



26 February 2024

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**Ministerial Conference
Thirteenth Session
Abu Dhabi, 26-29 February 2024**

Original: English

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR SOSTEN ALFRED GWENGWE
MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

MALAWI

We are living in a time when effective collaboration is so paramount to the WTO achieving its mandate of an effective multilateral trading system as enshrined in the Marrakesh Agreement.

MC13 is being held at an opportune time when countries are recovering from numerous global shocks including geopolitical tension, climate change, and COVID-19 pandemic, among others. All these disproportionately affected Members with more negative impact being experienced in developing and least developed countries.

Malawi is optimistic that the WTO can deliver in addressing these challenges. Equity, transparency, special and differential treatment should remain an integral part of all the WTO ongoing reforms. Economies like Malawi will put much emphasis on industrialisation, structural transformation, building productive capacities, promote diversification to foster inclusive sustainable development.

Malawi reaffirms her commitment to the rules-based multilateral trading system and continues to trust the relevance of the WTO in contributing to the global economic growth for all its Members.

MC13, therefore, offers a golden moment for us to deliver for the betterment of all generations.

I wish you all a pleasant and fruitful meeting.
