

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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HOLY SEE

Statement by Monsignor Franck Dewane
Under-Secretary of the pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
(Speaking as an Observer)

The delegation of the Holy See wishes to begin by expressing thanks and congratulations to President Vicente Fox and to the people of Mexico for the warm welcome and excellent arrangements that have been made for us on 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 Fifth Ministerial Conference of the WTO represents a time of hope. But for this hope to be realized, all here present must remain faithful to the promises and commitments made to the poor in Doha. There has been unsatisfactory progress in the areas of trade for the poorest countries. Bold and decisive action is needed that will have positive implications for development. As stated by His Holiness Pope John Paul II, "Promises made to the poor should be considered particularly binding" and any breach of faith in this regard is "especially frustrating for them" when it pertains to "promises which they sTD -come aromisePa promiseessand3.25 0 54.0.0038 Tc 0 Tw (-) Tj 3.75 0 4 -0.096 Tc 235222 Tizej 0

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