



**General Council**

**PROTOCOL AMENDING THE MARRAKESH AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING  
THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**

DECISION OF 27 NOVEMBER 2014

The General Council;

*Having regard* to paragraph 1 of Article X of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization ("the WTO Agreement");

*Conducting* the functions of the Ministerial Conference in the interval between meetings pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article IV of the WTO Agreement;

*Recalling* the General Council Decision to commence negotiations on the basis of the modalities set out in Annex D to that decision, adopted on 1 August 2004, as well as the Ministerial Decision of 7 December 2013 to draw up a Protocol of Amendment to insert the Agreement on Trade Facilitation into Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement (the "Protocol");

*Recalling* paragraph 47 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration of 20 November 2001;

*Recalling* paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, Annex D of the General Council Decision of August 2004 and Article 13.2 of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation on the importance of the provision of assistance and support for capacity building to help developing and least-developed countries to implement the provisions of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation;

*Welcoming* the Director General's announcement setting up, within the existing WTO structures, a Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility to manage support that Members volunteer to provide to the WTO in furtherance of supplementary assistance to implement the provisions of the Trade Facilitation Agreement and to facilitate coherence of assistance with the Annex D plus agencies;

*Having considered* the Agreement submitted by the Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation (WT/L/931);

*Noting* the consensus to submit this proposed amendment to the Members for acceptance;

*Decides* as follows:

1. The Protocol amending the WTO Agreement attached to this Decision is hereby adopted and submitted to the Members for acceptance.
2. The Protocol shall hereby be open for acceptance by Members.
3. The Protocol shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article X of the WTO Agreement.

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