

**Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference  
Accession of the Republic of Liberia**

**Statement by the Russian Federation**

Mr. Chairman,  
Mr. Director-General,  
Distinguished Ministers,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Russian Federation I would like to express our sincere congratulations to the Republic of Liberia on this historic achievement. After a long and arduous journey that has taken eight years, the Republic of Liberia has reached the final stage of its accession process.

This is positive news for both Liberia and the WTO, as well as for Liberia's bilateral relations with the Russian Federation. Duri

The accession of Liberia is a sign of the continued importance of the multilateral trading system. It sends a strong and clear message that the WTO advances with its regular work, including on accessions, and the WTO membership is beneficially enlarged. Indeed, the conclusion of Liberia's accession negotiations is an achievement to all WTO members.

To the Government and people of the Republic of Liberia, I say: Welcome to the WTO.

Thank you.