



**KENYA**

**ACP COORDINATOR AMBASSADOR JOHN O. KAKONGE  
(KENYA)**

**REMARKS ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAUNCH OF THE  
TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT**

**FACILITY, 22<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014**

---

**Mr. Director General,**

**Excellencies,**

**Distinguished delegates,**

**Ladies and gentlemen**

We are here at this pivotal time to launch an important component of our post-Bali work. It is my honour this day to thank Director General Roberto Azevedo and his team for responding to our request to set up a Trade Facilitation Trust Fund Facility to assist in the implementation of the TF Agreement. We also extend our thanks to those donors who have stepped up to join us in this initiative and the launch today.

We were very happy with the Bali result on Section II that we worked so hard to craft and negotiate. At the same time, my colleagues, Ambassador Monyane of Lesotho and Ambassador Aparr of Uganda, and I felt that some elements remained that would pose significant challenges to the members of our groups in their post-Bali implementation efforts. We identified three main themes that militated in favour of the establishment of a facility in the WTO to help support implementation of the TFA.

The **first theme** involves the need for assistance with the updating of needs assessments and the preparation of our notifications, while honouring the principle of self-designation. The **second theme** is the concern manifested by some of our Members that they may not find donors or that donors will not find them.

Coherence in bilateral and Annex D plus donor relationships is critical if we are to avoid overlaps in delivery and to ensure that no one in need of assistance is left behind.

---

Finally, the **third theme** is the broader issue of being able to meet our post-2015 development goals as we proceed in tandem to build our capacity to implement the TFA. The fund being launched here today would be available to fill gaps in both hard infrastructure project implementation grants and soft infrastructure assistance. We firmly believe that the TF Trust Fund Facility, housed in the WTO, being set up today thanks to the foresight of the Director General and the generosity of the donor community, will provide the necessary catalyst towards our objective to implement the Bali TF Agreement.

**Thank you all.**