



**Trade Policy Review Body**

**OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS  
IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING ENVIRONMENT**

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL<sup>1</sup>

*(Mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018)*

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<sup>1</sup> This Report covers the period mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018. It is presented pursuant to Paragraph G of the Trade Policy Review Mechanism mandate and aims to assist the Trade Policy Review Body to undertake its annual overview of developments in the international trading environment that are having an impact on the multilateral trading system. The Report is issued under the sole responsibility of the Director-General. It has no legal effect on the rights and obligations of Members, nor does it have any legal implications with respect to the conformity of any measure noted in the Report with any WTO Agreements or any provisions thereof.

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**Box 1 About the WTO trade monitoring report**

The Trade Monitoring Report is first and foremost a transparency exercise. It is intended to be purely factual and has no legal effect on the rights and obligations of WTO Members. It is without prejudice to Members' negotiating positions and has no legal implication with respect to the conformity of any measure noted in the Report with any WTO Agreement or any provision thereof.

The Report aims to shed light on the latest trends in the implementation of a broad range of policy measures that facilitate as well as restrict the flow of trade and provide an update on the state of global trade. The Report neither seeks to pronounce itself on whether a trade measure is protectionist, nor does it question the right of Members to take certain trade measures. The Reports continue to evolve in terms of the coverage and analysis of trade-related issues and take into account discussions among WTO Members in the Trade Policy Review Body (TPRB).

Regarding trade remedy actions, it has been highlighted in discussions among WTO Members that some of these measures are taken to address what is perceived by some as a market distortion resulting from trade practices of entities in another trading partner. The WTO Anti-dumping and Subsidies Agreements permit WTO Members to impose anti-dumping (AD) or countervailing (CVD) duties to offset what is perceived to be injurious dumping or subsidization of products exported from one Member to another. The Reports are not in a position to establish if, where or when such perceived distortive practices have taken place. The Reports have never categorized the use of trade remedies as protectionist, or WTO-inconsistent, or criticized governments for utilizing them. The main objective of monitoring these measures is to provide additional transparency and to identify emerging trends in the application of trade policy measures.

With respect to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) measures covered in the Report, it is important to emphasize that they are neither classified nor counted as trade-restrictive or trade-facilitating, and the increasing trend with respect to the number of notifications of such measures is carefully linked to the transparency provisions of the Agreements only. The Reports have consistently underlined the basic premise that an increased number of SPS and TBT notifications does not automatically imply greater use of protectionist or unnecessarily trade-restrictive measures, but rather enhanced transparency regarding these measures. Finally, the Reports clearly emphasize that the SPS and TBT Agreements specifically allow Members to take measures in the pursuit of a number of legitimate policy objectives.

The WTO Secretariat strives to ensure that the Trade Monitoring Reports are factual and objective. Since 2009, the Reports have sought to provide a nuanced perspective to developments in the area of international trade. For example, the Reports have consistently emphasized that although the number of specific and often long-term restrictive trade measures remains a source of serious concern, other key factors may influence trade developments. During discussions of the Trade Monitoring Reports at the TPRB, Members have also drawn attention to this point and to the fact that, with respect to both, vigilance remains imperative.

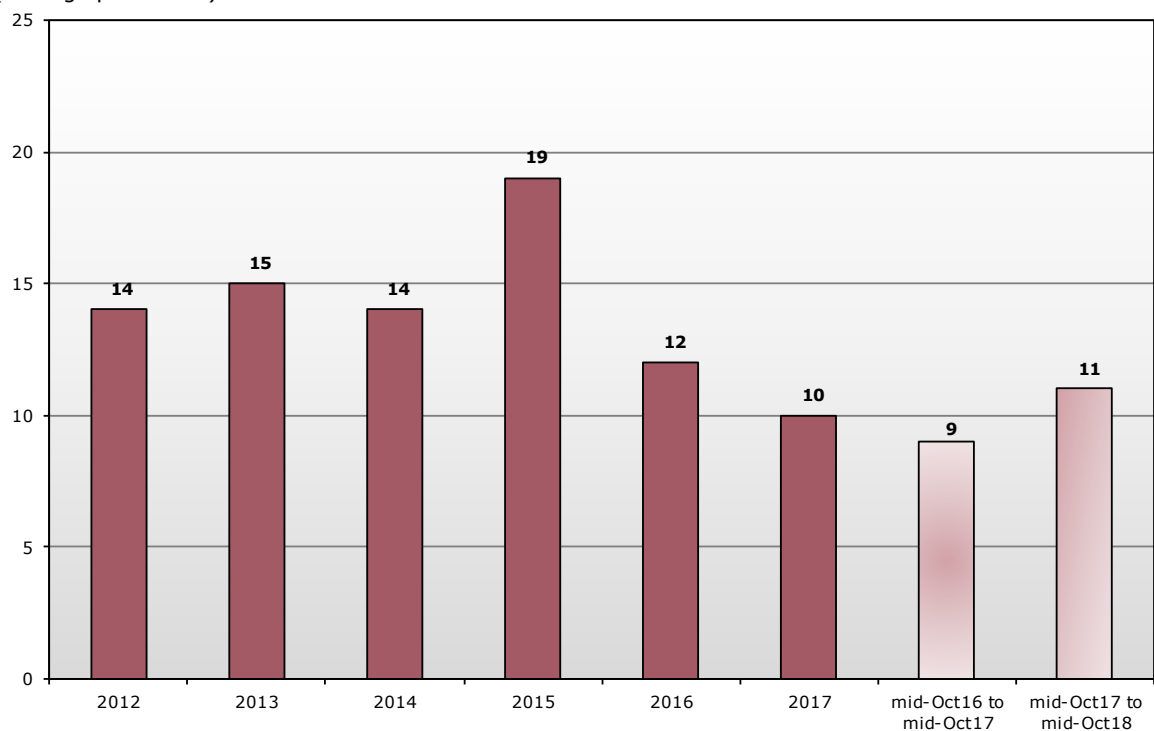
Source: WTO Secretariat.

**KEY FINDINGS**

- This Report covers new trade and trade-related measures implemented by WTO Members between 16 October 2017 and 15 October 2018. It shows a number of important trends and developments in global trade policy making. While WTO Members continued to implement trade-facilitating measures, the figures show a significant increase in trade coverage of trade-restrictive measures. This provides a first factual insight into the trade-restrictive measures imposed in the context of current trade tensions.
- WTO Members applied 137 new trade-restrictive measures during the review period, including tariff increases, quantitative restrictions, import taxes and export duties. This equates to an average of 11 new measures per month, which is higher compared to the average of nine measures recorded in the previous annual overview.
- The trade coverage of the import-restrictive measures (USD 588.3 billion) is more than seven times larger than that recorded in the previous annual overview.
- WTO Members also implemented 162 measures aimed at facilitating trade, including eliminating or reducing tariffs and simplified customs procedures for imports and exports. At close to 14 trade-facilitating measures per month, this is an increase compared to the average of 11 measures recorded in the previous annual overview.
- The trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures (USD 295.6 billion) has also risen significantly during this period and is 1.8 times larger than the figure reported in the previous annual overview, but half that of trade-restrictive measures.
- The review period witnessed a similar trend in initiations of trade remedy investigations by WTO Members and a sharp increase in terminations of trade remedy actions, compared to the previous annual overview. Trade remedy measures continue to be a very important trade policy tool for WTO Members accounting for about 63% of all trade measures captured in this Report. Initiations of anti-dumping investigations continue to be the most frequent trade remedy action. The trade coverage of initiations of trade remedy investigations recorded in this Report is estimated at USD 93.6 billion, more than USD 17 billion higher than the previous annual overview. The trade coverage of terminations of trade remedy actions is estimated at USD 18.3 billion, USD 6 billion higher than the figure reported in the last annual overview.
- The proliferation of trade-restrictive actions and the uncertainty created by such actions could place economic recovery in jeopardy. Further escalation would carry potentially large risks for global trade, with knock-on effects for economic growth, jobs and consumer prices around the world.
- WTO Members must use all means at their disposal to de-escalate the situation. The WTO will do all it can to support its membership to this end and collective leadership from WTO Members will be essential.

**Trade-restrictive measures**

(average per month)

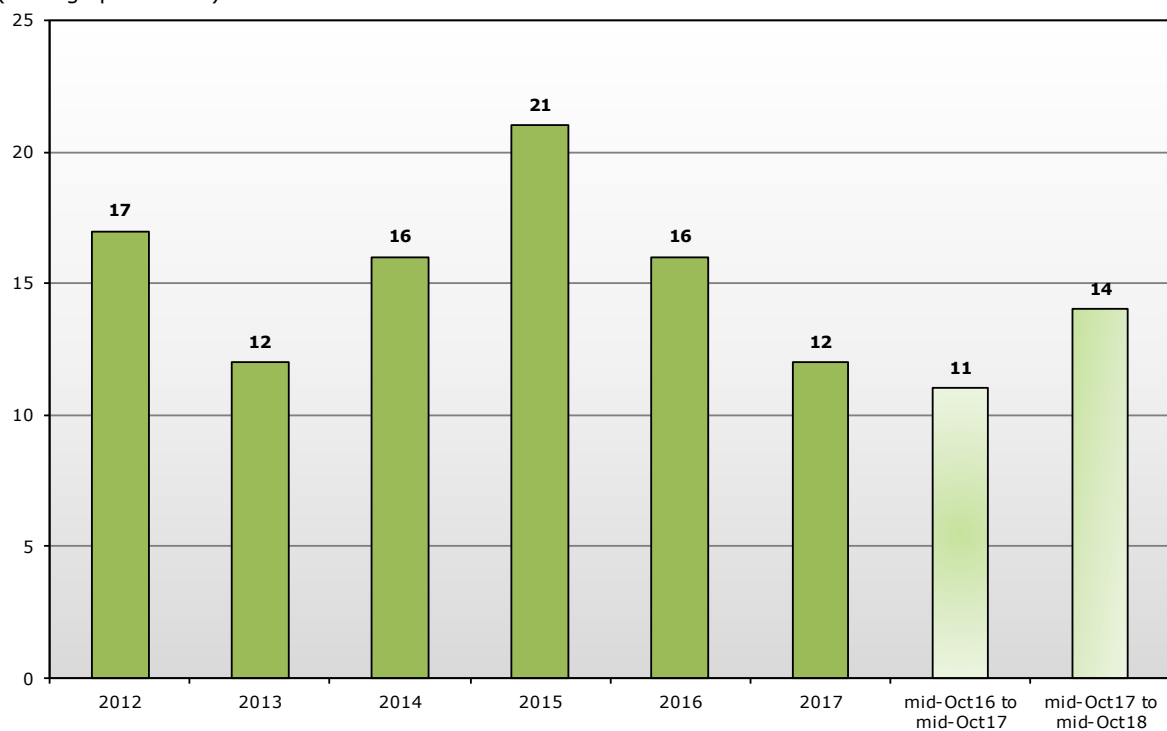


Note: Values are rounded. Changes to averages of previous years reflect continuing fine-tuning of, and updates to, the TMDB.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Trade-facilitating measures**

(average per month)

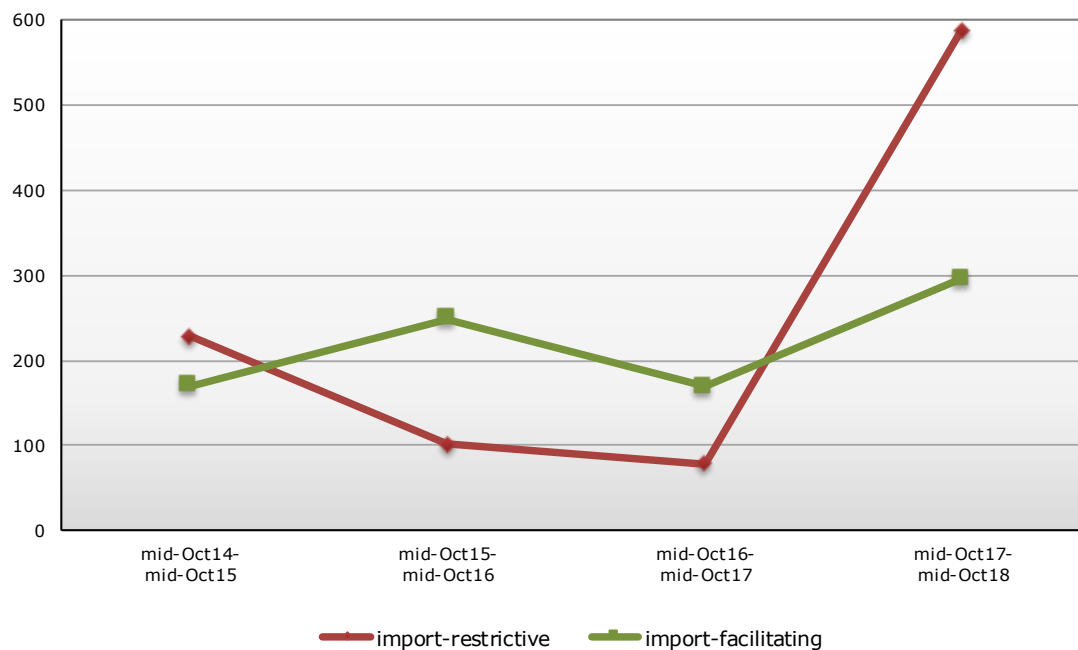


Note: Values are rounded. Changes to averages of previous years reflect continuing fine-tuning of, and updates to, the TMDB.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Trade coverage, current and previous reports

(USD billion)

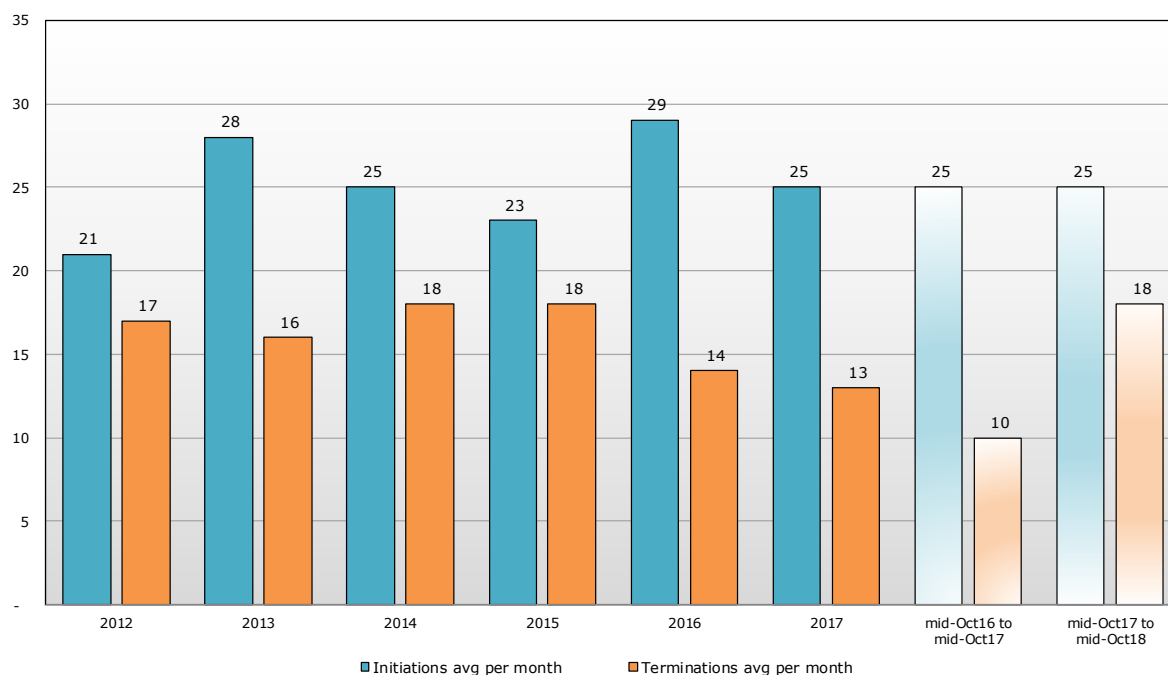


Note: These figures represent the trade coverage of the measures (i.e. annual imports of the products concerned from economies affected by the measures) and not the impact of the trade measures. These are estimates based on 2013 to 2017 import data. Liberalization associated with the 2015 Expansion of the WTO's Information Technology Agreement is not included in these figures.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### WTO trade remedies initiations and terminations

(average per month)

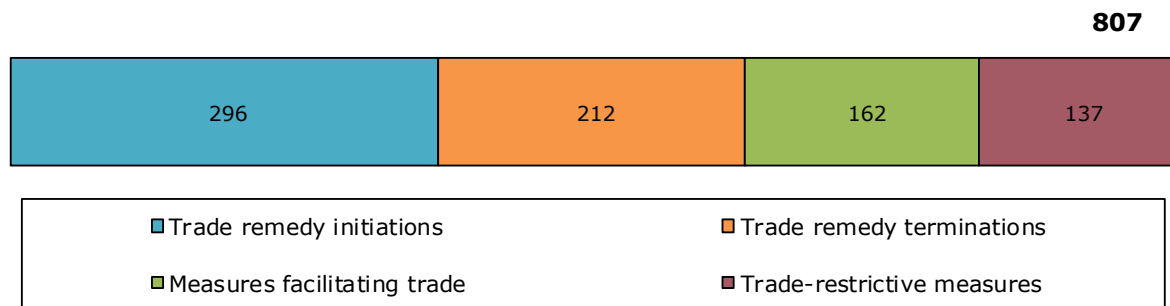


Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Trade measures, mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018**

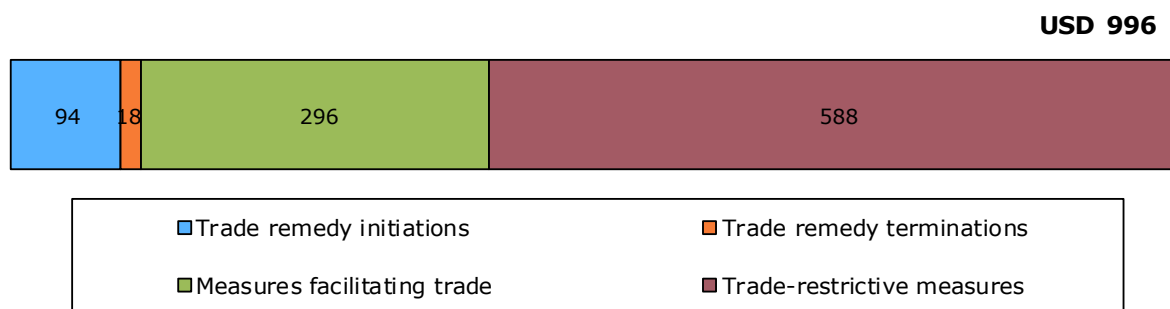
(by number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Trade coverage of import measures, mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018**

(USD billion)



Note: 2017 figures. ITA expansion measures are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This WTO Trade Monitoring Report covers new trade and trade-related measures implemented by WTO Members between 16 October 2017 and 15 October 2018.<sup>2</sup> The review period saw a continuation of the sharp escalation of protectionist rhetoric and trade tensions reported in the July 2018 Report.

World trade growth slowed during the review period as trade tensions multiplied and global financial conditions tightened. The volume of merchandise trade was up 3.4% in the first half of 2018 after rising 5.4% in the second half of 2017. Slower trade growth coincided with the introduction of new trade measures targeting a variety of exports from large economies. Direct impacts of the new measures have been modest through mid-October but rising trade policy uncertainty and falling export orders could weigh on trade and output.

Trade should continue to expand in the remainder of 2018 and in 2019, but at a more moderate pace than previously forecast. The WTO trade forecast of 27 September 2018 anticipated world merchandise trade volume growth of 3.9% in 2018, slowing to 3.7% in 2019. Risks to the forecast are tilted to the downside, due to the possibility of a further rise in trade tensions and increased financial volatility as developed economies tighten monetary policy.

More specifically, this Report shows that WTO Members applied 137 new trade-restrictive measures during the review period, including tariff increases, quantitative restrictions, imposition of import taxes and export duties, amounting to a monthly average of 11 new measures per month. This represents an increase compared to the average of nine measures recorded in the previous annual overview. The main sectors targeted by the new restrictions were electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS 85) 20.5%; machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 14%; mineral fuels and oils (HS 27) 8.7%; and vehicles, parts and accessories thereof (HS 87) 7.4%.

The trade coverage of the import-restrictive measures implemented during the review period is estimated at USD 588.3 billion. This is more than seven times larger than the figure for the previous annual overview and the largest coverage of such measures recorded by the trade monitoring exercise.

WTO Members also implemented 162 measures aimed at facilitating trade during the review period, including reducing or eliminating tariffs and simplified customs procedures for imports and exports. At almost 14 trade-facilitating measures per month, this is an increase compared to the average of 11 measures recorded for the previous annual overview. The main sectors where trade facilitating measures were taken include vehicles, parts and accessories thereof (HS 87) 31.0%; machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 11.7%; electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS 85) 9.7%; and pharmaceutical products (HS 30) 7.5%.

The trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures is estimated at USD 295.6 billion. This is 1.8 times higher than that recorded in the previous annual overview, but half that of trade-restrictive measures reported for the current review period.

With these data, this Report provides a first factual insight into the trade-restrictive measures imposed in the context of current trade tensions. Figures show that these measures affect hundreds of billions of dollars of imports. The proliferation of trade-restrictive actions and the uncertainty created by such actions could place economic recovery in jeopardy. Further escalation would carry potentially large risks for global trade, with knock-on effects for economic growth, jobs and consumer prices around the world. WTO Members must use all means at their disposal to de-escalate the situation. The WTO will do all it can to support its Members to this end.

On trade remedy measures, the period under review witnessed a similar trend in the monthly average of initiations of investigations and a sharp increase in terminations compared to the previous annual overview. Initiations of AD investigations continue to be the most frequent trade remedy action. This share is slightly lower than in previous years whereas the share of CVD investigations has increased. Trade remedy measures continue to be a very important trade policy tool for WTO Members and account for about 63% of all trade measures captured in this Report. The main sectors

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<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise indicated in the relevant Section.



targeted by trade remedy initiations during the review period were iron and steel (HS 72) and articles of iron and steel (HS 73) which combined represented just over 50%; electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS 85) 8.7%; and furniture, bedding, mattresses, lamps (HS 94) 8.4%. The trade coverage of trade remedy initiations introduced during the review period by WTO Members was USD 93.6 billion and that of trade remedy terminations USD 18.3 billion, both significantly larger than the trade coverage recorded for these measures in the previous annual overview.

With respect to general economic support measures, a more comprehensive approach has been attempted by the Secretariat to further enhance transparency. However, it was again not possible to establish a balanced and comprehensive annex, mainly because of the low participation and response rate of WTO Members to the request for and verification of such information. The information gathered by the Secretariat clearly suggests that the nature of general economic support measures has evolved considerably over the past decade to include a more strategic application of subsidies. WTO Members may wish to continue their discussion on how transparency on such measures and programmes may be increased as well as how information gathering in this area may be improved.

A range of other subjects are also covered by this Report. WTO Members' notifications of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures and of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) measures have increased during the review period, with most new notifications submitted by developing Members. The SPS and TBT notification obligations are meant to promote enhanced predictability and transparency regarding measures taken to address legitimate policy objectives. As in previous Reports, the majority of regular SPS notifications related to food safety, whereas the bulk of emergency SPS measures related to animal health. The majority of TBT measures indicated the protection of human health or safety as their main objective. Since 2008, the number of notified TBT measures mentioning national security as an objective has increased. In both the SPS and TBT Committees, WTO Members have dedicated considerable time to discussing Specific Trade Concerns (STCs), suggesting an increasing use of the Committees by WTO Members as forums in which trade concerns may be resolved non-litigiously.

The Report provides evidence of the continuous increase of trade concerns raised in a wider range of WTO bodies during the review period. A large number of trade concerns were raised in nearly all Committees and Councils, and several trade concerns were raised in successive meetings of the same WTO body, suggesting that these concerns address more persistent problems. As observed in recent Trade Monitoring Reports, several trade concerns were raised in more than one WTO body, indicating that they involve technically complex and cross-cutting issues. WTO Members continue to use a large cross-section of WTO Committees to engage trading partners on real or potential areas of trade friction.

In the area of agriculture, WTO Members continued to make use of the Committee on Agriculture (CoA) as a forum to discuss agricultural policies and issues related to the implementation of commitments. WTO Members continued asking questions on individual notifications and under Article 18.6 of the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA). Many of these questions addressed domestic support notifications or the implementation of domestic support commitments. The average number of questions raised under Article 18.6 per meeting has been increasing since 2011 reaching an all-time high in 2018. Among the new issues raised during the review period, more than 45% related to Members' domestic support policies and about 30% sought clarifications on policies that potentially subsidized exports.

Although the dispute settlement system remains under pressure, including the ongoing impasse over the appointment of Appellate Body members, this Report shows that Members continue to resort to it as a means of resolving their trade disputes. During the review period, the level of dispute settlement activity remained high, and the number of WTO Members requesting consultations in new disputes increased compared to the previous annual overview.

The Report also illustrates that, with a few exceptions, the compliance with notification requirements of the various WTO Agreements remains very uneven. Although there have been significant and sustained efforts by some delegations to bring the overall record of their notifications further up to date, the general sense is that progress remains slow. The lack of compliance with notification obligations across WTO bodies is problematic because it undermines individual agreements and more generally the operation of the multilateral trading system. There are several reasons for this low compliance and an important one relates to the lack of capacity of many WTO Members to fulfil their

notification obligations, despite the continued efforts by the WTO Secretariat and the Committees. This lack of capacity, as well as other reasons behind the poor compliance must be addressed collectively by the WTO membership.

The 2015 expansion of the WTO's Information Technology Agreement (ITA) continues to feature as an important contributor to trade facilitation. The trade coverage of liberalization specifically associated with measures implemented in the context of the ITA Expansion amounted to around USD 573.2 billion, according to Secretariat estimates.

Progress continues to be seen on the implementation of the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement. Many Members concluded their domestic ratification processes during the review period, raising the total number of acceptances to about 84% of the entire WTO membership.

On trade in services, several new measures were introduced by WTO Members and Observers. Most of these measures are horizontal in nature, affecting different modes of supply across various sectors. Among sector-specific measures, most relate to telecommunication, ICT and audio-visual services, financial services and transport services. In comparison with previous Reports, this review period has seen a greater number of measures adopted on national security grounds, including in relation to the supply through commercial presence, as well as policies affecting Internet and other network-enabled services. Even though most of the new measures are trade-facilitating, several appear to be trade-restrictive.

The Report also draws attention to developments in the area of Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), including the ever-stronger link between intellectual property (IP) and trade. WTO Members continued to develop and diversify their own national strategies to streamline IP into the economy and to modernize and fine-tune their IP legislation and administration.

Building on the decision taken by Members at MC11 in Buenos Aires work continued to advance negotiations on fisheries subsidies. Groups of Members also continued to pursue their discussions on issues including electronic commerce, investment facilitation, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and women's economic empowerment.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. This Report is submitted to the Trade Policy Review Body (TPRB) pursuant to Paragraph G of the Trade Policy Review Mechanism mandate in Annex 3 to the WTO Agreement. This provides for an annual Report by the Director-General to assist the TPRB in undertaking its annual overview of developments in the international trading environment that are having an impact on the multilateral trading system. It builds on the Director-General's Report to the TPRB on trade-related developments circulated to Members on 10 July 2018.<sup>3</sup>

1.2. This Report covers the period from 16 October 2017 to 15 October 2018, unless otherwise indicated.<sup>4</sup> Measures implemented outside the reviewed period are not included in the Annexes. The Report is intended to be purely factual and is issued under the sole responsibility of the Director-General. It has no legal effect on the rights and obligations of Members, nor does it have any legal implication with respect to the conformity of any measure noted in the Report with any WTO Agreement or any provision thereof. Specifically, the Report does not question the explicit right of Members to resort to trade-remedy measures, and is without prejudice to Members' negotiating positions.

1.3. At the Eighth WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2011, Ministers recognized the regular work undertaken by the TPRB through the monitoring exercise of trade and trade-related measures, took note of the work initially done in the context of the global financial and economic crisis and directed it to be continued and strengthened. They invited the Director-General to continue presenting his trade monitoring reports on a regular basis, and asked the TPRB to consider these monitoring reports in addition to the meeting dedicated to undertaking the annual overview of developments in the international trading environment. Ministers committed to duly comply with the existing transparency obligations and reporting requirements needed for the preparation of these monitoring reports, and to continue to support and cooperate with the WTO Secretariat in a constructive fashion.<sup>5</sup>

1.4. Section 2 of the Report provides a comprehensive overview of recent economic and trade developments. Section 3 presents an account of selected trade and trade-related policy trends. Overviews of policy developments in trade in services and trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights are included in Sections 4 and 5, respectively. Section 6 covers the transparency of trade policies across a wide range of WTO bodies. The Report's annexes list specific trade policy measures of individual WTO Members and Observers implemented during the period under review in four categories: trade-facilitating measures (Annex 1), trade-remedy actions (Annex 2), other trade and trade-related measures (Annex 3), and services measures (Annex 4). The country-specific measures listed in the four annexes are new measures implemented by Members and Observers during the period under review.<sup>6</sup> The compilation of all measures that have been recorded in Annexes 1-3 by the trade-monitoring reports since October 2008 is available in the Trade Monitoring Database.<sup>7</sup> Specific developments related to SPS measures and TBT are covered separately in Section 3.

1.5. Information on the measures included in this Report has been collected from inputs submitted by Members and Observers, as well as from other official and public sources.<sup>8</sup> Replies to the Director-General's initial request for information on measures taken during the period under review and replies to the requests for verification were received from 80 Members<sup>9</sup> (see box below), which represents 49% of the membership, and covers around 93% of world imports.<sup>10</sup> Two Observers also

<sup>3</sup> WTO document WT/TPR/OV/W/12, 10 July 2018.

<sup>4</sup> In addition to the trade policy measures implemented during the period under review and recorded by this Report, other measures which impact trade flows may have been taken by WTO Members and Observers.

<sup>5</sup> WTO document WT/L/848, 19 December 2011.

<sup>6</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Report or in its annexes implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat as to whether such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in this Report implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, as to the consistency of any measure referred to in the Report with the provisions of any WTO Agreement.

<sup>7</sup> Viewed at: <http://tmdb.wto.org/>. The database does not include SPS and TBT measures, general economic support measures, services measures or TRIPS-related measures.

<sup>8</sup> Appendix 1 contains a full overview of the participation of Members and Observers in the preparation of this Report.

<sup>9</sup> The European Union and its member States counted separately.

<sup>10</sup> This figure includes intra-EU trade.

replied to the request for information. Overall, 120 Members were covered in the Secretariat's request for verification of measures. Participation in the verification process was uneven, and in many cases the Secretariat received only partial responses and often after the indicated deadline.<sup>11</sup> Where it has not been possible to confirm the information, this is noted in the Annexes.

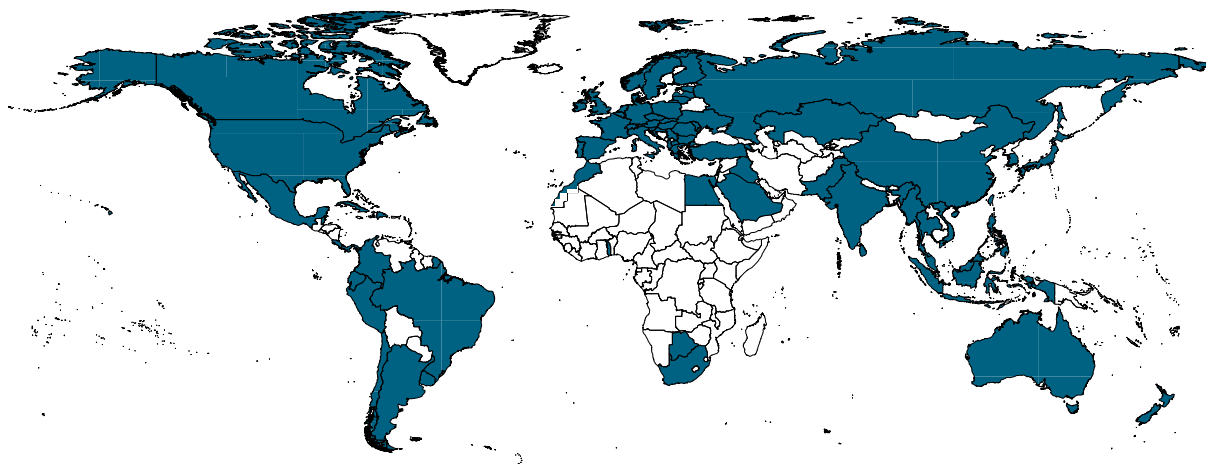
1.6. The OECD has contributed two topical boxes to this Report. The first explores two hypothetical trade scenarios and the second deals with fisheries subsidies. The International Trade Centre has provided a box on how standards certification and export status are interlinked.

