Statement by the Hon. Minister for Commerce and Supplies of Nepal Mr. Ganesh Man Pun, at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the WTO at Nairobi, Kenya
(17 December 2015)

Mr. Chairperson,
Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished delegates,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate Her Excellency Madam Amina C. Mohamed on her election to preside over this historic Conference of the WTO being held here in the African continent for the first time. We would like to extend sincere thanks to the Government of the Republic of Kenya and its nice people for the warm hospitality extended to my delegation since our arrival. We also appreciate for the excellent arrangement made

It is obvious that LDCs cannot stand and compete if provisions laid in the WTO Agreements, decisions and declarations that provide favorable treatment and flexibility have no cutting edge to provide results on the ground. We emphasize effective implementation of the Bali LDC package by turning the decisions into legally binding ones. Our desire to turn the best endeavor provisions of the Special and Differential Treatment in WTO agreements and decisions into concrete actions and results is guided by pragmatism and necessity.

A country like Nepal with the joint vulnerabilities of both the LDC and LLDC faces formidable challenges, calling for special and focused attention. May I mention here, Madam Chair, that the current disruption of transit, transport and trade across our southern border is causing severe impacts on our economic lifeline, and is leading to a crisis of humanitarian proportion. The sound principles and framework that we have established under the multilateral trading system over the years must be upheld and reflected into action in protection of such countries.

Mr. Chairperson,

We encourage bold initiatives under Aid for Trade. Welcoming the outcome of the EIF pledging conference, we call for leveraging additional resources to meet the increasing needs of the sec