

### Seminar Announcement

The South Centre Innovation and Access to Knowledge Programme invites you to its  
**Fourth South Innovation Perspectives Series Seminar titled:**

***“Making Patent Policy Work for Development: Lessons from the SWISS Experience”***

Date: Wednesday, 24 October 2007

Venue: Palais des Nations, Room IX (Old building, 3rd Floor)

Time: 15h00 - 17h00

**Speaker:**

**Dr. Nikolaus Thumm**, Senior Economic Counsellor, Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property,  
Berne

**Commentators:**

**Prof. Dominique Foray**, Chair of Economics of Innovation, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology,  
Lausanne

**Mr. Huang Rengang**, Minister Counsellor, Chinese permanent mission to the WTO

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This Seminar presentation will provide a factual account of the history of Swiss patent law. The aim of the Seminar is to stimulate discussion on and draw lessons from the Swiss experience.

It is a historical fact that countries that have successfully developed did not follow a “one-size-fits-all” model and did not develop on the basis of the policies and institutions that they now recommend, or coerce, developing countries to adopt. The progressive development and implementation of patent law in developed countries, as a tool for promoting certain types of innovation, is a case example.

## **About South Innovation Perspectives Series Seminars**

The seminar series, presented by the South Centre on a quarterly basis, aims to provide a forum where cutting-edge research and ideas on innovation, access to knowledge and intellectual property, from a development perspective, are presented and debated. Speakers are researchers and policy analysts, especially from the South, who focus their work on key issues for developing countries as well as relevant global issues. By presenting new/innovative research and ideas, the seminar series plays an important role in linking local/national circumstances and challenges to the norm-setting activities in various International institutions and processes in Geneva and beyond. By engaging negotiators and the main players in international processes, the seminars also contribute to promoting evidence-based norm-setting in key institutions such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO); among other organisations.

## **Registration**

Please e-mail [ngomeeneme@southcentre.org](mailto:ngomeeneme@southcentre.org) or call +41 22 791 80 50 or fax +41 22 798 85 31.

**Pre-registration is required due to limited space and security requirements.**