Madam Chair, Julie Emond (Canada),
Mrs. Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC). We thank the Secretariat for the report on the contribution of UNCTAD to the implementation of major United Nations conferences and for its efforts in increasing the organizations’ role in shaping and implementing the global development agenda.

2. The Group takes note with appreciation of the activities undertaken by the Secretariat in the areas of international trade, commodities, trade and gender, investment, global systemic issues, science and technology, and countries in special situations (LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs) as highlighted in the report.

3. The Group would like to express its particular appreciation for the activities listed in the report that are geared towards outputs and events relating to the next Ministerial Conference of the WTO on issues such as non-tariff measures, services, regionalism and harmful fisheries subsidies.

4. We also highlight the envisaged contributions of UNCTAD, including in areas such as debt and development finance, to the follow-up of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The Report gives suggestions on how to enhance contributions to the follow-up processes of major United Nations conferences, including through the intergovernmental pillar of the UNCTAD. We take this opportunity to stress that we see the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development as one of such instances, in which member States will have an opportunity to contribute to the follow-up of the financing for development process.

Thank you.