

# Environment, Climate, and Sustainable Development at MC14: A Review of Ministerial Declarations, Decisions, and Statements

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This document compiles selected excerpts from ministerial declarations, decisions, and statements delivered at the Fourteenth WTO Ministerial Conference (MC14). The selection focuses on references to the following terms: agriculture [in relation to sustainable agriculture], biodiversity, climate, environment, fisheries, green transition, sustainability, and sustainable development. All excerpts are reproduced verbatim from official WTO documents or video transcripts.\*

The compilation is intended to be illustrative and does not claim to be exhaustive in capturing all mentions of the array of environment issues or sustainable development considerations that may have arisen in the range of statements made and documents issued by ministers at MC14.

The compilation is organized under the following four headings:

|                                                                                                                                                               |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies.....                                                                                                           | 2  |
| 2. Collective Ministerial Statements, Communications, and Outcome Documents Directly Addressing Environment, Climate, and Sustainable Development Issues..... | 2  |
| 3. Ministerial Declarations, Statements, and Communications by Regional and Other Groupings .....                                                             | 8  |
| 4. Ministerial Statements by Ministers of Individual WTO Members .....                                                                                        | 13 |
| Annex Table: References by Individual WTO Members .....                                                                                                       | 33 |

## Overview

| Type of Outcome                                                                                                                                       | Number of Outcomes | Total Number of Members |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies                                                                                                           | 1                  | 166                     |
| Collective ministerial statements, communications, and outcome documents directly addressing environment, climate, and sustainable development issues | 7                  | 74**                    |
| Ministerial declarations, statements, and communications by regional or other groupings                                                               | 9                  | 103                     |
| Ministerial statements by ministers of individual WTO members                                                                                         | 74                 | 74                      |

Note: \*\* The total number of does not include all participating members in the environment-related initiatives as the DPP and TESSD statements were issued by the coordinators and co-convenors and not the full memberships.

\* The excerpts compiled are direct quotes from the statements and in some instances include a number of paragraphs or sentences taken from different places in the source documents (always collated in the order in which they appear). With the exception of the Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies and the collective statements from the three member-led environment initiatives at the WTO, all emphases, bullets, and numbering in the quoted content have been removed. All changes to quotations follow APA guidelines.

## 1. Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies

### Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies [WT/MIN\(26\)/38](#)

*“Having regard to paragraph 1 of Article X of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (the “WTO Agreement”);*

*Recalling the Ministerial Decision of 17 June 2022 in document [WT/MIN\(22\)/33](#) to adopt The Protocol of Amendment to the WTO Agreement to insert the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies into Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement;*

*Decides as follows:*

1. We celebrate the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, and support its full implementation.
2. Building on the progress made since the Twelfth and Thirteenth WTO Ministerial Conferences, and having regard to Article 12 of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, the Negotiating Group on Rules shall continue negotiations on additional provisions that would achieve a comprehensive agreement on fisheries subsidies, including through further disciplines on certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing country Members and LDC Members should be an integral part of these negotiations. Members agree to continue to engage constructively in the negotiations, with a view to making recommendations to the Fifteenth WTO Ministerial Conference for provisions that would achieve the comprehensive disciplines on fisheries subsidies referred to in Article 12 of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.”

## 2. Collective Ministerial Statements, Communications, and Outcome Documents Directly Addressing Environment, Climate, and Sustainable Development Issues

**Ministerial Statement on Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform** by Albania, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, European Union, Fiji, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Republic of, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Samoa, Switzerland, Tonga, United Kingdom, Uruguay, and Vanuatu [WT/MIN\(26\)/23](#) (48 WTO members are cosponsors of the FFSR initiative)

We, the Ministers representing the following WTO Members: Albania; Chile; Colombia; Costa Rica; European Union; Fiji; Iceland; Liechtenstein; Moldova, Republic of; Montenegro; New Zealand; North Macedonia; Norway; Panama; Paraguay; Samoa; Switzerland; Tonga; United Kingdom; Uruguay; and Vanuatu issue this statement:

1. *Recalling the WTO FFSR Initiative Joint Ministerial Statement issued at MC13 in Abu Dhabi ([WT/MIN\(24\)/19](#) of 26 February 2024), as well as the commitments made internationally to fossil*

fuel subsidy reform under Sustainable Development Goal 12(c) of the 2030 Agenda, in the context of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and by the G7, G20 and APEC Members;

2. *Deeply concerned* about the continued high levels of government support for fossil fuels, estimated in 2025 as at USD 0.92 trillion;
3. *Recognising* the contribution fossil fuel subsidy reform can play in continuing efforts to limit global temperature increases to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels and lower climate-related risks, as well as to delivering wider trade, economic, social and environmental benefits;
4. *Recalling* the role trade can play as a powerful enabling force for progress to achieve sustainable development;
5. *Building* on the analytical work and constructive discussions held under the WTO FFSR Initiative in the period since the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference, Members of the WTO FFSR Initiative intend to;
6. *Advance* our work to achieve the rationalisation, phase out or elimination of harmful fossil fuel subsidies, including through use of existing mechanisms or the development of new pathways to reform, through continued pursuit of the programme of work adopted at MC13 ([WT/MIN\(24\)/19](#) of 26 February 2024), under the following three pillars:
  - A. Enhanced Transparency;
  - B. Crisis Support Measures; and
  - C. Identifying and Addressing Harmful Fossil Fuel Subsidies.
7. We adopt the following outputs from the WTO FFSR Initiative to date:
  - Pillar One – Enhanced Transparency
    - updated non-exhaustive list of sample questions on fossil fuel subsidies and fossil fuel subsidy reform for regular use in WTO Trade Policy Reviews (Annex I); and
  - Pillar Two – Temporary Crisis Measures
    - guidelines for designing transparent, targeted and temporary fossil fuel subsidy measures in response to energy crises (Annex II).
8. Ministers take note of the progress report [WT/MIN\(26\)/24](#) by the coordinator on work undertaken within the WTO FFSR Initiative since MC13.

**Ministerial Statement on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade** by the Coordinators (Australia, Barbados, China, Ecuador, Fiji and Morocco) of the Dialogue on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (DPP) [WT/MIN\(26\)/21](#) (83 WTO members are cosponsors of the DPP)

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation, including the WTO's Dialogue on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (DPP) and its work since 2020 to explore how improved trade cooperation could contribute to domestic, regional and global efforts to reduce plastic pollution and transition to more environmentally sustainable plastics trade.

*Continuing to welcome* the intergovernmental negotiations for an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution pursuant to the United Nations Environment Assembly

Resolution 5/14, End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument, without prejudice to the ongoing negotiations.

*Highlighting* the importance of policies that seek to protect and preserve the environment, including global efforts to end plastic pollution.

*Highlighting* the progress of the collective work of the Dialogue, including:

- Increasing understanding of plastics trade flows through sessions on statistical approaches to measure plastic content and flows throughout the life cycle of traded goods, including relevant guidelines and approaches shared by delegations and international institutions, and by contributing to the 2028 revision of the World Customs Organization (WCO) Harmonized System (HS) codes to facilitate the identification of plastics trade flows.
- Enhancing the understanding of international standards applicable to non-plastic substitutes and alternatives, including related work by standards development organizations (SDOs).
- Extensive mapping of Members' regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to address single-use plastic (SUP) goods and opportunities for enhanced cooperation, including regional approaches.
- Supporting technical assistance and capacity building by identifying developing Members' needs and available resources and existing funding opportunities, including through a matchmaking event, and facilitating the delivery of existing trade-related projects.

**We have accordingly reached the following shared understandings\*:**

We will continue to build on the DPP's existing body of work on the trade-related aspects of plastic pollution to reduce plastics pollution and promote more environmentally sustainable plastics trade.

We further agree on the importance of international cooperation and agree to further Member-driven work building on the fruitful discussions reflected in the technical outcomes, including but not limited to the following areas, and to pursue potential actions, including on a voluntary basis, while recognizing different domestic challenges and priorities:

- Improving monitoring and traceability of trade flows throughout the plastics value chain through sharing experiences on policies and statistical approaches and on the implementation of plastic-related elements approved as part of HS 2028 reform.
- Enhancing trade cooperation and coherence, including exploring, where appropriate, opportunities for potential policy alignment, on approaches to address SUPs, including at the regional level, with a view to increasing policy effectiveness and reducing implementation costs for governments and businesses, such as through drawing on Members' experience sharing and notifications, including as captured in the WTO Environmental Database (EDB) and ePing.
- Continue sharing experiences, including through case studies, to further develop a structured document of practices, lessons learnt, and elements Members may consider when adopting trade-related plastics measures.

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\* These are without prejudice to the positions of individual DPP co-sponsors. The technical outcomes attached to this Ministerial Statement provide an overview of the discussions undertaken in DPP meetings under their respective thematic areas.

- Share experiences on innovations, technologies, and solutions, with an interest in the specific steps along the lifecycle of plastics that may facilitate access to and support trade in goods, services, and technologies that help to address plastic pollution, including for clean-up activities and environmentally sound waste management, noting the important role that waste pickers play in plastics recycling in many Members.
- Share experiences on environmentally sound, safe, and effective non-plastic substitutes, alternatives and services, with a particular focus on local and regional solutions respectful of nature, including those that create opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises and rural development, and explore Members' perspectives and approaches to facilitate trade in such goods and services.
- Draw on prior experiences and encourage trade-related technical assistance and capacity building, based on the needs of developing and least-developed Members, with a focus on matching requests with existing resources, programmes and funding opportunities as well as potential solutions to address plastic pollution, while enhancing coordination among Members and stakeholders, avoiding duplication of efforts, identifying opportunities for collaboration, and maximizing impact.

We will continue to work in an open, inclusive, and transparent manner, including through synergies with relevant WTO bodies, and look for further concrete, pragmatic, and effective outcomes by the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference.

## TECHNICAL OUTCOMES ATTACHED TO THE MINISTERIAL STATEMENT <sup>[\*]</sup>

- **Technical outcome A:** Analytical summary of statistical approaches to estimate trade flows of embedded plastics, packaging and single-use products discussed in the DPP.
- **Technical outcome B:** Analytical summary of the different approaches in regulating single-use plastic products discussed in the DPP.
- **Technical outcome C:** Synopsis of Member considerations in the adoption of trade-related plastic measures raised in DPP discussions.
- **Technical outcome D:** Synopsis of goods, services and technologies for waste management and clean-up activities, their challenges and opportunities identified in DPP discussions.
- **Technical outcome E:** Synopsis of services, non-plastic substitutes, alternatives to single-use plastics, their challenges and opportunities identified in DPP discussions.

