



THE G33¹ MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE
29 November 2009

1. We, Ministers and Representatives of the G-33 Member Countries met in Geneva, Switzerland, on 29 November 2009, on the occasion of the 7th WTO Ministerial Conference to take stock of the current state of play of the Doha Development Round and to assess the course of action in the agriculture negotiations.
2. We welcome the 7th WTO Ministerial Conference as a crucial event to renew commitments to development objectives of the multilateral trading system and to evaluate the role of the WTO in advancing these objectives. The WTO should enhance its role in monitoring trade and trade-related measures as an important transparency tool, as well as to promote the importance of aid-for-trade and trade financing.
3. We reiterate our long-held conviction that international trade regime must complement the realization of our development requirement by guaranteeing our food security, livelihood security and rural development. The multilateral trading system should be supportive to the needs of all people, especially those who tend to be marginalized by globalization.
4. We observe that the current economic and financial crisis has highlighted the issue of marginalization and eroded the legitimacy of globalization. Therefore, in order to strengthen the global economy we need to adopt inclusive approaches to ensure sustainable global economic recovery, growth and development.
5. We urge WTO Members to respect commitments to advance the DDA in addressing the capacity of the current multilateral trading system in tackling the development needs of developing countries. WTO Members shall not give in to any attempt to dilute the development Mandate of the Round nor compromise the

¹ Members of the G-33 are Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Bolivia, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Congo, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Korea, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, The Philippines, Peru, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

agreed DDA mandates on special and differential treatment, particularly on Special Products (SP) and Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM).

6. We express concern at recent trends to retract commitments made in a long, hard-fought, negotiated and balanced package that is now on the table. We also note that this package is already market access focused, particularly for those countries that are expected to provide leadership and which are still seeking a disproportionate number of flexibilities.
7. We urge WTO Members to remain cognizant of the subsistence nature of agriculture in most developing countries and therefore the need to ensure the livelihood of farmers. The present crisis has highlighted the vulnerability of agriculture system and the need for safeguarding the livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable in agriculture around the world. The crisis has also put the issue of food security at the top of the global agenda. Trade in agriculture has to be calibrated in view of pressure from highly distortive domestic supports and export subsidies.
8. We reiterate our commitment to engage constructively in agriculture negotiations with the objective of early conclusion of the DDA that delivers a balanced and pro-development outcome. We thus instruct Negotiators to continue working with the COA-SS Chairman and Members on the remaining issues of the SSM, with a view to achieving a balanced solution in establishing a simple, operational, effective, non-burdensome SSM. In this context, there is a lot of work that remains to be done, to improve the December 2008 Chair's draft text.
9. We reemphasize the centrality of the multilateral process in all stages of DDA negotiations and would only treat bilateral/plurilateral processes as instruments to enhance mutual understanding. Thus this process must always adhere to the principles of bottom-up, inclusive, and transparent approach.
10. We believe that collective effort to reach the end-point of the DDA Round will very much depend on the degree of real re-engagement and flexibility of all Members as well as on the leadership of larger players, particularly major developed countries. We therefore call upon all Members for utmost political will and readiness to conclude the Round by 2010.
