Interventions by the Dutch delegation to the JAG meeting

Thursday, 30 June, 2011

Agenda item: Annual Report on the activities of ITC in 2010

Thank you Mr. Chair.

The Netherlands welcomes the Annual Report on the activities of ITC in 2010, and would like to make the following observations:

1. The Netherlands is very pleased with the priority that ITC is giving to RBM and with the progress that is being made in this important area.

2. In ITC’s Client Survey, 57% of enterprises indicated that ITC was supporting them in developing their exports. We should like to see – from a learning and improvement perspective – what the analyses and recommendations are based on the survey.

3. In the section on programme Delivery Responses (page 19), ITC mentions that it can find it costly, as a small organization, to participate in multiple programmes with partner organizations in complex structures. Decision-making can take longer, with extensive consultation procedures leading to numerous changes in plans. When roles and responsibilities are well defined in however, the benefits outweigh the costs as ITC works in synergy with partners for beneficiaries. The Netherlands should like to raise the successful example of the ITC-CBI Partnership in the Netherlands Trust Funds 2009-2013, in which a governance structure, including role definitions and reporting structures were defined in detail. The Netherlands is happy to see, that, in spite of the time that it takes to
create such a structure, the pay back in the remainder of the projects and programme is considerable.

4. [Page 29, point 2.]
We are happy to read that the introduction of the quality assurance process at ITC in 2010 has contributed to ensuring that partners are involved in projects from the design phase. This improves the commitment of partners also during the implementation.