



5. Here are a few





- 11. African Ministers are fully conscious that in order to maximize opportunities offered by the Continent's recent growth, our economies must sustain a domestic agenda for reform, modernization and diversification so as to improve competitiveness. The agenda of reforms entails economic law and policy, institutional and structural reforms within a framework of a well regulated market economy, the rule of law and good governance.
- 12. African economies have started to derive positive dividends from domestic reforms which are reflected in high growth, high returns to investment, emergence of new entrepreneurs and businesses. However, we cannot stop here and must deepen the reform agenda so as to ensure the shifts in resource allocation for rapid economic transformation. The role of the WTO is indispensable. The agenda of the organization matters hugely for Africa.
- 13. In this regard, the Trade Facilitation Agreement offers the best example of how the Multilateral Trading System can help Africa deepen its domestic reform agenda and deliver on its 21<sup>st</sup> Century trade agenda. Africa's trade potentials cannot be fully realised unless bottlenecks and impediments are removed at customs and borders, especially for 16 landlocked countries.
- 14. Africa looks for MC10 deliverables which would further assist the Continent in deepening the domestic reform agenda, based on competitiveness, growth, trade and investment. This should be in addition to finding outcomes and solutions to the outstanding Doha agenda which are key to unlocking the Continent's growth potentials, including in the areas of market access AG, NAMA and services AG domestic support, and new and updated rules.
- 15. Finally, I look forward to welcoming many of you in Nairobi to see and feel yourselves the emerging Continent of growth.