

Conference 1. Joint launching of the campaign in Maastricht: European development policy and human rights, 18th March 2004.

Programme **Workshop Food Security, World Trade Organization, Trade and Human Rights**, 14.30- 16.30

*“Trade does not lead automatically to development;
only if well guided, trade agreements can work for people”.*
(EU DG Trade,2001))

- **Introduction**

The Right to Food as one of the indivisible ESC rights is the basis for the orientation that ICCO and a number of its partner organizations have taken on world trade and in particular WTO. Access to food and proper utilisation of food need be addressed in any strategy to combat hunger and malnutrition. Trade is an important aspect in the underlying causes of the phenomenon of hunger.

This orientation and the experiences drawn from the campaign that was launched on the subject will be the pillars for the workshop.

The following aspects will be highlighted:

-*Right to Food*: Indivisibility from ESC Rights and civil political rights is to be guaranteed.

Policy aspects: Exigibility: rights holders and duty bearers analyse and design policies on the Implementation in order to avoid future violation of ESC Rights. (ex-ante)

Legal aspects: Justitiability: the legal basis for charging duty bearers in case of ESCR-violation (ex-post)

-*Food security*

Food security in trade and its relation to the (WTO) Agreement on Agriculture

Food security in relation to the (EU) Common Agricultural Policy:

Trade distortion through export subsidies and dumping, exclusion of poor from markets and subsequently poverty will be given attention.

These main themes will be closer looked at through two relevant and opportune aspects: food aid and genetically modified (gm) food:

Food aid: untying of food aid is an issue that should be dealt with in relation to the expiring Food Aid Convention (FAC) in 2005. If this were to be addressed timely this would very much influence the conditions for a new FAC as an instrument to meet the interests of the hungry (and hence the right to food) instead of markets.

Expected outcomes:

1. Understanding of the relation between right to food and trade
2. Dutch Government will put the "right to food" into EU agenda on trade and agriculture policies (WTO, CAP and FAC)

- **Chair**

Mr Tom Arnold from Concern, Ireland will chair the meeting (t.b.a.). He is the chairman of the European Food Security Group, and a member of the UN Hunger Task Force.

- **Panel of experts**

Right to Food : Mr Michael Windfuhr from FIAN International, Germany
WTO, AoA and CAP : Mr Rudi Buntzel from EED, Germany (lobbyist on GATT/WTO)
GMO : Mrs Caroline Eyapu, CoU, Uganda (NGO-specialist on food & trade)
FAC : Mr Frank van der Staaij, Netherlands (Min. of Foreign Affairs)
Food Security : Mr Gopal CEC, India (specialist on food sovereignty)¹

¹ HH/GR/10/02/04