

**STATEMENT BY KAZAKHSTAN**

MADE 15 JUNE 2004

**AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Eleventh Session**

**São Paulo, Brazil  
13-18 June 2004**

Please, Check Against Delivery

**S T A T E M E N T**  
**by**  
**H.E. Mr. Alexey Volkov**  
**Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the**  
**Republic of Kazakhstan**

**at the 11<sup>th</sup> session of the**  
**United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

**Sao Paulo, Brazil**  
**June 2004**

Mr. President,  
Mr. Secretary-General,  
Distinguished delegates,

**First of all, please allow me to express our appreciation to the people and the government of Brazil for the wonderful job they have done staging this international forum. On behalf of the delegation of Kazakhstan, I would like to associate myself with Secretary-General Rubens Ricupero, who was right saying that UNCTAD was fortunate to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in hospitable Brazil, one of its original founders, which participates in an active and meaningful way in the shaping of modern trade policies.**

Mr. President,

**Forty years ago in Geneva, the founders established UNCTAD to assist the developing countries in their efforts to integrate their economies into the global economic system. Forty years later, an even greater number of countries continue to rely on this assistance, Kazakhstan among them. In my country, globalization has had a dual effect on the whole process of economic development of the country in its transition from the administrative command system of management to liberal market relations. On the one hand, such transition was accompanied by sharp downturn in those sectors of the national economy that failed to adjust quickly to the effects of outside market forces. On the other hand, globalization, which opens up opportunities for acquiring new information and technologies, has provided such countries as Kazakhstan with an important impetus, which was essential for forging new market relations, some elements of which are directly related to global economic processes.**

**In this context, Kazakhstan would like to express its appreciation to UNCTAD and other organizations making up the United Nations system for supporting its efforts to strengthen the social, legal and political pillars of market reforms.**

**By now, Kazakhstan has made great strides in ensuring macroeconomic and financial stability and economic growth. Our country continues to develop according to goals and targets set in the national development strategy, which provides for the establishment in Kazakhstan, by 2030, of an open civil society with an advanced economy based on the wellbeing and prosperity of all its citizens.**

Mr. President,

**The UNCTAD XI is a truly important event that brings the international community together to discuss the most urgent issues of international trade and development. This Conference is closely linked to other important international forums, whose agenda includes the efforts to revive trade talks on Doha arrangements. Kazakhstan hopes that the UNCTAD XI will facilitate further negotiations on the Doha Development Agenda.**

**Development concerns should become an integral part of negotiations on market access for agricultural and non-agricultural goods, cotton and Singapore issues. These issues should be adequately addressed in the current tirade negotiations. In this regard, Kazakhstan holds the view that a special and differentiated treatment should be made operational as soon as possible. The international community should also take into consideration difficulties and challenges faced by small and vulnerable economies, including the landlocked developing countries. As recognized at the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community, hosted by Kazakhstan in August 2003, one of the main causes of the marginalization of the landlocked developing countries from the international trading system is the high trade transaction costs caused by their lack of access to the sea and remoteness from major markets. As stated in the Almaty Programme of Action, the current negotiations on market access for agricultural and non-agricultural goods should give particular attention to the interests of the landlocked developing countries. Besides, many of the landlocked developing countries, including Kazakhstan, are yet to become members of the WTO and remain outside the mainstream of international trade. In this regard, Kazakhstan believes that our partners in the negotiations on the admission to the WTO should take into account special needs and interests of these countries when determining conditions for their membership.**

Mr. President,

**As a member of major regional arrangements, Kazakhstan believes that the establishment of a unified economic, trade and customs space should be a key element of the efforts by the developing countries and the economies in transition to overcome the negative effects of globalization. Our country continues to believe that regional cooperation, first of all South-South cooperation, and open borders free of tariff and customs barriers constitute a key to making these economies more competitive. It is important to ensure the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of major international conferences on trade and development so that small and vulnerable economies finally get a chance to enjoy the benefits and advantages frequently mentioned in New York, Monterrey,**

Johannesburg, Doha, Brussels, Barbados, Almaty and here in Sao Paulo. In this context, Kazakhstan encourages UNCTAD to expand its programmes in cooperation with other organizations of the United Nations system in order to assist these countries in their efforts to achieve their goals.

Mr. President,

During the 40 years of its existence, UNCTAD has been a witness and a participant of global economic processes that have dramatically reshaped our world, making it more interdependent and vulnerable. We hope that, even under these conditions, UNCTAD will remain a forum for discussing ways to achieve consensus on urgent issues of international trade, investment and development. In this regard, we hope that the deliberations at this session will make an important contribution to bridging the gap between the parties in the negotiation process.

Thank you for your attention.