

PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished delegates,

Malaysia joins other members in reiterating that a fair and effective multilateral trading system is vital for global prosperity and growth.

We all stand to lose if we fail to deliver the Bali package. It is the less developed and developing world that will be most affected if there is no deliverable at the end of this Ministerial. Our small businesses have so much to gain from a more integrated and open global trading system.

And then there is the question of the relevance of the WTO. The WTO has served us well and it would be very regrettable if its relevance is called into question because we failed to deliver in Bali.

Malaysia, as a nation with high dependence on trade and investment, attaches much importance to role and functions of the WTO. The WTO is at the core of our trade policy. Malaysia takes a pragmatic stance in the negotiations, focusing on the big picture and the long term gains that we can all derive from an effective rules-based multilateral trading system. We have been actively engaged in the WTO process and will continue to do so.

Malaysia wants to record our appreciation to DG Azevêdo for his tireless efforts in getting us to the cusp of a deal that would benefit all of us. The intensity of negotiations in Geneva the past few months is in large part due to the DG's will and drive in the interest of the global trading system. He deserves our support. We must focus on the benefits we can all derive from a successful Bali Ministerial. Let us not go home empty handed. We must seize this opportunity for the good of all!

With that Chairman, our thanks and appreciation to Indonesia, for hosting us. We also thank the WTO Secretariat and all members for the hard work in getting us here.

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