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KENYA

Statement by HE Dr Mukhisa Kituyi
Minister for Trade and Industry

On my own behalf and that of the Kenyan delegation, I wish to thank the Special Administrative Authority and the people of Hong Kong, China for the warm reception accorded to me and my delegation and the excellent facilities put at our disposal to facilitate the Conference.

I commend the Chair of the General Council, the Director-General and the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization for their tireless efforts in the preparation of the Draft Ministerial text.

The Sixth Session of this Ministerial Conference affords a unique opportunity to finally make concrete progress in the Doha Development Agenda and thereby entrench development in the on-going negotiations. It is a litmus test on the level of preparedness by Ministers to make the necessary decisions that would enable the conclusion of the negotiations by end of 2006. As we continue reflecting on these issues we must recall that the Doha Round is centred on development and indeed the success of this Conference will be largely judged by its development deliverables. It is imperative therefore that we maximize harvests of emerging convergence in the main negotiating areas while making concrete proposals in the areas of divergence.

Indeed it is critical that we make progress on issues that are of importance to developing and least developed countries while at the same time recognizing the progress that our countries have made in regional economic and political integration.

Allow me to welcome "*Aid for Trade*" which has been captured as an element of the draft text. This is a positive development that must be encouraged and harnessed. However if "*Aid for Trade*" is to add value to our own efforts, it must be long term, sustainable, predictable and must come from new resources. It must be targeted to priority areas including improving our competitiveness. In this regard emphasis will have to be placed on productivity and product quality to access the global supply chains.

I believe that time has come to establish an appropriate mechanism within which aid and trade can be nurtured and grown to full fruition. We see trade as a development tool which should be given special consideration and not relegated into other aid related programmes that were not designed for that purpose.

Many of our countries have invested heavily in the negotiations for the last four years. This investment which is drawn from public coffers has not seen any real or other returns. We have not served them well. In fact we have not been honest to our people. We will be held to account unless we remain focused to bring this Round to a conclusion and deliver the development promise. Therefore, we all stand challenged and must live up to the expectations of millions of poor people

whose livelihood depends on trade and, would improve with enhanced market access, balanced rules of trade and capacity support.

In conclusion let me also welcome the recent agreement to amend the TRIPS Agreement in order to incorporate public health concerns. We all know that the road to the amendment has not been easy and I therefore wish to thank all the parties involved in the whole process for bringing to a successful conclusion on this complex and most difficult amendment that had seen several set deadlines missed in the past.

I urge all parties, the developed and developing countries to show the same commitment in order to deliver the Doha Development Agenda to our people.
