



Is the EU doing enough to support Fair Trade?

Round-table, followed by the launch of the publication "Fair Trade in Europe 2005" and a Fair Trade Product Tasting

A round-table on EU Fair Trade Policy will take place in the Commission's premises on **the 20th of February** from **17.30 to 19.30 p.m.**, with the aim of discussing the role of the EU in supporting Fair Trade and examining the existing tools and policies in the EU in this area. Each speaker will address the subject for 10 to 15 minutes from his or her professional perspective and give his or her view to the way the EU contributes or can contribute to the promotion of Fair Trade. Thereafter, the floor will be opened for a question and answer session, to be followed by a round-table debate. The aim is to bring the speakers to a lively and challenging debate in order to compare their views and if possible to find a consensus on how to get the European Union more involved in the promotion of Fair Trade.

The round-table debate will be followed by the launch of the publication:

"Fair Trade in Europe 2005. Facts and Figures on Fair Trade in 25 European Countries"

Thereafter, from 19:45 to 20:30, **delicious Fair Trade products (wine, chocolate and more...)** will be offered for tasting. Information and documents on Fair Trade and existing Worldshops in Brussels will be available.

This event is organised by the Fair Trade Project from the Solidarité Sub-committee of the EC Stagiaires in cooperation with the Fair Trade Advocacy Office, Brussels.

To register please send an email to AGRI-FAIRTRADE-EC@cec.eu.int by the **15th of February midnight** at the very latest.

Venue: European Commission's Van Maerlant Building (Room 2 Level 2), Rue Van Maerlant, 2, B-1040 Brussels, (Metro Maelbeek)

Draft programme:

- 17:30 Opening remarks by **Mrs. Anja Osterhaus**, Fair Trade Advocacy Co-ordinator
- 17:35 "What does fair trade mean for small producers in the Carribean" **H.E. Edwin Laurent**, ACP Countries, Ambassador, Eastern Caribbean States Mission to the EU
- 17:50 "EU Trade Policy and Fair Trade", **Mr. Gareth Steel**, European Commission, DG Trade
- 18:05 "The role of Fair Trade in poverty alleviation", **Attn. Ato Brook Debebe**, Deputy Chief of Mission (Minister), Embassy of Ethiopia in Brussels
- 18:20 "The European Parliament and Fair Trade", **Dr. Frithjof Schmidt**, Member of the European Parliament, European Green Party
- 18:35 "The impact of Fair Trade on banana producers in Ecuador", **Dr. Rolando Suárez**, Councillor at the Mission of Ecuador in Brussels
- 18:50 "What the EU could do to support Fair Trade", **Mr. Johan Elsen**, Oxfam Wereldwinkels
- 19:05 Questions and round-table debate
- 19:30 Presentation of the Publication "**Fair Trade in Europe 2005**"
- 19:30 **Fair Trade Products Tasting !**