

OPENING STATEMENT DELIVERED BY MR. JAIME COGHI ARIAS, MINISTER
COUNSELLOR, PERMANENT MISSION OF COSTA RICA TO THE WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION, ACTING CHAIR OF THE 52ND SESSION OF THE JOINT
ADVISORY GROUP

Executive Director Arancha González,
Director-General Azevêdo,
Secretary-General Kituyi,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome you to the 53rd session of ITC's Joint Advisory Group.

Costa Rica has been the Chair of the JAG for the past year, a year in which ITC achieved impressive results. From new export analysis tools that equip policymakers to promote trade and investment more effectively, to financing schemes that are creating better jobs and livelihoods in The Gambia, ITC's work is demonstrating scalable impact on the ground.

ITC continues to evolve and innovate to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of its interventions. ITC runs its projects increasingly in countries and regions that present the most pressing human development challenges.

I want to thank Arancha González for her leadership, and ITC staff for their hard work in more than 100 countries. As I leave my role as the acting Chair of the JAG, I can confidently express my trust in ITC's ability to deliver trade impact for good in the years ahead. I encourage you to continue working with ITC and support it in its quest to realize good trade for all.

I would now like to call upon Her Excellency Ms. Terhi Katriina Hakala, Ambassador and Representative of the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations Office and International Organizations at Geneva, to take up her position as Chair of the 53rd session of the Joint Advisory Group.

Thank you.