### Participation in the preparation of this Report

Albania	Indonesia	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of
Argentina	Iraq, Rep. of*	Serbia*
Armenia	Japan	Seychelles
Australia	Kazakhstan	Singapore
Belize	Korea, Republic of	South Africa
Botswana	Macao, China	Sri Lanka
Brazil	Malaysia	Switzerland
Canada	Mauritius	Chinese Taipei
Chile	Mexico	Thailand
China	Moldova, Republic of	The former Yugoslav
Colombia	Morocco	Republic of Macedonia
Costa Rica	Myanmar	Togo
Cuba	New Zealand	Turkey
Dominican Republic	Norway	Ukraine
Ecuador	Pakistan	United States of America
Egypt	Panama	Uruguay
European Union (28)	Peru	Viet Nam
Hong Kong, China	Philippines	
India	Russian Federation	

\* Observer.

### WTO Members and Observers participating in the WTO monitoring exercise



Source: WTO Secretariat.

<sup>11</sup> The information contained in the Annexes reflects the overall participation in the exercise and responses to the verification request and should therefore not be considered exhaustive.

## 2 RECENT ECONOMIC AND TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

### 2.1 Overview

2.1. World trade growth slowed during the review period as trade tensions increased and global financial conditions tightened. The volume of merchandise trade as measured by the average of seasonally-adjusted exports and imports was up 3.4% in the first half of 2018, after having risen 5.4% in the second half of 2017. Slower trade growth coincided with a rise in actual and proposed trade measures targeting a variety of exports from large economies. The impact of the new trade measures has been relatively modest through mid-October but the uncertainty that they generate may already be weighing on trade and output through a reduced pace of investment spending.

2.2. Merchandise exports of developing economies were flat in the first half of the year, and imports of developed countries plateaued similarly. Although developed countries recorded annualized quarter-on-quarter growth of 5.0% in the volume of their exports in Q2, their imports grew just 0.2%. Meanwhile, developing economies' exports were unchanged in the second quarter (0.0%) even as their imports increased at a 5.2% annualized rate.

2.3. Trade growth in the first half of 2018 was stronger in value terms than in volume terms, due to rising prices for traded goods and services. The current U.S. dollar value of world merchandise exports was up 13% year-on-year in the first half of this year, while the value of commercial services imports was up 12%. An important component of export and import prices is energy prices, mostly composed of oil. These rose approximately 14% between January and September of 2018, according to World Bank commodity price statistics.

2.4. Output as measured by gross domestic product (GDP) has remained strong in 2018 despite the slower pace of trade expansion, but growth has become less balanced across countries and regions. GDP growth in the United States accelerated to 4.2% (annualized) in the second quarter, from 2.2% in the first quarter. Meanwhile, growth in the European Union picked up slightly, rising to an annualized rate of 1.8% in Q2 from 1.7% in Q1, but the pace of expansion remained below the 2.5% average of the second half of 2017. Asian economies, including China and Japan, saw GDP growth slow in Q1 before rebounding in Q2. China's year-on-year GDP growth of 6.5% in Q3 was below expectations.

2.5. There are no readily available quarterly figures for world GDP growth, but OECD estimates of G20 growth provide a reasonable approximation. These show global growth moderating to 3.6% at purchasing power parity in Q1, before picking up to 4.1% in Q2.

2.6. Trade should continue to expand in the remainder of 2018 and in 2019, but at a more moderate pace than previously forecast. The Secretariat's most recent trade forecast of 27 September 2018 anticipated world merchandise trade volume growth of 3.9% in 2018, slowing to 3.7% in 2019. Global trade growth in 2018 is likely to fall within a range of from 3.4% to 4.4%, with risks tilted to the downside.

2.7. Trade policy is not the only factor weighing on the global economy. Rising interest rates in developed countries and tighter credit conditions in emerging economies have contributed to increased volatility in financial markets and strong exchange rate fluctuations. These factors are likely to persist in the forecast period. Structural factors, including ageing populations in developed countries and economic rebalancing in China, could weigh on growth over the medium to long term. Constructive engagement between countries to resolve their differences on trade issues will increase the likelihood of more positive economic outcomes being realized.

### 2.2 Economic Developments

2.8. Historically, world trade has tended to grow faster than world output as measured by GDP. The ratio of world merchandise trade volume growth to world real GDP growth at market exchange rates has averaged around 1.5 since the 1950s, with significant fluctuations over shorter time periods. Referred to as the "elasticity" of trade, this ratio rose above 2.0 in the 1990s, then fell to around 1.0 for several years after the financial crisis, before rebounding to 1.5 in 2017. The elasticity looks set to drop back to 1.3 in 2018 and 2019, since rising trade tensions are expected to take a greater toll on world trade than on world GDP.

2.9. Since the start of the year, most economic forecasters have predicted a moderation in world GDP growth in 2018 and 2019, following the strong increase of 2017. GDP forecasts have recently been revised slightly downward, although the pace of expansion is still expected to remain strong compared to recent years. Growth has become less balanced, with activity slowing in some regions and accelerating in others. Risks to the outlook have also been accumulating, which could contribute to financial volatility in the coming months and years.

2.10. In the United States, GDP growth accelerated to an annualized rate of 4.2% in Q2, up from 2.2% in the previous quarter. Private final consumption expenditure made the biggest contribution to growth in the latest period, accounting for roughly two thirds of the overall increase. Fixed investment also made a positive contribution, although this was cancelled by a fall in inventory investment. Unemployment has continued to decline, dropping to 3.7% in April from 4.4% for the whole of 2017. With inflationary pressures building, and an economy operating at close to potential, the U.S. Federal Reserve has proceeded to raise interest rates, triggering volatility in foreign exchange and financial markets around the world. Managing the normalization of interest rates will continue to be a challenge for the U.S. Federal Reserve.

2.11. Growth in the euro area was weaker than in the European Union overall, at 1.5% in Q2, down from 1.6% in the previous quarter. Growth picked up to 1.6% in Q2 in the United Kingdom, after a weak 0.4% rise in Q1. Fixed investment in the United Kingdom declined in the second quarter but private consumption remained strong. Growth in fixed investment slowed in Germany, picked up in France, and was stable in Italy in Q2. EU-wide unemployment continues to decline gradually, falling to 6.8% in August, keeping the European Central Bank's plans for monetary tightening on track.

2.12. GDP growth rebounded in Japan, accelerating to 3.0% in Q2 after registering a decline of 0.9% in Q1. The drop in Q1 was caused by stagnant fixed investment, falling inventory investment, and a decline in private consumption, all of which recovered to varying degrees in Q2. Japan's unemployment rate remained characteristically low, at 2.4% in August, below the 2.8% average for 2017.

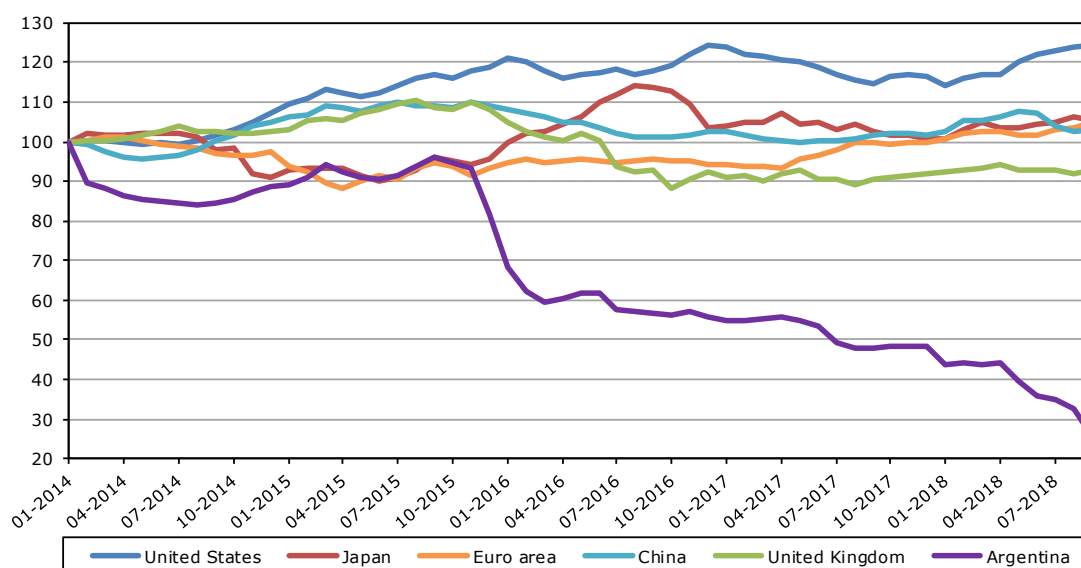
2.13. Quarterly GDP growth in China accelerated to around 7.4% annualized in Q2, after falling to 5.7% in Q1. No harmonized unemployment rate is available for China, but purchasing managers' indices (PMIs) suggest that employers are looking to shed some workers in the face of the uncertainty caused by rising trade tensions. On the other hand, PMIs also point to stronger growth in the services sector, which is a key driver of employment in China. Recently-announced year-on-year GDP growth of 6.5% for China in Q3 was below expectations, due to weak manufacturing output, particularly in the automotive sector, but this pace of growth remains high compared to other large economies.

2.14. South American economies continue to suffer from slow growth and economic crises. Brazil's GDP grew at an annualized rate of 0.7% in Q2 2018, only slightly stronger than the 0.5% increase in Q1. Meanwhile, a currency crisis caused Argentina's output to plunge 4.0% in absolute terms in Q2, which is equivalent to an annual rate of 15%. A USD 50 billion line of credit from the IMF has been established to stabilize the Argentine peso and support economic recovery. Monetary tightening in developed countries could trigger further bouts of volatility in emerging economies.

2.15. Fluctuations in prices and exchange rates can strongly influence nominal trade statistics, which are usually expressed in U.S. dollars. Recent developments are illustrated by Chart 2.1, which shows indices of nominal effective exchange rates for selected economies through September 2018. Higher interest rates have put upward pressure on the dollar, which has appreciated by 9.0% against a broad basket of currencies since January 2018. The Japanese yen and the euro recorded smaller increases (4.9% and 4.0%, respectively), while the Chinese yuan has been stable (0.5%). In contrast, capital outflows have triggered a 40.7% decline in the value of the Argentine peso against the currencies of its trading partners over the same period.

**Chart 2.1 Nominal effective exchange rate indices for selected economies, January 2014-September 2018<sup>a</sup>**

(index, January 2014 = 100)



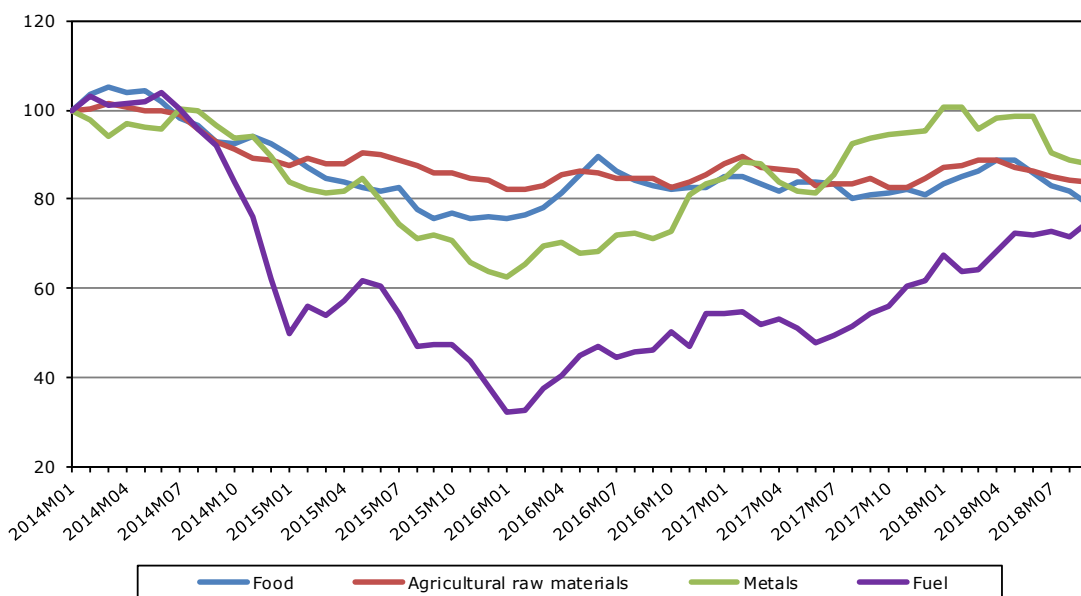
a Nominal effective exchange rate indices against a broad basket of currencies.

Source: Bank for International Settlements.

2.16. Chart 2.2 shows recent developments in primary commodity prices through September. Oil prices have continued to rise in recent months, while other commodity prices have fallen, possibly in response to an appreciating U.S. dollar. This suggests that the oil price increase represents a relative price change compared to other goods, rather than a change in the value of the denomination currency, the U.S. dollar. In the past, higher oil prices have tended to reduce GDP growth by raising energy costs for firms and squeezing budgets of consumers. However, as the global economy has become less energy intensive, this tendency seems to have diminished. Higher oil prices should also boost revenues of net exporters.

**Chart 2.2 Prices of primary commodities, January 2014 – September 2018**

(index, January 2014 = 100)



Source: World Bank Commodity Prices.

### 2.3 Merchandise Trade

2.17. Chart 2.3 shows year-on-year growth in the U.S. dollar value of world merchandise trade (red line), as well as contributions to nominal trade growth from developed and developing economies (stacked bars). World exports were up 11.8% in the second quarter and imports were up 12.0%. Developing economies were responsible for nearly half of the import increase (5.5 percentage points, or 47%), and developed countries accounted for the rest (6.3 percentage points, or 53%). Developments on the import side were nearly identical, with developed and developing economies each contributing roughly half of the overall increase in trade values.

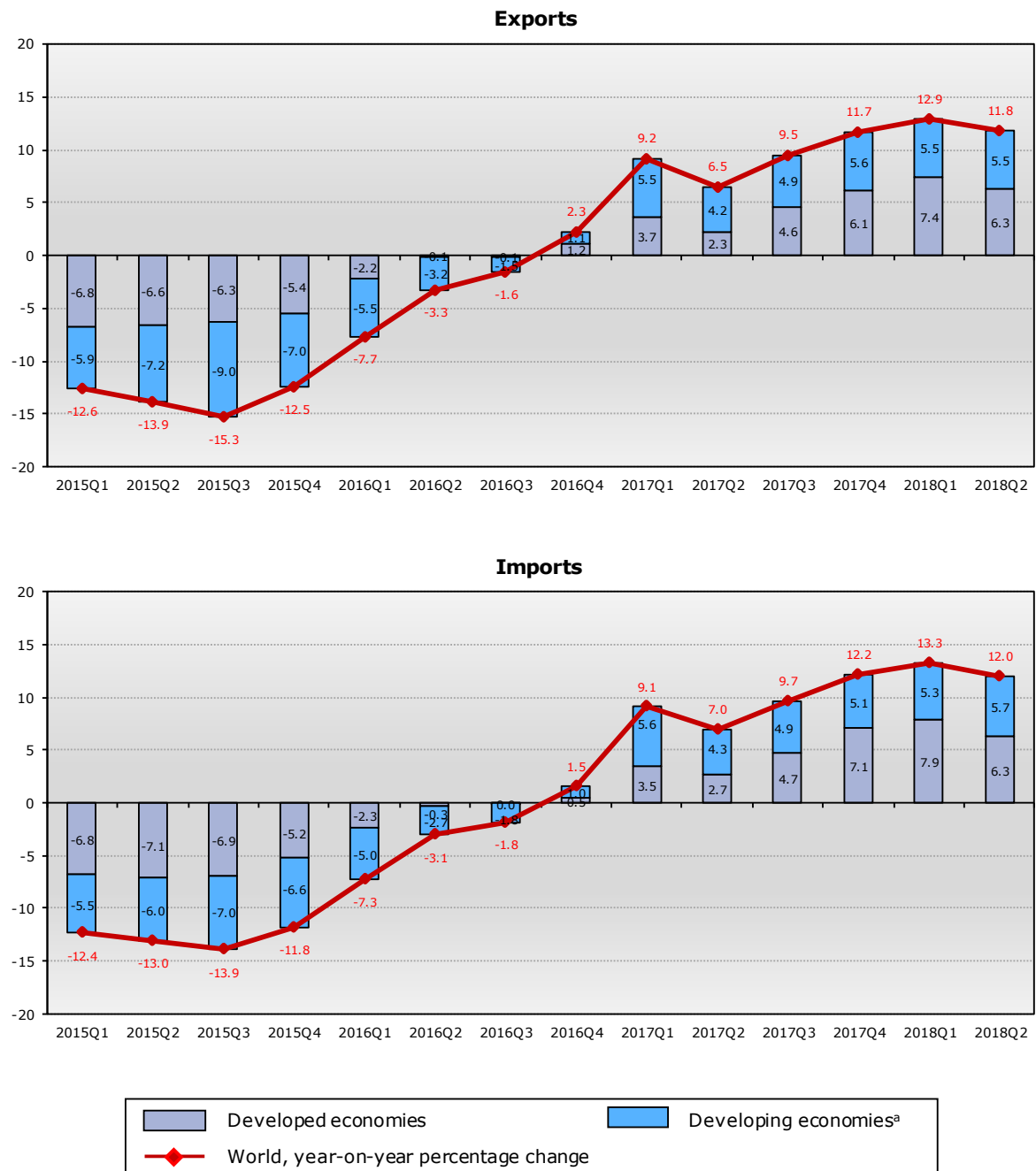
2.18. Trade volume growth was mixed in the first half of 2018, as some countries and regions maintained steady upward trends while others stagnated (Chart 2.4). Developing Asia, which includes China, saw exports rise 3.6% and imports jump 7.4% year-on-year in Q2. U.S. export growth was stronger than Developing Asia's in Q2, at 7.1%, while its import growth was weaker, at 4.1%. EU-extra exports were up 3.4% in the second quarter over Q2 of the previous year, and imports were up 1.1%. Intra-EU trade as measured by exports was also up 3.0% in the latest quarter. Japan's exports and imports rose 4.5% and 0.7%, respectively, in Q2. Meanwhile, Brazil recorded a year-on-year decline of 2.1% in its exports, while its imports increased by 9.7%. Despite strong year-on-year increases, quarter-on-quarter growth was weak, with the United States, EU-extra, Japan and Brazil recording declines in import demand in Q2.

2.19. Monthly merchandise trade statistics in current dollar terms are more timely than quarterly statistics in volume terms. These are shown in Chart 2.5 for selected economies through August or September depending on data availability. U.S. dollar values of exports and imports have been rising in most countries, reflecting a combination of volume growth and higher prices. Nominal trade statistics should be interpreted with caution, since they are strongly affected by changes in prices, including exchange rate fluctuations.



**Chart 2.3 Contributions to year-on-year growth in world merchandise exports and imports, 2015Q1-2018Q2**

(% change in USD values)



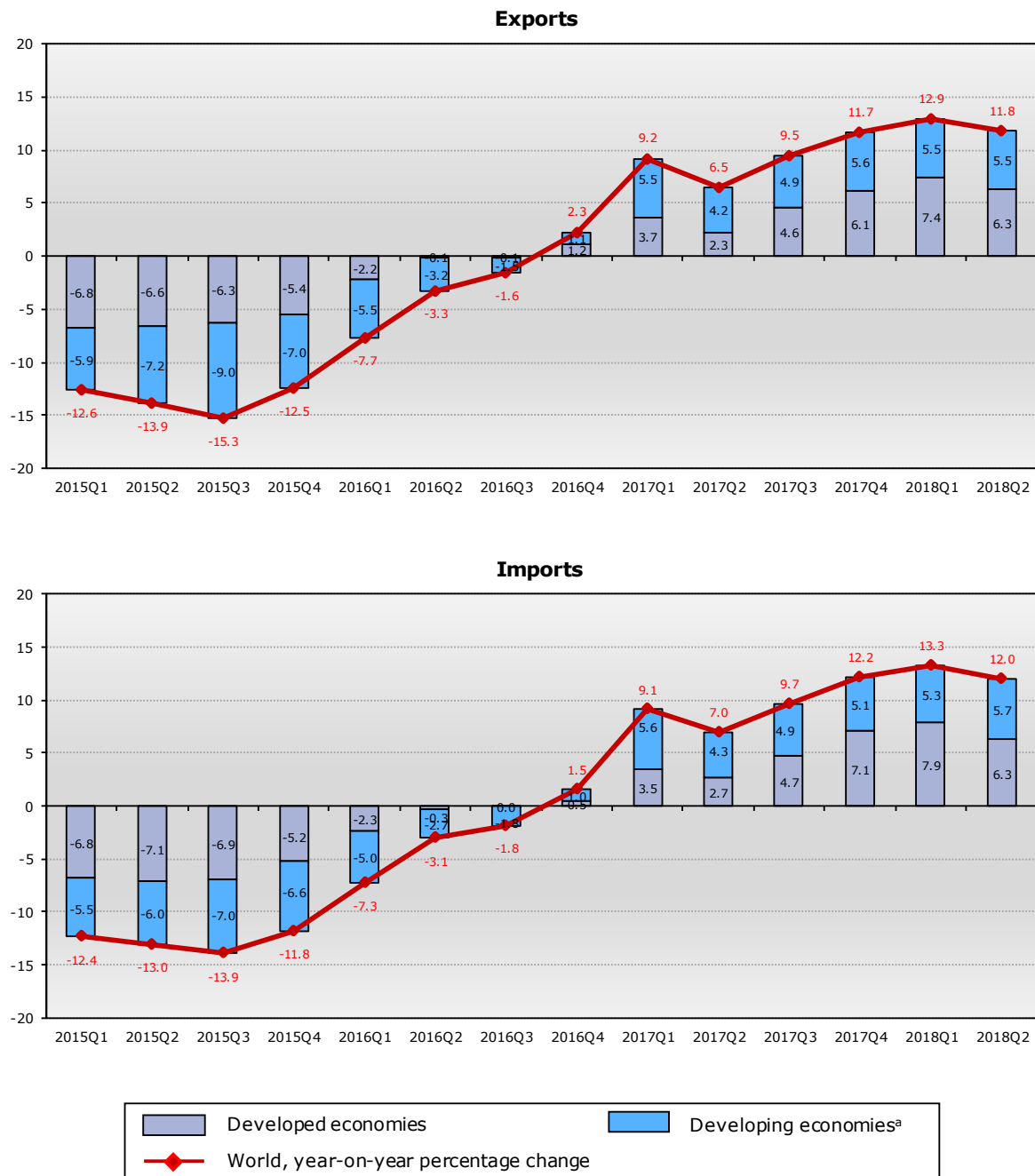
a Includes significant re-exports. Also includes the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Note: Due to scarce data availability, Africa and Middle East are under-represented in world totals.

Source: WTO Secretariat estimates, based on data compiled from IMF International Financial Statistics; the Eurostat Comext Database; the Global Trade Atlas database; and national statistics.

**Chart 2.4 Volume of exports and imports of selected economies, 2015Q1 - 2018Q2**

(seasonally-adjusted volume indices, 2012Q1 = 100)

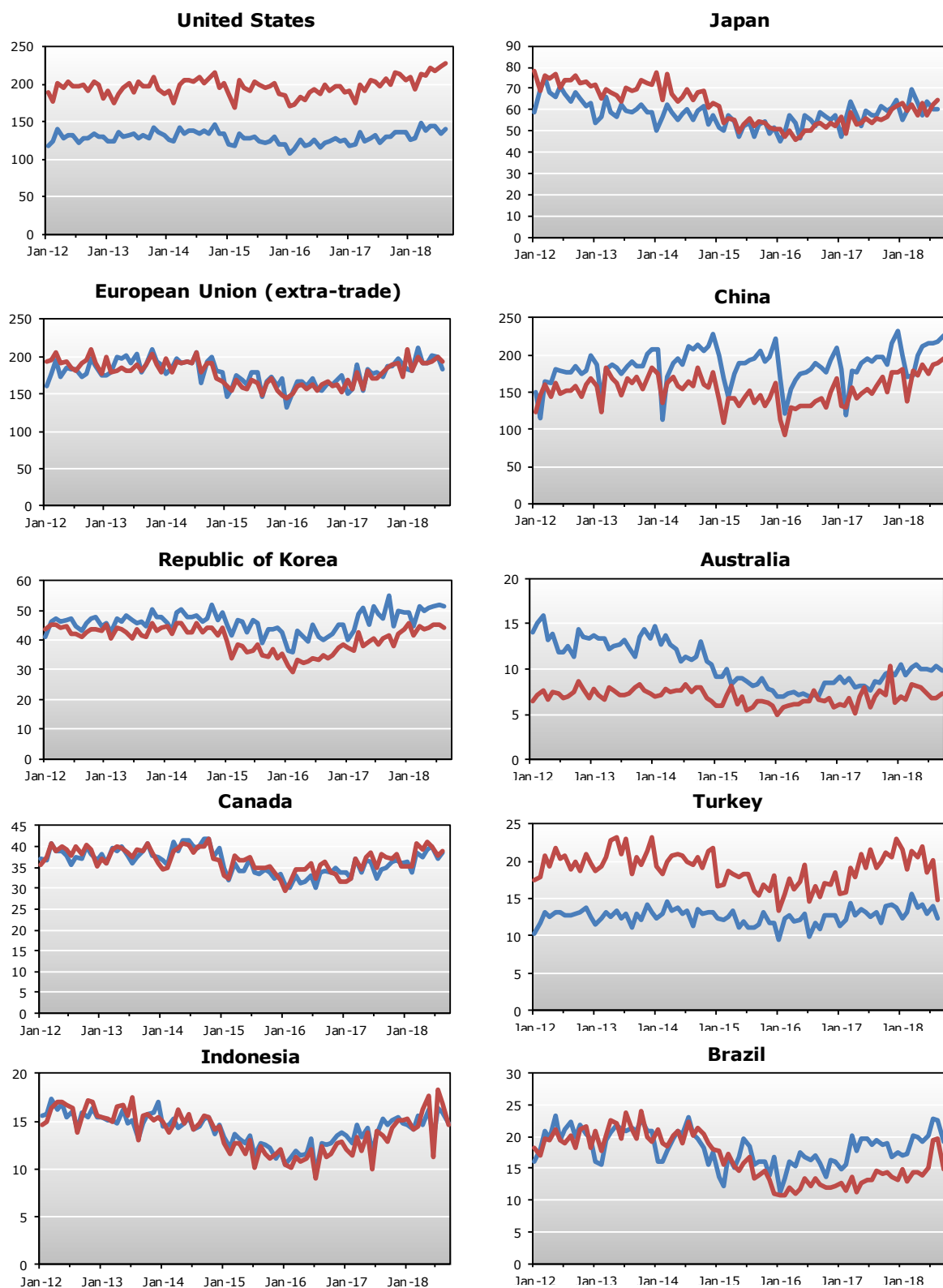


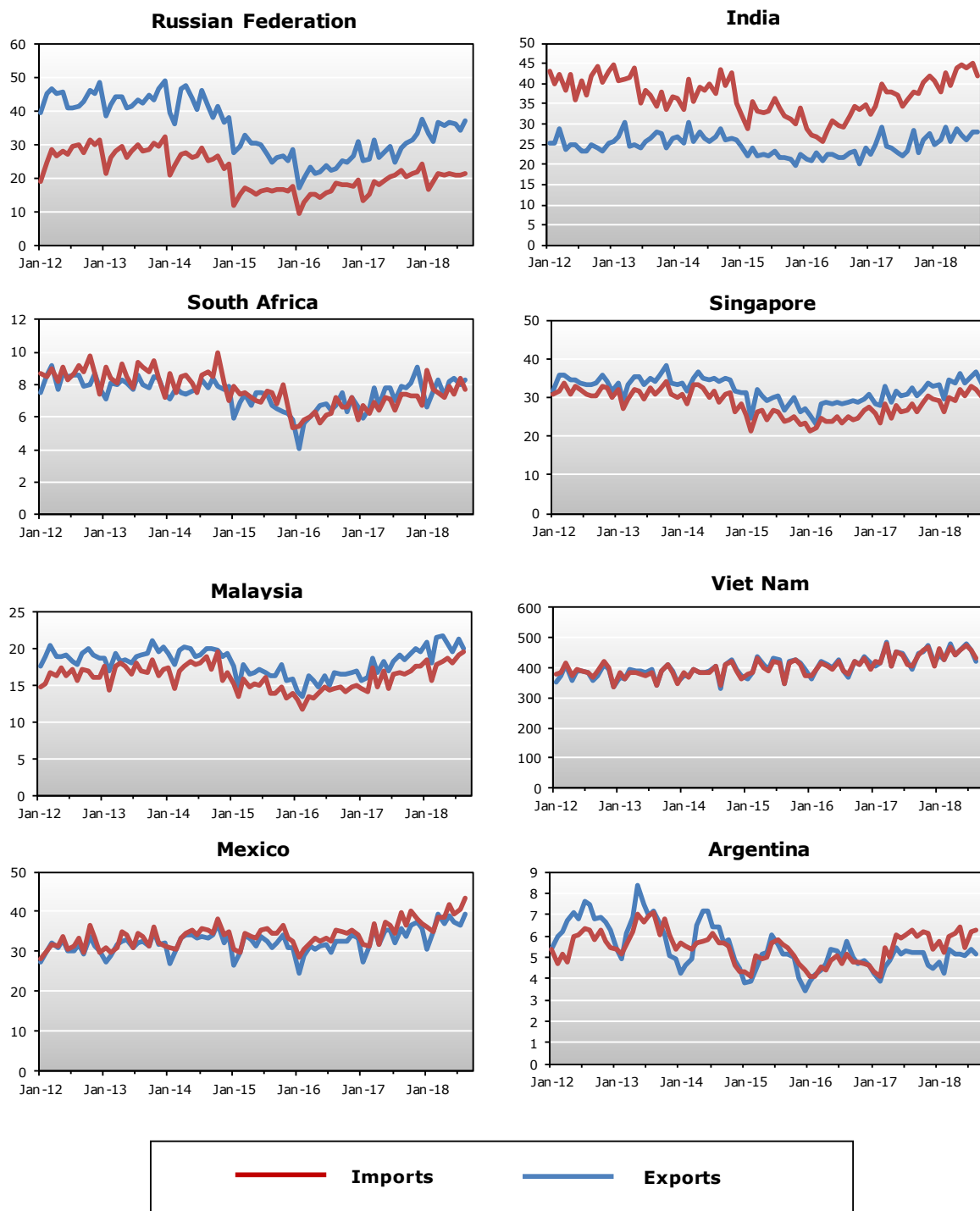
Note: Data for the United States, Japan and the European Union were obtained from national statistical sources, while figures for Brazil and Developing Asia are seasonally-adjusted Secretariat estimates.

Source: WTO Secretariat and UNCTAD.

**Chart 2.5 Merchandise exports and imports of selected economies, January 2012 – September 2018**

(USD billion)





Source: IMF International Financial Statistics, Global Trade Information Services, the Global Trade Atlas database, and national statistics.

## 2.4 Trade in Commercial Services

2.20. As in the case of merchandise trade, commercial services' trade has become more unbalanced, with some countries recording stronger growth in trade flows and others weakening (Chart 2.6). China registered the fastest growth in commercial services' exports among major economies, at 23.1%, followed by the Russian Federation (14.1%), the European Union (12.0%), the United States (5.6%) and India (4.9%). Meanwhile, Japan's exports were flat (0.7%) and Brazil's declined (-2.4%). On the import side, the Russian Federation had the strongest growth in commercial services' trade (9.9%), followed by China (9.4%), India (8.1%), Japan (7.2%), the European Union (5.7%), the United States (4.4%) and Brazil (1.5%).

2.21. At the global level, commercial services exports were up 9.7% in 2018 Q2. The fastest growing component of world services trade in Q2 was goods-related services (11.9% year-on-year), followed by travel (10.9%), other commercial services (9.5%) and transport (8.4%).

2.22. In terms of regional developments, Europe and Asia each posted strong growth in exports (11.0% and 10.9%, respectively), while North America recorded a smaller increase (5.9%). Europe's imports of commercial services increased by 9.9%, with smaller gains recorded for Asia (8.5%) and North America (5.7%). It should be noted that trade statistics in nominal currency terms should be interpreted with caution, as they are highly sensitive to exchange rate fluctuations.

## 2.5 Trade Forecast and Economic Outlook

2.23. Leading indicators of merchandise trade point to rising economic uncertainty and weak demand for traded goods in the short run. An index of container port throughput from the Institute for Shipping Economics and Logistics (ISL) was up 2.2% year-on-year in August but remained 1.0% below its all-time high in January, suggesting stagnation in world trade. The export orders component of the IHS-Markit global manufacturing PMI has also fallen to 49.7 in September from 54.1 in January, suggesting ongoing weakness in trade (values above 50 indicate expansion, while those below 50 denote contraction).

