ACP MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE TENTH SESSION OF THE WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The following communication, dated 14 December 2015, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Barbados on behalf of the ACP Group.

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Ministers responsible for Trade of the ACP Group of States, meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, 14 December 2015, having considered the status of work on the issues being considered for decision at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the WTO, 15-18 December 2015, reaffirm their declaration found in WT/MIN(15)/3 and emphasized the importance of securing a development centred outcome here in Nairobi.

In keeping with their commitment to a rules based multilateral trading system, they stressed the necessity for a clear commitment in Nairobi to concluding all unresolved issues in the DDA on the development mandate with a view to yielding specific development milestones in the post-Nairobi phase.

They urged all Members to show the required political will to achieve consensus in all remaining areas of the DDA.

As an additional building block in that regard, key decisions must be taken in Nairobi on development and LDC issues, in particular decisions for both developing countries and LDCs based on the G90 special and differential treatment proposals, decision to preserve the flexibilities for developing countries, including LDCs, NFIDCs, SVEs, and Members of customs unions, in all relevant negotiating areas in the DDA, decision on the developmental and food security aspects of fisheries subsidies disciplines, decisions submitted by LDCs, including on cotton, and a decision to establish a Non-Tariff Barriers Work Programme under the Committee on Trade and Development, which are all to be considered during this Conference.

They stressed the importance of ensuring that the negotiations post-Nairobi respect the principles of fairness, inclusiveness and transparency and take into account the positions of the ACP Group of States in areas such as agriculture, services, NAMA, rules, including fisheries, and Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights negotiations, contained in the ACP Declaration on the Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference.

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Nairobi
14 December 2015