

## **General Council Meeting on 29 May 2020**

### **Statement by Hong Kong, China (HKC)**

#### **Item 4: Twelfth Session of the Ministerial Conference (MC12) – Date and Venue**

- Thank you, Chair.
- HKC would like to thank Kazakhstan for proposing again to host MC12 in June 2021. While there are inevitably uncertainties about the pandemic situations one year later, we believe it is the right time to plan ahead for holding the MC12 at an earliest practicable time, while continuing to monitor the relevant situations.
- In the meantime, the postponement of MC12 does not necessarily mean that we have to put on hold all the possible deliverables that we have been working so hard for.
- While Members continue to deliberate on the arrangements for MC12, we would encourage Members to be creative and flexible in exploring different ways to advance our work in various areas. By faithfully carrying out its functions, the WTO can help mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic on international trade flows and create a conducive environment for the recovery of the global economy.
- Thank you very much.

**Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Geneva  
May 2020**