

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR -
LESTE TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

Statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Marciano da Silva
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

13 July 2017

Your Excellency the Deputy Director General David Shark, Chairman of the Forum;
Your Excellencies Representatives of WTO Members and Observer Governments;
Distinguished Officials of WTO Secretariat and development partners
Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is a great honour to be here representing my country, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, to address this forum on WTO Accession in regards to Technical Assistance and Capacity Building. As it was clearly stated during the Doha Ministerial Conference in 2001, technical assistance and training are core elements of the development dimension of the Multilateral Trading System. And we acknowledge that

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As an LDC country, we acknowledge that, the accession process is technically and financially challenging for us. There are lots of requirements to comply

WTO members and development partners along this accession journey, we are strongly confident that we will be able to succeed in our membership negotiations.

Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to share on this occasion, our technical assistance and capacity building needs in order to achieving cumulative and sustainable capacity in Timor-Leste. Some of the priority areas and sectors are as follows:

1. Trade policies and capacity building Timor-Leste has one of the most

d. Support in the Inter-Border Agency Cooperation

3. Quarantine: Timor-Leste currently has very limited Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) certification capacity, this is an issue the Government is currently addressing. Although there is no SPS related restriction on exports so far, this has become an urgent issue. There are a number of challenges to develop and implement the SPS system including:

- a. Technical and financial resourcing of the National Directorate of Quarantine and Biosecurity;
- b. Support SPS regulatory frameworks (including certification capacity)
- c. Support for quarantine staff capacity building (such as in inspection, testing and certification)
- d. Infrastructure (laboratory

medium-term, manufacturing development will focus on the processing of agricultural products such as coffee, ~~and~~ and forestry. The Government is also encouraging investment in food processing and beverage manufacturing. Timor-Leste is currently developing an Industrial Policy and action plan to promote manufacturing. The Industrial Policy will not include any subsidy or tax incentives to promote manufacturing in specific sub-sectors. Technical assistance is required to develop standard and conformity assessment procedures (CAP) and certification capacity.

7. Services related Timor-Leste needs technical assistance to establish a regulatory framework for licensing, accreditation and certification of services such as professional services in Tourism and Transport
8. Outreach and consultation Timor-Leste also needs assistance to design and implement outreach programs and activities for government, parliament, private sector, academia and nongovernmental organizations related to WTO accession.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Timor-Leste is a young country multilateral and bilateral development communities assist us with necessary support and resources to help us in keeping the steps of our reforms on track, as well as to ensure full implementation of our commitments in a smooth and timely manner.

Mr. Chairman,

Excellencies,

Timor-Leste expresses its deep appreciation for the support we have received since we started the process. We take this opportunity to thank the Director General and the Deputy Director-General, Mr. David Shark. We also thank the Accession Division of the WTO Secretariat and look forward to working closely with them and the Working Party.

Timor-Leste is excited to work with WTO in this very important process and stand ready