



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE
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WTO Non-Resident Newsletter

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This newsletter for Non-Residents, prepared by the Secretariat, covers WTO meetings and activities from the beginning of September 2004. The newsletter seeks to respond to the special challenges faced by Members without representation in Geneva in terms of their participation in the work of the WTO. It is prepared on a monthly basis, but supplemented periodically by additional communications.

MEETINGS AND NEWS OF WTO BODIES

20 January 2006

Dispute Settlement Body Meeting

The following main items were considered:

Surveillance of implementation of the DSB's recommendations:

- The United States presented status reports on progress in the implementation of the DSB's recommendations with regard to the following cases: (i) "US – Section 211 Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1998"; (ii) "US – Anti-Dumping Measures on Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Products from Japan"; (iii) "US – Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act of 2000"; and (iv) "US – Section 110(5) of the US Copyright Act";
- The EC presented its status report on progress in the implementation of the DSB's recommendations in the case: "Protection of Trademarks and Geographical Indications for Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs".

Honduras and Nicaragua made statements regarding the implementation by the EC of the recommendations and rulings of the DSB in

relation the EC's regime for the importation, sale and distribution of bananas and related subsequent WTO proceedings. In addition, statements were also made by Panama, the United States and the European Communities.

The DSB agreed to establish a panel to examine the EC's complaint pertaining to the case: "Brazil – Measures Affecting Imports of Retreaded Tyres". Australia, Argentina, Japan and the United States reserved third-party rights to participate in the Panel's proceedings.

The DSB agreed, pursuant to Article 21.5 of the DSU, to refer to the original Panel the matter raised by Argentina concerning Chile's implementation of the DSB's recommendations pertaining to the case: "Chile – Price Band System and Safeguard Measures Relating to Certain Agricultural Products." Australia, Colombia, the European Communities and the United States reserved third-party rights to participate in the Panel's proceedings.

The following matters were raised under "Other Business": (i) Mexico referred to its communication contained in WT/DS295/10 regarding its intentions on implementation in the case: "Mexico – Definitive Anti-Dumping Measures on Beef and Rice: Complaint with respect to Rice"; (ii) The EC made a statement regarding the implementation of the DSB's recommendations in the "Privatization" case; and (iii) the Chairman made a statement regarding a selection process for the appointment of a new Appellate Body member.

23 and 24 January 2006

**Committee on Regional Trade Agreements
Forty-First Session**

The Forty-first Session of the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements convened in Airgram WTO/AIR/2734, dated 9 January

2006 was held on 23 and 24 January 2006. The meeting was devoted to Agenda Items A-D, dealing with Adoption of the Agenda; Reporting on the operation of the Agreement; Examination of Regional Trade Agreements; and Other Business.

Under Reporting on the Operation of the Agreement, the Chairman provided an update on the state of play of biennial reporting. Of the 19 reports scheduled for submission in 2004, 10 have been received, three of which (EC-Cyprus, EC-Malta, and US-Israel) were considered in the day's Session.

Under Status Report of the Examination Work, the Chairman provided an update of the status of the examination work. It was agreed that the Committee would focus during its next Session, scheduled for 27-28 March, on completing the examination of those agreements already underway, rather than beginning new examinations.

Under Examination of Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs), the Committee took up the examination of the following agreements: Europe Agreement between the EC and Bulgaria, Services (3rd round); Europe Agreement between the EC and Romania, Services (3rd round); Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Turkey and Croatia (2nd round); FTA between Georgia and Armenia, (3rd round); FTA between the Kyrgyz Republic and Armenia, (3rd round); Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement between China and Hong Kong, China, Goods and Services, (2nd round); Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement between China and Macao, China, Goods and Services, (2nd round); FTA between Chile and El Salvador, Goods and Services (2nd round); FTA between the United States and Chile, Goods and Services (2nd round); FTA between the United States and Singapore, Goods and Services (2nd round); FTA between the United States and Jordan, Goods and Services (2nd round); and CARICOM, Services (2nd round). The factual examinations of the

Chile-El Salvador (Goods and Services); US-Singapore (Goods and Services); US-Jordan (Goods and Services) FTAs were concluded. As to the other agreements, it was agreed to continue their examinations at a forthcoming Session, after the parties had replied to outstanding questions in writing.

Under Other Business, the Secretariat provided the Committee with a report on Technical Assistance Activities carried out by the Secretariat in 2005 and planned for 2006 in the area of regional trade agreements. In 2005, 18 technical assistance activities were held. An additional 12 activities are scheduled for 2006, of which six are RTA specific regional seminars.

26 January 2006

Working Party on State Trading Enterprises: Formal Meeting

The Working party on State Trading Enterprises held its regular meeting on Thursday, 26 January 2006. At that meeting, the Working Party reviewed 16 notifications. The next regular meeting of the Working Party will be held on 12 October 2006.

27 January 2006

Committee on Agriculture

At its forty-fifth regular meeting, the Committee reviewed a range of notifications on market access, domestic support and export subsidies. The Committee continued its discussion concerning the implementation of Article 10.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture and conducted its annual monitoring exercise on the follow-up to the NFIDC Decision, based on, *inter alia*, contributions from Members as well as representatives of observer international organizations. Finally, the Committee held its annual consultation under Article 18.5 of the Agreement on Agriculture regarding Members' participation in the normal growth of world trade in agricultural products

within the framework of export subsidy commitments.

The next meeting of the Committee is provisionally scheduled to take place on Thursday, 23 March 2006.

OTHER WTO NEWS

13 January 2006

Appellate Body Member: DG Lamy Notes with Sadness the Passing of Appellate Body Member Lockhart

WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy announced with sadness today the passing of John Lockhart, one of the Members of the Appellate Body. Mr Lockhart died suddenly at his home in Sydney, Australia, at the age of 70.

“I am very saddened to announce the passing of John Lockhart whom I had come to hold in the highest esteem during the short period since my arrival here in September,” said DG Lamy. “My deepest condolences go to his wife, Juliet, and to their children and grandchildren.”

