6-11-1991

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Barbara Khol

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U.S. Ambassador Calls On Argentine Government To Recognize Pharmaceuticals Patents

by Barbara Khol
Category/Department: General
Published: Tuesday, June 11, 1991

On June 6, US ambassador in Buenos Aires Terence Todman called on the Argentine government to recognize and protect patents on pharmaceuticals developed in the US. Todman spoke at an international symposium organized by the Studies Center for Development of the Argentine Chemical Pharmaceutical Industry. Recognition of patents has long been demanded by the US government, but approval of the measure was delayed due to opposition by domestic laboratories, professional organizations and health sector workers. During a visit in Buenos Aires a year ago, US Trade Representative Carla Hills threatened trade sanctions similar to those applied against Brazil. The Brazilian government refused to develop legislation defining medical pharmaceutical patents, and outlining sanctions for abuse of patents. (Basic data from AFP, 06/06/91)

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