can different domestic, regional and international trading regimes be linked? What lessons can be learned from GHG emissions trading for other environmental issues? For further information, visit <http://www.ucd.ie/~envinst/envstud/CATEP%20Webpage/publications/ceuprog.pdf>.

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### WTO 2003 Events

An updated list of forthcoming WTO meetings is posted at: [http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/meets.pdf](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.

6 February, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT.

6&7 February, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO NEGOTIATING GROUP ON RULES.

7 February, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT.

7 February, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION.

7 February, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT.

10&11 February, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO GENERAL COUNCIL.

12&13 February, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT.

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### Other 2003 Events

24-28 February, Rome, Italy: 25TH SESSION OF THE FAO COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES. For further information on this session, visit: <http://www.fao.org/fi/meetings/cofi/cofi25/default.asp>.

3 March, Geneva, Switzerland: WORKSHOP ON FRESH WATER AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW. Co-hosted by the Graduate Institute of International Studies, the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva, and the Georgetown University Law Center, this forum will bring together scholars and policy-makers concerned with issues of water supply, trade and investment. Its purpose is to make clear problems of trade law for water management and international water law for trade agreements. For further information on the conference, please contact Makane Mbengue, email: [Makane.Mbengue@droit.unige.ch](mailto:Makane.Mbengue@droit.unige.ch).

6 March, Brussels, Belgium: THE EU BETWEEN JO'BURG FOLLOW-UP AND CANCUN POLITICS: HOW TO SET THE RIGHT FRAMEWORK FOR INVESTMENT RULES. The Heinrich Boell Foundation, in collaboration with the European Parliament, is hosting a public hearing to assess the outcomes of the



World Summit on Sustainable Development on globalisation, trade and corporate accountability, and public-private partnerships in the field of water. It will address some of the sustainable development-related aspects of the EU's services liberalisation and investment agenda in the WTO. The hearing will address the potential for developing binding rules for corporations at the European and international level and will elaborate on alternatives to investment and trade liberalisation. For further information, contact Heinrich Boell Foundation EU Regional Office: e-mail: [Brussels\\_2@boell.de](mailto:Brussels_2@boell.de); tel: +32-2-743-41-05.

15-16 March 2003, New Delhi, India: COMMONWEALTH TRADE SUMMIT. The Commonwealth Business Council in association with the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, India and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is organising this conference on key trade issues to bring together the trade policy community within the Commonwealth, with leading figures of trade and industry from around the Commonwealth, to discuss trade issues in the context of the WTO Ministerial scheduled for Cancun in September 2003. The Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry will be hosting the event, which will be opened by the Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee. Pascal Lamy, EU Trade Commissioner, is expected to participate, as well as Commonwealth Ministers of Trade, chairs and chief executives of leading companies from the Commonwealth and beyond, representatives from the WTO and international agencies, business organisations, trade experts, and academics. Participation in this event is by invitation only. For further information, contact Shondeep Banerji at tel: +44 (0) 20 7024 8229; email: [mailto:sbanerji@cbcnet.org](mailto:mailto:sbanerji@cbcnet.org); or visit: <http://www.cbglobal.org> or <http://www.cbglobal.org/events/delhi/Overview.htm>.

19-21 March, Orlando, Florida: SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS. The Global Environmental Management Initiative (GEMI) is hosting a conference on partnerships that promote sustainability. For further information, visit: <http://www.gemi.org/docs/GEMI2003conf.htm>.

20-21 March, Geneva, Switzerland: DEVELOPMENTS IN WTO LAW. This conference, organised by the International Bar Association, will cover current WTO activities, focusing in particular on issues relating to the Doha round and dispute settlement. For further information on the conference, visit: <http://www.ibanet.org/general/ConferenceOverview.asp?ID=655&Section=&Committee=>.

