

**IMPACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS (KYOTO, ETC) ON
TRADE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA**

Prepared By

Dr C. Manyeruke

**Trade & Development Studies Centre-Trust
[TRADES CENTRE]
Harare
Zimbabwe**



Trade & Development Studies Centre Issue No.

ACRONYMS

CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CTE	Committee on Trade and Environment
FCCC	Framework Convention on Climate Change
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NAMA	Non-Agricultural Market Access
NGO	Non- Governmental Organisation
TRIMs	Agreement on Trade –related Investment Measures
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WTO	World Trade Organisation

Abstract:

This paper reviews different approaches on the nexus of environmental commitments and trade. It compares environmental-oriented control mechanisms like the Kyoto Protocol with trade-type control mechanisms such as Trade- Related Investment Measures (TRIMS). The pros and cons of the two approaches are compared, focusing on such issues as impact under conditions of scarcity, increased poverty, loss of livelihoods, corruption, and implementation. A lull in interest has been brought in environmental issues through its effects on foreign trade and investment.

There is widespread concern that environmentalism might pose a threat to the liberal multilateral trading system - on which the future of small open economies and Southern Africa generally continues heavily to depend. The paper concludes that it would be opportune for Southern African countries to jointly seek to have some influence in developments in the GATT/World Trade Organisation's Committee on Trade and Environment.

Introduction

As global concerns over environmental protection increase, there has been some concern on their potential effects on trade, with some Southern Africa trade experts calling for a more proactive stance to the issue. After more than a decade of negotiations and planning under the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC), the first binding international agreement to control the emissions of greenhouse gases has come into effect in the Kyoto Protocol. It is important to note that even though the relationship between trade and environment has been on the limelight since Kyoto, the past 20 years has seen a number of international environmental agreements being concluded. More than 200 multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) are known to exist. However, only about twenty of these agreements have a trade and environmental interface.

It is important to note that as trade increases, the environment is fundamentally altered. Trade liberalization entails both positive and negative impacts on the environment. A lot therefore depends on appropriate measures taken to mitigate the effects of trade on the environment. The environment is the source of trade. It provides the basic inputs such as minerals, fisheries, soil and forests. The environments also receive wastes from various activities.

The environment is fundamentally governed by environmental law (such as the Multilateral Environmental Agreements); whilst trade is governed by trade law. Both these laws are under the auspices of international law. It is therefore necessary that there should be a lot of interaction and coordination between these two laws.

Multilateral Environmental Agreements

A critical issue in the trade and environment debate is the relationship between trade rules and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). These are environment based trade agreements involving more than two countries such as;

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) – 1973
- The Vienna Convention for Protection of the Stratosphere and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Stratospheric Ozone Layer
- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal – 1992
- Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety– 1992
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – 1992
- Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - 1997

Trade – Related Multilateral Environmental Agreements

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

CITES was concluded in 1973 but came into force in 1975 under the umbrella of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). CITES seeks to regulate trade in certain species and their parts, as well as products from such species. The Conference of Parties listed three annexes as requiring various degrees of restrictions to ensure their sustainability. These restrictions range from a general prohibition on commercial trade to a partial licensing system¹. International trade in wildlife and wildlife products was valued at over US\$4 billion in 1989. Unsustainable trade in wildlife has resulted in the extinction or near extinction of many species. Fifty-six countries initially signed the Convention, and by 1992, over 115 States had formally signed onto the CITES, making it is the largest wildlife conservation agreement in existence. The aim of CITES is for the rational and sustainable utilization of the Earth's living resources for human benefit. Biennial meetings assess the listings of flora and fauna on the three Appendices. Appendix I bans commercial trade in listed species under threat of extinction and Appendix II controls trade in those species, through the use of assigned export quotas. The quotas not only regulate trade, but assist in monitoring the numbers of remaining living species. Appendix III contains a list of those species for which trade is regulated in specific countries.²

Each Party must create a National Management Authority and a National Scientific Authority to implement CITES regulations. The former issues and authenticates permits and licenses, and cooperates with the CITES secretariat to ensure compliance with Convention requirements. The latter provides advice for the Management Authority, and assesses whether species should be recommended for listing or for removal from the various Appendices

The Vienna Convention for Protection of the Stratosphere and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Stratospheric Ozone Layer

In 1985 the Vienna Convention was concluded when ozone depletion was merely suspected. As it got confirmed the Parties drafted the Montreal Protocol in 1987 to control several classes of industrial chemicals known to harm the stratospheric ozone layer. Its principal implementation tool is the control of production and trade of ozone – depleting substances and trade in products containing controlled substances. It also posed

¹ Environment and Trade A Handbook, The United Nations Environment Programme (2005), Geneva.

