

*The World Trade Organization Negotiations as Viewed by Developing Country Negotiators
- A Negotiators' Handbook*

A CUTS Initiative

Writers' Conference

CUTS Geneva Resource Centre Conference Room, 14 September 2010¹

CUTS is undertaking a project to prepare and publish a book containing substantive experiences of developing country negotiators in the WTO. This book is tentatively titled as "A Negotiators' Handbook: The World Trade Organization Negotiations as Viewed by Developing Country Negotiators". The book will be a timely contribution to collect and preserve the experience of developing country negotiators in the WTO which is an invaluable resource for their peers and successors. It can be argued that developing country negotiators in the WTO have been as prepared, engaged, and skillful as their developed country counterparts in the Doha Round of negotiations. However, there is dearth of serious literature on this issue. Particularly missing from the scene are authentic and substantive accounts by developing country negotiators of their first hand experience of WTO negotiations. This CUTS project aims to fill this critical gap.

CUTS has been successful in approaching and securing the agreement of seventeen current and former chief negotiators of developing countries to the WTO – most of them at the level of ambassadors – to contribute chapters to the book. These chapters will cover main substantive areas of negotiations under the Doha Round as well as key coalitions and alliances of developing countries.

All the chapter contributors have been invited to a Writers' Conference that is being organized with support from Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Geneva Office and will be held at CUTS Geneva Resource Centre Conference Room on 14 September 2010. This half-day Conference is aimed to achieve the following objectives:

- Exchange of views among all chapter contributors and senior CUTS staff regarding various substantive aspects of this book
- Discussion and finalization of chapter outlines, and
- Finalization of the work plan for the timely completion and publication of the book

¹ This is not a public event and attendance will be limited to chapter contributors.