



Our world is not for sale.
STOP corporate globalization.

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On Last Day of WTO Ministerial, Civil Society Distributes Urgent Recommendations to Delegates Attending Heads of Delegation Meetings

BUENOS AIRES—As World Trade Organization delegates scramble in the last hours of the 11th Ministerial Conference (MC11) in Buenos Aires, civil society experts distributed urgent recommendations to delegates streaming in and out of heads of delegation meetings.

The recommendations of the global Our World Is Not For Sale Network, the brings together 250 organizations from 50 countries in the global North and South, called on government delegates to change existing WTO rules that are constraining policy space for job creation and development and to reject the wrong agenda to expand the failed model of the WTO to new issues.

Free-use photos and video of civil society efforts to reach government delegates with recommendations available at: <http://bit.ly/2C1xJRU>

The civil society organizations' recommendations for this final day of MC11 included: ([see full one-page flyer](#))

- **Wrong Agenda: E-commerce (including MSMEs):** WTO members do not have a mandate to negotiate new global rules on e-commerce. Many of the issues proposed for the e-commerce agenda have either already been discussed and resolved in other forums, most of which are more responsive and accountable to public interest concerns than the WTO. No new expansion of the existing e-commerce work programme is a positive outcome of MC11. We express strong opposition to the decision of some countries to start exploratory work towards future negotiations on these issues in the WTO.
- **TRIPS Non-Violation Waiver:** If the moratorium on electronic transmissions is renewed, it should be limited to two years, and only in exchange for a permanent moratorium on TRIPS non-violation complaints, which is essential to ensure lifesaving medicines for millions of people and must be agreed in MC11.
- **Wrong Agenda: Investment Facilitation:** Even if the proposals focus on investment facilitation, this is not a trade issue per se, and UNCTAD is already the primary multilateral agency working on investment. No new work program on Investment Facilitation is a positive outcome of MC11.
- **Fishing: Subsidizing the Poor or the Rich?** The developmental and economic policy space of developing countries must be maintained whilst those nations that have contributed most to the problem of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) overfishing must agree to eliminate harmful subsidies. Since policy space for development was not protected, it is better that members agreed to continue negotiations on this issue.
- **Constructive Agenda: Agricultural Rules Must Prioritize Food Security and Food Sovereignty.** The top priority for a genuine development agenda would be transforming the current rules on agriculture. We are deeply disappointed that in MC11, WTO members failed to resolve the public stockholding issue that would allow all developing countries to implement food security programs, without onerous restrictions that are not demanded of developed countries' trade distorting subsidies, and failed to agree on a workable SSM.
- **Constructive Agenda: Flexibility for Development.** The G90 proposals for changes to existing WTO rules would remove some WTO constraints on national pro-development policies. These would allow developing countries to promote manufacturing capabilities, stimulate the transfer of technology, promote access to affordable medicines, and safeguard regional integration. We are deeply disappointed that the G90 proposals that should have been accepted in MC11 as proposed (without being conditioned on further market access concessions) and the Para 44 mandate continued post-MC11 were not concluded.

More about OWINFS network, including a link to a directory of CSO experts available for interviews, can be seen at www.ourworldisnotforsale.net.