



POST-ACCESSION FORUM

**OPENING KEY NOTE REMARKS BY AGAH YONOV FREDERICK,
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Nairobi, Kenya, 19 July 2016

Honourable Ministers

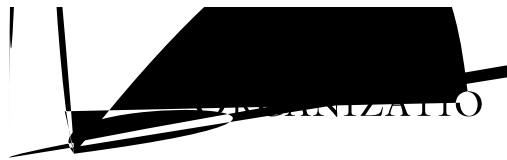
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3. Ladies and gentlemen, this Forum is symbolic in many ways. First, last December, in this same city, and indeed, in this very same room TSAVO 2, the Protocols on the Accession of Liberia and Afghanistan were formally approved by WTO Ministers during the Tenth Ministerial Conference held in KICC. As many of you may recall,



circumstances in which they had to negotiate, and they had to make tough decisions. Let me pay special tributes to President Ellen Sirleaf Johnson of Liberia and President Ashraf Ghani of Afghanistan, without their leadership, personal commitment and



an integrated approach for post-accession implementation support, which is structured into three different but complementary pillars, in response to the specific needs of new Article XII Members, especially LDCs.

8. First, is the Best Practices on WTO Post-Accession. The best practices have been drawn from the experience and lessons learned from 36 completed accessions since 1995, in the transition from long years of the accession negotiations to their operational membership. Many acceding governments have said that this transition would require not only the policy and institutional preparedness, but also a "mental shift", to take advantage of WTO membership. The first dialogue on post-accession was held at the Third China Round Table, held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in May 2015, under the sponsorship of the China's LDCs and Accessions Programme, commonly referred to as "the China Programme". Building on that discussion, a paper has been developed and issued by the WTO Secretariat entitled "Best Practices on WTO Post-Accession, which is available on the WTO website. A brief description of the Best Practices is available in the brochure of this Forum available in this room. The Best Practices on WTO Post-Accession are structured into seven areas, including: (i) Policy Framework for Implementation; (ii) Institutional Structural Adjustment; (iii) Legislative Framework for Implementation; (iv) Transparency; (v)