Mr Lockhart was appointed as a Member of the Appellate Body in December 2001. WTO Member Governments recently re-appointed him for a further 4-year term ending in December 2009. Mr Lockhart participated in 30 appeals and 4 arbitration proceedings.

Prior to joining the Appellate Body, Mr Lockhart was Executive Director at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) working closely with developing countries on programmes directed towards poverty alleviation through the promotion of economic growth. He had also served as Judicial Reform Specialist at the World Bank, focusing on strengthening legal and judicial institutions and working closely with developing countries and economies in transition in their projects of judicial and

legal reform. He was a highly respected Judge of the Federal Court of Australia for over 20 years.

“John's sudden and untimely departure has left us with a deep sense of loss,” said Mr A V Ganesan, Chairman of the Appellate Body, speaking on behalf of the Appellate Body. “John was a valuable colleague of ours and made an enormous contribution to the work of the Appellate Body.”

16 January 2006

WTO Training Courses: 35th and 36th Trade Policy Courses Start

Fifty-three Government officials from developing countries and economies in transition started on 16 January a three-month immersion into the WTO Secretariat at its Geneva Headquarters. The participants in the 35 th and 36 th Trade Policy Courses (TPC), which will run in parallel until 7 April this year, were welcomed by Paul Rolian, Director of the Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation, who chaired the traditional opening ceremony.

The overall objective of the courses is to widen participants' understanding of trade policy matters, the multilateral trading system, international trade law and the functioning of the WTO. It is expected that the knowledge acquired during these courses will allow participants to contribute to the promotion of a more active participation of their countries in the work of the WTO. Throughout the three-month training, officials will become acquainted, through lectures, debates, attendance at WTO meetings and simulation exercises, with virtually all the issues dealt within the WTO framework. Visits to other international organizations located in Geneva will also allow them to become acquainted with trade-related aspects of the work conducted by these organizations.

Paul Rolian invited participants to actively take part in the forthcoming training and to

develop and strengthen a solid network of contacts by attending WTO meetings and discussing with delegates, WTO experts, and representatives of other organizations.

The start of the 35 th and 36 th TPC initiate the WTO 2006 training season. During this year, two other TPCs will take place in Geneva and five similar courses, organized in cooperation with regional academic partners, will be held in Jamaica, Hong Kong-China, Morocco, Namibia and Chile. A series of shorter courses will complement the Geneva-based programme while a large number of national and regional technical cooperation activities will take place in the field as part of the 2006 WTO Technical Cooperation and Training Plan.

31 January 2006

Lamy Highlights Doha Round's Development Benefits

Director-General Pascal Lamy, in a speech in Lima, Peru, said that the current negotiations must integrate the issues and concerns of developing countries “in every stage”. Developing countries also have the “opportunity to adopt and lock in reforms which underpin economic growth and development,” he added as he praised Peru and its regional partners for being “constructive actors” in the WTO.

30 January 2006

Lamy calls for New “Geneva Consensus” on Humanising Globalization

Director-General Pascal Lamy, in a speech in Santiago, Chile, said “we need to remember that trade is only a tool to elevate the human condition: the ultimate impact of our rules on human beings should always be at the centre of our consideration”. He urged more assistance to help developing countries deal with the imbalances created between winners and losers from trade opening.

WTO ECONOMIC SEMINARS

14 December 2005

Compliance with the WTO TRIPS and Customs Valuation Agreements – The Experiences of South Africa and Nigeria

Olu Fasan

WTO PhD Support Programme

This thesis, a legal impact study, examines the impact or effects of WTO law on trade laws and institutions in developing countries, focusing specifically on South Africa and Nigeria, and using the customs valuation and TRIPS agreements as case studies. The thesis addresses two main questions:

How and to what extent have South Africa and Nigeria implemented to date their obligations under the WTO TRIPS and Customs Valuation Agreements?

What factors influence or affect their compliance behavior and account for variations in their legislative and regulatory responses?

Through a comprehensive and detailed examination of the IP and customs laws of these countries, as well as their administrative and judicial practices, the first phase of the thesis establishes the compliance records of these countries, that is, the extent to which they have or have not implemented, in their national laws and legal systems, the mandatory provisions of the TRIPS and Customs Valuation agreements. The main contribution of the second phase is the identification and assessment of the relative role that legal and non-legal variables play in influencing the compliance behavior of the two countries.

The presentation on focused only on the TRIPS Agreement vis-à-vis the implementation experiences of South Africa and Nigeria. However the findings on customs valuation, as well as other issues arising from the research, were addressed in the Q&A session following the presentation.

Olu is a doctoral candidate in Law, London School of Economics.

Please email newsletter@wto.org for more information.

16 January 2006

Living with Global Imbalances

Professor Richard Cooper

Harvard University

Professor Cooper addressed what is perhaps the most pressing problem for central bankers and trade ministers around the world at present time – the growing external imbalances of the United States, China and Japan. His presentation addressed the question whether the current imbalances are serious enough to warrant our concerns and whether they require any corrective action such as changes in exchange rates or other interventions.

He noted that three related propositions have become conventional wisdom among many US economists: private Americans save too little; the large US current account deficit is unsustainable; and China needs to revalue its currency significantly to correct global imbalances. He argued that each of these propositions is dubious, or at least needs to be seriously questioned. Viewed properly, Americans on average save quite enough to support future consumption; global imbalances are a natural consequence of globalization of world capital markets; a significant revaluation of the renminbi could jeopardize the most successful poverty-reduction program in world history.

Richard Cooper is Maurits C. Boas Professor of International Economics at Harvard University. He is Vice-Chairman of the Global Development Network, and a member of the Trilateral Commission, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Executive Panel of the US Chief of Naval Operations, the Aspen Strategy Group, and the Brookings Panel on Economic Activity. He has served on several occasions in the US Government, as chairman

of the National Intelligence Council (1995-97), Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs (1977-81), Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Monetary Affairs (1965-66), and senior staff economist at the Council of Economic Advisers (1961-63). He was also chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (1990-92). As a Marshall Scholar, he studied at the London School of Economics, and earned his Ph.D. at Harvard University. His most recent books include *Boom, Crisis, and Adjustment* (with others), *Macroeconomic Management in Korea, 1970-1990* (with others), *Environment and Resource Policies for the World Economy*, and *What the Future Holds* (with others).

