



6 December 2007

Doha TRIPS Protocol Submissions  
Attention: Warren Hassett  
Competition, Trade and Investment Branch  
Ministry of Economic Development  
PO Box 1473  
Wellington

**RMI Submission on Acceptance of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement to Implement the Doha Declaration on TRIPS and Public Health : Discussion Document**

The Researched Medicines Industry Association of New Zealand (RMI) is the national body representing New Zealand's research based pharmaceutical industry. Its 18 member companies are engaged in the research, development, manufacture and marketing of prescription medicines and vaccines and the ongoing improvement of medical and scientific knowledge about their products.

The international pharmaceutical industry has welcomed the completion of the negotiations on TRIPS and public health and fully supports the codification of the August 2003 solution reached by WTO members.

The pharmaceutical industry has been actively engaged globally with both Governmental and non-Governmental agencies supporting initiatives to address health problems afflicting many developing and least-developed countries, especially those resulting from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

In particular the international pharmaceutical industry supports the anti-diversion measures and safeguards which will be critical in ensuring that medicines produced and exported under compulsory licence reach the intended recipients.

We see no reason why the New Zealand Government should not join with those other countries that have accepted this protocol.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Shirley', is written over a white background.

**Ken Shirley**  
Chief Executive Officer

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