CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
Statement by Norway
Børge Brende, Minister of Foreign Affairs
WTO 10
th
 Ministerial Conference (MC10)
Nairobi, 16. December 2015

Madam Chair, Ministers, Excellencies – Ladies and Gentlemen,
Let me start by thanking Kenya for hosting this Ministerial.

I would also like to thank the Director General and Members for their work over the last
few months.

That we are meeting here is an illustration of the new Africa that is emerging, --
an Africa with high growth rates,
an Africa that is increasingly trading more with the rest of the world,
and an Africa that is heading towards a brighter, more prosperous tomorrow.

Chair,
The multilateral trading system is a remarkable triumph for international
cooperation.

Faced with global challenges such as terrorism, migration and climate change, we
need more international cooperation, not less.

For trade - it is only the multilateral trading system and the WTO that can deliver
truly global solutions.

Chair,
The integration of developing countries into the trading system, and in particular the
least developed among them, is of crucial importance.
I warmly welcome Liberia and Afghanistan as new members.

Today, I presented Norway’s instrument of acceptance of the Agreement on Trade
Facilitation to the Director General. I urge all member to ratify this agreement.

The expansion of the information technology agreement (if we get there) would
demonstrate that members of this organisa 70.9C B(th)4(i)-14 154] TJ
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Despite wide differences, we need to find a way forward together.
Chair,
Norway’s main objective at this 20th anniversary of the WTO is to maintain and strengthen
the WTO as the