² Hadfield, Peter. African Nations Defeated over Elephant Trade; NewScientist; (1992)

the probability of controlling products produced with or containing controlled substances.³

Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal

In the wake of increased fear of being a dumping ground for hazardous wastes by the developing countries and Africa per se, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal was garnered for. However discussion on the convention revolved around the most appropriate strategy for controlling movement of hazardous waste and the technical difficulty in establishing unambiguous distinctions between wastes and materials for recycling.⁴ It should be critically noted that parties may export a hazardous waste to another party that has not banned its import and that consents to the import in writing.

Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

The Convention on Biodiversity has led to the formation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans in over 100 countries. It has also culminated in the Cartagena protocol on Biosafety. The core aims of Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. Apparent was the creation of an advanced informed agreement system (or procedure) for living genetically modified organisms destined to be introduced to the environment (such as micro-organisms and seeds), and a less complex system for monitoring those used for use as food, animal feed or processing. It indicates the risk assessment that must be conducted. In that regard the Cartagena Protocol operationalises the precautionary approach.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol Background works in the UN and WTO

On one front, the General Assembly, through resolution 48/55 of 10 December 1993 on Trade and Development requested UNCTAD to address comprehensively trade and environmental matters, and to submit, through the Commission on Sustainable Development, a report on this question to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994.

Chapter 2 of Agenda 21 concluded that sustainable development policies at the national level must be supported by a dynamic international economy and an open, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory and predictable multilateral trading system.⁵ Among the

³ Environment and Trade A Handbook, The United Nations Environment Programme (2005), Geneva.

⁴ Ibid, Environment and Trade A Handbook (2005)

⁵ Anderson K.: "The Standard Welfare Economics of Policies Affecting Trade and the Environment"; University of Michigan Press and London: Harvester Wheatsheaf (1992)

objectives identified in Agenda 21 to support sustainable development policies in developing countries are improved market access for exports of developing countries; the provision of adequate financial resources; and acceleration of the development and diffusion (especially to developing countries) of "cleaner" technologies. Sustainable development in addition requires the promotion of patterns of consumption and production that reduce environmental stress and meet the basic needs of the poor.

On the other front, completion of the Uruguay round, the Contracting Parties agreed to establish a GATT/World Trade Organisation Committee on Trade and Environment. In the meantime, OECD countries have agreed, as part of the OECD Guidelines on Trade and Environment, that they should subject their trade policies and trade agreements to domestic environmental assessment. And, of course, the Environment side agreement to the NAFTA has set an international precedent of considerable potential significance, not only for the NAFTA member countries, but for all APEC members and indeed for the entire global community. This will help to ensure that on both the trade front and the environment front, APEC member countries are moving steadily forward and toward the goal of sustainable development.⁶

Kyoto Protocol

The Kyoto Protocol is an amendment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) with the objective of reducing greenhouse gases that cause climate change. It was agreed on 11 December 1997 at the 3rd Conference of the Parties to the treaty when they met in Kyoto, and entered into force on 16 February 2005.

At its heart, the Kyoto Protocol establishes the following principles:

- Kyoto is underwritten by governments and is governed by global legislation enacted under the UN's aegis;
- Governments are separated into two general categories: developed countries, referred to as Annex I countries (who have accepted greenhouse gas emission reduction obligations and must submit an annual greenhouse gas inventory) and developing countries, referred to as Non-Annex I countries (who have no greenhouse gas emission reduction obligations but may participate in the Clean Development Mechanism). Any Annex I country that fails to meet its Kyoto obligation will be penalised by having to submit 1.3 emission allowances in a second commitment period for every ton of greenhouse gas emissions they exceed their cap in the first commitment period (i.e., 2008-2012);
- As of January 2008, and running through 2012, Annex I countries have to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by a collective average of 5% below their 1990