**Statement on Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD)** by the TESSD Co-Convenors (Canada and Costa Rica) [WT/MIN\(26\)/22](#) (79 WTO members are cosponsors of TESSD)

We, the Co-convenors of the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD), on the occasion of the 14th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC14) in Yaoundé, Cameroon, present the following communication:

*Recalling* the Co-convenors' Statement issued at the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference ([WT/MIN\(24\)/11](#)), which presented a renewed and updated Work Plan ([WT/MIN\(24\)/11/Add.1](#)) aimed at deepening discussions across the four Working Groups, focusing, inter alia, on enhancing transparency, identifying best practices and opportunities for policymaking, and integrating development perspectives, with a view to delivering concrete results by MC14;

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\* TESS note: Refer to the [ministerial statement](#) to view the full technical outcomes.

*Emphasizing* that TESSD is a member-driven initiative that provides an inclusive and transparent platform for dialogue and experience-sharing, and has supported and informed work on trade and environmental sustainability across the WTO;

*Noting with appreciation* the technical and substantive work undertaken since MC13 across the four Working Groups, which has deepened Members' understanding of key issues, including trade-related climate measures, environmental goods and services, circular economy and circularity, and environmental effects and trade impacts of relevant subsidies, and has complemented and supported discussions in relevant WTO bodies, including the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE);

*Recognizing* that international trade and trade policy can support environmental objectives, and that TESSD contributes to enhancing understanding of how the WTO Members may address trade-related environmental challenges and leverage opportunities;

1. We hereby present the TESSD: *Insights and Outcomes from Five Years of Work – A Co Convenors' Report* ([WT/MIN\(26\)/22/Add.1](#)), which captures the evolution of TESSD and the breadth of information generated over its first five years.
2. We also present the following outcome documents for MC14, reflecting progress in the discussions: *A compilation and mapping of trade-related climate policies* ([WT/MIN\(26\)/22/Add.2](#)); *Draft Key Insights and Analytical Summary on Environmental Goods and Services* ([WT/MIN\(26\)/22/Add.3](#)); *Trade aspects and related Member practices on circular economy* ([WT/MIN\(26\)/22/Add.4](#)); and *A compilation of design elements in subsidies* ([WT/MIN\(26\)/22/Add.5](#)).
3. We recognize the accomplishments of TESSD and its role in reinvigorating discussion on trade and environmental issues within the WTO.
4. We agree to support Members' interests in fostering dialogue within TESSD to better understand trade-related environmental issues at the WTO through an open, transparent, and inclusive dialogue with Members after MC14, with a view to continuing to inform discussions within the CTE and other appropriate WTO bodies.

**Statement on a Dialogue on Emerging Agricultural Trade Issues** by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Peru, Switzerland, Ukraine, and Uruguay  
[WT/MIN\(26\)/40](#)

“Recognizing that agriculture faces the triple challenge of ensuring food security and nutrition for a growing population, providing livelihoods for farmers and others in agrifood systems, and improving the environmental sustainability of the sector;

Noting that, in response to these challenges, many Members are adopting policy instruments aimed at enhancing resilience, productivity, efficiency and the sustainable use of natural resources, including soil, water and biodiversity;”

“In view of the above, in order to enhance the WTO's responsiveness to emerging agricultural trade issues, and to safeguard the organization's continued effectiveness and relevance;

We agree:

To advance open-ended deliberations through a Dialogue on Emerging Agricultural Trade (EAT) issues, to be reported to the General Council, with a view to supporting well-functioning agricultural

markets, taking into account sustainable development and diversity of agricultural systems, production conditions and development needs and challenges across the Membership.

Such deliberations may include, inter alia: (. ...)

How emerging agricultural policies and measures affect production, market conditions, natural resources, food security and development; (. ...)

How agricultural and trade policies impact environmental and social outcomes; (. ...)

How emerging agricultural policies and measures interact with WTO provisions, and relevant commitments under multilateral environmental agreements”

**Joint statement of the Co-Chairs of the Informal Working Group on Trade and Gender**  
**[WT/MIN\(26\)/5/Rev.1](#)** (the co-chairs are Australia, Cabo Verde, and El Salvador)

“We, the Co-Chairs of the Informal Working Group on Trade and Gender (IWG), reaffirm that women’s economic empowerment is essential to sustainable development, inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction.”

**Informal Working Group on MSMEs – Coordinator’s Report** **[WT/MIN\(26\)/3](#)** (Barbados)

“The MSME Group will continue to explore joint events and exchanging with other WTO Committees and informal groups, such as the Informal Working Group on Trade and Gender and the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions.”

**Communiqué of the Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate** **[WT/MIN\(26\)/41](#)** (62 ministers are members of the coalition)

We, the Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate, representing economies from all regions and at different levels of development, climate vulnerabilities and trade circumstances, meet at a moment of heightened urgency for both climate action and for the multilateral trading system. The accelerating impacts of climate change reinforce our shared conviction that trade policy must play a role in supporting climate mitigation and adaptation efforts, while advancing sustainable development.

Since the launch of the Coalition, we have worked to break down silos between trade, climate and finance. Through joint ministerial engagement and participation in key international fora, we have strengthened our understanding of how open, predictable and inclusive trade can contribute to climate resilience, economic transformation and sustainable development.

Coalition Members have engaged, and will continue to engage, with relevant international organizations and intergovernmental initiatives on trade-related climate action. We also emphasize the importance of trade policies that align with the sustainable development goals and promote positive incentives. We reaffirm our commitment to trade-related technical assistance, capacity building and Aid for Trade to implement trade and climate strategies that support adaptation, resilience, and fair and just transitions.

Notably, we have intensified our engagement and efforts at the World Trade Organization (WTO) on the nexus between trade, climate change and sustainable development. We support deliberations on sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, and trade-related climate measures aimed at enhancing the transparency, coherence, and interoperability of these measures, while integrating the development dimension. On the latter, we highlight the Coalition Members’ contributions, including

through submissions, that have helped to facilitate discussions and deepen Members' understanding of such measures. We also express our support for enhancing these Member-led discussions following the Fourteenth WTO Ministerial Conference, including in the upcoming work of the Committee on Trade and Environment.

We emphasize the indispensable role of the private sector, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, in delivering climate outcomes through trade. We will continue to engage with business leaders to identify actions that can drive decarbonisation; support sustainable, transparent, and resilient supply chains; and contribute to the achievement of Nationally Determined Contributions.

Guided by the Coalition's principles of cooperation, inclusivity, transparency and leadership, we have begun to draw from the [Menu of voluntary actions](#) to [translate political commitment into practical cooperation](#). We will continue to strengthen and expand these efforts across all areas reflected in the Menu, deepening our collaboration, and exploring new avenues for joint action.

Ahead of the next Ministerial meeting of the Coalition, we have instructed our senior officials to intensify engagement with stakeholders, including with business leaders and think tanks. This will support efforts to identify ways to further enhance cooperation on voluntary actions and to propose practical solutions on how trade can continue contributing to the climate response, including climate-resilient development and the energy transition. In this regard, we intend to convene high-level roundtables to support action-oriented cooperative and inclusive solutions.

Through this Coalition, we remain committed to inclusive leadership and cooperation to ensure that trade contributes meaningfully to climate action, resilience, and shared prosperity.

### 3. Ministerial Declarations, Statements, and Communications by Regional and Other Groupings

*The excerpts compiled in this section are direct quotes from collective ministerial declarations, statements, and communications by regional and other groupings. In some instances, they include a number of paragraphs or sentences taken from different places in the source documents (always collated in the order in which they appear). All emphases, bullets, and numbering in the quoted content have been removed. The selection focuses on references to the following terms: agriculture [in relation to sustainable agriculture], biodiversity, climate, environment, fisheries, green transition, sustainability, and sustainable development.*

#### ACP Group Ministerial Declaration on the Fourteenth WTO Ministerial Conference [WT/MIN\(26\)/8](#)

“Expressing our deep concern about the severe impact of climate change and natural disasters which continue to undermine the effective integration of ACP WTO Members into global value chains”

“At MC14, we call for: (...) Stronger cooperation and assistance to address climate-related food security challenges recognizing the need of ACP Members for better access to digital services, sustainability-know-how and affordable technologies”

“We welcome the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (AFS) and the launch of the work in respect of the implementation of the Agreement. Further, we call for the continuation of

negotiations on additional disciplines to prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing (OCOF) at MC14, pursuant to Article 12 of the AFS.

We underline that:

Appropriate and effective SDT remains integral to the mandate, including permanent flexibilities for LDCs, SVEs, SIDS, small-scale and artisanal fishers, and low capacity Members;

There is need for exclusion of developing country small-scale and artisanal fishing and the inclusion of a de minimis provision in order to protect sustainable livelihood fishing and food security in developing countries and LDCs;

There is need for stricter disciplines on subsidies contributing to overcapacity and overfishing by distant water and industrial fishing fleets to prevent their harmful impact and protect global fish stocks, coastal livelihoods and food security; and

The WTO Fisheries Funding Mechanism must continue to be fully operational, adequately resourced, and accessible to developing and LDCs for as long as necessary to fulfil its mandate.”

“Climate change poses severe and existential risks to many ACP economies. Trade policy should support resilience, mitigation, adaptation and sustainable development.

We express our concerns regarding the proliferation of unilateral environmental measures with extraterritorial effects, which may amount to disguised protectionism and unjustified barriers to trade. The green transition must be pursued in a manner that safeguards, rather than undermines, the industrial development, productive capacities, and value-addition efforts of countries of the South.

We therefore:

Call for strengthened cooperation on environmentally sustainable technologies, circular economy transitions, and fair, just and equitable climate action;

Stress that environmental measures must be transparent, non-discriminatory, and consistent with WTO rules, and be accompanied by adequate support for developing countries;

Stress that any new environmental standards imposed on imports be accompanied by equivalent technology transfer and development finance, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities; and

Call for enhanced cooperation on sustainable technologies and equitable climate action.”

