

ITC JAG Statement 2014 / Entwurf

Mr. Chair,

- Since we didn't have the opportunity to do so publically on Tuesday, let me start by extending my warm and sincere congratulations to ITC for 50 years of successful work in Aid for Trade.
- And since it is her first JAG, let me also take the opportunity to congratulate Arancha González on her appointment as Executive Director of ITC. If I look at her enthusiasm and energy, I am inclined to think that we almost got two EDs for the price of one. Thank you very much, Arancha, for the way you have hit the ground running, and have definitely increased the visibility of ITC since you started this job.
- As we always and gladly do, Germany would like to commend ITC on its significant achievements over the last year, in particular in the area of results based management. It has been a long and sometimes difficult path, but you haven't let up in your efforts. And the evaluation has confirmed how important it is for an organisation to be able to report on results.
- We have definitely seen very concrete and hands-on results in the programs we are supporting through our Window 1 contribution and we would like to thank the excellent and dedicated staff of ITC for reconfirming through their work that it has been the right choice to invest in ITC.
- Chair,
- Today marks the start of the dialogue about the implementation of the recommendations of the ITC evaluation. Let me express my sincere gratitude to both, the evaluation team and the ITC, for managing this process in such a professional manner.
- As I said, today we are only initiating this conversation and there will be ample opportunity to discuss the recommendations in more detail over the course of the year. However, there are a few themes that have emerged, that are not new, but that we believe are key to building on the successes of the past and making ITC fit for the challenges of the future.
- We need to pay attention to continuously building a solid foundation for ITC's work. This extends beyond raising financial contributions and goes towards building systems that

instil confidence that not only individual programmes, but also ITC as a whole knows what it is doing and where it wants to go. We appreciated the Executive Director's remarks on her plans in this area yesterday.

- We also need to continue to define and build ITC's profile and "niche", while clearly acknowledging the limitations of such small organisation. Identifying the six baskets is an important step in the right direction. Picking and choosing carefully which products we place in the baskets is an important next step ITC needs to take.
- Chair,
- Germany has been a partner to ITC for several decades now. We will happily continue our partnership with ITC in the future – hopefully for many more decades to come.