⁶ Anderson K.: "The Standard Welfare Economics of Policies Affecting Trade and the Environment"; University of Michigan Press and London: Harvester Wheatsheaf (1992)

levels (for many countries, such as the EU member states, this corresponds to some 15% below their expected greenhouse gas emissions in 2008). While the average emissions reduction is 5%, national limitations range from an 8% average reduction across the European Union to a 10% emissions increase for Iceland; but since the EU's member states each have individual obligations, much larger increases (up to 27%) are allowed for some of the less developed EU countries.⁷

As of November 2007, 175 parties have ratified the protocol. Of these, 36 developed countries (plus the EU as a party in its own right) are required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the levels specified for each of them in the treaty (representing over 61.6% of emissions from Annex I countries), with three more countries intending to participate. One hundred and thirty-seven (137) developing countries have ratified the protocol, including Brazil, China and India, but have no obligation beyond monitoring and reporting emissions. Emission figures exclude international aviation and shipping. As of December 2007, the US and Kazakhstan are the only signatory nations which had not ratified the act.

According to a press release from the United Nations Environment Programme:

*"The Kyoto Protocol is an agreement under which industrialised countries will reduce their collective emissions of greenhouse gases by 5.2% compared to the year 1990. The goal is to lower overall emissions of six greenhouse gases - carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulfur hexafluoride, hydrofluorocarbons, and perfluorocarbons - averaged over the period of 2008-2012".*⁸

Common but differentiated responsibility

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to a set of a "common but differentiated responsibilities." The parties agreed that

1. The largest share of historical and current global emissions of greenhouse gases has originated in developed countries;
2. Per capita emissions in developing countries are still relatively low;
3. The share of global emissions originating in developing countries will grow to meet their social and development needs.⁹

That meant, China, India, and other developing countries, were not included in any numerical limitation of the Kyoto Protocol because they were not the main contributors to the greenhouse gas emissions during the pre-treaty industrialisation period. However,

⁷ Nordhaus William. D: After Kyoto: Alternative Mechanisms to Control Global Warming paper (2006)

⁸ Nordhaus William. D: After Kyoto: Alternative Mechanisms to Control Global Warming paper (2006)

⁹ http://www.econ.yale.edu/~nordhaus/kyoto_long_2005.doc

even without the commitment to reduce according to the Kyoto target, developing countries do share the common responsibility that all countries have in reducing emissions all the same.

The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

The Uruguay round also came with the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures that set to proclaim standards on the movement of humans, animals, plants and foodstuffs in international trade. This entailed measures to protect the environment or human, animal and plant health against pests, disease –related organisms, toxins entering the country with traded goods.¹⁰ The standards entail notification and transparency in developing the rules and the use of international standards where appropriate. A risk assessment is thus essential in carrying out trade under the auspices of this agreement.

A critique of the Trade – Related Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Among various experts, scientists and critics there is some debate about the usefulness of Kyoto protocol. The cost - benefit studies performed on its usefulness have fuelled some critics to clamour that it is time to ditch Kyoto. The protocol is a symbolically important expression of governments' concern about climate change. But as an instrument for achieving emissions reductions, it has failed.¹¹

While growth in trade, foreign investment, and economic relationships among countries can bring significant benefits, the process of economic globalisation is also leading to serious problems. Trade rules are clashing with environmental standards, undermining national environmental protections. The income gap between rich and poor continues to grow. Forests, fisheries and other treasures of the world's natural heritage are overexploited as they are subjected to global market demands. International environmental protectionism is eclipsing trade as an engine of growth and is having equally dramatic effects on progress towards sustainable development

The Positives of MEAs for Southern Africa

Regulatory frameworks

Regulatory constraints posed by MEAs are aimed at instilling confidence to all stakeholders in a market in that the wrath of the law will fall on all and sundry. Some constraints reflect the economic and social choices of consumers, and can be viewed as part of the normal conditions of competition. Others reflect scientifically- based

¹⁰ Environment and Trade A Handbook, The United Nations Environment Programme (2005), Geneva.

¹¹ Gwyn Prins; London School of Economics, UK.

environmental imperatives and must be respected to avoid severe and irreversible damage, irrespective of other priorities.¹²

Controlling markets

Likewise, more and more people are concerned about resource depletion issues such as deforestation, species extinction and animal rights at the global level, regardless of national boundaries. Ongoing integration of the world economy brings with it new concerns by consumers about the safety of imported products. Products with high demand do not easily meet that demand without depleting the available resources.¹³ It is in that scope that environmental protocols are needed in Southern Africa to deal with the issue of scarcity in a sustainable manner. CITES has been framed within the diaphragm of this noble concept.

