

Seattle to Brussels Network
Media advisory: Friday 4th April 2008

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES: 7-10 APRIL 2008

GLOBAL GATHERING SAYS 'NO' TO EU FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

Brussels, 4 April 2008 - More than one hundred prominent civil society activists from across the globe will gather in Brussels next week (6-10 April) for a week of action against the EU's free trade agreements.

Representatives from farmers groups and social movements, environmentalists, members of women's organisations, NGO activists and trade unionists from Africa, Latin America, Asia, the US, Canada and Europe will take part in events and debates on the free trade agreements which are at the heart of the EU's 'Global Europe' strategy.

INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

Various spokespeople will be available for interview from 7 to 10 April, including:

- **Charles Santiago**, member of the Malaysian Parliament, and an expert on EU-ASEAN trade talks
- **Gyekye Tanoh** of Third World Network-Africa and **Dot Keet** of the Africa Trade Network, who will discuss the controversial Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) between the EU and the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific regions
- **Ndiogou Fall** from ROPPA, representing 40 million small farmers in West Africa, will talk about the impact of EPAs on African agriculture and small farmers.
- **Carlos Aguilar** of the Hemispheric Social Alliance, which brings together social movements from across the Americas, will discuss EU-CAN (Community of Andean Nations) and EU-Central America free trade negotiations
- **Aehwa Kim** of the Korean Alliance against FTAs, a wide network of trade unions, farmers' groups and civil society organisations
- **John Hilary**, Director of Campaigns and Policy at War on Want. He is the author of numerous publications on international trade, specialising in the impact of trade agreements on employment and development prospects in the South and in the EU.

PHOTO/TV/RADIO OPPORTUNITIES:

A series of events and photo opportunities are also being arranged. These include:

- Photo opportunity at Rond-Point Schuman on Wednesday 9 April from 13:30h to 14:30h
- Public Hearing at the European Parliament on Wednesday 9 April from 09:00h to 13:00h
- Dialogue with Belgian parliamentarians at the Belgian Parliament on Thursday 10 April from 11.00h to 12:00h

For further information please contact:

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More information, and the programme and registration form for the EP Public Hearing is available at www.s2bnetwork.org

The Seattle to Brussels network is a coalition of NGOs, networks, trade unions, associations and social movements campaigning for equitable and sustainable EU trade policies