The conclusion of revised Information Technology Agreement (ITA) and significant progress in the Environmental Goods Agreements (EGA) should boost international trade and provide strong benefits in terms of growth and jobs and should constitute a relevant platform for pursuing further plurilateral formats anchored within the WTO system.

While addressing the issues herewith, for a post-Nairobi outlook we need to prioritize WTO efforts aimed at the remaining unaddressed DDA issues, paying special attention to those which can be most effectively addressed multilaterally and to consider the addition of new issues in the WTO negotiating agenda, economic realities.

The impact of the globalization process and the accelerated technology progress (i.e. the digital economy), reflected by the strengthening of global value chains, require an increasing need to broach new areas and disciplines whose weight in international trade is becoming more prevalent.

Dear colleagues,

We have a great opportunity in front of us. We call on members to make all reasonable efforts to restore and foster the trust and confidence in the multilateral trading system.

We believe that the European Union has shown itself as are liable partner, in the development and meaningful integration of LDCs in the global economy.

Romania is fully committed to a strong rule-based multilateral trading system and we support its further strengthening in response to current and future trade challenges.

Last but not least, we congratulate Kazakhstan on their status as a new WTO Member and we warmly welcome the Republic of Liberia and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for their accession to the WTO. We look forward to the further accession of other countries from the Western Balkans, the Mediterranean and the Caucasus region.

Thank you!