2.24. An index based on the frequency of phrases related to economic policy uncertainty in press accounts has risen to 248 in September from 113 in January, indicating a sharp rise in uncertainty coinciding with rising trade tensions.<sup>12</sup> These values are relative to a baseline of 100, defined as the average value of the index from 1997 to 2015. Planned investments could be postponed or curtailed due to increased uncertainty, which is important because investment is strongly correlated with world trade, due to its high import content.

2.25. Table 2.1 summarizes the WTO's latest trade forecast of 27 September 2018. If current GDP forecasts are realized, the WTO expects world merchandise trade volume growth of 3.9% in 2018 and 3.7% in 2019. Exports of developed and developing economies should grow by 3.5% and 4.6%, respectively, in 2019. On the import side, in 2018, developed and developing economies should see growth of 3.2% and 4.8%, respectively.

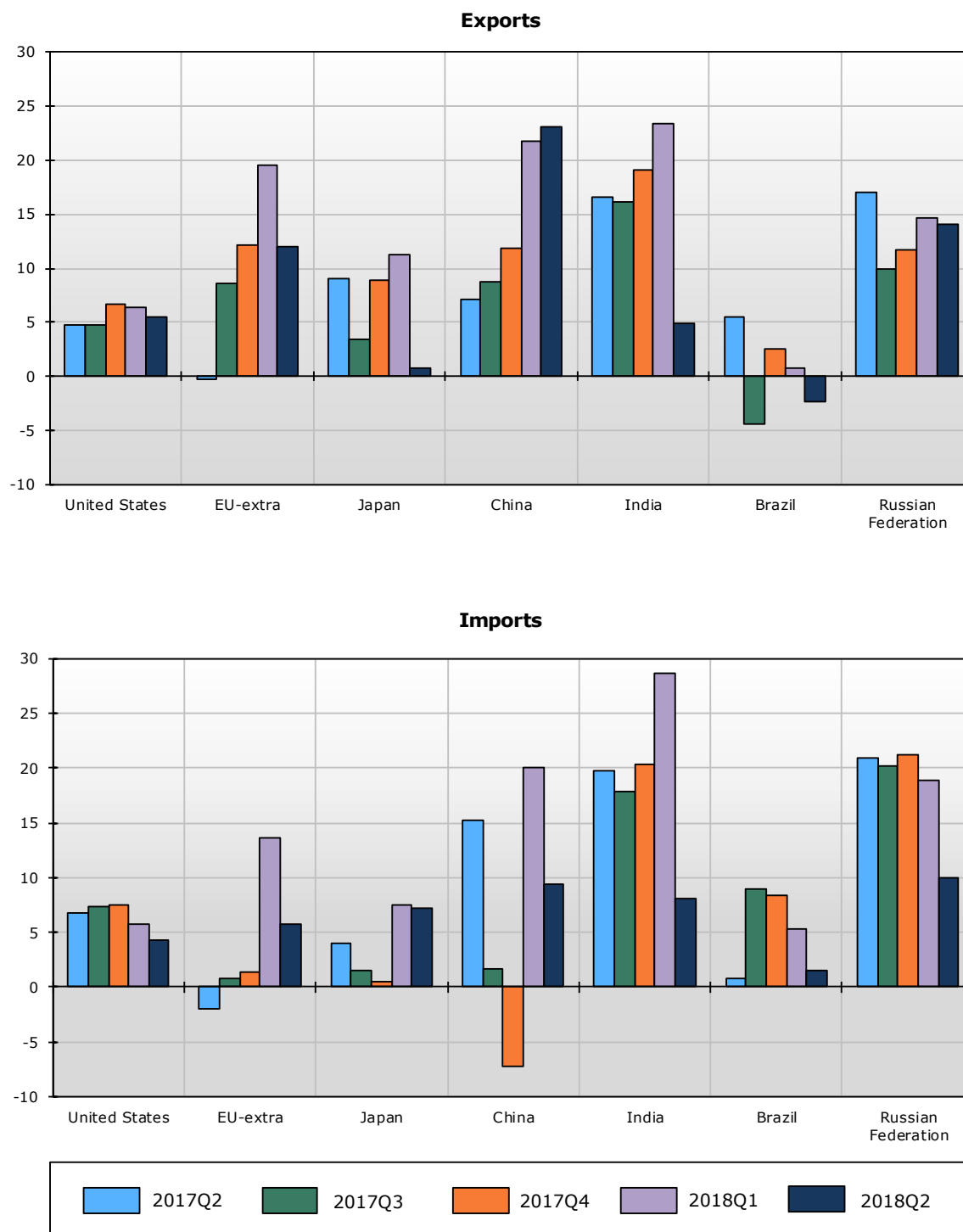
2.26. In recognition of the heightened level of uncertainty in the current policy environment, the trade forecast for the current year has been placed within a range of from 3.4% to 4.4%. Trade growth should be accompanied by world GDP growth at market exchange rates of 3.1% in 2018 and 2.9% in 2019.

2.27. Risks to the forecast are considerable and firmly weighted to the downside. A further ratcheting up of trade tensions could have direct negative effects on trade but also beyond. A build-up of economic and financial risks could undermine trade and output, and developing and emerging economies could experience capital outflows and financial contagion as developed countries raise interest rates. Geopolitical tensions could threaten resource supplies and upset production networks in certain regions. Finally, structural factors, including ageing populations in developed countries and economic rebalancing in China, could weigh on growth over the medium-to-long term.

<sup>12</sup> Sourced from [www.PolicyUncertainty.com](http://www.PolicyUncertainty.com).

**Chart 2.6 Commercial services' exports and imports of selected economies, 2017Q2-2018Q2**

(year-on-year percentage change in current USD values)



Source: WTO and UNCTAD Secretariats.

**Table 2.1 Merchandise trade volume and real GDP growth, 2014-19**

(annual percentage change)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 <sup>a</sup>	2019 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Volume of world merchandise trade<sup>b</sup></b>	2.7	2.4	1.8	4.7	3.9	3.7
<b>Exports</b>						
Developed economies	2.1	2.2	1.1	3.4	3.5	3.3
Developing economies <sup>c</sup>	2.7	1.9	2.5	5.3	4.6	4.5
North America	4.6	0.8	0.6	4.2	5.0	3.6
South and Central America and the Caribbean	-2.1	1.8	2.0	3.3	2.8	2.6
Europe	1.5	2.9	1.2	3.5	2.9	3.2
Asia	4.5	1.4	2.3	6.7	5.5	4.9
Other regions <sup>d</sup>	-1.3	3.5	3.4	0.2	2.6	3.6
<b>Imports</b>						
Developed economies	3.3	4.3	2.1	3.0	3.2	3.0
Developing economies <sup>c</sup>	2.6	0.7	1.6	8.1	4.8	4.5
North America	4.3	5.4	0.0	4.0	4.3	3.6
South and Central America and the Caribbean	-2.5	-6.3	-6.7	4.0	3.6	4.0
Europe	3.0	3.6	3.3	2.5	3.1	3.0
Asia	3.7	3.8	3.5	9.8	5.7	4.9
Other regions <sup>d</sup>	0.7	-4.5	-1.7	3.5	0.5	1.4
<b>Real GDP at market exchange rates</b>	2.8	2.8	2.3	3.0	3.1	2.9
Developed economies	2.0	2.3	1.6	2.3	2.4	2.0
Developing economies <sup>c</sup>	4.3	3.7	3.7	4.3	4.4	4.5
North America	2.6	2.7	1.6	2.3	2.7	2.2
South and Central America and the Caribbean	0.8	-0.8	-1.9	0.8	1.3	2.5
Europe	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.7	2.3	2.1
Asia	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.5	4.5	4.3
Other regions <sup>d</sup>	2.5	1.1	2.1	1.9	2.7	3.0

a Figures for 2018 and 2019 are projections.

b Average of exports and imports.

c Includes the CIS, including associate and former member States.

d Other regions comprise Africa, Middle East and the CIS.

Source: WTO Secretariat for trade, consensus estimates for GDP.

2.28. The following box looks at how technologies are transforming global commerce.

### Box 2.1 The future of world trade – how digital technologies are transforming global commerce

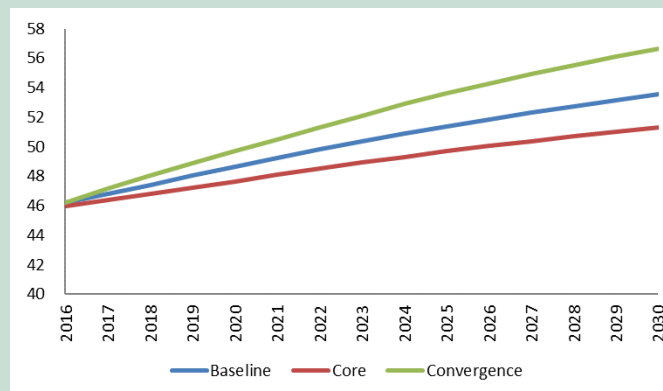
Trade has always been shaped by technology, but the rapid development of digital technologies leveraging the Internet to generate, store, process, and analyze data promises to transform the world economy even more in the years to come. What will be the consequences of this "new digital revolution" on the world economy, and in particular on international trade?

Recent work by the WTO examines how digital technologies – and in particular the Internet of things, artificial intelligence, 3D printing and blockchain – would affect trade costs, the nature of what is traded and the composition of trade.

One of the most significant impacts of digital technologies on international trade is the extent to which they reduce various trade costs, including transport and logistics costs which together account for more than half of the variation in trade costs in agriculture and manufacturing, and for more than 40% of the variation in trade costs in services. WTO projections predict that trade could grow yearly by 1.8-2 percentage points more until 2030 as a result of falling trade costs, amounting to a cumulated growth of 31 to 34 percentage points over 15 years.

The decline in trade costs can be especially beneficial for MSMEs and for firms from developing countries if appropriate complementary policies are put in place and challenges related to technology diffusion and regulation are addressed. WTO estimates foresee that, in such a case, developing countries' share in global trade could grow from 46% in 2015 to 57% by 2030 (Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Developing countries projected share in global exports**



**Note:** The baseline scenario models the development of the world economy without taking into account digital technologies. Three trends of digitalization, i.e. a more intensive use of capital, a more intensive use of ICT services, and falling trade costs, are modelled in the core and convergence scenarios. In the core scenario, these trends happen at a similar pace across all regions. In the convergence scenario, these trends are stronger for countries where digitalization is less advanced.

Digital technologies are also blurring the distinction between goods and services and are increasing the importance of data flows and IP. The impact of digital technologies on the composition of trade is four-fold. First, they increase the services' component of trade, because of the ease of supplying services digitally, because new services emerge and replace trade in goods, and because international production networks increase the services' content of manufacturing goods. WTO estimates predict that the share of services in global trade will grow from 21% to 25% by 2030.

Second, digital technologies foster trade in certain type of goods (time-sensitive, certification-intensive and contract-intensive goods), while at the same time reducing trade in digitizable goods (such as CDs, books and newspapers). Digitalization has led to a decline in trade of digitizable goods from 2.7% of total goods trade in 2000 to 0.8% in 2016, a trend which is likely to continue with the advent of 3D printing technology.

Third, digital technologies affect the complexity and length of global value chains, but the overall impact of the "new digital revolution" on global value chains is hard to predict. While the rise of 3D printing is likely to shorten global value chains, trade cost reductions could lead to their expansion.

Fourth, digital technologies change patterns of comparative advantage by increasing the importance of factors such as the quality of digital infrastructure and market size, as well as institutional and regulatory determinants of comparative advantage, including IP protection.

Overall, the expansion of digital trade is likely to entail considerable benefits. Digital technologies can unlock many opportunities for individuals, entrepreneurs and businesses around the world. But they also give rise to many challenges and concerns, including market concentration, loss of privacy, security threats, productivity and the digital divide, which may require the consideration of governments and the international community more broadly.

Source: WTO World Trade Report 2018.



### 3 TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED POLICY ISSUES

#### 3.1 Overview of trends identified during the period under review

3.1. The following Section provides a brief analysis of a number of selected trade and trade-related policy developments which took place during the review period from mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018.

3.2. The review period saw a continuation of the sharp escalation of protectionist rhetoric and trade tensions outlined in the July 2018 Report.<sup>13</sup> During the period mid-October 2017 to mid-May 2018, two trade measures by the United States on steel and aluminium products, following an investigation under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, and one trade measure in direct response by China were implemented. The July 2018 Report noted that several measures were announced in response to the above tariffs, but that most of these measures were not scheduled to enter into force before 15 May 2018 and as a result did not feature in the Annexes to that Report. Most of these measures have been implemented by various trading partners and fall within the full 12-month review period of this Report. These are all covered in Annex 3. Measures which have been announced but not yet implemented are not included in this Report.<sup>14</sup> The WTO Secretariat will continue to monitor this situation and seek further information on these measures, including implementation dates and products covered.

3.3. Several of the measures referred to above were raised in various WTO Councils and Committees during the present review period. This is covered in Section 3.5.

3.4. A total of 807 trade measures were recorded during the period from mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018.<sup>15</sup> This figure includes measures facilitating trade, trade remedy measures and other trade and trade-related measures (restrictive measures).

##### 3.1.1 Measures facilitating trade

3.5. Annex 1 to this Report lists measures which may be considered as trade-facilitating.

3.6. During the review period, 162 measures aimed at facilitating trade were recorded for WTO Members (Table 3.1), including 43 of a temporary nature. This represents 20% of the total number of measures recorded. Measures implemented in the context of the ITA Expansion Agreement are also included in these numbers (Box 3.1). This amounts to a monthly average of 13.5 trade-facilitating measures, significantly higher than the monthly average (10.7) recorded in the previous annual overview.

3.7. From Table 3.1 it can be seen that among trade-facilitating measures, the reduction or elimination of import tariffs continue to dominate<sup>16</sup>, followed by the elimination and simplification of specific customs procedures, the elimination of import taxes<sup>17</sup> and import bans.<sup>18</sup> On the export side, the simplification of customs procedures makes up the most commonly recorded type of export-related measures followed by the elimination of duties.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>13</sup> WTO document WT/TPR/OV/W/12, 10 July 2018.

<sup>14</sup> It should be noted that at least one official measure by a WTO Member in response to the above-mentioned U.S. measures, had to be omitted from this Report at the Member's request.

<sup>15</sup> See Annexes 1-3. These Annexes do not include SPS and TBT measures which are covered in Sections 3.3 and 3.4. Services measures are analysed in Section 4 and are listed in Annex 4.

<sup>16</sup> For example, reduction or elimination of import tariffs on capital goods, telecommunications and informatics.

<sup>17</sup> For example, elimination of import taxes on containers, used passenger vehicles, donkey skins, milk powder, textiles, fish and prepared foodstuff.

<sup>18</sup> For example, elimination of import ban on second-hand goods, eggs and miscellaneous edible preparations.

<sup>19</sup> For example, elimination of duties on containers, wet blue leather, electromechanical and cultural products, sugar and electrodes for furnaces.

**Table 3.1 Measures facilitating trade (Annex 1)**

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Mid-Oct 16 to mid-Oct 17 (WT/TPR/OV/20)	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-Oct 18 (WT/TPR/OV/21)
<b>Import</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>140</b>
- Tariff	154	109	147	165	116	95	94	110
- Customs procedures	12	25	17	31	28	18	14	19
- Tax	2	4	2	6	4	3	2	8
- QRs	7	1	10	5	1	0	0	3
- Other	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Export</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>
- Duties	7	3	3	18	5	1	2	5
- QRs	8	4	3	3	2	2	1	1
- Other	2	1	3	19	26	22	15	16
<b>Other</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>162</b>
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>16.6</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>20.9</i>	<i>15.6</i>	<i>11.8</i>	<i>10.7</i>	<i>13.5</i>

Note: Revisions of the data reflect changes undertaken in the TMDB to fine-tune and update the available information. Facilitating measures now mainly cover Annex 1 measures and those Annex 3 measures which have been reported as terminated by Members.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.8. The trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures introduced during the review period was USD 295.6 billion, i.e. 1.68%<sup>20</sup> of the value of world merchandise imports.<sup>21</sup> This is 1.8 times the figure reported in the last annual overview (USD 169.3 billion) and confirms that WTO Members collectively continue to adopt and implement trade-facilitating measures. The HS Chapters within which most of the trade-facilitating measures were taken include vehicles, parts and accessories thereof (HS87) 31%; machinery and mechanical appliances (HS84) 11.7%; electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS85) 9.7%; and pharmaceutical products (HS30) 7.5%.<sup>22</sup>

### Box 3.1 Trade coverage of the ITA Expansion Agreement

This Report includes measures resulting from the implementation of the ITA Expansion Agreement.

According to preliminary estimates, the trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures implemented during the review period in the context of the ITA Expansion Agreement amounted to USD 573.2 billion, or around 3% of the value of world merchandise imports.<sup>a</sup> These measures were implemented by Albania; Australia; Canada; China; the European Union; Guatemala; Hong Kong, China<sup>b</sup>; Iceland<sup>c</sup>; Israel; Japan<sup>b</sup>; the Republic of Korea; Macao, China<sup>c</sup>; Malaysia; Mauritius; Montenegro; New Zealand; Norway<sup>b</sup>; Philippines; Singapore<sup>b</sup>; Switzerland<sup>c</sup>; Chinese Taipei; Thailand and the United States, and are reflected in Annex 1.

Given the very significant trade coverage value of these measures, they have not been included in the figures evaluating the trade coverage of the trade-facilitating measures in Section 3.1 as it would undermine the value of any comparison with previous Reports.

For more details on the ITA Expansion Agreement see Section 3.9.

<sup>a</sup> Calculated at the HS six-digit level and using 2017 import figures.

<sup>b</sup> All duty-free as of July 2016.

<sup>c</sup> All duty-free as of July 2017.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

<sup>20</sup> In the previous annual overview Report the trade coverage was USD 169.3 billion and constituted 1.51% of world merchandise imports.

<sup>21</sup> The trade coverage of a measure is calculated to be the value of annual imports of the specific product concerned from countries affected by the measure. Highly-traded goods may significantly influence the estimation of the trade coverage. The trade coverage calculation includes: three measures by China (reduction of import tariffs on a variety of products) accounting for 50.5% of the total trade coverage, four measures by Brazil (reduction of import tariffs on capital goods, informatics and telecommunications) accounting for 7.8% of the total, and three measures by Colombia (elimination of import tariffs on capital goods, raw materials, and equipment) accounting for 7.7% of the total.

<sup>22</sup> These figures do not include import-facilitating measures implemented in the context of the ITA Expansion Agreement (see Box 3.1).

### 3.1.2 Trade remedy actions<sup>23</sup>

3.9. During the review period, 508 trade remedy actions were recorded (Table 3.2), i.e. 63% of the total of all trade measures captured in this Report. WTO Members have typically initiated more new trade remedy investigations than the number of trade remedy actions they have terminated.<sup>24</sup> The review period witnessed a similar trend in the monthly average of initiations compared to the previous annual overview. The monthly average of terminations increased sharply.

3.10. Initiations of AD investigations continue to be the most frequent trade remedy action, accounting for more than three-quarters of all initiations. Nevertheless, this share is slightly lower than in previous years. By contrast, as a share of overall initiations, the monthly average of CVD investigations has increased.

3.11. The trade remedy actions taken during the review period covered a wide range of products. In the case of initiations of investigations, the main sectors were iron and steel (HS72) and articles of iron and steel (HS73) which combined represented just over 50%<sup>25</sup>; electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS85) 8.7%; and furniture, bedding, mattresses, and lamps (HS94) 8.4%.

3.12. The trade coverage of trade-remedy initiations introduced during the review period by WTO Members was USD 93.6 billion (0.53% of world merchandise imports). For terminations, the trade coverage was at USD 18.3 billion (0.1% of world merchandise imports).<sup>26</sup>

**Table 3.2 Trade remedy actions (Annex 2)**

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Mid-Oct 16 to mid-Oct 17 (WT/TPR/OV/20)	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-Oct 18 (WT/TPR/OV/21)
<b>Initiations</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>296</b>
- AD	208	287	236	229	298	248	251	229
- CVD	23	33	45	31	34	41	42	53
- SG	24	18	23	17	11	8	8	14
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>21.3</i>	<i>28.2</i>	<i>25.3</i>	<i>23.1</i>	<i>28.6</i>	<i>24.8</i>	<i>25.1</i>	<i>24.7</i>
<b>Terminations</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>212</b>
- AD	177	160	186	167	143	129	108	182
- CVD	21	17	23	25	15	13	12	26
- SG <sup>a</sup>	10	9	12	20	15	17	5	4
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>17.3</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>18.4</i>	<i>17.7</i>	<i>14.4</i>	<i>13.3</i>	<i>10.3</i>	<i>17.7</i>

a Figure for a specific year is the sum of the following: (i) investigations terminated during the course of that specific year without any measure; and (ii) all imposed measures expired during the course of that specific year.

Note: The information on trade remedy actions for 2012 to 30 June 2018 is based on the semi-annual notifications. For the present review period, the information is also based on the responses and the verification received directly from Members. Anti-circumvention measures are not included in the above numbers.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

<sup>23</sup> The coverage of trade remedy actions in this Report does not prejudice the right of WTO Members to take trade remedy actions. See also Box 1 in Key Findings.

<sup>24</sup> Termination means either the termination of the investigation (without imposition of a measure) or the elimination of the imposed measure.

<sup>25</sup> Iron and steel (HS72) 38.2%; articles of iron and steel (HS73) 12.1%.

<sup>26</sup> In the previous annual overview Report, initiations represented USD 76.4 billion (0.48% of world merchandise imports) and terminations USD 12 billion (0.08%).

### 3.1.3 Other trade and trade-related measures

3.13. Annex 3 to this Report lists measures which may be considered to have a trade-restrictive effect.

3.14. During the review period, 137 new trade-restrictive measures were recorded, representing 17% of the total number contained in Annexes 1 to 3. The monthly average of 11.4 trade-restrictive measures is higher compared to the average of nine recorded for the previous annual overview.

3.15. Out of the total number of the measures recorded in Annex 3, more than 80% were applied to imports. Tariff increases account for more than two-thirds of all import restrictive measures, followed by a range of QRs<sup>27</sup>, import taxes<sup>28</sup> and customs procedures. With respect to export, most of the measures taken were duties, followed by QRs<sup>29</sup> and stricter customs procedures (Table 3.3).

**Table 3.3 Other trade and trade-related measures (Annex 3)**

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Mid-Oct 16 to mid-Oct 17 (WT/TPR/OV/20)	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-Oct 18 (WT/TPR/OV/21)
<b>Import</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>118</b>
- Tariff	76	87	81	113	70	52	46	79
- Customs procedures	32	26	18	30	16	18	21	5
- Tax	6	5	8	10	6	10	3	13
- QRs	14	16	7	12	12	8	7	17
- Other	2	2	15	6	1	2	1	4
<b>Export</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>
- Duties	3	5	11	13	6	5	5	7
- QRs	12	10	8	7	10	8	7	5
- Other	7	16	6	25	4	6	5	5
<b>Other</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>
- Other <sup>a</sup>	8	1	1		4	2	1	1
- Local content	5	6	11	15	9	12	12	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>137</b>
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>13.8</i>	<i>14.5</i>	<i>13.8</i>	<i>19.3</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i>10.3</i>	<i>9.0</i>	<i>11.4</i>

a Other than local content measures.

Note: Revisions of the data reflect changes undertaken in the TMDB to fine-tune and update the available information.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.16. The trade and trade-related measures recorded in Annex 3, and which may be considered trade-restrictive, cover a wide range of products. The main sectors were electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS85) 20.5%; machinery and mechanical appliances (HS84) 14%; mineral fuels and oils (HS27) 8.7%; and vehicles, parts and accessories thereof (HS87) 7.4%. The trade coverage of the import-restrictive measures<sup>30</sup> introduced during the review period was USD 588.3 billion, i.e. 3.33% of the value of world merchandise imports.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>27</sup> For example, QRs applied on seal skins, oxytocin, petroleum coke, biofuels, food products, fruits, vegetables, medications, vehicles, and second-hand garments.

<sup>28</sup> For example, import taxes such as the social welfare surcharge and the synthetic greenhouse gas levies; and on alcohol, tobacco, and vehicles.

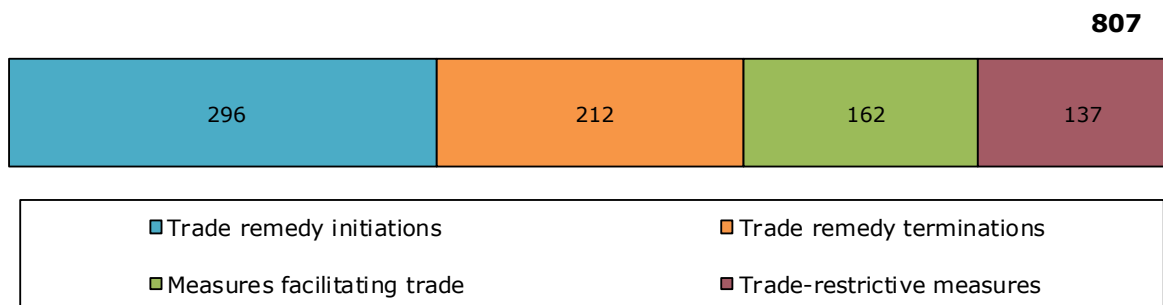
<sup>29</sup> For example, export duties on all HS Chapters and QRs on tanned leather and a variety of products (around 900 HS tariff lines).

<sup>30</sup> The trade coverage calculation includes: three measures by the United States (imposition of additional rates on products from China) accounting for 45.9% of the total, four measures by China (additional rates on products from the United States) accounting for 18.9%, and one measure by Mexico (petroleum and oil products subject to import authorization) accounting for 5.3%.

<sup>31</sup> In the previous annual overview Report, the trade coverage of the import-restrictive measures affecting imports was USD 78.7 billion (0.5% of the value of world merchandise imports).

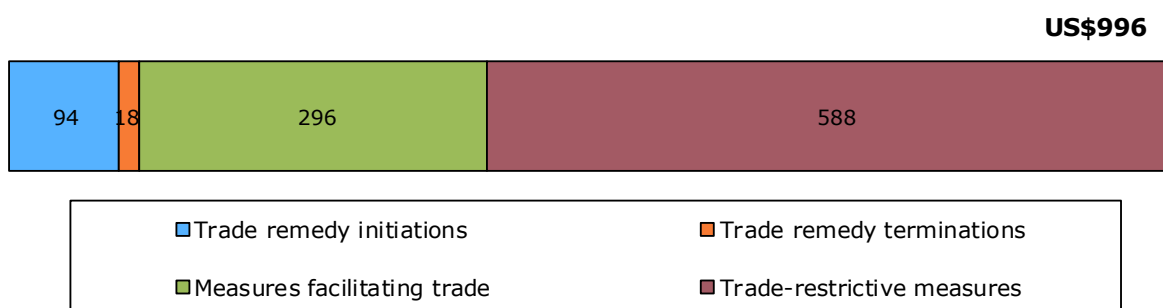
**Chart 3.1 Overview of measures taken by WTO Members and Observers, mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018**

(by number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 3.2 Trade coverage of import measures, mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018**



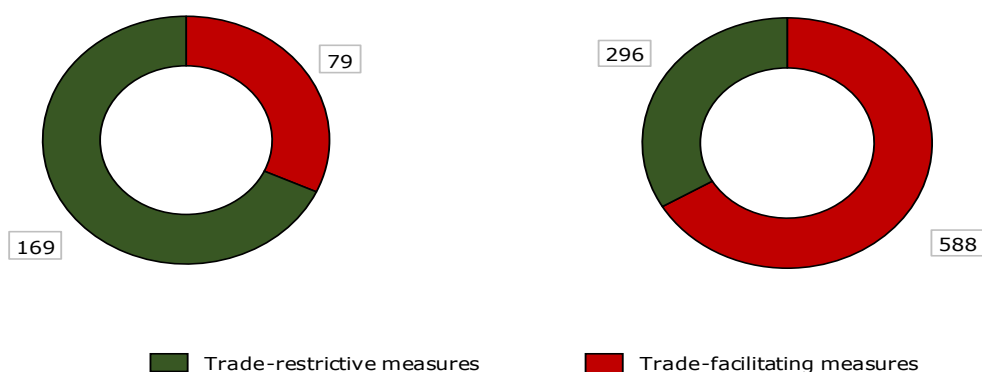
Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 3.3 Comparison of trade coverage, current and previous annual overviews**

(USD billion)

mid-October 2016 to mid-October 2017

mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.17. The above Section has provided detailed information on the latest trends among WTO Members in trade policy making. It has confirmed several findings of previous reports.

3.18. For example, trade remedy measures continue to be a very important trade policy tool for WTO Members. Similarly, while there is no evidence to suggest that WTO Members are refraining from introducing trade-facilitating measures, including very significant unilateral tariff reductions, these measures make up only 1.7% of world merchandise imports, compared to 3.3% for measures restricting trade.

3.19. For this review period, the estimated trade coverage of import-restrictive measures (USD 588.3 billion) is more than seven times higher than the previous annual overview (USD 78.7 billion). This is a significant development and one which owes primarily to a series of bilateral trade restrictions among some very large economies. These and other developments will be closely monitored by the WTO Secretariat in the next Monitoring Report scheduled for mid-2019.

3.20. Box 3.2 on trade policies and the global economy was contributed by the OECD.<sup>32</sup>

### Box 3.2 Trade policies and the global economy

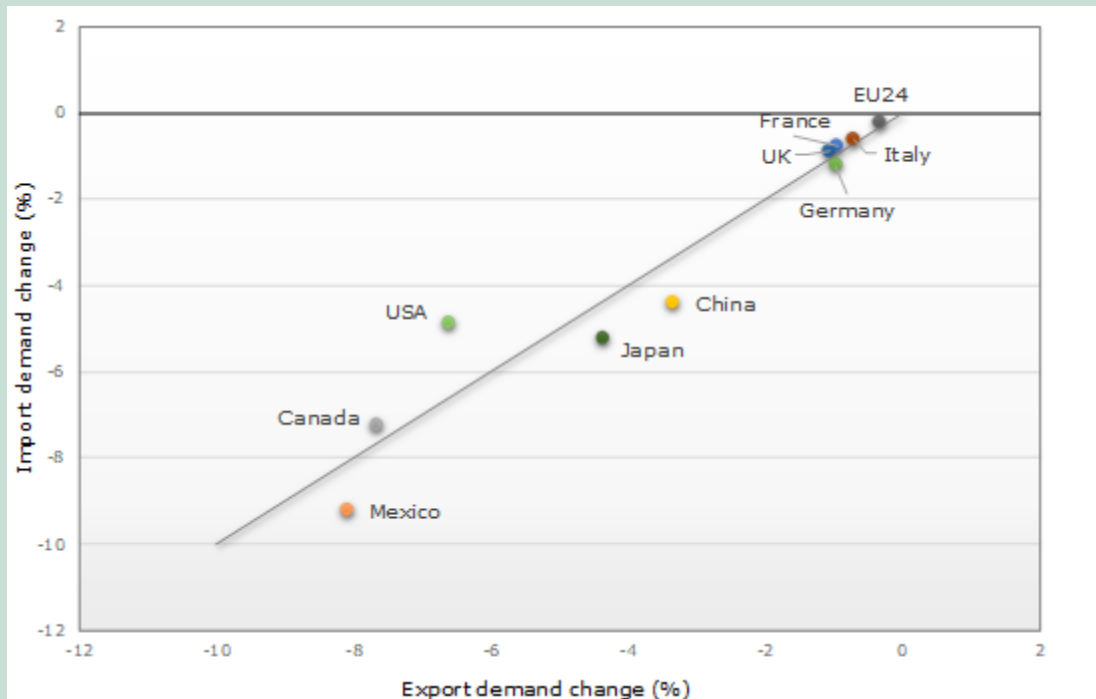
Trade has been an engine of growth and prosperity, creating jobs, increasing incomes and reducing inequalities around the world. At the same time, more interconnected economies, rapid technological change, and uncertainties around "the future of work" imply significant structural adjustments within (as well as across) all economies, contributing to public scepticism towards trade and globalization and a retreat to more protectionist policies in many countries.

The potential costs to the world economy of increased border protection are explored in a hypothetical scenario that analyses an increase in tariffs by a trade weighted average of 22.5 percentage points to 25% by six economies, namely Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Mexico and the United States, against each other's imports of six specific sectors.<sup>a</sup> The sectors are chosen based on a review of those most often targeted in trade disputes. This "market closing" scenario would affect 7% of global trade.

What the results clearly show is that all of the implementing economies would suffer, with both imports and exports of each declining (Figure 1). NAFTA economies, whose intra-country trade is high, would suffer the most, while the EU economies would experience smaller declines as they offset some of the cost increase with an increase in intra-EU trade. Other economies in the world (especially Southeast Asia) would expand their trade but, overall, global trade would decline (by 1.5%) as would global household income (by approximately 0.3%). In sectors where tariffs are imposed, trade would be particularly affected, with declines in transport and machinery equipment of around 7%. These would be losses due to inefficient reallocation of production, jobs and trade. Falls in capital investment, FDI, R&D and, as a consequence, productivity growth, would follow, reducing trend growth.