24 January 2006

Preferential Trade Agreements: How did we get there, Why it is not smart to be there, and What we can do to get back to multilateralism?

Jagdish Bhagwati
Columbia University

In his presentation he stated that the main threat to the multilateral trading system comes from the escalating erosion of non-discrimination. He noted that non-discrimination was at the heart of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) that merged into the WTO in 1995. The most-favored nation (MFN) clause ensured that every GATT member faced the lowest tariffs that any other member enjoyed. A few exceptions were explicit: for instance he noted that, Article 24 exempted countries entering into Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) such as a Free Trade Agreement or a Customs Union, from having to extend their tariff cuts for one another within the PTA automatically to non-member countries despite the MFN commitment.

He continued to note that today this central principle of non-discrimination has been virtually destroyed. Thus, he claimed that PTAs have proliferated beyond imagination. He stated that they are close to 300 and are

growing by the week. He also noted that there is now a systemic problem: The PTAs, which the architects of the GATT thought would be minor exceptions, have now swallowed up the trading system.

He also stressed that at the same time, developing countries enjoy preferential access to rich-country markets, and to one another, under several exemptions; and the practice of discriminating yet further among LDCs and other poor countries has become widespread. In consequence, he noted that the EU's MFN tariffs now apply only to five countries, with all others enjoying politically driven lower-tariff access under different terms to the EU under multiple PTAs, differentiated GSP (Generalized Scheme of Preferences), EBA (Everything but Arms) and other schemes. Evidently, he claimed that MFN in the EU has now become LFN - the least favored nation tariff.

He also argued that another threat to the multilateral trading system arises from the progressive capture by the rich-country lobbies, good and bad, of the trade liberalization process to advance their trade-unrelated agendas.

Jagdish Bhagwati is Professor of Economics and Law at Columbia University and Senior Fellow in International Economics at the Council on Foreign Relations. He was Economic Policy Adviser to the GATT Director General, Arthur Dunkel, and has served as Special Adviser to the UN on Globalization. He has also served in an advisory capacity to former Directors-General Mike Moore and Supachai Panitchpakdi. Currently, he is a member of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's Advisory Group on the NEPAD process in Africa. Professor Bhagwati is also a member of UNCTAD Secretary-General Supachai's Panel of Eminent Persons. Five volumes of his scientific writings and two of his public policy essays have been published by MIT press. The recipient of six festschrifts in his honour, he has also received several prizes and honorary

degrees. Professor Bhagwati's latest book *In Defense of Globalization* was published by Oxford University Press in 2004 to worldwide acclaim.

NON-WTO EVENTS RELATED TO THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM

January 22-26 2006

Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics

World Bank

Dakar, Senegal

The conference brought together top policy makers, researchers, and academics from throughout the world to discuss cutting edge research on topics that are central to development. This year's theme was on "Growth and Integration" and featured sessions on Financial Reforms, Economic Development, Trade and Development and Investment Climate. To take a look at the agenda, list of participants and list of papers presented at the seminar, please visit the ABCDE website.

SELECTED DOCUMENTS CIRCULATED AT THE WTO

Committee on Rules of Origin. 17 January 2007. Harmonization Work Programme - Proposals by the Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Origin - Revision (JOB(03)/132/Rev.10)

Negotiating Group on Rules. 19 January 2006. Article 2 - Profitability Test and Cost Allocations - Paper from Canada (JOB(06)/5)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. 19 January 2006. Avian Influenza - Communication from Turkey (G/SPS/GEN/620)

Negotiating Group on Rules. 20 January 2006. Subsidies: Withdrawal of a Subsidy - Communication from Australia (JOB(06)/9)

Committee on Agriculture. 20 January 2006. Special Session - G-10 Proposal: Treatment of Sensitive Products - Communication from G-10 (JOB(06)/7)

Council for Trade in Goods. 24 January 2006. Minutes of the Meeting of the Council for Trade in Goods - 25 October 2004 (G/C/M/76)

Council for Trade in Goods. 24 January 2006. Minutes of the Meeting of the Council for Trade in Goods - 11 November 2004 (G/C/M/77)

Council for Trade in Goods. 24 January 2006. Minutes of the Meeting of the Council for Trade in Goods 25 November 2004 - Textiles - Addendum (G/C/M/78/Add.1)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. 25 January 2006. Meeting of 1 - 2 February 2006 - Annotated Draft Agenda (JOB(06)/11)

Council for Trade in Services. 25 January 2006. Special Session - Postal and Courier Services - Information Note by the Secretariat (JOB(06)/10)

Committee on Agriculture. 26 January 2006. Special Session - G-10 Positions on Domestic Support - Communication from G-10. (JOB(06)/12)

General Council. 30 January 2006. Doha Work Programme - Timelines for 2006 (JOB(06)/13)

Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. 31 January 2006. Minutes of Meeting - Held in the Centre William Rappard on 25 - 26 and 28 October, 29 No[...]/9 November and 6 December 2005. (IP/C/M/49)

RECENT WORKING PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

January 2006

UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics 2005
UNCTAD

The UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics 2005 provides a comprehensive collection of statistical data relevant to the analysis of international trade, investment and development, for individual countries and for economic and trade groupings. The publication presents consolidated reference statistics considered of particular importance for describing how developing countries have evolved in the context of globalization. Data are presented in an analytical way, through the use of rank orderings, growth rates and other special calculations, in order to facilitate their interpretation. The printed edition of the Handbook is a valuable tool for research, policy making and education, which can also be used in conjunction with the CD-ROM or the Internet version of the publication. The latter two contain the full time series of data.

The UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics 2005 provides users with reliable coherent data on the following subjects:

- International merchandise trade: values, trends and regional trade zones;
- Export and import structure by products and by regions of origin and destination, and related concentration and diversification indices;
- Volume and terms of trade indices;
- Commodity prices and relevant price indices;
- Trade in services: total trade and trade by sector;
- International financial data: current accounts, capital and financial accounts, foreign direct investment,

external indebtedness, workers' remittances, etc.;

- Selected indicators of development: GDP, area and various social and telecommunications indicators;
- Average applied import tariff rates;
- Maritime transport: world merchant fleet.

