

Madam Chair,

My delegation joins others to thank Her Excellency Madam Salleh for her excellent work in last year and to congratulate you for assuming the Chair of the Joint Advisory Group. We also like to join others to thank Madam Gonzalez for her hard work for moving the ITC forward, which is evident from the Annual Report.

Bangladesh always appreciates the work of ITC aimed at increasing competitiveness of SMEs, which are backbones of economies of developing and least-developed countries.

Bangladesh supports the proposals put forward by Uganda and others to request ITC to help LDCs to get information on market size, products demand, import requirement and non-tariff barriers of the countries, which have been providing DFQF market access to LDCs.

Lastly, Madam Chair, while working on global value chain, ITC may cover global supply chain, more specifically, challenges being faced or to be faced by the LDCs in complying with the standards that are or likely to be followed in future in global supply chain and ways to overcome those challenges.

I thank you chair