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Page: 1/1

**Ministerial Conference
Thirteenth Session
Abu Dhabi, 26-29 February 2024**

Original: English

**MINISTERIAL DECISION ON WTO SMOOTH TRANSITION SUPPORT MEASURES
IN FAVOUR OF COUNTRIES GRADUATED FROM THE LDC CATEGORY**

DRAFT

Communication from the LDC Group

Revision

The following communication, dated 18 February 2024, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Djibouti on behalf of the LDC Group.

The *Ministerial Conference*,

Having regard to paragraph 1 of Article IX of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO);

Taking note of the proposals submitted by the least developed country (LDC) Group at the General Council ([WT/GC/W/807](#), [WT/GC/W/829](#), and [WT/GC/W/807/Rev.2](#)) as well as the extensive engagement by Members on this matter;

Recalling the General Council Decision ([WT/L/1172](#)) adopted on 23 October 2023;

Further recalling the paragraph 5 of the WTO MC12 Outcome Document ([WT/MIN\(22\)/24](#), [WT/L/1135](#)) adopted by Ministers on 17 June 2022;

Decides as follows:

1. A Member that graduates from the LDC category shall continue to benefit from the application of the Special Procedures Involving LDCs set out in Article 24 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding for a period of three years after the date on which the decision of the UN General Assembly to graduate that Member from the LDC category becomes effective.
 2. A Member that graduates from the LDC category shall continue to be eligible for LDC-specific technical assistance and capacity building provided under WTO's Technical Assistance and Training Plan for a period of three years after the date on which the decision of the UN General Assembly to graduate that Member from the LDC category becomes effective. The participation of existing LDCs shall be prioritized in activities under this plan.
 3. The Sub-Committee on LDCs, under the guidance of the General Council, shall continue its work on the remaining provisions listed in Annex 2 of the document [WT/GC/W/807/Rev.2](#), including Annex VII of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM), which are not addressed by the present decision or the General Council Decision [WT/L/1172](#), with a view to making recommendations, if any, by December 2024.
 4. The General Council shall report to the Fourteenth Ministerial Conference on progress.
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