

PRESS RELEASE

G-15 URGED UNCTAD TO CONCENTRATE ON ADVANCING NEW AND PRAGMATIC POLICY RESPONSES IN ADDRESSING MULTI-FACETED CHALLENGES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha, Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva and Chairman of the Personal Representatives of the Group of Fifteen (G-15), has urged member countries not to be deterred by the sluggish and slow recovering global economy and to identify and implement initiatives to address pressing concerns on trade and development. He said “Trade and development are important ingredients in international affairs and must be addressed collectively, as UNCTAD continues to advance independent thinking and discussions on the interplay of international trade, economic growth and development”.

Ambassador Aryasinha made these observations when he delivered a Joint Statement at 61st Session of UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board on 15 September 2014 in Geneva, on behalf of G-15, a Summit Level Group of Developing Countries comprising 17 member States - Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

This was G-15's third Joint Statement at UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board. This year G-15 also delivered Joint Statements at the 67th World Health Assembly; 13th Session of WIPO's Committee on Development and Intellectual Property; the High-Level Segment of WSIS+10; and the 103rd International Labour Conference in Geneva.