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

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## RESOURCES

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE - POPULAR ALTERNATIVES TO GLOBALIZATION AT THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM. Edited by William F. Fisher and Thomas Ponniah. Zed Books (March 2003). This collection examines the global justice movement, which seeks to provide more humanitarian alternatives to conventional ideologies of globalisation. It looks more specifically at the creation of alternative social models, focusing on: how to produce wealth for the interest of people; social justice; environmental sustainability; democracy; and ethical political action. It explains the evolution of these ideas through reviewing the history and significance of the World Social Forum. For further information, visit: <http://www.zedbooks.demon.co.uk/>.

GLOBAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS 2003. ILO (January 2003). This ILO report reviews the most recent assessment of the global employment scene. It shows the sharp decline in employment since the global economic slowdown and the events of September 11, 2001. As a result, unemployment is currently at a record high of 180 million. The report looks at regional trends, and possible solutions for reducing unemployment. The report will soon be accessible at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/strat/stwer/index.htm>.

MAKING A KILLING OR MAKING A LIVING? WILDLIFE TRADE, TRADE CONTROLS, AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS. By Dilys Roe, Teresa Mulliken, Simon Milledge, Josephine Mremi, Simon Mosha, and Maryanne Grieg-Gran. IIED (2002). This book examines the effects that wildlife trade controls have on the livelihoods on rural traders. It also questions the effect of these controls on the conservation of wildlife and claims that these effects can sometimes be negative. To obtain a copy of this book, please visit: [www.earthprint.com/go.htm?to=9156IIED](http://www.earthprint.com/go.htm?to=9156IIED).

DEVELOPING CAPACITY THROUGH TECHNICAL COOPERATION: COUNTRY EXPERIENCES. Edited by Stephen Browne. UNDP (2002). This book takes a look at capacity development through presenting the cases of six countries: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Egypt, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Philippines and Uganda. In each case, it examines the success of technical cooperation in improving capacity development across multiple industries and also shows the loss that can occur when technical cooperation is used for purposes other than capacity development. This book can be obtained by

visiting:

<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3809>.

IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. By Hussein Abaza and Andrea Baranzini. UNEP (2002). This book by the UNEP Economics and Trade Branch seeks to contribute to meeting the need for practical tools to help formulate sustainable development policies, and methods to assess their acceptability and effectiveness. The authors explore the methods for integrating environmental and social sciences to support participatory assessment, policy design and implementation of sustainable development policies. These methods are applied, and discussed with reference to several case studies from various regions of the world. The book is interdisciplinary, emphasizing how the integration of a wide set of disciplines and stakeholder perspectives into the policy-making process can help to improve the perception of sustainable development policies. For further information, visit: [http://www.unep.ch/etu/publications/Imp\\_SD.htm](http://www.unep.ch/etu/publications/Imp_SD.htm).

"Environmental sustainability and political survival: a comparative analysis of the cod fisheries of Canada and Norway," in ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS 11 (4, 2002): 63-82. By Stig S. Gezelius. In this article, the author discusses the issues that have accompanied state regulation of natural resource harvesting. Gezelius compares the strategy used in Canada, where de-politicised reforms have resulted in heated vertical disputes and in Norway, where industry involvement remains at a high level and vertical conflict has remained relatively low, but the situation is potentially risky from an ecological perspective. He contrasts the advantages and disadvantages that arise when states regulate the distribution of natural resources versus when industries control it.

"Silviculture for the non-timber forest product management: challenges and opportunities for sustainable forest management," in FORESTRY CHRONICLE 78 (6, 2002): 830-833. By Krishna H. Gautam and Teiji Watanabe. In order to attain sustainable forestry, the authors contend that forest management must aim to reflect a broader focus of the forest. Forest management must embody non-timber forest product (NTFB) perspectives such as cultural heritage, livelihood of local people, and economic values and incentives for forest management.

"Ecoviolence: shrinking pie, or honey pot?" in GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS 2 (4, 2002): 1-34. By Indra de Soysa. Traditionally, it has been assumed that a scarcity of resources can be a driving force behind civil war. The author claims on the contrary, that an

abundance of natural resources leads to economic disparity -- which then leads to socio-economic and political problems within a country. He challenges the concept of "ecoviolence," which has previously established a link between a scarcity of natural resources and lower economic, human and institutional development.

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