



# #EndWTO BALI WEEK OF ACTION



## FARMERS, FISHER FOLK, WORKERS & WOMEN FROM ASIA-PACIFIC CALL TO END WTO AND UPHOLD FOOD SOVEREIGNTY, RECLAIM RESOURCES, RECLAIM RIGHTS



PHOTO CREDIT: S. Jahangir Masum

*December 06, 2013, 9:00AM-12:00N; GOR- Tent 3, Denpasar, Bali Indonesia*

### EVENT CO-ORGANIZERS

*Indonesia for Global Justice (IGJ), Pambansang Kaisahan ng Magbubukid sa Pilipinas (PKMP), Integrated Rural Development Foundation (IRDF)-Philippines and Coastal Development Partnership-Bangladesh*

The Asia Pacific Network for Food Sovereignty's (APNFS) current campaign "Reclaim Resources, Reclaim Rights" is addressing resource grabbing in the Asia-Pacific by strengthening the capacity of its members at the country level to protect the rights of the marginalized sectors and defend their communities from land and resource grab. As part of the campaign, APNFS actively participated in the End WTO Movement in Bali by organizing a forum for farmer & fisher folk leaders to share information & analysis on how WTO and free trade are undermining food and seed sovereignty, land rights and social justice of developing nations. Through the forum, APNFS hoped to build up possible regional and global actions aimed at overthrowing unjust WTO policies.



**THE APNFS EVENT RECOGNIZED THE FOLLOWING UNANIMOUS STATEMENTS:**

1. Farmers & fisher folk are not getting the right prices for their harvests & catches.
2. Local communities in all countries are struggling to uphold and protect their land rights.
3. Trans National Corporations (TNC) are already present at the village level and their land brokers are creating social problems.
4. The power of WTO-driven free trade is providing immense power to the TNCs to exploit workers, farmers & women and fisher folks. Privatization of coastal area and beaches are keeping fisher folks away from their fishing grounds.
5. Government is supporting TNCs by providing lands while overlooking the land rights of the local people and undermining gender equality.
6. Advancing people's struggles & continuous social movements are very much needed to keep transnational corporations away from common resources.
7. Commercial farming, which is a side effect of WTO's unjust trade liberalization policies, affects women's reproductive health.
8. A unanimous and urgent call for the End of WTO in order to uphold and protect food sovereignty.

On December 6, 2013, eleven farmer alliances, fisher folk associations, worker unions, women groups and social movement representatives from Indonesia, Philippines and Bangladesh gathered together in Bali to share their experiences and devise future strategies and actions for reclaiming resource & people's rights. Timed just before the closing of WTO MC, the APNFS-organized forum sought to highlight the various problems brought about by unjust WTO trade agreements which have imperiled local economies and pushed more communities into deeper poverty.

The WTO ministerial conference has no contribution on local livelihood; rather its free trade agendas are damaging local livelihoods. Farmers, fisher folk, workers & women are calling for an end of the WTO and its linked trade agreements, which has pushed people into deeper poverty and imperiled local economies.

## strategies to end WTO

1. Genuine agrarian reform to ensure people's ownership of land and to resist land grabbing
2. Regulated trade on agro & fish products to prevent unfair advantage of corporations over fishing and farming communities
3. Integrated agricultural development
4. Massive information & education campaign involving local communities
5. Lobbying with parliaments and congress to stop land grabbing and corporate control over local resources
6. Promote organic farming

