

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Yemen Accession – UK Statement

- I warmly welcome Yemen to the WTO family. It has been a long journey but one that I hope you feel has been worthwhile.
- The UK is pleased to co-Chair the Friends of Yemen group helping to support political transition and we look forward to working with you at the WTO as well.
- Economic integration has proven to be a key ingredient of development in economies across the world. I am confident that Yemen will reap the benefits that come with WTO membership and we stand ready to support this bilaterally and multilaterally.
- Yemen's accession is important also as an indication of faith in a strong multilateral rules-based trading system that has the WTO at its core. I am heartened to see that so many other countries, including least developed countries, are keen to move towards accession in the future. With this accession, and with the agreement that I am confident we will reach this week, we will leave Bali with a spring in our step and with a WTO that is ready to face the future.

DELIVERED BY

Lord Stephen Green
UK Minister for Trade and Investment