December 2005

UNCTAD Survey on the Internalization of R&D
UNCTAD

This note presents the results of UNCTAD's survey of the world's largest R&D spenders. Some findings from this survey were presented in the World Investment Report 2005: Transnational Corporations and the Internationalization of R&D (which can be downloaded for free at www.unctad.org/wir). The attached note provides a more complete picture. Some of the main findings of UNCTAD's survey are as follows: 67 per cent of firms that responded to the survey stated that the share of foreign R&D is set to increase; only 2 per cent indicated the opposite. While the average firm in the survey spent 28 per cent of its R&D budget abroad in 2003, European TNCs had above average levels of R&D internationalization (41 per cent on average), United States TNCs were below the overall average (24 per cent) and Japanese and Korean TNCs displayed the lowest share of foreign R&D (15 per cent and 2 per cent, respectively). The intention of TNCs in Japan and the Republic of Korea to increase the share of foreign R&D in the future appears to be particularly strong compared with TNCs in other parts of the world. More than half of surveyed TNCs already have an R&D presence in China, India or Singapore.

Developing Asia is the most often mentioned location for further R&D expansion. However, to date, the majority of developing countries remain excluded from

this phenomenon. Whether R&D activities will spread to a more developing countries will to a great extent depend on the ability of these locations to strengthen their innovation systems

December 2005

UNCTAD Investment Brief: No. 5
UNCTAD

The Blue Books were launched in 2004 as a new initiative to help developing countries attract investment. The Blue Books for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda were 'highly commended' in the smart regulation category of Africa Investor Annual Awards for 2005, for their contributions to improving the investment climate in Africa. A key feature is that the Governments involved commit themselves (at the highest level) to implementing within 12 months a number of concrete measures to improve the investment climate.

January 2006

Global Agricultural Trade and Developing Countries ed. A. Aksoy and J. Beghin
World Bank

On January 11, the World Bank officially launched this new publication at a press conference in Washington D.C., followed by a series of technical seminars in Brussels, Copenhagen, Geneva, Oslo, Paris, Rome, and Stockholm. The book looks at outstanding issues in global agricultural trade policy and evolving world trade production and trade patterns. Its covers topics ranging from the details of cross-cutting policy issues to the highly distorted agricultural trade regimes of industrial countries and detailed studies of agricultural commodities of economic importance to many developing countries. For ordering information and background material from the press launch (powerpoint presentation and transcript) and to download the book in its entirety, please visit

January 2006

Customs Modernization Handbook
L. de Wulf and J. Sokol
World Bank

As trade facilitation negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO) enter a new phase, on February 8 the World Bank released this book in Geneva to provide policy makers and practitioners with the necessary tools for undertaking the critical process of customs reform and modernization. The handbook on customs modernization is designed to help countries benefit from trade facilitation. The costs of transporting developing country exports to foreign markets are often a greater hindrance to trade than are tariffs, and trade-related transaction costs such as freight charges and other logistical expenses are a crucial determinant of a country's ability to participate in the global economy.

January 2006

Food Safety and Agricultural Health Requirements: Challenges and Opportunities for Developing Country Exports
World Bank

The report was officially launched in Washington D.C. on February 2. The report is a joint product of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Trade Unit and the Agriculture and Rural Development Department. It characterizes the emerging standards as a 'double edged sword'--presenting opportunities for growth and innovation to countries and suppliers that respond strategically and proactively, while posing commercial risks and the prospect of lost market access for those countries and suppliers which are unable or disinclined to upgrade their SPS management capacities.

The report examines the evolving environment of international agro-food standards, developing country responses and strategies, the costs and benefits associated with these responses, and the implications of

these findings for development assistance in this field. The overall message is a positive one--emphasizing the potentially catalytic role of standards, the strategic room for manoeuvre for developing countries and the gains, which can be achieved through more effective capacity-building assistance.

January 2006

Trade Note: "Tightening TRIPS: The Intellectual Property Provisions of Recent US Free Trade Agreements"

C. Fink and P. Reinchenmiller
World Bank

This Trade Note offers an overview of the intellectual property dimension of recent US Free Trade Agreements. In particular, it describes to what extent obligations on the protection of intellectual property rights (IPRs) embedded in these agreements go beyond multilateral IPRs standards established under the TRIPS Agreement of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Trade Note also offers a perspective on the intellectual property bargain in trade agreements, outlines key economic and social implications from the adoption of new intellectual property standards, and discusses lessons learned.

To download this and other World Bank trade notes please visit:
<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/Pubs/TradeNote20.pdf>

December 2005

The Impact on India of Trade Liberalization in the Textiles and Clothing Sector

Prasad Ananthakrishnan and Sonali Jain-Chandra
IMF Working Paper

This paper analyses the impact on India of the elimination of textile and clothing (T&C) quotas in 2005. It finds that while Indian exports of T&C will continue to

expand in the presence of the safeguards on China, they will be affected adversely once these safeguards are lifted.

The paper also argues that India could emerge much stronger and expand its trade in T&C at a much faster pace if it overcomes some of its key domestic structural weaknesses. The authors assert that factors such as quality, industry fragmentation, delays in customs clearance and the high cost of inputs and branding represent notable weaknesses and constraints in the Indian T&C sector. In order to overcome these constraints the paper makes several recommendations such as government facilitation of technology importing, the development of services-related expertise in designing, marketing, retailing, financing and the gathering of market intelligence on foreign markets, and increased labour market flexibility to enable the establishment of mega production plants similar in scale to those in China.

Available online at:

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2005/wp05214.pdf>.

