

**BIR**Bureau of International Recycling

BIR is the international trade association of the recycling industries. More than 50 countries are represented through their national trade associations and individual companies which are involved in recycling. BIR comprises four commodity divisions: iron and steel, non ferrous metals, paper and textiles, and has committees dealing with stainless steel and special alloys, plastics and rubber. BIR's primary goals are to promote recycling and recyclability, thereby conserving natural resources, protecting the environment and facilitating free trade of secondary raw materials.

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brussels, 11th October 2004

**Textiles Round-Table at BIR's London Convention:** 

The benefits of the second-hand clothing trade

**Dr Simone Field**, the guest speaker at the **Textiles Round-Table** to be held in London on Thursday October 28, will talk about a project she is currently managing entitled 'Who benefits from the second-hand clothing trade? The case of Kenya'.

Dr Field is a Research Officer within the Globalisation Team at The Institute of Development Studies, which is based at the University of Sussex in Brighton, England. Having completed a doctoral thesis on the second-hand clothing trade in Zimbabwe, she has spent several months speaking to various key players in the second-hand clothing chain linking the UK and Kenya, including reclaimers, importers and wholesalers.

The aim of the Kenya project has been to assess the benefits of this trade in terms of, for instance, cost of clothing to the consumer and employment creation.

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