<sup>a</sup> The sectors are cereal grains, oil seeds, meat, machinery and equipment, transport equipment and motor vehicles and parts. Intra-EU tariffs are not changed.

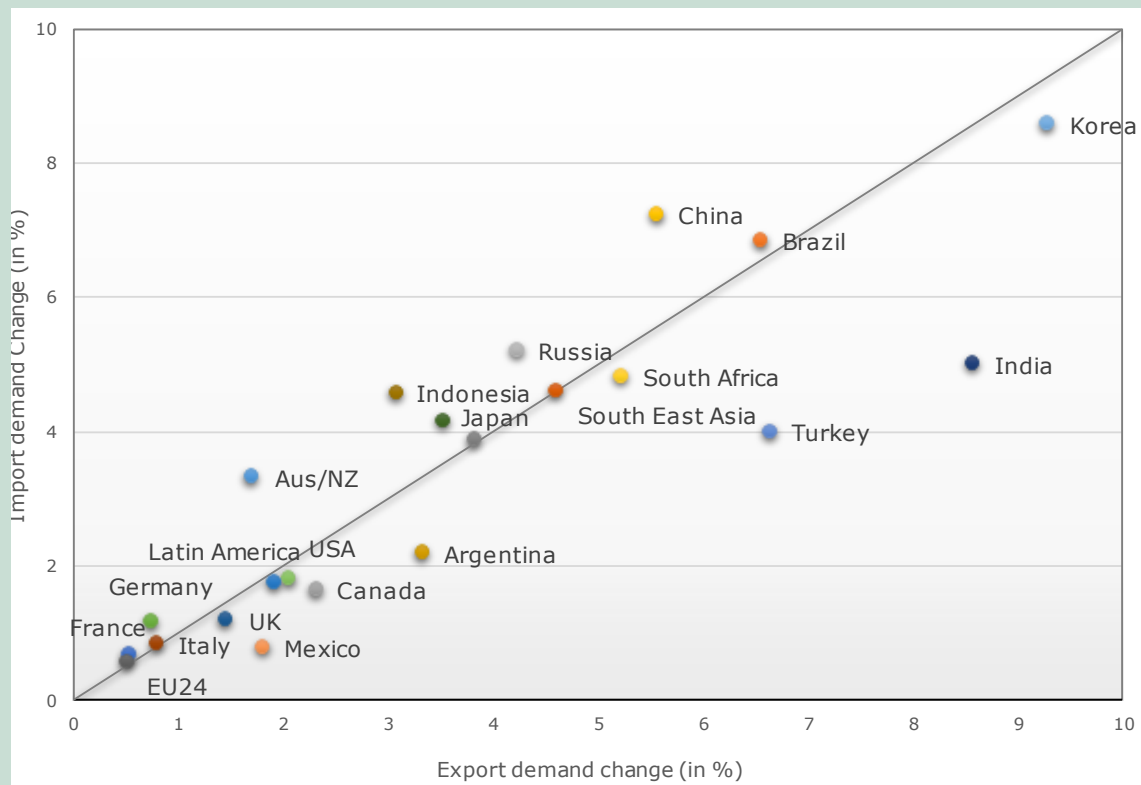
<sup>32</sup> The OECD Trade Committee is examining alternative international market scenarios in order to highlight the likely consequences of possible future developments in trade policy. The first two scenarios address tariffs and are summarized here; subsequent scenario analysis will address "behind-the-border" regulatory measures. Each of these analyses draws upon the OECD METRO model and the latest available data.

**Figure 1. The effect of increased trade costs on trade**

Source: Authors' estimates.

A second scenario illustrates the benefits of trade liberalization. In this 'market opening' scenario directly affecting 41% of world trade, all tariffs are reduced to the lowest level applied across G20 economies (which is almost always 0%). While a larger share of trade would be affected, the overall tariff change would be smaller than in the 'market closing' scenario, given that average tariffs in most sectors (average industrial applied tariff across all sectors and all countries were 5.5%, and in the OECD 2.2% in 2015 (OECD, 2018)) are already very low. Yet, this tariff reduction that averages just under 5 percentage points would still lead to large gains in the global economy. Trade would expand by more than 3%, with all economies experiencing growth in both exports and imports (Figure 2). The Republic of Korea would experience the largest increases in trade, having relatively higher initial tariffs.<sup>a</sup> Income would also increase across the board, adding almost 1% to global household income.

<sup>a</sup> The tariff data for the Republic of Korea do not include all the recently-concluded preferential agreements which result in some reductions of applied rates.

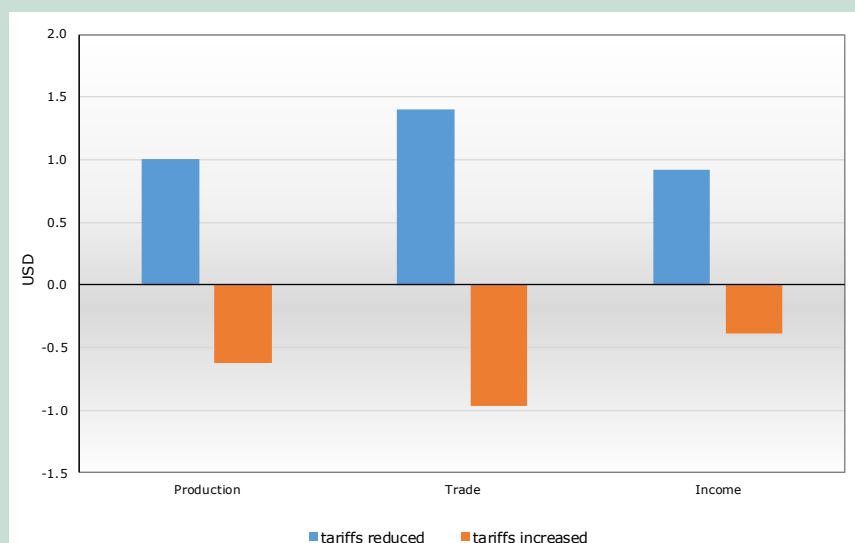
**Figure 2. Increase in trade from tariff reductions**

Note: All G20 economies except the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Source: Authors' calculations.

These two scenarios illustrate the relatively large gains expected from small declines in tariffs and the widespread costs associated with higher tariffs on a relatively small share of global trade.

The costs of tariff increases are even higher when compared to the forgone benefits of trade liberalisation (Figure 3). Each U.S. dollar of the simulated reduction of tariffs, effectively to 0% across G20 economies, would increase global household incomes by 90 cents, trade by 1.4 dollars and global gross production by 1 dollar. In contrast, each dollar of new tariffs imposed would decrease global household income by 40 cents, depress trade by 1 dollar and shrink global gross production by 60 cents.

**Figure 3: Global effects per USD of tariff reductions and tariff increases**

Source: Authors' calculations.



Economies, both individually and collectively, benefit from international commerce and could benefit much more if remaining tariffs (as well as trade distorting subsidies and poorly designed regulatory barriers) were removed. Addressing gaps in the international rule book, fully implementing existing trade rules, and creating an environment at home that is supportive of job seekers and entrepreneurs could contribute to more inclusive growth.

Source: OECD (2018), *OECD Economic Outlook No. 103*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

### 3.2 Trade Remedies<sup>33</sup>

3.21. This analysis provides an assessment of trends in global (WTO-wide) trade remedy actions in the following periods: July 2015-June 2016 ("first period"), July 2016-June 2017 ("second period") and July 2017-June 2018 ("current period").<sup>34</sup> Data for the current period indicate a significant overall drop in the number of new AD investigations initiated. The number of CVD investigations initiated increased significantly over the three periods examined. As for initiations of SG investigations, the declining trend since 2015 seems to have stopped.

#### Anti-Dumping Measures

3.22. As shown in Table 3.4, global initiations of anti-dumping investigations ("AD initiations") increased by 8% in the second period, from 268 in the first period to 290. The figure of 232 AD initiations in the current period shows a significant decrease. The table provides details on which Members initiated AD investigations during the covered periods.

**Table 3.4 Initiations of AD investigations, by reporting Member**

Reporting Member	July 2015 – June 2016	July 2016 – June 2017	July 2017 – June 2018
Argentina	8	21	18
Armenia; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyz Republic; Russian Federation <sup>b</sup>	0	2	5
Australia	18	18	15
Bahrain, Kingdom of; Kuwait, State of; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; United Arab Emirates <sup>a</sup>	1	1	3
Brazil	15	12	9
Canada	4	19	11
Chile	1	2	2
China	10	12	23
Colombia	1	3	8
Costa Rica	2	0	0
Dominican Republic	1	0	0
Egypt	4	13	1
El Salvador	0	1	1
European Union	12	12	8
India	66	55	43
Indonesia	2	7	1
Israel	1	4	0
Japan	0	3	0
Korea, Republic of	3	7	6
Malaysia	3	4	0
Mexico	5	6	8
Morocco	4	1	0
New Zealand	0	0	4
Pakistan	22	13	1
Paraguay	0	1	0
Peru	0	1	2
Philippines	1	0	0
Taipei, Chinese	8	0	2

<sup>33</sup> AD and CVD investigations are counted on the basis of the number of exporting countries or customs territories affected by an investigation. Thus, one AD or CVD investigation involving imports from *n* countries is counted as *n* investigations.

<sup>34</sup> These periods coincide with the Members' semi-annual reporting periods.

Reporting Member	July 2015 – June 2016	July 2016 – June 2017	July 2017 – June 2018
Thailand	13	3	3
Turkey	8	19	8
Ukraine	2	2	7
United States	51	47	43
Viet Nam	2	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>232</b>

a Actions are taken at the level of the GCC on behalf of all its members collectively.

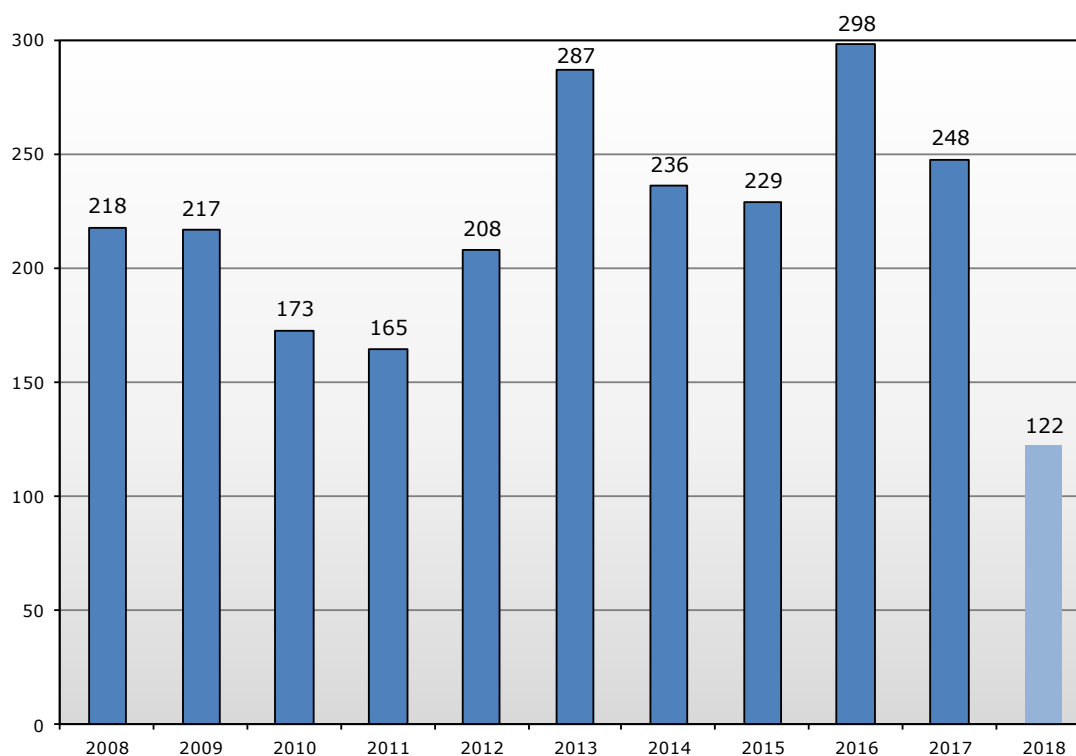
b Actions are taken by the Eurasian Economic Union on behalf of all its members collectively.

Note: Counted on the basis of exporting countries or customs territories affected. That is, an action that targets multiple countries is recorded according to the number of countries affected. Thus, one AD or CVD investigation involving imports from  $n$  countries is counted as  $n$  investigations.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.23. Chart 3.4 shows that the number of AD investigations initiated increased from 165 in 2011 to 287 in 2013, decreased to 236 and 229 in 2014 and 2015, respectively, and increased to 298 in 2016. This is the highest number of initiations since the 311 of 2002, but is still below the all-time high of 372 in 2001. In 2017, the number of initiations decreased to 248. If the trend continues, the initial figure covering the first six months of 2018 (122) may indicate a decrease in AD initiations for the full year.

**Chart 3.4 Total AD investigation initiations<sup>a</sup>**



a Data for 2018 relate to the January to June period.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.24. While AD investigations do not necessarily lead to the imposition of measures, an increase or decrease in the number of investigations initiated is an early indicator suggesting a likely increase or decrease in the number of measures imposed.

3.25. Over the three periods, a total of 574 AD measures were imposed (as shown in Table 3.5). However, as it can take up to 18 months for an AD investigation to be concluded, these measures may not necessarily be the result of initiations in the same period.

**Table 3.5 Number of AD measures imposed**

Reporting Member	July 2015 - June 2016	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018
Argentina	4	2	13
Armenia; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyz Republic; Russian Federation <sup>b</sup>	6	1	1
Australia	8	11	10
Bahrain, Kingdom of; Kuwait, State of; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; United Arab Emirates <sup>a</sup>	0	1	0
Brazil	9	14	10
Canada	2	12	2
Chile	0	2	1
China	8	10	12
Colombia	2	0	3
Costa Rica	0	1	0
Dominican Republic	0	1	0
Egypt	2	4	5
European Union	10	11	6
India	38	41	43
Indonesia	3	2	2
Israel	0	1	0
Japan	0	2	3
Korea, Republic of	4	2	7
Malaysia	5	0	4
Mexico	14	7	6
Morocco	1	0	5
Pakistan	3	4	26
Peru	0	1	1
Philippines	0	0	1
South Africa <sup>c</sup>	2	0	0
Taipei, Chinese	0	8	0
Thailand	1	9	2
Trinidad and Tobago	1	0	0
Turkey	8	7	16
Ukraine	1	3	1
United States	19	49	34
Viet Nam	0	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>215</b>

a Actions are taken at the level of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

b Actions are taken by the Eurasian Economic Union on behalf of all its members collectively.

c Actions are taken at the level of the Southern African Customs Union.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

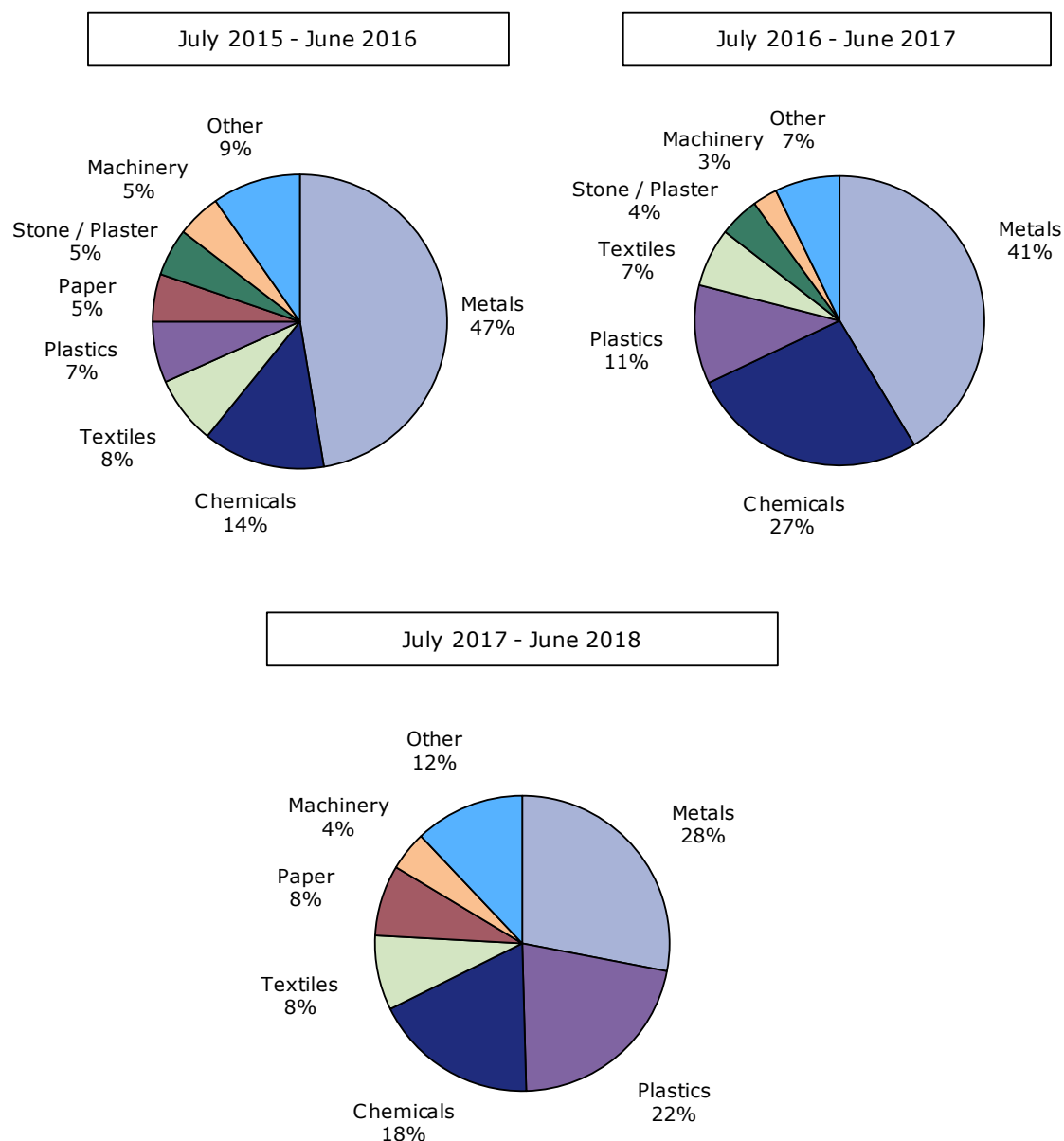
3.26. Chart 3.5 shows that there was little change in terms of the products affected by AD investigations initiated during the three periods examined, with the majority of initiations focused on products in the metals, chemicals, and plastics and rubber sectors.

3.27. Metal products were subject to the most initiations in each period, accounting for 47% of all initiations in the first period, 41% in the second period and 28% in the current period. In each period, at least 65 initiations targeted metals, of which 74-94% focused on steel products (goods classified under Chapters 72 and 73 of the HS Code). Over the three periods combined, the United States (84), Australia (31), the European Union (20), Thailand (18), Canada (18), and India (16) accounted for more than half of the 312 initiations on metals. A decrease in the number of initiations against metal products was seen in the last period, with 19 investigations initiated by the United States, 5 by Brazil, 4 by Australia, 4 by Canada, 3 by Mexico, 3 by the European Union and 2 by Thailand. Initiations against metals across the three periods affected mostly products from China (96, of which 82 involved steel products), the Republic of Korea (28, of which 27 involved steel), India (18, of which 16 involved steel) and Viet Nam (16, of which 13 involved steel). In many instances, investigations were launched on the same product from several exporting countries. For instance, five steel products were the focus of 78 investigations.

3.28. Chemical products accounted for the second largest share of initiations over the first and second periods, with a 13% share of initiations in the first period and a 27% share in the second period, and ranked third with an 18% share in the current period. India opened 55 of the 155 new investigations on products in this sector over the three reporting periods, followed by China (25) and the United States (18). These initiations involved mostly chemical products from China (28), the Republic of Korea (16), Thailand (9), Japan (9), Chinese Taipei (7) and the United States (7). Similarly to the metals sector investigations, investigations into chemicals frequently involved the same product from different countries – 18 products accounted for 90 of the investigations in this area.

3.29. Plastics and rubber ranked second over the current period, accounting for 22%. India (28), the United States (20) and China (9) initiated more than half of the 100 plastics and rubber investigations over the three reporting periods. China was, once again, the main subject of investigations in this sector (22), followed by the Republic of Korea (13), Thailand (10) and Chinese Taipei (5).

3.30. In terms of countries targeted by new AD investigations, 43 exporting Members were affected in the first period, 50 in the second period and 49 in the current period. China remained, by far, the Member most targeted by AD initiations during the three reporting periods – investigations into Chinese products accounted for 28% of all investigations. The second most targeted Member during the three reporting periods – the Republic of Korea – accounted for 9% of the total initiations during these periods, followed by India, Thailand and Chinese Taipei at 4% each.

**Chart 3.5 AD initiations by product**

Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Countervailing Measures

3.31. As shown in Table 3.6, global initiations of CVD investigations increased significantly over the three periods examined. During this time, 90% of countervailing investigations were conducted concurrently with an AD investigation.

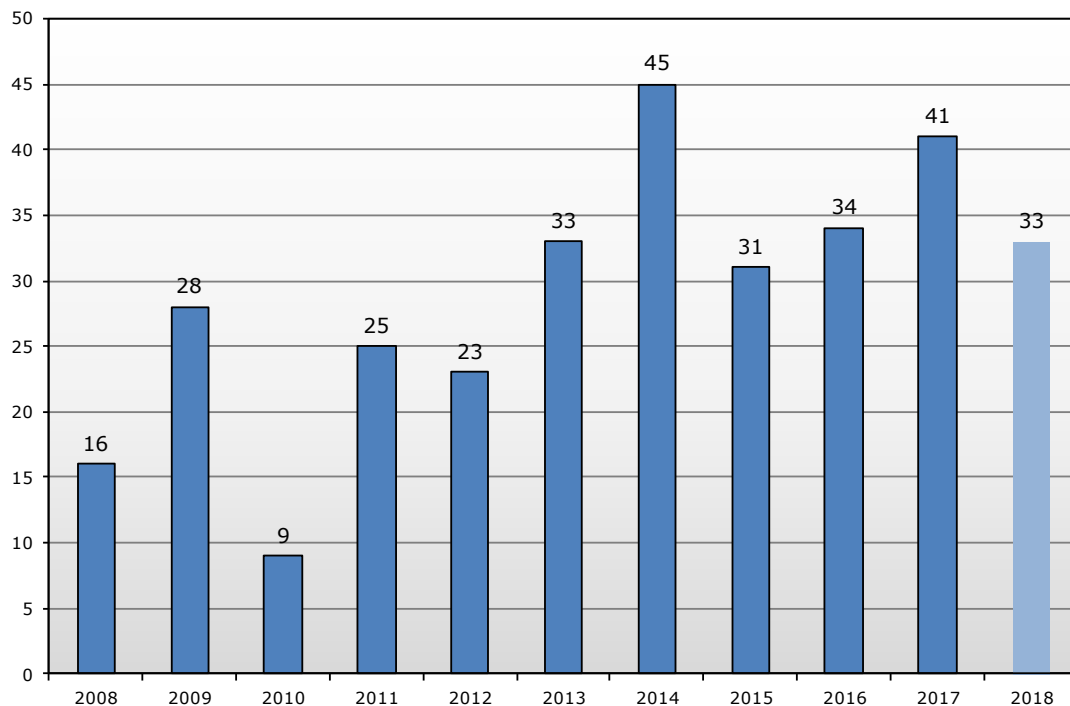
3.32. Among the 13 Members using CVDs during the three periods examined, the United States initiated the most new investigations (69), accounting for 56% of initiations. Canada, the second largest user, accounted for 15% of all initiations and Australia for 10%. The remaining investigations were conducted by 12 different countries.

**Table 3.6 Initiations of CVD investigations**

Reporting Member	July 2015 – June 2016	July 2016 – June 2017	July 2017 – June 2018
Australia	5	5	2
Brazil	0	1	1
Canada	2	6	10
China	1	1	1
Egypt	0	2	0
European Union	2	0	3
India	1	0	1
New Zealand	0	1	2
Pakistan	1	0	0
Peru	0	1	0
Chinese Taipei	0	0	5
Turkey	0	0	1
United States	24	20	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>51</b>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.33. Chart 3.6, reflecting calendar year figures, shows an upward trend in countervailing initiations from 2010 to 2014, notwithstanding some fluctuation in 2012. In fact, the number of initiations recorded in 2014 (45) exceeds the previous peak of 41 initiations observed in 1999.<sup>35</sup> Following a decrease in 2015, the number of countervailing initiations steadily increased over the next two years. If the same trend continues, the initial figure covering the first six months of 2018 (33) may indicate an increase in countervailing initiations for the full year.

**Chart 3.6 CVD investigation initiations**

Source: WTO Secretariat.

<sup>35</sup> Report to the TPRB from the Director-General on the Financial and Economic Crisis and Trade-Related Developments, 26 March 2009, p. 18.

3.34. As with AD, CVD investigations do not necessarily lead to the imposition of measures. However, a rise in the number of investigations initiated may be an early indicator of a likely rise in the number of measures imposed. Over the three periods, a total of 66 CVD measures were imposed (Table 3.7). However, as it can take up to 18 months for an investigation to be concluded, these measures may not necessarily be the result of initiations in the same period.

**Table 3.7 Number of CVD measures imposed**

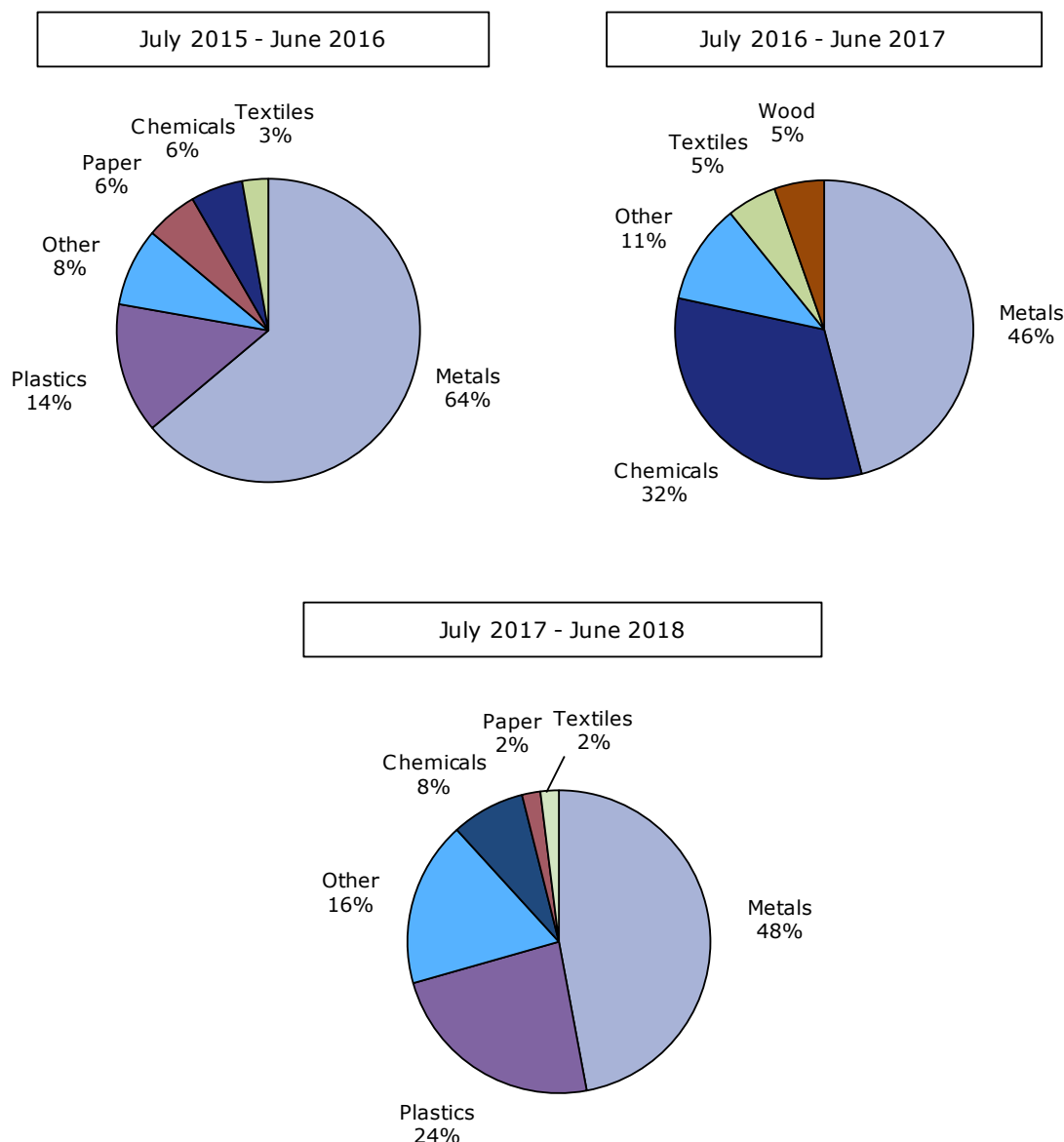
Reporting Member	July 2015 – June 2016	July 2016 – June 2017	July 2017 – June 2018
Australia	0	3	1
Brazil	1	0	1
Canada	2	2	1
China	0	1	1
European Union	1	1	0
India	1	0	1
Peru	1	0	0
Ukraine	1	0	0
United States	11	21	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>20</b>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.35. Concerning the products affected by countervailing investigations, Chart 3.7 shows that metals accounted for most of the initiations reported over the three reporting periods, accounting for 64%, 46% and 48% of all initiations, respectively. For the three periods combined, 64 of the 124 total initiations recorded covered metals and 58 of those targeted steel products. The United States initiated 33 of the 69 investigations on steel products. Fourteen of the 21 steel-related initiations in the current period involved products from China.

3.36. Over the three reporting periods, chemicals and plastics were the next most-investigated sectors with 18 and 17 initiations, respectively, followed by textile products with four initiations.

3.37. Ten exporting Members were targeted by new CVD investigations during the first period, 16 during the second, and 12 during the current period. China was the most frequent target of investigations, accounting for 46% of all investigations during these three periods. India, the second most frequent target during the three periods, accounted for 12%, followed by Turkey, which accounted for 7%.

**Chart 3.7 CVD initiations by product**

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Sunset Reviews

3.38. This Section examines the effect the global financial crisis may have had on AD and CVD actions, by analysing the extent to which measures imposed following the financial crisis have been extended or have expired (or otherwise have been terminated) – suggesting that the financial crisis could have been a factor that contributed to the imposition of the measure. This Section, therefore, examines measures imposed as a result of investigations initiated in 2008, before the financial crisis, as well as in 2009 and 2010, when the full effects of the financial crisis were being felt.<sup>36</sup>

3.39. The relevant WTO Agreements stipulate that AD and CVD measures can remain in force only for as long as necessary to counteract injury caused by dumped or subsidized imports. In addition, they must expire no later than five years after their imposition unless it is determined, through a review, that removal of a measure would likely lead to a continuation or recurrence of dumping or

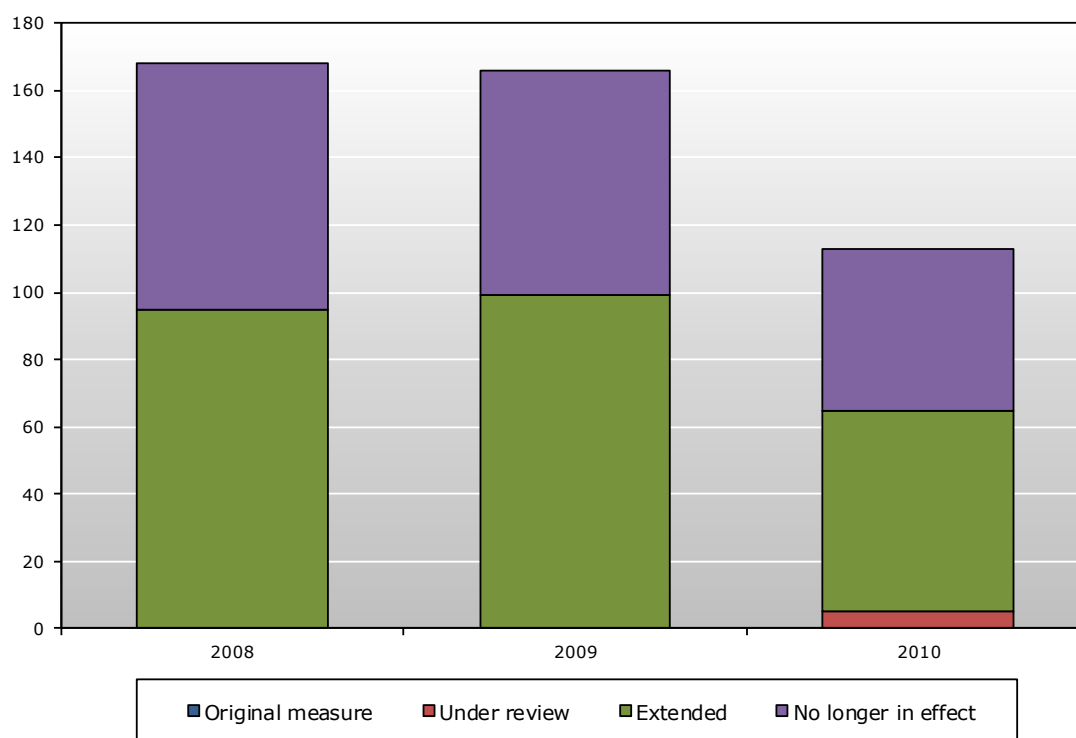
<sup>36</sup> Given the application requirements for AD and countervail investigations, it is assumed that investigations in response to the financial crisis would not have been initiated before January 2009.



subsidisation and injury. In such a case, the measure can be extended for up to a further five years. This review process is often referred to as a sunset review. Investigating authorities generally invite applications for a sunset review before a measure expires, and in the absence of a review, they allow the measure to lapse.