December 2005

Intertwined: FDI in Manufacturing and Trade in Services

Jonathan Gage and Molly Leshner
OECD Trade Policy Working Paper

This study analyses the complex relationship between manufacturing foreign direct investment (FDI) and trade in services. The paper presents an examination of how recent developments in the economic landscape have resulted in changes in the industrial organisation as well the structure of multinational enterprises. This analysis serves as the foundation for a discussion of fragmentation -- and the increased use of traded services in the fragmentation process -- in four different manufacturing value chains (apparel, automobiles, semiconductors, and wood furniture).

To complement the value chain assessments, the results of empirical work examining the relationship between the liberalisation of services and manufacturing FDI are included. Finally, the study outlines several policy implications that draw upon the analysis. In sum, this study highlights how the increasingly international nature of fragmentation, in part the result of services liberalisation, has redefined the way in which many manufacturing firms use services, interact with service suppliers, and make foreign direct investments.

Available online at:

http://www.oecd.org/LongAbstract/0,2546,en_2649_37451_35858765_119684_1_1_37451,00.html.

January 2006

Trade and Aid: Partners or Rivals in Development Policy?

Edited by Sheila Page

Developed countries have committed themselves to making all countries achieve the Millennium Development Goals and called the current round of WTO negotiations a 'Development Round. While there is already extensive research on how trade and aid can each contribute to development, this book asserts that there is less understanding of how their effects interact. The authors begin by analysing the current understanding of how trade and aid work, and then examine a range of specific examples identifying how one has been used to support the other and how both developed countries and developing countries have encountered difficulty in reconciling the different approaches. Some of the worst apparent conflicts come from badly designed aid or trade policies, not from any intrinsic inconsistency, and there is evidence that aid can be used to assist in trading more effectively than it has been in recent years, and that the resulting trade may be 'good for development'. Ultimately, the authors conclude that trade and aid can be

complementary, but they are not substitutes, nor can they replace effective national policy.

Further information can be found at: <http://www.jus.uio.no/lm/cm.books/1905017189>

January 2006

Essays: Lessons Learned from the Dragon (China) and the Elephant (India)

Joachim on Braun, Ashok Gulati, Shenggen Fan, Montek S. Ahluwalia, and Jian Liu IFPRI

This collection of three essays on India and China has been released as the most recent edition of IFPRI's Annual Report Essays. In the first of the three essays, "Agricultural and Economic Development Strategies and the Transformation of China and India," von Braun, Gulati, and Fan discuss the differing roles of agriculture in the fast-paced economic growth seen in the respective countries. Ahluwalia's essay, "Reducing Poverty and Hunger in India: The Role of Agriculture," discusses various aspects of the role of agriculture in poverty alleviation such as irrigation, agricultural diversification, and the role of public investment. Finally, Liu's essay "The Achievements and Experiences of Poverty Alleviation in Rural China," looks at government leadership, social participation, and self-reliance to illustrate the remarkable influence of agriculture on the poor in rural China.

The collection of essays is available at:

http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/books/ar2004/ar2004_essay.asp

January 2006

After the WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Meeting: What is at Stake?

Ken Heydon

Trade Policy Working Paper No.27

OECD

While the WTO Ministerial Meeting in Hong Kong in December 2005 made some progress in advancing the Doha Agenda, much remains to be done, particularly in settling negotiating modalities in agriculture and non-agricultural market access (NAMA) and in putting some flesh onto the bones of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

The paper argues that the limited progress that was made in Hong Kong was qualified, whether in dealing with the concerns of African cotton producers or in improving market access for the products of the least developed countries. Given the work still to do, it is not guaranteed that new deadlines

will be met or that the Doha Agenda will be concluded on time. Heydon contends that charting the way ahead will require that trade policy be seen in a broader domestic context which recognises that market opening works best when it is backed by sound macroeconomic policies, flexible labour markets, a culture of competition and strong institutions.

Available online at
<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/51/40/35984888.pdf>.

WTO Trade Policy Review: Israel

Overview

The recovery of Israel's economy from the early 2000's recession has been mostly led by exports, in particular by innovation and a shift to high-technology goods and services, according to a WTO Secretariat report on the trade policies and practices of Israel.

The report notes the high level of protection still in place for agriculture. It stresses that continued structural and trade reforms, including further privatizations, MFN tariff reductions (on agricultural goods in particular) and reduction in the gap between bound and applied tariff rates, would enhance predictability and transparency of the trade regime; further reforms of import duties would enhance adherence by Israel to its WTO commitments.

The report also highlights Israel's unilateral lifting of its general prohibition on imports from WTO Members that have no diplomatic relations with it or prohibit imports from Israel, a move that the authorities hope will be appreciated and reciprocated.

Trade Policy Instruments

Israel has bound some 76% of its tariff lines, including all agricultural lines (WTO definition) and some 73% of non-agricultural items. Bound tariff rates range from zero to 560% on agricultural goods, and from zero to 170% on non-agricultural goods.

In 2005, Israel's average applied MFN tariff was 8.9%, down from 10.8% in 2000. MFN tariff rates on non-agricultural products (WTO definition) are generally lower (5.1% on average), with the highest rates (up to 34.4%) on fish and fishery products, and textiles and clothing. Applied MFN tariffs on agricultural products remain high, with an average tariff of 32.9%, and rates vary considerably among product groups. As at October 2005, the MFN applied tariffs on 88 lines at the HS eight-digit level exceed bound tariffs. Moreover, a potential difficulty is that some applied MFN tariffs are non-ad valorem.

Goods imported through maritime ports are subject to a wharf age fee of 1.02%. Some items, mainly edible oils, are subject to a tariff surcharge, although Israel has bound all other duties and charges at zero. Internal indirect taxes consist of a 16.5% VAT, a 5% to 20% purchase tax on a number of "luxury goods", and various excise taxes; these apply equally to imported and domestic goods. Since 1999, Israel has initiated seven anti-dumping actions and imposed definitive anti-dumping measures in four cases. In June 2005, Israel amended its legislation on contingency measures in order to bring it into conformity with the WTO Agreements on Anti-Dumping, and Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. No countervailing or safeguard measures have been imposed by Israel since its last TPR.

