



Agenda item: 7

General Debate

Statement by:

Viet Nam



VỤ NGOẠI GIAO KINH TẾ

Remarks by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Minh Hang At the 16th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

(Geneva, Switzerland, 20-23/10/2025)

Mr. President,

Madame Secretary-General of UNCTAD,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

1. Let me start by thanking the Swiss Confederation and the UNCTAD Secretariat for the excellent organisation of the 16th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

This Conference takes place at a **pivotal moment** in history — when the world undergoes profound economic, technological, and geopolitical transformations. The global trade environment has become increasingly **volatile, fragmented, and unpredictable**.

As the United Nations' leading body on trade and development, UNCTAD plays a vital role in helping nations navigate the complex global landscape and shape an equitable, sustainable, and truly inclusive future.

Mr. President,

2. As a highly open and dynamic economy, Viet Nam is directly affected by global instabilities and turbulence. Yet, with timely and adaptive policies, we managed to affirm our strong resilience to external shocks maintaining the GDP growth of 3rd quarter of 2025 at nearly 7,9%. Viet Nam's GDP is projected to reach at 8% in 2025 making Viet Nam rank 32nd globally in GDP. Looking ahead, our strategic vision is to build a modern, industrialised nation with upper-middle income status by 2030, and to become a developed, high-income, socialist-oriented country by 2045.

Reform remains central to our path forward, anchored on four pillars: (1) empowering the private sector as the main engine of growth; (2) strengthening transparency and the rule of law; (3) advancing science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation as drivers of modernisation; and (4) promoting proactive, self-reliant, and responsible integration into global value chains and multilateral initiatives.

3. To promote economic transformations that are inclusive, resilient, and sustainable — with trade as a central driver — Viet Nam wishes to share key policy recommendations:

- *First*, global coordination and governance are indispensable to addressing humanity's shared challenges. To this end, we must work together to advance bold and meaningful reforms of the multilateral system — including global trading and financial institutions — with the United Nations at its core. These institutions must be more open, fair, and inclusive, reflecting the voices of developing countries and effectively harness new drivers of growth and productive forces shaped by science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation.

- *Second*, stronger collective efforts are needed to empower developing countries in achieving successful structural transformation — enhancing their resilience, competitiveness, and self-reliance amid global uncertainties. This requires not only greater but also higher-quality support in finance, technology, and capacity building, enabling countries to diversify and upgrade their industries, foster local value creation, promote gender equality and youth empowerment, and strengthen MSMEs' participation in regional and global value chains.

- *Third*, “the dual transformation” towards a green and digital economy must be at the heart of bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Trade and investment should become catalysts for decarbonisation, circular economy, and digital innovation. At the same time, sustainability standards should remain inclusive — enabling developing countries to participate rather than creating new barriers.

Mr. President,

4. UNCTAD, with its unique mandate, must continue to lead global efforts toward equitable, sustainable, and inclusive trade and investment — serving as a trusted platform for dialogue, cooperation, and collective action to support countries on their development paths.

Viet Nam remains committed to working closely with all members and the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to contribute to the shared vision of advancing global trade and development, as well as to fulfill the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and international climate commitments**, including net-zero emissions by 2050.

Mr. President,

7. The challenges we face today test our collective will and cooperation. Yet, they also offer us an opportunity to **reshape global trade**

and development into a more balanced, inclusive, and sustainable system.

Let us act decisively to ensure that the future we shape is one of fairness, resilience, and shared prosperity, where no one, no nation is left behind.

I thank you./.

(609 words)