



**Permanent Mission of India
Geneva

**Statement by India at the 52nd Joint Advisory Group meeting of
International Trade Centre
(Geneva, Switzerland, 10 July 2018)**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,
ED Ms. Arancha González,
Excellencies and Distinguished participants,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on assuming the Chair and thank the International Trade Centre (ITC) for organizing this 52nd Session of the Joint Advisory Group and the distinguished speakers for their presentations and statements.

2. India appreciates the role played by ITC, the focal point within the United Nations system for trade related technical assistance (TRTA), in promoting the interests of developing countries through strengthening and integration of the business sector into the global economy, improving the performance of trade and investment support institutions, and, the international competitiveness of MSMEs of these countries.

3. Enhanced investment and technology transfer in addition to international trade are essential for the sustainable growth of developing countries, especially the LDCs, LLDCs and economies in transition.

4. We urge ITC to identify and promote through its work, specific sectors, products and services with high potential for trade and global value chain integration for developing countries in the key areas of their strength and core competence and facilitate the transfer of technology to them on appropriate terms and conditions.

5. India's stable economic growth, coherent and forward looking investment and trade policy, simplification of procedures for trade and investments has inspired confidence among the major business players and investors across the world.

6. We are keen to further deepen our trade and economic relations. In our overall strategy, developing countries in the South, particularly our neighborhood, Africa and Latin America are our priority partners. In this regard, we are interested in exploring the possibility of leveraging ITC's expertise and experience towards strengthening India's engagement with our preferred and priority partners.

7. India is both a core funder and a long-standing partner of ITC. Our un-earmarked contributions to the ITC Trust Fund (ITF) under Window 1 allows it the flexibility to utilize it for its global activities.

8. We value our relationship with ITC and look forward to further deepening the engagement.

Thank you.