In July 2003, Israel lifted its general prohibition on imports from WTO Members that have no diplomatic relations with it or prohibit imports from Israel. The authorities hope that this unilateral step will be appreciated and reciprocated by those countries. Nonetheless, trade (export and import) prohibitions remain in place for Iran, Lebanon, and Syria. A licensing mechanism is maintained on imports from eight non-WTO Members. Import licences are also in place for security and safety reasons, and for purposes of tariff quota management.

Israel maintains MFN tariff quotas on twelve agricultural product groups, although most of the quotas are redundant as the applied MFN tariffs on most of the products are lower than the in-quota tariffs. In addition, most of Israel's preferential trade agreements include provisions on tariff quotas on agricultural goods. Israel's technical regulations are increasingly based on internationally accepted standards. Since its last TPR in 1999, Israel has removed or made voluntary more than 200 technical regulations, deemed non-tariff trade barriers, mostly on food products.

A wide range of products is subject to export control and licensing, mainly for sanitary and quality control. Israel continues to grant export subsidies, mainly on cut flowers and citrus fruits; a public export insurance scheme is in place. Israel also grants substantial state support for the promotion of research and development, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and regional development; state aid has gradually shifted away from regional development and R&D to SMEs.

Israel's public procurement regulations award price preferences to local suppliers with the exception of purchases covered by the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement. Competition rules provide that all restrictive arrangements must be registered and approved. An ambitious privatization plan aims to reduce state ownership, which remains extensive in the economy. Israel has amended its IPR legislation and strengthened enforcement measures.

Source: Trade Policy Review: Israel. Report by WTO Secretariat. January 2006

FACTS AND FIGURES**Perspectives on trade and poverty reduction: A Survey of Public Opinion**

- In both the United States and Europe, public support for international trade is tempered by the perception that the real winners under freer trade are big companies and strong developing countries—not small businesses, people living in poor countries, or often, the respondents themselves. And while people believe strongly in trade as a tool for development, they tend to put domestic interests first, especially when confronted with the spectre of job losses or eroding competitiveness at home.
- The data suggest that if proponents of freer trade wish to be successful, they must address the challenges of domestic adjustment to more open global markets. Fear of trade-related job losses remains a major driver of public support for protectionism. To feel more secure in a global economy, people want their government to prioritize strengthening domestic competitiveness and equipping citizens with the education and training to switch between jobs.
- Arguments for agricultural policy reform based largely on allegations of unfairness to poor farmers abroad are unlikely to resonate with U.S. and European citizens. For respondents who find it acceptable for their government to put the welfare of domestic farmers above that of farmers in developing countries, the debate on farm policy reform will likely hinge on domestic issues. With pressures on public budgets mounting on either side of the Atlantic, it appears that more people support subsidies to small farms over large farms.
- Finally, respondents support providing more development aid to poor countries that share democratic values and are working hard to promote development. While compassion is an important driver of support for the fight against global poverty, sub-Saharan Africa in particular is poorly served when media and political attention is focused largely on states in crisis. More stories about African democracies, entrepreneurs, and people would likely raise the level of public support for trade programs and increased development assistance for Africa.

Source. Perspectives on trade and poverty reduction: A Survey of Public Opinion. The German Marshall Fund 2006.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME AND DETAILS OF WTO MEETINGS: February 2006

DATE	TIME	MEETING	DOCUMENTS AND AGENDA
1-2	10:00	Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	<p>The proposed agenda for the formal meeting is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities of Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey – update on avian influenza situation • Colombia - update on avian influenza situation • Australia - outcomes of simulation of disease outbreak • Bolivia – advances in the eradication of foot and mouth • Canada - Update on Canada's BSE import policy • United States – Actions regarding BSE • EC – Review of the EC's animal health policy • EC – entry into effect of the EU upgraded food and feed legislation • Specific trade concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada's import restrictions on Chinese Taipei's Enoki mushrooms – concerns of Chinese Taipei

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel's lack of phytosanitary import legislation – EC concerns • Israel's import restrictions on EC beef due to BSE – EC concerns • Japan's import restrictions on exports of EC beef due to BSE – EC concerns • Import restrictions on EC exports of live birds, meat, meat products and there derivates due to avian influenza – EC concerns • Japan's implementation of new maximum residue levels for pesticides, veterinary drugs and feed additives – concerns of the US <p>Issues previously raised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC restrictions on cinnamon – concerns of Sri Lanka • Thailand's FDA Rule 11 – Concerns of the US • Japan's positive list system – Concerns of China • Australia's import restrictions on New Zealand apples – concerns of New Zealand • EC requirements for wood packaging Material- Concerns of the US • US Phytosanitary import restrictions (including Schlumbergera and other plants in growing media) – Concerns of the EC • Japan's import restrictions on EC exports of animal and plant products – administrative procedures – concerns of the EC • Venezuela's import permit procedures for potatoes, meat and onions – concerns of Canada • Indonesia's FMD-Related restrictions– concerns of Argentina • Panama' restrictions on dairy products- concerns of Argentina <p>Consideration of specific notifications received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G/SPS/N/THA/126 - Thailand's temporary suspension of importation of live poultry and poultry carcasses from the state of Durango, Mexico – concerns of Mexico • G/SPS/N/CRI/43 – Costa Rica's phytosanitary requirements on fresh oranges from Nicaragua – concerns of Nicaragua <p>Information on resolution of issues in G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of transparency provisions • Continued consideration of implementation of special and
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			<p>differential treatment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the informal meeting • Consideration of further actions by Committee (G/SPS/35) • Review of implementation of G/SPS/33 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equivalence – Article 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information from Members on their experiences • Information from relevant observer organizations • Pest- and disease-free areas – Article 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the informal meeting • Information from Members on their experiences • Information from relevant observer organizations • Continued consideration of technical assistance and cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information from the Secretariat • Information from Members • EC – technical assistance provided to developing countries for control of certain epizootic diseases • Information from observers • Issues arising from the Review • Monitoring of the use of international standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New issues Canada - Low Pathogenic Notifiable Avian Influenza (OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter 2.7.12 - Avian Influenza) • Issues previously raised • Matters of interest arising from the work of observer organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Codex (G/SPS/GEN/599) • IPPC (G/SPS/GEN/617 and G/SPS/GEN/618) • OIE (G/SPS/GEN/624 AND G/SPS/GEN/625) <p>Observers - Requests for observer status</p> <p>Other business</p> <p>Date and agenda of next meeting</p> <p>Members will recall that agenda items on the Chairperson's</p>
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			<p>Annual Report to the Council for Trade in Goods and the transitional review under Paragraph 18 of the Protocol of Accession of the people's republic of China were considered in full at the meeting on 24 October 2005. relevant documents were subsequently circulated as g/1/755 AND g/sps/38.</p> <p>The regular meeting will be preceded by an Informal meeting on special and differential treatment on 30 January at 10 a.m. an enhanced informal meeting on article 6 of the SPS agreement will be held on 30 January at 3 p.m. and continue on 31 January at 10 a.m. the proposed agendas for these informal meetings have been circulated in a fax from the chairperson dated 18 January 2006.</p>
1-3		Negotiating Group on Rules	
2-3		NAMA Days	
6	10:00	Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration	<p>The terms of reference and membership of the committee are set out in document WT/L/44/rev.1 of 18 January 1996.</p> <p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative up-dates and process reports as at 31 January 2006: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash situation and statement of outstanding contributions • Contributions of Observer Countries towards the cost of services provided by the Secretariat – progress report • Human resources matters • WTO Pension plan • Status of extra-budgetary contributions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - technical assistance activity as at 31 December 2005 - Doha development agenda global trust fund • Oral report on Construction of the new WTO Annexe • Oral report on security and safety enhancement • Inactive members • Administrative Measures • Programmes for trainees in and through the WTO • Other business <p>Members of the WTO are invited to inform the secretariat of the names of their representatives as soon as possible.</p>

