

**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
AT THE OPENING OF THE 63RD SESSION
OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND
DEVELOPMENT(UNCTAD)**

Monday, 5 December, 2016

**Mr. President, H.E Amb. Christopher Onyanga Aparr
Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD
Excellencies
Distinguished delegates**

Mr. President

Allow us to join other delegations in congratulating you and other members of the Bureau upon your election. We promise our continued support and commitment in fulfilling your mandate.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the out-going president, H.E Ambassador Alfredo Suescum, in tirelessly steering member states towards achieving, a yet again historic agreement in Nairobi early this year. We wish to express our continued cooperation and support towards its implementation.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the Secretary – General, Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, on the elaborate presentation this morning, on his ideas and plans to make UNCTAD more effective and efficient in implementing its mandate. We look forward to future briefings and engagements on progress made on the same. In the same vein, we applaud the secretariat in its preparation towards this meeting.

Mr. President

The delegation of Uganda aligns itself to the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Argentina on behalf of the G77 & China, and that presented on behalf of the African Group by the distinguished delegate of Namibia.

Mr. President.

The Ugandan delegation looks forward to the operationalization of the two Inter-governmental Groups on E-Commerce and Financing for Development (FFD), as was agreed to in Nairobi. We hope for equal distribution of the Organization resources and efforts towards the operationalization of both IGMs.

In addition, we would like improvements in the outcomes of the Intergovernmental Group meetings. In particular, Intergovernmental Groups should be in position to come up with more meaningful outcomes, in the form of specific policy recommendations, for further consideration, unlike a summary of proceedings as has been the practice. We believe this will increase their relevance in the work of UNCTAD.

WE THANK YOU.