

## Inputs from the Delegation of Japan

### International trade as an engine for development<sup>1</sup>

22. We recognize that international trade ~~is inextricably linked to~~ **is a major driving force toward the achievement of sustained economic growth and development** and that a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system as well as meaningful trade liberalization can substantially stimulate development worldwide. We are encouraged to see that international trade, especially the trade of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, has expanded at a fast pace in the current decade. Trade among developing countries has now become one of the most dynamic elements in world trade. However, a considerable number of developing countries, including many least developed countries, have remained at the margins of these developments.
24. We recognize the need to make progress in key areas of the Doha Development Agenda that are of interest to developing countries, including, inter alia, increased market access for manufactures and agricultural products, **overall substantial reduction of trade-distorting domestic support** and elimination of **all forms of export subsidies**, facilitating technology transfer, effective provisions for special and differential ~~preferential~~ treatment, opening of markets to services from developing countries, and affording sufficient policy space.
26. We recognize that least developed countries will require special measures and international support to allow for a more gradual and effective adjustment to an open and competitive global economy. International financial institutions, including regional development banks, should provide them with all possible assistance in this regard. We renew the call to developed countries and other countries in a position to do so to provide duty-free and quota-free **market access for to-all** products **originating** from least developed countries, **as agreed at the WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Conference**. We will **also continue to make redouble efforts to** provide technical assistance to low-income developing countries that request it, in order to enable them to participate effectively in the multilateral trade system, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries and by providing support to allow least developed countries to participate effectively in international trade negotiations.
27. Aid for Trade is a vital component of the measures required for developing countries to effectively benefit from the Doha Round. Aid for Trade is not a substitute for a successful outcome of the Doha Development Agenda. We will strive to substantially enhance Aid for Trade to support efforts of recipient countries to take advantage of new trade opportunities and assist them in addressing trade liberalization adjustment measures. A critical aim of Aid for Trade should be to enhance competitiveness and ownership while aligning it with the respective national development strategy, **especially in the areas of supply-side capacity building, trade-related infrastructure, and establishment of market channels for the products**. The commitments by individual donors relating to Aid for Trade should be fully implemented.