



## Announcement Revised Standard:

# PRODUCT SPECIFIC FAIRTRADE STANDARD for Sports Balls

After an extensive public consultation FLO wishes to announce the publication of the revised version of the Product Specific Fairtrade Standard for Sports Balls, January 2006. The standard must be used in addition to the Generic Fairtrade Standard for Hired Labour, version December 2005. It should be noted that both standards are available on our website ([www.fairtrade.net](http://www.fairtrade.net)).

The new standard will **apply from 10 January 2006**. During 2006 existing certified operations need to show gradual compliance with the standard. For more details see the introduction of the standard for sports balls.

The value chain of sports balls is rather complicated and unfortunately the previous standard did not provide sufficient guidance on how to achieve the Fairtrade objectives. The new standard has tried to address these issues.

### **Main changes reviewed versions Oct 04 and Jan 06**

The January 2006 version of the Sports Ball Standard includes substantial changes from the October 2004 version. In the table below you will find a brief summary of the main changes that have been made. Although the review of the standard has been extensive the new version does not address all the concerns raised by stakeholders. It should be noted that FLO shall continue to investigate the possibilities to introduce a fixed premium and a minimum price for sports balls and will continue its work to further extend the impact of Fairtrade along the supply chain. Users of the standard who would like to receive more information on the changes in the sports ball standard should contact Rob van Hout, Standards Officer: [r.v.hout@fairtrade.net](mailto:r.v.hout@fairtrade.net). At a later stage Producer Business Unit shall distribute a paper to give some more information on the main changes made in the standards, e.g. on monitoring requirements, Compliance Costs Compensation, the Fairtrade Premium, etc.

<b>Subject (version January 06)</b>	<b>Reviewed version: Jan 06</b>	<b>Last version: Oct 04</b>
Introduction	Setting of implementation periods. Clarification on the scope of the standard and clarification of the main terms.	Limited information on the scope of the standard and no further references to definitions and application.
Social Development	<p>Standard specifies the responsibilities of the producer regarding working conditions and benefits of workers in factories, stitching centres and subcontracted units.</p> <p>Comprehensive requirements on monitoring and inspection of the different enterprises producing Fairtrade balls. These requirements are needed to enforce the standards.</p> <p>Clarifications on a number of sports ball specific issues: including minimum wages for piece rate workers, Health and Safety and Child Labour.</p> <p>Through the supplier assurance scheme the producer shall ensure that suppliers adhere to key labour and environmental laws.</p>	<p>No specifications</p> <p>No specifications</p> <p>No specifications</p> <p>No specifications</p>
Economic Development	Clarifications on Joint Body (JB) issues to ensure also workers in stitching centres and subcontracted units can fully participate in JB.	No specifications
Trade Standards	<p>Producers must be compensated for making investments to ensure compliance with Fairtrade standards (usually this is covered in the minimum price, but such a price still does not exist for sports balls).</p> <p>The premium is set at 10% of the contract price. Information provided by producers on labour costs and prices indicated that 10% would be a reasonable premium for sports balls.</p>	<p>No reference to compliance costs</p> <p>Premium was set at 15%.</p>

FLO Standards Unit (Andreas Kratz, Director)