



News in December 2004

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Documented Benefits of GM Crops – a new document of ISAAA see (<http://www.isaaa.org/kc>).

Biotechnology and Developing Countries: The Potential and the Challenge

Lisa Jategaonkar, Editor; New Issue of PBI Bulletin Now on line at <http://www.pbi-ibp.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/en/bulletin/2004issue2/>

National Foreign Trade Council

present detail analysis of European protectionism in foreign trade and its deteriorating effect on developing countries:

[‘Enlightened’ Environmentalism or Disguised Protectionism? Assessing the Impact of EU Precaution-Based Standards on Developing Countries](#)

[Looking Behind the Curtain: The Growth of Trade Barriers that Ignore Sound Science](#)

[EU Regulation, Standardization and the Precautionary Principle: The Art of Crafting a Three- Dimensional Trade Strategy That Ignores Sound Science](#)

Full documents at <http://www.nftc.org/default.asp?Mode=DirectoryDisplay&id=190>

Conclusions: This study has revealed how certain health and safety and environmental standards and regulations implemented unilaterally by the EU impede economic growth, social welfare and public health maintenance in developing countries.

This study, in particular, shows how the Precautionary Principle, an inherently nonscientific touchstone without foundation in WTO law, has been employed within the Stockholm Convention and the EU's more stringent POPs implementing regulation to ban the shipment of DDT to and among African countries for purposes of indoor spraying. It also identifies how U.N. and EU sponsored donor programs ban funding for DDT malaria vector control, and how U.S. donor programs fail to promote DDT as one of several viable alternatives for malaria prevention, thereby contributing to an ongoing African health crisis. These prohibitions have been imposed on African nations without presentation of conclusive scientific proof that the possible environmental risks accompanying DDT indoor residual spraying outweigh the risks posed to public health, social welfare and economic productivity by failure to use DDT at all. In other words, these measures are justified by neither a science-based risk assessment (i.e., sound science) nor an economic cost/benefit analysis (i.e., equitable balancing).