

Remarks by Wendy Stephany – April 17, 2016

We all know about the TPP. The TPP will allow international tribunals that will make countries pay millions for failing to enforce their interests. TPP benefits for Peru are unclear and the costs to the economy will be really high.

In Peru, these are some of the consequences:

- First of all, slavery will rise and bring more drugs, have more transgenic/GMO foods that kill our diversity of agricultural products
- The signing of the trade pact will make Peru one of the countries with trade agreements in the region, allowing the US to boost its foreign trade.
- By extending patent protection to last 8 years on imported biological drugs, the price of some medicines will increase by more than 30%

Why are we on alert and activating? Why are we going to march tomorrow at 5pm?, Because these biological drugs are expensive!!!, and diseases such as cancer, HIV AIDS, hemophilia cannot be treated with aspirin. We are talking about drugs that cost 5,000, 6,000, 10,000. Is this not a crime?

This agreement places the investor rights above the rights of peoples and benefits the multinational corporations.

The big losers in the TPP are patients and treatment providers in developing countries. This is the worst trade agreement for access to medicines in developing countries, which will be forced to change their laws to incorporate abusive intellectual property protections for pharmaceutical companies

Now we all know what separates developed countries from developing countries is a knowledge gap, and TPP will make that gap larger and harder to close even if it is based on the theft of genetic material from the Peruvian Amazon.

The TPP achieves this through a series of seemingly secret rules also with a dark jargon related "patent linkage" and "biological", which together enable businesses to extend their monopolies for many years. This would be especially costly for Peru, whose current legislation encourages more data exchange (data sharing) and research. The company Mylan, a leading manufacturer of generic drugs, has warned that the TPP can indeed make close its trade relations with the participating countries, which means that not only Peruvians must pay more for drugs, but also that some life-saving medicines may become unavailable.

The TPP would reduce the capacity of member countries, among them Peru to approve regulatory legal standards to protect public health, safety and the environment, because it would create mechanisms for resolving disputes between investors and States that allow foreign companies to

sue the government when they feel a regulation will adversely affect their profits. Private arbitration would be binding, even if the judgment was contrary to national laws. And the company could be compensated, not only for their investments already made, but for the loss of their "expected" benefits even if their profits are generated by selling products that kill people and even if there was discrimination in the regulation national.

These are not hypothetical threats: existing agreements similar trade deals have led to such demands. In fact, Peru is currently facing a lawsuit for US \$ 800 million US company to determine if Renco can continue to operate a metal smelter in La Oroya, which is considered among the 10 most polluted places in the world and also seeks avoid paying compensation for victims and rehabilitation of the site.

Under the TPP, governments would actually pay foreign investors by not polluting and not harm the population, rather than having the freedom to regulate companies to ensure they do not harm others. The mechanisms for resolving existing disputes are bad enough. This radical expansion under TPP would be disastrous.

This is particularly important in the case of Peru, where there is a long history of abuses against the environment and workers by companies. Under the TPP, the country could be sued for any changes in the legal regulations to protect workers and the environment, no matter how unreasonable or discriminatory they are, as long as it affects earnings of companies. This creates an even more difficult struggle to improve working conditions and living standards of workers and stop the unsustainable exploitation of environmental assets in the country.

We are fighting, trying to educate people, because the vast majority don't know what TPP is going to be for our country, and for every one of them.

So, the sovereignty of the signatory state is lost. In short it will not be allowed to be protested. For TPP will force the country to accept all the terms despite the opposition of the people.

The recent elections in our country , which have been a fraud as primers marked in favor of candidate Keiko Fujimori , daughter of former dictator Alberto Fujimori, were reported to have put our country in a difficult position . We have to choose between two candidates who support the TPP because they have no environmental awareness. They are not interested in benefitting the people . PPK , who has a history of having given our resources abroad, is the lesser evil, but does not represent all those who fight every day for respect for our resources. This is devastating to Persu. We are a firmly resisting and we are becoming more willing to raise our voices and withhold our votes because neither represents us.

About water, in this country government want to destroy the company Sedapal for the private sector to assume its privatizing each of the major areas of Sedapal current operations, " he said.

Dammert warned that such privatization would bring a substantial increase in home prices , segregation to the majority of citizens in providing and deformation processes and state investment to develop projects Sedapal supply to the districts of Lima.

Its important to remember All Amazon is a large oil block and According to Peruvian law, they belong to the state subsoils ; if there is oil in a protected area , it will explode, causing damage to the species living there. This is a big crime, and authorities say nothing.

My partners all over the world, we have an important mission: to teach children to take actions since they are little, instead of lying about a perfect world... they are going to finish what our parents have started. It's a long fight. The monster is big.

It is important is to share information; it doesn't matter if we work a lot; or if we don't have time to take the streets, marching or protesting... we can educate from our mobile phones. Educate one by one if necessary.

Tomorrow, April 18th, in all the country, are going to protest because we don't want to let the government commit our beautiful country in unequal trade relations. In order to educate and encourage more people, partners in cities as Cajamarca, Moyomamba, Cusco, and Lima are going to join forces to make the government hear our voice.

I send a hug to all of you listening. Keep standing up. Never give up. A better world is possible, is up to you. Infinite love for all of you and thanks for your activism , never stop.