5th China Round Table on WTO Accession: Best Practices on the Accessions of LDCs

On 20-23 March 2017 **Venue:** Hotel Sokha Siem Reap Resort and Convention Center,

speak about "Priorities for WTO LDC Group at the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference".

In this connection, as you may be aware, Cambodia has assumed the role of the LDC Coordinator on 20th February 2017 for the first time after becoming WTO Member in 2004. To lead this important LDC Group is a huge responsibility because the Group activities have increased manifold since its establishment in 2001 and we can only carry them out with the cooperation and support from the Group members as well as development partners in order to advance the LDC causes and continue to

and the important Multilateral Trading System, especially the upcoming 11th WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

As "Priorities for WTO LDC Group at the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference", I am of view that the followings are important for LDCs to work on:

1) WTO Accession for LDCs:

We are having now 8 LDC Acceding Countries: Bhutan, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia, Sudan and Timor-Leste. The LDC Group has requested and will continue to request for a more flexible accession process for LDCs to the WTO. We want

to see a prolong accession process (i)-7(n)9()7(es7y51.1 TmS3(i)-7(

preferences were introduced by developed countries in order to create export opportunities for developing countries. Thus, the S&DT provisions were implemented in letter and spirit of those provisions. The flexible treatment was also to enable the progressive integration of countries into the multilateral rules based trading system.

 The LDC Group will be submitting a S&D proposal, which seeks to address the industrialization process in LDC countries and wishes to have provisions which would support industrialization and diversification. The objective is to help LDCs to graduate The LDC Group is working on the text based proposal and wishes to have positive results in that regard in Buenos Aires;

6) Aide for Trade:

 LDC Group thanks the development partners that have continued to provide funding to the EIF. In addition, we would call upon Members to heed the instruction of Ministers as enshrined in Para 15 of the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration to secure the necessary level of