#### **Communication from the African Group on WTO Reform [WT/MIN\(26\)/19](#)**

“Our shared vision is of a WTO that functions effectively, transparently, and equitably anchored in development justice and reflective of the realities of all its Members. WTO reform should give priority to development by addressing the special and differential treatment stalemate and the calls for the WTO to contribute towards industrial development. WTO Reform outcomes should be geared towards sustainable development and result in poverty reduction, industrialization, and job creation.”

“While it is important to address emerging issues like digital trade, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and climate change through a development lens, WTO reform should prioritize longstanding issues such

as agriculture reform, and avoid side-lining unresolved priorities from the Doha Development Agenda.”

“We acknowledge the importance of emerging issues such as digital trade, AI, climate change, supply chain resilience. The introduction of new issues must not overshadow nor divert attention and resources from unresolved longstanding development priorities, including agriculture, S&DT, market access, and the implementation of existing agreements.

The African Group remains committed to constructive engagement that is inclusive of all Members while emphasizing that: (. ...) Climate trade measures must avoid protectionism, reflect common but differentiated responsibilities, and support Africa’s green industrialization”

**Communication from the African Group on WTO Reform: Development-Centred Priorities for a Balanced WTO [WT/MIN\(26\)/20](#)**

“Global trade has for many decades been a source of growth and poverty reduction. But the gains have been uneven. Many developing countries, particularly in Africa, have not returned to pre-pandemic growth trajectories, and continue to face multiple and reinforcing vulnerabilities: sovereign debt pressures, climate exposure, and persistent food insecurity. There is now an inherent link between debt sustainability and trade rules, as budgetary constraints limit the ability of African countries to utilize legitimate development tools. (. ...)

The multiple fragilities highlighted above are worsened by ongoing global trade disruptions, heightened tariffs, a broad resurgence of industrial policy, and the expanding use of national security measures. The emergence of unilateral climate policies, such as carbon border adjustment mechanisms, poses major new challenges to African exports without providing adequate technological or financial compensation.

There are acute asymmetries in technology diffusion, including technologies essential for diversification and for climate mitigation.”

“The African Group supports evidence-based discussion on industrial policy and trade effects. Reform debates should distinguish between distortions caused by excessive market distorting subsidies and outcomes driven by productivity improvements, business model innovations and efficiencies, and technological change, including AI, robotics and automation. An empirical approach is the right basis for designing new disciplines. Discussions on new disciplines, including on state activities and other industrial policy measures should not be privileged to constrain those related to policy space for industrialisation. Particular attention must be given to intellectual property rights (TRIPS) to ensure they not constitute an obstacle to public health or climate adaptation.”

“Addressing the challenges posed by unilateral trade-related climate policies should be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the varying levels of development among Members. This includes a particular focus on the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing and least developed countries. Such efforts must be aligned with the principles of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and uphold the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), ensuring that all Members can effectively participate in and benefit from sustainable trade practices.”

**Maputo Ministerial Declaration on the Fourteenth WTO Ministerial Conference by the African Group [WT/MIN\(26\)/11](#)**

“Call to strengthen the WTO's deliberative function in order to address systemic imbalances, including technology transfer, industrial policy space, debt and trade linkages, climate-related trade measures and global value chain concentration. This should be done in a manner consistent with Members' development levels, particularly in relation to the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing and least developed countries, while adhering to WTO principles and the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC).”

“Take note that protection of the rights of net food-importing countries must be integrated into a comprehensive approach that promotes climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, and long-term food security;”

“Acknowledge with appreciation the entry into force, on 15 September 2025, of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and the commitment of all WTO Members, which made this historic achievement possible, crucial for the preservation and sustainable management of global marine resources. In this regard, we encourage African countries that have not yet complete their internal procedures to consider to ratify it;

Welcome the establishment and operationalization of the WTO Fisheries Fund financing mechanism. We express our deep gratitude to the initial contributors and urge other partners to join in order to strengthen the impact and predictability of this mechanism, which is essential for providing targeted technical assistance and building the capacity of developing country Members, including least developed countries (LDCs), for the effective implementation of the disciplines set forth in this Agreement;

Call For the adoption of a ministerial decision at the Fourteenth Ministerial Conference (MC14), reaffirming Members' commitment to relaunching and swiftly concluding the second phase of negotiations on fisheries subsidies, in order to formulate recommendations for submission to the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference (MC15) with a view to adopting a comprehensive and balanced agreement;

Urge Members to build upon the progress already achieved in future post-MC14 work, while ensuring that the provisions relating to special and differential treatment (S&DT) are preserved as an integral part of the Agreement.”

**Communiqué by the Arab Group [WT/MIN\(26\)/10](#)**

“We welcome the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies as an important achievement for our organization. We encourage all Members to engage constructively to complete the negotiations on the Additional Provisions on Fisheries Subsidies.”

**Bamako Ministerial Declaration on Cotton by the Co-Sponsors of the Sectoral Initiative in Favour of Cotton plus Côte d'Ivoire [WT/MIN\(26\)/1](#) (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Côte d'Ivoire)**

“ Considering (. ...) The negative impact of trade distortions, exacerbated by global crises (pandemic, geopolitical conflicts, market volatility, climate change);

The crucial role of the cotton sector in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), notably tackling poverty, achieving food security, addressing climate change challenges, and creating sustainable jobs, in particular for women and youth”

“We (. ...) Emphasize the need to explore innovative solutions, taking into account the current realities of world trade, including the integration of climate issues, local processing, and industrialization in Africa. (. ... )

Call for the implementation of integrated programmes that promote sustainable production, local processing, market diversification, and equitable access to global markets”

#### **Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC) Ministerial Declaration [WT/MIN\(26\)/26](#)**

“We highlight that persistently high transport and logistics costs continue to hinder the diversification and deeper integration of LLDCs into regional and global value chains. In this regard, we encourage Members, in cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations, to pursue coordinated and complementary approaches aimed at improving transport connectivity, enhancing corridor performance, and advancing climate resilient and sustainable infrastructure solutions that contribute to more efficient, reliable and environmentally sustainable trade flows.”

“We reaffirm our commitment to the sustainability of marine resources and the conservation of aquatic ecosystems while emphasizing the need for appropriate flexibilities and capacity building for developing countries, including LLDCs, to address their specific challenges related to limited access to ports, high transit costs, and participation in marine value chains.”

“We reaffirm our strong commitment to a rules based, development centred multilateral trading system that effectively responds to the special needs and challenges of LLDCs and contributes meaningfully to sustainable development, resilience and shared prosperity.”

#### **WTO Least Developed Countries Group Ministerial Declaration [WT/MIN\(26\)/12](#)**

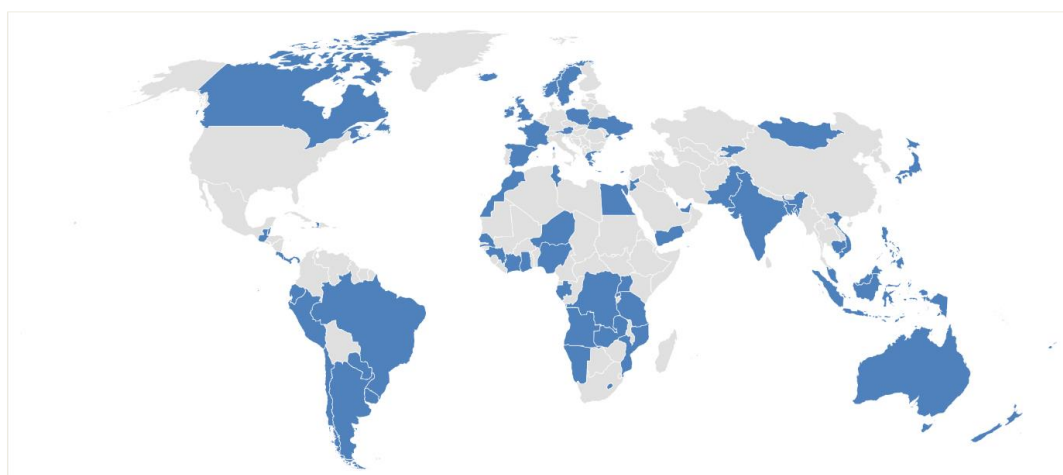
“While respecting Members' right to protect the environment, we stress that trade-related climate measures must not restrict LDC market access or serve as disguised trade barriers and remain consistent with WTO rules and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. We underscore that green policies should support rather than restrict development. We call on Members to ensure predictable support, strengthen technology transfer under WTO frameworks, and foster cooperation that empowers LDCs to integrate into green value chains and use trade for climate resilient development. In this regard, LDCs' own standards for their already bio and climate friendly practices should be taken into account.”

## 4. Ministerial Statements by Ministers of Individual WTO Members

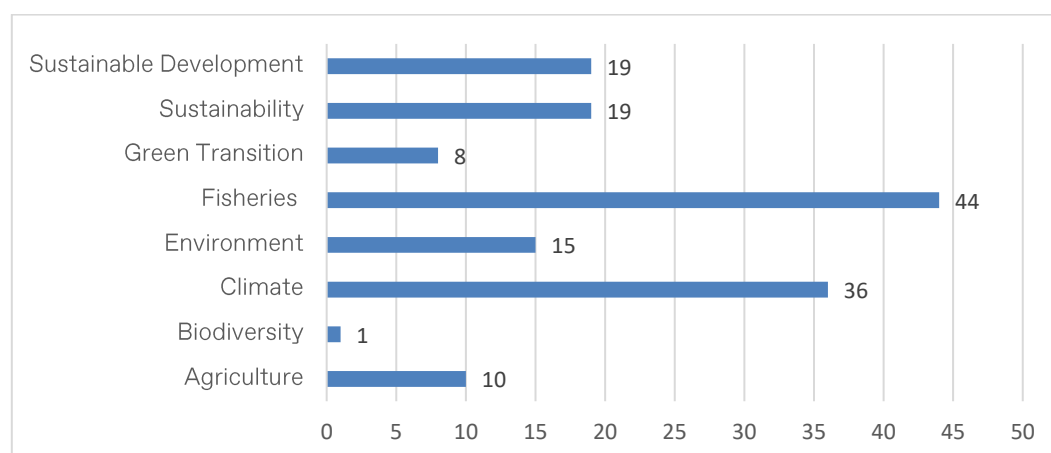
*The excerpts compiled in this section are direct quotes from statements by ministers of individual WTO members. In some instances, they include a number of paragraphs or sentences taken from different places in the source documents (always collated in the order in which they appear). All emphases, bullets, and numbering in the quoted content have been removed. The selection focuses on references to the following terms: agriculture [in relation to sustainable agriculture], biodiversity, climate, environment, fisheries, green transition, sustainability, and sustainable development.*

*Statements accompanied by the symbol\* are unofficial translations of video recordings. The official statements are accessible through the video links. The Annex Table provides a full overview of references by individual WTO members.*

### Geographic Distribution of Individual Ministerial Statements Addressing Issues of Environment, Climate, and Sustainable Development



### Distribution of References Across Individual Ministerial Statements



**Ministerial Statement by Angola [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/74](#)**

“Moreover, structural challenges such as digital transformation and climate change require responses that go beyond purely market-based solutions. Digital technologies are becoming key drivers of value creation in the global economy, while addressing climate change requires public policies capable of guiding economic transformation without compromising development objectives.”

