



**Encouraging Technology Transfer to LDCs:
Towards a more effective implementation of TRIPS Article 66.2**

**Monday 16th June 2008
13:00-15:00
Palais des Nations, Geneva
Room IX**

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The International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) are pleased to invite you to a panel discussion on means to encourage technology transfer to Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Developing countries, in general, see technology transfer as part of the bargain in which they agreed to strengthened intellectual property protection under the TRIPS Agreement. The TRIPS Agreement includes a number of specific provisions in this regard. Most notably, Article 66.2 requires developed countries to provide incentives for to enterprises and institutions in their territories for the purpose of promoting and encouraging technology transfer to LDCs in order to enable them to create a sound and viable technological. LDCs have expressed their wish to see this requirement to be implemented in a more effective manner.

Prof. Dominique Foray, a leading economist on knowledge and innovation from l'Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, will present the results of a report entitled "Technology Transfer in the TRIPS Age – The Need for New Types of Partnerships between the Least Developed and Most Advanced Economies". The report explores ways to improve technology transfer to LDCs and focuses on the need for public-private partnerships to achieve this (attached is a summary of the report).

Ms. Suerie Moon, Research Fellow at Harvard University, will present an analysis of the reports presented by developed countries to the WTO Council for TRIPS in fulfilment of their obligation under Article 66.2, as well as on recommendations on means to improve the reporting system under this article.

A representative of the LDCs group will present the views of the LDCs on the issue of technology transfer under Article 66.2 and react to the suggestions made by the first two speakers.

The presentations will be followed by an exchange of views with the participants. We hope you will be able to participate in a lively exchange of ideas and contribute your experience and expertise to the panel discussion.

PROGRAMME

Welcome and introduction,

Pedro Roffe, Senior Fellow, IP Programme, ICTSD

Kiyoshi Adachi, Legal Officer, IP-Team, Policy Implementation Section, UNCTAD

Panel: Chair/Facilitator, Pedro Roffe, ICTSD

Prof. Dominique Foray, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

“Technology Transfer in the TRIPS Age – The Need for New Types of Partnerships between the Least Developed and Most Advanced Economies”

Ms. Suerie Moon, Research Fellow, Harvard University,

“An analysis of country submissions to the TRIPS Council under Art.66.2: implications for technology transfer to LDCs”

Mr. Elly Kamahungye, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Uganda

Mr. Sergio Balibrea, Counsellor, Delegation of the European Commission

The interventions will be followed by an exchange of views with the participants.

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