Reforming the World Trade Organization

Developing Countries in the Doha Round

Authored by Faizel Ismail

The issues related to the reform and strengthening of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are expected to be at the centre stage at the 7th WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 30 November till 2 December 2009. This CUTS-FES publication written by Faizel Ismail, Head of the South African Delegation to the WTO, is a contribution to inform that debate at the WTO Ministerial Conference and beyond.

In his first book, Mainstreaming Development in the WTO, published by CUTS and FES in 2007, Faizel Ismail provided an assessment of several episodes of the Doha Round, from its inception until its collapse in Potsdam, in June 2007. In this, his second book, he continues the story of the unfolding Doha Round, analyzing its collapse in July 2008, and the recent attempts to re-energize the Round in 2009. The book is written from the perspective of developing countries, assessing the unprecedented role of developing country coalitions such as the G20, NAMA 11, G33, the African Group, ACP Group, LDCs, SVEs, and the Cotton 4 in the Doha Round. This book is also deeply concerned about identifying the substantive issues and procedures of the WTO that need to be “reformed”. Pradeep S. Mehta, the Secretary General of CUTS has stated that “this book is a must-read for Trade Ministers as they prepare for the coming WTO Ministerial Conference”.

Sunday, 29 November 2009, 18:30-20:30 hours
Foyer D, Hotel Intercontinental
7-9 Chemin du Petit Saconnex, 1209 Geneva

Welcome and Introduction: Dr. Winfried Veit, Director, FES Geneva Office

Author’s Introduction: Faizel Ismail, Head of the South African Delegation to the WTO

Keynote Speech: Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Comments: Hon. Dr. Rob Davies, Minister of Trade and Industry, South Africa

Concluding Remarks: Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International

俍 Cocktail Reception 俍