3.40. As of 30 June 2018, measures imposed as a result of investigations initiated in 2008-2010 are in various stages of their lifecycle. Some measures are under review<sup>37</sup>, some have been extended and some have expired (see Chart 3.8). There are no measures that are still within their initial five-year imposition period.

**Chart 3.8 Status of measures resulting from AD and CVD investigations initiated in 2008, 2009 and 2010, as at 30 June 2018**



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.41. All of the 168 measures resulting from investigations initiated in 2008 by WTO Members have now been subject to expiry action (either a sunset review or termination), along with all of the 166 measures for 2009 and all of the 113 measures for 2010 (five are under review).

<sup>37</sup> A sunset review must be initiated prior to the expiration date of the measure, but the measure may remain in force after this date pending the outcome of the review.

**Table 3.8 Proportion of expiring measures that were subject to a sunset review**

Expiring measures	Investigation initiated in		
	2008	2009	2010 <sup>a</sup>
Not reviewed	36%	28%	22%
Reviewed	64%	72%	78%

a Only 82 measures resulting from investigations initiated in 2010 have so far expired or been subject to review.

Note: Based on the year the investigation was initiated.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.42. Table 3.8 shows the proportion of measures that were due to expire for which a sunset review has been conducted, noting that measures not reviewed will automatically expire. For measures resulting from investigations initiated in 2009 ("the 2009 measures"), 72% were reviewed, higher than the 64% found for 2008 ("the 2008 measures"), and for measures resulting from investigations initiated in 2010, 78% were reviewed. There is insufficient information to determine whether these differences are significant.

3.43. As at 30 June 2018, 107 sunset reviews had been completed for measures resulting from investigations initiated in 2008, 120 for 2009 and 76 for 2010, as shown in Table 3.9. Available information shows that the importing Member determined that expiry of a measure would lead to a continuation or recurrence of dumping/subsidisation and injury and thus extended the measures for 89% of the 2008 measures, 84% of the 2009 measures, and 73% of the 2010 measures. There is insufficient information to determine whether the financial crisis might have influenced these figures.

**Table 3.9 Results from completed reviews (based on the year the investigation was initiated)**

	Investigation initiated in		
	2008	2009	2010 <sup>a</sup>
Number of completed reviews	107	120	77
Measure extended	89%	83%	73%
Expiry of measure	11%	17%	21%

a Only 82 measures resulting from investigations initiated in 2010 have so far expired or been subject to review.

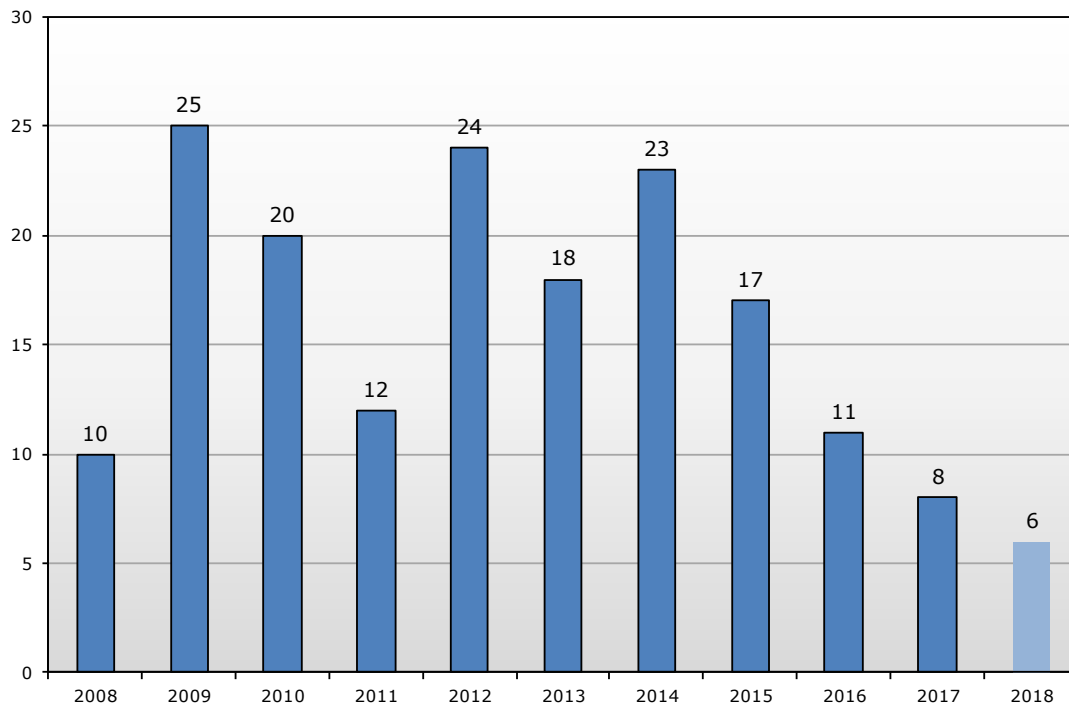
Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Safeguard measures

3.44. Safeguard measures are temporary measures imposed in response to increased imports of goods that are causing serious injury, and are imposed on products from all sources (i.e. all exporting countries).<sup>38</sup> Thus, SGs are subject to different rules and timelines than AD and CVD measures, and therefore are not directly comparable.

3.45. Chart 3.9 shows the recent trend of initiations of SG investigations on a calendar year basis. Setting aside the exceptionally large figure (34) recorded in 2002, the year 2009 saw the largest number of initiations since 1995, with 25 (the year 2000 was also 25), and the years 2012 and 2014 saw the second and third largest numbers. From those high levels, initiations of SG investigations have been declining. Projecting the 2018 figure into a yearly basis, however, the declining trend now seems to have stopped. Table 3.10, which shows the breakdown on a July-June basis of Members that initiated these investigations, also seems to confirm this development.

<sup>38</sup> With the exception of special and differential treatment provide for developing countries in Article 9.1 of the Safeguards Agreement.

**Chart 3.9 SG investigation initiations<sup>a</sup>**

a Data for 2018 relate to the period January to June, as reported by Members.

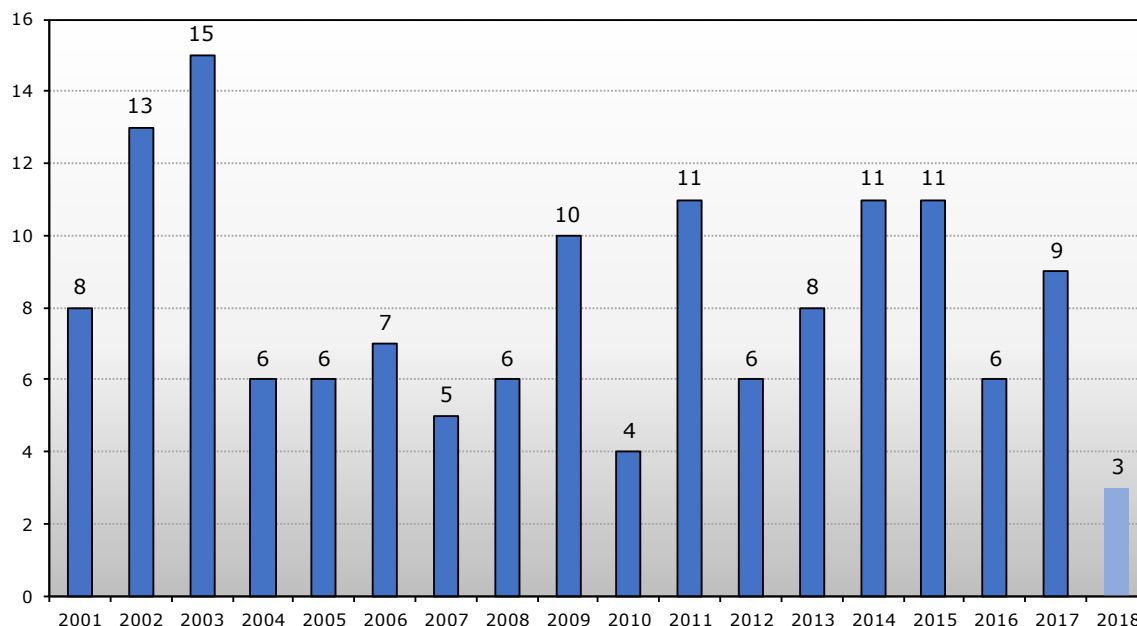
Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Table 3.10 Initiations of SG investigations**

Reporting Member	July 2015 – June 2016	July 2016 – June 2017	July 2017 – June 2018
Chile	4	0	1
China	0	1	0
Costa Rica	0	0	1
Egypt	1	0	0
European Union	0	0	1
India	3	0	1
Indonesia	1	0	1
Jordan	0	1	0
Malaysia	3	0	0
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	1	1	1
South Africa	1	1	1
Thailand	1	0	0
Tunisia	1	0	0
Turkey	0	2	1
Ukraine	1	0	1
United States	0	2	0
Viet Nam	2	2	0
Zambia	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.46. The data on the imposition of SG measures (Chart 3.10) paint a somewhat different picture. That said, projecting the 2018 figure into an annual basis suggests that impositions of measures during the 2016-18 period are stabilizing at a level of 6-9 per year.

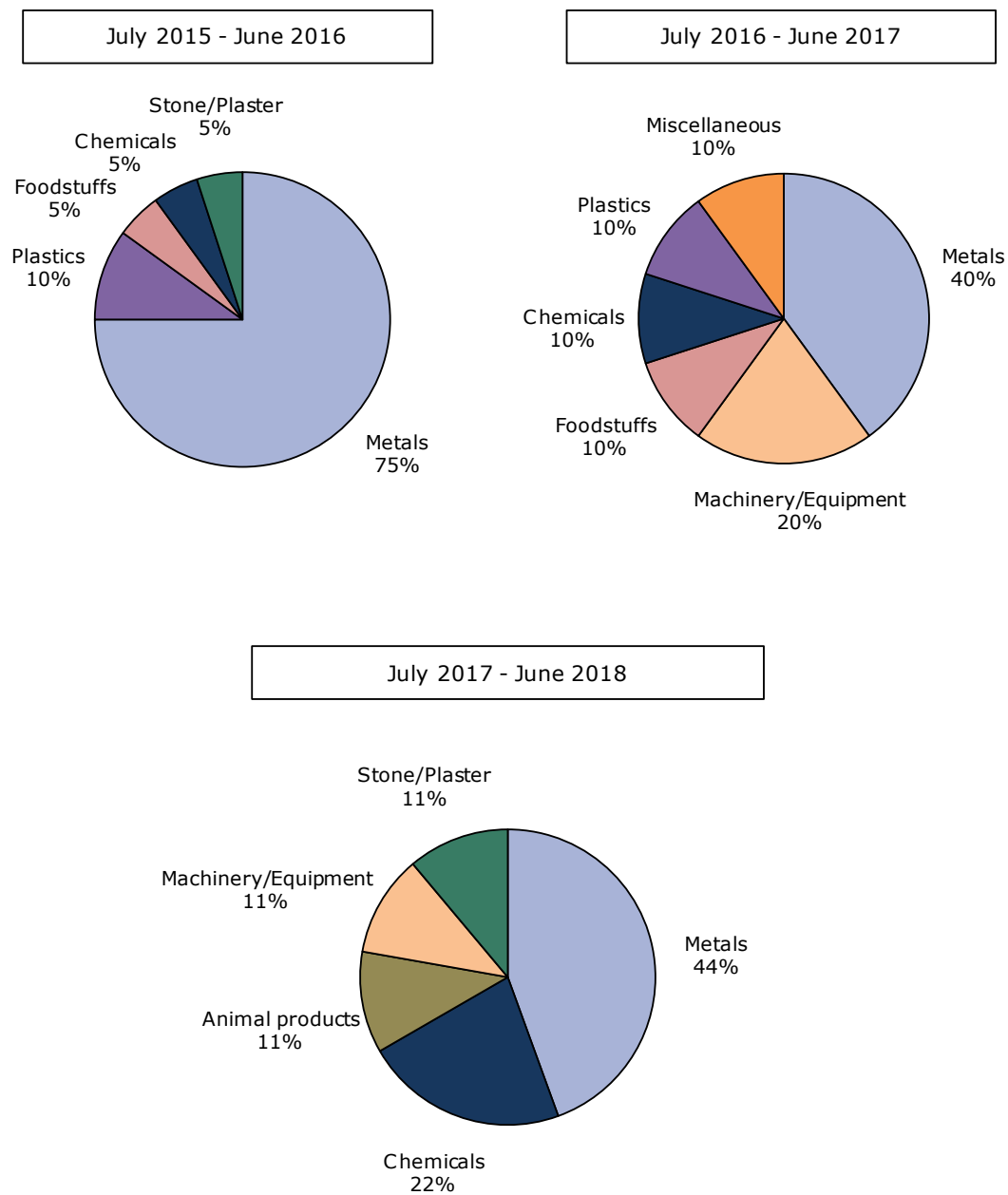
**Chart 3.10 Imposition of SG measures<sup>a</sup>**

a Data for 2018 relate to the January to June period.

Note: Some notifications are ambiguous about timing. For those notifications, Members sometimes subsequently file an additional notification clarifying, *ex post*, the timing of the taking effect. For this reason, the number of impositions indicated in past reports can differ from the figures indicated in the most recent Report.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.47. Chart 3.11 shows the products covered by these investigations, on a July-June basis. While the number of investigations initiated in the metals sector (the vast majority of which involve steel products) is substantially lower than that in the July 2015 – June 2016 period, the metals sector still occupies the largest share, at 44%. In addition to the data shown for the July 2017-June 2018 reporting period, it should be noted that the Eurasian Economic Union initiated an investigation on steel products in August 2018, and Canada initiated an investigation on steel products in October 2018.

**Chart 3.11 SG initiations by product**

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### 3.3 Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures<sup>39</sup>

3.48. Under the SPS Agreement, WTO Members are obliged to provide an advance notice of intention to introduce new or modified SPS measures<sup>40</sup>, or to notify immediately when emergency measures are imposed. The main objective of complying with the SPS notification obligations is to inform other Members about new or changed regulations that may significantly affect trade. Therefore, an increased number of notifications does not automatically imply greater use for protectionist purposes, but rather enhanced transparency regarding food safety, and animal and plant health measures, most of which presumably are legitimate health-protection measures.

3.49. In the period from October 2017 through September 2018<sup>41</sup>, 1,623 SPS notifications (regular and emergency, including addenda) were submitted<sup>42</sup> to the WTO, i.e. an increase of 18% in total notified measures compared to the previous period (1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017). Notifications from developing-country Members accounted for 75% of the total number. In the previous year, the total number of notifications and the proportion of measures notified by developing-country Members were lower: in that period, a total of 1,378 notifications (regular and emergency, including addenda) were submitted, of which 65% were notified by developing-country Members.

3.50. From October 2017 through September 2018, WTO Members submitted 1,431 regular SPS notifications (including addenda), 72% of which were submitted by developing-country Members. Compared with the previous period, the total number of regular notifications increased by 26%, while those submitted by developing-country Members increased by 52%.

3.51. As far as emergency measures (including addenda) are concerned, a decrease in the number of notifications submitted was observed, as compared with the previous period (Chart 3.12). The total number decreased by 21% in the review period (192 compared to 244 during the previous period), and the proportion of emergency measures submitted by developing-country Members remained stable, constituting 91% of the total (compared with 90% in the previous period). These high percentage figures are consistent with the general trend of the majority of emergency measures being notified by developing-country Members. This might stem from the fact that their SPS regulatory systems are not as extensive as those of developed-country Members, and, consequently, when facing emergency challenges, they are more likely to be obliged to introduce new regulations or change existing ones.

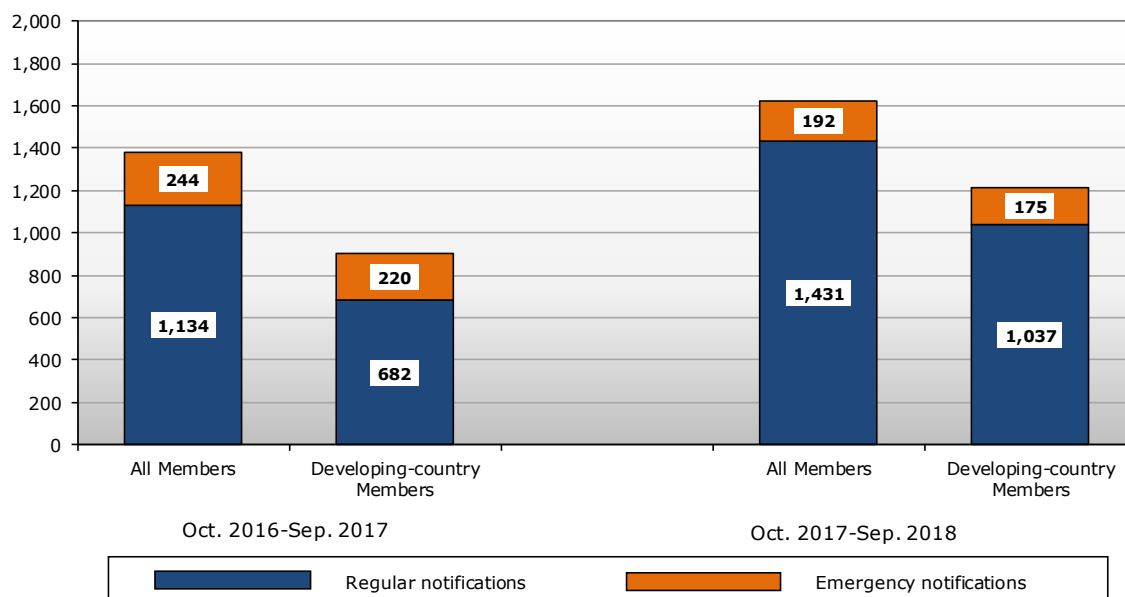
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<sup>39</sup> Information presented in this Section has been retrieved from the SPS Information Management System (SPS IMS: <http://spsims.wto.org>). This Section is based on notifications to the WTO for the period 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018. Specific trade concerns (STCs) are only raised at SPS Committee meetings. The information in this Section summarizes the STCs raised at the November 2017, March 2018 and July 2018 SPS Committee meetings.

<sup>40</sup> Transparency obligations are contained in Article 7 and Annex B of the SPS Agreement. Annex B requires that Members notify measures whose content is not substantially the same as that of an international standard, guideline or recommendation, and when the measure may have a significant effect on trade. However, the Recommended Procedures for Implementing the Transparency Provisions of the SPS Agreement, adopted by the SPS Committee in 2008 (G/SPS/7/Rev.4), recommend that Members also notify measures which are based on relevant international standards, and provide a broad interpretation of effects on trade.

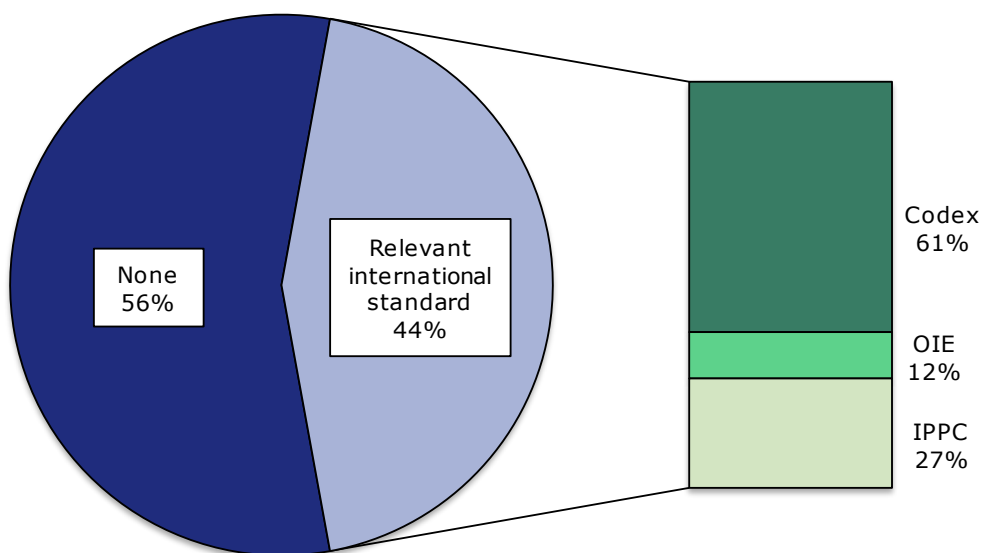
<sup>41</sup> For the SPS Section, the review period covers 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018.

<sup>42</sup> For this Report, submission refers to the date of circulation.

**Chart 3.12 Number of SPS notifications (including addenda)**

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.52. Many Members are following the recommendation to notify SPS measures even when these are based on a relevant international standard, as this substantially increases transparency. Of the 1,208 regular notifications (excluding addenda) submitted from October 2017 through September 2018, 545 (44% of the total) indicated that at least one international standard, guideline or recommendation was applicable to the notified measure (Chart 3.13). Of these, about 62% (338 in total) indicated that the proposed measure was in conformity with the existing international standard.

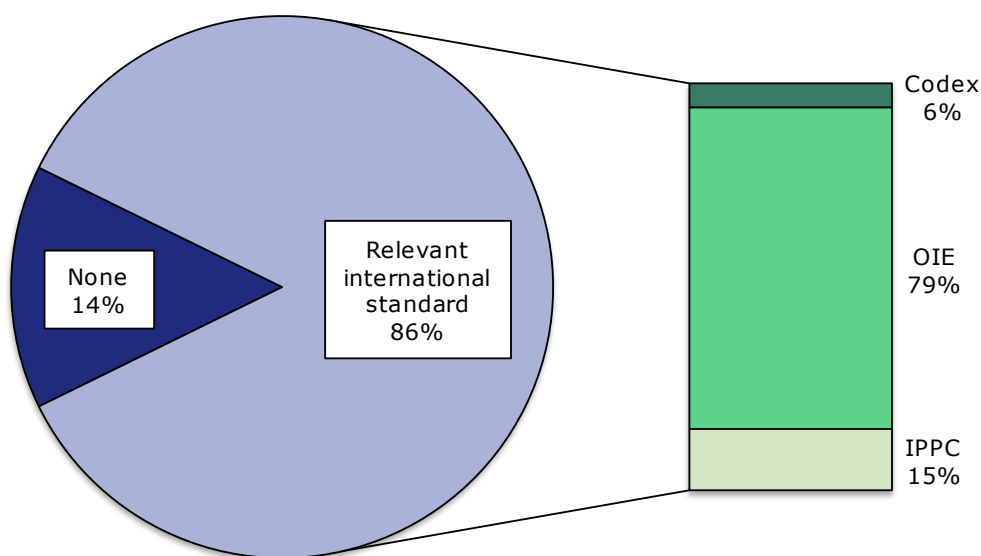
**Chart 3.13 Number of SPS notifications (excluding addenda) and international standards**

Note: Codex Alimentarius (Codex), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.53. International standards often provide useful guidance regarding measures to address disease outbreaks and other emergency situations. About 86% (100 in total) of the 116 emergency notifications (excluding addenda) submitted from October 2017 through September 2018 indicated that an international standard, guideline or recommendation was applicable to the notified measure (Chart 3.14). Of these, all but two indicated that the measure was in conformity with the existing international standard.

**Chart 3.14 Emergency SPS notifications (excluding addenda) and international standards**



Note: Codex, OIE and IPPC.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.54. Of the 1,208 regular notifications (excluding addenda) submitted in the review period, the majority were related to food safety and plant protection.<sup>43</sup> The remainder related to animal health, the protection of the Member's territory from other damage from pests, and the protection of humans from animal diseases or plant pests. It is worth noting that regular notifications may contain more than one objective.

3.55. Of the 116 emergency measures (excluding addenda) notified in the same period, the majority related to animal health, followed by measures related to food safety, the protection of humans from animal diseases or plant pests, plant protection, and the protection of the Member's territory from other damage from pests. Emergency notifications may contain more than one objective.

3.56. While there is no formal provision for "counter notification", concerns regarding the failure to notify an SPS measure, or regarding a notified measure, can be raised as a specific trade concern (STC) at any of the three regular meetings of the SPS Committee each year. In the Committee meetings of November 2017, March 2018 and July 2018, 20 new STCs were raised, of which 10 related to food safety, 4 to plant health, 3 to animal health and 3 to other concerns (Table 3.11).

3.57. The margins of the SPS Committee meetings provide important opportunities for delegations, which often include experts from capital, to discuss and resolve STCs bilaterally. During the review period, three STCs included on the proposed agenda were withdrawn following bilateral consultations. These were (i) Brazil's concern regarding Chile's restrictions on chicken products from Rio Grande do Sul; (ii) Russian Federation's concerns regarding India's fumigation requirements for grain imports (November 2017); and (iii) China's concerns regarding India's suspension of imports

<sup>43</sup> The objective of an SPS measure falls under one or more of the following categories: (i) food safety; (ii) animal health; (iii) plant protection; (iv) protection of humans from animal/plant pest or disease; and (v) protection of territory from other damages from pests. Members are required to identify the purpose of the measure in their notifications. It is not uncommon for more than one objective to be identified for a measure.



of apples, pears and marigold seeds (July 2018). Furthermore, during the period under review, the Secretariat contacted all Members who had raised STCs to seek information regarding the status (resolved, partially resolved, or not reported as resolved) of each STC raised by that Member which had not been discussed since March 2016. Twelve Members responded that 17 STCs had been resolved, and seven had been partially resolved.<sup>44</sup> In addition, two STCs were reported as resolved under the specific agenda item.<sup>45</sup> Since 1995, 37% of all STCs raised at the Committee have been reported as resolved.

**Table 3.11 New SPS STCs raised in November 2017, March 2018 or July 2018**

STC	Document title	Members maintaining the measure	Members raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	Date raised	Primary objective
428	EU maximum residue levels for acrinathrin, metalaxyl and thiabendazole	European Union	Peru	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Colombia; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Guatemala; Nigeria; United States	02/11/2017	Food safety
429	United Arab Emirates measures on plant protection products	United Arab Emirates	Turkey		02/11/2017	Plant health
430	EU maximum level of cadmium in foodstuffs	European Union	Colombia; Ecuador; Madagascar; Peru	Brazil; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Dominican Republic; Ghana; Guatemala; Nigeria; Panama	02/11/2017	Food safety
431	South Africa's import restrictions on poultry due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	South Africa	European Union		02/11/2017	Animal health
432	EU restrictions on poultry meat due to Salmonella detection	European Union	Brazil		02/11/2017	Food safety
433	Turkey's restrictions on rough rice imports	Turkey	United States		02/11/2017	Plant health
434	India's fumigation requirements for teak tree wood	India	Colombia	Belize; Costa Rica; Liberia	02/11/2017	Plant health
435	Viet Nam's draft amendment to Circular 24 on MRLs for veterinary drugs	Viet Nam	United States	Canada; New Zealand	01/03/2018	Food safety
436	Mexico's market access requirement for casein products	Mexico	India		01/03/2018	Animal health
437	Saudi Arabia's temporary ban on the importation of fish, crustaceans and other aquatic animal products	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	Viet Nam		01/03/2018	Animal health
438	Viet Nam's market access requirements for "white" offal	Viet Nam	United States	New Zealand	01/03/2018	Other concerns
439	U.S. import restrictions on apples and pears	United States	European Union		01/03/2018	Other concerns

<sup>44</sup> See RD/SPS/28/Rev.1.

<sup>45</sup> These were STCs 61 and 315.

STC	Document title	Members maintaining the measure	Members raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	Date raised	Primary objective
440	New Zealand's draft import health standard for vehicles, machinery and equipment	New Zealand	Japan		12/07/2018	Plant health
441	Lack of transparency and undue delays in Indonesia's approval procedures for animal products	Indonesia	European Union	Brazil	12/07/2018	Other concerns
442	EU Commission Decision 2002/994/EC on animal products	European Union	China		12/07/2018	Food safety
443	EU restrictions on poultry meat and poultry meat preparations (Regulation (EU) No. 2018/700)	European Union	Brazil		12/07/2018	Food safety
444	Panama's restrictions on beef and poultry meat	Panama	Brazil		12/07/2018	Food safety
445	Russian Federation's restrictions on beef and swine meat (G/SPS/N/RUS/145)	Russian Federation	Brazil		12/07/2018	Food safety
446	EU review of legislation on veterinary medicinal products	European Union	Argentina; United States	Australia; Brazil; Canada; Chile; Colombia	12/07/2018	Food safety
447	New EU definition of the fungicide Folpet	European Union	China		12/07/2018	Food safety

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.58. Twenty-three previously-raised STCs were discussed at the November 2017, March 2018 or July 2018 SPS Committee meetings (10 were discussed in all three meetings).<sup>46</sup> Of these, eight addressed persistent problems that have been discussed seven times or more. In particular, two have been discussed on 22 or more occasions (Table 3.12). In addition, four STCs raised for the first time in November 2017 were discussed again in March or July 2018<sup>47</sup>, and one STC raised for the first time in March 2018 was discussed again in July 2018.<sup>48</sup>

**Table 3.12 Previously-raised SPS STCs discussed in November 2017, March 2018 or July 2018**

STC	Document title	Member(s) maintaining the measure	Member(s) raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	First date raised	Times subsequently raised
184*	China's AQSIQ official certification requirements for food imports (G/TBT/N/CHN/1209) (previously raised as Lack of transparency for certain SPS measures)	China	Israel; United States	Australia; Canada; Chile; Costa Rica; European Union; Guatemala; Japan; Korea, Republic of; Mexico; Norway; Singapore; Switzerland; Thailand	01/03/2004	6
193*	General import restrictions due to BSE		European Union; United States	Canada; Switzerland; Uruguay	01/06/2004	33

<sup>46</sup> The 10 STCs that were raised at the three meetings are marked with an asterisk (\*) in Table 3.12.

<sup>47</sup> These were STCs 428, 430, 431 and 432.

<sup>48</sup> STC 439.

STC	Document title	Member(s) maintaining the measure	Member(s) raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	First date raised	Times subsequently raised
238	Application and modification of the EU Regulation on Novel Foods	European Union	Colombia; Ecuador; Peru	Argentina; Benin; Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Chile; China; Costa Rica; Cuba; Dominican Republic; El Salvador; Guatemala; Honduras; India; Indonesia; Mexico; Nicaragua; Paraguay; Philippines; Uruguay; Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	01/03/2006	22
271	Restrictions on imports of swine meat	Mexico	Brazil		24/06/2008	4
315**	Ukraine import restrictions on poultry and poultry products	Ukraine	Mexico		30/03/2011	1
344	Measures on shrimp	Brazil	Ecuador		18/10/2012	5
354	Import restrictions in response to the Japanese nuclear power plant accident	China	Japan		27/06/2013	10
382*	EU revised proposal for categorization of compounds as endocrine disruptors	European Union	Argentina; China; India; United States	Australia; Benin; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Canada; Central African Republic; Chile; Colombia; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; The Gambia; Ghana; Guatemala; Guinea; India; Indonesia; Jamaica; Kenya; Korea, Republic of; Madagascar; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Nigeria; Pakistan; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Senegal; Sierra Leone; South Africa; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; Togo; Uruguay; Viet Nam; Zambia	25/03/2014	11

STC	Document title	Member(s) maintaining the measure	Member(s) raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	First date raised	Times subsequently raised
387	Import restrictions in response to the Japanese nuclear power plant accident	Chinese Taipei	Japan		26/03/2015	6
390*	Import restrictions on processed fishery products from Estonia and Latvia	Russian Federation	European Union		15/07/2015	9
392	Import restrictions due to African swine fever	China	European Union		15/07/2015	8
393	Import restrictions due to African swine fever	Korea, Republic of	European Union		15/07/2015	8
395*	Proposed amendments to the implementation regulations on safety assessment of agricultural GMOs	China	Paraguay; United States		15/07/2015	7
406*	Import restrictions due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	China	European Union; United States		16/03/2016	6
411*	Import restrictions on certain animal products from Germany	Russian Federation	European Union		30/06/2016	6
415*	Seafood import monitoring programme	United States	China	Chile; Russian Federation	27/10/2016	5
416	Import ban on fresh mangosteen	China	Indonesia		27/10/2016	2
418	Suspension of groundnut seed imports	Viet Nam	Senegal		22/03/2017	3
421*	Import restriction on papaya seeds	Thailand	Chinese Taipei		22/03/2017	5
422*	Dimethoate-related restrictions on imports	European Union	United States	Argentina; Canada; Turkey	13/07/2017	3
423	Measures on bananas	Brazil	Ecuador		13/07/2017	1
426	Import restrictions on wine	Russian Federation	Montenegro	Moldova, Republic of	13/07/2017	1
427	Fumigation requirements for cashew nuts	India	Madagascar; Senegal	Burkina Faso; Colombia; Ghana; Kenya; Mali; Mozambique; Nigeria; Russian Federation; Togo; Ukraine; United States	13/07/2017	2

\* STCs raised in all three SPS Committee meetings.

