TEXTUAL PROPOSAL ON THE FUTURE WORK AFTER NAIROBI

SUBMISSION BY THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA ON BEHALF OF THE ARAB GROUP

The following communication is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on behalf of the Arab Group.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. In preparation of the Tenth Ministerial Conference that will be held in Nairobi, the Director-General, on the 3 November informal meeting at Heads of Delegation level, proposed to Members a possible structure to the Ministerial Declaration with three parts similar to the last Ministerial Declaration of Bali 2013: the first part would include the introductory language focusing on the importance of the multilateral trading system in the context of the 20th anniversary of the WTO; the second part would cover the Nairobi deliverables; and the third part would be for the future work after Nairobi. At the meeting, and as a member-driven organisation, the Director General, also, invited Members to start immediately the drafting process by focusing on the first and third parts of the potential declaration and called on them to submit their textual proposals or the elements that they wish to be included in the declaration.

1.2. Taking into account the instruction of Bali Ministerial Declaration to the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) to develop a clearly defined Work Programme on the remaining DDA issues and other mandates including: the 2001 Doha Ministerial Declaration, the July 2004 Framework, and the 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to direct the important work of the WTO and to guide the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations, The Arab Group would like to submit the textual proposed language thereafter to the third part of the declaration.

2 TEXTUAL PROPOSAL ON PART III OF NAIROBI DECLARATION

2.1 Part III - Future Work after Nairobi

2.1. We recognize the fundamental role of the WTO in world trade to pursue trade liberalization, and achieve development objectives by raising standards of living and ensuring that developing countries, especially the least developed among them, secure a share in the growth in international trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development.

2.2. We reaffirm our commitment to the functions of the WTO as envisaged in Article III of Marrakesh Agreement. In this regard, we reaffirm our commitment to the Doha Development Agenda, as well as to the regular work of the WTO.

2.3. We take note of the progress that has been made towards carrying out the Doha Work Programme, including the decisions we have taken during this Ministerial Conference, that represent an important stepping stone towards the completion of the Doha Round. We reaffirm our commitment to the development objectives set out in the Doha Declaration.

1 This document was previously issued as JOB/TNC/57 dated 5 November 2015.
2.4. We instruct the Trade Negotiations Committee to continue pursuing the successful conclusion of the remaining Doha Development Agenda issues taking into account the extensive market-access commitments already made by the Recently Acceded Members during their respective accessions, and recognizing the importance to advance the development objectives of this Round through enhanced market access for developing country and least developed Members in Agriculture, NAMA, and Services. This will build on the decisions taken at this Ministerial Conference, particularly on (Nairobi deliverables), as well as all other issues under the Doha mandate that are central to concluding the Round. Work on issues that have not been fully addressed at this Conference will resume in the relevant Committees or Negotiating Groups of the WTO.

2.5. We will remain available for further contacts amongst ourselves and with the Director-General on these matters as we move forward in 2016.