The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an agency of the United Nations.

NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), CAFTA (Central American) and GATT are all UN treaties.

Exports from other countries have made us dependent on their products as American jobs have been shipped overseas. The arrangement has been particularly devastating for 3rd world countries.

Vandana Shiva of India, the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology, explains how the World Trade Organization has wreaked havoc on India's food supply through reduced import duty tariffs that make farmers more dependent on the government. This created crisis, in turn, has led to an increase in Genetically Modified food because of government support. The WTO has imposed export bans, except where it benefits large corporations.

Vandana Shiva reports that over 200,000 farmers have committed suicide due to the pollution of their farmlands from GMOs.

(Editor's note: we disagree with her position on global warming. We believe her use of the word "democracy" in this context refers to the government serving the will of the people).

WHO IS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR THE WTO?

Rufus H. Yerxa has served as Deputy Director General since 2002.

Mr. Yerxa has an extensive record as a international trade negotiator, diplomat and lawyer. He served as a Presidential appointee in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) during both Democratic and Republican administrations, first as the Geneva-based Ambassador to the GATT (the predecessor organization to the WTO) and subsequently as the Deputy USTR in Washington, the Administration's highest ranking sub-cabinet post for trade negotiations. In these two positions, he played a major role in negotiating and securing Congressional approval of both the Uruguay Round/WTO agreement and the NAFTA accord. He guided the drafting and enactment of several major pieces of trade legislation.

His private sector experience includes both law practice and a senior corporate role. He was a resident partner in the Brussels office of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, where his practice focused on international trade matters and European regulatory affairs. He subsequently joined Monsanto Company, a leading producer of agricultural input products, where he was in charge of the law, government affairs and public affairs departments for Europe and Africa. **He later served as Monsanto's international counsel in Washington.**