

**WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION**

WT/MIN(03)/ST/9

Some progress made

Where the WTO is concerned, there are many different views about how best to reach these goals. That is what this meeting is all about. But let us not forget what we have achieved since our last meeting in Doha.

Since November 2001, Members have made a concerted effort to advance the negotiations and have tackled many tough issues.

A prime example of this is the historic decision on TRIPS and public health that will allow poor developing countries needing medicines to treat public health problems such as HIV/AIDS and other epidemics to finally have the access to generic medicines they need.

Coherence among international organizations is improving. Many of our partner institutions are now working together to ensure that developing countries can take advantage of improved market access and to reinforce the link between trade, growth and poverty reduction.

In this context, I am encouraged to learn that, since Doha, the Integrated Framework for the Least-Developed Countries, which exemplifies this coherence, has been extended to 19 of the 49 poorest countries, several of which are acceding to the WTO.

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Chief among these are agricultural trade reform, market access for goods and services, and rules that will strengthen the flow of trade.

We will have to provide direction and the momentum to drive the next phase of negotiations, so that the ambition we set out to achieve at Doha can be realized. We have the opportunity and the responsibility to harvest all the potential that globalization can provide to our citizens, our economies and to society as a whole.

I urge you to consider that the only successful outcome is one that opens the door to a higher level of ambition that will provide substantial and sustainable benefits to all.
