

The Centre for WTO Studies (CWS) signs a MoU with International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Geneva

On 26th March 2010, the Centre for WTO Studies (CWS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) in Geneva. Founded in Geneva in September 1996, ICTSD is an independent, non-profit, and non-governmental organization. It engages a broad range of actors in ongoing dialogue on trade and sustainable development policy.

Under the MoU, the two organisations have agreed to build partnership to promote trade policies that support sustainable development. The two institutions have agreed to work jointly in the following areas:

- i) Agriculture trade including fisheries;
- ii) Intellectual property rights (IPRs);
- iii) Trade and climate change;
- iv) Least developed countries (LDCs);
- v) Regional Trade Arrangements.

It was agreed that joint action would be taken for carrying out Outreach and Stakeholders Dialogue; Research and Peer Review; Analysis and Documentation and Institutional Development. It has also been decided that the representatives of the CWS and ICTSD will meet twice each year for building substantive agenda to develop future work-plan, identify other partners and collaborators. Initial work plan for these activities is for two years and the plan will be revised and extended annually.

The MoU was signed by Prof. R. S. Ratna on behalf of the CWS and by Mr. Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz, Chief Executive on behalf of ICTSD. From Indian side Shri U. S. Bhatia, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to WTO; Shri D. K. Mittal, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce and Shri Ravi Bangar, DPR (WTO) were also present during the signing ceremony.



Prof. R.S. Ratna of CWS and Mr. Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz of ICTSD signing the MoU in the presence of Mr. U.S. Bhatia, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of India to WTO.



Mr. D. K. Mittal, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce and Prof. R.S. Ratna, CWS after the signing of MoU between CWS and ICTSD.