\*\* STC reported as resolved.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.59. Analysing the November 2017, March 2018 and July 2018 SPS Committee meetings, 50% of all STCs raised for the first time concerned food safety, 20% concerned plant health, 15% covered animal health, and 15% related to other types of concerns.<sup>49</sup> Regarding previously-raised STCs in the review period, 43% concerned food safety, 30% concerned animal health, 17% related to plant health, and 9% covered other types of concerns. Of the total STCs raised or discussed in the review

<sup>49</sup> Specifically, control, inspection and approval procedures, and transparency.

period, 47% concerned food safety, 23% covered animal health, 19% concerned plant health and 12% related to other types of concerns.

### Box 3.3 Enhancing monitoring and transparency in SPS and TBT

Accessing relevant information on SPS or TBT product requirements in export markets can represent a significant challenge, in particular for SMEs. The WTO helps address this potential trade barrier through a combination of transparency requirements included in the SPS and TBT Agreements and online tools that make information easily accessible: the SPS and TBT Information Management Systems (SPS/TBT IMSs) and ePing.

WTO Members are required to notify proposed SPS and TBT measures if they may significantly affect international trade. Each year, the WTO receives in excess of 3,500 such notifications.

Publicly available online tools assist stakeholders in finding notifications of relevance to their trade:

- SPS IMS [www.spsims.wto.org](http://www.spsims.wto.org),
- TBT IMS [www.tbtdims.wto.org](http://www.tbtdims.wto.org), and
- ePing [www.epingalert.org](http://www.epingalert.org).

The SPS/TBT IMSs are search-platforms that, among other things, help identify, SPS or TBT notifications by using parameters such as products, notifying Member and objective. The ePing is an online alert system allowing users (governments, economic operators, civil society) to receive daily or weekly email alerts about SPS and TBT notifications covering products and markets of interest to them.

Timely access to notifications is crucial given the 60-day period that normally should be provided for submitting comments on regulations, usually still in draft-form. The ePing platform also facilitates dialogue among the public and private sectors to discuss and share information on notifications of concern, allowing stakeholders to address potential trade problems at an early stage of the regulatory lifecycle.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### 3.4 Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs)<sup>50</sup>

3.60. Under the TBT Agreement, WTO Members are required to notify their intention to introduce new or modified TBT measures, or to notify adopted emergency measures immediately. The principal objective of complying with the TBT notification obligations is to inform other Members about new or changed regulations that may significantly affect trade.<sup>51</sup> Therefore, an increased number of notifications does not necessarily imply greater use of trade-restrictive measures. Rather, TBT notification obligations are meant to promote enhanced transparency regarding measures taken to address legitimate policy objectives, e.g. the protection of human, animal or plant life or health, or the environment.<sup>52</sup>

3.61. From 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018, WTO Members submitted 2,089 new regular notifications of TBT measures.<sup>53</sup> This represents an increase of around 30% compared to the preceding 12-month period.<sup>54</sup> The clear majority of regular TBT notifications submitted during the review period (around 85%) continue to come from developing countries.

3.62. The Members which notified the most measures during the review period - covering more than 7% of all new regular notifications - were the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, and Yemen (458 collectively as Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Standardization Organization (GSO) members)<sup>55</sup>, Uganda (163), Kenya (146), the

<sup>50</sup> For the TBT Section, the review period covers 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018.

<sup>51</sup> Under the TBT Agreement, WTO Members are not required to notify all proposed TBT measures (technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures). Rather, as a minimum, they are only required to notify those measures that may have a significant effect on trade of other Members and are not in accordance with a relevant international standard (in the case of technical regulations), or relevant guides or recommendations issued by international standardizing bodies (in the case of conformity assessment procedures). However, the TBT Committee, in its Sixth Triennial Review, encouraged Members, "for the purpose of enhancing predictability and transparency in situations where it is difficult to establish or foresee whether a draft technical regulation or conformity assessment procedure may have a 'significant effect on trade of other Members', to notify such measures."

<sup>52</sup> TBT Agreement obligations are also subject to 25 separate special and differential treatment (S&D) provisions, conferring developing-country Members, and LDC Members in particular, with certain flexibilities. The TBT Agreement contains more S&D provisions than any other WTO agreement apart from the GATT 1994.

<sup>53</sup> Viewed at: <http://tbtdims.wto.org>.

<sup>54</sup> From 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017, the overall number of new regular notifications was 1,608.

<sup>55</sup> The GSO-GCC has *ad hoc* observer status to the TBT Committee.

European Union (132)<sup>56</sup>, Rwanda (103), Tanzania (102), Brazil (95), the United States (88), China (68), the Republic of Korea (59), Mexico (56) and Israel (55). During the review period, and consistent with the trend already noted, the GSO-GCC continued to notify regionally-harmonized GCC draft technical regulations in joint notifications, providing a common deadline for comments and facilitating the handling of comments received.

3.63. Of the 2,089 new regular TBT notifications received during the review period, the majority indicated the protection of human health or safety as the main objective.<sup>57</sup> The remaining notifications related to quality requirements, the protection of the environment and the prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection. Although national security does not feature among the most indicated objectives, it has been mentioned with increasing frequency since 2007.

3.64. A total of 886 "follow-up notifications"<sup>58</sup> were submitted during the review period, slightly more than the 815 notified during the preceding 12-month period. The continuing and frequent use by Members of this type of notification is a positive development, as it increases transparency and predictability across the measures' regulatory lifecycle.

3.65. WTO Members use the TBT Committee as a forum for discussing trade issues related to specific TBT measures (technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment procedures) maintained by other Members. These STCs normally relate to proposed draft measures notified to the TBT Committee or to the implementation of existing measures. Issues can range from simple requests for additional information and clarification to questions on the consistency of measures with TBT Agreement disciplines.

3.66. A total of 183 (21 new and 162 previously-raised) STCs were discussed during the three Committee meetings that fell within the review period: 62 (7 new and 55 previously-raised) at the November 2017 meeting, 59 (6 new and 53 previously-raised) at the March 2018 meeting, and 62 (8 new and 54 previously-raised) at the June 2018 meeting.

3.67. As depicted in Table 3.13, measures by the European Union (4), China (3), and those by Ecuador, India, Indonesia, United States and Viet Nam (2 each) attracted the majority of the 21 *new* STCs raised during the review period. They were followed by new STCs concerning measures by Brazil, Colombia, Israel, and Thailand (one each). These new STCs covered a wide range of products/issues, including cybersecurity, solid waste, toys, processed food and food products, refrigerating appliances, automobiles, tobacco products, cosmetic and medicinal products, biofuels and spirits, batteries, conservation energy standards, security screening equipment, telegraphs and surface tension agents.

**Table 3.13 New STCs raised in the TBT Committee**

<b>New STCs raised in the TBT Committee meetings of November 2017, March 2018, and June 2018</b>	
<b>Viet Nam:</b>	Draft Cybersecurity Law (ID 544) (raised by <i>Japan, United States and New Zealand</i> );
<b>China:</b>	Catalogue of Solid Wastes Forbidden to Import into China (ID 545) (raised by <i>Japan, United States, European Union, Australia and Canada</i> );
<b>India:</b>	Amended regulation on toy imports (ID 546) (raised by <i>European Union, China, United States, Mexico and Canada</i> );
<b>China:</b>	Certification requirements for processed foods (ID 547) (raised by <i>European Union, United States, Guatemala, Singapore and Chinese Taipei</i> );

<sup>56</sup> Eighty-one EU-wide regular notifications plus 51 notifications from certain individual EU member States: Estonia (2); the Czech Republic (21); France (10); Italy (3); Lithuania (3); Slovenia (4); Spain (3); Sweden (1); and the United Kingdom (4).

<sup>57</sup> A TBT measure may pursue a variety of legitimate objectives, although historically the majority fall under one of the following categories: the protection of human, animal or plant life or health, or the environment. Members are required to identify the purpose of the measure in their notifications. It is not uncommon that more than one objective is identified for a measure.

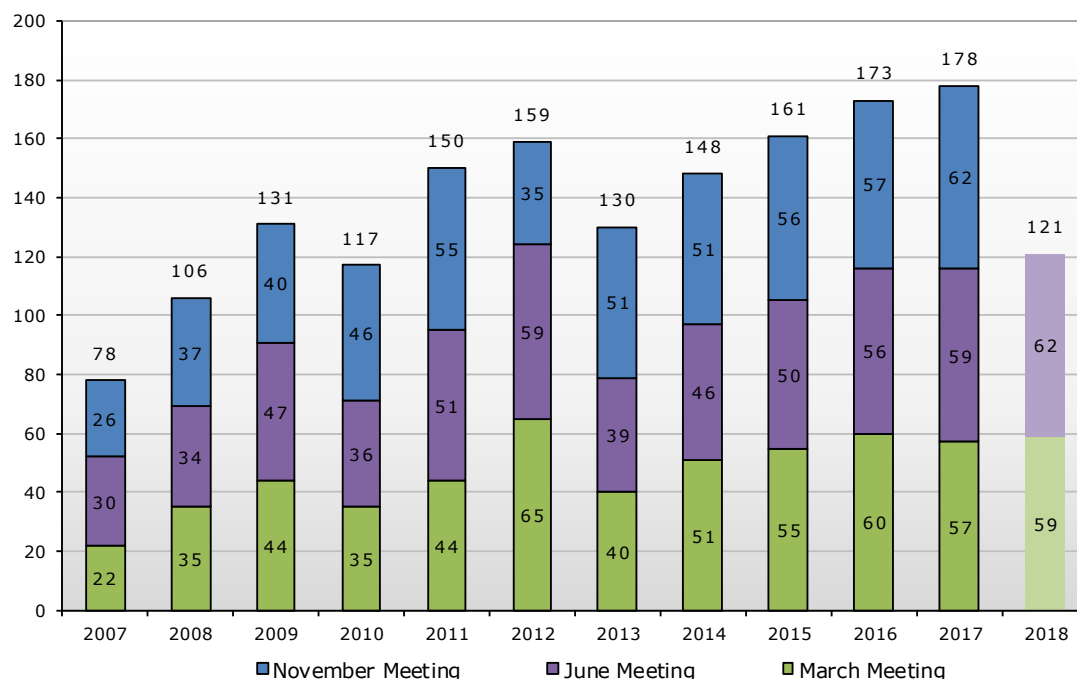
<sup>58</sup> Follow-up notifications are called "addenda", "corrigenda", or "supplements". They can also be in the form of "revisions" when the original measure has been substantially re-drafted prior to adoption or entry into force. A revision replaces the original notification. They are linked to the original notification of a measure, and include additional pertinent information, such as the extension of a notification comment period (addenda), the withdrawal or revocation of a measure (addenda), when a measure is substantially redrafted prior to adoption or entry into force (revision), or when the adopted final text of a measure becomes available (addenda). See G/TBT/35 for further information on different types of TBT notifications.

New STCs raised in the TBT Committee meetings of November 2017, March 2018, and June 2018	
<b>Ecuador:</b>	Household refrigerating appliances (ID 548) <i>(raised by Colombia)</i> ;
<b>Viet Nam:</b>	Decree on the regulation on conditions for automobiles manufacturing, assembling importing and automotive warranty and maintenance services (ID 549) <i>(raised by Japan, United States and Thailand)</i> ;
<b>European Union:</b>	Establishment and operation of a traceability system for tobacco products (ID 550) <i>(raised by Cuba)</i> ;
<b>China:</b>	Environmental protection control standards for imported solid waste as raw materials (ID 551) <i>(raised by European Union, United States, Australia, Japan and Canada)</i> ;
<b>Israel:</b>	Addendum to the Pharmacist Regulations (Cosmetics 5778-2018) (ID 552) <i>(raised by European Union and United States)</i> ;
<b>European Union:</b>	Amendments to the Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC) (ID 553) <i>(raised by Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Nigeria)</i> ;
<b>European Union:</b>	Laws, regulations, procedures and guidelines on marketing authorization for medicinal products (ID 554) <i>(raised by India)</i> ;
<b>European Union:</b>	Application of Regulation No. 1169/2011 and Regulation (EC) No. 1924/2006 regarding the labelling of food products, in not prohibiting or examining the use of "palm oil free" labels (ID 555) <i>(raised by Colombia, Indonesia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Thailand and Malaysia)</i> ;
<b>Thailand:</b>	New certification requirements under the Thai Ministry of Finance's Ministerial Notification on Importation of Spirits into the Kingdom of Thailand (B.E 2560) (ID 556) <i>(raised by Australia, United States, Japan and European Union)</i> ;
<b>Brazil:</b>	Draft Technical Resolution No. 51, 7 April 2017 on labelling of beverages, wine, and grape derivatives (ID 557) <i>(raised by European Union)</i> ;
<b>India:</b>	Testing and Certification of Telegraph (The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2017) (ID 558) <i>(raised by United States)</i> ;
<b>United States:</b>	TSA Certification on security screening equipment (ID 559) <i>(raised by China)</i> ;
<b>United States:</b>	Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Compressors (ID 560) <i>(raised by China)</i> ;
<b>Indonesia:</b>	Regulation of the Chairman of NADFC RI No.14 of 2016 on the Safety and Quality Standard of Alcoholic Beverages (ID 561) <i>(raised by Mexico)</i> ;
<b>Colombia:</b>	Technical Regulation applicable to zinc-carbon and alkaline cells and batteries imported into or manufactured in Colombia (ID 562) <i>(raised by Mexico and United States)</i> ;
<b>Ecuador:</b>	RTE INEN 088 (1R) surface tension agents (ID 563) <i>(raised by Mexico)</i> ;
<b>Indonesia:</b>	Indonesian National Standard SNI 2973: 2011 and the certification requirements for the import of biscuits, as notified under the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade on 20 April 2016 (ID 564) <i>(raised by Switzerland)</i> .

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.68. As indicated in Chart 3.15, STCs are frequently discussed in the regular meetings of the TBT Committee, with almost 60 STCs discussed per meeting in recent years. Depending on the extent of the trade-restrictiveness and importance of the issue to the Member(s) raising the STC, the same measure may come up at one or more meetings of the TBT Committee. For example, an STC may be discussed at only one meeting as a new STC, and subsequently a resolution to the trade concern may be found. Alternatively, an STC may be discussed at subsequent meetings, as a previously-raised STC. Previously-raised STCs are usually reserved for long-standing and more serious concerns. Since 1995, Members have raised 562 new STCs.



**Chart 3.15 STCs raised per committee meeting, January 2007 to June 2018**

Note: With a view to providing a more accurate image of the number of concerns discussed in the TBT Committee in a given year, the methodology of counting previously-raised STCs has been revised. Previously, an STC raised in the TBT Committee in a given year, was counted once, either as a new or as a previously-raised STC. This method resulted in underreporting the number of previously-raised STCs. The new methodology counts an STC each time it is raised: if raised for the first time, it is counted as a new STC, and if it is raised again, it is counted as a previously-raised STC.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

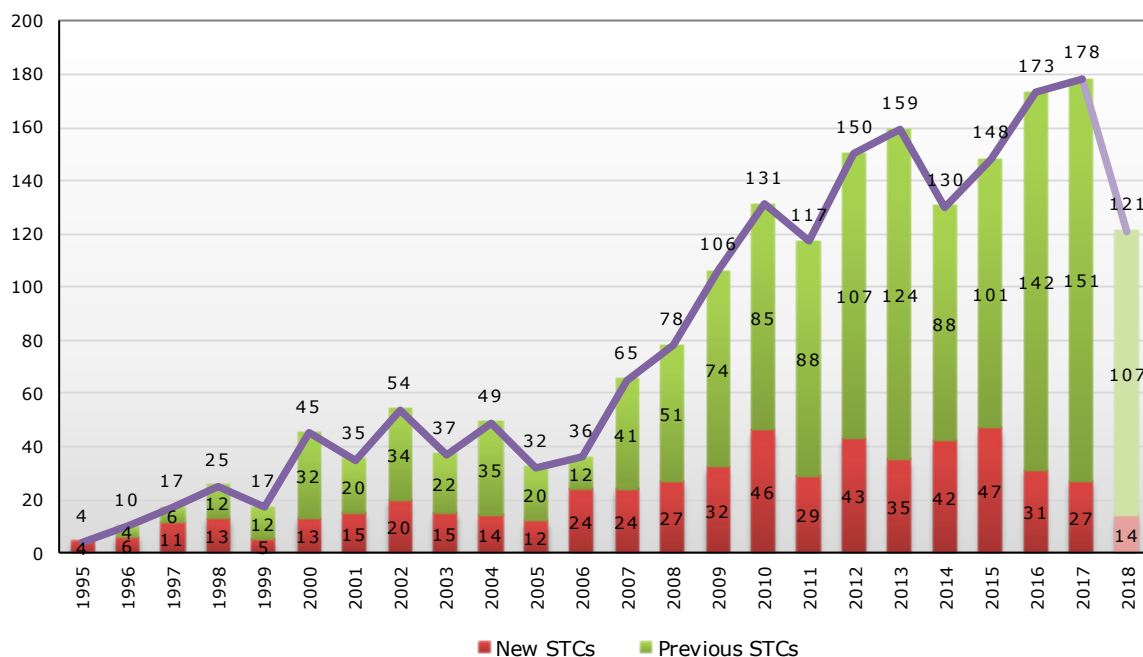
3.69. Overall, the number of new and previously-raised STCs has been increasing every year, despite Members raising fewer new STCs. This may in part be because they have raised more previous STCs in recent years. Since 2008, Members have raised more than 100 STCs (new and previous) every year (Chart 3.16).<sup>59</sup> During the three Committee meetings held in 2017, 178 STCs were discussed, which represents a 174% increase compared to 2007, when 65 STCs were raised. Additionally, as indicated above, the total number of STCs discussed in the first two Committee meetings of 2018 (March and June) was 59 and 62, respectively, showing a similar trend to the one observed in 2017.

3.70. As illustrated in Chart 3.16, there is a marked correlation between the number of new notifications and new STCs raised each year, although in 2011, 2013, 2016 and 2017 the number of new notifications has grown while the number of new STCs has fallen, marking a break in the trend.<sup>60</sup> The overall trend suggests an increasing use of the TBT Committee as a forum for Members to raise and resolve trade concerns non-litigiously.

<sup>59</sup> In 2017, Members reviewed a total of 178 STCs, a record number. The number of new concerns, however, dropped to 27, 4 less than in 2016. This continues the declining trend in the number of new concerns raised in the Committee since 2014 (47), a decrease of 43%. Source: *Twenty-Third Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement*, G/TBT/40 (12 March 2018), para. 3.23.

<sup>60</sup> See *Twenty-Third Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement*, G/TBT/40 (12 March 2018), para. 3.35.

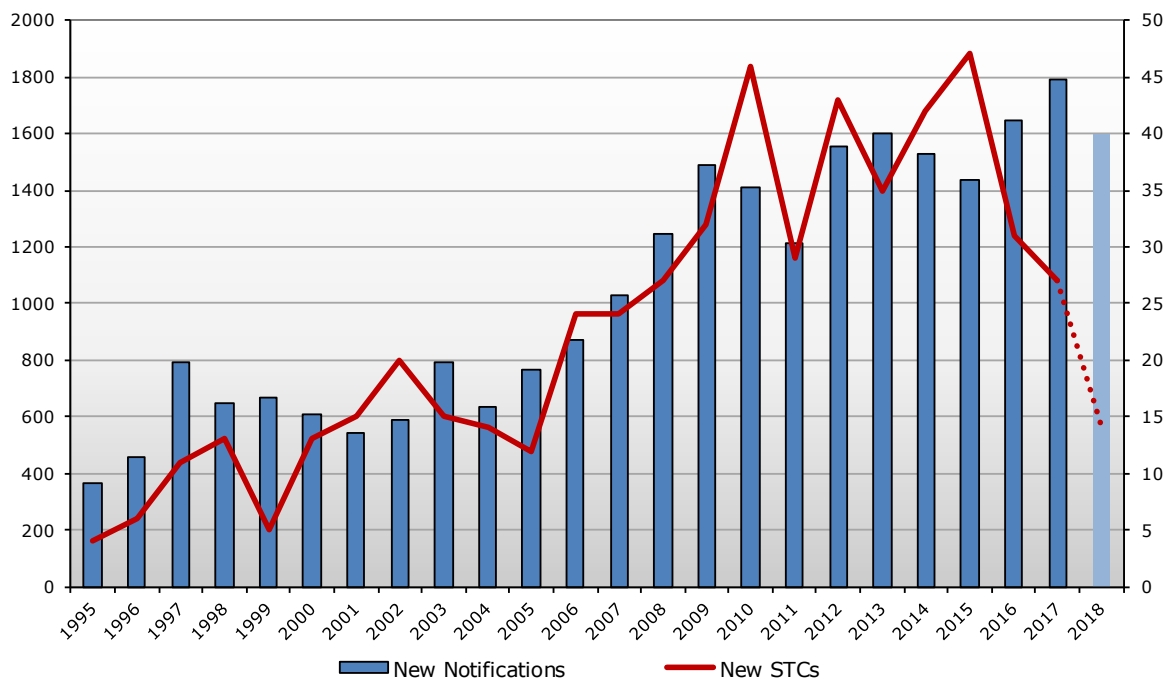


**Chart 3.16 STCs raised, January 1995 to 30 September 2018**

Note: With a view to providing a more accurate image of the number of concerns discussed in the TBT Committee in a given year, the methodology of counting previously-raised STCs has been revised. Previously, an STC raised in the TBT Committee in a given year, was counted once, either as a new or as a previously-raised STC. This method resulted in underreporting the number of previously-raised STCs. The new methodology counts an STC each time it is raised: if raised for the first time, it is counted as a new STC, and if it is raised again, it is counted as a previously-raised STC.

Note: 2018 data cover the period from January to September.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 3.17 Number of TBT notifications and new STCs, 1995-2018**

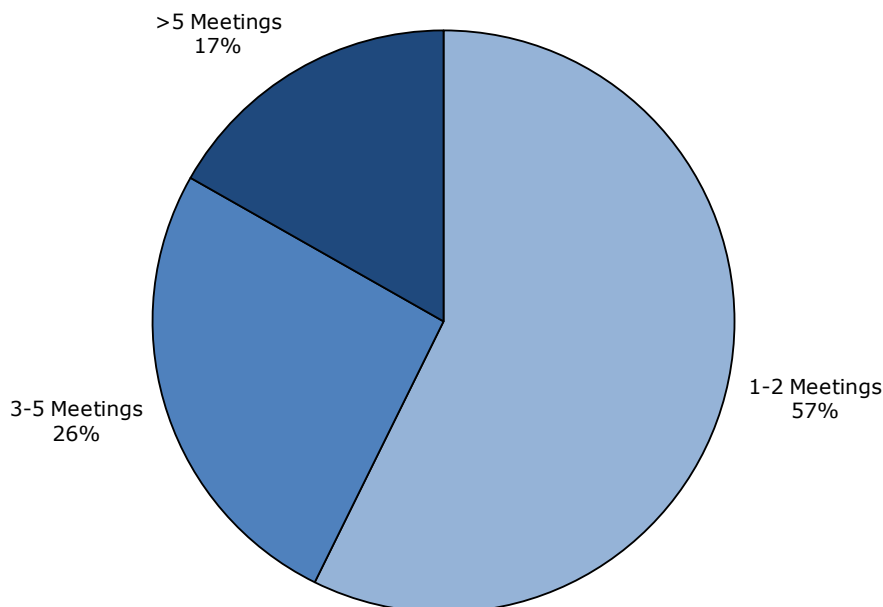
Note: 2018 data cover the period from January to September.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.71. As mentioned, STCs may be discussed at subsequent meetings, as previously-raised STCs, and usually represent more serious concerns. The majority of STCs (57%) have been raised at one or two Committee meetings, 26% were raised three to five times and 17% were raised more than five times (Chart 3.18). The share of "persistent" STCs, i.e. those raised more than five times, decreased in 2017 in comparison with 2016.

**Chart 3.18 STCs raised in the TBT Committee, 1995-2017**

(number of times)



Source: WTO Secretariat. *Twenty-Third Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement*, G/TBT/40 (12 March 2018), Chart 27.

3.72. During the review period, which includes STCs raised in the first two meetings of the TBT Committee that took place in 2018, eight persistent STCs, that were raised more than 16 times in TBT Committee meetings, were discussed (Table 3.14).

3.73. Various new and previously-raised STCs discussed during the review period involved regulations on vehicles and/or their related products. Box 3.4 takes a closer look these types of measures as notified to, and discussed in, the TBT Committee over the years.

**Table 3.14 Persistent STCs raised between 1 October 2017 and 30 September 2018**

Persistent STCs
<b>India:</b> Pneumatic tyres and tubes for automotive vehicles (ID 133) - raised <u>35 times</u> since 2006
<b>India:</b> New Telecommunications-related Rules (Department of Telecommunications, No. 842-725/2005-VAS/Vol. III (3 December 2009); No. 10-15/2009-AS-III/193 (18 March 2010); and No. 10-15/2009-AS.III/Vol. II/(Pt.)/(25-29) (28 July 2010); Department of Telecommunications, No. 10-15/2009-AS.III/Vol. II/(Pt.)/(30) (28 July 2010) and accompanying template, "Security and Business Continuity Agreement" (ID 274) - raised <u>23 times</u> since 2010
<b>China:</b> Provisions for the Administration of Cosmetics Application Acceptance (ID 296) - raised <u>23 times</u> since 2011
<b>China:</b> Requirements for information security products, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the Office of State Commercial Cryptography Administration (OSCCA) 1999 Regulation on commercial encryption products and its ongoing revision and the Multi-Level Protection Scheme (MLPS) (ID 294) - raised <u>22 times</u> since 2011
<b>Korea, Republic of:</b> Regulation on Registration and Evaluation of Chemical Material (ID 305) - raised <u>19 times</u> since 2011
<b>Indonesia:</b> Technical Guidelines for the Implementation of the Adoption and Supervision of Indonesian National Standards for Obligatory Toy Safety (ID 328) - raised <u>19 times</u> since 2011

Persistent STCs
<b>Russian Federation:</b> Draft Technical Regulation on Alcohol Drinks Safety (published on 24 October 2011) (ID 332) - <i>raised 19 times</i> since 2012
<b>European Union:</b> Draft Implementing Regulations amending Regulation (EC) No. 607/2009 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 as regards protected designations of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine sector products (ID 345) <i>raised 17 times</i> since 2012

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Box 3.4 Regulations on vehicles and the TBT Agreement

Vehicles<sup>a</sup> are among the top most traded products worldwide. Global exports amounted to USD 1,448.03 billion in 2017, with Germany, Japan and the United States as the largest vehicle exporters (USD 258.29 billion, USD 146.23 billion and USD 130.18 billion, respectively). The top vehicle importer is the United States, with imports worth USD 294.56 billion in 2017, while the value of vehicles imported by Germany and China amounted to USD 124.57 billion and USD 79.25 billion, respectively.<sup>b</sup>

From January 1995 to October 2018, WTO Members had submitted a total of 1,180 new notifications to the TBT Committee related to vehicles or parts and/or accessories thereof.<sup>c</sup> These were made by 73 WTO Members. From 1996 until end 2010, the number of TBT notified measures on vehicles increased from 14 to 142, setting a record for the total number of vehicle-related notifications. The largest share of these measures refers to the need to protect human health and safety, and are notified by WTO Members from Asia, followed by those from North America. Notifications made by the United States and China constituted a significant part of these vehicle-related notifications, amounting to 14% and 10% of the total, respectively. Canada, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the European Union also regularly notify measures related to vehicles.

WTO Members have increasingly used the TBT Committee meetings to raise and discuss concerns regarding vehicles.<sup>d</sup> Between January 1995 and October 2018, 25 such concerns were raised in relation to measures maintained mostly by the European Union, the Republic of Korea, China, the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.<sup>e</sup> These concerns were about motor vehicles in general, passenger cars, and tyres, and involved measures whose objectives were mainly about the protection of human health and safety as well as the environment. The issues most commonly mentioned by WTO Members<sup>f</sup> when raising vehicle-related concerns are transparency, trade-restrictiveness, and the use (or non-use) of international standards.

- <sup>a</sup> Vehicles are listed in Chapter 87 of the Harmonized System.
- <sup>b</sup> Data source: ITC Trade Map.
- <sup>c</sup> TBT notifications are included when the text mentions vehicles (excluding railway or tramway rolling-stock) and parts and accessories thereof. Revisions, supplements, and addenda to the notifications are not counted.
- <sup>d</sup> STCs are included when the text mentions vehicles (excluding railway or tramway rolling-stock), and parts and accessories thereof.
- <sup>e</sup> Overall, concerns about vehicle-related measures taken by 28 WTO Members were subject to discussions.
- <sup>f</sup> A total of 16 WTO Members raised vehicle-related concerns.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.74. Box 3.5 on how standards certification and export status are interlinked was contributed by the ITC.

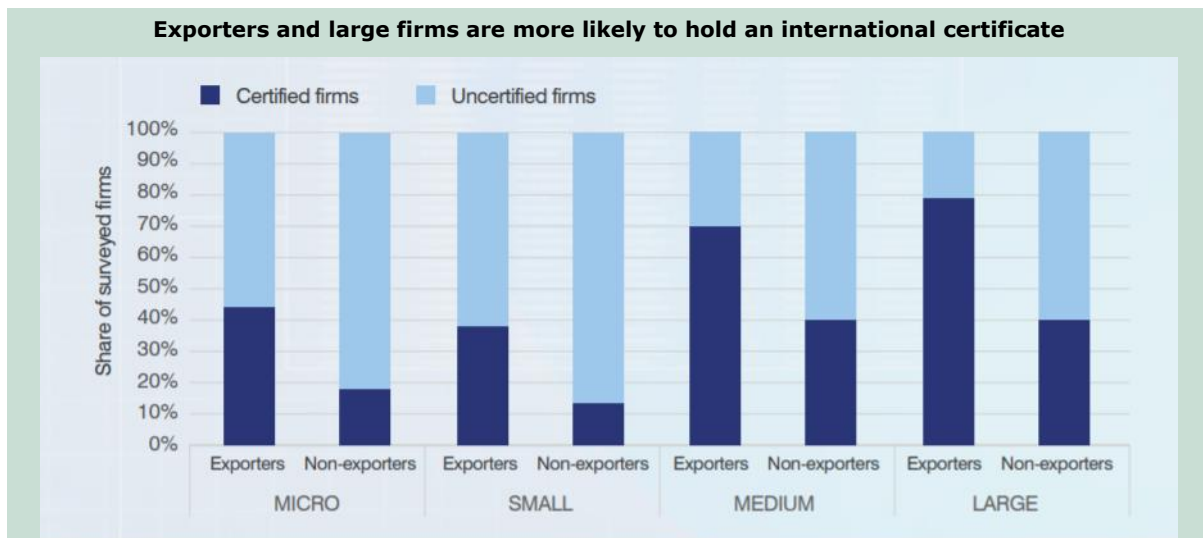
### Box 3.5 Certification: A Door to International Markets

Standards are essential for businesses to participate in international trade and integrate into value chains. They determine whether products are safe, and make it possible for inputs produced and processed by multiple actors in different locations to be reliably compatible with each other. However, navigating the growing maze of official and private standards is not easy, especially for SMEs where the costs of complying with standards and regulations weigh disproportionately.<sup>a</sup>

A series of recent data-gathering exercises by the International Trade Centre (ITC) show how crucial complying with international standards is for SMEs desiring to expand their local and global base. Empirical evidence from ITC also provides suggestions on how institutions working in the area of quality assurance can support SMEs in their efforts to become certified.

