

## Belize and El Salvador Fairtrade Producers Visit Northern Ireland

04 March 2014

**Belfast, NORTHERN IRELAND:** Facilitated by the Consulate of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Northern Ireland in partnership with Fairtrade Ireland, Alfredo Ortega – Vice-Chair of Belize Fairtrade Sugar Farmer’s Association & Alex Flores - Fairtrade cashew nut producer from the Co-operative APRAINORES in El Salvador visited Belfast City Hall as part of Fairtrade Fortnight.

They shared their experiences and highlighted the differences Fairtrade exports to Northern Ireland, the rest of the United Kingdom and Ireland have made to their communities in Belize and El Salvador, through ethical consumerism and purchasing Fairtrade certified products for all developing world farmers, especially in the Caribbean and Latin America.



L-R: Chris Boyd – Co-operative Northern Ireland and Dr Christopher Stange – Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines & Chair of Fairtrade Belfast with Alfredo Ortega – Belize Fairtrade Sugar Farmer’s Association displaying the Fairtrade hamper that was donated by the Co-operative and the Consulate for St. Vincent and the Grenadines question raffle on Caribbean Fairtrade bananas during Fairtrade Fortnight 2014 in the Lord Mayor of Belfast’s Parlour



L-R: Alex Flores – El Salvador Fairtrade Co-operative APRAINORES; Dr Christopher Stange – Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines & Chair of Fairtrade Belfast; Lord Mayor of Belfast - Councillor Máirtín Ó Muilleoir; Peter Gaynor – CEO Fairtrade Ireland; Alfredo Ortega - Belize Fairtrade Sugar Farmer’s Association holding Belfast City’s renewal as a Fairtrade City until 2016 at Belfast City Hall

Dr Christopher Stange – Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Northern Ireland commented: “It is wonderful to have our CARICOM and Association of Caribbean States

(ACS) members visit Northern Ireland to meet with various stakeholders to tackle poverty and improved market access through the mechanism of Fairtrade.”

**ENDS**