

## **Statement by**

### **MACAO, CHINA**

Let me start by congratulating Ambassador Roberto Azevêdo for assuming the role of the Director-General of the World Trade Organization in September this year. We are confident that Ambassador Azevêdo will avail himself of his rich experience to lead Members in making a success of the DDA negotiations against the waves of the changing global economic situation. Besides, we would like to thank the Indonesian Government and WTO Secretariat for the impeccable arrangements for this meeting in the beautiful island of Bali.

This Ninth Ministerial Conference also marks the twelfth anniversary of the inauguration of the Doha Round. The twelfth anniversary is a milestone year; hence, as a reflection on our current situation, Members should first recall the global economic development that has been witnessed since the establishment of the GATT, the episodes of economic crisis and the follow-up recovery that has been strode through, and most importantly, how the multilateral trading system has contributed to these successes in the long history of the global economy.

Indeed, all economies are now interdependent. This proof record has shown us that the multilateral trading system was, and still is, greatly significant to us, and it will be even more relevant in the future. For that reason, we are now at an unwavering position to fortify the multilateral trading system and on the right path toward the very much desired conclusion of the Doha Round - the goal that we have set up for ourselves twelve years ago.

Nonetheless, hurdles remain in many of the negotiation frontiers to decelerate the pace of the DDA negotiations. We would wish that Members may bridge the gaps on those difficult issues by according a high political will in the face of the ongoing negotiations for the ultimate positive outcome of the Doha Round.

On the bright side, we see that the tenor to negotiations has improved recently in the WTO, especially the active engagement of Members in the three deliverables of the Bali Package. By placing the development promise at the heart of the DDA, we are optimistic to witness that the negotiation outcome would be advantageous to the developing and least-developed Members.

Another noticeable subject before us entails protectionist measures, which have impaired the global economic recovery and undermined the creditability of the multilateral trading system. In this connection, Macao, China considers that a more open trading environment promotes effectiveness of production, efficiency of resource allocation, and most importantly, the flows of innovative ideas that are beacons for guiding us to excel in this changing global society.

Finally, Macao, China reiterates its support for the multilateral trading system and renews the commitment to successfully conclude the Doha Round. We should, therefore, make more concerted efforts to move forward and write into the success of the multilateral trading system.

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