

## **Book Launch**

# **“Reforming the World Trade Organization Developing Countries in the Doha Round”**

**Author: Faizel Ismail**

The issues related to the reform and strengthening of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) are expected to be at the centre stage at the 7<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 30 November till 2 December 2009. This CUTS-FES publication written by Faizel Ismail, Head of the South African Mission to the WTO, is a contribution to inform that debate at the WTO Ministerial Conference and beyond.

In his first book, *Mainstreaming Development in the WTO*, published by CUTS and FES in 2007, Faizel Ismail provided an assessment of several episodes of the Doha Round, from its inception until its collapse in Potsdam, in June 2007. In this, his second book, he continues the story of the unfolding Doha Round, analyzing its collapse in July 2008, and the recent attempts to re-energize the Round in 2009. The book is written from the perspective of developing countries, assessing the unprecedented role of developing country coalitions such as the G20, NAMA 11, G33, the African Group, ACP Group, LDCs, SVEs, the Cotton 4, etc, in the Doha Round. This book is also deeply concerned about identifying the substantive issues and procedures of the WTO that need to be “reformed”. Pradeep S. Mehta, the Secretary General of CUTS has stated that “this book is a must-read for Trade Ministers as they prepare for the coming WTO Ministerial Conference”.

## **Programme**

**Sunday, 29 November 2009**

**18:30-20:30 hours**

**Hotel Intercontinental, 7-9 Ch de Petit-Saconnex, Geneva**

*Welcome and Introduction:* Dr. Winfried Veit, Head FES Geneva Office

*Authors’ Introduction to the book:* Faizel Ismail, Head of Delegation of South Africa to the WTO

*Keynote Speech:* Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary General UNCTAD

*Comments:* Hon. Dr. Rob Davies, Minister of Trade, South Africa

*Concluding Remarks:* Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International