

Economic Research and Statistics Division

June 6, 2018

Informal Group on MSMEs
Meeting of 8 June, 2018

NOTE FOR THE CHAIRMAN

Introduction

4. The Director-General's involvement to achieve these aims has been important, and he should be thanked for it. He has been following up on proposals that he made before WGTDF Members. He met heads of multilateral development banks collectively and individually. He encouraged them to devote

7. After the Director-General's report, there has been a very fruitful discussion between Members. The points I made in my summing up of this discussion were the following: Members of the Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance supported the work on trade finance and SMEs, and showed their appreciation for the Director-General's efforts. There was praise for his direct interactions with leaders of multilateral development banks and of the Financial Stability Board in examining the problems linked to reducing correspondent banking relationships in the area of trade finance. There was also acknowledgement for the efforts related to capacity-building. Trade Finance was one area of the WTO work in which the interaction between Members and the Director-General is bearing fruits and results. There was a desire to continue this work in the WGTDF, and to invite in future meetings qualified persons working on achieving progress. There were a number of suggestions on how to do so, which we will follow-up in the next meeting.

8. I thank you very much for your kind attention.