

Bali will demonstrate to the world—and to ourselves—that we are still capable of coming to agreement on matters critical to the global economy.

Agreement on the Bali Package has the potential to reinvigorate negotiations on the Doha Development Agenda. Success here will set us on a new path towards the conclusion of agreements that will maximize opportunities for all members, and particularly for developing and least developing countries, to benefit from growth in global trade.

We are on the cusp of an accomplishment that has eluded us for 12 long years. We are closer than ever before to the first tangible results of the long-running Doha Round. We can see the finish line, and if we are able to cross it, our achievements here will restore **the world's** faith and confidence in the WTO and the multilateral trading system.

Success in Bali is critical. Now is the time for us to demonstrate to the world that the WTO is still relevant, and that Members are capable of putting aside their differences for the collective benefit of businesses and citizens around the world.

Once again, Mr President, it is a great honor and privilege to have you preside over the opening of this Ninth WTO Ministerial Conference.

Thank you.