

Relationship Between Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Environmental Goods and Services

Workshop on Post-Doha
Trade and Environment Issues

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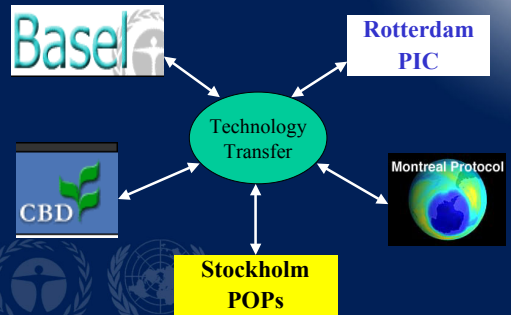
Agenda 21, Chapter 34, para. 4

“There is a need for favourable access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, in particular to developing countries, through supportive measures that promote technology cooperation and that should enable transfer of necessary technological know-how as well as building up of economic, technical, and managerial capabilities for the efficient use and further development of transferred technology”



WSSD Plan of Implementation, para. 19(a)

Calls on States to *“take further action to mobilize the provision of financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and the diffusion of environmentally sound technologies . . .”*



Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent

Article 16 – Technical Assistance

“The Parties shall, taking into account in particular the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, cooperate in promoting technical assistance for the development of the infrastructure and the capacity necessary to manage chemicals to enable implementation of this Convention.”



Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Article 12 – Technical Assistance

“The Parties shall establish, as appropriate, arrangements for the purpose of providing technical assistance and promoting the transfer of technology to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition relating to the implementation of this Convention.”



Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Article 22 – Capacity-Building

“The Parties shall cooperate in the development and/or strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in biosafety, including biotechnology to the extent that it is required for biosafety . . . in relation to cooperation, the needs of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, for financial resources and access to and transfer of technology and know-how . . . shall be fully taken into account . . .”

Montreal Protocol

Article 10a – Transfer of Technology

“Each Party shall take every practicable step, consistent with the programmes supported by the financial mechanism, to ensure . . .

- a. that the best available, environmentally safe substitutes and related technologies are expeditiously transferred to Parties . . .; and*
- b. that the transfers referred to in subparagraph (a) occur under fair and most favourable conditions.”*

Is technology being transferred?

Examples?

If not, why not?

Is yes, how can this be increased and capitalized on?

Are there linkages between the liberalization of environmental goods and services and MEA implementation?

Submission by India (TN/TE/W/54):

Explained that the Designated National Authority should examine applications “in light of those criteria and other declared special and differential criteria such as transfer of technology, environmental goals mandated by MEAs that the Member is a party to, and other environmental concerns that may be unique to a particular country.”

Submission by European Communities (TN/TE/W/56):

Noted that their selection of environmental goods is guided by two main principles:

“They contribute to the fulfilment of national and international environmental priorities including Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the Millennium Development Goals . . . Agenda 21, and the WSSD Plan of Implementation

They encompass categories of interest to all WTO Members including developing countries.”

Possible National Considerations

CBTF



What about the other EGS?

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. . . Ecosystem Goods & Services

Services –

- Carbon sequestration
- Water quantity and quality
- Biodiversity protection
- Landscape

Goods –

- Biotrade
- Derivatives of healthy ecosystems (e.g. organics)

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Ecosystem Services

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Market may be significant:

-More than 300 markets for ecosystem services currently exist

-Global carbon market alone could reach \$40 billion by 2010

Most still depend on mix of public, private and NGO financing . . . Self-sufficient markets for ecosystem services are rare

Will liberalization help or harm the development of these service markets?

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THANK YOU

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