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WTO 'Fever' Necessary to Stem Advance of Precautionary Principle 'Virus', Says ITSSD

Tue Mar 27, 9:00 AM ET

To: POLITICAL EDITORS

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PRINCETON, N.J., March 27 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- In a recent editorial and newsletter interview, trade and regulatory lawyer Lawrence Kogan discusses why commencing a WTO legal action against the

European Union's (EU's) REACH chemicals regulatory regime remains the most effective way to halt the global advance of the extra-WTO Precautionary Principle.

The costly and burdensome REACH was adopted last winter despite widespread international protest. Nevertheless, Brussels' allies within the new 110th Congress have admonished U.S. negotiators preparing for the upcoming April EU- US Transatlantic Summit to work towards the harmonization of REACH with U.S. chemicals laws. Apparently, these representatives do not 'care' whether it will cost America its economic health.

Mr. Kogan argues that, "for the past decade, the EU has exported its regulatory aversion to best-available science, economic-cost benefit analysis and strong intellectual property right protections throughout the world to 'level the economic playing field' for its noncompetitive industries." It has tried to make the global legal environment "more hospitable to the Precautionary Principle", he says, "in much the same way that a protein-coated virus infects a healthy human body and redesigns its metabolism"...