6-17		Services Weeks	
6-10		Committee on Government Procurement	
7	10:00	Trade Negotiating Committee	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement by chairman • Statements by the Chairpersons of bodies established by the TNC • Statements by Participants
7	10:00	Committee on Trade in Financial Services	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptance of the fifth protocol to the General Agreement on Trade on Services embodying the results of the financial Services Negotiations; • Technical Issues • Recent Developments in financial Services Trade; • Date of the next meeting; and • Appointment of the new chairperson.
8	10:00	Committee on Specific Commitments	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduling Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific Scheduling Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Questions on initial OFFERS – Communication from Brazil (JOB(03)/189); • Preliminary Questions on initial offers – Communication from Brazil (JOB(04)/12); • Sample Questions Concerning scheduling with respect to the initial offer of Brazil - Communication FROM Hong Kong, China (JOB(04)/173); • Preliminary Questions on initial offers – Communication from Brazil (JOB(04)/174); • Replies to questions on Hong Kong, China's initial offer - communication from Hong Kong, China (JOB(05)/116);

			<p>General Scheduling Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample Questions concerning scheduling - Communication from Hong Kong, China (JOB(04)/81); • Replies to the Sample Questions Submitted by Hong Kong, China, during the meeting of the Committee on Specific Commitments on 22 March 2004 Concerning Scheduling Issues - Communication from the separate customs territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu (JOB(04)/82); • Sample Questions concerning scheduling –further observations - Communication from Hong Kong, china (JOB(04)/133); • Replies to the Sample Questions CONCERNING scheduling contained in document JOB(04)/133 Submitted by Hong Kong, China, 21 September 2004 - Communication from the separate customs territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu (JOB(04)/172); <p>Economic Needs Tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Needs Tests – Communication from Hong Kong, China (JOB(04)/171); • Mode 4 Commitments and Economic Needs Tests – Communication from Canada (S/CSC/W/47); • An example of economic needs tests-Communication from the Republic of Korea (S/CSC/W/49); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal on classification of Energy Services – Communication from Indonesia (S/CSC/W/42/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1); • Organization of future work; • Other Business; • Appointment of Chairperson
8-9		General Council	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report by the Chairman of the Trade Negotiations Committee

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Programme on Small Economies – Report by the Chairman of the Dedicated Session of the Committee on Trade and Development • Non-recognition of rights under Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of GATT 1994 – communications from Honduras and Guatemala (WT/GC/85, wt/GC/90 and corr.1) – statement by the chairman • Committee on budget, finance and administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report of the committee on its meetings of October and November 2005 (WT/BFA/83) ▪ Recommendations of the Committee following its meeting of February 2006 (WT/BFA/84) • De-restriction of GATT 1947 Official Documents – Statement by the Chairman • Appointment of Officers to WTO Bodies • Election of Chairperson
9	10:00	Council for Trade in Services	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notifications pursuant to Articles III:3 and V:7 of the GATS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Article III:3</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications from Albania (s/c/N/349-358), <u>Article V:7</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication from Mexico and Nicaragua (s/C/N/359), • Communication from the EC and Chile (S/c/n/360), • Communication from Thailand and New Zealand(S/C/N/361), • Communication from Morocco and the united states (S/C/N/362); • Review of air transport under annex on air transport – organizational matters; • Other business; • Appointment of the new chairperson.

10	10:00	Working Party on GATS Rules	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiations on emergency safeguard measures under Article X of the GATS; • Negotiations on subsidies under Article XV of the GATS: <p>Communication from Switzerland, response to the questions relevant to the information exchange required under the subsidies negotiating mandate (S/Wpgr/w/16/add.5);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiations on government procurement under article XIII of the GATS; • Date of the next meeting of the working party; • Other business; • Appointment of chairperson.
13-17		Agriculture Week	
13-17		Services Week	
13	10:00	Council for Trade in Services - Special Session	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of trade in services; • Implementation of the modalities for the special treatment for least-developed country members in the trade in services negotiations, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication from the LDC group (JOB(05)/114), • Communication from the European Communities (tn/s/w/54); • Consideration of proposals on S&D treatment provisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S&D proposals in the GATS: Compilation of Responses to lists of questions / comments (Job(05)/151); • Proposals relating to the negotiations under article xix of the GATS, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement on services of common interest in the energy services – communication from a group of members (job(06)/17), • Mode 4 related issues – communication from Pakistan(job(05)/211), • Discussion on relevant issues for liberalisation cross-border supply in GATS negotiations – communication from Chile, Hong Kong China, India and Mexico (job(05)/214);

