



National Statement by Mr. Saad Waseem, MNA & Parliamentary Secretary for Finance & Revenue, during Ministerial Meeting of Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP) on the sidelines of UNCTAD XVI

(22 October 2025, Geneva)

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, allow me to warmly congratulate Morocco on its assumption of the Chairmanship of the GSTP important meeting. We also extend our appreciation to you for convening this session and for steering our deliberations.

Pakistan equally welcomes the initiative to organize a Ministerial-level meeting of the GSTP on the sidelines of UNCTAD XVI. This is both timely and necessary, as it will provide political momentum to our collective efforts in advancing South-South trade.

Pakistan attaches great importance to South-South cooperation. The current global challenges — ranging from rising protectionism and unilateralism to climate and debt crises — make it imperative for developing countries to come together to find innovative ways of increasing trade among ourselves. In this context, the GSTP provides a unique and flexible platform to translate solidarity into concrete economic gains.

From Pakistan's perspective, two areas merit particular attention in our discussions.

First, we should focus on enhancing trade facilitation, which would allow developing countries to expand market access in a practical manner.

Second, we should strengthen capacity-building and technical assistance under the GSTP Trust Fund so that all developing countries including the LDCs and SIDS, can effectively benefit from South-South trade.

In conclusion, Pakistan is confident that together, we can unlock the full potential of South-South trade for inclusive and sustainable growth.

Thank you.
