Meeting on Conclusion of Negotiations on the Services Domestic Regulation Joint Initiative

(3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, 2 December 2021)

Speaking Points

- Thank you Chair.
- Hong Kong, China is excited to join other participating Members in adopting the Declaration on the Conclusion of Negotiations on Services Domestic Regulation today. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Chair, Jaime Coghi, for his tireless efforts in the past three years, and to the European Union and Australia for their leadership and support during the process.
- I would also extend a warm welcome to the fellow Members who have recently confirmed their participation in this joint initiative, and I look forward to more fellow Members joining us in the months ahead.
- Hong Kong, China firmly believes that clear and predictable domestic regulation disciplines will contribute substantially to reducing trade barriers and costs for services trade, and to attracting foreign investment.
- Despite the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, all participating Members, representing over 90% of global services trade, have kept up the momentum and delivered a set of high standard domestic regulation disciplines consistent with the best international practices. This also demonstrates that with openness, transparency and inclusiveness, WTO Members, irrespective of their level of development, are capable of making new rules benefitting stakeholders worldwide.
- Looking ahead, Hong Kong, China is committed to completing the necessary internal procedures with a view to submitting our Schedule of Specific Commitments for certification as soon as

possible, so as to bring the benefits of the new disciplines to all WTO Members on a most-favoured-nation basis.

• Thank you very much.