

Sample Position Paper

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Committee:	ECOSOC
Country:	USA

The United States of America recognize the term of pro-poor growth as such and welcomes this approach in the field of economic growth, since we feel that by addressing this core issue, the aid provided to poor countries, can be more effective and helpful to the poorest of the poor.

A leading accomplishment of the Monterrey Consensus is that, since 2002, most developing countries have experienced high and sustained levels of economic growth, and trade has been an important engine of this growth. Emerging and developing countries enjoyed sustained 7.2 % real GDP growth from 2002-07, far outpacing advanced economies (2.4%). However, it is alarming to see that in some countries, this economic growth does not benefit the poor.

We have always recognized Trade Capacity Building (TCB) as an important investment in Development aid. Thus, the U.S. has more than doubled its annual TCB spending since 2002, resulting in aggregate outlays of nearly \$6.5 billion in grants, with USAID and the

Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) being the main U.S. providers for TCB, through trade- related assistance and engaging in the development of private partnerships in various fields.

However, we have come to realize, based on our long experience with development cooperation that the development assistance we provide does not and cannot have a positive impact unless the macro-economic policy environment in the recipient country is transparent, honest and stable, recognizing market discipline and promoting the private sector.

As we have stated before, key elements to achieve sustainable development are: promoting inclusive democratic systems, ensuring individual personal ownership of development strategies; fighting corruption; enhancing attractiveness for public and private investment, in order for the financial aid and organisational assistance that are provided to the less developed countries to work effectively, efficiently and reach the poor people, so as to promote pro-poor growth. Additionally, the intended and in the Doha Round intensely debated liberalization of trade through the removal of trade barriers is a necessary basis for economic growth to be sustainable and also for the poor to benefit from this growth. The United States of America are open to any negotiations in these fields, in order to achieve an overall standard of governance and trade levels which ensure trade, and thus, pro-poor growth. Our government would like to stress that there is no substitute for good domestic policies in the pursuit for competitiveness. Indeed, research shows that countries with better institutions and countries that trade more grow faster; and countries with better institutions also tend to trade more.

Hence, the United States of America call upon the Members of the ECOSOC to find sustainable solutions to the specific barriers mentioned above, which inhibit States to properly address the issue of economic and pro-poor growth – always bearing in mind that macro-economic policy is on the one hand a matter of state affairs, but on the other hand a vital tool when addressing MDG No.1, and hence assistance and sharing of best practices is highly necessary in order to ensure that the development aid provided by donors reaches those for whom it is intended.