The current wave of concern for the environment is much more intense, more widespread, and likely to be sustained and to affect a much broader range of countries than was the first wave around the early 1970s. This is partly because more is now known about the considerable extent to which we are degrading the natural environment. The demand for many of nature's services in Southern Africa is increasing also because of rapid population and income growth. By contrast, growth in the supply of environmental services is limited by their non-renewability and/or by incomplete markets for them, particularly in developing economies and at the global level where cheap-rider problems are especially acute.

As countries compete to trade more, production and the use of natural resources is spiralling in one direction - up. Resources are being used up faster than they can be replenished.¹⁴ The oceans are being emptied of fish, ancient forests are being destroyed, and river basins are being sold off one by one to private drinking water companies. Huge oil, gas, mining, pharmaceutical and agri-business multinationals keep expanding their operations at all costs, creating more and more pollution. Their sole goal is to make money and not to take care of our planet and health, now or for posterity. Essentially, trade rules must not be allowed to take priority over environmental protection.

While Southern African elephants have been hunted for several centuries, the exploitation of elephant herds on a massive scale began in the 1970s. Organised gangs of poachers used automatic weapons, profited from government corruption, and laundered tons of elephant tusks through several African countries to destinations in Eastern and Western countries. Threatened with extinction, the elephant is theoretically protected from international trade by their listing on Appendix I of the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** since 1989. The

¹² Environment and Trade A Handbook, The United Nations Environment Programme (2005), Geneva.

¹³ <http://www.oecd.org/about/.html>

¹⁴ *ibid*; <http://www.oecd.org/about/.html>

enforcement of this ban, the level of compliance adhered to by CITES Parties, the response of non-CITES members, as well as the policy question as to how trade "interventions" best serve the environmental objective of species preservation, are all key concerns of this dispute. Before the 1989 CITES ban, illegal and legal ivory exports amounted to 770 metric tons (tons), or 75,000 elephants.

Trade, poverty and the environment are closely linked

The links between trade, poverty and environment arise in terms of three vitally important dimensions of poverty reduction - livelihoods, health, and vulnerability. The poor are strongly dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods. A polluted environment, particularly unclean water and indoor air pollution, will therefore affect the poor adversely. The poor are particularly vulnerable to environmental stress and disasters such as droughts and floods. There is need to improving governance, as a means to establish more effective and 'pro-poor' policies on trade and environment. Such protocols are therefore handy.

Increased health concerns

The Biosafety Protocol recognises the right of countries to reject Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) based on the 'precautionary principle.' This common sense rule means that as long as there are doubts about the environmental safety of GMOs, then countries can reject them.¹⁵ Precaution should come before profit. This is especially important in centres of diversity of staple foods like maize.

The Negatives of MEAs for Southern Africa

Direct v. Indirect Impact on trade

Differences of opinion exist over the nature of the ivory trade. "Is the ultimate goal of CITES to close down international trade in wildlife or to establish effective management of all globally threatened species?" The Southern African countries of Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa, want to maintain the legal trade in elephant products in countries with flourishing elephant populations and who manage them sustainably. They would use the funds from ivory sales for management. This approach was supported by several Hong Kong business syndicates involved in the ivory and rhino horn trade.¹⁶ However with the total ban on the ivory trade that came into effect on January 18, 1990, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and Malawi had to vote against the resolution. Zimbabwe with a herd of over 52 000 elephants may not have the capacity to

¹⁵ Anderson, K. "Effects on the Environment and Welfare of Liberalising World Trade" Wheatsheaf; (1992)

¹⁶ Hadfield, Peter. African Nations Defeated over Elephant Trade; NewScientist; (1992)

maintain them all. This can indirectly impact on environmental protection efforts. There is need to trade them as a conservation measure to the flora.

Loss of revenue

Since the implementation of the ban, the ivory market has collapsed, although some trading continues from stocks. Before the ban, the United States was one of the largest importers of worked ivory in the world (valued at US\$11.8 million annually), behind Japan (38 percent) and the European Community (18 percent).¹⁷ The United States accounted for 12 percent of all ivory being traded (16 percent of worked ivory) internationally. The ban amounted to loss of revenue in Southern African states and subsequently loss of livelihoods.

