



**AFTINET**  
Australian Fair Trade  
& Investment Network Ltd

Level 3, Suite 3B, 110 Kippax St  
Surry Hills, NSW, 2010  
Phone: 02 9212 7242  
Fax: 02 9211 1407  
Email: [campaign@aftinet.org.au](mailto:campaign@aftinet.org.au)  
ACN 097 603 131  
ABN 83 659 681 462  
[www.aftinet.org.au](http://www.aftinet.org.au)

1 November 2007

## **Election trade debate misses key questions**

**“Both the government and opposition have placed the Doha round of World Trade Organisation talks as their priority, yet both have neglected to address the reasons why the troubled round is failing” commented Fair Trade advocate Adam Wolfenden.**

“The Doha Round has been stalled by the unwillingness of developing countries to commit to a so called ‘development’ round that provides little, if any benefits for them” stated Mr Wolfenden

The Doha Round of trade talks has been hampered by differences between developed and developing countries on issues such as agricultural subsidies and trade in non-agricultural goods.

“Community and civil society groups the world over have been campaigning against the Doha Round and pushing for an agreement that builds the capacity of developing countries to create jobs, eliminate poverty and build sustainable communities “ explained Mr Wolfenden

“Australia is already starting to feel the effects of signing bad trade agreements like the US/Australia Free Trade Agreement. Having strong community voices like Doug Cameron provide much needed input from those who will wear the affects of such agreements” continued Mr Wolfenden

“What’s needed from all parties is a re-evaluation of the current trade policies both at a multilateral and bilateral level. Doha is flailing and if we don’t look at the reasons why we will continue to make the same mistakes.

“The continued push for trade agreements that are constantly in favour of developed countries won’t aid development or the environment. We need to be focussing our trade policies on ensuring that they promote human and labour rights as well as environmental sustainability.”

**For more information contact: Adam Wolfenden, AFTINET Campaigner**  
**Ph: 02 9212 7242 / 0401 045 536**  
**Email: [campaign@aftinet.org.au](mailto:campaign@aftinet.org.au)**