

agreement could easily be reached on operationalizing countervailing rules to address environmental concerns. More importantly, a high degree of uncertainty exists on whether a new form of countervailing duties would be effective in achieving its environmental objectives. For the time being, until the issues are more fully understood, it would be prudent for governments to resist pressure to employ countervailing-like duties to influence the manner in which foreign countries address environmental concerns. But this prudence should not prevent us from undertaking a careful and exhaustive review of the mechanics of how such a mechanism might be crafted in a trade and environmentally responsible manner.

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