Closing Remarks
H.E. Mr. Pan Sorasak, Minister of Commerce

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the organizing committee of the 5th China Round Table on WTO Accessions of LDCs, I would like to express my profound thanks to Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, for his honorable presence and meaningful remarks at the opening session of this event. I also thank the Government of the People’s Republic of China for funding, WTO and all line-ministries and provincial authorities for a very good collaboration. This 3-day intensive discussion would not be successful without the active engagement, experience shared and productive discussion of all delegates and guest speakers.

I would like to congratulate the acceding countries, the WTO Secretariat and the People’s Republic of China for Signing the Extension of the Memorandum of Understanding on the China LDCs and Accessions Program, which enables more activities to be conducted in order to assist acceding countries in integrating into Multilateral Trading Systems in the more favorable manner.

I took note of the importance in ensuring an inclusive participation of LDCs in the Multilateral Trading System. WTO accession is an investment in its future competitiveness, bringing significant benefits to the country’s economic and social development. However, there are a lot of challenges to comply with the WTO’s obligations and commitments. In this regard, I really appreciate the recommendation and comments suggested by acceding LDCs, Article XII LDCs and other WTO Members on various experiences in acceding process as well as post-accession best practices, which include the process of policy making, domestic consultations, and the accession negotiations.

I highly appreciate the technical and financial assistance provided by the Government of the People’s Republic of China, Developed Members, Development Partners and Donors and other International Organizations in assisting LDCs to pursue trade policy goals and integrate themselves into the Multilateral Trading System.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Taking this opportunity, I strongly encourage LDCs, acceding members, especially Sudan and Comoros, to strive forward for their accessions and their participation in the 11th Ministerial Conference (MC11), to be held from 11 to 14 December 2017, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
May I now declare the 5th China Round Table officially closed, and I hope all delegations had a pleasant stay during your time here, enjoy your visits to the Angkor Wat temple, the Home of the World Heritage and have a safe journey back to your respective home countries.

Thank you!

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