Trends, Challenges and Opportunities

At the UN Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20") in June 2012, world leaders reaffirmed the role of international trade as an "engine for development and sustained economic growth". At the same time, trade-driven growth has contributed to increased pressure on natural resources and pollution.

UNEP’s new report identifies sustainable trade opportunities in six key economic sectors: Agriculture, Fisheries, Forests, Manufacturing, Renewable Energy and Tourism. It also addresses challenges that arise from a transition to greener economies, sets out enabling conditions for countries to harness their green trade potential and provides numerous case examples. The report is part of the Green Economy and Trade Opportunities Project (GE-TOP) financially supported by the EC and implemented by UNEP’s Trade, Policy and Planning Unit.

At the occasion of the launch, UNEP will host a High-Level Panel Discussion with, among others, the participation of:

- Achim STEINER, UNEP Executive Director
- Pascal LAMY, WTO Director General
- Ephraim KAMUNTU, Uganda Minister for Water and Environment
- Guillermo VALLES, UNCTAD Trade Division Director
- Amb. Luis Enrique CHAVEZ, Permanent Representative of Peru to the UN and WTO
- Ricardo MELÉNDEZ-ORTIZ, ICTSD Chief Executive Officer
- Mark HALLE, IISD Europe Executive Director (Moderator)

Fairtrade coffee will be available from 2.15 pm

For further information, please contact:
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