

CSO Demand Bangladesh to ACT for LDCs

**Is WTO's mandate really to improve people's lives?**

**Or, promoting unjust corporate trade?**

**Seminar on WTO MC13**

18 February 2024  
CIRDAP Auditorium



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## LDC Graduation

- Bangladesh will graduate from LDC in 2026.
- Need Capacity building on technology, financing, import-export before the open competition
- Need a comprehensive plan to face the challenge to make the graduation sustainable
- TRIPS waiver and other LDC advantages will be lost.

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## AOA

- Price support, Public Stockholding are related to poor's food security, Human Right.
- Need to increase farmers' capacity to preserve crops (Cold Storage).
- Need to invest more → WTO rules of Subsidy
- Need to support the allies in WTO

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## Fisheries

- Need to build capacity of marine fishing
- Invest on Fishing efficiency: fish preservation technology in the sea, landing station
- Keep the artisanal/ individual fishers out of the ban
- Claim the industrial fishing of the developed countries responsible for overfishing

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## E-commerce moratorium

- LDCs and Developing countries lost revenue of 56b\$ in 2017-2022
- We need to build capacity and invest to raise domestic e-commerce platform, healthy culture and security
- Protect local against the multinational ones (Uber vs. pathao, Daraz/ Alibaba vs. ebal)

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## TRIPS waiver & Medicine

- People's right to access to medicine
- Claim waiver beyond graduation until sustainability
- Protect Bangladeshi pharmaceuticals to ensure low-price medicine in future
- Develop the medicine policy/ sustainable health policy: Remember SDG

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## Our Recommendations

- Demand implementation of the promises made in MC12 about graduation and sustainability
- Keep our position to act for the LDCs
- Protect local agriculture from subsidized food import
- Ensure justified price of crops
- Invest in Crop preservation technology: Cold Storage
- Ensure food security through availability of low price food: Support Public Stockholding in AOA

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## Our Recommendations

- Fight for TRIPS waiver in pharmaceuticals to ensure the people's access to affordable medicine
- Need more investment for the capacity building of the pharmaceutical industry for the future export: Alternative possibility of the RMG
- Blame the proposed text on fisheries: as those are supporting industrial fishing and accusing small-scale fisheries sub-sector for overfishing
- Redefine the marine fishing capacity
- We need to invest more in fishing capacity building

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## Our Recommendations

- Explore the Blue Economy and invest on it.
- Invest on technology capacity building for e-commerce before opening the market for competition: Protect local entrepreneurs for e-commerce
- Pakistani e-commerce platform Daraz (Alibaba) is now the largest e-commerce platform in Bangladesh: We need to support a local platform to make it bigger than foreign ones before graduation
- Claim clear DFQF Access for the RMG in USA, not satisfied with 97% dodge.

Thank you

