



**IP AND PUBLIC INTEREST  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FOR DEVELOPMENT GROUP - SIDE EVENT:  
30 YEARS OF TRIPS: EXPECTATIONS AND CONCERNS  
OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DELEGATIONS OF BANGLADESH, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA AND INDIA

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1. The World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) entered into force on 1 January 1995 as part of the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO Agreement).
2. This Agreement built minimum standards on top of an earlier international intellectual property framework administered by WIPO.
3. The TRIPS Agreement was part of a 'single undertaking', by which 124 founding Members (and then 42 acceding Members) to the WTO accepted it as an integral part of an indivisible set of agreements comprising the WTO.
4. Thirty years later, a discussion on its evolution and impact will help to improve the available information, providing valuable insights and reflections for assessing the expectations of developing countries and the outcomes of implementation of TRIPS.
5. The informal group of countries known as "*Intellectual Property (IP) for Development*" plans to host an informal side event, on the margins of the regular TRIPS Council session on the afternoon on 19 March, one day before the TRIPS Council session of the 20 and 21 March 2025. The signing Members invite delegates and experts to an initial discussion to reflect on the history of the TRIPS negotiations, 30 years after their conclusion.
6. At the formal Council for TRIPS session, the participating Members will present a brief summary of the event and its key takeaways and reflections.
7. We encourage Members to participate, either in-person or online, for a valuable information-sharing experience featuring high-level speakers and panellists from different background and expertise.

The Group also looks forward to future such exchanges on issues of interest relevant to the Council for TRIPS to enrich shared information, dialogue and understandings among the Members of the WTO.

**DRAFT PROGRAMME****30 years of TRIPS: Expectations and concerns of developing countries**

Wednesday 19 March 1 P.M. – (Room S1, WTO)

Hybrid event – Link will be provided

<b>1:00 PM - 1:45 PM</b>	<b>Light snacks (Indian samosas)</b>
<b>1:50 PM - 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Opening remarks and introduction</b>
<b>2:00 PM - 2:30 PM</b>	<p><b>Section 1: A history of the TRIPS negotiations</b></p> <p>The context, the main actors and the process of negotiations – Mr. Carlos Correa, Executive Director of the South Centre</p>
<b>2:30 PM to 3:15 PM</b>	<p><b>Section 2: Experiences of National negotiators (15 minutes each)</b></p> <p>Representative from the Federative Republic of Brazil – Ambassador Celso Amorim (online)</p> <p>Representative from the Republic of India – Ms. Jayashree Watal (online)</p>
<b>3:15 PM – 4:15 PM</b>	<p><b>Section 3: Examples of issues and provisions during the negotiations: 8 minutes each and then discussion</b></p> <p>(exact topics to be discussed in a coordination meeting with panelists):</p> <p>Joshua Sarnoff, Raymond P. Niro Professor of Intellectual Property Law, DePaul College of Law (online)</p> <p>James Love, Director of Knowledge Ecology Internacional -KEI- (in-person)</p> <p>Ellen't Hoen, expert from Medicines Law&amp;Policy (in-person)</p> <p>Sean Flynn, Director of the Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, American University (in-person)</p> <p>Sangeeta Shashikant Third World Network –TWN- (in-person)</p>
<b>4:15 PM – 4:30 PM</b>	<p><b>Closing session</b></p> <p>Summary of key findings and preparation of potential June side event.</p>
<b>4:30 PM - Onwards</b>	<b>Farewell and light snack</b>