

Statement by H.E. Mr. Niwattumrong Boonsongpaisan
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce of the Kingdom of Thailand
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Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre, Bali, Indonesia
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Mr. Chairman and all distinguished Ministers,

1. On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, I wish to express my appreciation for Members' contributions to the current progress on the 3 areas of the Bali package, though we still need more efforts for our unfinished businesses, which are very crucial to the credibility and the future of the WTO.
2. I would like to reiterate that the multilateral trading system still maintains its utmost importance to all Members, regardless of big or small, rich or poor, which will help ensure a more level playing field and fair opportunities in the global trade. The MC in Bali should be our first significant step to bring all Members having different levels of development working together for the greater cause of the Doha Development Agenda (DDA).

Mr. Chairman,

3. We are all aware that our meaningful works have just begun. Such momentum has to be locked-in and translated into our action plan, under which the role of the WTO in the trade negotiations has to

be enhanced, and the role in the obligation enforcement has to be reaffirmed.

4. In this regard, I am here today to offer my strong political support to the functions of the WTO, and the continuation of our trade negotiations as part of our long-term goal of the DDA.

5. Having said that, I would like to encourage Members to continue our efforts in the area of agriculture which still lacks Members' political will to bridge the gap and fully engage in reaching an outcome that allows liberalization to go hand-in-hand with the interest of developing Members.

6. My perspective is also open to other potential trade issues which could become more relevant to the present and foreseeable future. A suggestion could be the interplay between the bilateral and regional trade agreement and the multilateral trading system in order to ensure their complementarities for the benefits of global trade as a whole.

Mr. Chairman,

7. To fulfill our ambition for this Organization, I would like to call for all Members to keep up with their high standard of engagement and act collectively.

8. Thailand, as an active Member, will continue to play our constructive role in the WTO. In this regard, I am honored to

announce that Thailand will grant duty-free and quota-free for goods from LDCs, up to 73 % of the total tariff lines.

9. Thailand will continue to support the multilateral trading system and be a good economic partner with all Members. Please be assured of our responsibilities in this organization and in the global economy. And I wish all Members success with our further endeavor.

Thank you.



Permanent Mission of Thailand to the WTO

3 December 2013