“Strengthening the WTO and the multilateral trading system remains the best way to respond to the challenges of an increasingly fragmented global trade environment and to ensure that international trade effectively contributes to the sustainable development of all countries.”

**Ministerial Statement by Argentina [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/65](#)**

“In addition, we support completing disciplines on the prohibition of fisheries subsidies, which will contribute to reducing distortions in fisheries trade.”

**Ministerial Statement by Australia\* [Video](#)**

“The entry into force of the fisheries subsidies agreement is a reminder of what the WTO can achieve. It is a reminder that we need the WTO now more than ever and that we need it to grow and to succeed.”

**Ministerial Statement by Austria\* [Video](#)**

“As Dr. Ngozi rightly stated, trade is the solution, not the problem. This is why we gather here in Yaoundé to reaffirm our support for the WTO as the cornerstone of the multilateral trading system. A strong WTO remains essential for addressing today’s global challenges. A reliable legal framework for a stable multilateral trading system must reflect modern trade realities and ensure that trade remains sustainable and beneficial for all members, developed and developing alike. Economic, social and environmental interdependencies must be considered as we make the WTO fit for the future.”

**Ministerial Statement by Bangladesh [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/32](#)**

“For more than three decades, the WTO has stood as the cornerstone of the rules-based multilateral trading system. Yet we meet at a time when the global trading system faces growing uncertainty. The lingering effects of the pandemic, geopolitical tensions, sluggish global trade, food insecurity, and climate-related shocks are placing significant strain on international trade. The continued paralysis of the dispute settlement system, along with increasing fragmentation in global trade governance, risks eroding confidence in the multilateral trading system.”

“Agriculture and fisheries sectors remain central to the livelihoods and food security of millions in Bangladesh. Public stockholding and an effective Special Safeguard Mechanism remain essential policy instruments to ensure food security and protect our smallholder farmers. Bangladesh supports continued efforts to conclude negotiations on Fish-II. These negotiations must address harmful fisheries subsidies provided by major subsidizers while ensuring robust and effective S&DT treatment for LDCs and developing countries.”

**Ministerial Statement by Barbados [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/89](#)**

“This Conference is happening at a very crucial time. The very foundations of the multilateral trading system have been shaken. Heightened geopolitical tensions, rising trade barriers and ongoing supply chain disruptions, and the climate crisis continue to impact small, open economies the greatest. We are at an inflection point and it is important we commit to a WTO reform agenda that values consensus decision making, sustainable development and treaty bound right of special and differential treatment, especially for the most vulnerable.”

“I want to specifically highlight the climate crisis, which remains one of the most significant threats to our economic resilience. Extreme weather events can wipe away years of development progress in a single season, disrupt trade flows, and damage the infrastructure essential to our export sectors. These challenges exacerbate trade costs and risk marginalizing small developing economies if left unaddressed. The WTO is an appropriate place for us to discuss the links between trade, climate and the environment including around transparency of border measures that seek to promote sustainability.”

“The WTO is also about development. In this regard, we applaud the WTO’s ongoing work on trade and development, including Aid for Trade initiatives, technical assistance and capacity building, the Small Economies Work Programme, the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce, and other development-focused discussions. We also welcome other important initiatives such as, but not limited to, the Trade in Services for Development Initiative, Development week, and the Trade and Environment Week. These are crucial in order to maximize the capacity of developing countries to further integrate into the multilateral trading system.”

“We also emphasize the importance of advancing negotiations on agriculture and fisheries subsidies, particularly through the Fish II negotiations and the support of the Fish Fund. Barbados supports rules that discipline harmful subsidies while ensuring support for our artisanal fisher folk through appropriate S&DT measures.”

“Barbados is of the view that every Member of the WTO can play a leading role in the Organization. To this end, my country leads the Informal Working Group on MSMEs, co-coordinates the Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade, and chairs the Working Party on the Accession of Curaçao to the World Trade Organization. Barbados also participates in the Working Group on Trade and Gender, Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD) and supports the incorporation of the Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement into the WTO rule book.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Belize\* [Video](#)**

“Climate exposure, narrow export bases and external volatility continues to shape the realities of small states. Policy flexibility, phased implementation and targeted support are essential to enable structural transformation. Looking ahead, restoring a fully functioning dispute settlement system is critical to rebuild trust. Advancing agricultural reform that supports food security, bridging digital divides and balancing sustainability commitments with development needs must remain priorities across all areas, especially on matters relating to decision making and level playing field.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Brazil [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/93](#)**

“The forces of fragmentation currently experienced are compounded by decades of negotiating deadlock. Discussions on agriculture and other issues that matter to developing countries have stalled for years. Debates on emerging topics such as digital economy or trade and sustainability have yet to reach the level of maturity required to be considered genuine negotiations.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Cabo Verde [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/67](#)**

“We are undergoing a period of profound transformation in the global economic system. Geopolitical tensions, shifts in supply chains, climate challenges, and rapid technological change are redefining the rules of international trade. In this context, it is all the more important to strengthen our commitment to a rules-based, predictable, transparent and inclusive system.”

“For many of our countries, particularly small economies, developing countries, and small island developing States (SIDS), international trade remains an essential tool for promoting economic growth, creating jobs, and reducing poverty. Our small size, geographic dispersion, and vulnerability to external shocks make us particularly dependent on a stable and equitable international system. However, for trade to fully realize this potential, it is imperative that the rules and institutions governing the multilateral system evolve to reflect current realities and needs.”

“For small economies, the predictability and stability of the multilateral system are particularly important. The limited size of our markets and production capacities makes us especially dependent on an international system that we want to be fair, open, and based on clear rules. It is therefore crucial that the WTO continue to recognize and take into account the vulnerabilities and specific needs of small economies.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Cambodia [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/35](#)**

“With regard to ongoing negotiations, Cambodia welcomes the entry into force of the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement – an important milestone demonstrating that multilateralism can deliver results.”

“Cambodia is confident that MC14 will deliver forward-looking and development-centered outcomes. We support the establishment of a clear, time-bound, and facilitator-led process on WTO reform, grounded in transparency, inclusiveness, accountability, and regular stock-taking by the General Council. We also encourage renewed momentum across key negotiating pillars, including fisheries, agriculture, and other priority areas. Let this Ministerial Conference be a moment to reaffirm cooperation, strengthen unity, and renew confidence in multilateralism – building a stronger and more resilient WTO for the future.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Canada [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/18](#)**

“We are ready to be pragmatic and flexible. To work in different formats, issue by issue and with those who share enough common ground to act together and deliver results.”

“We have demonstrated this through our leadership on the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions, the Electronic Commerce Agreement, the Industrial Policy Dialogue and the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Agreement.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Chile [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/69](#)**

“We are meeting at a time when the global economy is undergoing profound changes. Tensions within the current international order, challenges associated with the reconfiguration of trade, the energy transition, the digital transformation and food security are phenomena that are redefining the actors of the international community, relations between States, and global trade.”

“In this scenario, the multilateral system emerges as a fundamental pillar for facilitating consensus-building and the development of a collaborative strategy involving all international stakeholders. All this, rooted in an international, rules-based system, allows our economies to grow, innovate and foster well-being.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Costa Rica\* [Video](#)**

“Global challenges like the digitalization of trade, climate demands, and changes in supply chains are shaking things up. Reforming the World Trade Organization is more important now than ever to keep it relevant and effective.”

**Ministerial Statement by Côte d'Ivoire [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/30](#)**

“Côte d'Ivoire commends the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and calls for the continuation of negotiations, building on the progress already made, with a view to reaching a comprehensive Agreement in line with marine sustainability objectives and the original mandate.”

**Ministerial Statement by Cyprus\* [Video](#)**

“A modern and effective WTO must be equipped to respond to the realities of our time. Digital transformation, the green transition, and evolving global value chains. Reform is therefore not optional. It is imperative if we are to preserve the relevance and credibility of this organization.”

**Ministerial Statement by Democratic Republic of the Congo [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/49](#)**

“Allow me to turn to other issues, which are equally important and which, in my view, also need to be addressed by the rules and disciplines of the multilateral trading system.”

“The case in point is that of minerals extracted from the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo following the war of plunder waged there, the proceeds of which are exported to WTO Members. We call on the WTO to take firm action to discourage such practices.”

“The challenges we face today – whether in terms of sustainable development, standardization, economic resilience, food security or the effects of climate change – require collective responses and enhanced international cooperation. Trade can and must be a powerful tool for addressing these challenges and fostering more inclusive and sustainable growth.”

**Ministerial Statement by Ecuador [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/42](#)**

“Second, given that agriculture is a strategic pillar of global trade and an essential component for sustainable development and food security, we must build consensus to achieve agricultural reform in a holistic and balanced manner in respect of the three pillars, in accordance with Article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture.”

“Lastly, it is crucial to move towards incorporating the Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement into the WTO's legal framework in order to complement the ongoing efforts that our countries have been undertaking to improve the investment climate and attract responsible flows of foreign direct investment. By doing so, the WTO will also be able to update its disciplines to address new realities, such as the digital economy and sustainability, protecting the environment while supporting trade.”

