

**HBF (India) – WIDE (Brussels) – SAI (New Delhi)  
Organize  
A Capacity Building Workshop on  
Trade Liberalization Policies & FTAs: Social and Gender implications of EU-India  
FTA  
25<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

**Objectives:**

- 1) Enhance understanding of current trade policies and FTA negotiations
- 2) Create awareness about different interests and perspectives involved
- 3) Sensitise about social & gender implications of trade policies

**Programme Schedule**

***Inaugural Session: Overview of the Initiative***

0945 – 1000 *Relevance of the theme for HBF India: An Introduction - Michael Koeberlein*

1000 – 1015 *The importance of gender in trade – an introduction, Christa Wichterich, WIDE*

***Session 1: Setting the scene: Liberalisation Policies and the EU-India-FTA***

Speakers from both sides are requested to highlight the following

- Explain the EU-India-FTA in the context of current economic and trade policies,
- Main issues, expectations, defensive and offensive interests
- Explore coherence with development objectives and social policies
- What is the expected impact of free trade on poverty eradication, social justice and gender equality

*(Each presentation should not exceed 20 minutes in order to keep 10 minutes for discussion)*

**Moderator:** Bishwajit Dhar, Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

10:15 – 10:45 Representative of the Department of Commerce, *R.S Ratna*, Director Regional & Multilateral Trade Relations

10:45 – 11:15 German Councillor for Economic Affairs, German Embassy, New Delhi, Dr. Bernd v. Münchow-Pohl \*

11:15 – 11:30 Tea/Coffee

**Moderator:** Kasturi Das, CENTAD

11:30 – 12:00 Indian Civil Society Perspective ??

12:00 – 12:25 EU Civil Society Perspective, *Christa Wichterich*, WIDE

12:25 – 12:45 EFTA Civil Society Perspective, *Marianne Hochuli*, Bern  
Declaration/WIDE

12:45 – 13:15 Discussion winding up the morning

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch

## ***Session 2: Mapping Concerns and Perspectives, Starting a Dialogue***

**Moderator:** Smitu Kothari\*

14:15 - 14:45 Business perspectives on the EU-India-FTA, *Manab Majumdar*, FICCI

14:45 -15:15 The influence of trade on fiscal policies, the budget and public services  
*Yamini Mishra\**, CBGA

15:15 – 15:30 Tea/Coffee

**Moderator:** Devaki Jain

15:30 – 16:00 Gender perspectives on the EU-India-FTA “Trade is not gender neutral” -  
*Jayati Gosh*, Economic Research Foundation

16:00 – 16:30 Challenges of Gender Mainstreaming in Trade Agreements: Role of  
Development Agencies, *Biplove Choudhary*, Asia Pacific Trade and  
Investment Initiative, UNDP, Colombo

16:30 – 17:00 Discussion

17:00 Vote of Thanks, *Peter Braun*, SAI

## Day II

**HBF (India) – WIDE (Brussels) – SAI (New Delhi)**  
**Organize a Brainstorming Workshop on**  
**Gender and Trade: Special focus on the Social and Gender Implications of**  
**the EU-India FTA**  
**26<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

### Objectives

- Provide a forum to explore the EU-India-FTA from a gender perspective
- Create a group of well informed civil society actors who will address the gender connotations in bilateral trade negotiations of India
- Identify key sectors and issues from a gender perspective
- Explore areas of civil society intervention and related strategies
- Propose benchmarks for a Gender and Trade Programme for HBF-India which has a special focus on the EU-India FTA

10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and recapture of Day I

### **How to Engender Trade Policies?**

**Moderator:** *Bipul Chatterjee*, CUTS

10:15 – 10:45 Introduction, *Shipra Nigam*, Economic Research, JNU

10.45 – 11.15 Experience from the ASEAN region/Philippines, *Naty Bernardino*, *IGTN Asia*

*Coffee/Tea Break (15 mins)*

### **Flashlights: Identify key sectors and issues (10 minutes each input)**

**Moderator:** Yamini Mishra\*, CBGA

11:30 – 13.30

The speakers are requested to reflect the impact of further trade liberalisation on the specific sectors, in terms of jobs, gender segmentation of the market, gender wage gap, sustainability of employment (or informalisation, precarisation), inter-linkages care -informal – formal sector.

- Export production, SEZs, *Neetha Pillai*, *CWDS*
- IT sector, *Ratna Sudarshan*, *ISST*
- Retail sector, *Prof. Shyam S. Sharma*, President Fair Trade Forum India
- Handloom, *Narasimha Reddy*, *CHIP*

- Informal sector, *Indrani Mazumdar, CWDS*
- Agriculture, *Sheelu Francis, Women's Collective, Chennai*
- Financial services, *Kavaljit Singh\**, Public Interest Research Centre
- Tourism, *Rosemary Viswanath/Vidya Rangan, Equations, Bangalore*
- Intellectual property rights, *Marianne Hochuli, Bern Declaration*

***Break for Lunch (60 mins)***

**Moderator:** Kalyani Menon-Sen, Jagori

**Approaches, methods and strategies**

14:30 - 16:15

- To include or not to include: Labour standards, *Manicandan, Centre for Education and Communication*
- Approaches to Research on gender and trade, *Anushree Sinha, National Council of Applied Economic Research*
- CUTS analytical framework for understanding gender implications of EU-India FTA, *Siddhartha Mitra/Sonja Blasig*
- India-EU CSO networking, *Christa Wichterich, WIDE*
- “Snapshot” Round
- Vote of Thanks, *Shalini Yog, HBF*

***Please proceed for Coffee/Tea***

**\* Awaiting conformation**