

**Statement made by Ambassador Dr. Dinesh Bhattarai, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the UN and WTO at an informal Trade Negotiation Committee {TNC} Meeting on 27 July 2010.**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to thank you, Director General, for convening this meeting and also for the comprehensive briefing provided to us. We believe that this exercise ensures transparency of the process and also provides an opportunity to members to exchange views and update with latest developments.

We appreciate your sincere efforts and commitment to take the Round to logical conclusion as early as possible. We are encouraged to note upbeat message in your statement. You have full confidence and support of my delegation.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to associate myself with the statement made by Ambassador of Zambia on behalf of LDCs Group. I fully endorse the views expressed therein.

Let me underline some of the issues.

Mr. Chairman,

The early conclusion of Doha Development Round could have been of great significance at a time when we are undergoing through a series of multiple crises.

Doha placed emphasis on the need to develop the competitiveness and capacities of LDCs to enable them to participate in trade as members of the WTO in an effective way and benefit from global economy and society. In a decade of this Round- which has proved to be the longest Round, it is disappointing to see accumulated missed deadlines and the Doha promise confined to giving statements and reiterating pre-stated positions. We believe the conclusion of Doha Round is necessary to create a security of market access. We believe that the conclusion of the Round would substantially help strengthen the valuable role of WTO in restraining protectionism, and sending a strong signal of commitment to multilateral cooperation. Least Developed Countries {LDCs} which constitute one fourth of the international community, have legitimate needs and concerns and we firmly believe that they must be heard and acted upon from the international community.

In this backdrop, the LDCs are requesting for an early harvest on areas that were identified by the LDCs Ministerial Meeting in Dar es Salam last year. We humbly request the membership of this house to consider it seriously and help LDCs to address the dire economic situation they are in.

With regards to the process of negotiation, while we are supportive of the format that is being followed within the WTO framework to overcome serious deadlocks in the process, we place emphasis on the multilateral negotiation process in general. We appreciate your efforts and commitment to place development at the center throughout the process. We reiterate that it is most essential to ensure the inclusiveness and maintain the transparency of the process.

Mr. Chairman,

As LDCs continue to confront with multiple challenges including food and energy crises, global financial and economic crisis as well as the impact of climate change, we remain focused on the forthcoming review of the Millennium Development Goals {MDGs} in September, UN LDCs IV to be held next year in Turkey, and of course the stalled Doha Development Round.

I would like to place particular emphasis here on the UN LDCs IV. We consider the conference which is held once in a decade a great opportunity for greater and better reflection on all the developments since the LDCs III, Doha 2001, to genuinely reflect and review the status of special support mechanisms placed in favor of LDCs, and see what and how they have been delivered and what remains to be delivered as promised.

The LDCs Conference is also an opportunity to establish the importance of international cooperation, to come up with concrete and implementable plan of action, address needs and realities of the LDCs, establish better partnership between LDCs and development partners, make difference on the life of disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalized people, and make them real and genuine partners in the development process and global security.

Thank you