

delegations could defend back home. As a result, the CTE Singapore report goes much further than previous GATT reports in acknowledging the legitimacy of environmental policies, at both the multilateral and domestic levels. This is particularly the case with respect to MEAs and ecolabelling where real, if incremental, progress was achieved.

The challenge for the future is to ensure greater balance in the discussions through development of greater understanding among delegations of environmental policy issues. Greater use of experts, from both the intergovernmental and non-governmental community, can assist this process of policy integration, and thus set the stage for less polarized possible future negotiations. In this context, the Singapore report should be seen as the beginning, not the end, of the process.