



Future Directions for IP Reform

Wednesday 4th May 2011

13h15-14h45

Room B

WIPO

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The International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) is pleased to invite you to a lunchtime dialogue entitled “***Future Directions for IP Reform***” on *Wednesday 4th May 2011* (13h15-14h45), as a side event to the meetings of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP) from 2-6 May. The dialogue will take place in Room B at the main building of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). A light lunch will be served.

Background

The past decade has witnessed a wide ranging number of initiatives and efforts to make the international intellectual property system, particularly TRIPS and WIPO, more responsive to and supportive of public policy objectives and development goals such as in the case of public health and access to knowledge.

While there seems to be now a fairly broad rhetorical consensus on the need for a balanced IP system and the limitations of a ‘one size fits all’ approach, the extent to which reform efforts can deliver real and meaningful change remains an open question that is increasingly debated.

In this context, the dialogue aims to provide an opportunity to reflect, in an informal setting, on future directions for IP reform, in particular, in the context of the WIPO Development Agenda implementation and TRIPS reform efforts. It will feature the presentation of a new book entitled “*Intellectual Property Rights in a Fair World Trade System: Proposals for Reform of TRIPS*” edited by Dr. Annette Kur (Max Planck Institute

for Intellectual Property and Competition, Munich). The book examines the challenges facing the global IP system and presents possible revisions to the TRIPS Agreement that would make it more relevant to the environment in which it is operating.

According to Professor Rochelle Dreyfuss, New York University School of Law:

“This book is essential reading for anyone interested in intellectual property, global trade, international law, human rights, development, and competition. While many have lamented the impact of the TRIPS Agreement on the creative environment and social welfare, the heart of the volume is a deeply thoughtful, well-considered proposal for modifying the Agreement. The lead-up is equally compelling: essays by renowned experts describing the substantive, procedural, and institutional problems encountered post-TRIPS and an examination of socially responsible ways to promote innovation.”

We hope you will be able to participate in a lively exchange of ideas and contribute with your experience to the dialogue discussion.

PROGRAMME

Welcome and introduction

Pedro Roffe – Senior Fellow, ICTSD

Speakers

Proposals to reform TRIPS: Any hope?

Dr. Annette Kur, Max-Planck Institute, Munich

Presentation of the book *“IP in a Fair World Trade System”*

Implementation the WIPO Development Agenda and WIPO governance reform

Mrs. Nandini Kotthapally, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva

Commentator

Antony Taubman – Director of IP Division, WTO

Exchange of views with participants

Pre-registration **by May 3rd** is advised due to limited space and security requirements. Please email: Daniella Allam at dallam@ictsd.ch or call 022 917 8150.