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reservation of the republic of Cuba on the Hong Kong Ministerial declaration regarding services; • Work of subsidiary bodies - reports by chairpersons; • Review of progress in negotiations, including pursuant to paragraph 15 of the guidelines for negotiations; • Organization of future work; • Outline of the Chairman's report to the trade negotiations committee; • Other Business
13-14	10:00	Workshop on rules of Origin	
14	09:30	Trade Policy Review- Angola	<p>The meeting will begin on Tuesday 14 February at 9:30 am and continue on Thursday, 16 February at 9:30 am</p> <p>Attention is drawn to the following documentation available for this meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WT/TPR/177 Arrangements for Review Meeting • WT/TPR/D/134 Communication from the Discussant • WT/TPR/G/158 Report by Angola • WT/TPR/S/158 Angola: Report by the Secretariat
15	10:00	Committee on rules of Origin	
15-16	10:00	Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegations will be invited to make contributions on the agreed agenda of the negotiating group, taking into account The ministerial guidance set out in Paragraph 33 and Annex E of The Hong Kong Ministerial declaration. The agenda is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification and improvement of relevant aspects of Articles V, VIII and X of the GATT 1994; enhancement of technical assistance and support for capacity building; effective cooperation between customs or any other appropriate authorities on trade facilitation and customs compliance issues; • Special and differential treatment for developing and least-developed countries; • Least-developed country members; • Identification of trade facilitation needs and priorities; concerns related to cost implications of proposed measures; • Technical assistance and support for capacity building;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with and work of relevant international organizations. <p>Attention of delegations is drawn to written contributions that have been received from Chile (TN/TF/W/70), The ACP group (TN/TF/W/73), Moldova and The Kyrgyz republic (TN/TF/W/74), and Egypt (TN/TF/W/75).</p> <p>Attention of delegations is also drawn to a revision of The COMPILATION prepared by The secretariat (TN/TF/W/43/Rev.5), and to a paper by the secretariat on the WTO's technical assistance and capacity building activities for 2006 (TN/TF/W/76 - to be issued).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad Hoc attendance of relevant international organizations including the IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, WCO AND THE WORLD BANK, at the next meeting of the Negotiating Group. Other Business
16	15:00	Council for Trade in Services- Special Session	
17	10:00	Dispute Settlement Body	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveillance of implementation of recommendations adopted by the DSB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> United States – Section 211 Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1998: Status report by the United States (WT/DS176/11/Add.39) United States – Anti-dumping measures on certain hot-rolled steel products from Japan: Status report by the United States (WT/DS184/15/Add.39) United States – Continued dumping and subsidy offset act of 2000: status report by the United States (WT/DS217/16/Add.24 – WT/DS234/24/Add.24) United States – Section 110(5) of the US Copyright Act: Status Report by the United States (WT/DS160/24/Add.14) European Communities – Protection of trademarks and geographical indications for agricultural products and foodstuffs: Status report by the European Communities (WT/DS174/25/Add.1 – WT/DS290/23/Add.1) Implementation by the European Communities of the recommendations and rulings of the DSB in relation to "European Communities – Regime for the importation, sale

			<p>and distribution of Bananas"¹ and related subsequent WTO proceedings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statements by Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama • United States – Countervailing Measures concerning certain products from the European Communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statement by the European Communities • United States – Measures Affecting Trade in Large Civil Aircraft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request for the Establishment of a Panel by the European Communities (WT/DS317/5) • Mexico – Anti-Dumping Duties on Steel Pipes and Tubes from Guatemala <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request for the establishment of a panel by Guatemala (WT/DS331/2) • Turkey – Measures affecting the importation of rice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request for the ESTABLISHMENT of a panel by the United States (WT/DS334/4) • Selection process for Appointment of a new Appellate Body member • Proposed nomination for the indicative list of governmental and non-governmental panellists (WT/DSB/W/310) • Election of Chairperson
21-22	10:00	Committee on Trade and Environment-Special Session	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 31(i) of the Doha ministerial declaration: "the relationship between existing WTO rules and specific trade obligations set out in multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). the negotiations shall be limited in scope to the applicability of such existing WTO rules as among parties to the MEA in question. the negotiations shall not prejudice the WTO rights of any member that is not a party to the MEA in question." • Paragraph 31(ii) of the Doha ministerial declaration: "procedures for regular information exchange between MEA secretariats and the relevant WTO committees, and the criteria for the granting of observer status." • Paragraph 31(iii) of the Doha ministerial declaration: "the

¹ WT/DS27.

			<p>reduction or, as appropriate, elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to ENVIRONMENTAL goods and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other business.
22-23	15:00	Dispute Settlement Body- Special Session	<p>The following items are proposed for the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization of work • Contributions from Members • Other business
27 – 3 March		NAMA Week	
27	09:30	Trade Policy Review Body- Djibouti	
28	10:00	Trade Policy Review Body- Overview of Developments in the International Trading Environment	<p>The Meeting will address the annual overview of developments in the international trading environment, as mandated by Paragraph G of Annex 3 of the WTO Agreement. The Overview is assisted by a report by the director General.</p> <p>Attention is drawn to the following documentation available for this meeting:</p> <p>WT/TPR/OV/11 Overview of developments in the international trading environment – Report by the Director-General</p>
28		Sub-Committee on cotton	

EVENTS CALENDAR: February 2006

The table lists WTO and non-WTO events related to the multilateral trading system.

DATE	LOCATION	MEETING
6-10	Geneva, Switzerland	<p>Commission on Trade in Goods and Services and Commodities, 10th session UNCTAD</p> <p>More information at: http://www.unctad.org/Templates/Meeting.asp?intItemID=1942&m=11147&info=&lang=1</p>
8-9	Paris, France	<p>Global Forum on Competition OECD</p> <p>More information at: http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/52/18/35571800.pdf</p>