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## ICELAND

Statement by H.E. Mr. Halldór Asgrimsson  
Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade

The shadow cast by the terrible terrorist attacks on this day two years ago still looms over us. The tragic death this morning of Anna Lindh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, an esteemed colleague and a personal friend, further deepens this shadow. Once again we have witnessed how irrational forces can threaten the fabric of our democratic societies and our normal way of life. We have to be steadfast in our determination not to let these events control our agenda but on the contrary work on towards our common goals.

This Organization has come together here in Cancún to make this a better world for future generations and create new opportunities for developing countries. We have to assume our responsibility to all mankind. I knew my friend Anna Lindh had high hopes for the success of this meeting and the best way to honour her memory would be to continue our work towards that end.

The multilateral trading system is a proven vehicle in promoting economic development and growth and is central to the future prosperity of our nations. But more than ever, particular attention needs to be paid to the needs of the least-developed countries, ensuring that they fully reap the benefits the multilateral trading system has to offer. A prerequisite to which have developed countries - must be afforded a realistic opportunity by substantial reform.

Iceland places tremendous emphasis on non-trade concerns so that the potential benefits of further trade liberalization in agriculture are shared among consumers and producers. We as Members must also share the benefits in a fair and equitable way.

We are concerned that the draft Declaration fails to incorporate the interests of all Members. We have two main concerns:

First, in agricultural market access the harmonization process presumes that one size really does fit all. We also see no justification for the use of tariff quotas. It needs to be emphasized that Iceland already imports a large amount of food for consumption and most of those products enter the market without any restrictions. On these issues, we are actively pursuing a better balance.

Second, we need to retain appropriate flexibility in our domestic support commitments. Iceland's domestic support policies re