#### Certification and export status are deeply interlinked

Investing in standards and regulations is worth the effort, despite the costs, as it can make a firm more competitive and better able to export and participate in value chains. The economic literature has shown how certification raises not only firms' growth,<sup>b</sup> but also the likelihood they will export.<sup>c</sup> Firm-level evidence from the ITC SME Competitiveness Survey in French-speaking African countries confirms that certification and export status are positively related, irrespective of the sector or firm size.<sup>d</sup> At the same time, smaller firms tend to find it harder to bear the financial, administrative or other costs associated with obtaining and maintaining certification.



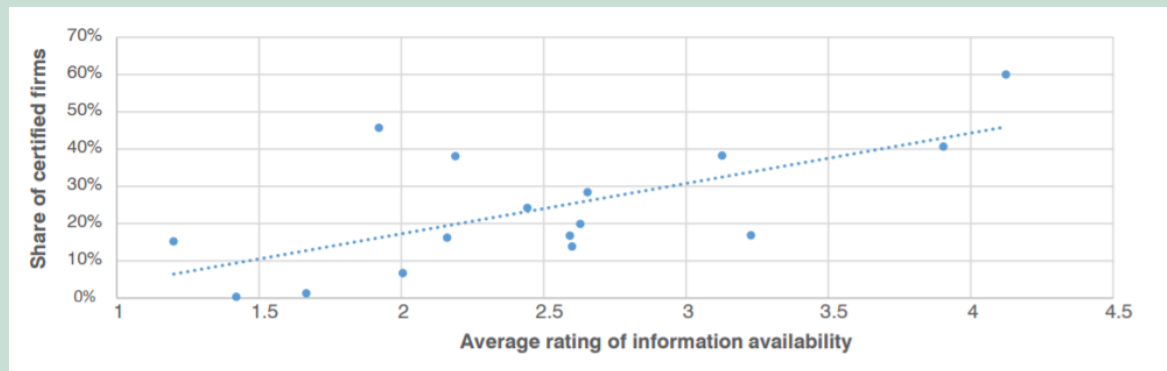
Source: SME Competitiveness Survey in 16 French-speaking African countries (2018).

- <sup>a</sup> International Trade Centre 2016, "SME Competitiveness Outlook 2016: Meeting the Standard for Trade." Geneva, Switzerland.
- <sup>b</sup> Terlaak, A. & King, A.A. (2006) The effect of certification with the ISO 9000 Quality Management Standard: A signaling approach. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*. [Online] 60 (4), 579–602. Available at doi:10.1016/j.jebo.2004.09.012.
- <sup>c</sup> Martincus, C.V., Carballo, J. & Gallo, A. (2010) The impact of export promotion institutions on trade: Is it the intensive or the extensive margin? *IDB Working Paper Series*. 199, 15, Otsuki, T. (2011) Effect of ISO standards on exports of firms in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: An application of the control function approach. *Osaka School of International Public Policy: Discussion paper*. (DP-2011-E-005), 11, Goedhuys, M. & Sleuwaegen, L. (2016) International standards certification, institutional voids and exports from developing country firms. *International Business Review*. [Online] 25 (6), 1344–1355. Available at doi:10.1016/j.ibusrev.2016.04.006.
- <sup>d</sup> ITC (2018). Promoting SME Competitiveness in Francophone Africa: Standards open doors to trade. ITC. Geneva. Available at <http://www.intracen.org/publication/SME-Competitiveness-Francophone-Africa/>

### Bridging the information gap is a prerequisite to being certified

Trade and Investment Support Institutions (TISIs) have a key role to play in ensuring that standards promote "better" trade, rather than become a bottleneck. One of the greatest impediments to the successful entry of developing country SMEs into international markets is their relative lack of access to information about market opportunities and requirements. This is confirmed by findings from the SME Competitiveness Survey in French-speaking Africa. Results support a positive relationship between the extent to which firms perceive information availability and certification. The survey also finds that smaller businesses report experiencing more trouble accessing information on standards and certification, which may be a contributing factor in their lower certification rate.<sup>a</sup>

#### Certification is related to the availability of information

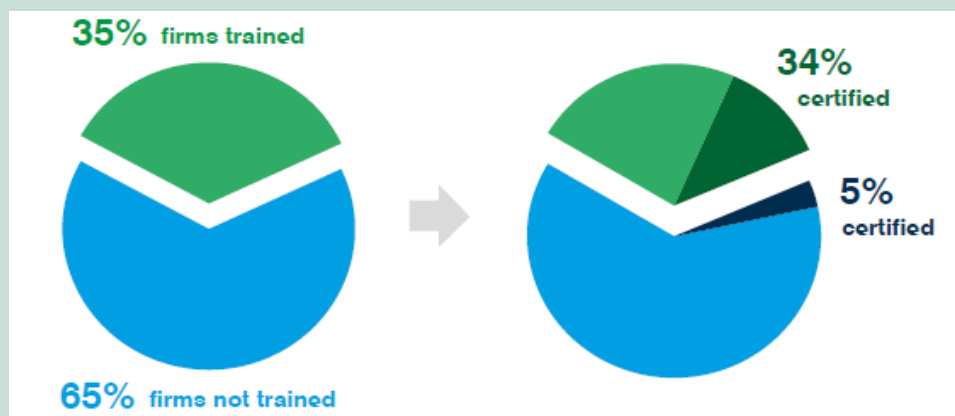


Source: SME Competitiveness Survey in 16 French-speaking African countries (2018).

### Training can facilitate knowledge transfer and promote certification as well as exporting

Institutions working in the area of quality assurance can help firms, especially smaller ones, to obtain much needed information on how to get quality certificates. Quality-related training can be an effective tool to transfer knowledge. An ITC study in 14 Latin American countries analysed the effectiveness of services offered by Latin American support institutions in obtaining quality certificates as well as exporting. Firms that have received assistance in obtaining quality certification are not only more likely to be certified, they are also three times more likely to export.<sup>b</sup>

#### Firms receiving quality-related training are more likely to be certified



Source: Popova, Rollo, & Virdee, 2018.

These findings confirm that trade and investment support institutions can bridge information gaps that prevent firms from getting quality certificates and entering export markets. Transmitting knowledge about quality certification and related processes remains key to promoting certification. To this end, the ITC continues to provide support to the Standards and Trade Development Facility, a global partnership that supports developing countries in building their capacity to implement SPS standards, guidelines and recommendations as a means to improve their human, animal, and plant health status and ability to gain or maintain access to markets.

<sup>a</sup> ITC (2018). Promoting SME Competitiveness in Africa: Data for de-risking investment. ITC. Geneva. Available at <http://www.intracen.org/publication/SME-Competitiveness-in-Africa/>

<sup>b</sup> Popova, A., Rollo, V., & Virdee, J. (2018). The impact of quality related business trainings in Latin America. ITC Working Paper, No. WP-01-2018.E. Geneva: International Trade Centre; Available at: <http://www.intracen.org/ITC-WPS/2018/>

Source: International Trade Centre.

### 3.5 Trade Concerns Raised in Other WTO Bodies<sup>61</sup>

3.75. During the review period, a number of trade concerns were raised by Members in formal meetings of various WTO bodies. This Section provides a factual overview of such concerns raised between mid-October 2017 and mid-October 2018.<sup>62</sup> The trade concerns covered in this Section have neither the status nor the procedural framework of the STCs raised in the SPS and TBT Committees. Nevertheless, they provide an interesting and up-to-date insight into which trade issues are being discussed by Members across the WTO and, as such, add important transparency. This Section does not reproduce the full substantive description of the trade concerns outlined by WTO Members, but provides a reference to the formal meeting(s) where a particular issue featured. A full account and context of the concerns is provided in the formal meeting records of the respective WTO bodies. The list of concerns and issues mentioned in this Section is not exhaustive.

3.76. At the 30 November 2017 meeting of the *General Council* (GC)<sup>63</sup>, concerns were raised on the trade-restrictive measures imposed by Kazakhstan at its borders (raised by the Kyrgyz Republic under "Other Business"). At the 7 March 2018 GC meeting<sup>64</sup>, concerns were raised on possible trade-restrictive measures by a Member (raised by China under "Other Business").

3.77. At the 8 May 2018 meeting of the GC<sup>65</sup>, concerns were raised on: (i) the U.S. Section 232 investigations and measures on steel and aluminium products (raised by China); and (ii) the U.S. investigations and measures under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (raised by China). At the 26 July 2018 meeting<sup>66</sup>, trade concerns were raised on China's economic model (raised by the United States).

3.78. At the meeting of the *Council for Trade in Goods* (CTG) on 10 November 2017<sup>67</sup>, new concerns were raised on (i) India's QRs on imports of mungo beans (raised by Australia); (ii) Kazakhstan's border restrictions (raised by the Kyrgyz Republic); (iii) Mexico's AD duties on the Russian Federation on the basis of a non-market methodology (raised by the Russian Federation); and (iv) China's customs duties on certain semiconductors (raised by the European Union, Chinese Taipei and the United States). At that meeting, concerns were again raised on: (i) India's customs duties on ICT products - previously considered under a broader title (raised by Canada, the European Union, Norway, Japan, Chinese Taipei and the United States); (ii) the U.S. Section 232 investigations on steel and aluminium products (raised by the Russian Federation); (iii) the U.S. Seafood Import Monitoring Programme (SIMP) (raised by China); (iv) Nigeria's import restricting measures (raised by Norway); (v) Indonesia's import- and export-restricting policies and practices (raised by the European Union, Japan and the United States); (vi) the Russian Federation's trade-restricting practices (raised by the European Union); (vii) Egypt's manufacturer registration system (raised by the European Union); and (viii) Brazil's restrictions on banana imports (raised by Ecuador).

3.79. At the CTG meeting on 23 and 26 March 2018<sup>68</sup>, new concerns were raised under the regular agenda on: (i) the U.S. Section 232 investigations and measures on imports of steel and aluminium (raised by China and the Russian Federation)<sup>69</sup>; (ii) Mexico's customs processing fee (raised by Ecuador); (iii) Viet Nam's decree on the regulation on conditions for automobile manufacturing, assembling, importing and maintenance services (raised by Japan and the United States); (iv) China's new export control law (raised by Japan); (v) Mongolia's QRs on certain agricultural products (raised by the Russian Federation); (vi) China's measures restricting imports of scrap materials (raised by the United States); (vii) the EU Directive 2009/28/EC on renewable energy (raised by Malaysia); (viii) the U.S. SG measures against imported crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells and residential washers (raised by China). Under Other Business concerns were raised on ; (ix) the U.S.

<sup>61</sup> This Section does not include SPS and TBT Committees (covered separately). Some of the issues raised in this Section may subsequently have become the subject of a dispute.

<sup>62</sup> Members and Observers are encouraged to communicate to the WTO's Trade Policy Review Division issues on trade measures which they have raised in WTO bodies and which they believe are relevant to the monitoring exercise.

<sup>63</sup> Document WT/GC/M/170.

<sup>64</sup> Document WT/GC/M/171.

<sup>65</sup> Document WT/GC/M/172.

<sup>66</sup> Document WT/GC/M/173 (forthcoming).

<sup>67</sup> Document G/C/M/130.

<sup>68</sup> Document G/C/M/131.

<sup>69</sup> This issue was previously raised at the CTG when the measures had not yet entered into force.

Section 301 (raised by China); and (x) the US certification on aviation security equipment (raised by China).

3.80. At the same meeting, the CTG considered again trade concerns that had already been brought to its attention at previous meetings on: (i) Indonesia's import and export policies (raised by the European Union, Japan and the United States); (ii) India's QRs on imports of mungo beans (raised by Australia); (iii) India's customs duties on ICT products (raised by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, Chinese Taipei and the United States); (iv) the U.S. measures related to imports of fish and seafood products (raised by China and the Russian Federation); (v) the Russian Federation's trade-restricting practices (raised by the European Union and the United States); (vi) Egypt's manufacturer registration system (raised by the European Union and the United States); (vii) China's customs duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by the European Union, Japan, Chinese Taipei and the United States; and (viii) an import levy imposed by WTO Members of the African Union (raised by the European Union and the United States).

3.81. At the CTG meeting on 3-4 July 2018<sup>70</sup>, new trade concerns were raised on: (i) the EU registration of the terms "Danbo" and "Havarti" as geographical indications (GIs) (raised by the United States and Uruguay); (ii) the selective tax on certain imported products, imposed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain (raised by the European Union, Switzerland and the United States); (iii) Haiti's application of tariff rates higher than those bound in Haiti's Schedule XXVI (raised by Dominican Republic); (iv) Haiti's ban on the overland import of 23 products from the Dominican Republic (raised by Dominican Republic); (v) Pakistan's measures relating to sugar exports (raised by Australia and Thailand); (vi) India's measures relating to sugar exports (raised by Australia and Thailand); (vii) India's QRs on imports of certain pulses (raised by Australia, Canada and the United States); and (viii) the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announcement on purchasing communication equipment or services (raised by China).

3.82. At the same meeting, concerns were reiterated on: (i) the U.S. Section 232 investigations and measures on imports of steel and aluminium, and on the U.S. investigation initiated on 23 May 2018 on imports of automobiles, including cars, SUVs, vans, trucks, and automotive parts (raised by Japan and the Russian Federation); (ii) Indonesia's Import and Export Policies, including local content requirements, export restrictions, technical regulations and new requirements for soybeans (raised by the European Union, Japan, and the United States); (iii) the U.S. measures relating to imports of fish and seafood products - the U.S. Seafood Import Monitoring Programme (SIMP) - (raised by China and the Russian Federation); (iv) India's customs duties on additional ICT products covered by the ITA (raised by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, and the United States); (v) Mongolia's QRs and prohibitions on the importation of certain agricultural products (raised by the Russian Federation); (vi) Egypt's manufacturer registration system through Decree No. 43 of 2016 (raised by the European Union); (vii) Croatia's regulation on the import and sale of certain oil products (raised by the Russian Federation); (viii) Viet Nam's decree on the regulation regarding conditions for automobiles manufacturing, assembling, importing, and automotive warranty and maintenance services (raised by Japan and the United States); (ix) China's measures restricting imports of scrap materials (raised by the United States); (x) China's customs duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by the European Union and Japan); (xi) China's new draft export control law (raised by Japan and the European Union); (xii) the Russian Federation's trade restricting practices (raised by the European Union); (xiii) the import levy by WTO Members of the African Union (raised by the United States); (xiv) the U.S. civil aviation security measures (raised by China); and (xv) the EU amendments to Directive 2009/28/EC on renewable energy (raised under "Other Business" by Malaysia).

3.83. At the 26 April 2018 meeting of the *Committee on Market Access* (CMA)<sup>71</sup>, new and persistent trade concerns were raised on: (i) Angola's consumption tax (raised by the European Union)<sup>72</sup>; (ii) China's customs duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by the European Union, Japan, Chinese Taipei and the United States);<sup>73</sup> (iii) Haiti's modification of Schedule XXVI (raised by Dominican Republic); (iv) India's customs duties on telecommunication and other products (raised

<sup>70</sup> Document G/C/M/132 (forthcoming).

<sup>71</sup> Includes issues raised under "Other Business". Document G/MA/M/67.

<sup>72</sup> The issue had been previously raised in 2017.

<sup>73</sup> The issue had been repeatedly raised in previous meetings, as well as in the ITA Committee.



by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, Chinese Taipei and the United States)<sup>74</sup>; (v) Oman's MFN customs duties on cigarettes (raised by the European Union and Switzerland); (vi) the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's excise tax on energy drinks and carbonated soft drink products (raised by the European Union and Switzerland); (vii) the United States' prohibited electronic equipment (raised by China); (viii) India's restrictions on the importation of mungo beans and yellow peas (raised by Australia); and (ix) the EU (Croatia) regulation on the importation and sale of certain oil and biodiesel products (raised by the Russian Federation).<sup>75</sup>

3.84. At the 9 October 2018 CMA meeting<sup>76</sup>, new and persistent trade concerns were raised on: (i) Australia's market access prohibition on 5G equipment (raised by China); (ii) the EU enlargement negotiations under Article XXIV:6 of the GATT 1994 to include Croatia (raised by the Russian Federation); (iii) the EU renegotiations of tariff rate quotas under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 (raised by the Russian Federation); (iv) the rectifications and modifications of the United Kingdom's Schedule XIX (raised by the Russian Federation); (v) India's customs duties on telecommunication and other products (raised by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, Chinese Taipei and the United States); (vi) India's QRs on certain pulses (raised by Australia, Canada, the European Union and the United States); (vii) the selective tax on certain imported products, imposed by the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (raised by the European Union, the United States and Switzerland); (viii) China's custom duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by the European Union, Japan and Chinese Taipei); (ix) Oman's custom duties on cigarettes (raised by the European Union and Switzerland); and (x) the Russian Federation's QR on birch logs (raised by the European Union).

3.85. At the meetings of the *Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products* on 6 November 2017 and 16 May 2018<sup>77</sup>, trade concerns continued to be raised regarding a series of duty increases announced in India's customs notifications on certain ICT products, for which India had undertaken a binding obligation to provide duty-free treatment in its WTO schedule of concessions (raised by Canada; China; the European Union; Japan; Korea, the Republic of; Norway; Chinese Taipei; and the United States). In addition, concerns were repeated with respect to China's application of tariffs on multi component integrated circuits (MCOs), as a result of their reclassification under the 2017 nomenclature of the Harmonized System, that were previously duty free by virtue of China's commitments under the ITA Expansion Agreement (raised by the European Union, Japan, Chinese Taipei and the United States).

3.86. At the meeting of the *Committee on Import Licensing* on 20 April 2018<sup>78</sup>, new and persistent trade concerns were raised as per Table 3.15.

**Table 3.15 Concerns raised on import licensing measures**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Argentina</b>	
Non-automatic licensing procedures on certain products <sup>a</sup>	European Union
<b>Brazil</b>	
Import restrictions of nitrocellulose for industrial use <sup>b</sup>	European Union
<b>China</b>	
Import licensing measures on importation of solid waste and recoverable materials <sup>c</sup>	European Union, United States
<b>India</b>	
Import licensing requirements on boric acid	United States
Import requirements for beans of the species <i>vigna mungo hepper</i> or <i>vigna radiata wilczek</i> and pigeon peas ( <i>cajanus cajan</i> )	Australia
<b>Indonesia</b>	
Import licensing regime for cellphones, handheld computers and tablets	United States
Import requirements related to milk supply and circulation	United States

<sup>74</sup> The issue had been repeatedly raised in previous meetings of the Committee and other WTO bodies.

<sup>75</sup> The issue had been previously raised in October 2016.

<sup>76</sup> Document G/MA/M/68 (forthcoming).

<sup>77</sup> Documents G/IT/M/67 and G/IT/M/68.

<sup>78</sup> Document G/LIC/M/47 (forthcoming).



Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Russian Federation</b>	
Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) certificate procedures on the importation of specified medicines and pharmaceutical products <sup>d</sup>	European Union

a Document G/LIC/Q/ARG/16.

b Document G/LIC/Q/BRA/22.

c Document G/LIC/Q/CHN/27.

d Document G/LIC/Q/RUS/4.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.87. At the meetings of the *Committee on Customs Valuation* on 6 November 2017 and 23 April 2018<sup>79</sup>, concerns were repeated on: (i) Pakistan's determination of the customs value of paper (raised by Thailand); (ii) Armenia's alleged use of reference prices (raised by the United States); (iii) Indonesia's status of PSI notifications (raised by the United States); and (iv) Egypt's status of PSI notifications (raised by the United States). New concerns were raised on: (i) Colombia's use of reference pricing for apparel (raised by Canada at the November meeting); and (ii) Oman's customs valuation of cigarettes, and its introduction of the selective tax (raised by Switzerland at the April meeting).

3.88. At the meeting of the *Committee on Rules of Origin* on 15-16 October 2018<sup>80</sup>, trade concerns were raised on Indonesia's extension of AD duties on hot-rolled coil, originally applied to the Russian Federation, to cover also products from Kazakhstan (raised by Kazakhstan).

3.89. At the meetings of the *Committee on Agriculture* (CoA)<sup>81</sup> on 17-18 October 2017, 20 February 2018, 11-12 June 2018 and 25-26 September 2018, several questions and concerns were raised with respect to Members' individual notifications, and on implementation-related issues under Article 18.6. During the period concerned, a total of 455 questions were discussed, on individual notifications (271 questions), Article 18.6 issues (159 questions on 49 implementation-related issues), and on overdue notifications (25 questions). Additional details regarding these questions and concerns can be found in Section 3.6 of this Report.

3.90. At the meetings of the *Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices*<sup>82</sup> on 27 October 2017 and 27 April 2018, concerns were raised as per Table 3.16.

**Table 3.16 Concerns raised on AD practices**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Brazil</b>	
Investigation on hot-rolled steel	Russian Federation
Sunset review on PET films	Turkey
Investigation on PET films	Peru
<b>Canada</b>	
Investigation on silicon metal	Lao PDR and Kazakhstan
<b>China</b>	
Investigation on styrene monomers	Korea, Republic of
Investigation on broiler products	Brazil
Investigation on acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber	Japan
<b>Colombia</b>	
Investigation on frozen fries	European Union
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	
Measure on steel reinforcing bar	Turkey
<b>Egypt</b>	
Investigation on steel rebar	Ukraine and Turkey

<sup>79</sup> Documents G/VAL/M/65 and G/VAL/M/66.

<sup>80</sup> Document G/RO/M/71 (forthcoming).

<sup>81</sup> Questions and responses to the issues raised under the review process in the CoA meetings on 17-18 October 2017, 20 February 2018, 11-12 June 2018 and 25-26 September 2018 are available in G/AG/W/170, issued on 12 December 2017, G/AG/W/173, issued on 6 April 2018, G/AG/W/181, issued on 18 July 2018, and G/AG/W/184, issued on 14 September 2018 (questions only).

<sup>82</sup> Minutes documents G/ADP/M/53 and G/ADP/M/54, respectively.

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>European Union</b>	
Interim review on solar panels	China
Investigation on tubes and pipe fittings of stainless steel	China
<b>India</b>	
Investigation on sodium dichromate	Turkey
Investigation on resorcinol	Japan
Investigation on ammonium nitrate	Russian Federation
Measure on linear alkyl benzene	Qatar
Investigation on caustic soda	Qatar
<b>Indonesia</b>	
Sunset review on hot-rolled coil	Kazakhstan
Sunset review on hot-rolled plates	Ukraine
<b>Israel</b>	
Investigation on low voltage copper cables	Turkey
Investigation on Portland cement	Turkey
Measure on float glass	Turkey
<b>Korea, Republic of</b>	
Measure on stainless steel bar	Japan
Measure on ferrosilicon manganese	Ukraine
<b>Mexico</b>	
Measure on cold-rolled sheet	Kazakhstan
<b>Morocco</b>	
Measure on refrigerators	Turkey
<b>Pakistan</b>	
Investigation on certain uncoated writing and printing paper	Brazil
<b>Russian Federation, Armenia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic</b>	
Investigation on herbicides	European Union
<b>Turkey</b>	
Investigation on unbleached kraftliner paper	Brazil
Measure on copper wire rod	Ukraine
<b>Ukraine</b>	
Interim review on ammonium nitrate	Russian Federation
Investigation on armature and wire rod	Russian Federation
Investigation on carbamide-formaldehyde products	Russian Federation
Investigation on syringes	Turkey
<b>United States</b>	
Investigation on wire rod	Russian Federation
Investigations on colour-coated, hot-rolled, cold-rolled steel sheets and steel plates	Korea, Republic of
Administrative review on oil country tubular goods	Korea, Republic of
Investigation on biodiesel	Indonesia
Investigation on carbon and alloy steel wire rod	Ukraine

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.91. Other additional issues and concerns were raised on: (i) the recent rapid increase in AD measures, especially in the steel sector (raised by Japan); (ii) the EU and U.S. "surrogate country methodology" in investigations (raised by China); (iii) India's methodology to calculate the amount of AD duties on investigations (raised by Japan); (iv) the length of the U.S. AD measures (raised by Japan); (v) the U.S. practice of applying adverse facts available ("AFA") in investigations (raised by Korea, Republic of); (vi) the U.S. methodology of regarding SOEs as one whole entity (raised by China); and (vii) the EU draft amendments to the Basic AD Regulation (raised by the Russian Federation).

3.92. At the meetings of the *Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures*<sup>83</sup> on 24 October 2017 and 24 April 2018, concerns were raised on CVD actions as per Table 3.17.

<sup>83</sup> Minutes G/SCM/M/103 and G/SCM/M/105, respectively.

**Table 3.17 Concerns raised on CVD actions**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>European Union</b>	
Investigation on hot-rolled steel	China
<b>United States</b>	
Investigation on ripe olives	European Union
Measures on iron and steel products	Turkey
Investigation on silicon metal	Australia and Kazakhstan
Various investigations	India

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.93. At the same meetings, concerns were raised on subsidies as per Table 3.18.

**Table 3.18 Concerns raised on subsidies**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>China</b>	
Non-notification of alleged subsidies in the steel sector	United States
Non-notification of alleged subsidies in the fisheries sector	United States
Non-notification of alleged subsidies under the Internationally Well-known Brand Programme	United States
Requests for information on certain alleged subsidy programmes in the steel sector	European Union and United States
<b>India</b>	
Export subsidies in the textile and apparel sector	United States
Export subsidies (India's graduation from Annex VII(b) of the Agreement)	United States
<b>United States</b>	
Request for information on certain alleged subsidy programmes	China

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.94. Additional concerns were raised on: (i) the elimination of export subsidies by the Members that received extensions under Article 27.4 of the SCM Agreement; (ii) the low and declining level of compliance with the notification and transparency obligations in the SCM Agreement; (iii) requests for information on potential steel subsidies pursuant to Articles 25.8 and 25.9 (raised by the European Union and the United States); (iv) enhancing fisheries subsidies transparency (raised by the United States); (v) subsidies and overcapacity (raised by Canada, the European Union, Japan, Mexico and the United States); and (vi) implementation of Paragraph 2 of the Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies (raised by Australia, Canada, the European Union, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway and the United States).

3.95. At the meetings of the *Trade-Related Investment Measures* (TRIMs) Committee on 6 November 2017 and 1 June 2018<sup>84</sup>, new or continuing issues were raised, as per Table 3.19.

**Table 3.19 Concerns raised at the TRIMs Committee**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Argentina</b>	
Act 27,263 on the development and strengthening of auto-parts <sup>a</sup>	Mexico
<b>China</b>	
Local content in cybersecurity measures (including provisions on insurance system informatization) <sup>b</sup>	European Union and United States
<b>Indonesia</b>	
Requirements for 4G LTE mobile devices <sup>c</sup>	European Union, Japan and United States
Provisions in the energy sector (mining, oil and gas) <sup>d</sup>	Canada, European Union, Japan and United States
Industry Law and Trade Law <sup>e</sup>	European Union and Japan
Minimum local product requirement for the modern retail sector <sup>f</sup>	European Union and Japan
Measures relating to investment in the telecommunications sector <sup>g</sup>	Japan
Requirements for dairy importation and distribution	European Union and United States

<sup>84</sup> Documents G/TRIMS/M/43 and G/TRIMS/M/44.

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Nigeria</b>	
Guidelines in information communications technology (ICT) <sup>h</sup>	United States
<b>Russian Federation</b>	
Measures implementing the Russian Federation's import substitution policy <sup>i</sup>	European Union and United States
<b>Turkey</b>	
Localization policy in the pharmaceutical sector	European Union and United States

- a Documents G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/1; G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/2; G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/3; G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/4; and G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/4.
- b Document G/TRIMS/Q/CHN/1.
- c Documents G/TRIMS/W/148 and G/TRIMS/W/162.
- d Documents G/TRIMS/W/70; G/TRIMS/W/74; G/TRIMS/W/79; G/TRIMS/W/88; G/TRIMS/W/100; G/TRIMS/W/108; G/TRIMS/W/123; G/TRIMS/W/128; G/TRIMS/W/137; and G/TRIMS/W/137/Corr.1.
- e Documents G/TRIMS/W/138; G/TRIMS/W/140; G/TRIMS/W/157; and G/TRIMS/W/158.
- f Documents G/TRIMS/W/139; G/TRIMS/W/141; G/TRIMS/W/159; and G/TRIMS/W/161.
- g Documents G/TRIMS/W/61; G/TRIMS/W/63; G/TRIMS/W/71; G/TRIMS/W/75; G/TRIMS/W/78; G/TRIMS/W/80; G/TRIMS/W/86; G/TRIMS/W/96; G/TRIMS/W/104; G/TRIMS/W/131; G/TRIMS/W/154; G/TRIMS/W/160; and G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/1.
- h Document G/TRIMS/Q/NGA/1.
- i Documents G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/4; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/5; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/6; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/7; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/8; and G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/9.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.96. At the meetings of the *Committee on Safeguards*<sup>85</sup> on 23 October 2017 and 23 April 2018, concerns were raised on specific SG actions as per Table 3.20.

**Table 3.20 Concerns raised at the Committee on Safeguards**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Chile</b>	
Investigation on Powdered Milk and Gouda Cheese	United States, European Union, Argentina, Australia and New Zealand
<b>China</b>	
Investigation on Sugar	Brazil, Australia and European Union
<b>Costa Rica</b>	
Investigation on Bars and Rods of Steel for Concrete Reinforcement	Turkey
<b>European Union</b>	
Investigation on Certain Steel Products	Republic of Korea, Turkey, Argentina, China, Egypt, Viet Nam, Chile and India
<b>Bahrain, Kingdom of; Kuwait, State of; Oman; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; and United Arab Emirates<sup>a</sup></b>	
Investigation on Flat-Rolled Products of Iron or Non-Alloy Steel	European Union
<b>India</b>	
Investigation on Solar Cells	European Union and Japan
<b>Indonesia</b>	
Investigation on Flat-Rolled Products of Iron or Non-Alloy Steel	European Union
Investigation on Ceramic Flags and Paving, Hearth or Wall Tiles; Ceramic Mosaic Cubes and the Like	European Union and Japan
<b>Jordan</b>	
Investigation on Aluminium Bars, Rods and Profiles	United States
<b>Malaysia</b>	
Investigation on Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bars	European Union
Investigation on Steel Wire Rod and Deformed Bar-In-Coil	European Union
<b>South Africa</b>	
Investigation on Certain Flat Hot-Rolled Steel Products	United States, Japan and European Union
<b>Thailand</b>	
Investigation on Non-Alloy Hot-Rolled Steel Flat Products, in Coils and Not in Coils	Turkey

<sup>85</sup> Documents G/SG/M/50 and G/SG/M/51.

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Turkey</b>	
Investigation on Pneumatic Tyres	Ecuador, European Union and Japan
Investigation on Polyethylene Terephthalate	European Union
Investigation on Toothbrushes	Ecuador
Investigation on Wallpaper and Similar Wallcoverings	European Union
<b>Ukraine</b>	
Investigation on Flexible Porous Plates, Blocks and Sheets of Polyurethane Foams	European Union
<b>United States</b>	
Investigation on Large Residential Washers	Korea, Republic of; Viet Nam; China; and Mexico
Investigation on Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells	European Union, Republic of Korea, Australia, Japan, Philippines, China, Singapore, Switzerland, Norway, and Malaysia
Measures Taken Following Section 232 Investigations	China; Russian Federation; Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of; Turkey; Norway; Switzerland; India; and Singapore
<b>Viet Nam</b>	
Investigation on Diammonium Phosphate and Monoammonium Phosphate Fertilizer	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and United States
<b>Zambia</b>	
Investigation on Flat-Rolled Products of Iron, Non-Alloy Steel, Trailers and Semi-Trailers	United States

a Investigations are initiated at the level of the GCC.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.97. At the meeting of the *Working Party on State Trading Enterprises* (STEs) on 9 November 2017<sup>86</sup>, trade concerns were raised on India's Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation Limited (raised by the European Union). At that same meeting, additional concerns were raised on: (i) the non-notification by the Russian Federation of its STEs (questions from the European Union and the United States); (ii) the non-notification by the United Arab Emirates of its STEs (questions by the United States); and (iii) the overall poor level of compliance among Members with the notification obligations of Article XVII of GATT 1994 regarding STEs.

3.98. At the Working Party on STEs' meeting on 31 May 2018<sup>87</sup>, new and persistent trade concerns were raised on: (i) the continued non-notification of STEs by the Russian Federation (raised by the European Union and the United States); (ii) the continued non-notification of STEs by the United Arab Emirates (raised by the United States); (iii) the non-notification of STEs by China (raised by the United States); and (iv) the non-notification of STEs by the Philippines (raised by the United States).

3.99. At the meeting of the *Committee on Trade and Environment* (CTE) on 28 June 2018, Indonesia expressed concerns on the effects on palm oil consumption and trade from what they considered to be misconceptions regarding sustainability aspects of palm oil production. Other delegations (Malaysia, Cote d'Ivoire) shared similar concerns.<sup>88</sup>

3.100. At the meetings of the *Council for Trade in Services* (CTS) held on 2 March 2018 and 30 May 2018, concerns were repeated about certain measures related to Ukraine's reforms of its Unified Gas Transportation System (raised by the Russian Federation).<sup>89</sup> These concerns were first mentioned in November 2014, and were restated at all regular meetings of the CTS up to and including the one held on 30 May 2018.<sup>90</sup> At the CTS meeting held on 2 March 2018, concerns were repeated on China's and Viet Nam's cybersecurity measures (raised by Japan and the United States<sup>91</sup>). At that meeting, concerns were also raised about measures by China on the use of

<sup>86</sup> Minutes G/STR/M/32.