“Ecuador reaffirms its commitment to building alternatives, bridging divides and defending a system that evolves without giving up on its principles. International trade must translate into social well-being, productive inclusion and genuine opportunities for our communities. We live in an era where climate, technological, food and health challenges do not recognize borders, and neither should our solutions. We must therefore act with responsibility and a shared commitment.”

**Ministerial Statement by Egypt [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/52](#)**

“Egypt underscores that the Reform process supports: (...) Levelling the playing field through addressing inherent systemic imbalances and distortions. In addition to promoting technology transfer to developing countries and providing them the appropriate policy space to industrialize and to address challenges such as food security, digitalization, and climate change.”

“Fourth, a strong recommitment to resume the Fisheries subsidies negotiations to reach a fair and balanced outcome on the additional provisions on fisheries subsidies. An outcome that affords appropriate and effective special and differential treatment to developing countries necessary to secure them with sufficient policy space to sustainably develop their fisheries sector, and safeguard their food security and livelihood of artisanal and small-scale fishing.”

**Ministerial Statement by Fiji\* [Video](#)**

“Volatility in energy and food prices, rising transportation costs and external shocks beyond our control have immediate consequences for the cost of living for economic resilience and for our development prospects. This is why the ministerial conference must send a clear message that the multilateral trading system remains relevant rules-based and capable of responding to the challenges of our time.”

“For Fiji, a key priority at this conference is advancing negotiations on the second phase of the WTO agreement on fisheries subsidies. in particular disciplines to address subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and over fishing. For Pacific Island countries, the ocean is not merely an economic resource. It is our livelihood, our heritage and our identity. Balanced and effective outcomes in these negotiations are therefore of deep importance to us. At the same time, special and differential treatment must continue to reflect the realities faced by developing countries, particularly small island developing states. The ability to implement commitments in a manner that supports development, builds resilience, and recognizes capacity constraints remain essential.”

“Looking ahead, Fiji supports efforts to strengthen and reform the WTO so that it remains responsive, effective, and fit for purpose while safeguarding the policy space that developing countries need to pursue inclusive and sustainable development. Excellencies, the multilateral trading system has served the global community well. It remains our best framework for ensuring that international trade is conducted fairly, transparently, and predictably. Fiji stands ready to work with all members to ensure that this system continues to support inclusive and sustainable development for all.”

**Ministerial Statement by France [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/34](#)**

“I am also thinking about the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. The WTO was mandated by the United Nations to end fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and to eliminate those that promote illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. We have already come halfway, having reached an agreement, now in force, on subsidies for illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, at the Twelfth Ministerial Conference in Geneva. We must commit to completing the second wave of the negotiations, which should enable us to protect marine ecosystems, that is, to prohibit subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing as we move towards the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference.”

**Ministerial Statement by Gabon [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/20](#)**

“With regard to the second phase of the fishery subsidy negotiations, my country reaffirms its strong commitment to the sustainable management of fishery resources. In this respect, we support efforts to conclude these negotiations, which include a ban on subsidies contributing to overcapacity and overfishing.”

“It is, however, important to remember that these disciplines must safeguard the right of developing countries, particularly those in Africa, to develop their small-scale fishing capacities and make the most of their marine resources, in accordance with special and differential treatment.”

“Lastly, Gabon calls on this Ministerial Conference to deliver concrete and balanced outcomes that offer hope, particularly for developing countries, including LDCs.”

“We need a WTO that is credible, more inclusive, more responsive and better adapted to current challenges: food security, climate change, industrialization, digitalization, and supply chain resilience.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Ghana [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/60](#)**

“Climate-related shocks and persistent inflation have further strained food security and economic resilience. Yet, amid these headwinds, Africa's economy is projected to grow at 4.0% in 2026, outpacing global averages and demonstrating our continent's enduring potential.”

“Africa's desires and aspirations are clear, we desire a fair, rules-based trading system that prioritizes development, equity, and inclusion. We seek enhanced special and differential treatment (S&DT) provisions to preserve policy space for industrialization and economic diversification. In agriculture, we seek a permanent solution on public stockholding for food security, a special safeguard mechanism, and disciplines on trade-distorting domestic support that undermine our farmers. On fisheries subsidies, negotiations must remain development-responsive, protecting small-scale fishers vital to our coastal communities.”

“Central to these aspirations are our young people, who constitute over 60% of Africa's population. They are the innovators, entrepreneurs, and future leaders driving agribusiness and digital trade. In Ghana, we are empowering youth through skills training in sustainable farming and value addition, ensuring they benefit from global opportunities. We believe that investing in youth-led enterprises, we can harness their energy to build resilient supply chains and create jobs, turning demographic dividends into economic prosperity.”

“Tree crops also form a central pillar of Ghana's green economy strategy, supporting high-value exports while advancing sustainable development. Together, these initiatives align with Africa's broader push for value addition, agro-industrialization, and reduced dependence on primary commodity exports.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Greece [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/19](#)**

“We gather in Yaoundé at a moment of profound transformation for the global economy. Geopolitical tensions, strategic competition, climate pressures, supply chain disruptions and rapid technological change are redefining the landscape of international trade and testing the resilience of our institutions. In this environment, fundamental principles that have underpinned the WTO, since its creation, are being openly questioned.”

“Climate change and environmental degradation demand coordinated action. Facilitating trade in environmental goods and services, promoting sustainable supply chains and ensuring that climate-related measures are transparent and consistent with WTO principles are key elements of a balanced approach.”

“Food security and agricultural resilience also demand responsible engagement. Recent crises have demonstrated the vulnerability of global supply chains and the disproportionate impact of export restrictions on the most vulnerable. Strengthening transparency, improving notification practices and enhancing resilience in agricultural markets are vital steps to ensure that trade continues to support stable and affordable food supplies worldwide, particularly for vulnerable economies.”

**Ministerial Statement by Guatemala\* [Video](#)**

“We call for renewed efforts to push through agricultural reform and achieve balanced outcomes that help ensure food security, reduce poverty, and promote sustainable development.”

**Ministerial Statement by Guinea [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/31](#)**

“International trade must now address the challenges of our time, notably food security, the green transition and digital transformation, in order to support sustainable and inclusive development.”

“The vision of the Guinean authorities is one of economic sovereignty based on local processing of resources, value creation and regional and continental economic integration.”

“In an international context marked by geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions and growing climate challenges, it is more necessary than ever to preserve open trade multilateralism that is nevertheless rules-based.”

**Ministerial Statement by Haiti [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/80](#)**

“We also strongly support the continuation of negotiations on fisheries subsidies, in particular those aimed at eliminating subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, in line with Article 12 of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. It is essential that these discussions fully incorporate the need for appropriate accompanying measures, together with special and differential treatment provisions that are appropriate, effective and truly operational for developing countries and LDCs, including those that have recently graduated.”

“In the same vein, we support the consideration of several other areas of major interest to LDCs. We are thinking in particular of issues related to trade and environment, the full participation of LDCs in world trade and the gains or benefits arising from it, the reduction of remittance costs, technology transfer, Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework. These topics are crucial for the effective integration of LDCs into the multilateral trading system.”

**Ministerial Statement by Hong Kong, China [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/25](#)**

“As we are celebrating the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and striving to ensure its smooth implementation, let us not forget that our work is only halfway through. The clock is ticking for Members to summon the same political will to conclude the second-wave negotiations. We have the landmark agreement, and we hope this Ministerial Conference could propel us forward with renewed determination to complete the package.”

**Ministerial Statement by Iceland [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/7](#)**

“Iceland is a small, open economy that depends on international trade. From sustainable seafood and clean energy to our growing creative and tech sectors, trade has enabled our economy to develop and diversify. At the same time, a wide range of imports is vital for meeting the needs of our people and our industries.”

“We celebrate the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. This is a landmark achievement that supports the protection of global fish stocks and the livelihoods of millions that depend on them. Yet our work is not complete. We must now redouble efforts to deliver a comprehensive Agreement.”

**Ministerial Statement by India [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/90](#)**

“India remains committed to negotiating a comprehensive Fisheries Subsidies Agreement that balances current and future fishing needs, protects the livelihoods of poor fishers, with appropriate and effective S&DT.”

**Ministerial Statement by Indonesia [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/14](#)**

“Indonesia underscores the importance of a balanced outcome in the Fisheries Subsidies negotiations phase II, safeguarding sustainability while protecting the livelihoods of artisanal fishers.”

**Ministerial Statement by Ireland [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/72](#)**

“This Ministerial Conference convenes against a very challenging backdrop, shaped by conflict, geopolitical tensions, increasing trade restrictions, and the climate crisis. While it is easy to focus on our remaining differences, we must not lose sight of the WTO’s role as a fundamental pillar of global trade. As a Member-driven, consensus-based body, the WTO remains an essential forum for negotiating workable global rules that can benefit all Members.”

“As a small, open economy, Ireland is fully committed to an open and rules-based multilateral trading system, with a modernized WTO at its core. This is essential to achieve the founding objective of the WTO: to use trade as a means to improve people’s living standards, create better jobs and promote sustainable development.”

“The WTO must be modernized to allow it to keep pace with the evolving global trading context and realities of the global economy today, including issues such as low carbon industrial development, digitalisation and digital trade that need to be reflected in updated trade rules.”

“We cannot have a WTO that works just for the developed economies – this Ministerial Conference must reaffirm development as a core pillar of the WTO. The stability and predictability provided by the rules-based multilateral trading system is a key factor in supporting sustainable development and helping deliver structural transformation in developing countries, including to reduce inequalities.”

**Ministerial Statement by Japan [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/17/Add.1](#)**

“We welcome the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. As the world’s population continues to grow, realizing sustainable fisheries through responsible and sound resource management is a responsibility we owe to future generations.”

“To this end, Japan will faithfully implement the new Agreement and continues to positively participate in the second wave negotiations on fisheries subsidies.”

**Ministerial Statement by Jordan\* [Video](#)**

“Jordan welcomes the entry into force of the agreement on fisheries subsidies and encourages members to continue negotiations towards a comprehensive and balanced outcome. We were among the countries that ratified the agreement on July 24.”

**Ministerial Statement by the Kingdom of Bahrain [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/1](#)**

“Inclusive trade under the WTO framework has long been recognized as a catalyst for economic growth, poverty reduction, and sustainable development, in line with the United Nations 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.”

