

## PRESS RELEASE

PRESS/727  
14 October 2014

(14-5861)

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### **Ireland donates EUR 335,000 to technical assistance programmes for developing countries**

The government of Ireland has donated EUR 185,000 (CHF 223,000) 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. Another contribution of EUR 150,000 (CHF 181,000) will be directed to the Interns for Selected Members' Mission in Geneva.

"Ireland's generosity demonstrates its commitment to help developing and least-developed countries benefit more fully from the multilateral trading system and better integrate into the global economy. I welcome this donation," declared WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo.

Ireland's ambassador Patricia O'Brien stated that: "Ireland has continuously supported WTO trade-related technical assistance to developing and least-developed countries since 2002. These donations underscore our commitment to assisting developing countries to fully participate in the WTO, to expand their trading capacities and to use the potential of trade as a strong engine for development, growth and poverty reduction."

Since 2002, Ireland has donated to the WTO Trust Funds a total of CHF 11,194,280.

**END**