

## GERMANY – 60-SECOND OPENING SPEECH

Colleagues, Germany approaches this agreement with a clear strategic objective: strengthening Europe's economic resilience and our position in the Indo-Pacific.

We strongly support an ambitious trade framework — one that accelerates tariff elimination, expands market access for our industries, and diversifies our supply chains away from over-dependence on any single partner, while maintaining our commitment to sustainable development.

We believe in balanced, enforceable rules: strong protection for investors, flexible rules of origin, open digital trade with no data localization requirements, and robust intellectual property enforcement.

At the same time, Germany recognizes concerns shared by many Member States. We support credible labor and environmental standards, transparent monitoring mechanisms, and safeguard clauses that protect sensitive sectors without undermining the core of the agreement.

Our goal today is simple: to build a unified European position that is economically sound, geopolitically strategic, and socially responsible. Germany is ready to work constructively with all partners here to reach that balance.