

Draft Recommendations
First Substantive Meeting of the Consultative Task Force on Environmental
Requirements and Market Access for Developing Countries
Geneva, 5-6 November 2004

Background:

- The Consultative Task Force (CTF) is an open-ended multi-stakeholder forum of government, private sector and NGO representatives that assists developing countries in analyzing key trends of environmental requirements (ERs) in export markets and to exchange national experience on pro-active approaches to meeting these ERs with a view to maintaining market access, harnessing developmental gains and safeguarding social welfare, while developing adequate internal legislation to address environmental and environment-related health issues. CTF activities are not intended to “second-guess” the legitimacy and objectives of environmental requirements, nor to develop guidelines for good regulatory practice. Rather, CTF activities will analyze and discuss ways of overcoming specific developing country challenges regarding the development and implementation of, as well as adjustment to, such measures.
- The added value of the CTF is that it provides a link between the following components: (i) policy and capacity-constraints issues, vis-a-vis a more holistic and development-oriented approach; (ii) the WTO debate on Trade and Environment, according to paragraph 32(i) of the Doha Ministerial Declaration and discussions at international and national levels; (iii) agencies and initiatives that provide technical assistance and capacity building on those fields relevant to CTF discussions; and (iv) the major stakeholders interested in environmental requirements and market access.¹
- CTF activities and discussions should lead to specific conclusions and practical initiatives, based on appropriate country- and sector-focused examples.

Recommendations of the 5-6 November 2004 meeting:

- 1) On the work programme till the next meeting, the following recommendations were made:
 - a) CBI, FAO, Inmetro, and other relevant parties are encouraged to form, under the umbrella of the CTF and facilitated by the UNCTAD secretariat, a working group for commenting on a draft feasibility study prepared by UNCTAD on the possible added value of a portal of information on environmental requirements for market access. Experts, representing the demand and the user side, should be involved in the discussions of the working group. Defining the need for information, the possibilities of linking information exchange systems of different organizations (mandates, definition and format of content) as well as the technical aspects of linking systems should be addressed in the feasibility study, which will determine if the described portal should be developed or not. The feasibility study should also consider the viability of including voluntary and private sector requirements. In case of a positive outcome, a business plan for developing a portal on environmental requirements will be written. The business plan should allow other interested parties that operate information clearinghouses which would clearly add value to the portal to join the working group.

¹ Report of the pre-UNCTAD XI workshop on Environmental Requirements and Market Access for Developing Countries, Rio de Janeiro, 7-8 June 2004 (UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2004/7)

- b) Two sector-specific project proposals will be implemented: (i) environmental requirements and market access for developing countries: the case of the electrical and electronic sector and (ii) assisting developing countries in developing national or sub-regional codes on good agricultural practice for horticultural products that are benchmarked by EurepGAP.
 - c) The proposals will be circulated among CTF participants and posted on the CTF website to facilitate additional comments and appropriate coordination with other relevant activities. Progress of work will be appropriately and transparently presented on the CTF website.
 - d) The project on electrical and electronic equipment will be implemented in consultation with other agencies, including the Basel Convention secretariat, UN ESCAP, the UN University and the Sustainable Trade and Innovation Centre (STIC). It will be initiated within existing extra-budgetary resources. The results of such activities will be reported in time for the next CTF session. It will then be decided what further activities are necessary and how these would be funded.
 - e) The project on assisting developing countries in developing national or sub-regional codes on good agricultural practice for horticultural products that are benchmarked by EurepGAP should pay due attention to the developmental dimension. In this connection, UNCTAD should provide analytical expertise in (i) assessing the implications of market entry conditions pertaining to horticultural commodities on the livelihoods of low-income farmers particularly small-scale subsistence farmers participating - or seeking to participate in - out-grower schemes with exporters, as well as on (ii) efforts in developing countries actual or potential exporters of horticultural produce to fight poverty and provide/safeguard employment. Till the next CTF session, work will be limited to two feasibility studies and two stakeholder dialogues in countries/sub-regions where national codes on good agricultural practice are already under development. Findings will be reported to the next CTF meeting, which will take a decision on further activities on this subject.
- 2) The CTF will organize (i) sector-specific policy dialogues on each of the above-mentioned sectors for experts in the sectors concerned, (ii) meetings, as necessary, of the above-mentioned working group preparing the feasibility study; and (iii) open-ended CTF meetings. The latter will discuss the results of activities meetings under (i) and (ii) as well as other issues relevant to the work of the CTF. Future CTF meetings will also provide an opportunity to agencies and stakeholders to exchange information on their analytical, technical assistance and capacity-building activities relevant to CTF discussions. These meetings will provide also an opportunity for developing countries participating in the CTF to present proposals for further projects of relevance to the work of the CTF and of interest to these countries.
 - 3) The UNCTAD secretariat will prepare a CTF funding proposal to raise sufficient extra-budgetary resources for supporting (i) the participation of developing country experts in future CTF meetings; (ii) the project activities; and (iii) the work on the "portal" that interfaces existing information clearinghouses on environmental and health-related requirements. CTF members are encouraged to support efforts of fundraising, including for further projects to be proposed in the future by any of the participating developing countries.
 - 4) The next CTF meeting will take place back-to-back with the June/July session of the CTE in 2005.

