

**Speech of the First Deputy Minister of Economic Development
and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan Saidrahmon Nazriev,
at the Fourth China Round Table**

*Dear Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Before I proceed with my remarks, allow me on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to kindly extend my appreciation for the hosts of the today's event, which we find to be vital for the improvement of integration into the international trading system.

With the aim to trade more and to be an important part of the world trading system, after twelve years of constructive negotiations Tajikistan became a member of the World Trade Organization. During the accession process, more than 100 laws and regulations have been either amended or replaced. The Republic of Tajikistan has fully harmonized its legislation with the WTO rules and principles.

Of course, becoming a WTO member is just one side of the coin, which I would call success.

However, in order to make the system really work we also have to look at the other side of the coin, and there you will find out that there are many issues to be resolved in order to achieve initial objectives.

In this regard, in order to harness full advantages of the WTO membership and improve trade and economic relations within the region, as well as globally, Tajikistan has undertaken several internal reforms and measures. Following up this objective the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan adopted the Program of Adjustment of the Economy of the Republic of Tajikistan to the WTO membership (commonly known as the Post WTO Accession Action Plan). The measures outlined in this Program cover every important aspects of trade, notably: Tajikistan's commitments taken in the course of the WTO accession; TBT; SPS; Services; IP rights; Industry and Agriculture related specific measures; and improvement of public awareness on WTO issues.

The year of 2015 will be noted in Tajikistan's history as remarkable year as our Parliament ratified both the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and the Protocol of Amendment of the TRIPS Agreement. We believe that the implementation of these documents will

deepen Tajikistan's integration into the world trading system and accelerate the reforms in relevant sectors.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

In June this year, Tajikistan had an honor to be the host for the Dushanbe Third China Round Table on WTO accessions. The Round Table participants focused on the subject of "Post-Accession: Maximizing the Benefits of WTO Membership and Global Economic Integration". Although the starting point was Post-Accession and associated best practices, across several sessions, we reviewed questions of systemic importance such as implementation, strengthening of the WTO regular work and deepening domestic reforms through WTO membership. We also seized the opportunity to examine ways in which the WTO could support the key objective of the region-trade facilitation and integration of Central Asia for.

The overall results of the Third China Round Table were summarized in the highlighted in the Dushanbe Statement, communicated by H.E. Mr.Nematullo Hikmatullozoda, Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Republic of Tajikistan, to H.E. Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, WTO Director-General, on 4 June 2015.

Allow me now to kindly pass on the baton of the host of the Third China Round Table to the Republic of Kenya - the host of the Fourth China Round Table. I hope that in the course of this event all of us will jointly tackle current challenges that our countries are facing while conducting reforms aimed at deepening integration of our economies into the global economy.

I would also like to thank the People's Republic of China and the World Trade Organization for their commitments and undertakings in this regard.

Thank you for your attention!