

Statement
By
Mr. Mehdi Ali Abadi
Deputy-Permanent Representative
Of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office in Geneva
Before
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Trade Centre
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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Mme. Chair,

Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General of UNCTAD,

Ms. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director of ITC,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to begin by thanking the outgoing Chair and congratulating H.E Ambassador Canabadi for leading the 56th session of Joint Advisory Group of ITC. I also thank the ITC Secretariat for their efforts in preparation for this meeting.

Just as said in the Annual Report, “For the global economy, multilateralism and the Sustainable Development Goals, 2021 was a year full of complex challenges.” At a time when the world is facing the combined impacts of changes unseen in a century, the overall international environment for

developing countries is deeply deteriorating. The persistent inequalities compounded by emerging negative factors are going to make a setback specially for the MSMEs. Not be still recovered from the negative impacts of the Pandemic, these major but vulnerable holders of the social and economic growth of developing countries, have been impacted by the emerging energy and finance crises. Furthermore, the increasing flows of human displacement has impacted the balance of the work market specially in countries which are among the major host countries including my own country. This picture has exacerbated by an unprecedented unilateralism that the unilateral coercive measures is its most flagrant manifestation.

In these circumstances, the world needs more than ever a fairer, facilitated and unhindered trade relationship and investment flows which guarantee the productivity and supply chain and mobilize natural resources, economic capacities, technological progress and transitional geographic positions of countries for ensuring the connectivity in traditional commerce as well as in e-commerce. As an agency with a joint mandate with the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the ITC is able to play a crucial et constructive role in this regard which is summarized by Ms. Hamilton as 'walking the talk'. The talk can fortify the partnership between international trade's stockholders and players including governments and private sectors. We are delighted to see that ITC has tried divers means to carry out projects in innovative ways through accelerating their digital solutions, providing reliable data-bases

and promoting inclusivity and connectivity reflected in case studies of the report of 2021.

Mme. Chair,

The Islamic Republic of Iran takes this opportunity to thank the donors in the current project with ITC as well as the proactive role of ITC team. We declare also our continued readiness to extend this cooperation as well as enhancing our role in ITC activities, including through south-south and triangular cooperation. The upcoming visit by distinguished Executive Director to Tehran will provide an opportunity to discuss prospects for enhanced cooperation.

Thank you all.