Price-Type Approaches to Climate Change

It would be critical to have a fair burden of the cost of emissions reductions among nations. It would be reasonable to allow participation to depend upon the level of economic development. For example, countries might be expected to participate fully when their incomes reach a given threshold (perhaps US\$10,000 per capita), and poor countries would receive transfers to encourage early participation. If carbon prices are equalised across participating countries, there will be no need for tariffs or border tax adjustments among participants. While much work on the details would be required, this is familiar terrain because countries have been dealing with problems of tariffs, subsidies, and differential tax treatment for many years. The issues are elementary compared to those of a quantity-based regime.¹⁸

Administrative problems

An essential question applies particularly to international environmental agreements and concerns the administration of programmes in a world where governments vary in terms of honesty, transparency, and effective administration. An emissions-trading system creates valuable tradable assets in the form of tradable emissions permits and allocates these to different countries. If oil ministers in corrupt countries pocket oil export revenues, why would they not pocket emissions permits as well (perhaps after suitable “privatisations”).

Added to this is the concern that environmentalism, like certain approaches to regionalism, might pose a threat to the liberal multilateral trading system on which the future of small open economies and Southern African dynamism generally continues heavily to depend.

¹⁷ McCormick, John :Environmental Policy in the European Union;Palgrave (2001)

¹⁸ http://www.econ.yale.edu/~nordhaus/kyoto_long_2005.doc

North-South Dimension

Still, Southern African rural people who must regularly drive long distances on environmental protection will face higher burdens. It is true that the more advanced economies tend to have established institutional structures to help handle the tasks of arriving at a social consensus on what are appropriate environmental or sustainable development policies for that society, of allocating property rights, and of enforcing policies. The same is true in some traditional societies before they begin to 'modernise' and their resource stocks come under pressure because of declining mortality rates. But the creation of appropriate new institutions to determine and implement sustainable development policies is often slow in the newly 'modernising' Southern African economies, where population and consumption growth are expected to be concentrated for the foreseeable future. Hence the growing interest especially in the more advanced "North" economies -including on the part of proposers and drafters of international environmental agreements - in using one of the few policy instruments apparently available to them, namely trade restrictions, to influence environmental outcomes in countries in the "South".¹⁹

Criticising the romanticisation of Kyoto by philanthropic policy makers, Southern African states do not see such environmental protocols as a panacea to poverty. The affected people are the wretched of the wretched of the earth, suffering under the yoke of double edged sword, that is, loss of income on one hand and environmental sanctions on the other.

Neo-colonial tendencies

Already we have seen the use of discriminatory trade restrictions affecting particular targeted products (for example, in the **Montreal Protocol on Substances (CFCs) that Deplete the Ozone Layer**). There have also been proposals to use trade sanctions against unrelated products. These aim chiefly at persuading developing countries to adopt stricter environmental standards (for example, threats to provide less open access to textile and other markets in industrial countries, unless logging is curtailed or managed on a more sustainable basis). These have caused skepticism as Southern African states see neo-colonial tendencies in these commitments.

The reason is that, producer interest groups and some environmental groups are nevertheless finding it mutually advantageous to use environmental arguments in support of their claims for unilateral import restrictions, particularly following the costly imposition of stricter environmental standards on Southern African producers. In this sense, the environment can provide a convenient excuse for raising trade barriers that reduce real incomes elsewhere, especially in developing and natural resource-abundant countries.

¹⁹ Anderson K.: "The Standard Welfare Economics of Policies Affecting Trade and the Environment"; University of Michigan Press and London: Harvester Wheatsheaf (1992)

Using the Gramscian model of the ‘politics of position’ and ‘politics of manoeuvre’, neo-liberals in Southern Africa have colluded with neo-liberals forces entrenched in international financial institutions such as the World Bank and World Trade Organisation, to pull strings that direct the trajectory of national and regional domestic ecological reform programmes.

Absence of the U. S and Australia

In 2001, President George W. Bush confirmed that the United States of America would not ratify the Kyoto Protocol. The US is one of the leading industrialised countries and consequently in ozone depletion, through carbon emissions.

While Australia has signed both the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, it has failed to ratify the latter. It is nevertheless committed to meeting its 18% Kyoto target for greenhouse gas emissions, and argues that it is on track to doing so.²⁰ Their absence is therefore problematic and it becomes clear that it rests on the Ghanaian proverb which says that monkeys play by their sizes. Impliedly the U.S and Australia has understood it that way; that they are bigger players who play it alone and wisely. Southern African countries contribute far much less on gas emissions than US and Australia but sadly they are being held at ransom in a case they are not the main culprits. Political and economic interests have dominated U.S’ and Australia's greenhouse policies.

