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in terms of before and after “9/11”? The final chapter takes up “the challenges facing the global peace” and argues that “activists and scholars must develop and press for real alternative security policies (p. 165). Well, I suppose it depends what we mean by a security policy. But I for one do not feel compelled to offer a more effective and human rights compliant set of measures to defeat the self-defined enemy of ‘global terrorism’. That is not part of the progressive counter-globalization agenda to my mind.

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Peter Gallaher, Patrick Low and Andrew L. Stoler (Editors), *Managing the Challenges of WTO Participation*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005, £35.00. 652 pages,

This edited publication contains 45 case studies of developing countries involved with the World Trade Organization (WTO). It illustrates the management and integration of their economies into the global, multilateral trading system almost a decade after the WTO’s formation.

The topics in *Managing the Challenges of WTO Participation* cover a diverse range of issues. These include the anti-dumping efforts of the shrimp industry in India, ayurvedic medicine in Nepal, Vietnam’s banking sector, Thailand’s tuna exports, telecommunications liberalization in Barbados and the protection of music rights in Bangladesh. This provides overwhelming evidence of the benefits of WTO membership to various sectors in a country’s economy.

The reader will have the favorable impression that the size and influence of a country does not matter within the sphere of the WTO. A larger and more powerful country will not be allowed preferential treatment because cases are judged according to the situation and adherence to regulations. Some chapters will certainly provide inspiration to developing countries seeking to air their grievances. In Chapter 21, Junsok Yang examined the scenario in which Korea successfully submitted a case to the WTO to eliminate a trade barrier with the mighty United States. The source of contention was resolved with the eventual removal

of restrictions and thus allowing the export of Korean color television sets to the United States.

Similar outcomes were disclosed in Chapters 12 and 34 in which Costa Rica and Pakistan successfully battled against the U.S. over its unfair textile safeguard actions. Costa Rica won the dispute settlement process and also the appeal whilst Pakistan could also boast of being a winner. The author of Chapter 12, John Breckenridge, viewed the case between the U.S. and Costa Rica as a landmark one as it was the first in which a small developing country brought a dispute against the U.S. Secondly, it represented the first formal dispute case to address issues from the intended liberalization of trade in textiles as stated in ATC. In retrospect, these appear as hollow victories because the resources utilized in winning lengthy legal cases could have been better directed to improving the social services or reducing unemployment in Costa Rica and Pakistan. The important lesson to be learnt is that developing countries are victorious in principle but it is a costly and lengthy affair.

Chapter 19 “Patents, parallel importation and compulsory licensing of HIV/AIDS drugs: the experience of Kenya” is one that is relevant and crucial in understanding the underlying factors contributing to a crisis which plagues Africa. The frustration of being denied access to vital AIDS drugs in Kenya has been blamed on the country’s Industrial Property Act, 2001 and the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). However, the author, Ben Sihanya contends that the problem is not the debate over patents but issues such as the government’s inefficient distribution of resources, poverty and the dire need for public health reform. He advised, “Kenya should learn to invest in research in and development, and national health law and policy as well as patent law, all of which have affected AIDS research and development” (p.283).

Some developing countries have not directly benefited from a WTO membership. An illustration is J.P. Singh in “Services commitment: case studies from Belize and Costa Rica.” He queried the fact that both countries made low commitments in the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) at the Uruguay Round and the Fourth and Fifth protocols made after 1997. This appears odd because both countries have sizeable service export surpluses and need foreign investment. Singh noted the

alarming fact that, “Belize has not seen tangible benefits from participation in the WTO. While officials admit that isolation is not an option and would send the wrong signal to the international community, they point to losses that they attribute to the WTO” (p.93).

There were some minor shortcomings of this seminal publication. Firstly, the 45 chapters could have been grouped under broad geographical themes such as Latin America, Asia and Africa. This would have allowed the reader to better assess and compare the impact of the WTO and response of the various countries. Another format could have been grouping the chapters under thematic headings such as Health, Agriculture and Industry.

Unfortunately, the scholars overlooked the issues of gender and religion. It would have been interesting to learn about the economic effects on women or gender organizations who either benefited or suffered as a result of the infringement of WTO’s rules. Also, another area to be explored could have been the impact of WTO participation on the functioning of religious institutions.

The case studies strongly suggest that the decisions and membership in the WTO is not a responsibility solely for the government. Instead it is one which demands the involvement of diverse groups inclusive of academics, consumer associations, civil society groups and trade unions. The work will certainly prove to be a guidebook for countries serious in charting their destinies in the global village. The book should be compulsory reading for economists, policymakers and technocrats in developing countries.

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Sally Wyatt and Flis Henwood (Editors), *Technology and Inequality: Questioning the Information Society*. New York: Routledge, 2000, 242 pp.

This edited work has an introduction, ten chapters and is divided into three sections: “Promises and Threats: access and control in media technologies”, “Exclusion, inclusion and segre-