



The WTO and the ILO Secretariats co-operate on an ongoing basis, including in the deliberations of the ILO Governing Council's Working Party on the Social Dimensions of Globalisation, which Ministers noted in the Doha Declaration. The WTO Director-General was a keynote participant at the Working Party's March 2002 meeting, which focused on the recent establishment of the ILO's *World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalisation*. He confirmed that the WTO Secretariat will collaborate with the ILO Secretariat in providing input to assist the Commission in preparing its report.

Cooperation between the WTO Secretariat, Secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and the UNEP is extensive and has included collaboration on conferences and seminars to help build capacity on trade and environment, as well as information exchanges and briefings for the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment. With Canada's encouragement, in 1999 the WTO and UNEP Secretariats pledged to further enhance their cooperation, building upon the global arrangement reached between the WTO and the United Nations in 1995.

With respect to the negotiations launched at Doha, Canada has strongly advocated that all intergovernmental organizations currently accredited to observe WTO bodies also be granted the right to observe the corresponding negotiating bodies. In the case of the environment negotiations, this would mean that UNEP, an observer to the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), would be permitted to attend meetings of the CTE in Special Session (where the actual negotiations take place) and to contribute its specialized expertise to the process.

Although the ILO has been an observer at recent WTO Ministerial Conferences, including Doha, it is not an observer in the General Council or any of the WTO Committees or Councils, nor has it requested observer status in any of these bodies. In the ongoing discussions regarding which criteria should be applied to future requests from international inter-governmental organizations wishing to observe the General Council, Canada supports criteria under which, *inter alia*, the ILO would be welcome to observe, should it so request.

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Recommendation 29

"That the Government of Canada promote the injection of clauses within WTO agreements that would tie countries' access to the benefits from WTO membership to proven respect for democratic rights."

