

Parallel side event 12: Geographic Indications as an Engine for Development

France, July 1st, 2015 from 10:30 to 12:00

WTO - Room D

Geographical Indications (GIs) are a vector of development. They make a real contribution to rural development, preservation of biodiversity, the quality of local jobs and the development of local expertise. GIs are also an important vector for creating high-value products and enhance integration in the international trade. GIs protect intellectual property whose economic value is recognized in all international trade agreements.

Through the experience of players who developed or are developing GIs in their country, this event aims to improve information on GIs in developing countries, to highlight their importance for rural development, to maintain farmers on their land and to guarantee stable and better income.

Drawing on the experience of the actors involved in efforts to strengthen the protection of GIs in their respective countries, participants will seek to explain and illustrate the contribution of GIs to economic development. They will also examine the possibilities of cooperation in the context of Aid for Trade.

<u>Introduction</u>	Jean-Paul THUILLIER , French Permanent Representative to the WTO
<u>Moderator</u>	Jean-Paul THUILLIER , French Permanent Representative to the WTO
<u>Presentations</u>	
1)	Mme Aurelie AHMIM-RICHARD : AFD (Agence française de développement – French national institution for development)
2)	Mrs Siriporn BOONCHOO , Thailand Ministry of Agriculture: presentation of silk IG from Thailand. “How to better integrate the global market with GI recognition?”
3)	Mr. SARADA De SILVA , presentation of Cinnamon from Sri Lanka. “GI as a vector of development and a warranty of quality

4)	in the international trade”. Mr. Andrzej SZUMOWSKI , presentation of IG Polish Vodka – “Turning national heritage into commercial opportunity”.
<u>Conclusion</u>	M. Angelos PANGRATIS , EU Permanent Representative to the WTO (to be confirmed)
<u>Q & A</u>	
<u>Cocktail</u>	