



possible waiver, albeit there continues to be disagreement on the parameters of the waiver.<sup>5</sup> **Thus we believe it is important for you to urgently require the US and the EU as well as other WTO Members to either engage with IP/C/W/669/Rev.1 text by making concrete textual proposals or not to block adoption of the Waiver proposal.**

**Inaction is no longer an option for the TRIPS Council.** The Economist predicts that the actual death toll for COVID-19 is significantly higher than the official count and is likely to be approximately 17.6 million people<sup>6</sup> with the pandemic increasingly affecting developing and least developed countries. UNCTAD has also concluded that the damage from the COVID-19 crisis has exceeded that of the Global Financial Crisis in most parts of the global economy, but has been particularly draining on the developing world, adding that the total cost of delayed vaccinations – in terms of lost income – will amount to US\$2.3 trillion, with the developing world shouldering the majority of that bill.

The TRIPS Council needs to stop making excuses and dragging its feet. As the Chair of the TRIPS Council, you must not allow a minority of blocking Members to paralyse the TRIPS Council by tacitly supporting their delaying and disinformation tactics.

We strongly call on you to start the text-based negotiations on the draft decision text (IP/C/W/669/Rev.1) currently before the TRIPS Council. Every day of delay means more deaths, more lives lost, and more setbacks to the recovery of the global economy. As the Director-

17. Third World Network
18. Women in Migration Network (WIMN)

**Regional**

19. African Alliance
20. Asia Pacific Forum on Women,

60. Financial Justice Ireland
61. Foundation for Integrative AIDS Research (FIAR), United States
62. Friends of the Earth Malaysia,
63. FTA Watch, Thailand
64. Fundacion Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer, Argentina
65. Gandhi Development Trust, South Africa
66. Gender Studies and Human Rights Documentation Centre, Ghana
67. Genderccsa, South Africa
- 68.

108. Positive Malaysian Treatment Access & Advocacy Group (MTAAG+), Malaysia
109. Prayas Rajasthan, India
110. Public Eye, Switzerland
111. Réseau de développement et de promotion de l'expertise pharmaceutique, Burkina Faso
112. Roots for Equity, Pakistan
113. Rural Reconstruction Nepal
114. Sankalp Rehabilitation Trust
115. Santé Environnement et Développement Durable pour le Bien -Etre, Côte d'Ivoire
116. SECTION27, South Africa
117. SHARE, Japan
118. Slums and Rural Health Initiative Rwanda (SRHIN-Rwanda)
119. South Sudan Women's Empowerment Network, Sudan
120. Southern and East African Trade and Negotiations Institute, South Africa
121. TB Proof, South Africa
122. Trade Justice Pilipinas, Philippines
123. Treatment Action Campaign, South Africa
124. Treatment Action Group, United States
125. Tripla Difesa Onlus Guardie e Sicurezza Sociale e Eco Zoofile odv, Italy
126. Veille Citoyenne Togo
127. Worldview-The Gambia
128. Young Feminists Movement (Y-Fem) Namibia Trust, Namibia
129. Zero Covid Scotland