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## PUBLIC INVITATION 8<sup>th</sup> Public Dialogue

### Trade and Poverty in Namibia

Is there a link between trade liberalisation and eventual benefits for developing sub – Saharan African countries especially for the urban and rural poor?

#### 1. Background:

The Doha Development negotiation round of the WTO was focused on the relief of poverty in developing and least developed countries in the world, but especially on countries in Sub Saharan Africa.

Estimates by the World Bank and IMF showed in the past that full trade in goods liberalisation could bring advantages of up to 360 billion US\$ to developing and LDC countries. In the meantime, these modeled estimates have been substantially reduced to a sum of 89 billion US\$ accruing to all trading nations that are members of the WTO, including developed countries.

#### 2. The question thus arises: Will there be any substantial benefits to Namibia from trade liberalization in the WTO negotiations?

The presenters at the 8<sup>th</sup> Public Dialogue meeting of the ATF /FES will try to address this question in a way that makes possible changes in the world trade environment and its impact on Namibia in an understandable manner to all, and not only to the few economists.

#### 3. The Presenter:

- Dr. John F. Steytler, Senior Advisor, Office of the Executive Director, International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Namibian respondent: Dr Kaire Mbuende
- Venue: Nampower Convention Centre
- Date: 07 June 2006
- Time: 08h00 – 10hh00

#### 4. The outcome:

A better understanding of the effects of trade liberalisation not only in Trade in Goods but also in other related fields such as Trade in Services and the “Singapore issues.

Due limited space, we advice participants to confirm their attendance in advance with Ms. Monica Shikwambi at Tel. 223767/237438 or via e-mail:sylvia@fesnam.org.na before 07<sup>th</sup> of June 2006.