

## Internet Gambling: Costa Rica to ask WTO for compensation from US

Contributed by Thomas Jensen  
Thursday, 21 June 2007  
Last Updated Thursday, 21 June 2007

News circulating out of Costa Rica indicate that the bookie haven will be sending a letter of intent to the World Trade Organization to claim damages against the United States for their stance on internet gambling.

Costa Rica will be following the lead of European Union, Antigua & Barbuda, India and Japan in seeking compensation for the Washington's illegal ban on remote gaming operators.

Point-Spreads.com sources had a dinner meeting with Marco Vinicio Ruiz, the Costa Rican Minister of Commerce. At the meeting, Minister Ruiz indicated the letter would be sent to the WTO tomorrow. Industry insiders are glad to see the Arias administration step to the plate. Up until now, the country has barely acknowledged the industry existed however the internet gambling industry provides thousands of Costa Ricans high paying jobs. The economic impact on the local economy around San Jose has been severely damaged from the United States "War on Internet Gambling". As the president of Costa Rica, Oscar Arias is a Nobel prize winner and has been a political reformer that has tackled such issues as wide spread corruption, cocaine trafficking and illegal immigration. Arias set the record for the most amount of cocaine seized by any president, then proceeded to break the record 3 more times.