

Draft Agenda v. 16 April 2013

**“People-centred businesses: Making Supply Chains Work for Small Producers”
5th June 14h-17h, European Parliament**

Draft Agenda

Venue: European Parliament, Paul-Henri Spaak PSC050

Date: 5th June 2013 14h-17h

Host: Gay Mitchell MEP (IE/EPP)

Organised by: Cooperatives Europe & Fair Trade Advocacy Office

Proposed common objectives and desired outcomes:

- Creating a much needed space for a discussion on the risks and opportunities of the private sector working in/for development;
- Provide input to the fact finding process being conducted by the European Commission;
- Introducing people-centred business as a concept for the EC to pay special attention when developing partnerships with the private sector;
- Show-casing best practices of initiatives to integrate small producers in supply chains;
- Highlighting cooperatives and Fair Trade as key tools for private sector involvement in development.

Session 1: Key Note Speakers

Moderator: organising organisations (tbc)

Welcome by the hosting MEP (Gay Mitchell, IE, EPP)

Key-note opening panel:

- Commissioner for Development Mr Piebalgs
- Harriet Lamb (CEO Fairtrade International)
- Council Representative (tbc)

Q&A

Session 2: What can the EU do to support the empowerment of small producers in developing countries?

Moderator - Marieke Poissoner, Oxfam Wereldwinkles, Belgium

- **Tadesse Meskela**, Manager of the Oromia Coffee Farmers Co-operative Union, Ethiopia
- **Tomy Mathew**, Fair Trade Alliance Kerala, India & Former Board Member of Liberation Nuts
- **Mike Gidney**, CEO Fairtrade Foundation, UK to discuss two reports on small farmers and a fairer food system: & how businesses are going further to make international supply chains work for small holder farmers
- **European Commission** - DEG DEVCO Jean-Pierre Halkin (Head of Unit C1 rural development food security nutrition) (tbc)

Q&A

Session 3: What can the EU do to help build partnerships in supply chains and promote a people-centered business-model?

Moderator -Cooperatives Europe Member (tb decided)

- **Dr Stephanie Barrientos**, researcher, University of Manchester
- **Coop Italia**: consumer cooperative (retail representative) (tbc)
- **Ben & Jerrys**: company purchases Fair Trade products (tbc)
- **Robin Roth**, CEO Gepa, Germany
- **European Commission** - Philip Loop (Head of Unit C4 Private sector development, trade, regional integration) (tbc)

Q&A

Session 4: Closing Summary

Closing summery delivered by President Cooperatives International

Wrap up by host MEP Gay Mitchell