**Ministerial Statement by the Kyrgyz Republic [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/87](#)**

“We support constructive engagement toward the conclusion of the second phase of negotiations on fisheries subsidies, in line with sustainable development objectives.”

“The Kyrgyz Republic believes that the WTO must remain a platform for stability, predictability, and cooperative solutions. We stand ready to work constructively with all Members to advance reform, reinforce development, expand market access, and promote sustainable and inclusive trade.”

**Ministerial Statement by Lesotho [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/76](#)**

“Lesotho embraces the WTO reform agenda. The WTO reform must reinforce the WTO core principles, in particular the Special and Differential Treatment, consensus-based decision-making, and the MFN. These principles remain indispensable foundations of the WTO which are critical for the multilateral trading system. For small and vulnerable economies like Lesotho, the predictability and stability offered by the Multilateral Trading System is not just a principle; it is a lifeline for sustainable development and resilience.”

**Ministerial Statement by Macao, China [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/39](#)**

“Macao, China welcomes the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, a major milestone for the WTO demonstrating our collective capacity to address global challenges through cooperation and shared responsibility.”

**Ministerial Statement by Malaysia [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/68](#)**

“As we look to the future, Malaysia fully acknowledges the urgency of addressing climate change and advancing sustainable development. However, the intersection between trade and environmental policy requires a fair, balanced, and cooperative approach.

“Environmental initiatives must not become disguised restrictions on international trade, nor should they impose disproportionate burdens on developing economies. The proliferation of unilateral regulatory regimes concerning developing countries' exports risks distorting the level playing field and imposes significant compliance costs on Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), particularly agricultural smallholders, who form the backbone of rural livelihoods across the developing world.”

“In pursuing climate-related trade measures, Members must be guided by global climate governance principles, including Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC). These principles recognise the historical responsibilities and differing capacities of nations in addressing climate change.”

“Developing countries should not shoulder additional trade restrictions while continuing to face gaps in the provision of climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity-building under existing international commitments.”

“Malaysia therefore calls for a more inclusive and balanced dialogue on trade and environmental sustainability within the WTO. Such discussions must ensure that sustainability initiatives genuinely support the green transition of developing economies, rather than marginalise their producers or undermine their development prospects.”

“On the traditional negotiating front, MC14 offers a crucial opportunity to build upon our past mandates. Malaysia welcomes the Phase 1 Agreement on fisheries subsidies and supports its swift implementation.

We encourage all Members to conclude the second wave of negotiations on overcapacity and overfishing (OCOF), ensuring appropriate S&DT to protect artisanal and resource-poor fishers.”

“In agriculture, Malaysia is committed to advancing reform and bridging remaining gaps. Mutually acceptable solutions are essential for fair competition, market predictability, and global food security amidst climate volatility.”

**Ministerial Statement by Malta [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/63](#)**

“As a small island state that knows the importance of the well-being of coastal communities, Malta continues to prioritize progress toward an effective agreement on fisheries subsidies that addresses harmful practices contributing to overfishing and supports the long-term health of ocean ecosystems. Such an outcome would demonstrate once again that fair trade rules can go hand-in-hand with sustainability to advance our shared global commitments.”

**Ministerial Statement by Mauritius [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/5](#)**

“We welcome the entry into force of the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement. It is imperative that the implementation of this Agreement fully respect the flexibilities afforded to particularly small-scale and artisanal fishers, whose livelihoods and food security depend on this sector.”

**Ministerial Statement by Mongolia [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/77](#)**

“The conference takes place against a backdrop of profound global uncertainty. We are witnessing persistent geopolitical tensions, uneven economic recovery, climate-related disruptions and rapid technological change. These challenges have placed unprecedented strain on global trade and supply chains.”

“It is our firm belief that a strong, rules-based, inclusive and transparent multilateral trading system remains indispensable for global stability, sustainable development and shared prosperity. The WTO must continue to serve as the cornerstone of this system.”

“We recognize the need for trade policy to address emerging global challenges. Mongolia supports balanced and inclusive discussions on digital trade, investment facilitation and the link between trade and environmental sustainability. These discussions should remain development-focused and respect different national circumstances and policy space.”

“We believe that trade and climate action can support one another. Mongolia is committed to a fair and gradual green transition, including through investments in renewable energy, sustainable infrastructure and low-carbon technologies. International cooperation and predictable trade rules are essential to ensure that climate-related measures do not become unjustified barriers to trade.”

“Recognizing the pressing global challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation, Mongolia is committed to advancing international cooperation in addressing these issues. In pursuit of this commitment, Mongolia will proudly host the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Ulaanbaatar from 17-28 August 2026, reaffirming its dedication to sustainable development and environmental stewardship.”

**Ministerial Statement by Morocco [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/55](#)**

“This Conference is taking place in an international context marked by heightened geo-economic tensions and successive crises that are weakening the global economy. The challenges related to food

security, climate change, persistent geopolitical uncertainties, and profound changes in global supply chains are increasing the pressure on the international trading system.”

“In this context of instability, the multilateral trading system remains, more than ever, an essential framework for dialogue, and the stability and predictability of trade. It is also a key driver of efforts to reduce inequalities between WTO Members and to attain the Sustainable Development Goals.”

“With regard to fisheries subsidies, Morocco welcomes the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and the establishment of the WTO funding mechanism to build the capacities of developing and least developed countries.”

“Morocco also reiterates the need to pursue negotiations in order to achieve balanced disciplines with regard to additional provisions on subsidies contributing to overcapacity and overfishing.”

“Lastly, Morocco reiterates its unwavering commitment to sustainable development and reaffirms its determination to step up efforts to attain the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.”

“In this regard, Morocco underscores the importance of strengthening the convergence of efforts undertaken within the different multilateral platforms concerning the links between trade, the environment and sustainable development.”

“In this context, Morocco welcomes the work carried out in the framework of the Informal Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade, of which it is a co-coordinator, and which is a constructive space for greater coherence between trade policies and environmental objectives.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Mozambique [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/82](#)**

“As recognized in Maputo, the WTO is confronting a crisis of relevance, legitimacy, and effectiveness, compounded by persistent negotiating deadlocks and the weakening of its enforcement mechanisms.”

“In this context, Mozambique wishes to underscore three fundamental messages: First, a strong, predictable, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system is indispensable for global economic stability and sustainable development.”

“On fisheries subsidies, Mozambique welcomes the entry into force of the WTO Agreement. We support its effective and inclusive implementation, and the conclusion of negotiations with additional provisions on overcapacity and overfishing.”

“We underscore the importance of technical assistance and capacity-building, adequate and predictable financing mechanisms, support for sustainable fisheries management.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Namibia [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/83](#)**

“The global economy continues to face multiple and profound challenges and fractures, ranging from geopolitical tensions, unilateral trade measures, climate shocks, supply chain disruptions, food and energy insecurity, rising trade barriers, widening development gaps, and a growing digital divide. These pressures are felt most acutely by developing countries, particularly across Africa.”

“Agriculture remains central to Namibia's economic development, food security, and social stability. Nearly 70% of our population depends directly or indirectly on this sector for their livelihoods. Yet farmers in developing countries continue to face structural challenges, including market access, climate-related shocks, limited access to technology and infrastructure, and persistent distortions in global agricultural markets, particularly high levels of trade-distorting domestic support in developed countries.”

“Distortions in agricultural subsidies in developed countries continue to undermine the competitiveness of farmers in developing countries, depress global prices, and reduce incentives for domestic investment and productivity growth. Longstanding structural imbalances, particularly in agriculture, domestic support, and market access, must be addressed in a manner that restores fairness and confidence in the system. WTO reform must therefore place development-oriented agriculture at its centre to ensure equitable opportunities, improve productivity, and support rural livelihoods.”

**Ministerial Statement by New Zealand [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/45](#)**

“On fisheries, concluding negotiations on comprehensive Additional Provisions to the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies is essential. We must finalize and implement strong, comprehensive rules to curb harmful fisheries subsidies that drive overfishing and overcapacity, recognising that sustainability underpins livelihoods and ocean health.”

**Ministerial Statement by Niger [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/59](#)**

“The Fourteenth Conference is taking place at a particularly critical time, as the world experiences a period of high tensions, marked by successive crises, persistent geopolitical uncertainties, the effects of climate change and a growing challenge to global supply chains, whose negative effects are detrimental to the full integration of our economies into world trade.”

**Ministerial Statement by Nigeria [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/29](#)**

“With respect to Fisheries Subsidies, Nigeria acknowledges the significance of reaching an outcome consistent with SDG 14.6. It is imperative that such an outcome provides sufficient flexibility for developing countries, enabling them to preserve essential policy space for the sustainable advancement of their fisheries sectors. In this context, Nigeria welcomes the draft Ministerial Decision W/196.”

**Ministerial Statement by Norway [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/13](#)**

“We should continue the work on fisheries subsidies, completing additional disciplines that address overcapacity and overfishing.”

“This is an essential issue for livelihoods, food security, and the health of our oceans.”

**Ministerial Statement by Pakistan [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/15](#)**

“Pakistan remains a steadfast believer in this system. I am pleased to share that Pakistan ratified the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies Phase-I in March last year.”

“Fourthly, Crisis Response. The global economy has entered a phase of unpredictability where the frequency and intensity of systemic shocks have outpaced our traditional tools of intervention. We strongly advocate a “trigger-ready” crisis response mechanisms inbuilt in the WTO architecture. Such mechanisms should provide automatic and predictable policy flexibilities for developing countries in the event of external shocks, be they climate-induced disasters, pandemics, or sudden economic disruptions.”

**Ministerial Statement by Panama [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/56](#)**

“Today, we face new realities: profound technological transformations, geopolitical tensions, climate crises and development challenges that require renewed responses.”

“That is why, now more than ever, we need a strong, relevant WTO capable of responding to the new challenges facing its member States.”

“Panama firmly believes in multilateralism. We believe in dialogue. And we believe in **consensus** as the foundation that has enabled this Organization to move forward.”

“But trade must also contribute to the sustainability of our planet.”

“Panama is proud to be one of the few countries to have exceeded global targets for the protection of its marine areas ahead of schedule. Our commitment to the oceans is deep and tangible.”

