

20 November 2009

Our Ref: 7.101.III.E

To: An Tánaiste, Ms Mary Coughlan TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment
Mr Batt O'Keeffe TD, Minister for Education and Science

Dear Tánaiste and Minister,

**WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION, 7TH MINISTERIAL MEETING, GENEVA
30 NOVEMBER TO 2 DECEMBER 2009**

In advance of the 7th Ministerial Meeting of the WTO which will take place in Geneva from 30 November to 2 December 2009, I would very much appreciate it if the Irish delegation would take into account the attached Policy Statement issued by Education International which is the Global Union Federation representing nearly 30 million teachers, lecturers and education workers world-wide.

The statement sets out very clearly and succinctly the enormous negative implications which would follow on from any decision to bring education into the GATS process.

On behalf of the Irish Federation of University Teachers I am asking both the Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment and the Department of Education and Science to declare publicly in advance of the 7th Ministerial Meeting that Ireland will oppose any moves to bring education into the GATS process.

Yours sincerely,

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*Mike Jennings,
General Secretary.*