

**WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION**

WT/INF/37
18 June 2001

(01-3013)

SYMPOSIUM ON ISSUES CONFRONTING THE WORLD TRADING SYSTEM

Please find attached the draft programme of the above symposium which will take place on 6 and 7 July 2001 in Geneva.

SYMPOSIUM ON ISSUES CONFRONTING THE WORLD TRADING SYSTEM

World Trade Organization – Geneva, Switzerland

Friday, 6 July

8:00 – 10:00 **Registration, badge distribution**

10:00 **Plenary opening**

Welcome – Mike Moore – WTO Director-General

Introduction by Chairperson - Mrs. Touré Alimata Traore
Minister for Industry, Trade and Transport, Mali

Speakers:

- Dean Hirsch, International President of World Vision
- Jaime Serra - Serra & Associates International

12-12.30 Chairperson announces work sessions and arrangements for moderators, discussants, venues and reporting procedures for final plenary session

2:30-5:30 pm **Work sessions:**

- I: Agriculture**
- II: TRIPS – Access to Essential Medicines**
- III: Trade and Environment**
- IV: Services**
- V: WTO & Civil Society**

I: Agriculture – Issues and Negotiations

Issues to be covered: agricultural reform – negotiations
developing country concerns
non-trade concerns

Programme: Introduction by Moderator
Presentations by Discussants
Open discussion
Summary by Moderator

Moderator: H.E. Mr. Pekka Huhtaniemi - Ambassador of Finland

Discussants: Risto Volanen - Secretary General, COPA-COGECA

Lyall Howard - National Farmers' Federation, Australia

Dr. Magdi Farahat - Permanent Mission of Egypt

II: TRIPS - Access to essential medicines

Issues to be covered: The relationship between the TRIPS Agreement and the generation of and access to pharmaceuticals

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by moderator

Moderator: Adrian Otten - Director, WTO Intellectual Property Division

Discussants: Professor Carlos Correa - University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Jeffrey Kushan - Powell, Goldstein, Frazer & Murphy, Washington, US

III: Trade and Environment

Issues to be covered: (1) MEAs and WTO rules
(2) PPMs and labelling / GMOs
(3) Market access - Agriculture and Fisheries

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by Moderator

Moderator: David Runnalls - President, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Discussants: on (1) Dr. Sitanon Jedsapipat - Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

on (2) Laurence Boisson de Chazournes - Head of the Faculty of International Law, University of Geneva

on (3) David Schorr - Director, Sustainable Commerce Programme, WWF US

IV: Services

Issues to be covered: 1) Regulation and liberalization under GATS
2) Participation of developing countries

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by Moderator

Moderator: B.K. Zutshi - former Indian Ambassador to WTO

Discussants: on 1) Julian Arkell - International Trade and Services Policy (ITSP)
on 2) Mohan Kumar - Permanent Mission of India

V: WTO & Civil Society

Issues to be covered: 1) What role for NGOs in capacity building
2) WTO institutional reform

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by Moderator

Moderator: Dr. Sylvia Ostry - Toronto University

Discussants: on 1) Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz - Executive Director, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development
Pradeep Mehta - Secretary General, Consumer Unity & Trust Society
on 2) John Bunzl - Director, International Simultaneous Policy Organisation
Tetteh Hormeku - Third World Network, Africa Secretariat

Saturday, 7 July

10:00-1:00 pm **Work sessions:**

- I: Food Safety and the SPS Agreement**
- II: TRIPS – Bio-technology / Bio-diversity**
- III: Trade and Development**
- IV: Services**
- V: WTO & Civil Society**

I: Food Safety and the SPS Agreement

Issues to be covered: (1) precaution
(2) GMOs
(3) Developing Country concerns

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by moderator

Moderator: Kazuaki Miyagishima – Associate Professor, School of Medicine, Kyoto University

Discussants: on (1) Dominique Taeymans - Confederation des Industries Agro-Alimentaires de l'UE

on (2) Dr. Ned Groth - Senior Scientists, Consumers Union , USA

on (3) Dr. Hélène Coulibaly Fanny - Côte d'Ivoire

II: TRIPS – Bio-technology / Bio-diversity

Issues to be covered: Patenting of biotechnological inventions; protection of traditional knowledge and genetic resources; relationship between the TRIPS agreement and the CBD

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by moderator

Moderator: Professor Thomas Cottier - Institute of European and International Economic Law, University of Berne

Discussants: Jeffrey Kushan - Powell, Goldstein, Frazer & Murphy,
Washington D.C., USA

Dr. Suman Sahai - Gene Campaign, India

III: Trade & Development

Issues to be covered: Contribution of trade to development and poverty alleviation
Importance of market access and equitable rules for developing countries
Capacity building needs and mainstreaming of trade into development policies
Trade liberalization, development and the environment - towards sustainable development

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by moderator

Moderator: David Runnalls - President, IISD

Discussants: Eduardo Pérez-Motta - Mexican Ambassador to WTO

Penny Fowler, Policy Advisor, OXFAM

IV: Services

Issues to be covered: (1) Status of public services
(2) Negotiating issues for the current services round

Programme: Introduction by moderator
Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by moderator

Moderator: B.K. Zutshi - former Indian Ambassador to WTO

Discussants: on 1) Mike Waghorne - Public Services International
on 2) Professor André Sapir - Université Libre de Bruxelles

V: WTO & Civil Society

Issues to be covered: WTO institutional reforms (continued)

Programme: Presentations by discussants
Open discussion
Summary by moderator

Moderator: Dr. Silvia Ostry - University of Toronto

Discussants: Rachel Thompson - Global Trade Practice, APCO
Dr. Sothi Rachagan - Director, Consumers International,
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Afternoon – Final Plenary Session

Moderators report on sessions (10 to 15 minutes each)

Wrap-up by Chairperson of the Symposium

Final comments
