World Trade Review (2007), 6: 2, 213 Printed in the United Kingdom
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Special GMO Symposium

The following articles were first presented in Jerusalem on 21 June 2006, at a Roundtable entitled 'Understanding the WTO Panel Report in EC-Biotech'.* The purpose of the Roundtable was to discuss the critical aspects the EC-Biotech Panel's Interim Report, which had been publicly available (though not through the Panel's own action) for several months. The EC-Biotech Panel Report was subsequently circulated on 29 September 2006 and adopted, without appeal, by the Dispute Settlement Body on 21 November 2006.

The EC-Biotech dispute concerns a number of highly sensitive issues related to the balance between international trade, public health, environmental protection, national regulatory authority, and science. The Panel Report extensively addresses many questions of WTO law over more than 1000 pages. The following articles do not purport to cover all the questions raised by the Panel Report, but merely to explain and critique the Panel's approach to some of the most central ones.

* The Roundtable was organized by Tomer Broude of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with the generous funding of the Davis Institute of International Relations (Dir. Prof. Alfred Tovias) and the International Law Forum of the Faculty of Law (Dir. Prof. Moshe Hirsch). Ms Anat Kleiman is thanked for her administrative assistance.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474745607003230 Published online by Cambridge University Press