



**Financing for Development  
Second Drafting Session  
Discussion of Part IID  
15 April 2015  
Statement by OHCHR**

If I understood correctly their earlier intervention, the EU will propose language calling for impact assessments of trade agreements made with LDCs. We look forward to hear more about this language and to its advancement. In this regard, OHCHR stresses the need for systematic inclusion of human rights issues in all such impact assessments. Indeed, OHCHR believes that all trade and investment agreements should be subject to ex ante and ex post human rights impacts assessment in order to ensure they promote and achieve stated development objectives including the promotion, protection and realization of human rights for all without discrimination. We support language in the current draft to encourage use of TRIPS flexibilities, promote policy coherence, align international trade and investment agreements with sustainable development objectives, and maintain needed policy space for the protection of the public interest, the environment, and human rights. With regard to para 75 and para 81 OHCHR would like to advance specific suggestions to strengthen the proposed language.

OHCHR proposes the text of the last sentence of para 75 should read as follows:

We will endeavour to significantly increase world trade in a manner consistent with sustainable development objectives and environmental and human rights norm and standards, with particular regard to the specific needs of LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and conflict, post-conflict and fragile States.

OHCHR proposes the text of the first sentence of para 81 should read as follows:

We will carry out negotiation and implementation of trade and investment agreements in a transparent, participatory, and fair manner to ensure that trade and investment treaties do not negatively impact or unduly constrain efforts to reduce inequality, protect the environment, promote, protect and fulfil human rights, or ensure adequate tax revenues.

We believe that this language will promote greater policy coherence across international trade, finance, investment, development, environmental and human rights spheres. We thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to contribute to this discussion.