Invitation to a Book Launch Event

Palais des Nations,
Building E – Room XXIII
Wednesday 19 July 2017,
12h30 – 14h00

Launch of the Book – publication by Cambridge University Press

Intellectual Property Rights and Climate Change: Interpreting the TRIPS Agreement for Environmentally Sound Technologies

The UN General Assembly has characterised climate change as “a common concern of mankind”. It is alleged that innovation and transfer of environmentally sound technologies (ESTs), which form part of the solution to climate change, has not taken place fast enough to effectively mitigate climate change. To the extent that ESTs are protected by intellectual property rights (IPRs), there is a growing recognition that the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) could play a more important role in mitigating climate change.

Two main research questions addressed in the book will be discussed in the session:

- First, whether and, if so, to what extent do the minimum IPR standards established by the TRIPS Agreement facilitate innovation and transfer of ESTs?
- Second, whether and, if so, to what extent the TRIPS flexibilities can be interpreted to facilitate innovation and transfer of ESTs so as to address global climate change?

Moderator - Mr. Pedro Roffe, Senior Fellow, ICTSD
Presentation - Ms. Wei Zhuang, Author of the Book, and Associate, WTI Advisors
Commentators - Mr. Vicente Paolo Yu, Deputy Executive Director, South Centre
- Mr. Anthony Taubman, Director of Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division, World Trade Organization
- Mr. Christoph Spennemann, Legal Officer and Officer in Charge, Intellectual Property Unit, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD

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