

**Algeria's Statement at the 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the Joint Advisory Group  
of the International Trade Centre  
Geneva, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

Distinguished Chairs, Excellencies, Honorable delegates,

1. My delegation would like to thank you chairperson for your election as the chair of the 55<sup>th</sup> session of the JAG and wish you success in your endeavours.
2. Our thanks are also extended to the outgoing JAG's chair, Ambassador Molokomme for her leadership, and to Mrs. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, ITC'S Executive Director, for her insightful presentation of ITC's 2020 Annual Report and her vision on ITC's role in the incoming years.
3. My delegation appreciates the work done by ITC during these difficult times. ITC's 2020 Annual Report showed clearly how ITC is making difference on the ground, impacting positively many MSMEs in developing countries in their daily and strategic operations.
4. My delegation reiterates its invitation to the ITC management to provide my country as soon as possible the technical assistance needed for the implementation of our National Strategy to Promote Non-Hydrocarbon Exports. Algeria looks forward to expand its collaboration with ITC in order to help Algerian MSMEs to tap their full potential to integrate regional and global value chains, especially in sectors with a great export potential, such as the agriculture sector, and the agri-food and pharmaceutical industries.
5. As for ITC's strategy for the next four years, my delegation will send its feedbacks in the next two weeks. Meanwhile, we would kindly request the Secretariat to inform us about its vision on its future mobilization resources strategy in the post-Covid-19 international financial landscape that is impacting even ITC's traditional donors.
6. Regarding ITC's human resources management, my delegation encourages ITC's management to continue to promote gender and geographical fair representation of ITC's membership within ITC Secretariat. We value information provided in ITC's 2020 Annual Report concerning the staff profile. However, for the next JAG session, we would highly appreciate if the Secretariat could provide us with a more detailed profile staff, incorporating the following data: the legal nature of work contract for the staff (short term vs permanent status), the ratio of personnel belonging to general category vs professional category and the corresponding grades, the average age of ITC workforce, and ITC recruitment forecasts for the period 2022-2025.
7. In concluding, I would like to emphasize that ITC's assistance to developing countries governments and their MSMEs is more than ever needed in the multidimensional crisis the world is experiencing (health, economic and climate) and its associated uncertainties.

I thank you for your kind attention.