Madam Chair,

First of all, we would like to congratulate you for being appointed as Chairperson of the 47th Joint Advisory Group on International Trade Centre. In this occasion, we are pleased to share our experience in organizing the World Export Development Forum last year in cooperation with ITC and its role in boosting trade among developing countries.

On behalf of the government of Indonesia, we would like to thank all participants for their support and commitments in making the World Export Development Forum 2012 a successful event. Being a host for the forum, indeed, was a valuable experience for Indonesia as the moment is very timely due to global economics uncertainty.

One thing we appreciate the most from the forum last year is it did not only gathered stakeholders from different areas, but more importantly it facilitated communications among participants and discussed measures aimed at enhancing South-South trade cooperation. As we all aware, participants involved in the forum were not only government officials and policymakers, but also business people, thus, commitments resulted from the forum can be transformed into concrete actions in a relatively short period of time.

For Indonesia itself, our business people didn’t only got chances to share their business experiences, but also to expand the network and to hear from other stakeholders about new business opportunites and challenges. This, we believe will help the government and policymakers making progresses in addressing trade related issues from the ground.

We, ourselves, are seeing the World Export Development Forum 2012 as a momentum to increase Indonesian business people’s confident to do business with new counterparts from developing countries through the exchanged information, experiences and ideas. We aware that building SME’s confident to enter new markets is a long time process, however, we’ve seen that progress are on the way and the forum has contributed to those progresses.

Nowadays, not only Indonesian business people are more interested in doing business with counterparts from developing countries, particularly African countries, but the government itself pays more attention to developing countries which had been realized by the our President’s visits to some African countries in the beginning of this year to strengthen commitments in achieving MDGs through South-South cooperation in trade. In addition, we also have seen an increase in the number of both official and business visits from African countries to Indonesia after the forum, one of them was the visit of President of Liberia few months ago.

Just to name a few, another progress made is the facilitation from the provincial government of South Africa to Indonesia in establishing Indonesian Store. As response to that, our country has been facilitating South African Small and Medium Enterprises to display
their products in an exhibition showroom located in Jakarta managed by the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises.

Madam Chair, to conclude, we believe business people do need a forum to meet, discuss ideas and expand networking, therefore, we hope that the World Export Development Forum in the years ahead will continue its role as an effective communication tool to facilitate South-South trade cooperation. Indonesia will always continue to give its contribution and supports for every actions taken by ITC aimed at supporting the South-South trade cooperation.

Finally, we are wishing that the next World Export Development Forum will be the success one. Thank you very much Madam Chair.

As an example, the interested of Indonesian SMEs to do business with business people from non-tarditional markets, particularly contributed to these progress.

1. Indonesia is aware that developing countries's offer economic potencies that should be further elaborated, not only as a growth consumer market, but also source for input and production base. Having realized on these, in the last five years we have been directing our export promotion strategy to unlock economy potencies of non-traditional markets and encouraging our business people, particularly the small and medium enterprises, to enter to the markets.

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