

## **Speech of the First Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan Mr. Saidrahmon Nazriev**

At the 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference, Nairobi, Kenya, December 2015

Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to start by thanking Ms. Amina Mohamed for chairing the 10<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference and on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to extend special appreciation to the Government and people of Kenya for their hospitality and to the WTO Secretariat for organizing this important event.

Bearing in mind the importance of the trade as an engine of growth, the integration to the world economy has been main focus of the foreign policy of Tajikistan. In this regard the Republic of Tajikistan, after intensive and comprehensive work, has become the full-fledged member of the World Trade Organization on March 2, 2013.

Tajikistan's WTO membership, first and foremost actively contributes to the process of integration into the global economy. It has a positive effect on the country's rating at the global level, makes it possible to take advantage of multilateral trading system and contributes to the improvement of the structure of government administration.

In order to harness full advantages of the WTO membership and improve trade and economic relations within the region and globally, as well as recognizing its membership commitments, 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 Tajikistan to the WTO membership.

The year of 2015 will be noted in Tajikistan's history as a remarkable year as our Parliament has ratified both the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and the Protocol of amendment of the TRIPS Agreement, and also hosted the Dushanbe Third China Round Table on WTO accessions. 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 and we call and encourage other members to follow in the same spirit. As you may recall, for Tajikistan, like for other land locked countries, the implementation of TFA Agreement and in particular its transit related provisions, is not only a question of commercial interest but a matter of survival.

Today we live in a challenging global environment, starting from the climate issues ending by trade and economic uncertainties, where we see the WTO as a platform where we can and should succeed in achieving more balanced rules based Multilateral Trading System and resist any forms of protectionism, with the aim of achieving the sustainable global growth.

As the international trade plays a vital role in the promotion of economic development and poverty alleviation, we believe that the conclusion of Doha Development Round will give a boost to the global economy and trade. We therefore call upon the WTO membership to redouble their efforts towards a successful conclusion of the DDA with the main focus on development and with meaningful results for the developing countries and LDCs, as well as on the special situation of the recently acceded members who have undertaken extensive market access commitments.

Taking into account the role of trade in cutting the extreme poverty in half under the Millennium Development Goals, we believe it will play a vital role in post 2015 Sustainable Development Agenda (SDGs) and therefore we call upon members to show more flexibility and political will in all pillars of negotiations for the successful completion of the DDA.

In conclusion, from our own experience we know how complex the process of accession is, and therefore we welcome the membership of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Seychelles, as well as completion of negotiations of the Republic of Afghanistan and Liberia. We firmly believe that accession of these countries will contribute to deepening of Multilateral Trading System both on the regional and global level.

Thank you for your attention!