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LIECHTENSTEIN

Statement By H.E. Mr Ernst Walch
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Let me first express my gratitude to the People and the Government of Mexico for hosting this Ministerial Conference and for the excellent organization of this important event. I wish to thank the Chairman of the General Council and the Director-General, and all those who assisted them, for the preparatory work done in Geneva.

We also join the Assembly to welcome our newest Members: Cambodia and Nepal.

In Doha two years ago we launched an ambitious and broad-based negotiating Round. The goal has been to further strengthen, the rules-based multilateral trading system, and by doing so, the world economy. And, we have taken on the commitment to make the multilateral trading system work for developing countries.

As to the Doha timetable this Conference is lagging behind. As I am speaking views still differ sharply among members. This conference can therefore not only be a stock taking exercise.

means more trade, and more trade is beneficial to all, developed and developing countries alike. It also offers opportunities for growing trade among developing countries.

Services form an important part of the overall package of this negotiating Round. My country has handed in a comprehensive offer a couple of months ago.

We have always favoured a broad working programme and therefore support the inclusion of negotiations on the four Singapore issues in the Doha Development Round.