Is Southern Africa witnessing another version of Animal Farm, where some animals are more equal than others... or case of our priorities can’t mix with yours? In general, Kyoto would give non- parties such as the United States a competitive advantage to the extent that Kyoto entails significant economic costs. U.S. firms would tend to gain an advantage vis-à-vis foreign competitors especially from Southern African energy-intensive industries.

Conclusion

What we often call the end is actually the beginning and to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from. It has been accepted as a truism however, that “trade” and “just environmental policies” are the quintessential ingredients in fighting poverty. Besides the unwarranted loss of livelihoods, the erosion of ecological capital and the subsequent economic hemorrhage; stringent trade laws and unmerited environmental protocols have been notorious of plunging both the Southern African region and its individual nations alike into quagmires of economic comatose. At the most basic level, trade and the environment are related, because all economic activity is based on the environment. This is because it is the basis of all inputs (metals and minerals, soil, forests

²⁰ Claussen Eileen: Statement on Global Climate Change, Pew Centre; (2005)

and fisheries)²¹. Southern Africa therefore needs more than inspiring protocols. It needs environmental architects who touch their lives directly; they need action that is taken to scale; action that grows out of a unified strategy; that will protect, respect and fulfill the hopes and dreams of all - North or South.

Southern African countries should therefore;

- Seek to it that there is increased openness to trade and investment. Timely, easy and full access to information for all those affected and public participation in the decision making process are valuable in achieving the qualities of responsiveness and accountability.
- Lobby the GATT/ WTO to set up multilateral rules against rich countries coming up with provisions for their own economies that end up hurting developing countries. These encompass subsidies, special trade rules and tariff systems.
- Garner for the expediting of environmental issues on the WTO agenda such as labeling requirements for environmental purposes. This has been on its agenda since inception. The WTO first ministerial meeting in Singapore in 1996 left environmental issues as part of the continuing agenda.²²
- Capacity building is essential in strengthening Southern Africa's ability to meet the challenges of putting desirable policies in place to deal with the impact of environment commitments on trade liberalisation. Governments, together with the civil society need to move attention away from the narrow sectoral approaches towards full – sectoral co-ordination and co-operation. Training, country based projects, thematic research studies and national workshops can boost the region's capacity on the trade and environment continuum. This will favourably reduce trade- environment frictions.

²¹ Environment and Trade A Handbook, The United Nations Environment Programme (2005), Geneva.

²² Environment and Trade A Handbook, The United Nations Environment Programme (2005), Geneva.

References

Albouy, Y. : "Coal Pricing in China: Issues and Reform Strategy", China and Mongolia Dept. Discussion Paper No. 138, The World Bank, Washington, D.C., October; 1991

Anderson, K.: "The Standard Welfare Economics of Policies Affecting Trade and the Environment"; University of Michigan Press and London: Harvester Wheatsheaf; 1992a

Anderson, K. "Effects on the Environment and Welfare of Liberalising World Trade: The Cases of Coal and Food", Ch.8 in The Greening of World Trade Issues; University of Michigan Press and London: Harvester Wheatsheaf; 1992b

Bührs, Ton; Bartlett and Robert V : "Environmental Policy in New Zealand. hi The Politics of Clean and Green". Oxford University Press; U.K; 1991

Claussen Eileen: Statement on Global Climate Change, Pew Centre; November 14, 2005

Concise Oxford Dictionary; U.K; 1995

Hadfield, Peter. "African Nations Defeated over Elephant Trade"; NewScientist; March 14, 1992

Nordhaus William. D: "After Kyoto: Alternative Mechanisms to Control Global Warming paper; March 27; 2006

McCormick, John : "Environmental Policy in the European Union. The European Series". Palgrave; 2001:

The Herald: "Zimbabwe should take a proactive stance on climate"; Herald Reporter; November 2; 2007

UNEP: "Environment and Trade A Handbook", International Institute for Sustainable Development ; 2nd Edition; Geneva, Switzerland; 2005

Journals

http://www.econ.yale.edu/~nordhaus/kyoto_long_2005.doc

<http://www.oecd.org/about/.html>