A sustainable cocoa economy – the trade union principles

Trade union involvement in the cocoa chain comprises:

- workers on cocoa plantations
- support initiatives for (small) cocoa farmers
- workers in agricultural service organisations in origin countries
- workers in trading houses for the purchase/handling of cocoa beans and semi-finished products (mass, butter, liquor, cakes)
- workers in harbours and warehouses handling cocoa
- workers in cocoa processing industries
- workers in chocolate companies

Sustainability in the cocoa chain should be in short:

A decent living in a sustainable environment - now and in the future - for all working people in the cocoa chain

Meaning:

1. A fair and remunerative price for the primary producers,
   A living wage for the workers on the cocoa plantations,
   A living wage for the workers in the servicing, trading, processing and chocolate companies,
   Healthy working conditions for all workers employed in the cocoa chain.

2. Prudent use of soil, species and pesticides

3. Acceptance of and adherence to the basic trade union rights as formulated in ILO conventions:
   87 and 98: Freedom of association and collective bargaining;
   29 and 105: Elimination of forced and compulsory labour;
   100 and 111: Elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation;
   138 and 182: Abolition of child labour;
   and more specific for union members and agricultural workers the conventions:
   135: Workers' Representatives Convention;
   141: Rural Workers' Organisations Convention;
   184: Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention.

4. Multinational companies active in the cocoa chain should act and work according to the standards laid down in the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises 2000. Also national companies in the cocoa chain have to respect the standards defined by the OECD.

September 2010