

Contribution of Germany by Matthias MACHNIG, Trade Minister and State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy to the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference

I. Introduction

Madame Chair,
Director-General,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me start by **thanking** the country of Kenya for its wonderful hospitality and for having organised this conference so well.

The fact that it is taking place in **Africa** is a signal to show the importance of the developing world within the WTO. And that the multilateral trade system is the central framework of global trade policy.

I take the opportunity to offer my sincere congratulations to **Afghanistan, Kasachstan und Liberia** as new WTO members of the WTO.

In the preparatory process to this conference we have faced intensive and difficult discussions. Let me quote the first President of the independent Kenya **Jomo Kenyatta** *Let us forget the past and look forward to the future."*

Indeed, I think it is here and now our responsibility to make this conference a success. Success can only mean meaningful, responsible, credible results and to shape the future work of the WTO.

A strong WTO with a functioning negotiating pillar is good for development.

It is the integration into the global trading system which helps most to overcome poverty and underdevelopment.

Developing countries advanced in economic terms during the last decades, when they were prepared to open markets and to attract investment. This is the main trigger to boost development.

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The LDC's are the countries most in need. We cannot treat them in the same way as the broad variety of developing and emerging countries.

Every member has to contribute according to its level of development.

How to proceed after this conference in Nairobi is one of the most disputed questions.

Fourteen years after the launch of the Doha Round, we cannot continue with business as usual. We should stop playing Mikado. We need results for the Doha issues.

We also have to face the realities of today's trade.

And we need a common understanding for a post Nairobi work plan with clear defined issues and an ambitious timetable.

There is a broad range of trade related matters which are not reflected in the Doha mandate. ~~2Tm()TJ8~~

