



**Speech by Ambassador Javier Paulinich,
Permanent Secretary of the Latin American
and Caribbean Economic System (SELA),
at the closing session**

Economic and Technical Cooperation

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Honourable Mrs Teresa Moreira, Head of the Department of Competition and Consumer Policies of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Competition, UNCTAD;

Honourable Mr Alexandre Barreto de Souza, Chairman of the Administrative Council of Economic Defence (CADE) of the Federative Republic of Brazil;

High-Level Authorities and distinguished representatives in charge of the areas of Trade and Competition of Latin America and the Caribbean;

Distinguished participants and special guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the end of this fruitful meeting, we reaffirm the importance of maritime transport, infrastructure and port services in international economic relations services, particularly as an important contribution to growth and development of Latin America and the Caribbean.

It has also become evident that there are areas of work to be taken advantage of and enhanced, which will allow for maximizing the system of governance for the maritime sector in the region.

In this connection, the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System is completely willing to set into motion those working initiatives that are of interest for government institutions, competition agencies and port logistic communities, among others.

Finally, I wish to express to the Administrative Council of Economic Defence (CADE) of Brazil our recognition for its attentions and its outstanding performance in the organization and successful conduction of this VIII Annual Meeting of the Working Group on Trade and Competition in the iconic and unique city of Brasilia.

Thank you very much.