

views on the prospects for international agreement on the issues raised in these areas.

The proceedings of this conference will be published in the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law* and will thus be available to its subscribers throughout the United States and in forty-three different countries. We want to use this conference as a catalyst for information for policy makers on how the future agreements on trade in services and intellectual property should be structured, and to prepare practitioners and businesses for the type of agreements that can be expected. One of the main underlying issues in these areas and one that I am sure will be touched upon here, is the difference between the interests in these areas of the industrial countries like the United States, and the interests of the developing countries.

OPENING REMARKS

*Professor Gabriel M. Wilner**

The inclusion in the current Multilateral Trade Negotiations of major categories of trade never before considered has caught the imaginations of governments and business communities around the world. The institutional structure and framework of rules necessary to bring about this expansion of global cooperation in world trade is, of course, of particular interest to lawyers.

The organizers of this conference decided that discussion of the inclusion in the multilateral trading system of trade in services and trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights could provide an opportunity for an exchange of ideas by a varied group of experts on matters that are freshly on the agenda of the MTNs and that present a novel set of challenges to the further liberalization of the international trading system. The focus of discussion was first to be the possible global multilateral framework for the liberalization of the international trade in services and the rules necessary to bring about the increased protection of intellectual property rights in international trade. A second principal aspect of the discussion at this conference was to be the possible content of these distinct additions to the multilateral trading system.

* Thomas M. Kirbo Professor of Law, University of Georgia School of Law.

Underlying the agenda set for the conference was the conviction of the organizers that the most appropriate approach to international trade issues was to submit them to multilateral negotiations with the aim of achieving multilateral solutions.

The speakers and commentators at the conference took into account the difficulties encountered at the Montreal Ministerial Meeting in the areas of trade in services and trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights. However, the focus of the discussions at the conference was on the possible shape of agreements in these areas as they would be fashioned over the entire course of the MTNs.

Subsequent to the discussion at the conference, the Trade Negotiation Committee met in Geneva and completed the Mid-Term Review of the Uruguay Round.* The details of the Geneva meeting which took place in April 1989 are beyond the scope of this preface, whose purpose is to introduce the discussion held in March, 1989 at the University of Georgia Law School. However, in the interest of providing the reader with information to be read in connection with the points of view on substance which were set forth at the conference, the decisions adopted in Montreal and Geneva are reproduced as an annex.

As of this writing in November, 1989, many proposals have been submitted to the negotiating committees on trade in services and on trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights: the negotiations are in full swing. It is hoped that ideas expressed at the conference will stimulate further thoughtful analysis of the issues, and that the discussions reproduced below will provide useful indications of the philosophical and policy bases for many of the proposals on services and intellectual property being made by the United States and other participants in the Uruguay Round.

* The Montreal Ministerial Meeting which met in December 1988 commenced the Mid-Term Review of the Uruguay Round.