

Commissioner Peter Mandelson  
Commissioner for Trade  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi, 200  
Bruxelles 1049

21 November 2005

Dear Peter,

**Re: Trade Justice**

I have today received a large group of citizens from the UK who travelled to Brussels in order to put forward their concerns about trade justice, ahead of the forthcoming WTO Ministerial in Hong Kong. Many of these concerns are ones which I share.

Like them, I was very pleased to note the UK's statement at the G8 that it will not be forcing poor countries to open their economies. Given that the UK currently holds the Presidency of the European Union, this commitment is clearly very significant, and I would like to know how it will be reflected in the EU's negotiating position in Hong Kong.

This question is particularly pertinent given the worrying indications that on NAMA and services, forcing poor countries to open their economies is in fact *precisely* what the EU is seeking to do. On services, the new "benchmarking" formula overturns the old methodology in a way which ACP and LDC countries all say they do not want. I fail to see how the EU can justify this aggressive position, flying in the face off the majority of developing countries' wishes - and still claim that the Doha round is a "development" round.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Lucas