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Ministerial Conference Twelfth Session Geneva, 12-15 June 2022

WORK PROGRAMME ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE

COMMUNICATION FROM INDIA, INDONESIA, AND SOUTH AFRICA

The following communication¹, dated 9 June 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of India, Indonesia, and South Africa.

DRAFT MINISTERIAL DECISION

The Ministerial Conference:

Recalling the "Work Programme on Electronic Commerce" adopted on 25 September 1998 and subsequent Ministerial Declarations and Decisions on the Work Programme,

Concerned with the deep digital and technological divide afflicting developing and least developed countries and noting the need to address the same,

Recognising the uneven spread of global electronic commerce and inequitable gains arising from the digital economy,

Acknowledging the importance of work under the Work Programme in examining trade-related issues relating to global electronic commerce, taking into account the economic, financial, and development needs of developing countries,

Decides as follows:

We agree to re-invigorate the work under the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce, including the development-related issues under it, based on the mandate set out in WT/L/274. We instruct the General Council to hold periodic reviews in its sessions of July and December 2022 and July 2023 based on the reports that may be submitted by the WTO bodies entrusted with the implementation of the Work Programme and report to the next session of the Ministerial Conference.

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 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ This communication was previously circulated in document WT/GC/W/838/Rev.2 on 25 November 2021.