



**World Trade Organisation 10th ministerial conference
15-18 December 2015. Nairobi / KENYA**

**Statement of the United Arab Emirates by
HE. Eng. Sultan Bin Saeed AL Mansouri
Minister of Economy**

**Your Excellency, Dr. Amina Mohammad, chairperson of the
MC10**

Your Excellency, Director General of the WTO

Excellencies, Ministers and Heads of Delegations;

Allow me at the outset, on behalf of my government, to thank the gracious people and government of The Republic of Kenya for hosting this very important ministerial conference. The hospitality by which we were received is testament to the generous nature that we all know too well of the lovely African Continent. I would also like to thank the WTO secretariat for preparing the documents before us today, a huge task that you all need to be commended for.

The UAE will save no effort to cooperate and collaborate with all of you for the good of the organisation and the multilateral trading system.

Madame Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen,

Bali declaration has carried elements of a looking forward program with political and technical guidance. We have agreed to remain committed to work actively and collectively, and to keep thinking out of the box towards overcoming any new stalemate facing our extreme commitment to the success of the Doha development round of negotiations. We must keep that spirit and collectively get over the hurdles that our Multilateral Trading System (MTS) is facing. Here we are today; all convinced that we are able to fully explore approaches serving the various main principles of the world trade organisation and MTS.

Over the past two decades we, all of us, have experimented up to a high extent that the system has worked with success. It worked for the benefit of all the member states regardless the turbulences and the stalemates that the system went through. We do not want to compromise this.

Madame Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen,

On the occasion the 20th anniversary of the WTO, despite the tremendous challenges that the organisation went through since its establishment no one could deny one simple basic fact that the organisation has lived up to the expectations. The member states cannot but confirm that WTO was a real negotiation forum for trade rules and continues to promote development and stands as a unique forum for dispute settlement. We strongly commend and recognise the various programs supervised by WTO.

The United Arab Emirates welcomes the adoption of the various decisions and recommendations before the ministerial conference on issues related to negotiations and ordinary work of WTO.

Madame Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen,

In preparation to the Ministerial conference, a regional ministerial meeting for The Arab Group was held and it was clearly agreed amongst the group that Arab Countries, members and observers are committed to the Multilateral Trading System (MTS) rules and the Doha Development Agenda (DDA).

The UAE associates itself fully to the communique which includes; that the accession process to the WTO should be streamlined, facilitated and expedited with fair conditions, the need for the revision of the guidelines of Intergovernmental Organizations as observers and to seriously consider adding the Arabic Language in the WTO as a working language. In addition to that, while welcoming the participation of Palestine in this ministerial conference, we call on members to seriously consider the observer-ship status requested by Palestine to the WTO.

In this regard, The UAE believes that new accessions to the organization are marks of confirmation to the universality of this organization and we would like to congratulate the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Republic of Liberia for finalizing their accession negotiation to the organization.

Madame Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen,

It is needless to say that The UAE, as the member states of the WTO and the international community, is a true believer in the multilateral trading system and attaches great importance to the rule - based multilateral trading system, hence we would always stand strong to engage in a constructive manner with the member states to work towards its success.

On that basis, the government of The UAE is committed to contribute in a concrete manner to global trade and to Multilateral Trade rules. As for the purpose of implementing Bali MC9 decision, it is my pleasure to inform the conference that the UAE Cabinet had approved the Trade Facilitation Agreement and we are in the process of notifying the WTO.

I wish our deliberations will carry the success needed for the directions towards a clear guiding roadmap after Nairobi. In the UAE, our political leaders have taught us to be optimistic and to prefer highlighting the perspectives of success and achievements; we therefore remain fully confident that, in spite of apparent uncertainties, by their intense work and constructive efforts, the Ministers will make Nairobi of a success.

Thank you for your time