



Permanent Mission of Mongolia to the United Nations Office  
and other International Organizations in Geneva

53rd JOINT ADVISORY GROUP (JAG) MEETING  
Room S1, WTO

Statement by His Excellency Lundeg Purevsuren  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mongolia  
Tuesday, 2 July 2019

Thank you Chair for the opportunity to address on this important event and please accept my congratulations to you for taking on your role as a Chair of the 53rd session of the Joint Advisory Group.

Mr. Chair,  
Mr. Director-General Roberto Azevedo,  
Mr. Secretary-General Mukhisa Kituyi,  
Madame Executive-Director Aranch Gonzalez,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mongolia commends the International Trade Centre (ITC) for its valuable contribution in supporting and helping developing countries around the globe in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals with its proactive and solution-oriented tools.

I particularly would like to congratulate Madame Executive-Director Arancha Gonzalez and the entire team of ITC in delivering tangible results by elevating international competitiveness of MSMEs and their better integration to the global market through empowering women and youth for inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

Small and medium-sized businesses are the veins of developing nations, a driving force in job creation and local economic development. This is specially true in the case of Landlocked Developing Countries like Mongolia, who face multiple and multi-dimensional challenges compared to their coastal counterparts. When such geographical barrier triggers with high commodity dependence, policy intervention towards structural transformation of the economy becomes crucial in order to achieve inclusive and sustainable development.

Taking this opportunity, I would also like to express our appreciation to the donor community for enabling the ITC to deliver its technical assistances, capacity building and innovative analysis which fits to the specific developmental needs of each partnering country.

In this context, It is my great pleasure to remark that ITC's pilot project of developing Trade and Investment Roadmap of Mongolia, which commenced in 2018 has been successfully completed two weeks ago. This comprehensive document provides a blueprint for Mongolia to turn its mineral-dependent "brown" economy into an environmentally sensitive "green" economy during the next 5 years by outlining key sectors that have true potential to attract public and private investments and promote export in the non-mining sector.

However, I would like to point out that the Trade and Investment Roadmap is only a first phase, and together with ITC, we have outlined second and third phases to achieve a fully-fledged National Export Strategy of Mongolia. We do believe that reaching the final phase would provide a greater synergy towards reforming trade and investment policy, improved trade facilitation, more strategic approach to investment promotion, better access to finance, skills development in Mongolia, and hopeful that we will enjoy a broad support from the donor communities in this regard.

On the bilateral front, we look forward to another proactive year until the next Joint Advisory Meeting, through deepened engagement with the ITC on the organization of the next World Export Development Forum in Ulaanbaatar in 2020 and launching of the Mongolia chapter of SheTrades initiative.

Let me end my remarks by mentioning that we are pleased with the overall perspectives and future strategies of the ITC, which is set towards effective implementation of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development through empowering women and youth, using trade as a key driver for job creation, poverty reduction and promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth. It encourages me to call upon the donor communities to continue its valuable financial support to the ITC and developing countries that benefit from its programmes and projects on trade promotion and MSME development.

I thank you for your kind attention.