

**WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION**

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Our peoples will appreciate the endeavours of WTO Member States (particularly the developed and producer countries) to arrive at the requisite consensus and a happy outcome to this Agreement.

The positive signal by the WTO to the international community must serve as the basis for resolving other pending trade issues that form part of the Doha Agenda.

The Republic of Angola, which is now living in peace, considers that trade liberalization can make a positive impact on economic growth and recognizes the importance of integrating trade policies in national poverty-eradication strategies, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

We are nonetheless fully aware that opening markets does not in itself constitute the solution to the countless socio-political, economic and financial problems that still confront Africa, especially as the efforts by the African countries to foster economic and social progress are greatly hindered by internal factors, and above all by external factors over which they can take no decisive action. These factors include:

- Fluctuating commodity prices and deteriorating terms of trade;
- dependence on one or two export products;
- low levels of foreign direct investment, including technology transfer;
- lower official development assistance (ODA);
- the burden of the external debts; and
- market access and other difficulties.

This trend must be promptly reversed so that developing countries can play an effective role and be harmoniously integrated in global trade.

In this context, we call on all nations, particularly the developed nations, to provide our countries with more effective and concrete support in pursuing more just and equitable solutions and fully achieving the profound aspirations of the developing countries, which are often marginalized by the international trading system.

A balanced conclusion to the Doha Round will undoubtedly make a valuable contribution to solving some of these difficulties.

Hence, we urge all WTO Member States to show sound judgement and engage in constructive commitments and undertakings so that the Doha negotiations will make an effective contribution to development.

While we consider that the process adopted for presenting the Draft Ministerial Text is not the most adequate and that the text does not faithfully reflect the Doha Development mandate, my