

*JUSSCANNZ Statement for the 68th TDB General Debate*

22 June 2021

*Since this is the first time JUSSCANNZ (JS) is taking the floor at this TDB, we wish to join others in congratulating Ambassador Maimuna Tarishi of Tanzania on her election as the new president of the TDB. JZ would like to thank Ambassador Federico Villegas for his tireless leadership throughout the past year. We also congratulate the other officers who have been elected to the Bureau.*

*I would like to make a very short statement on behalf of the JUSCANZ group, particularly in relation to UNCTAD 15.*

*We would first like to thank those who have led and contributed to useful discussions in this meeting so far. Indeed we agree that UNCTAD 15 will take place in extraordinary times, and JUSCANZ would like to convey its commitment to achieving outcomes at UNCTAD 15 that help ensure UNCTAD can maximise its contribution to the global economic recovery from COVID 19. In particular, we recognize the role that open trade can play in supporting the global recovery, including in helping to address the particular challenges that developing countries are continuing to face. We welcome the progress that has been made on the Bridgetown Covenant so far, and the spirit shown in negotiations on the document.*

*JUSCANZ will continue to take a constructive and pragmatic approach to these negotiations. We want a document that sets out the key trade and development challenges and the transformations needed to address these in a measured and balanced way. We also want the document to frame UNCTAD's role in a way that promotes efficiency and quality in UNCTAD's work.*

JUSSCANNZ

*Our engagement in this process so far gives us confidence that we will be able to achieve these objectives.*

*Thank you.*