

General Council Meeting
July 22-23, 2020

Statement by India – Delivered by Ambassador & PR to the WTO

Agenda Item 4: ‘Twelfth Session of the Ministerial Conference – Date and Venue’

Thank you, Chair, for your Statement and the update.

2. Deciding the date of the much delayed 12th Ministerial Conference remains a matter of urgent priority for the WTO Membership.

3. We once again thank Kazakhstan for their decision to host MC12 in June 2021 at Nur Sultan, despite the continued global uncertainty associated with the Covid19 pandemic. We had suggested in the last GC meeting on 29 May 2020 that the Membership consider accepting this proposal, subject of course to global public health conditions being suitable for all delegations to participate in the meeting.

4. The certainty of dates for MC12 has the advantage of allowing us to work collectively towards implementing a work plan with appropriate markers and ambition for outcomes by then. An early decision on this issue will also help mute criticism that the WTO has not held a Ministerial Conference at a critical time. My delegation sincerely hopes that there will be a clarity on the dates of MC12 soon.

5. I thank you, Chair.
