

Address by

Ambassador O'Ceallaigh, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the WTO

to the

WTO General Aid for Trade Review, Geneva, 20th November 2007

- I would like to complement the WTO on organising this Global Review of Aid for Trade.
- We believe that Aid for Trade is a valuable complement to the Doha Development Agenda but, of course, it cannot be a substitute for the benefits that will result from a successful conclusion to the Round.
- As a smaller bilateral donor, Ireland has traditionally focused on the social sectors especially in the health and education areas.
- However, our White Paper on IrishAid, published last year, put a new emphasis on Aid for Trade. It contained a commitment to increase our funding in this area.

- Against this background, meetings such as this are invaluable for donors such as ourselves. They provide an opportunity for us to hear about the needs of partner countries as well as to learn from best practice in the delivery of Aid for Trade. In short, they provide key information that we can use to measure and monitor Aid for Trade.
- Ireland is committed to playing its part in the implementation both of the EU Aid for Trade Strategy and the global Aid for Trade agenda.
- Our Aid for Trade this year, at €11.2 million shows an increase of over 50% on last year. There will be a further increase next year.
- In conclusion, I would like to again thank the WTO for facilitating this important first Global Review.