

PRESS RELEASE

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Ireland donates EUR 300,000 to help developing countries participate in world trade

The government of Ireland has donated EUR 150,000 (CHF 164,000) in 2016 to help the WTO's poorest members implement food safety, animal health and plant health standards and improve their sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) capacity. Another contribution of EUR 150,000 (CHF 164,000) will be directed to the internship programme sponsored by France and Ireland and aimed at assisting the permanent missions of developing countries in Geneva.

Ireland's SPS contribution has been donated to the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), a global partnership that aims to help developing and least-developed countries (LDCs) access agricultural markets.

WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo said: "This latest donation from Ireland is important in ensuring that the global trading system supports development – and helps to improve capacity of the WTO's poorest members. I welcome Ireland's continuous generosity."

Ireland's WTO Ambassador, Patricia O'Brien, said: "Ireland is committed to helping developing countries – especially least-developed countries - increase their participation in global trade. The overall objective of our donations is to help eradicate poverty, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

Since 2002, Ireland has donated to the various WTO trust funds a total of nearly CHF 12 million.

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