

## CALL TO ACTION

### Global Forum on Inclusive Trade for LDCs

1. We, the Vice President of The Gambia, Minister of Commerce and Industry for the Central African Republic, Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism for Malawi, and Minister of State for Trade for Uganda, highlight the need for action to leverage trade to fight poverty, recognising that trade is an engine for inclusive and sustainable economic growth.
2. We note that the global community increasingly recognizes the benefits of investing in trade, with trade playing a key role in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and EIF the only programme specifically mentioned in Goal 8, highlighting its mandate as a mechanism to channel resources to LDCs. With SDG 17.11 aiming to double LDCs' share of world exports, echoing the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPOA) and with the IPOA charting a strategy for sustainable and inclusive LDC growth and calling for half of the LDCs to meet the graduation criteria by 2020, the time to act is now.
3. We come together at the Global Forum on Inclusive Trade for LDCs to enhance LDCs' participation in global trade. We are committed to supporting a strong and inclusive rules-based multilateral trading system and to further strengthen support for LDCs to enhance their position in global and regional markets.
4. To support inclusive trade, we are committed to increasing our domestic resources, and pledge to design trade policies that are both pro-poor and inclusive. We are dedicated to fostering policies that help sustain productive capacities in LDCs, especially for small businesses, women and youth.
5. However, we believe that the LDCs' share of global trade cannot be significantly increased without additional resources from donors and the private sector. The EIF is important in mobilizing efforts to achieve inclusive trade through a focus on strengthened government capacity for trade mainstreaming, Aid for Trade coordination, addressing critical supply chain constraints, harnessing the potential of innovation and technology, and creating favourable business environments for attracting investment.
6. As partners with the EIF, we commit to taking concrete steps and joint actions to use trade to sustain policy environments, build productive capacity, achieve sustainability of results, consolidate growth, reduce poverty and promote shared prosperity. We value the EIF support, provided by its donors, for LDCs to own and implement a trade agenda conducive to sustainable economic growth. Accordingly, we call on the international community to increase its support to the EIF, so we continue to strive to ensure that trade works for everyone following the principle of leaving no LDC behind.

**H.E. Vice President, Fatoumata Jallow-Tambajang, The Gambia**

**H.E. Minister, Hassan Come Central African Republic**

**H.E. Minister, Henry Amon Robin Mussa, Malawi**

**H.E. Minister of State for Trade, Werikhe Michael Kafabusa, Uganda**