



Misión Permanente de la República Dominicana ante la Organización Mundial
del Comercio (OMC) y la ONU Comercio y Desarrollo (UNCTAD)
en Ginebra, Suiza

SIDS UNCTAD
GENEVA

72nd Session of the Trade and Development Board
Room XVI, Palais des Nations

Statement of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

by the Dominican Republic in its capacity of Regional Coordinator of SIDS Group to the UN
Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Item 2 : General Debate - Statements by Regional Groups and Member States

24 November 2025

President of the Trade and Development Board,
Secretary-General of UNCTAD,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

I am speaking on behalf of the Ambassador and Permanent Representative José Sánchez-Fung and the Permanent Delegation of the Dominican Republic to the WTO and UNCTAD, it is a distinct honor to deliver this statement in the capacity of Regional Coordinator of the Small Island Developing States Group at the 72nd Session of the Trade and Developing Board.

We take this opportunity to congratulate you, Ambassador Sánchez-Fung, for your election as President of the Trade and Development Board, as well as to all other members of the Bureau, under your leadership this governing body will faithfully fulfill its functions, advancing UNCTAD's successful impact across its broad mandate, remaining the pertinent multilateral institution in international trade and development.

Mr. President,

SIDS Members express their endorsement of the declaration presented by the delegation of Peru on behalf of the G77 and China. We take this opportunity to commend UNCTAD for the successful conclusion of the *Sixteenth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development* and welcome the adoption of the *Geneva Consensus*, which reaffirms the shared commitment of shaping a more equitable, inclusive and sustainable global economy. This instrument is both timely and essential, it recognizes SIDS structural vulnerabilities, heightened exposure to climate change, restricted economic bases and the persistent challenges faced in integrating into global trade.

We thank the Secretary General for her comprehensive statement covering the annual report and UNCTAD contributions to the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields. We also take this opportunity to thank the Secretariat for the preparation of this session and for all the research behind the reports leading our discussions.

This meeting over the next three days will develop a valuable agenda that includes issues of great importance to Small Island Developing States, with relevant topics included in the various reports of subsidiary bodies, such as the Report of the Trade and Development Commission, the Report of the IGE on E-commerce and the Digital Economy, the Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and the Report of the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices.

We are confident that the sessions will be fruitful for all participants, acknowledging UNCTAD's strong role leveraging international trade rules for development and in advancing analytical work, capacity building and policy support across trade logistics, investment, digitalization and debt sustainability—areas where SIDS require continued and tailored assistance. The Geneva Consensus provides a strengthened mandate for UNCTAD to help small island economies navigate global uncertainties and address the impacts of climate change on trade and production.

In this sense, we recall the importance of the implementation of the Geneva Consensus, enhancing support for SIDS-specific research and technical assistance, to ensure that trade rules reflect the unique challenges of vulnerable economies and small economies, including strengthened and needs-based special and differential treatment, improving access to sustainable finance, address debt vulnerabilities and promote innovative financing solutions through South–South and triangular cooperation.

Mr. President,

As UNCTAD moves forward under its renewed mandate, SIDS stand ready to collaborate with the Secretariat and all Members States to ensure that the Geneva Consensus translates into concrete actions that deliver meaningful progress for our communities. We look to UNCTAD's continued leadership in attending the concerns of small and vulnerable economies and in fostering a global economic environment, promoting concrete solutions to reduce the SDG financing gap.

Thank you