COMMUNICATION FROM DJIBOUTI ON BEHALF OF THE LDC GROUP

The following communication, dated 18 February 2024, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Djibouti on behalf of the LDC Group.

In furtherance of the instruction of Ministers in paragraph 8 of the MC12 Outcome Document (WT/MIN(22)/24-WT/L/1135) that the General Council report on progress to the next Session, regarding the work on decisions in favour of LDCs on services waiver, preferential rules of origin and DFQF, the LDC Group requests that the following paragraph is inserted into the Draft Abu Dhabi Ministerial Declaration (WT/MIN(24)/W/12). This paragraph is intended to respond to the instructions of Ministers.

We take note of our instructions in paragraph 8 of the MC12 Outcome Document regarding operationalization of decisions in favour of LDCs and the reports from the relevant bodies responsible for services waiver, preferential rules of origin, and DFQF market access. On services waiver, we instruct the Council for Trade in Services (CTS) to examine the recommendations from the LDC Group found in JOB/SERV/CTS/25. On preferential rules of origin, we instruct the Committee on Rules of Origin to develop a roadmap for its future work for the full implementation of the decision adopted in April 2022 contained in document G/RO/95. On DFQF, we instruct the Committee on Trade and Development to conduct the annual review we called for at our twelfth Session. The General Council shall report to our next Session on progress for all of these areas.