

**Open Letter to Prof. Dr. Felix Addor**  
**Director Legal & International Affairs Division**  
**Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property**

Wednesday, 9 June, 2010

Dear Sir,

We have been informed that Switzerland will be hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> Anti-Counterfeit Trade Agreement negotiation round (ACTA IX) in Lucerne, from June 28 to July 1. Together with the undersigned organizations, we would like to ask the Swiss government to enable civil society representatives to engage with trade negotiators to exchange views on critical issues that are under discussion during this negotiating round.

On several occasions, civil society organizations have expressed serious concerns with the lack of transparency in the ACTA negotiations and with the substance of the negotiations, which seeks to export strict intellectual property enforcement rules worldwide. Now that a public draft text of ACTA has been disclosed last April, and as Switzerland repeatedly claimed to be in favor of a more transparent and consultative process, we believe that the Lucerne negotiation round is an excellent and timely opportunity to enable greater interaction between interested stakeholders and negotiating countries.

We, the undersigned organizations ask you to organize at minimum a two-hour meeting between negotiators and civil society organizations that will enable negotiators and the civil society to present their views, to field questions and to discuss key substantive areas of the Agreement. The meeting should be scheduled at a time which allows participants from all parts of the country to travel to and from Lucerne the same day, avoiding the first and the last negotiation days.

We are confident on your full collaboration on this matter, and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

## **SIGNATORIES**

1. The Berne Declaration
2. Health Action International
3. Oxfam International
4. Alliance Sud
5. Medicus Mundi Switzerland
6. 3D →Trade – Human Rights – Equitable Economy