

## PRESS RELEASE

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### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### **Germany contributes EUR 150,000 for food safety, animal and plant health standards**

The government of Germany has donated EUR 150,000 (CHF 181,100) to the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) for 2014 to help developing countries establish and implement sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS) towards health protection and increase their ability to gain or maintain access to markets.

"This donation is very welcome. It demonstrates Germany's continuous commitment to help developing and least-developed countries strengthen their trading capacity and better integrate into the world economy," declared WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo.

Germany's ambassador Joachim Rucker stated that: "For Germany, assisting developing countries to improve their capacity to enhance their plant, animal and human health status on the one side and, on the other side, to participate in international trade, is a key aim. This will enable them to improve food security and gain and maintain market access. As we are going through a troubled economic time, expanding market opportunities is important as trade is a key tool for growth and development."

Since 2000, Germany has donated to the WTO Trust Funds a total of CHF 21,770,000.

**END**