The book “South Asian Positions in the WTO Doha Round: In search of A True Development Agenda” is being published under the project “WTO Doha Round & South Asia: Linking Civil Society with Trade Negotiations”. The book release will be followed by a panel discussion on five issues covered in the “July Package”.

The outcome of the Doha Round will have significant implications for international trade and national development. This event will be focusing on the five key issues (agriculture, services, NAMA, trade facilitation and development dimensions) of the July Package in the run-up to the WTO Hong Kong Ministerial.

**Agenda**

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• Economic Institute of Cambodia  
• Institute for International Trade Negotiations Studies, Brazil  
• Southern and Eastern African Trade Information and Negotiations Institute, Zimbabwe  
• South centre, South Africa  
• South Asia Watch on Trade Negotiations, Kathmandu, Nepal  
• Southeast Asia Trade and Investment Initiative, UNDP Colombo Regional Centre  
• South Asia Watch on Trade Negotiations, Kathmandu, Nepal |
| Venue         | Room #408 NGO Centre      |

**South Asian Civil Society’s Perspectives on the Doha Round**

This event is part of ICTSD’s (Geneva-based International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development) Hong Kong Trade and Development Symposium. It is aimed towards further consolidating South-South alliances on WTO issues to reap maximum benefits out of international trade negotiations. It will highlight that the South needs customised policies and development alternatives to further their growth and development.

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| Venue         | Room #402 of Hong Kong Exhibition Centre |

**South-South Cooperation on WTO Issues: Where do we stand and how to move forward?**

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| Venue         | Room #402 of Hong Kong Exhibition Centre |
Does Trade Lead to Poverty Reduction: Voices from Grassroots

This event is part of ICTSD’s Hong Kong Trade and Development Symposium. The objective is to facilitate cross-fertilisation of experiences and lessons learnt on linkages between trade, development and poverty reduction in developing countries so that appropriate policy responses can be developed. In this era of globalisation, the role of international trade in poverty reduction cannot be denied and therefore, more research and discussions are required to explore these issues objectively.

A book titled “Globalisation and Livelihood Concerns: People’s Perception in Agriculture and Textiles & Clothing Sector in Rajasthan and West Bengal, India” will be released at this event. It has been published as part of the project, Grassroots Reachout & Networking in India on Trade & Economics (GRANITE), which is being implemented with the support of Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi and Novib (Oxfam Netherlands).

**Agenda**

**Moderator:** Phil Evans, Member of Board, CUTS International, London

**Panellist:** Agnes van Ardenne, Minister for Development Cooperation, The Netherlands
Kamal Malhotra, Senior Advisor, UNDP, New York
Venkatesh Seshamani, Professor of Economics, University of Zambia
Barbara Kalima-Phiri, Manager, Economic Dimensions of Poverty Programme, Southern African Regional Poverty Network, Hatfield, South Africa
Jean-Pierre Lehmann, Prof. of International Political Economy, IMD, Lausanne, Switzerland & Founding Director of the Evian Group
Anil Singh, Chief Executive, NEED, India

Date: 15 December 2005 (Thursday)
Time: 1645 – 1900 hrs
Organisers: • CUTS International, India
• Economic Institute of Cambodia
• Network of Entrepreneurship & Economic Development, India
Venue: Room #404 Hong Kong Exhibition Centre

Competition Issues in the Global Agricultural Commodity Markets and the WTO: Whose Agenda?

This event will be part of ICTSD’s Hong Kong Trade and Development Symposium. The main objective of the session is to highlight the impact of restricted competition in the global market for agricultural commodities vis-à-vis poor producers in developing economies, and at the other end, consumers. It is believed that there exists a certain power asymmetry in the global supply chains of various agricultural products.

A handful of powerful multinational companies, acting as intermediaries, control most of the capital resources (financial, natural, physical, human and social capital, etc) and therefore, dominate all institutions (markets, regulations, standards), depriving the poor developing country farmers and consumers of the fair deal they deserve in the market.

The session will not only examine this idea of the world market, and the current legal and regulatory frameworks, such as that set by the WTO agreements, but will also present the ground realities from developing countries in Africa and Asia and throw some light on way forward.

**Agenda**

**Moderator:** Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International
**Panellist:** Sophia Murphy, Director, Trade Programme, IATP, USA
John Kapito, Executive Director, Consumers Association of Malawi
Indah Sukmaningsih, Chairperson, YLKI, Indonesia

Date: 17 December 2005 (Saturday)
Time: 1645 – 1900 hrs
Organisers: • CUTS International, India
• Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, USA
• Consumers International
Venue: Room #402 Hong Kong Exhibition Centre