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WTO Ruling Disregards 'Precautionary Principle': Favors Science-Based 'Approach' to EU Biotech Rules, Says ITSSD

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Pennsylvania ([MediaPressRelease](#)) December 08, 2006 -- In a Legal Backgrounder released today by the Washington Legal Foundation (WLF), entitled, WTO Ruling on Biotech Foods Addresses "Precautionary Principle", international business and trade expert Lawrence Kogan of the non-profit Institute for Trade, Standards and Sustainable Development, Inc. (ITSSD), argues that a recent World Trade Organization (WTO) ruling represents a blow to the proponents of the "Precautionary Principle" in Europe and a victory for 'best available science' in the regulatory process. The Precautionary Principle eschews science-based 'risk' assessments and an evaluation of the economic benefits and costs of regulation. Instead, it favors the enactment of overly strict and burdensome environmental, health, and safety rules based on unfounded [activist](#) fears of hypothetical hazards, for the purpose of eliminating every possible future risk from economic conduct.