The Future Control of Food
A GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS AND RULES ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, BIODIVERSITY AND FOOD SECURITY

Edited by Geoff Tansey and Tasmin Rajotte

PRAISE FOR The Future Control of Food:

'This is the best single summary of the political choices facing food and agriculture policymakers that has been written in this decade.' PAT MOONEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ETC GROUP

'Timely... useful insights ...All stakeholders have a lot to gain by reading it.' EMILE FRISON, DIRECTOR GENERAL, BIOVERSITY INTERNATIONAL

'A comprehensive and outstanding analysis.' KEITH E. MASKUS, PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER

'Well-researched...condenses the essence of decades of negotiations into a readable but disturbing narrative... it is essential reading.' PATRICK MULVANY, CHAIR, UK FOOD GROUP

'I recommend it to all who play a role in the formulation of relevant international norms in whatever capacity, and regardless of the interests they may represent.' LEO PALMA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ADVISORY CENTRE ON WTO LAW; PHILIPPINES NEGOTIATOR AT WTO, 1996-2001

'This book is an excellent collection of guideposts for perplexed students and scholars and a handbook for the seasoned diplomat seeking to make the world a better place for future generations.' PROFESSOR CALESTOUS JUMA, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

'An excellent resource for those mapping the increasing control of our food chain by international players' SUMAN SAHAI, DIRECTOR, GENE CAMPAIGN, INDIA

'Intellectual Property Rights appear mind-numbingly complex but are fundamentally important. This book outlines what the IPRs and food debates are, and why we should wake up and take notice.' TIM LANG, PROFESSOR OF FOOD POLICY, CITY UNIVERSITY, LONDON

'Read this book to learn how intellectual property rights may affect world food supply, and to understand the political battlefield.' TIM ROBERTS, CHARTERED PATENT ATTORNEY, UK, AND RAPPORTEUR TO THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMMISSION OF ICC

'Brave, visionary and inevitably controversial!' ANDREW BENNETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SYNGENTA FOUNDATION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE


DESCRIPTION

• This is the first guide to the issues, international agreements (such as TRIPS) and organizations (such as WIPO, WTO, FAO and CBD) involved in negotiations for future control of genetic resources and food production

• Written in plain language for the non-expert, it is a must-have reference for all involved in negotiations, food policy, intellectual property research, biological diversity, indigenous peoples rights and agri-businesses

• Written by leading experts and people closely involved with negotiations

This book is the first wide-ranging guide to the key issues of intellectual property and ownership, genetics, biodiversity and food security. Proceeding from an introduction and overview of the issues, comprehensive chapters cover negotiations and instruments in the World Trade Organization, Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Food and Agriculture Organization, World Intellectual Property Organization, the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants and various other international bodies. The final part discusses the responses of civil society groups to the changing global rules, how these changes affect the direction of research and development, the nature of global negotiation processes and various alternative futures.

Geoff Tansey is a researcher and writer on intellectual property, food and agriculture and a Joseph Rowntree Visionary for a Just and Peaceful World. He is lead author of The Food System (1995) and co-editor of The Meat Business (1999) and Negotiating Health (2005). Tasmin Rajotte has worked in the field of sustainable agriculture, food security and environment for a number of years and is the representative for the Quaker International Affairs Programme (QIAP), Ottawa, Canada.

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