



preferences have been an important starting point; but to be told to remain content with a system of selective preferential treatment for a handful of commodities is to be denied the opportunity to realize the full potential and comparative advantage of our economies, many of which are richly endowed with natural and human resources.

With the success we achieved in Doha, we have it is truly within our means to make a decisive break, and fulfill the promise of development through multilateral cooperation under the WTO.

The moment is right. And with the growing alliance of developing countries around the G21, the alignment of political power is also right. The G21 represents the vision and the leadership that the world and our people have long hoped for in the face of the challenge of addressing the imbalances and inequities of the current agricultural trade system, and in ensuring global economic prosperity in which all can benefit, in the developing and developed worlds alike.

The approach of the G21 is not a South versus North approach, but represents real advance in addressing the development challenge and achieving justice in agricultural trade and the world economy, in which both the North's and South's people have an interest.

Our task in Cancun should, and can, be approached as a matter of common purpose and collective interest of the world. But the opponents of fair trade and real progress are opting for divide and rule tactics against developing countries - dividing us on the basis of those included and excluded in preferences, on the basis of those more developed and less developed, and on the basis of the continents from which we come - all this to distract us from the central task of attacking an unfair and iniquitous trade system, and to delay the necessary and urgent changes that we must agree to in this conference.

They will succeed if, as developing countries, we fail to recognize that our power in this negotiation lies in uniting behind the common goal of a freer and fair global trade system, which will advance our economic development, and which is within our grasp.

We dare not let this happen, and we dare not let Cancun be yet another missed opportunity.

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