

Agriculture in Development of Select African Countries

Presentation by CUTS Geneva Resource Centre

Room E, WTO

Friday 8 April 2011, 1300hrs -1430hrs

Background

CUTS GRC staff will make a presentation based on its recently launched publication entitled “Agriculture in Development of Select African Countries: Linkages with Trade, Productivity, Livelihood and Food Security”. The focus of the publication is broadly on:

- the positive interlinkages between trade and agricultural development in the five project countries
- particular focus on landlocked status and trade facilitation in the three landlocked countries (Malawi, Uganda and Zambia), and
- on regional trade and food security in Kenya and Tanzania.

The research indicates that in spite of flawed macroeconomic and trade policies in the agricultural sector adopted in the past, the governments are now cognizant of the issue and are eager to formulate more holistic policies with the participation of a broader group of stakeholders. It also underscores the broad limitations that the countries face in boosting agricultural productivity and ensuring food security, due to physical, legal, economic, social and cultural factors, and outlines how the promotion of regional trade and effective trade facilitation policies can provide effective solutions. The publication offers both general as well as specific recommendations targeted to various groups of stakeholders.

The event is open to governmental delegates to the WTO and invited academics. For further information, please contact Josiane Rufener at geneva@cuts.org.