“Through initiatives such as the Panama Canal's "Net Zero Quota" and the protection of over 30% of our waters, we demonstrate that trade and development can go hand in hand with sustainability.”

“We remain firmly committed to the implementation of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, which links trade with environmental sustainability and the protection of marine resources.”

**Ministerial Statement by \*Paraguay [Video](#)**

“The commitments to developing countries from the Uruguay Round still largely remain unfulfilled. It is time to urgently get back on track with agricultural reform and make real progress toward substantial, gradual cuts in subsidies and protection as required by Article 20 of the agriculture agreement. At the same time, we need to make sure that environmental measures support sustainable development without turning into hidden trade barriers.”

“Paraguay firmly believes that trade and sustainability and progress can go hand in hand. However, to make that happen, any commercial measures need to fully respect both the rules of the multilateral trading system and the principles of international environmental law, including fairness and common but differentiated responsibilities.”

**Ministerial Statement by Peru [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/48](#)**

“Second, as part of the reform efforts, Peru considers it a priority to advance pending negotiations, including the second phase of negotiations on fisheries subsidies and agricultural issues, which are essential areas for food security and development in many countries. We also recognize that the WTO must continue to update its disciplines to adapt to structural changes in the international system.”

**Ministerial Statement by the Philippines [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/2](#)**

“Finally, the WTO must evolve and be responsive to new realities and challenges. We must embrace digital and green transitions. On sustainability, we welcome the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies as proof that trade policy and environmental stewardship go hand in hand.”

**Ministerial Statement by Poland [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/26](#)**

“We are all aware too that international trade does not operate in isolation and must support fulfilment of other policies such as: ensuring food security, sustainable agriculture and food systems, balancing high levels of environmental protection, economic viability and adequate social policies. The world expects us to focus on tangible goals like e.g. the reduction of plastic waste pollution or CO2 emissions as soon as possible.”

**Ministerial Statement by Qatar\* [Video](#)**

“We welcome the enter into a force of the agreement on fisheries subsidies and are proud to have been among the ratifying members. We support the continued effort to conclude the second phase of negotiation to ensure the long-term sustainability of marine resources.”

**Ministerial Statement by Rwanda [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/91](#)**

“This Ministerial take place at a critical moment for the multilateral trading system. Rising geopolitical tensions, climate challenges, supply chain disruptions, and global economic uncertainties continue to test the resilience of international trade. These challenges have particularly significant implications for developing countries and Least Developed Countries.”

**Ministerial Statement by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/40](#)**

“Furthermore, sustainability must be at the heart of our trade agenda. Climate change is not a distant threat – it is a lived reality and an existential crisis, especially for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Trade rules must therefore support green transitions, foster innovation, and enable sustainable development.”

“As we look ahead, let us all recommit to first principles – fairness, inclusivity, and cooperation. Let us modernize the WTO to meet the challenges of digitalization, sustainability, and development, while preserving the democratic foundations that make it unique.”

**Ministerial Statement by Samoa [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/50](#)**

“We meet at a time of growing global uncertainty. Geopolitical tensions, trade disputes, climate change, conflicts, and economic pressures are testing the foundations of international cooperation. For small island developing states like Samoa, these are not abstract challenges – they are felt in the rising cost of imported food and transport, vulnerable supply chains, limited economic opportunities, and the increasing impacts of climate change that constrain our development and the prospects of our youth.”

“In 2024, Samoa hosted the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, where leaders called for stronger climate action, protection of our oceans, and sustainable, inclusive growth. The message was clear: our challenges are shared, and so too must be our solutions. That same spirit of partnership must guide MC14 and the future of the WTO.”

“The Ocean is our greatest asset. It unites our islands and underpins our present and future prosperity. Its sustainable management is critical, and we welcome the entry into force of the landmark Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. This agreement addresses harmful subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, overfishing of vulnerable stocks, and excessive subsidies to high seas fishing. It is a milestone achieved through our collective efforts in 2022.”

“Yet, more work remains. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, over one-third of assessed global fish stocks are overfished. Over-capacity in the global fishing fleet continues to drive declines in productivity, threatening food security and the sustainability of marine resources. Over 89% of capacity-enhancing subsidies benefit large-scale fleets, particularly distant water fishing. Samoa remains committed to advancing negotiations on the Overcapacity and Overfishing pillar and urges all Members to demonstrate flexibility and political will to deliver a comprehensive and meaningful agreement.”

**Ministerial Statement by Senegal [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/41](#)**

“The entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies represents an important milestone and a major step towards ocean sustainability and addressing harmful fisheries subsidies.”

“While supporting its full implementation, my country remains committed to the second phase of negotiations, aimed at achieving a comprehensive, ambitious and balanced Agreement that includes additional provisions on those subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing.”

“A comprehensive Agreement will help preserve the sustainability of marine resources and contribute to efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal relating to the protection of oceans, seas and their resources. To this end, we favour the prompt resumption of negotiations after MC14.”

**Ministerial Statement by the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/10](#)**

“As with all WTO Members, we are confronted with growing geopolitical complexity, climate change, and rapid digital transformation. In adopting trade-related measures, we have consistently adhered to the principles of safeguarding food security, protecting public health, enhancing the security and resilience of industrial supply chains, and ensuring that these measures are science-based and aligned with relevant international standards. In so doing, we reaffirm our commitment to the core foundations of the multilateral trading system.”

“During our fifth Trade Policy Review in November 2023, Members commended our ongoing efforts to enhance the transparency of our trade policies, laws and regulations. Even during the pandemic, we continued to maintain policies aimed at promoting innovation, productivity, and investment, while supporting SMEs and environmental protection. Members particularly praised the progress we have made in advancing the digital economy, implementing policies geared toward digital transformation and innovation, strengthening industrial competitiveness, promoting the participation of SMEs, Indigenous peoples, and women in economic activities, addressing climate change, and fostering inclusive and sustainable economic growth.”

“As SMEs engage in digital trade and green transformation, issues such as cybersecurity, the free flow of data across borders, privacy and the protection of personal data, and the moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions are of critical importance. We are therefore actively pursuing digital trade cooperation with like-minded partners, with a view to jointly building secure and trusted supply chains and a reliable digital economic environment.”

“The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu remains committed to working with all Members to advance WTO reform, strengthen global supply chain resilience, and foster sustainable and inclusive global economic development.”

**Ministerial Statement by Seychelles [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/86](#)**

“Since our last Ministerial Conference, the global trading environment has continued to operate under significant strain. We meet at a time when geopolitical tensions, ongoing conflicts, climate-related shocks, supply-chain disruptions, and increasing economic fragmentation have created a climate of uncertainty that weighs heavily on the global economy.”

“Given the pivotal role that the fisheries sector plays in our economy, the sustainability of our marine resources is inseparable to Seychelles' national development. Seychelles, therefore, welcomes the entry

into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and encourages those Members who have not yet done so, to deposit their instruments of acceptance. Equally important is the continued sustained support for the Fisheries Funding Mechanism which remains vital in assisting developing and least-developed country Members to effectively implement the Agreement and realize its full benefits.”

“Looking ahead, it is essential that we continue our efforts to discipline harmful fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, consistent with the mandates set out under SDG 14.6 and the Ministerial Decision of 17 June 2022 on Fisheries Subsidies. Seychelles has in recent years made great strides in protection its marine environment, including legally protecting over 30% of our Exclusive Economic Zone, coupled with sound and rigorous environmental management and stewardship, with a view to supporting a thriving and sustainable blue economy. I accordingly strongly call for the adoption at MC14 of a Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies, which mandates the continuation of negotiations on additional provisions that would achieve a comprehensive Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, including through the development of additional disciplines on certain forms of subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing. This would ensure that we able to fully protect and safeguard our marine resources against external subsidized, adverse fishing practices which threaten our marine resources, including dwindling fish stocks. At the same time, outcomes should be balanced and must incorporate appropriate and effective Special and Differential Treatment provisions, ensuring that developing and least-developed countries retain the policy space necessary for their small-scale fisheries sectors to contribute to food security, livelihoods and employment.”

“Equally, the Work Programme on Small Economies remains particularly significant for Seychelles. Small economies face persistent structural constraints and are increasingly vulnerable to external climactic and economic shocks, that require sustained attention within the WTO framework to allow our meaningful and further integration into the multilateral trading system. Therefore, I welcome the MC14 Small Economies Decision reaffirming this Work Programme and commend the work undertaken in accordance with the Geneva-First principle.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Singapore [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/21](#)**

“Three decades on, the environment in which the WTO operates has evolved, and the WTO must evolve with it. Technological transformation and the climate transition are reshaping how countries produce and compete.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Spain [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/51](#)**

“In the field of fisheries, Spain reaffirms its utmost ambition to finalize the disciplines adopted at previous ministerial conferences, ensuring that any additional commitments prioritize the sustainability of marine resources and avoid indiscriminate approaches.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Sweden [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/27](#)**

“We need a system built on predictability, fairness, and flexibility – one that reflects today's economic realities, not those of 1995. This includes addressing a level playing field in industrial policies, digital trade and climate.”

#### **Ministerial Statement by Tanzania [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/54](#)**

“The United Republic of Tanzania wishes to highlight the importance of the fishing industry, which predominantly consists of artisanal and small-scale fisheries in many developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs). For Tanzania, this industry is crucial because it provides employment for

many locals living near water bodies and contributes significantly to food security in both rural and urban communities.

Therefore, Tanzania supports the World Trade Organization's (WTO) efforts to eliminate harmful fisheries subsidies that lead to overcapacity and overfishing, advocating for the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" to safeguard the interests of developing nations. Unlike developed countries, Tanzania and other LDCs do not heavily subsidise our fishing fleets. Therefore, any restrictions imposed should not hinder the growth of our domestic, underdeveloped fishing industries. We must impose discipline on those who engage in distant-water, large-scale fishing. For a country like Tanzania, which relies on small-scale, artisanal fishers in our coastal waters, it is essential to preserve policy space, as our primary focus remains on food security and poverty eradication."

"I wish to inform this meeting that we are in the advanced stage in the capital towards the ratification of the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement."