**First substantive meeting of UNCTAD's Consultative Task Force on Environmental
Requirements and Market Access for Developing Countries,
Geneva, 5-6 November 2004**

List of Participants

Argentina

Ms. Viviana CAMALAY
TBT Division
Ministry of Economy

Bangladesh

H.E. Mr. Toufiq ALI
Ambassador,
Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the Office of the United Nations and other International
Organisations in Geneva

Brazil

Ms. Mayard Samis ZOLOTAR
International Affairs
Inmetro

Ms. Anna Camboim
Standardization and Industrial Quality
Inmetro

Ms. Maria Cristian Corrêa de Sá Benevides
Standardization and Industrial Quality
Inmetro

Canada

Mr. Tobias NUSSBAUM
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Canada to the Office of the United Nations and other International
Organisations in Geneva

Chile

Ms. Ana Maria VALLIN

China

Prof. XIA Youfu
China Research Center for Technical Barriers to Trade and SPS (CC TBT)
University of International Business and Economics

Ms. LIU, Ying
Department of WTO Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation

Ms. GUO Lisheng

Senior Engineer and Deputy Director General, National
WTO/TBT Notification Authority and Enquiry Point of the P.R.China

Mr. JIANG Yong Ping

Mr. WANG Kun

Mr. SUN Xin

Costa Rica

Ms. Alejandra AGUILAR
Ministry of Comerse (COMEX)

Cuba

Mr. René FERNADEZ

Egypt

H.E. Ms. Naela GABR
Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the WTO
Permanent Mission of Egypt

Mr. Mohamed ELEWA
First Secretary
Permanent Mission

Mr. Amr ALJOWAILY
Second Secretary
Permanent Mission

Mr. Kamel Zayed Galal
Third Secretary
International Economic Relations
Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany

Mr. Jens HOFFMANN
Wuerzburg University

Honduras

H.E. Mr. J. Benjamin ZAPATA
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission
E-mail: mission.honduras@ties.itu.int

Ms. Gracibel BU FIGUEROA
Counsellor

Mr. F. Javier MEJIA GUEVARA
First Secretary

Mr. Mauricio PEREZ ZEPADA

Second Secretary

India

Mr. Sudhakar DALELA
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of India

Mr. Raghav NARSALAY
Consultant
Economic Laws Practice (ELP)

Mr. RAGHURAM Krishnamurthy
Head, Business Development
CRISIL Limited

Iran

Mr. Ebrahim ALIKHANI
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Kenya

H.E. Ms. Amina C. MOHAMED
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the UN
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya

Ms. Ruth NYAGAH,
Africert, Kenya

Netherlands

Mr. Tjalling DIJKSTRA
Policy Coherence Unit
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms. Ariane VAN BEUZEKOM
Project Manager
Market Information and Trade Intermediary Section
Centre for the promotion of imports from developing countries (CBI)

Ms. Maaïke SCHOUTEN
CREM

The Philippines

H.E. Mr. Enrique A. MANALO
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the UN

Mr. Manuel Antonio J. TECHANKEE
Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the WTO

Mr. José Antonio S. BUENCAMINO
Commercial Counsellor

Mr. Miguel R. BAUTISTA

First Secretary

Ms. Ma. Victoria L. BARNES
Attaché

Msr. Lupino J. LAZARO, Jr.
Attaché

Mr. Benjamin QUIÑONES
Asian Coalition for SME Development

Slovenia

Ms. Alenka MARKOV
Permanent Mission of Slovenia

Mrs. Vesna STRAZISAR
National Institute for Standardisation

Thailand

Ms. Sunanta KANGVALKULKIJ
Counsellor
Permanent Mission of Thailand to the WTO

Mr. Arthayudh SRISAMOOT
Permanent Mission of Thailand to the UN

Mr. Chirath Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya,
Trade Officer,
Multilateral Trade Negotiations Bureau
Ministry of Commerce

Mr. Saengchai EKPATANAPARNICH
Vice-Chairman, Federation of Thai Industries
Deputy Chairman, Electrical, Electronics and Allied Industries Club

Ms. Nudjarin RAMUNGUL
Researcher, Semiconductor Materials
National Metal and Materials Technology Center

USA

Ms. Melissa KEHOE
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of the US

Venezuela

Mr. Alfredo AZPURUA MARQUINA
First Secretary
Permanent Mission

European Commission

Mr. Laurent BARDON

DG Trade

Ms. Laurence GRAFF
DG Environment

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Mr. Ronald STEENBLIK
OECD Trade Directorate

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Mr. Benjamin SIMMONS
Economics and Trade Branch

Mr. Asad NAQVI
Economics and Trade Branch

UNESCAP

Ms. Catherine MONAGLE
Associate Environmental Affairs Officer
Environment & Sustainable Development
UNESCAP

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Mr. Alberto DI LISCIA
Director
UNIDO Geneva Office

UNITAR

Jonathan KRUEGER
Programme Officer, Chemicals and Waste Management (CWM)
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

Ms. Londa VAN DER WAL
IPFSAPH Project

World Trade Organization (WTO)

Ms. Carla VACA-EYZAGUIRRE
Research Division
WTO

Mr. Simon SCHNETZER
Economics and Statistics Division,
WTO

Basel Covention

Ms. Constanza MARTINEZ DEL PEDRO
Consultant

Secretariat of the Basel Convention

EUREPGAP

Mr. Nigel GARBUTT

The Centre for Sustainable Design

Prof. Martin CHARTER
Director
The Centre for Sustainable Design
The Surrey Institute of Art & Design

Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee - COLEACP

Mr. Roland LEVI
Pesticides Initiative Programme Management Unit (PIP/MU)
COLEACP

The International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labeling Alliance (ISEAL)

Mr. Patrick MALLET
E-mail: pmallet@isealalliance.org

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Mr. Tom ROTHERHAM
Associate

Pi Environmental Consulting

Mr. Pierre HAUSELMANN
The ECL Space Project

Ms. Nancy VALLEJO
Partner
PI Environmental Consulting

WWF International

Ms. Aimee GONZALES
E-mail: AGonzales@wwfint.org

The Centre for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

Ms. Nathalie BERNASCONI
CIEL

The South Centre

Mr. Darlan FONSECA MARTI

Mr. Vicente YU