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REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON WTO ACCESSIONS FOR THE GREATER HORN OF AFRICA

NAIROBI OUTCOME: FOSTERING SYNERGIES AND COHERENCE BETWEEN REGIONAL
INTEGRATION AND THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM THROUGH WTO ACCESSIONS

Nairobi, Kenya, 28-30 August 2017

The following communication, dated 1 September 2017, addressed to the Director-General, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Kenya.

Communication from Ambassador (Dr) Amina Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary, addressed to
Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, WTO Director-General, on 1 September 2017

I have the honour to inform you that the Regional Dialogue on WTO Accessions for the Greater Horn of Africa was successfully held on 28 -30 August 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The discussions at the Regional Dialogue enabled participants to engage in informative and interactive discussions on WTO accession reforms and regional integration including on experiences from ongoing, as well as concluded African accessions.

The Dialogue also invited acceding governments in the region, Comoros, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan to provide participants on the state of play in their accession processes, and to present their needs for technical assistance and capacity building. The Dialogue also provided a useful platform for exchanges on available support and appealed to the development partners present to step up their support for the accession processes in the region.

All participants welcomed the recent progress registered in the accessions of Comoros, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan, and, in particular, pledged their full support for the conclusion of the accession of Comoros by the Eleventh WTO Ministerial Conference. All participants also expressed their full support to South Sudan for its intention to submit an application for accession to the WTO in the very near future.

Please find enclosed herewith the Nairobi Outcome "Fostering Synergies and Coherence between Regional Integration and the Multilateral Trading System through WTO Accessions".
At the request of 001165.85()] TJ ET BT 1001198

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29. Participants expressed their appreciation to the Government of Kenya for hosting the Regional Dialogue, in partnership with the University of Nairobi, and warm hospitality provided to the participants. They also expressed their appreciation to the WTO Secretariat for the excellent arrangements.

30. Dialogue participants requested that this "Nairobi Outcome" be circulated as a document of the Committee on Trade and Development, the Sub-Committee on Least Developed Countries, the General Council and the Eleventh WTO Ministerial Conference .