"Enhancing agricultural production through diversification and value addition is critical for strengthening economic resilience in lower-income countries, ultimately contributing to job creation and improved livelihoods. The Zero Hunger Initiative is a global endeavour aimed at eradicating hunger and achieving food security by 2030. This initiative responds to the increasing challenges posed by the pandemic, conflict, and climate change by focusing on ensuring that all individuals, particularly the poor and vulnerable, have access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food. Furthermore, achieving Zero Hunger necessitates the maintenance of healthy ecosystems, as the degradation of natural resources poses a significant threat to food systems. Therefore, it is imperative to position agriculture at the forefront of development priorities, addressing food security needs that support rural livelihoods and facilitate structural transformation."

#### **Ministerial Statement by Timor-Leste\* [Video](#)**

"While we are committed to the spirit of the WTO mission to eliminate harmful subsidies. Timor-Leste will continue to observe the fish too discussion as an active observer at this step."

"While agriculture remains the lifeblood of rural Timor-Leste, we must confront the dual threat of climate change and global market instability. Strengthening this sector is not just about farming. It's about securing our national resilience."

#### **Ministerial Statement by Tunisia [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/73](#)**

"Food security remains a strategic priority for Tunisia. Against a backdrop marked by the volatility of agricultural markets, supply chain disruptions, climate change and rising food prices, developing countries, especially net food-importing countries, remain highly exposed to food insecurity risks. In this context, the multilateral trading system must fully assume its role in safeguarding market stability and ensuring regular, predictable and affordable access for essential food products."

"Regarding the negotiations on fisheries subsidies, Tunisia maintains that the conservation of fisheries resources is a top priority. We support the continuation of negotiations with a view to reaching a balanced final agreement, one based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and taking full account of the needs and rights of developing countries through effective S&DT that allows them to develop their fisheries sectors."

**Ministerial Statement by Uganda [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/36](#)**

“On the implementation of the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement, we seek for a balanced approach that ensures the sustainability of fish stocks while safeguarding the livelihoods of our communities. This requires effective Special and Differential Treatment, alongside access to the Fisheries Funding Mechanism, to provide the necessary support for developing countries. Uganda is in the final stages of ratifying the Agreement, reaffirming our commitment to sustainable fisheries management and equitable development.”

**Ministerial Statement by Ukraine [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/6](#)**

“We welcome our recent successes, including the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and the conclusion of negotiations on services domestic regulation. Yet they should not be viewed as end goals, but as stepping stones on which to build further.”

“Therefore, we urge Members to advance the second wave of fisheries subsidies negotiations, showing the flexibility needed to adopt additional disciplines.”

“Ukraine also attaches great importance to advancing the agricultural negotiations. Let us be clear: without meaningful progress in agricultural trade reform, we will not achieve global food security, climate, and biodiversity objectives. We must work towards a fair, market-oriented agricultural trading system, while fully taking into account the non-trade concerns of all Members, as mandated by Article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture.”

**Ministerial Statement by the United Arab Emirates [Video](#)**

“We welcome the entry into force of the agreements on fisheries subsidies. It marks an important step towards protecting global marine resources, and we reiterate our firm commitments to conclude the second phase of the fisheries subsidies negotiation as soon as possible.”

**Ministerial Statement by the United Kingdom [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/71](#)**

“We want MC14 to set a forward-looking agenda for the WTO with reform at its core. We want this alongside outcomes that commit that deliver on agriculture. Stop harmful fishing subsidies to protect our oceans. And that support developing countries around the globe.”

**Ministerial Statement by Uruguay [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/70](#)**

“Uruguay welcomes the entry into force of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, which is the first WTO agreement with a specific focus on environmental sustainability. This achievement demonstrates that the multilateral system is capable of delivering concrete results when there is political will. But the credibility of the system also requires that Members deposit their instruments of ratification, so that this Agreement is binding on all WTO Members.”

“Uruguay considers that plurilateral initiatives and agreements, as provided for in the WTO Agreements, can play a role in generating new spaces for future work. However, these initiatives must be designed as being complementary to, and not a substitute for, multilateral negotiations.”

“In that spirit, our country has actively participated in the initiatives related to investment facilitation for development, e-commerce and domestic regulation in services, as well as in the work on MSMEs, trade and gender, and trade and environmental sustainability.”

**Ministerial Statement by Viet Nam [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/92](#)**

“I am pleased to note that in 2025, Viet Nam completed the procedures to join the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement (MPIA) and ratified the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (Fish 1).”

“Viet Nam is entering a new era, driven by the aspiration to become a developed, high-income economy by 2045. In the coming period, we aim to sustain high economic growth – striving for double-digit expansion – while simultaneously advancing our digital transformation, green transition, and sustainable development goals.”

**Ministerial Statement by Yemen [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/22](#)**

“Our meeting today takes place at a time when the world is witnessing profound transformations in the global economy. These are reflected in rising geopolitical tensions, most recently the war imposed on our Arab region, which has contributed to threats to international maritime navigation, global supply chains, and energy, transport, and shipping supplies. At the same time, the rapid pace of digital transformation, together with challenges related to climate change, food security, and other global shifts, places the multilateral trading system under a real test of its ability to adapt and respond to the demands of a rapidly changing world.”

“We also attach special importance to strengthening the sustainability of marine resources in a manner that ensures the protection of global fish stocks while safeguarding the livelihoods of small-scale and traditional fishers in poorer countries. In this regard, we believe that the ongoing negotiations on fisheries subsidies represent an important opportunity to achieve a fair balance between environmental sustainability and development considerations.”

**Ministerial Statement by Zambia [WT/MIN\(26\)/ST/85](#)**

“MC14 should deliver outcomes that strengthen Special and Differential Treatment (S&DT) and ensure that it remains precise, effective, and operational. Such measures are essential to address structural inequalities in the multilateral trading system and to provide developing countries with the necessary policy space to support industrialization, economic diversification, and sustainable development.”

“We look forward to outcomes at MC14 that reflect the needs and aspirations of all Members and that reinforce the WTO’s role in promoting shared prosperity and sustainable development.”

## Annex Table: References by Individual WTO Members

| Country                          | Agriculture | Biodiversity | Climate | Environment | Fisheries | Green Transition | Sustainability | Sustainable Development |
|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------|-------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Angola                           |             |              | x       |             |           |                  |                | x                       |
| Argentina                        |             |              |         |             | x         |                  |                |                         |
| Australia                        |             |              |         |             | x         |                  |                |                         |
| Austria                          |             |              | x       | x           |           |                  | x              |                         |
| Bangladesh                       |             |              | x       |             | x         |                  |                |                         |
| Barbados                         |             |              | x       | x           | x         |                  | x              | x                       |
| Belize                           | x           |              | x       |             |           |                  | x              |                         |
| Brazil                           |             |              |         |             |           |                  | x              |                         |
| Cabo Verde                       |             |              | x       |             |           |                  |                |                         |
| Cambodia                         |             |              |         |             | x         |                  |                |                         |
| Canada                           |             |              | x       | x           |           |                  | x              |                         |
| Chile                            |             |              | x       |             |           |                  |                |                         |
| Costa Rica                       |             |              | x       |             |           |                  |                |                         |
| Côte d'Ivoire                    |             |              | x       |             | x         |                  | x              |                         |
| Cyprus                           |             |              |         |             |           | x                |                |                         |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo |             |              | x       |             |           |                  |                | x                       |
| Ecuador                          | x           |              | x       | x           |           |                  | x              |                         |
| Egypt                            |             |              | x       |             |           |                  |                |                         |
| Fiji                             |             |              |         |             |           |                  |                | x                       |
| France                           |             |              |         |             | x         |                  |                |                         |
| Gabon                            |             |              | x       |             | x         |                  |                |                         |
| Ghana                            | x           |              | x       |             |           |                  |                | x                       |
| Greece                           |             |              | x       | x           |           |                  |                |                         |
| Guatemala                        | x           |              |         |             |           |                  |                | x                       |

|                    |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|--------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Guinea             |   |  |   |   |   | x |   | x |
| Haiti              |   |  |   | x | x |   |   |   |
| Hong Kong, China   |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Iceland            |   |  | x |   | x |   | x |   |
| India              |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Indonesia          |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Ireland            |   |  | x |   |   |   |   | x |
| Japan              |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Jordan             |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Kingdom of Bahrain |   |  |   |   |   |   |   | x |
| Kyrgyz Republic    |   |  |   |   | x |   |   | x |
| Lesotho            |   |  |   |   |   |   |   | x |
| Macao, China       |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Malaysia           | x |  | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Malta              |   |  |   |   | x |   | x |   |
| Mauritius          |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Mongolia           |   |  | x | x |   | x | x | x |
| Morocco            |   |  | x |   | x |   |   | x |
| Mozambique         |   |  |   |   | x |   |   | x |
| Namibia            | x |  | x |   |   |   |   |   |
| New Zealand        |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Niger              |   |  | x |   |   |   |   |   |
| Nigeria            |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Norway             |   |  | x |   | x |   |   |   |
| Pakistan           |   |  | x |   | x |   |   |   |
| Panama             |   |  | x |   | x |   | x |   |
| Paraguay           | x |  |   | x |   |   | x |   |
| Peru               |   |  |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Philippines        |   |  |   |   | x | x | x |   |

|                                                                   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Poland                                                            | x |   | x | x |   |   |   |   |
| Qatar                                                             |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Rwanda                                                            |   |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines                                  |   |   | x |   |   | x | x | x |
| Samoa                                                             |   |   | x |   | x |   | x |   |
| Senegal                                                           |   |   |   |   | x |   |   | x |
| Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan,<br>Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu |   |   | x | x |   | x | x |   |
| Seychelles                                                        |   |   | x |   | x |   |   |   |
| Singapore                                                         |   |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |
| Spain                                                             |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Sweden                                                            |   |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |
| Tanzania                                                          | x |   |   | x | x |   |   |   |
| Timor Leste                                                       |   |   | x |   | x |   |   |   |
| Tunisia                                                           |   |   | x |   | x |   |   |   |
| Uganda                                                            |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Ukraine                                                           | x | x | x |   | x |   |   |   |
| United Arab Emirates                                              |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| United Kingdom                                                    |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |
| Uruguay                                                           |   |   |   | x | x |   | x |   |
| Viet Nam                                                          |   |   |   |   | x | x |   | x |
| Yemen                                                             |   |   | x | x | x |   | x |   |
| Zambia                                                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | x |