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**JOINT MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON THE INVESTMENT
FACILITATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT**

The following Declaration, dated 29 March 2026, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of Afghanistan; Albania; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Australia; Bahrain, Kingdom of; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belize; Benin; Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; European Union; Gabon; Gambia; Georgia; Grenada; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Indonesia; Japan; Kazakhstan; Korea, Republic of; Kuwait, the State of; Kyrgyz Republic; Lao People's Republic; Liberia; Liechtenstein; Macao, China; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Moldova, Republic of; Mongolia; Montenegro; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Panama; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Suriname; Switzerland; Tajikistan; Thailand; Togo; Uganda; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; Uruguay; Vanuatu; Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of; Yemen; Zambia; and Zimbabwe.

We, the Ministers representing the above-mentioned 129 Members parties of the Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement, as annexed to the draft Ministerial Decision contained in document [WT/MIN\(26\)/W/5/Rev.1](#), meeting in Yaoundé, Cameroon, at the Fourteenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO):

Recognizing the complementary relationship between investment and trade and the crucial role of foreign direct investment (FDI) in advancing sustainable development;

Reaffirming the need for a more transparent, efficient, and predictable environment for facilitating cross-border investment to support sustainable development objectives;

Acknowledging the particular circumstances faced by developing and least-developed Members, and the progress made so far in the needs assessments and the essential contribution by donor Members, partner international organizations and development banks in that regard;

Noting that 129 Members parties to the IFD Agreement have, since their first formal request in February 2024 and in subsequent follow-up requests, complied with paragraph 9 of Article X of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the WTO (hereafter the "WTO Agreement") by submitting formal requests for its addition to Annex 4 of the WTO Agreement, which have received broad support among WTO Members;

Underscoring the open, inclusive and Member-driven nature of the IFD initiative since its launch in 2017, and **reaffirming** that the IFD Agreement does not create any rights or obligations for Members that have not accepted it;

Emphasizing that the earliest possible implementation of the IFD Agreement would enable its Parties – particularly developing and least-developed Members – to reap its benefits in attracting FDI, thereby fostering economic growth, poverty reduction, job creation, and the expansion and diversification of productive capacity and trade;

Hereby *issue* the following Declaration:

1. We underline the importance of adding the IFD Agreement to Annex 4 of the WTO Agreement, pursuant to paragraph 9 of Article X thereof.
2. We welcome the overwhelming support for the incorporation of the IFD Agreement and will continue outreach and information-sharing on the benefits of the IFD Agreement to encourage all other WTO Members to join it.
3. We reaffirm the important role of the WTO in providing a rules-based system for promoting open, non-discriminatory regulatory environments, and addressing the reinforcing relationship between trade and investment. We recognize the IFD Agreement – a plurilateral agreement under the WTO open to all Members – as an important contribution in that regard.
4. *We reaffirm* the benefits of the IFD Agreement, which provides a framework for attracting and retaining sustainable investment. To realise these benefits as soon as possible, we instruct our representatives:
 - a. to work, as appropriate, to ensure the timely entry into force and implementation of the IFD Agreement within the WTO framework;
 - b. to intensify collective efforts to advance IFD needs assessments and relevant technical assistance and capacity-building for the implementation of the IFD Agreement; and
 - c. to convene regularly within the WTO to conduct, as appropriate, the functions provided for under the IFD Agreement.
