

3 July, 2009

Consultations and Liaison Division (BSL)
Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
Lester B. Pearson Building
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2
E-mail: consultations@international.gc.ca
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SENT BY EMAIL

Subject: Public comments on ACTA negotiations—TACD resolution on IPR
Enforcement

Dear Sir or Madam:

Health Action International (HAI) welcomes the opportunity to submit comments to the Canadian government on the ongoing ACTA negotiations. Our submission consists of the Trans Atlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD) resolution on the enforcement of copyright, trademarks, patents and other intellectual property rights.

HAI is a member of the TACD, which represents 80 United States and European consumer groups. The resolution was approved following the annual TACD meeting that took place in Brussels June 7th-10th. The resolution as a whole is relevant to the ACTA negotiations but section 3b explicitly comments on them. Specifically, this section of the resolution points out that at this point in time the negotiations lack transparency and legitimacy and it lays out recommendations for how negotiations should proceed in the future and what consumer safeguards should be incorporated.

Health Action International is an independent, global network working to increase access to essential medicines and improve their rational use.

Sincerely,

Joel Lexchin MD
School of Health Policy and Management
York University
and
Barbara Mintzes PhD
Therapeutics Initiative
University of British Columbia

on behalf of Health Action International