

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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## ZIMBABWE

Statement by H.E. Dr Samuel Creighton Mumbengegwi  
Minister of Industry and International Trade

I wish to join all those who have taken the floor before me in thanking the Government and people of Mexico for hosting this most important Conference, and for their mindful hospitality and the excellent facilities they have put at our disposal. Much comfort, much less peace. The bitter medicine from multilateralism is palpable within many of our countries. We are tired of policy experiments that only make us worse off, only to have those very same institutions offer us meaningless solutions.

shortcomings. Let us negotiate meaningful tariff reductions with the promised "less than full reciprocity" for the weakest among us.

Our developed country partners talk of ambition and compromise. How come all too often it is the developing countries that end up compromising to accommodate the wishes of the powerful developed? The Doha Declaration was pretty ambitious yet we realize that our developed partners were only giving lip-service to most of their promised undertakings there. For example, on special and differential treatment, the Declaration called for provisions which would be "precise, effective and operational." Now, the so-called early-harvest 25 proposals out of the 88 submitted by developing countries are shown to be empty shells, devoid of any economic value. Why do our developed partners consistently stonewall on issues of such importance to us, yet they are relentlessly pursuing us to give in on issues of critical importance to them? Clearly, they do not wish us to become meaningful competitors.

Finally, let me touch on the so-called Singapore Issues - the new but not so new issues. The Marrakech Agreement setting up the WTO makes it clear in its preamble that our Organization is to facilitate trade in goods and services