

**DR. CAROLINE LUCAS**  
Green Party

for the South East of England

Alan Johnson MP  
Secretary of State for Trade & Industry  
Department of Trade & Industry  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

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Dear Mr Johnson,

I am writing to express concerns, both of my own and those of people in my South East of England constituency, about the World Trade Organisation negotiations on Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA).

As I am sure you are aware, over 200 challenges between WTO members have already been mounted. They cover a wide range of objections, including the US arguing against tax incentives for smaller fuel-efficient cars, and Japan opposing legislation designed to protect workers from exposure to hazardous chemicals. Almost all of the challenges are aimed at national laws, regulations and standards, particularly those designed to protect the environment.

I have consistently argued that trade rules need reform; a football produced using the sweated labour of children is not the same as one manufactured under good labour conditions, and it is essential that governments are able to legislate so that consumers can distinguish between them. Yet the WTO is based on the premise that any kind of regulation or standard is a trade barrier and must be removed.

As the NAMA negotiations get underway, I would urge you to do your utmost to protect important EU and UK environmental and social legislation from being eroded at the WTO in the name of 'free' trade.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.