

Draft Outline of the WTO-MC13 Seminar: 6th February 2024

Names mentioned here are proposals only unless confirmed is mentioned.

Subject	Particulars
Title of the seminar	Preparation of the Bangladesh Govt Delegation to WTO on Agriculture, Fisheries and e-Commerce for the MC13
Proposed date	18 February 2024, Sunday, 11h00 to 13h00
Venue	CIRDAP Auditorium, Topkhana Road, Dhaka.
Organized by	COAST Foundation & EquityBD in cooperation with Our World is Not for Sale (OWINFS)
Chair by	Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, Dhaka School of Economics
Chief Guest	Fisheries Minister/ Commerce State Minister
Special Guest	1. Mr. A.K.M. Bahauddin, Member of Parliament 2. Mr. Md. Shahidul Islam Bakul, Member of Parliament 3. Mr. Omor Faruk Chowdhury, Member of Parliament 4. Mr. Ahmed Feroz Kabir, Member of Parliament
Government Officials	1. Ms. Nusrat Jabeen Banu, NDC, Additional Secretary of WTO Wing under the Ministry of Commerce (confirmed) 2. Mr. Syed Md. Alamgir, DG, Fisheries Department (or Representative of WTO Cell) 3. Officials Ministry of Agriculture (TBC) 4. Officials Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (TBC)
Moderator	1. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, Executive Director, COAST Foundation 2. Mostafa Kamal Akanda, Director – Administration & Stakeholder Relation
Panel Members/ Speakers	1. Ms. Shomi Kaiser, Director, FCCI, (on E-Commerce) 2. Dr. Abdul Wahab, Managing Director, CBRD Bangladesh 3. Mr. Ziaul Hauqe Mukta, CSRL 4. Mr. Sharif Jamil, Waterkeepers Bangladesh
INGO Representatives	1. Md. Amirul Islam, AFA (confirmed) 2. Ms. Nujhat Jabin, Country Director, Christian Aid, Bangladesh 3. Mr. Ashish Damle, Country Director, Oxfam, Bangladesh 4. Ms. Farah Kabir, Country Director, ActionAid Bangladesh 5. Dr. Imamun Nabi Khan, FAO
Journalists	1. Kawsar Rahman, Daily Janakantha 2. Salauddin Bablu, SA TV 3. Sajjad Alam Khan Tapu, Jamuna TV 4. Iftexhar Mahmud, Prothom Alo 5. Pinaki Roy, The Daily Star 6. Tonmoy Wardad, The Financial Express
Participants	1. AKM Jashim Uddin, Director, ADAB 2. AHM Bazlur Rahman, BNNRC (On ICT & e-Commerce) 3. Ms. Taslima Miji (Entrepreneur leader) 4. Nurul Alam Masud (PRAN, KHANI) on Agriculture 5. Abdul Haque Anu, E-CAB 6. Mr Badrul Alam, Bangladesh Krishok Federation 7. Zayed Iqbal Khan, Krishok Federation 8. Pradip K Roy, OKC 9. Basanti Saha, Dwip Unnayan Songstha 10. Aminur Rasul Babul, ED, Unnayan Dhara Trust 11. Mahbubur Rahman PhD, SDO 12. Ashish Kumar Dey, Nirapad Naupath 13. Nikhil Chandra Bhadra, Sundarban Surokkha Committee 14. Simanta Siraj, ED, HDD 15. Rashida Begum, AD, COAST Foundation, Bhola 16. Feroz Alam, Shield Bangladesh
Keynote Paper	Barkat Ullah Maruf, Director- Partnerships & Development Communication, COAST Foundation (Keynote presentations will be sent out to all the panel members at least one day before and will be posted on websites mentioned below)

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Key focus	<p>Bangladesh is a land of agriculture and fisheries. Food security and employment are massively dependent on these two of the major sectors in Bangladesh and are affected by the WTO rules. As Bangladesh is also an emerging country in ICT and digital commerce, e-commerce talk in WTO is equally important for Bangladesh.</p> <p>The upcoming MC13 of WTO is also very important as Bangladesh will no longer be a Least Developed Country and will lose some of the advantages like TRIPS waver until 2033.</p> <p>Still, no sign of an agreed permanent solution for Public Stockholding in agriculture in WTO exists. The historical responsibility of overfishing is transferred to the artisanal and poor fishers instead of the corporate fishing. LDC and developing countries are losing revenue due to the WTO Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmissions.</p> <p>Worldwide, it is evident that poverty reduction and achievement of SDG are adversely impacted by WTO rules, including the above-mentioned areas.</p> <p>The seminar wants to draw the attention of the government delegation in WTO before the MC13 of WTO through a positive engagement and to have a dialogue between the government and CSO.</p>
Seminar Coordinator	Md. Zahidul Islam, Head – MEAL & Social Development, Mobile +8801713367401, email : zahid@coastbd.net
Resources available	www.coastbd.net & www.equitybd.net