**Trade Justice Wales – Terms of Reference**

1. **Purpose**
	1. To build network participants’ capacity and expertise so that they can, collectively and individually, participate in engagement activities to scrutinise emerging trade policy and negotiations.
	2. To advocate for inclusivity, transparency and scrutiny in the governance surrounding the formulation of trade policy, trade negotiations and trade agreement implementation in Wales and the UK. The group will advocate for governance structures in Wales and at the UK level that are inclusive, transparent and reflect the many policy interdependencies that exist within trade.
	3. To empower civil society and academic stakeholders to advocate for socially responsible and ethical trade agreements that reflect the ambitions of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (FGA) and the Welsh Government’s International Strategy.
	4. Trade Justice Wales will work towards advocating for trade agreements that used to advance social policy objectives. Some of these areas could include:
	5. Animal welfare standards
	6. Climate change
	7. Consumer interests
	8. Environmental standards
	9. Equality
	10. Farming, food and agricultural standards
	11. Human Rights
	12. International development
	13. Labour rights
	14. Public Health
	15. Sustainable development
	16. The rights and interests of people and communities beyond the UK, particular those who are affected by the UK’s trade agreements but who are unable to advocate for themselves.
2. **Objectives**
	1. To host a network of stakeholders including civil society organisations, academics and policy makers to share information, capacity and expertise on trade agreements and trade policy.
	2. To increase participants knowledge of trade policy and agreements and their potential impacts by organising development and training opportunities on topics identified by participants.
	3. To facilitate advocacy opportunities for network participants, for example by contributing to consultation responses, organising meetings with policy makers, and providing briefings and evidence to committees.
3. **Operational matters and shaping the agenda**
	1. The network will be chaired by Aileen Burmeister, head of Fair Trade Wales and co-chaired by Charles Whitmore, Wales Civil Society Forum coordinator.
	2. Network activities will be shaped by participants and reviewed regularly as opportunities to respond to consultations and engage with policy makers emerge.
	3. The project is initially funded until the end of 2022 and three network meetings, open to all participants, will be hosted at intervals during this time. These will take place online via Zoom.
	4. Training opportunities on areas chosen by participants will be provided and available to all.
	5. The network convenors (Fair Trade Wales and Cardiff University’s Wales Civil Society Forum project) will seek external funding to extend the project.
	6. The network will seek to organise ad hoc meetings and activities, like webinars, or training sessions in response to emerging opportunities. Where possible this may include arranging a digital meeting prior to the Welsh Government Policy Advisory Group for example.
	7. The project may at times address letters and respond to opportunities to influence in relevant policy areas. Stakeholders will be given the opportunity to feed into these and if sufficient time is available for internal sign offs, will be invited to opt-in as a named contributor. If more agile action is required, the chair and co-chair can address letters and draft responses on behalf of the network but will include a disclaimer that this does not necessarily represent the views of all participants.
4. **Participating in Trade Justice Wales**
	1. Civil society organisations who support the Trade Justice Wales Terms of Reference are welcome to participate in Trade Justice Wales. This includes but is not limited to:
		1. voluntary sector organisation,
		2. charities,
		3. non-profit organisations,
		4. organisations representative of business interests,
		5. trade unions
	2. The network is open to academics and policy experts.

* 1. Organisations can participate in Trade Justice Wales by signing up to its list of interested stakeholders list to receive information and invitations to participate in all network meeting and training opportunities.
	2. The network will work closely with relevant Welsh Government officials who will be invited to meetings and will seek to establish contact with UK Government representatives in DIT and other relevant departments.

These terms were approved by (who) on (date)