

## **Suggestions by the Women's Working Group on Financing for Development**

**(WWG on FfD) August 8, 2021.**

### **ZERO DRAFT of the Doha Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries**

#### **1. General Comments:**

The WWG on FfD recognizes the efforts placed into this draft. In order to strengthening it, we submit our following suggestions and comments.

- Of great relevance for the WWG on FfD is to highlight the need to have a specific section addressing Gender Equality, Women and girls' human rights and their empowerment. It has to be strongly emphasized that a segment only focusing on "empowerment" does not address the structural causes of inequality. Furthermore, the draft needs to pay closer attention to the differentiated impacts on groups of population suffering from multidimensional discrimination. It could benefit from an intersectional and life-cycle approach.
- We endorse the submissions made by the CS FfD Group, TWN/Social Watch and the statement submitted by IWRAW AP.
- We support the proposal by IWRAW AP, related to a specific consultation for the LDC's +5 process on gender equality and women's human rights. The process will benefit greatly from it, to detach from the "micro solutions approach" of the document and really address the macro dimensions of gender inequalities. The suggestions of language in this document could still benefit greatly as well from a larger conversation with feminist and women's groups from all around the world.
- We are certain that the situation of the LDC's cannot be solved by siloed measures, but rather by focusing on structural and global sources of inequality, pertaining to the economic and financial dynamics.

#### **2. Suggestions to the Zero draft:**

education, increased access to **sexual and reproductive health and rights** ~~modern family planning~~ for women and girls and reforms that have made it easier to start and register businesses.

13. The Programme of Action for the decade 2022-2031 is a new generation of renewed and strengthened commitments by the LDCs and their development partners grounded on the overarching goals of achieving rapid recovery from the pandemic, building resilience against

**I. Investing in people in LDCs: Eradicating poverty and building capacity to leave no one behind!!**

31. We aim to eliminate poverty, hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and dimensions, to advance human development for all in the LDCs by the end of the decade and to provide opportunities for all, **throughout the life cycle with an intersectional approach**, with special attention to the poorest and marginalized groups as well **as those suffering the effects of**



- Achieve access to sexual and reproductive health **and rights** and education for all **persons**, women and girls.

We agree to take the following actions:

50. We commit to establishing policies and programmes to **guarantee gender equality and women and girls' human rights, as well as labor rights, including equal pay for equal job and equal pay for work of equal value**, expand women's entrepreneurship, job opportunities and economic opportunities and ensuring women's full, **meaningful** and effective participation and equal opportunities for **parity in**

illegal transfer of funds and other illicit activities by strengthening anti-corruption laws and regulations and their effective application.

84. We commit to reforming the decision-making and governance structures of international organisations to ensure that the LDCs are well represented. We also commit to providing continued support for strengthened and effective voice and participation of LDCs in international dialogue and action on development, as well as in decision

116 We will promote partnerships with the private sector to leverage fully their capacity for innovation and encourage greater investment in sustainable network infrastructure and practical digital capacity-building initiatives in LDCs. We encourage and support the private sector, particularly major technology companies, to work closely with public, educational, research- 18 focused, and development agencies to facilitate technology transfer, exploit research and innovation and build the necessary capacities and technical competencies of LDCs, **while ensuring these companies guarantee labor rights, pay progressive taxes within the LDC's territories and ensure data sovereignty.**

### **III. Structural transformation as a driver of prosperity**

123 We commit to promoting and supporting the formulation of national strategies aimed at increasing diversification, value addition, efficiency, and competitiveness in the manufacturing, agriculture, and services sectors; and call for enhancing financial and technical support, **paired up with policy space,** from development partners, international organizations, and multilateral

#### **IV. Enhancing international trade of least developed countries and regional integration**

164 We commit to rejecting vaccine nationalism and protectionism, fully meeting our transparency obligations on trade measures and meaningfully improving access for all countries, especially LDCs, to COVID-19 vaccines, **diagnostics, therapeutic medicines and other needed medical products. We urge WTO members to agree to a TRIPS waiver of the TRIPS Agreement for the prevention, containment and treatment of COVID-19 contained in IP/C/W/669/Rev.1.** ~~including through facilitating technology transfer within the framework of multilateral rules, so as to encourage research and innovation while at the same time allowing licensing agreements and any other arrangements that help scale up manufacturing.~~

#### **Agriculture and cotton**

184 Target: Correct and prevent trade distortions in world agricultural markets, including through elimination of all forms of





including through digitization of tax systems. Other challenges for LDCs include tax evasion and illicit financial flows.

242 Target: Increase tax revenue as a proportion of gross domestic product to at least 15 per cent

270 We invite creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, **debt cancellation and** the use of debt instruments, such as debt swap initiatives, for sustainable development and climate action.

## **Remittances**