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Civil Society Protest at the Entrance of the WTO 11th Ministerial in Buenos Aires

BUENOS AIRES--Today, a group of civil society working together through the global Our World Is Not for Sale (OWINFS) network, present in Buenos Aires for the 11th Ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO), used the human amplification tactic of "Mike Check" to voice their concerns about the WTO negotiations. Please see the text of the chants below.

Civil society leaders demanded that no so-called "new issues" such as e-commerce and investment facilitation should be put on the agenda, particularly while the development mandate has not been concluded. They called for a binding LDC package and for removing WTO obstacles to food security through the conclusion of the permanent solution for public stockholding, as well as special safeguard mechanism, and disciplines on export competition.

A facebook live video is available here: http://bit.ly/2AaixAy
Free-use photos available here: http://bit.ly/2C1xJRU

Over 80 civil society experts – trade unionists, farmers, development advocates, and consumer activists – from more than 30 countries have traveled to Buenos Aires for the 11th Ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO) as part of the global Our World Is Not For Sale (OWINFS) network. Civil society delegates are participating in OWINFS activities from: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pacific Islands, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Switzerland, Tanzania, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

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Our World is Not for Sale (OWINFS) is a global network of over 250 organizations from over 50 countries of the global North and South. We are united for a fair, transparent, and sustainable multilateral trading system. Over 80 experts from 30 countries have traveled to Buenos Aires for the MC11 – although two dozen of our expert civil society advocates were banned (and several still are.) More about our network, including a link to a directory of CSO experts available for interviews, can be seen at www.ourworldisnotforsale.net.

Our World Is Not for Sale "Mike Check" Chants, MC11, December 11, 2017

Mike Check!
Mike Check!
Our world
Is not for sale!
Nuestro mundo
No está en venta!

We are here Global civil society From 34 countries Farmers and workers
Fisherfolk and consumers
From the North and South
Standing united
To oppose corporate grees

To oppose corporate greed And to demand

Trade for development

Good jobs and food security.

No WTO expansion!

Transform unjust WTO rules!

We condemn

The outrageous actions By the host government To blacklist 64 NGOs Who had already registered

Without just cause.

We condemn
The baseless lies
About our colleagues
Who have been blocked!

We will not be silenced!
We will not be silenced!
Civil seciety will not be silence

Civil society will not be silenced!

MC11 lacks legitimacy! WTO lacks legitimacy!

Member states should not agree

To negotiate at MC11 Under these circumstances

Just the latest example
How in the WTO
Big business is welcome
But civil society excluded.
Like the unfair WTO rules
Rich can subsidize
Big agribusiness
But developing countries

Can't support small farmers
To promote food security.

Permanent Solution!
Permanent Solution!
Public Stockholding!
Public Stockholding
Food Security!
Food Security!
Food Sovereignty!
Food Sovereignty!

No WTO Expansion!

Transform unjust WTO rules!

Our world Is not for sale! Nuestro mundo No está en venta!

Developing countries
Demanded changes
To current WTO
Since its existence
Implementation Agenda

Special and Differential Treatment

S&D Now! Future agenda

Must be Development!

Fix unfair rules

No New Issues No corporate wish-list No New Issues

Don't sideline development No mandate for new issues No work program for new issues

No E-commerce rules No Investment facilitation No Domestic regulation

No New Issues No New Issues

No new issues Through MSMEs! Don't be fooled!

MSMEs

Are a Trojan Horse For E-commerce Rules Gender and Trade Is a Trojan Horse For E-commerce Rules

MSMEs are a Trojan Horse For Investment Facilitation For Domestic Regulation For corporate wish-list.

No new issues!

Azevêdo Promised No Green Rooms Bottom-up Process Transparency Inclusion Now We Know

There WILL be Green Rooms?!!

DG's Azevêdo Broke his promise

No Top-down negotiations No exclusive negotiations

No Green Rooms! No Chair's Text!

Agriculture rules
Complete hypocrisy
Rich can subsidize
The poor cannot!
Remove WTO obstacles
Food Security Now!
Permanent Solution!
Public stockholding!
Permanent Solution!
Public stockholding!
Special Safeguard
for developing countries

Export Competition disciplines!

Results on COTTON! Export Competition Results on COTTON!

LDC Package
Is Long Overdue
We Need Justice
DELIVER NOW
Make LDC Package
Binding NOW
NO More Lies
We demand
REAL S&D
G90 proposal
Nothing less
REAL S&D
Nothing less!

Domestic Regulation Handcuffs governments' Public interest regulation

Domestic issues Not trade issues! Not necessary!

No Domestic Regulation Rules, in the WTO!

No Investment Facilitation

Not a Trade Issue! No Negotiations

On Investment Facilitation!

No New Issues! No New Issues!

No MSMEs Trojan Horse! No E-commerce Rules! No Domestic Regulation! No Investment Facilitation!

WTO Turnaround Food Security Now! Public Stockholding Now! Workable SSM Now!

Our world is not for sale! Our world is not for sale! Nuestro mundo no esta en venta! Nuestro mundo no esta en venta!