



## **WTO 9th Ministerial Conference**

### **Meeting on the Accession of the Republic of Yemen to the WTO**

#### **A Statement**

**by H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Khater**

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Commerce**

**Head of Qatar Delegation**

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

Mr Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

The State of Qatar warmly welcomes the accession of The Republic of Yemen to the WTO. We convey our congratulation to the Government and the genuine People of Yemen on this historical occasion. The Yemeni people have established one of the oldest civilizations in the world; they started the world trading activities since early times. Therefore, we should all be proud of this historical moment, which is a clear sign of our collective will to deliver tangible results.

Yemen's journey towards becoming a member of the WTO has been a long one, stretching over 13 years. The comprehensive and diligent efforts that Yemen has made to bring its domestic rules and legislation in line with WTO requirements are highly commendable.

The package of Yemen's accession is nevertheless a significant contribution to the multilateral trading system and beneficial to the WTO members. It reflects the extensive work and serious commitments undertaken by Yemen for more than a decade.

The State of Qatar is confident that Yemen's membership to the WTO will play a significant role as part of its overall objective of economic reform. We therefore, call on all members to continue supporting Yemen to successfully implement its reform programme and WTO commitments on a sustainable basis.

Allow me to conclude by thanking you, Mr. Chairman, for convening this special session on the Accession of Yemen to the WTO. My thanks also go to the WTO Secretariat's staff for the documentation and excellent arrangement they have made for this important event.

And please allow me to congratulate Yemen in Arabic, Mabrook Al-Yemen.

Thank you very much.