

If we are to have any hope of establishing meaningful special and differential treatment for developing countries, we must bring to an end all exceptions in favour of developed countries. With this objective in mind, Brazil circulated a proposal on export credits. We acknowledge the need to further study this question. We are confident that as part of the programme of action to be launched we will find a way to ensure that the issue of export credits will be duly considered.

Brazil wishes to see the multilateral trading system strengthened. I am convinced that it is possible to move in that direction. There are clear signs that the political will is there. Foremost among these is the massive presence of Ministers in Doha, an expression, if not of confidence, certainly of hope in the WTO and in the relevance of its work. Even more encouraging is the movement towards universal membership in the Organization, now reinforced by the accession of China, one of the most dynamic players in international trade.

There is a renewed expectation that we can do more, and that we can do better. A conscious effort is being made to overcome the frustrations of the recent past and to improve the system. We cannot afford to miss this opportunity. The need to ensure the full participation in the global trading system of many of the countries here represented is an additional reason to persevere.

Brazil is prepared to work hard, so that by the end of this 4th Conference, we may be able to convey to the world our unequivocal commitment to freer trade, to economic growth, to development and to the welfare of humankind.
