

Responsible Globalization

Trade & Investment Statement 2023



International trade and investment are at record levels but the prospects for continued global economic cooperation are uncertain.

Amid technological and environmental transformation, long-standing views on the role of the state in the economy are being upended.

Concerns around national security are leading to new restrictions on trade and investment.

A welcome focus on the labour and inclusivity outcomes of trade and investment is yet to deliver sustainable supply chains at scale or a complementary focus on domestic reform.

The threatened fragmentation of global value chains, adding new costs and restricting innovation, could worsen a slowdown in global growth.

Yet, done right, a diversification and reconfiguration of global commerce could boost growth and development and help us tackle the climate challenge.

Going forward, business and government must work towards:

- Re-Globalization: A re-globalization that allows a larger role for developing nations, thereby strengthening global resilience through diversity,
- DevTech: A technology-enabled push to facilitate trade, investment and services as a tool for development,
- Principles for intervention: Analysis, dialogue and agreement on broad principles for the use of subsidies and state intervention,
- Environmental and social reinforcement: Regulatory reinforcement of environmental and social objectives as goals of the trade and investment system,
- Good-faith cooperation: Re-engagement in global cooperation, characterized by commitment to transparent deliberation and respect for agreements.