

Statement by Pakistan
On behalf of the Asia Pacific Group
at the Sixty-Eighth Session of the Trade and Development Board

Item 1 – Election of Officers
21 June 2021

President of the Trade and Development Board
Acting Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Let me begin by congratulating Ambassador Maimuna Tarishi of Tanzania for assuming the Presidency of the Trade and Development Board (TDB). The Asia Pacific Group further congratulates all members of the Bureau of the Board elected during this session.
2. The Group also wishes to express its most sincere gratitude to His Excellency Ambassador Federico Villegas of Argentina, the outgoing President of the Trade and Development Board, for his tireless efforts in guiding the work of the Board and ensuring the continuity of the work of UNCTAD's intergovernmental machinery, especially during this difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Group greatly appreciates your leadership and dedication in advancing the interests of the Member States of UNCTAD.

Madame President,

3. The Group would like to assure you of our full support and assistance in ensuring the success of your tenure. Your tenure has come at such a time when UNCTAD has been preparing for, among others, UNCTAD's Fifteenth Ministerial Conference. We look forward to benefit from your diplomatic experience in stewarding and shaping the outcome documents of UNCTAD 15 Ministerial Conference in the spirit of leaving no one behind.

Thank you, Madame President.
