

23 May 2019

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JOINT STATEMENT ON SERVICES DOMESTIC REGULATION

The following communication, dated 23 May 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of Albania; Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Canada; Chile; China; Colombia; Costa Rica; El Salvador; European Union; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Israel; Japan; Kazakhstan; Republic of Korea; Liechtenstein; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Montenegro; New Zealand; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Paraguay; Peru; Russian Federation; Switzerland; the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Turkey; and Uruguay.

- 1. Ministers representing the following Members of the World Trade Organization (WTO): Albania; Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Canada; Chile; China; Colombia; Costa Rica; El Salvador; European Union; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Israel; Japan; Kazakhstan; Republic of Korea; Liechtenstein; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Montenegro; New Zealand; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Paraguay; Peru; Russian Federation; Switzerland; the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Turkey; and Uruguay, recognise the importance of good regulatory practice in facilitating trade in services.
- 2. We welcome the progress made in negotiation of Domestic Regulation disciplines since the Joint Statement adopted at MC11.
- 3. We commit to continue working on outstanding issues with a view to incorporating the outcome of our work in our respective schedules of specific commitments by the Twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference.
- 4. Bearing in mind the multilateral mandate of Article VI:4 of GATS, we continue to encourage all WTO Members to participate in order to improve the regulatory environment for trade in services globally.