STATEMENT BY H.E THE AMBASSADOR OF UGANDA AT THE MEETING OF THE JOINT ADVISORY GROUP ON ITC, 10 - 12 JUNE 2014

I thank you Chair.

- 1. My delegation wishes to congratulate you on the assumption of Chairmanship of the 48th Session of Joint Advisory Board. We thank your immediate predecessor, Amb. Keren of the United Kingdom for the work well done. Madam Chair, it is our strong belief that you will build on the foundation laid by your predecessor.
- 2. May delegation also takes the opportunity to congratulate the Executive Director Ms. Arancha Gonzalez, for taking over the office, and for organising her 1st Joint Advisory Group meeting along with a comprehensive report on the activities of the organisation she now takes full management control. We look forward to greater achievements to be made by Ms. Arancha Gonzalez as the Executive Director.
- 3. Fifty years of existence for ITC is a reasonable length of time. ITC has attained maturity and is seen to have done a considerable amount of fruitful works. My delegation is happy that Uganda is one of the beneficiaries of the ITC good works. At this juncture, we would like to thank the Financial Collaborators and Development partners that have made it possible for ITC to perform spectacularly well, particularly in assisting developing countries in the SMEs developmental activities.
- 4. We commend the Executive Director for coming up with comprehensive forward plans composed of what the Executive Director, Ms. Arancha Gonzalez, calls 6 baskets, for future undertakings. Of particular interest to us is in the area of women empowerment. This is in line with Uganda Government policy on emancipation and edification of women status in Uganda not only in business but also in other sphere of life.

We wish ITC, and in particular the Executive Director, Ms. Arancha Gonzalez success in all the future endeavours.