

Statement
of Mr Andrzej Dycha, Undersecretary of State
Ministry of Economy, Poland
at the plenary session of the WTO MC9 on 5th December 2013

Chairman, Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentleman,

Poland is disappointed that despite of intensive negotiations we all have not been able to reach an agreement in Geneva. However, we believe that it is still possible, here in Bali. What we already have on the table is beneficial for all WTO members and at the same time contains a strong development component with special regards to the needs of LDC's. We are aware of the fact that a proper balance in mutual benefits and obligations of all the WTO member states, reflecting the level of their development, must be found to close successfully the ongoing negotiations. We strongly believe that a compromise may be reached as liberalization of trade will give a strong incentive to the development of world economy. WTO must prove that it can deliver otherwise the negotiation will shift outside this organization. Let me also thank Director General Roberto Azevêdo for all his efforts undertaken by him to bring MC9 to the point where we are. But it is the members-driven organization and responsibility is only up to us all. What will happen with the WTO and the entire multilateral system is our decision only. We all should work bearing that in mind.

At the same time all of us must engage in defining a post-Bali work program, which should, inter alia, reflect new tendencies we all face in the international economic relations. Here, I am thinking in particular about:

- elimination of non-tariff barriers,
- regulations concerning export duties,
- environmental concerns.

I would like also to underline the importance of strengthening the existing mechanisms of the WTO, specially the improvement of the notification system. We should use the next following months to build up the effective instrument for ensuring transparency and mutual trust. We should also concentrate our work on improvement of DSU system, which Poland considers a milestone of this organization.

Reaching these goals is particularly important to my country. Polish exports has increased since 2008 for more than 22 per cent and reached the level of more than 142 billion euro. The growing activity in international trade has helped Poland to mitigate negative effects of the current global crisis to our economy and, at present, is an engine of our economic development. Therefore, we note with great concern the increased number of trade restriction measures introduced in the last period. This is why Poland is ready to engage in all initiatives which may lead to strengthening the multilateral system.

I would like to congratulate the Republic of Yemen on the occasion of its admission to the WTO. We hope that countries which are still negotiating their accession will join us soon.

Last but not least I would like to thank the Indonesian government for organizing this Conference. I really hope that it will be possible to give a strong impetus for the WTO work for 2014 and beyond.
Thank you for your attention.