

I thank you very much for giving me the floor and I congratulate you Ambassador for assuming the chairmanship. We thank for the introductory statements including the frank assessment about the challenges we are facing in the multilateral trading system currently.

Ms. Arancha González has referred, as well, to the ITC's flagship event the **World Export Development Forum in her statement**. I would like to make some points on that event and the fruitful cooperation between Hungary and ITC on that respect.

- The **World Export Development Forum last October** was held in Budapest, Hungary with **over 600 participants from 60 countries**.
- The **main theme** of the forum was **how trade can work for the ninety-nine percent and how different policies can enable that**. Participants discussed **how governments can support SMEs becoming integral part of global value chains** in different focus sectors.
- We highly appreciate and are thankful for ITC for the **excellent cooperation, the professional and smooth organization** of the event.
- We congratulate for AgroCenta's co-founder, Michael Ocansey, for winning the Young Entrepreneurs Competition in Budapest,

We are **looking forward to cooperating with ITC on this year's WEDF** in Zambia. **Hungary will support Zambia** as a Least Developed Country to **build its capacity to host the event**. **With Hungarian contribution we ensure** among others participation of international speakers at the forum from LDC countries. We help, as well, for several **African companies to participate in the B2B meetings in the focus sectors of the event**.

I thank you).

Best regards,

Tamás VATTAI
First Secretary

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