

IMMEDIATELY HALT EU-INDIA FTA NEGOTIATIONS
Statement of Concern from India
New Delhi, 21 September 2008

We, belonging to trade unions, people's movements and civil society organisations express our opposition to the lack of transparency, public debate and democratic process of the ongoing negotiations of the European Union – India Free Trade Agreement (EU-India FTA). We are deeply concerned that a free trade framework will have adverse socio-economic and environmental impacts. As delegations gather for the EU-India Summit in Marseilles on September 29-30, 2008, we call for a halt of EU-India FTA negotiations.

Since the launch of the EU's corporate driven Global Europe strategy and the subsequent commencement of the negotiations in June 2007, five rounds of formal talks have occurred without any public access to the Indian government position, commissioned studies and negotiating texts. Even the Indian Parliament, state governments and legislatures have been kept in the dark.

The Indian Commerce Ministry's consultations have been limited to large corporate and commercial interests within India and have completely side-stepped those who are likely to be adversely affected by a legally binding treaty.

WE DEMAND AN IMMEDIATE HALT OF EU-INDIA FTA NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL:

- **All existing negotiating positions, draft proposals and government commissioned studies are made public**
- **All current proposals are debated and discussed in parliament and public fora**
- **The federal process of consultation with the state governments is completed and a consensus is reached**
- **Consultations are conducted with key constituents such as trade unions, farmers, women, dalit, adivasi and other peoples organizations, small and medium enterprises, cooperatives and hawkers**
- **A white paper is released and discussed in parliament on the socio-economic and ecological impacts of all aspects of the EU-India FTA, especially addressing social inequality and discrimination**

Endorsed by:

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6	Ashok Choudhry	National Forum for Forest People and Forest workers (NFFPFW)
7	V lakshmi	Public Service International (PSI)
8	Rajeev Sharma	Building and Wood Workers International (South Asia)
9	J John	Centre for Education and Communication (CEC)
10	Smitu Kothari	Intercultural Resources (ICR)

11	Vandana Shiva	Navdanya
12	Dr. Mira Shiva	Health Action International, People's Health Movement
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14	Arun Kumar	Jawaharlal Nehru University
15	Benny Kuruvilla	Focus on the Global South
16	Umi Daniel	Action Aid
17	Dharmendra Kumar	India FDI Watch
18	Shefali Sharma	Independent Researcher
19	Shaktiman Ghosh	National Hawkers Federation
20	Bhaskar Goswami	Forum for Biotechnology and food Security
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22	Vidya Rangan	Equations
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25	Vijay Prakash Jain	Bharatiya Udhog Vyapar Mandal
26	Shalini Yog	Heinrich Boll Foundation
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31	Wilfred Dcosta	Indian Social Action Forum (INSAF)
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45	Vikram Prasad	Rural Youth Organization (UP)
46	Shabahat Hussain	Dristi (UP)
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49	William Stanley	Orissa Development Action Forum (ODAF)
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58	Dineshwar Tiwary	Janpahal
59	Gopinath	CIVIDEP
60	R. V. Gopi	Wholesale Vegetable and Fruits Merchants Association
61	Amanulla Khan	Potato and Onion Retailers Association
62	D. C. Prakash	Karnataka Construction Workers Association
63	Abdul Hameed	ASTRA, Karnataka
64	Karthick	UNI
65	K. Himakar	Public Intellectual and writer
66	Ramachandrappa	Bridge Network
67	Jayaram	Garment and Textile Workers' Union
68	Narendra Patil	Maharashtra Rajya Mathadi, Transport and General Workers Union
69	Mohan Gurnani	Federation of Associations of Maharashtra
70	Prafula Mahatre	Navi Mumbai Hawkers Union
71	Raju Bhise	YUVA
72	Datta Isswalkar	Girni Kamgar Sangarsha Samithi
73	Pravin Ghag	Maharashtra Kamgar Sangarsh Samiti
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