

**STATEMENT BY NIGERIA AT THE TENTH SESSION OF THE TRADE
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, 12-16 NOVEMBER 2018,
GENEVA**

**Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Mr. President,

The Nigerian delegation wishes to congratulate the President, His Excellency, A.L Abdul Azeez, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka and the Vice Presidents for their election to steer the affairs of the 10th Session of the Trade and Development Commission. We are confident that under your able and inspiring leadership, we are going to have fruitful deliberations. We pledge our support and commitment towards the fulfilment of your mandate.

2. We also appreciate the work of UNCTAD Secretariat not only for the impeccable organization of this meeting, but also for the support it has been rendering to the developing countries, Nigeria included, in the areas of Trade and Development.

3. My delegation associate with the statements delivered by the Distinguished Representative of Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and that of Sudan on behalf of the African Group.

Mr. President,

4. My delegation lauds the work of the Multi Year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development, especially the energetic approach in bringing together producers of Gum Arabic in Africa, and wishes to commend the staff of the DITC Division. As the Commission will be considering the report of this Expert Meeting, we solicit the support

of delegates so that the work of the Meeting is carried to its logical conclusion.

Mr. President,

5. The rejuvenation of the production, processing and export of Gum Arabic products will assist in bring about the necessary structural transformation of the economies of the countries of the Sahel region in Africa, create jobs, mitigate the adverse effect of climate change and reduce some of the push factors of immigration in this area.

6. I thank you.