Personal Concluding Remarks by the Chairman, Federal Councillor Johann N. Schneider-Ammann

I would like to thank all of you for the good and frank discussion we had this morning. In concluding our meeting and based on our discussion, I would like to offer some final and personal remarks in my capacity as Chairman:

- 1. In Bali WTO Members have shown that it is possible to conclude multilateral trade agreements. This is an important achievement and we shall maintain the momentum.
- 2. We concurred that the decisions taken in Bali shall be implemented faithfully and in accordance with the agreed timeframe.
- 3. We all agreed that preparations for a clearly defined work program on the remaining Doha issues needs to be taken up promptly, building upon the decisions taken in Bali and the central development dimension of the Round with a particular focus on issues important to least developing countries (LDCs).
- 4. I take from our discussions that the process towards elaborating a future balanced work program should be based on realism, pragmatism and the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, as was the case in the lead up to the Bali package.
- 5. In order to achieve this, Members should in my view be honest, listen to the ideas of others and give due consideration to all issues raised in order to identify the doable.
- 6. There was common understanding that Members should also address the difficult negotiating topics relating to agriculture, non-agricultural market access (NAMA) and services on which progress was not within reach in the past years.
- 7. In order to be able to successfully tackle these topics, fresh and credible approaches will be needed. Our work shall reflect the rapid changes in today's world.
- 8. Some of us mentioned the contribution of plurilateral initiatives, on a most favoured nation (MFN) basis, to trade liberalisation.