

YOUR REF

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Brian Campfield General Secretary

Branch Secretary Circular GC 14/10

To: All Branch Secretaries (3MM & 6FF)
General Council (1AA)
Civil Service Group EC (1DD)
Public Officers Group EC (1EE)
Seconded Officers (3KL)
HQ Officials (Int 1)

16th February 2010

Dear Colleague

<p style="text-align: center;">FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">22nd FEBRUARY – 7th MARCH 2010</p>
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This is to remind Branches that Fairtrade Fortnight will be held from 22nd February to 7th March 2010. The theme for this year is *'The Big Swap'*.

Fairtrade Fortnight's an opportunity for us to join *"The Big Swap"* where we swap our usual stuff for Fairtrade stuff; the usual lemons, t-shirts or roses for Fairtrade lemons, t-shirts or roses.

This year's campaigner push will be for tea and the Fairtrade Foundation needs your help to rallying the nation to swap their cuppa. They are relying on your creativity to get members and employers involved. There are lots of ways to encourage members to get involved and these can be found in the *"swap it"* guide enclosed. We also enclose campaign postcards to encourage your local shop or supermarket to sell Fairtrade products and advertising posters which we would encourage you to display on branch notice boards.

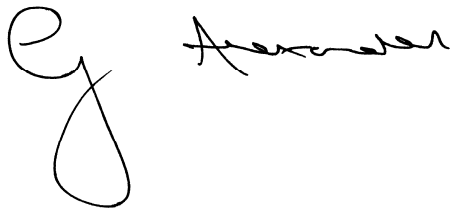
During Fairtrade Fortnight NIPSA will be organising an event in the **City Hotel, Derry** on **Friday 26th February 2010** from **11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.** Oxfam Ireland will be setting up a stall selling a range of their Fairtrade certified products. We would encourage members in the local area to visit the event and be part of the global movement of people who want producers in the developing world to get a decent deal.

The following is a list of local events being held during Fairtrade Fortnight. We are checking if there are other events being organised and will publish additional events on the NIPSA website.

4 th March 2010	Tuamghmonagh Primary School, Findon Gardens, Belfast	Schools talk, with Fairtrade guest Hella Alikuru	9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.
4 th March 2010	Dundonald Primary School, 10 Church Green, Dundonald	Schools talk, with Fairtrade guest Hella Alikuru	11.00 a.m. to 12 noon
4 th March 2010	Town Hall, The Castle, Bangor	Talk with Fairtrade guest Hella Alikuru	1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.
4 th March 2010	Equality Commission for NI 7-9 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast	Talk with Fairtrade guest Hella Alikuru	4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
5 th March 2010	The Southern College, Patrick Street, Newry	Talk with Fairtrade guest Hella Alikuru	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon
5 th March 2010	Queens University Students Union, University Road, Belfast	College talk, with Fairtrade guest Hella Alikuru	5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Fairtrade Fortnight provides a focus for people to think about the simple things that can be done to make a real difference to the lives of people in developing countries, such as buying Fairtrade products. By doing so you will have played a vital role in alleviating poverty and supporting marginalised producers in a manner that promotes dignity and self-sufficiency. For further details on how to get involved visit Fairtrade's website at www.fairtrade.ie

Yours sincerely



GERALDINE ALEXANDER
Assistant Secretary

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