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G-33 MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON WTO AGRICULTURE NEGOTIATIONS

G-33 MINISTERIAL MEETING, GENEVA, 12 JUNE 2022

AT 12TH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The following communication, dated 12 June 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Indonesia on behalf of the G33.

- 1. We, Ministers and Representatives of the G-33 Members, met on 12 June 2022, in Geneva to exchange views on the state of play of the WTO agriculture negotiations, and to deliberate the Group's priorities on the outcome and the way forward.
- 2. We are deeply concerned on the lack of progress in the negotiations. We call on all WTO Members to engage constructively to achieve meaningful outcomes at the MC12.
- 3. We note with concern the consequences of current global challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts, and climate-related disasters, particularly on food security and livelihoods in developing countries, including NFIDCs, SVEs and LDCs. We call for Members to address the pending issues of importance to the G-33.
- 4. We reaffirm the urgency and importance of maintaining an open and predictable agricultural trade to ensure the continued flow of food, and agricultural products, as well as inputs critical for food and agricultural production and supply chains. We also underline the importance of enhancing production and maintaining food price stability with least distorting global markets.
- 5. We reaffirm our commitment in moving forward the agriculture negotiations based on the pragmatic options on all mandated issues, particularly the expeditious resolution of a permanent solution on Public Stockholding for Food Security Purposes (PSH), as one of critical policy tools, and the Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM), as an important instrument that would buffer developing countries against sudden price declines or against major import surges.
- 6. We call for all Members to honor past Ministerial commitments and work together for its implementations to lay a good foundation for future Ministerial decisions. The G33 will continue to work with all other WTO Members on the elements contained in the proposals submitted by some G33 Members and others, to reach mutually acceptable outcomes on agriculture at the MC12.
- 7. Further, G-33 co-sponsoring Members underscore the importance of the Joint Proposal WT/MIN(22)/W/4 on a permanent solution on PSH with the African Group, and the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group, as a basis to achieve outcomes on PSH at the MC12.
- 8. We recognize that it is the collective responsibility of all WTO Members to address the challenges facing the multilateral trading system. Hence, all future work programmes must satisfactorily address the development needs of developing countries, including NFIDCs, SVEs and LDCs with Special and Differential Treatment as an integral part of multilateral trade negotiations.

9. We emphasize that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory, equitable, and WTO-centered multilateral trading system is vital for global agricultural trade and will continue to promote it.