

**Formal Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) and  
Informal Heads of Delegation (HoDs) Meeting  
(30 November 2022)**

**Hong Kong, China's Statement**

- Thank you DG and various committee chairs for your reports. I will be brief and would just focus on the dispute settlement mechanism.
- Hong Kong, China is glad to note that many Members share the view that restoration of a fully-functioning two-tier dispute settlement system is a top priority of our work.
- The WTO's dispute settlement system is not just important for settling trade disputes among Members – it is a key pillar of the multilateral trading system represented by the WTO and is an essential institution that helps ensure proper implementation of not only provisions in the existing agreements, but also new rules to be negotiated by Members.
- We therefore believe it is imperative that all WTO Members should work together towards restoring a fully and well-functioning, two-tier dispute settlement system accessible to all Members earliest possible, and in any case not later than 2024.
- Hong Kong, China welcomes the current informal discussions on dispute settlement and have been actively participating in them. We look forward to fruitful outcome in these discussions so that we could move closer to resolving the impasse over the Appellate Body and restoring a fully-functioning dispute settlement system.
- We also believe that in order to have a resolution agreeable to all Members, the current informal discussions should be multilateralised and institutionalised as early as practicable. Hong Kong, China will continue to engage constructively in the discussions.
- Thank you very much.

**Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Geneva  
30 November 2022**