

**WORLD TRADE  
ORGANIZATION**

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**MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**  
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2. It is not a matter of imposing a single development model, but of recognizing diversity of choice - a principle for which respect must be ensured within the multilateral framework of the WTO.

Trade is enriched by the diversity of our cultures. That diversity must be preserved, as cultural goods are unlike any others. Indeed, France has expressed the wish to see an international convention developed within the framework of UNESCO in order to embody that principle in law.

Moreover, in the realm of services, every State must be able to retain control over the commitments it makes, particularly in the areas of education and health.

Agriculture too reflects the diversity of our modes of development. The agriculture we have opted for in Europe is not limited to production: it constitutes a component of civilization, and geographical indications are an illustration of that fact. This does not imply adhering to the status quo. The European Union has accordingly reformed its Common Agricultural Policy. We await reciprocal efforts from our partners in order to reach a comprehensive and balanced agreement.

The Cancún Conference must enable us to make headway on the Doha Agenda as a whole: as well as the liberalization of trade, we must take into account the environment and the issues launched at Singapore, which can contribute to better world governance.

At a time when the world economy is showing the first signs of recovery, I hope that our Meeting will send out a signal of trust and cooperation to our fellow citizens. Let us not forget that, like domestic growth, international trade and the opening of markets remain a major source of wealth