

UK Statement at ITC JAG 25 June 2024

Thank you Chair and congratulations to you and the outgoing Chair for your efforts.

Happy birthday, Pamela, happy birthday ITC.

I was going to make 3 points inspired by the 3 sisters we have heard speak this morning.

First, partnership works, and it is great to see the ITC up there with the WTO and UNCTAD. That kind of partnership is what we want, and what we need to see. Plus partnership with business, and with donors and with recipient countries. The ITC does partnership very well.

Second, MSMEs. We have all talked about how vital it is to support MSMEs. And we had that fantastic video you showed supported by UKTP. Supporting MSMEs makes a real impact and that is particularly true for women-led MSMEs. I would like to pay tribute to the work you do in that area. We have seen inspiring presentations from representatives of the SheTrades Hubs in the Informal Working Group on Gender, and also in Abu Dhabi at MC13, as Pamela mentioned.

Third, interconnectivity. Rebeca talked of the rise of digital services and the potential that offers for more inclusive and more sustainable trade, particularly for MSMEs. It offers the opportunity to participate in the global economy, in a global market place. It also leads to integration into your own economy and tax system. So I am delighted to see work in that area. As well as the work on your own moonshots – on green and digital. Digital is one area we will be exploring later this week at the Global Review.