

City of Boston

IN

CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MICHAEL P. ROSS ON BEHALF OF THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

- WHEREAS:** City of Boston must recognize the positive effects of comprehensive labor conditions that may be supported by its actions, including a living wage, sustainable production practices and a work environment free from toxins; and
- WHEREAS:** Fair Trade certification is an innovative, market-based system that encourages sustainable wages and a healthy and safe work environment by identifying food, beverage and handicrafts products that generate economic benefit to the producers of these products who are farmers and artisan groups in developing countries; and
- WHEREAS:** Few Americans realize that many laborers work under abysmal conditions for meager wages and small farmers are vulnerable to volatile market pricing and often receive prices that are less than the costs of production, forcing them into a cycle of poverty and debt; and
- WHEREAS:** Fair Trade Certified products are widely available and competitively priced in the United States, available through providers of food and artisan products including those that provide coffee, tea, chocolate and fresh fruit, and handicrafts; and
- WHEREAS:** Fair Trade producers can provide a vital living wage to people in developing countries by marketing their products in North America;
- WHEREAS:** Many consumers are searching for more socially and environmentally responsible ways for conducting their lives and Fair Trade is a viable option that does not exploit people, animals, or the environment; **THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council supports the efforts of organizations that work to increase consumer awareness of and commitment to poor farming and artisan communities around the world through Fair Trade and celebrates World Fair Trade Day on May 8th, 2010.



By: [Signature]
President of the City Council

Attest: [Signature]
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: [Signature]

Date: MAY 4 2010