

QATAR

Thank you Madam Chair for giving me the opportunity to make this brief intervention on behalf of my delegation. We associate ourselves with the statement delivered by the kingdom of Jordan on behalf of the Arab Group. Firstly let me thank all previous speakers for their respective statements- I would especially like to thank executive director Gonzales for her statement earlier and it is our view that it held the right actions to be taken looking into the future, we would like to commend your excellent work during the past year in consolidating and strengthening the role of the ITC in world trade. My delegation extends its full support to your leadership of this organization. The State of Qatar would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the ITC on its 50th year anniversary. Furthermore, our delegation would like to convey its gratitude to the ITC for its instrumental role in providing trade related assistance especially with regards to SME development, capacity building and trade facilitation related programs. We encourage the ITC to continue work on such initiatives and expand where necessary in supporting developing nations. Our delegation holds importance of the integral role of this organization in world trade and we look forward to follow its progress in the future.

Cooperation with the ITC has been ongoing over the past 3 years, between both the public and private sectors of the State of Qatar as it had produced fruitful results in many fields, this cooperation includes workshops, information sessions, capacity building, development of our SME enterprises and export development initiatives. Since starting cooperation with the ITC with regard to SME's our SME exports has grown by a factor of 3 over the past 2 years. We look to continue future collaborations with this organization as we believe there is a lot of potential to move forward in our bilateral relationship. We are further glad to be joined today by representatives from our capital, including representatives from the Qatar Development Bank, in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the ITC and in contributing to the discussion on the future of this organization.

To conclude, I would like to reiterate our appreciation of the work the ITC has been doing and for their continued support.