

## **Informal WTO Ministerial Gathering Davos, 23 January 2016**

### **Personal Concluding Remarks by the Chair, State Secretary Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch, Switzerland**

In concluding this Informal WTO Ministerial Gathering, and in my personal capacity, I would like to highlight the following points based on our discussion:

- Deep appreciation to the Government and people of Kenya for the excellent organisation and warm hospitality during the 10<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference (MC10), held in December 2015 in Nairobi, to the MC10 Chair, Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohamed, for her outstanding commitment and guidance, and to WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo and his team for the tireless efforts before and at MC10;
  - Emphasis on the role of trade as an engine for growth and development;
  - Importance of the substantive, multilaterally-negotiated outcomes achieved both at MC10 and the 9<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference held in 2013 in Bali;
  - Importance of fully implementing the decisions taken in Bali and Nairobi;
  - Importance of maintaining the WTO's negotiating function operational and of delivering further negotiated outcomes in the coming years, with a focus on unfinished business but also allowing for discussions on other issues that Members would like to raise.
  - Need for open-minded and pragmatic approaches as well as flexibility in the work ahead;
  - Centrality of development and need for inclusiveness in the discussions.
  - Need for strong political engagement to back the process in Geneva.
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