

AFT - Moving from principles to practice

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EU Aid for Trade

- Basic objectives and context:
 - E.g. EU Development Policy Statement, Paris AE declaration, 2005
 - EU Council conclusions on Aid for Trade December 2005 and October 2006
 - October 2006 AFT conclusions:
 - Endorses the AFT TF recommendations
 - set the quantitative and qualitative framework for EU AFT.

EU AfT October conclusions– Quantity

- EU AfT is not conditional on the speed of progress of the WTO DDA Round.
 - Complementary to the DDA Round, not substitute
- Need to operationalise the earlier annual 2 billion TRA commitment by 2010, of which a substantial share shall be directed to ACP countries.
- EU should explore existing needs in terms of the broader AfT needs, such as building productive capacities, infra.
 - EU already giving substantial aid in the broader AfT agenda

EU AfT October conclusions— Quality

- strengthening the integration of AfT in EU aid programming;
- promoting EU and donor-wide AfT coordination;
- promoting the collection and analysis of data on trade policies and their impact;
- facilitating knowledge sharing;
- developing best practices for the use of programme-based modalities in AfT financing;
- address the issue of mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues into AfT, with special efforts made to integrate gender into AfT activities;
- evaluating the poverty reduction impact of AfT.

Joint EU AfT Strategy in 2007

- set a road map for the EU collectively to reach the EUR 2 billion target on trade-related assistance by 2010
- based on AfT needs as prioritised by partner countries, identify modalities for coordination and response at various geographical levels
- propose ways to strengthen EU capacity to deliver and to monitor AfT
- address and set best practises on relevant effectiveness and quality issues.