



Panel Discussion – Satellite Event XVI International AIDS Conference

Hosted by
Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF)
and the
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

Will it Deliver? ***WTO rules and Canada's law on compulsory licensing –*** ***The continuing challenge of scaling up treatment access***

August 15th 2006, 6-8pm

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Room SR 9

More than two years ago, Canada passed detailed legislation implementing the 2003 WTO decision on using compulsory licensing to produce less expensive generic medicines for export to eligible developing countries. The WTO decision was supposed to enable a rapid response to a crisis of access to medicines for developing countries. Yet despite efforts, no medicines have left Canada, and no country has yet made use of the 2003 WTO decision, which nonetheless has since been adopted as a permanent amendment to WTO rules.

At this session, Brigitte Zirger (Health Canada), Prof. David H. Mwakyusa (Minister for Health and Social Welfare – Tanzania), Bruce Clark (Apotex), Anil Soni (Clinton Foundation), Rachel Kiddell-Monroe (Médecins Sans Frontières) and Richard Elliott (Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network) will present their perspectives on their experience with the Canadian law and the 2003 WTO decision, and consider whether such mechanisms will or can truly improve access to antiretrovirals and other medicines urgently needed in developing countries. Open discussion will follow the presentations.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
www.msf.ca

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
www.aidslaw.ca