

STATEMENT  
MINISTER FOR COMMERCE, GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

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WTO MINISTERIAL PLENARY SESSION  
NAIROBI, 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2015

Excellencies,  
Distinguished Colleagues,  
Fellow reformers,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I express my deepest gratitude to the Government and the people of THE REPUBLIC OF Kenya for their generous, warm hospitality as hosts of this Conference.

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## **Excellencies,**

*f* WTO as an institution has exhibited institutional strength to bring nations together in ever-increasing numbers to reform their trade procedures and policies towards transparency and openness; and to resolve



create any linkage between one element of market access pillar with the full pillar of export competition.

The Public Stockholding proposal in its current form has already had serious and adverse unintended consequences for our economy. We share emphatically the imperative to feed the hungry and assist the vulnerable, but not at the cost of livelihoods of millions of poor, subsistence farmers.

Future negotiations on the subject must be grounded in verifiable data and evidence, and ensure that public stockholding does not transgress into trade-distorting export subsidies that hurt farmers in other countries.

Pakistan will support a robust post-Nairobi work program keeping in view all perspectives of food security on the table.

### **Distinguished Chair and delegates:**

I am delighted to inform this distinguished audience that Pakistan is the first and so far the only country in South Asia to ratify the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

By facilitating regional and international trade, ratification of TFA by other regional economies will supplement vast connectivity benefits of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Accelerated movement in Central Asia for WTO accession and TFA ratifications will also produce a fresh stimulus

towards achieving Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's vision of shared prosperity through regional economic integration.

As the first mover