THROWING ONE ARM AROUND THE WORLD:

WHY THE FAILURE OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION TO INCLUDE ANTI-BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION TARGETS WITHIN ITS AID FOR TRADE PROGRAM UNDERMINES THIS PROGRAM AND HOW TO BRIDGE THESE ISSUES

BY: ALEXANDRA HARRINGTON

ABSTRACT:

In a sense, the Aid for Trade initiative seeks to be a break from other aid programs that are administered in an uncoordinated fashion by a variety of state, regional and international actors. The Aid for Trade initiative has solicited information from donor states, donor organizations and partner states, released information from these states and organization, as well as reports on the overall state of aid for trade, and hosted several regional meetings on the topic since its 2005 inception. And yet, among the many aid and trade issues that have been the subject of inquiry by the Aid for Trade initiative, there is a glaring and, in the author's view, fatal gap: failure to address anti-bribery and corruption measures. The goal of this article is to discuss the relationship between the Aid for Trade initiative and anti-bribery/corruption measures in order to demonstrate that, without explicitly addressing anti-bribery and corruption, the WTO Aid for Trade initiative is "just like all the rest," and indeed only attempts to throw one arm around the world of issues associated with aiding developing countries' trading and economic systems.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Introduction	28
I. THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE	31
a. Aid for Trade Creation and Early Development	31
b. Aid for Trade Evaluations	35
i. OECD/WTO COUNTRY PROFILES	35
ii. WTO TRADE POLICY REPORTS	39
iii. Incorporation into Donor State and International Orga Strategies	
II. INTERNATIONAL ANTI-BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION MEASURES	45
a. The Connection Between Development and Corruption	45
b. International Efforts to Combat Bribery and Corruption Generally	48
i. REGIONAL AGREEMENTS	48
ii. International Agreements	53
iii. ACTIONS BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY	56
III.PROPOSAL TO BRIDGE AID FOR TRADE AND ANTI-BRIBERY/CORRUPTION MEASURES	57
a. Expand the WTO Aid for Trade Mandate	59
b. Restructure Evaluation and Monitoring System and Mechanisms	60
c. Involve Additional Regional and International Actors	61
Congregation	62