

**Statement by Mr. Wang Shouwen,
Assistant Minister of Commerce of China,
at the Ministerial Round Table**

Thank you, Mme. Chair.

UNCTAD Secretary-General Kituyi,
Honourable Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To start with, I would like to congratulate UNCTAD on the successful convening of this World Investment Forum on behalf of the government of China. My colleagues and I have benefitted a lot from various meetings in the past few days.

At the opening statement, Secretary-General Kituyi mentioned that developing countries will face an annual investment shortage of 2.5 trillion USD over the lifetime of the sustainable development goals during 2016 to 2030.

Last year, China's outbound investment exceeded 100 billion, growing by 22%. For the first 8 months of this year, China's outward investment increased by 15%.

While the government of China encourages Chinese Businesses to go global by making investment abroad, we also urge Chinese enterprises to pay close attention to the sustainable economic development of host countries, helping them develop their economy, create more jobs and alleviate poverty.

In 2007, 4 Chinese companies joined hands with a local company in financing the establishment of the Sihanouk Special Economic Zone in Cambodia. This Special Economic Zone specializes mainly in textile, garment, machine tools and electronic household appliances. 43 Chinese companies have since started operations in the Zone, employing nearly 10,000 local workers. As a result, many residents in surrounding areas have been lifted out of poverty.

Chinese Businesses are also advised to pay attention to the

inclusive social development in developing countries, placing people at the center of the development efforts.

Along with investment projects, many Chinese companies have voluntarily worked to upgrade the infrastructure and the public health and education sectors of the host countries, so that local communities can share the benefits generated by Chinese investment. For instance, the China National Petroleum Corporation has in recent years invested over 80 million USD in the local infrastructure projects in Sudan, which benefitted 1.5 million local residents. The China Communication Construction Group has set up scholarships and education funds in Indonesia, Angola, Sudan and Algeria to support local education and vocational training.

Chinese Businesses are advised by the government of China to pay more attention to environmental protection of host countries, emphasizing on resource conservation and ecological awareness.

By means of sound project design, implementation and management, the Chinese enterprises investing in overseas projects have made every effort to conserve energy and cut emissions to minimize their impact on local environment. China Engineering Machinery Corporation, for instance, won the contract to build a coal power station in Sri Lanka, relieving the country of its heavy reliance on small power plants. It has considerable impact on reducing the electricity shortfall of the country and also on alleviating the environmental pollution.

Mme. Chair,

To fully tap the potentials of private investment, all stakeholders should work more closely to fight against all forms of protectionism in the field of investment, and create a more open and stable international investment environment favourable to the free flow of capital across countries. We are looking to

UNCTAD and other international organizations to play an even greater role in this field. For its part, China is ready to join hands with other partners to deepen our mutually beneficial cooperation in the interests of sustainable development of all countries.

Thank you for your attention.