



Statement by H.E. Archbishop Silvano M. Tomasi, Permanent Representative of the Holy  
See to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva  
World Trade Organization (WTO) 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference  
Nairobi, 16 December 2015

The Delegation of the Holy See wishes to begin by expressing thanks and congratulations to President Minister of Foreign Affairs, Amina Mohamed and to the people of Kenya for the warm welcome and excellent arrangements that have been made for this occasion. My Delegation extends its appreciation also to the Chairman of the General Committee and the Director General for their tireless efforts in preparation for the Conference. This Tenth Ministerial Conference of WTO represents a time of hope. But for this hope to be realized, all present must remain faithful to the promises and commitments made to the poor in Doha. There has been less than satisfactory progress in the areas of trade for the poorest countries. As recalled by Pope Francis in his recent visit to U.N.O.N.:

"



premise, both individual actors and multilateral institutions can work together with the goal of reaching the common good.

## 2. Regionalism and multilateralism

As stressed above, during the last decades, there has been a proliferation of regional and bilateral trade agreements conducted in parallel with negotiations at the multilateral level. A few weeks ago, twelve of the largest trading nations in the world reached agreement on the Trans Pacific Trade Partnership; similarly, the US and the EU are in advanced stages of negotiations to close the deal on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Agreement.

Bali conference, LDCs have been advocating on several occasions the need for a multilateral framework for reforming the design and implementation of rules of origin by

Selective measures often result in large brain drains from LDCs which in turn may hinder

These are clearly challenging issues that require an enormous effort in coordinating the initiatives of different multilateral institutions; however, they can be the beginning of a new approach to trade and development centred on an integral ecology respecting both human and social dimensions.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, the Holy See Delegation remains confident that a sense of common responsibility, as shown in the previous Ministerial Conference, will bring us to reach an historic result in Nairobi. In this regard, before the Assembly of the UNON the Holy Father expressed his desire that: "