

Trade and Development Board, fifty-ninth session
Geneva, 17–28 September 2012

Opening Plenary
General statements by regional groups
Speaker: Group D

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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

59th Session

(Geneva, 17-18 September 2012)

Opening Statement

Mr. President,

Secretary General,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the members of the Group D.

Mr. President

We have much to say, but due to shortness of the time currently at our disposal allow me once again be focused, short and concise in our statement.

At the outset I would like to congratulate upon your election. We are convinced that under your able leadership the organization will be strengthened and after the Doha Conference will start its road for the next four years.

I would like to start by thanking Dr Supachai Panitchpakdi for his continued dedication to the intergovernmental process within the organization, as well as Mr. Draganov and the secretariat who had spent their time together with us in the preparatory process and in the negotiations of the conference, for their support and contributions.

Our thanks also go to His Excellency Ambassador Mr Maruping, the President of the Trade and Development Board, for his excellent work and effective leadership and dedication during the negotiations of the Doha Mandate in the UNCTAD XIII Conference, and other Members of the Bureau.

On behalf of our group I would like to express our gratitude to the government of Qatar for the excellent organisation of the conference, for the hospitality of the people and the dedication of H.E. minister Al Quhari and the government of Qatar to arrive to a successful conference.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all the Member States for the hard work done in Doha, Qatar; we welcome the results of this Ministerial Conference which brought UNCTAD a new mandate, and with it, a comprehensive agenda for the next 4 years.

Mr. President,

We still have challenges ahead of us. As we are starting the implementation of the Doha outcome for the next four year our objective now is to continue to strengthen UNCTAD as an efficient organization and also maximize the impact of its work. We are fully committed to the role of UNCTAD as an institution in the trade and development arena, and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development.

We count on the strong support of the membership in the implementation of the outcome of the Doha Conference.

We will contribute further actively to the agenda items of the TDB.

Thank you for your attention.