

---

---

Workshop on Trade  
Pacific Regional CSO Forum 2007  
12<sup>th</sup> October  
Lopaukamea II Hall

Statement to Pacific Leaders

Pacific CSOs recognise and appreciate the increased engagement by governments with CSOs over the past two years and look forward to a stronger relationship in the future. Pacific CSOs appreciate the expertise the Pacific has brought to the negotiations and support the efforts Pacific governments have made in the past, in the EPA negotiations, and strongly recommend the following:

- 1) That PACP countries adhere to the 'red lines' agreed by PACP Ministers in June 2007, as a minimum negotiating position.
- 2) That PACP countries stress the absolute necessity for Pacific unity in the EPA negotiations, and must not let bilateral agreements divide the PACP negotiating position.
- 3) Pacific CSOs express grave concern over the recent additions to the EU negotiating position, particularly with regard to the MFN clause, and strongly urge its rejection.
- 4) That PACP countries insist that the EU deliver its legal obligation to provide an alternative to the EPAs that maintains current levels of market access as provided for in Cotonou Agreement article 37.6.
- 5) That PACP countries must take enough time for meaningful consultation and scrutiny, such as by parliamentary and CSO consultation processes; as well as incorporation of the results of the social impact assessment.
- 6) That PACP countries conduct on-going monitoring of social impacts.
- 7) That the Pacific ACP countries advocate for, and maintain ACP solidarity and strength in the EPA negotiations.
- 8) If the PACP does not achieve its negotiating position it must explicitly call for a delay.

We urge negotiators to remain strong and continue advocating for positions that are in the Pacific's development interests.

---

---