

**M. Chairman,  
Distinguished delegates**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this important session on Global Review of Aid for Trade.

Mr. Chairman, I am making this statement on behalf of the following West Asian Arab delegations: GCC countries, which include Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman , Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates. In addition to Jordan, Lebanon, And Yemen.

We, therefore wish to pay particular tribute to Mr. Pascal Lamy, Director General of the WTO and to Ambassador Servansing, Chairman of the Committee on Trade and Development and to you Mr. Chairman for the commitment to promote Aid for Trade.

We consider this global review to be quite timely and can provide us with a unique opportunity to address the issue of Aid for Trade, and how it can help developing countries and LDCs to use trade as an engine for development. The experience of the last three decades has demonstrated that trade can promote economic growth and development, and help lift countries out of poverty.

By using fully the trade opportunities and facilitating trade flows, aid for trade has great potential to effectively integrate developing countries and LDCs in the multilateral trade system.

However, the noble aims of Aid for Trade will not reach its full potential unless practical implementation solutions are provided to the recipient countries on one hand and to the donors on the other hand. To improve the delivery of Aid for Trade and tackle the existing gaps, it is important to take into consideration, the experiences of donors and recipients countries in this field. We also believe Aid for Trade should ensure that new and existing resources are used in most productive way.

Here, it is important to recall the five principles of Paris Declaration on Aid effectiveness, which we support. That is mainly: Ownership, Alignment, Harmonization, division of labour and accountability.

We would therefore need to consider areas in which intervention will yields the best results and ensure that adequate finance for achieving desired objectives.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Having listened carefully to the roadmap for Latin America, Africa and Asia and Pacific, we would like to draw your attention that the countries on behalf of which I am speaking, were not invited to participate in the consultation process that took place prior to this event. We, therefore request to be included in future Aid for Trade consultation.

Mr. Chairman We would like to stress two basic principles:

**First** , promotion of trade aid by donors should not be an alternative to the reform efforts in recipients countries, but complement to them. Reform in our countries would be greatly complemented with the stepped up Aid for trade, to be pledged by several members and regional banks. In this regard, we take due recognition of the statement made by the representative of the IDB yesterday with regard to their strong commitment to the AFT initiative and we are pleased to hear about their contribution made for the purpose for trade financing in the past.

**Second,**

development of Aid for Trade should be consistent with the principle of trade objectives and South-South integration. It is also necessary, in our opinion, that we enhance our efforts to successfully conclude the Doha Development Agenda. Such efforts require political courage and commitment. Although, there are still many questions on how to make aid for trade operational, for example: what are the mechanisms, through which countries can present viable projects to prospective donors, how are countries (and regions) needs to be matched with donor responses? What are the baselines through which aid for trade will be assessed? We hope that in the next global review, we will be able to identify the concrete responses given to our countries.

Finally, Mr. Chairman we would wish to acknowledge the support received on several trade areas by different organizations such as WTO, UNCTAD, ITC, and AITIC for some of us. Their assistance is highly valued.

**And now, Please allow me Mr. Chairman to make this short statement on behalf of the delegation of Qatar.**

**Mr. Chairman,**

The State of Qatar is keen on being supportive partner of the development efforts, in particular with regards to poverty eradication, sharing the benefits of global growth in a fair manner in view of their positive impact on stability and international peace and security. In this regards, The State of Qatar has hosted the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the WTO, where the Aid and Trade assistance is rightfully recognized. As we all know, the outcome of the fourth ministerial meeting was one of the most promising agenda that link trade with development – Doha Development Agenda.

In addition, In November 2006, The State of Qatar hosted, a policy dialogue organized by the OECD, with Non-OECD members regarding Aid for Trade: From Policy to Practice. It was a good opportunity to explore how best to support developing countries Supply – Side constraints in order to better exploit the opportunities created by Multilateral trade liberalization.

The State of Qatar has also hosted the Second-South Summit in 2004. During which the Emir of the State of Qatar announce his initiative to establish the South Fund for Development and Humanitarian Assistance and offered 20 Millions USD \$ to the proposed financing facility to this Fund.

**Thank you for your attention,**