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(24-1472)

Page: 1/2

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MONGOLIA

It is my great honor to address this esteemed Conference on behalf of the Government of Mongolia.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of the United Arab Emirates and the WTO Secretariat for hosting and organizing the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference.

This pivotal event highlights our shared dedication to enhancing global trade cooperation and ensuring economic prosperity across all Member states.

On behalf of the Government of Mongolia, I congratulate the newly acceded WTO Members, Timor-Leste and Comoros.

In an era characterized by unparalleled challenges confronting global trade, such as geopolitical shifts, climate change, and economic uncertainties, Mongolia reiterates its steadfast commitment to multilateralism and the shared goal of prosperity through trade.

Mongolia also advocates for the reform of the WTO, recognizing the urgent need to revitalize the Organization's core functions to ensure a fair and inclusive trading system.

Mongolia remains committed to safeguarding the existing architecture of Special and Differential Treatment and upholding the unconditional rights to SDT for developing and least developed Members.

The geographical remoteness and lack of direct access to maritime ports impose constraints on trade logistics and transportation networks, resulting in increased transit times and costs for exports and imports of landlocked developing countries.

In light of these challenges, Mongolia underscores the importance of targeted support and assistance for Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) within the WTO framework. We call for enhanced cooperation and collaboration among Member states to address the specific needs and priorities of LLDCs, including the provision of technical assistance, capacity-building initiatives, and trade-related infrastructure development.

Recognizing the vital role of agriculture in the global community, Mongolia stresses the importance of addressing agricultural issues within the WTO framework. Sustainable agriculture plays a crucial role in ensuring food security, alleviating poverty, and promoting economic growth.

Mongolia aligns itself with the positions of the Group of 33 (G33) on the issue of a permanent solution on public stockholding for food security purposes and the establishment of an agricultural special safeguard mechanism.

Mongolia believes that agriculture negotiations should be conducted transparently, inclusively, and with the participation of all WTO Members. We emphasize the importance of seeking mutually acceptable solutions to address the complex challenges facing the global agricultural sector.

We recognize that women's economic empowerment and their participation in trade significantly contribute to economic growth and sustainable development. Mongolia acknowledges the commendable efforts undertaken by the WTO, including collaboration with other relevant international organizations, to facilitate women's participation in trade.

We emphasize the pivotal role of women in Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises in economic growth, sustainable development, and poverty reduction across all WTO Members.

As participants of the Joint Statement Initiative on Investment Facilitation for Development (IFDA), Mongolia firmly believes that such initiatives not only facilitate Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows but also empower developing and least developed countries to actively participate in global FDI flows, thereby advancing the broader goal of fostering sustainable development.

Moreover, as e-commerce continues to take center stage in the multilateral trade system, Mongolia recognizes its potential in overcoming geographical challenges and diversifying our economy, which heavily relies on mining. Hence, we see e-commerce as a crucial avenue for leveraging trade potential and accelerating digital transformation in developing and least developed countries.

Mongolia is committed to enhancing its WTO capacity through active participation in capacity-building initiatives and technical assistance programs, aiming to effectively engage in WTO negotiations and activities. Through collaborative initiatives with other WTO Members, international organizations, and development partners, Mongolia aims to enhance its trade competitiveness, promote sustainable development, and contribute constructively to the multilateral trading system.

Mongolia recognizes the urgent need for global efforts to combat climate change and environmental pollution. As an LLDC with vast and pristine landscapes, Mongolia is acutely aware of the importance of preserving our environment for future generations. We are committed to deepening cooperation with other WTO Members in addressing the trade-related aspects of plastic pollution and advancing sustainable development goals.

Mongolia warmly welcomes the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference, viewing it as a crucial opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to fair trade and a dependable, rules-based multilateral trading system. We eagerly await the outcomes, seeking mutual understanding, inclusive development, and balanced trade expansion. Ensuring fair and equitable treatment, with special consideration for the needs of developing nations, is essential for sustainable and inclusive global growth.

Thank you very much for your attention and I wish you a productive Ministerial Conference.