<sup>87</sup> Minutes G/STR/M/33.

<sup>88</sup> Minutes WT/CTE/M/65.

<sup>89</sup> Documents S/C/M/134 to 135.

<sup>90</sup> Documents S/C/M/122 to 124, S/C/M/126 to 130, and S/C/M/132 to 135.

<sup>91</sup> The United States also circulated a communication under that item, entitled "Measures adopted and under development by China relating to its Cybersecurity Law" (document S/C/W/376).

virtual private networks and leased lines (raised by the United States<sup>92</sup>).<sup>93</sup> At the meeting held on 30 May 2018, under "Other Business", concerns about cybersecurity measures by China and by Viet Nam were reiterated (raised by Japan).<sup>94</sup> These concerns were repeated under two separate agenda items at the meeting of the Council held on 12 October 2018, i.e. China's cybersecurity measures (raised by Japan and the United States) and Viet Nam's cybersecurity measures (raised by Japan and the United States).<sup>95,96</sup> As part of its reply, China expressed concerns about measures by the United States that China alleges may affect other Members' cybersecurity interests.<sup>97</sup>

3.101. At the meetings of the *Committee on Trade and Development* (CTD) on 15 November 2017 and 24 April 2018, developing Members reiterated concerns, in the context of the 1998 work programme on e-commerce, with respect to capacity and infrastructure constraints which prevent them from fully benefitting from the opportunities presented by e-commerce.<sup>98</sup> At the same meetings, as well as at the meeting of 5 July 2018<sup>99</sup>, LDCs raised concerns with regard to duty-free quota-free (DFQF) market access, including in the context of the implementation of the DFQF and related decisions.

3.102. The above Section provides ample evidence of the continued increase of trade concerns raised in various WTO bodies between mid-October 2017 and mid-October 2018. A large number of trade concerns on measures implemented by WTO Members were raised in nearly all Committees and Councils and several trade concerns were raised in successive meetings of the same WTO body. The latter may suggest that these concerns address more persistent problems and that the formal meetings of the relevant WTO committee are considered important platforms for calling attention to specific concerns. As observed in recent Trade Monitoring Reports, several trade concerns were raised in more than one WTO body during the review period, suggesting that these concerns involve technically complex and cross-cutting issues and that WTO Members are using multiple platforms within the WTO committee structure to address various aspects of such concerns. Systemically, this is significant because of the increased transparency which it brings, but also because it demonstrates that Members are actively using the WTO committees to engage trading partners on real or potential areas of trade friction.

### 3.6 Policy Developments in Agriculture

3.103. The Committee on Agriculture (CoA) provides a forum for Members to discuss matters related to agriculture trade, and to consult on matters relating to the Members' implementation of commitments under the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), including rules-based commitments. The review work by the CoA is based on notifications Members make on their commitments. There is also a provision in Article 18.6 that allows Members to raise any matter relevant to the implementation of the commitments under the AoA.

3.104. In the framework of the four CoA meetings that took place between mid-October 2017 and mid-October 2018<sup>100</sup>, Members posed a total of 430 questions, including both questions on individual notifications and under Article 18.6, with many directed at issues related to domestic support notifications or implementation of domestic support commitments.

3.105. In total, 17 Members raised 159 questions on 49 implementation-related issues (Article 18.6) in the October 2017, February, June and September 2018 CoA meetings. As can be seen in Chart 3.19, the average number of questions raised under Article 18.6 per meeting has been increasing since 2011 reaching an all-time high in 2018 with an average of 44 questions per meeting.

<sup>92</sup> See communication by the United States entitled "Measures adopted and under development by China relating to its Cybersecurity Law" (document S/C/W/376).

<sup>93</sup> Document S/C/M/134.

<sup>94</sup> Document S/C/M/135.

<sup>95</sup> Document S/C/M/136 (forthcoming).

<sup>96</sup> Document S/C/M/136 (forthcoming). The United States also circulated a communication entitled "Measures adopted and under development by China relating to its Cybersecurity Law – Questions to China" (document S/C/W/378).

<sup>97</sup> Document S/C/M/136 (forthcoming).

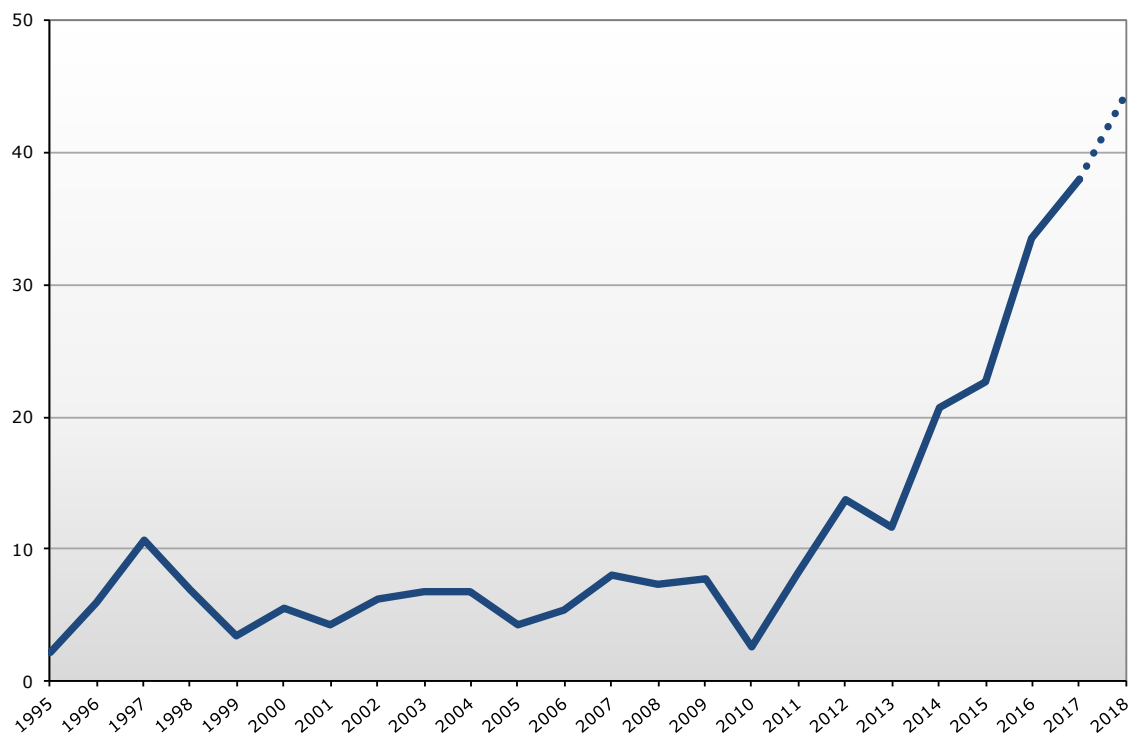
<sup>98</sup> Documents WT/COMTD/M/104 and WT/COMTD/M/105.

<sup>99</sup> Document WT/COMTD/M/106 (forthcoming).

<sup>100</sup> October 2017, February, June and September 2018 CoA meetings.

These numbers include questions that were repeated from one meeting to the next because responses were not provided within the relevant time-frames.

**Chart 3.19 Average number of questions raised under Article 18.6 per meeting (1995-2018<sup>a</sup>)**



a 2018 data covers up to the September 2018 CoA meeting.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.106. Out of the 49 implementation-related issues raised in the CoA during the review period, 35 were discussed for the first time. The remaining issues had been discussed one or more times in previous Committee meetings under matters raised under Article 18.6. More than 45% of the new issues raised at CoA meetings related to domestic support policies potentially benefiting producers of cereals, cotton, dairy products and sugar, i.e. the U.S. proposed domestic support programmes, its dairy policies and its support to the cotton sector, India's sugar policies and its minimum support prices and the European Union's intervention stocks of skim milk powder. Canada, China, Egypt, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation also received questions regarding their domestic support policies. Almost 30% of the questions sought clarification on policies that potentially subsidized exports of cereals, dairy products, sugar and pork meat such as the questions raised regarding the Russian Federation's railway subsidies, Pakistan's sugar policies, and India's skim milk powder export subsidies and its Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS). Members also raised nine new issues in relation to measures that restricted, or had the potential to restrict, trade of agricultural products, e.g. Indonesia's soybean imports, Mongolia's quota regime for importation, Suriname's poultry tariffs and India's QRs.

3.107. Table 3.21 lists the specific issues relating to implementation commitments that were discussed for the first time during the four CoA meetings covered by the Report. The complete list of questions and answers can be accessed through the Agriculture Information Management System (AG IMS) by using the ID numbers provided in the tables.<sup>101</sup>

<sup>101</sup> In the AG IMS (<http://agims.wto.org/>), select the function "Search Q&A Submitted Since 1995" and input the ID number of the question concerned.



**Table 3.21 Article 18.6 new issues**

Question summary	Question raised by	Products	Number of questions	CoA meetings	ID Number
Russian Federation's railway subsidy for exports	Australia, Canada, European Union, Ukraine, United States	Cereals, wheat, corn, rice, malt, coarse grains	9	85, 86, 87, 88	88073, 87022, 87098, 86010, 86068, 86067, 86038, 86047, 85036
U.S. proposed domestic support measures	Australia, Canada, European Union, India, Japan, New Zealand	Swine, milk, fresh vegetables, wheat, corn, coarse grains	6	88	88030, 88048, 88028, 88047, 88029, 88098
India's sugar policies	Australia, Brazil, European Union	Sugar, cane or beet sugar, other	6	87, 88	88046, 88130, 88129, 88128, 88127, 88039, 88042, 88043, 87002, 87079
India's minimum support prices	Australia, Canada, European Union	Cereals, wheat, corn, rice, malt, coarse grains	5	86, 87	87068, 86004, 86005, 86074, 86066
Pakistan's sugar policies	Australia, Brazil, Guatemala	Sugar, cane or beet sugar, other	5	85, 86, 87, 88	88033, 88124, 88125, 87081, 86007, 86009, 85069
U.S. dairy policies	Canada	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other	4	85, 86, 87	87105, 87106, 86084, 85079
India's skim milk powder export subsidies	Australia, European Union, New Zealand, United States	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other	3	88	88070, 88037, 88122, 88040
Indonesia's soybean imports	United States	Oilseeds	3	86, 87, 88	88097, 87019, 86048
Mongolia's quota regime for importation	Russian Federation	Milk, cereal	3	86, 87, 88	88104, 87094, 86001
Suriname's poultry tariffs	United States	Poultry	3	86, 87, 88	88074, 87023, 86049
European Union intervention stocks of skim milk power	Australia, Canada, New Zealand	Milk powders	3	85, 86, 87	87069, 86003, 86032, 85059
India's QRs	Australia, United States	Fresh vegetables	3	85, 86	86006, 86037, 85060
India's MEIS	Australia, New Zealand, United States		2	88	88123, 88038, 88067
Indonesia's import restrictions on horticultural products	Japan, United States		2	87, 88	88036, 87020
U.S. support to the cotton sector	Brazil, European Union	Cotton	2	86, 87	87103, 86069
China's premium contributions for rice, corn and wheat seeds.	Canada	Wheat, corn, rice	1	88	88102
European Union's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform	New Zealand		1	88	88062
India's proposed domestic support programmes	European Union		1	88	88041



Question summary	Question raised by	Products	Number of questions	CoA meetings	ID Number
Republic of Korea's support for seaweed producers	China		1	88	88034
Russia Federation's modification of excise taxes on wine	European Union	Alcoholic beverages	1	88	88031
Thailand's import licensing for meat	United States	Meat, bovine, swine, sheep and goat, poultry, horses, other	1	88	88075
Turkey's export subsidies	European Union	Poultry, eggs, fresh vegetables, processed vegetables, cut flowers	1	88	88059
Zimbabwe's export incentive	United States		1	88	88076
U.S. Commodity Credit Corporation funds	Canada		1	87	87104
Switzerland's levies on imports of certain agricultural goods	European Union		1	87	87102
Norway's export subsidy for butter	New Zealand	Butter	1	87	87096
Republic of Moldova's draft regulation on amendments to Law on Internal Trade	Ukraine		1	87	87092
Switzerland-Liechtenstein's new support policy for dairy and cereals	European Union	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other, cereals, wheat, corn, rice, malt, coarse grains	1	87	87091, 87100
India's rice procurement	European Union	Rice	1	87	87078
European Union - Amendments to Income Stabilisation Tool	India		1	87	87080
Argentina's export subsidies on pork meat	European Union	Meat, bovine, swine, sheep and goat, poultry, horses, other	1	86	86064
Egypt's domestic support for wheat	Canada	Wheat	1	86	86060
Argentina's Reintegros programme	European Union		1	85	85034
Canada's new programmes on the dairy sector	New Zealand	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other	1	85	85010
Indonesia's new regulation on milk	United States	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other	1	85	85013

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.108. Other measures that were discussed related to follow-up questions on persistent areas of concern (Table 3.22). A number of these issues have been raised in the CoA multiple times. One issue has been raised in 22 CoA meetings (i.e. Brazil's domestic support programmes), while Canada's new milk ingredient class, its wine sale policy and its TRQ for cheese received a total of 45, 20 and 9 questions, respectively, with a number of these questions being co-sponsored by two or three WTO Members. India's pulse policies have been discussed in five CoA meetings, generating

in total 25 questions from five Members. Other recurrent issues included policies affecting market access of wheat and rice (i.e. Thailand's import permit for feed wheat, the Philippine's rice waiver and the Republic of Korea's rice import).

**Table 3.22 Questions previously raised under Article 18.6**

Question summary	Question raised by	Products	Number of questions	Number of meetings the issue was discussed	CoA meetings	ID Number
Canada's New Milk Ingredient Class	Australia, India, New Zealand, United States	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other	45	10	79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88	88120, 88121, 88065, 88064, 88061, 87015, 87063, 87064, 87065, 87159, 87160, 86002, 86030, 86033, 85002, 85003, 85004, 85005, 85006, 85008, 85011, 85051, 85052, 85053, 85054, 85055, 85056, 84012, 84018, 84020, 84021, 84022, 84023, 84025, 84027, 84029, 84030, 84035, 84111, 84107, 84031, 83054, 83039, 82012, 82059, 82013, 82001, 81001, 81009, 81049, 81054, 81055, 81056, 80003, 80005, 80006, 80025, 79035
India's pulses policies	Australia, Canada, Russian Federation, Ukraine, United States	Processed vegetables	25	5	84, 85, 86, 87, 88	88060, 88066, 88092, 88095, 88109, 87001, 87017, 87073, 87074, 87087, 87088, 87077, 87070, 87071, 87072, 87075, 87076, 86061, 86062, 86063, 86065, 86039, 86035, 85064, 84044
Brazil's domestic support programmes	United States, Ukraine	Wheat, corn, rice, malt, coarse grains, cotton	22	22	65, 66, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87	87014, 87062, 86031, 85049, 84073, 83038, 81008, 80024, 79001, 78002, 77066, 76039, 75023, 74021, 73026, 72051, 71028, 70007, 69027, 68007, 66002, 65011
Canada's wine sale policy	Australia, European Union, New Zealand, United States	Alcoholic	20	10	79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88	88096, 87016, 87066, 86034, 85012, 85057, 84017, 84106, 84033, 84112, 84105, 83007, 83041, 83104, 83135, 82057, 82002, 81003, 81011, 81024, 81046, 81047, 81097, 80008, 80009, 80094, 80095, 79003
Canada's TRQ for cheese, and domestic support	New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, United States	Cheese	9	8	75, 76, 77, 80, 81, 83, 84, 85	85009, 84110, 84108, 83003, 83004, 83005, 81004, 81051, 81052, 80001, 80002, 80007, 77037, 77001, 76023, 75026
Thailand's import permits for feed wheat	Australia, European Union, United States	Animal feed, wheat, corn	8	5	83, 84, 85, 86, 88	88002, 86106, 85039, 84074, 84059, 83107, 83045, 83013
Philippines' rice waiver	Australia, Thailand, United States	Rice	7	5	84, 85, 86, 87, 88	88032, 87082, 86008, 85071, 84057, 84015, 84079

Question summary	Question raised by	Products	Number of questions	Number of meetings the issue was discussed	CoA meetings	ID Number
Indonesia's dairy import system	New Zealand, United States	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other	6	4	84, 86, 87, 88	88035, 88071, 87018, 87089, 86046, 84075
Republic of Korea's rice imports	Australia, Thailand, United States	Rice	6	5	23, 78, 86, 87, 88	88045, 87090, 86036, 23006, 78020, 78024
Pakistan's wheat export subsidies	Australia, United States	Wheat	5	4	76, 77, 87, 88	88072, 87021, 76020, 76028, 77029
European Union's sugar policies	Australia	Sugar, cane or beet sugar, other	3	3	84, 87, 88	88063, 87067, 84037
Turkey's IPR programme	Russian Federation	Wheat	2	2	84, 86	86029, 84113
United Kingdom's - modification of agricultural schedule of commitments	Indonesia, India		2	2	83, 88	88011, 83069
Brazil's tax credit programmes (Reintegra programme)	European Union		1	2	75, 85	85035, 75002

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.109. The Committee held its annual dedicated discussion in the field of export competition at its June 2018 meeting. The discussion was held on the basis of the Secretariat's background document<sup>102</sup> which included the answers to a questionnaire sent to WTO Members, which included relevant information from export subsidy (ES:1) and food aid (ES:3) notifications, and relevant notifications to the Working Party on STEs. The discussions provided an opportunity for Members to have a focused exchange on issues related to the implementation of the Decision. Members also have the possibility of asking questions in connection with this Decision at any CoA meeting. During the four meetings, Members posed a total of 41 questions regarding policies in the area of export subsidies, export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes, agricultural exporting STEs and international food aid (Table 3.23).<sup>103</sup> A number of these questions requested clarification on how Members intended to ensure compliance of their policies with the relevant provisions of the Nairobi Decision.<sup>104</sup> The complete set of questions and answers can be accessed through the AG IMS by using the ID numbers provided in the table below.<sup>105</sup>

**Table 3.23 Questions asked in the context of the CoA annual dedicated discussion on export competition (October 2017, February, June and September 2018 CoA meetings)**

ID number	Question raised by	Question answered by	Areas
87043	United States	Argentina	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
87003	European Union	Australia	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
87004, 87044, 87012	European Union, Norway, United States	Brazil	Export subsidies; export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes

<sup>102</sup> G/AG/W/125/Rev.8 and addenda.

<sup>103</sup> G/AG/W/166

<sup>104</sup> WT/MIN(15)/45

<sup>105</sup> In the AG IMS (<http://agims.wto.org/>), select the function "Search Q&A Submitted Since 1995" and input the ID number of the question concerned.

ID number	Question raised by	Question answered by	Areas
87005, 87045, 87046	European Union, United States	Canada	Export subsidies, export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes, international food aid
87006, 87047, 87048, 87049	European Union, United States	China	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes, agricultural exporting STEs, international food aid
87050, 87051, 87052	United States	European Union	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes, agricultural exporting STEs, international food aid
88088, 87007, 87053	European Union, United States	India	Export subsidies, export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
88089, 87054	United States	Indonesia	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
88090, 87055, 86052	China, United States	Japan	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes, international food aid
87057	United States	Korea, Republic of	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
87056	United States	Malaysia	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
87008, 85046	European Union	New Zealand	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
88091	United States	Pakistan	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
88093	United States	Paraguay	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
87009, 87058	European Union, United States	Russian Federation	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes, agricultural exporting STEs
88094, 87059	United States	Thailand	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
88116, 87010, 87060, 87135	European Union, United States	Turkey	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes, international food aid
87011, 87013, 85038	European Union, Norway	United States	Export subsidies, international food aid
87061	United States	Viet Nam	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.110. Several Members with scheduled export subsidy reduction commitments have taken steps to modify their schedules pursuant to the December 2015 Nairobi Ministerial Decision on Export Competition. To date, Australia, Israel, Norway and Switzerland have certified their revised export subsidy schedules.

### 3.7 General Economic Support

3.111. At the July 2018 informal TPRB meeting, several Members expressed concern about the absence of an annex on general economic support measures and the negative impact that this had on the overall transparency surrounding the application of such measures.

3.112. The creation of the WTO trade monitoring exercise in October 2008 was, to a large extent, triggered by the rise of a plethora of general economic support measures in response to the global financial crisis, in particular a number of high-profile economic bail-out packages. The November 2016 Trade Monitoring Report provided a brief historical overview of the trends in the implementation of these measures as recorded since 2008 and concluded that, although the large economy-wide subsidies and high-profile bail-out packages of the early years of the financial crisis were no longer wide-spread, there was equally no evidence that governments had turned their back on subsidization as a policy tool, particularly in certain strategic industries or sectors.

3.113. In trade monitoring reports since July 2017, the Secretariat has been unable to justify the inclusion of a separate annex on general economic support measures. This was partly a reflection of the low participation and response rate of WTO Members to the request for information on these measures and partly because such an annex would have been biased against those Members that generally publish detailed information of such measures and programmes. In addition, compounding the scarcity of information on general economic support measures volunteered by Members, many

delegations also insisted on excluding such measures identified by the Secretariat from public sources and for which verification was sought. Generally, the requests for excluding such measures did not provide any specific reason. The decision to not include a separate annex on general economic support measures in the most recent reports was taken because such an annex would most likely not have presented a balanced and credible account of recent developments and policies in the area.

3.114. In preparing for this Report, the Secretariat attempted to extend the research of policies and programmes which could be characterized as general economic support or subsidies. The objective of this extended research was to introduce additional transparency with respect to such measures, a point made by several delegations at the informal meeting of the TPRB on trade monitoring in July. From a practical point of view, this meant extending the monitoring of measures to also include policies and programmes implemented by Export-Import (EXIM) Banks and Export Credit Agencies (ECAs). It is important to emphasize that the trade monitoring exercise does not make any judgement as to the WTO-compatibility of such measures and this was specifically highlighted in the request for verification of such measures. Equally significant is repeating the point made in previous reports that it remains difficult to ascertain the impact on trade of specific general economic support measures. Although it is possible that such measures may affect trade in some way, it is by no means straightforward to conclude that they restrict or facilitate trade or that they distort competition.

3.115. Despite the Secretariat's attempt at a more comprehensive approach to gathering general economic support information, the response rate to the original request for information and to verification of specific support measures was disappointing and uneven. For this Report, the Secretariat requested verification of 248 economic support measures taken by WTO Members. Overall, the Secretariat gathered a very diverse range of such measures which have aided sectors, including transportation, mining, energy and electricity, agriculture and aid schemes to assist SMEs. Many of these were multiyear programmes with financial disbursements staggered over the lifetime of the project. Other measures were one-off grants or aid schemes. In monetary terms, programmes ranged from USD 100,000 to more than USD 50 billion.

3.116. General economic support and subsidy programmes have evolved significantly over the past decade, including in the way that governments participate in, and assist with, the promotion of domestic economic entities. An important part of this changing picture is seen in export credits, and this was further confirmed by the measures identified by the Secretariat. For example, an unambiguous strategic shift can be observed in the increasingly proactive behaviour and strategic activities of ECAs and EXIM banks since, and perhaps in response to, the global financial crisis. This may be partly in response to those ECAs operating outside the OECD Arrangement on Officially Supported Export Credits and therefore not being subject to the export credit disciplines contained therein.

3.117. The strategic application of trade policy measures is not a new phenomenon. However, the manner and frequency with which governments now appear to seek to gain a strategic edge in international politics through trade policy are issues which seem to have changed since the global financial crisis. This notion of using trade as a tool to achieve strategic influence has also been referred to as the "weaponization" of trade.<sup>106</sup>

3.118. Discussions among Members in July also reinforced the concern that some delegations appear reluctant to enhance transparency in this area and that the area of general economic support measures is much greater than that which the monitoring exercise has managed to capture to date. WTO Members may wish to continue their discussion on how transparency on these measures may be increased, which measures shall be recorded and how information gathering in this area may be improved.

### 3.8 Overview of Trade Policy Reviews

3.119. Between mid-October 2017 and mid-October 2018, 15 Trade Policy Reviews (TPRs) were undertaken. They provided the WTO membership with a better understanding of the trade and

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<sup>106</sup> *The Weaponization of Trade: The Great Unbalancing of Politics and Economics, Perspectives*, Harding, R. and Harding, J. 2017.

economic development in each of the Members reviewed, and led to constructive and insightful discussions among participants.<sup>107</sup>

**Table 3.24 TPRs from mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018 - summary tariff indicators**

	Simple applied average (%)			Duty free <sup>a</sup>	Non- <i>ad valorem</i> <sup>a</sup>
	Total	WTO agriculture	WTO non-agriculture		
WAEMU (2016)	12.3	15.5	11.7	1.4	0.0
Bolivia, Plurinational State of (2017)	11.1	13.3	10.8	7.5	0.0
Cambodia (2017)	12.3	14.6	11.9	13.9	0.1
The Gambia (2017)	12.3	15.5	11.7	1.4	0.0
Malaysia (2017)	7.5	3.3	8.0	56.2	1.0
Egypt (2017)	19.1	51.6	13.0	11.1	0.3
The Philippines (2017, as of July)	7.6	10.3	7.2	12.6	0.0
Montenegro (2017)	5.1	12.3	3.1	29.0	1.5
Guinea and Mauritania					
Guinea (2017)	12.1	15.5	11.5	1.9	0.0
Mauritania (2017)	12.0	11.2	12.2	3.8	0.0
Colombia (2017)	7.1	15.4	5.8	49.7	0.0
Norway (2018)	6.9	37.1	0.5	85.2	9.7
Uruguay (2018)	9.4	9.6	9.4	14.4	0.0
China (2017, as of December)	9.3	14.6	8.5	9.8	0.4
Israel (2018)	5.2	19.1	3.0	67.0	3.8
Chinese Taipei (2018)	7.2	17.8	5.1	29.3	1.8

a % of total tariff lines.

Note: Calculations are based on national tariff line levels; including AVEs as available - in case of unavailability, the *ad valorem* part of alternate and compound rates is included; excluding in-quota rates, if applicable. Figures in brackets refer to the year of the tariff schedule applied.

Source: WTO calculations, based on data received from the authorities.

**The West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU – Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo): 25 and 27 October 2017**

3.120. Members commended the WAEMU countries on their macroeconomic performance, despite the difficult global economic environment and the challenges posed by increasingly frequent droughts and, in some cases, problems regarding security. All WAEMU countries have managed to maintain low inflation and to increase per capita incomes, although these remain low. They have generally refrained from taking protectionist measures, and have continued to remain open to international trade with, and investment from, third countries. Members also appreciated the numerous recent reforms to improve the business environment under the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA), and several of them highlighted the bilateral tax and investment treaties. They noted efforts to streamline and automatize trade procedures. They congratulated the WAEMU countries for their continued efforts to improve their international trading environment, especially through the implementation of the TFA. Many Members appreciated the engagement of the WAEMU countries in WTO negotiations on, *inter alia*, fishery subsidies. Several Members called for less distortion in the international cotton trade, which affects WAEMU producing countries.

3.121. At the same time, Members noted that merchandise exports from the WAEMU countries were highly concentrated, both in terms of products and markets, and encouraged diversification. Côte d'Ivoire's agricultural sector was mentioned by some as an example of successful diversification. Participants were of the view that further reforms to the transport infrastructure and increased electricity supply should contribute to the diversification efforts, mainly towards industrialization. Members urged the WAEMU countries to establish WTO-consistent SPS regimes based on modern risk-management approaches to, *inter alia*, avoid outright import bans on products such as meat and poultry. They noted that the implementation of the ECOWAS CET in 2015, with a fifth band of

<sup>107</sup> The summaries provided in this Section draw on the Chair's concluding remarks for each of the TPRs.

35% on some 130 tariff lines, increased nominal and effective protection. It also increased the number of lines on which the applied rates exceed the bound levels for all countries except Guinea-Bissau and Togo. The country-specific flexibilities offered by the new tariff regime during the five-year transition period have been prone to national differences. In addition, many Members mentioned the numerous other duties and charges that further complicate the border tax system, and called upon the countries to rationalize them with a view to achieving full compliance with their WTO commitments. Some Members were of the view that the adoption of a single entry system ("libre pratique") would enhance the smooth functioning of the Customs Union. Noting that all WAEMU countries also participate in ECOWAS, Members called for full harmonization of the trade regimes of the two communities, and were interested in learning more about the potential benefits of the Continental Free Trade Area under negotiation. They encouraged those who had not yet ratified it to do so. The WAEMU countries were also reminded to submit their Categories A, B and C notifications under the TFA, and to continue efforts to streamline and automatize trade procedures. Other areas for improvement by the WAEMU countries underlined by Members included compliance with WTO notification obligations, and trade statistics. Several Members encouraged the WAEMU countries to participate in the Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). They commended those WAEMU countries that had accepted the Amendment Protocol to the TRIPS Agreement, and encouraged the others to follow suit. Furthermore, some Members called upon the WAEMU countries to strengthen their intellectual property regimes, noting that only one of them had ratified the 2015 revision of the Bangui Agreement.

#### **Plurinational State of Bolivia: 14 and 16 November 2017**

3.122. Members recognized Bolivia's active involvement in the WTO and in other forums as part of the group of small and vulnerable economies (SVEs), and the group of landlocked countries. They congratulated Bolivia for its strong overall economic performance in recent years. They noted that, since its last TPR in 2005, and thanks to sound macroeconomic management, Bolivia's real GDP had grown at an average annual rate of 5%, GDP per capita had almost tripled, and total public debt had been reduced by over 50%. Some Members highlighted that, as a result of the implementation of the economic, social, communitarian and productive model (MESCP), under which the State has been playing a more active role in transforming the economy and redistributing resources, the extreme poverty rate had declined from 38% to 17%, and the moderate poverty rate had fallen from 60% to 38%, during the review period. Similarly, income inequality had declined significantly over the past decade, and both unemployment and inflation remained low. Members welcomed the measures implemented to facilitate trade, such as the implementation of a single window and the Authorized Economic Operator Programme. Several Members commended Bolivia for enacting a new investment law in 2014, and a law on conciliation and arbitration to increase legal certainty for investors, and the fact that Bolivia did not make use of AD or CVD measures. With respect to regional integration and trade agreements, Members mentioned that Bolivia is a founding member of the Andean Community of Nations and an active participant in the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) where it has signed several complementary economic agreements. Some Members also noted the current process of negotiations to join MERCOSUR.

3.123. On the other hand, Members noted that the overall simple average applied MFN rate increased from 8.2% in 2005 to 11.1% in 2017. Some Members raised questions regarding Bolivia's import licensing and SPS regimes, labelling requirements, the level of state intervention in areas considered strategic, and the need to ensure that domestic demand is fulfilled prior to allowing exports of some products. Some Members acknowledged the steps taken to promote the protection of IPRs. However, they also recognized that challenges continue with respect to adequate and effective IPR protection and enforcement, including with respect to counterfeit goods, and encouraged Bolivia to take the necessary steps to improve its enforcement. Noting that the Bolivian economy remained relatively highly dependent on exports of hydrocarbons and mining products, some Members observed that, up to 2014, Bolivia had benefitted from the high international price of minerals, oil and other raw materials. Since then, however, the prices of these products have fallen. In this regard, some Members believed Bolivia could benefit from intensifying its efforts to diversify exports, and to increase the number of its trading partners, in order to consolidate its economic and social development and to reduce its vulnerability to external changes. The strong presence of the State in economic activities and the prioritization of the domestic market were considered by some Members to have played a major role in the transformation of the economy. Other Members, however, encouraged an increased participation of the private sector in public private partnerships to offset potential challenges derived from a less favourable global economic environment. In this context, some Members invited Bolivia to consider the contribution that a more



transparent and predictable environment for the private sector could make to achieving its economic and social goals. Some Members noted that poverty levels remained high in rural areas, and income disparities were still significant. Certain Members encouraged Bolivia to play a more active role in the WTO to further improve its participation and integration in the multilateral trading system. Several Members urged it to fulfil its obligations regarding its notification requirements under WTO agreements, mainly concerning agriculture, import licensing and SPS measures. Furthermore, they encouraged Bolivia to ratify the TFA and accept the Protocol of Amendment to the TRIPS Agreement. Members referred to the significant changes made by Bolivia to its investment regime since its previous TPR, including the nationalization of enterprises deemed strategic by the Government. Some Members were of the view that improving investor confidence involved a number of challenges, in particular given that Bolivia had denounced its 22 bilateral reciprocal investment promotion and protection agreements (APPRIs). Some Members encouraged Bolivia to further open its services sector to increase competitiveness and attract foreign investment.

#### **Cambodia: 21 and 23 November 2017**

3.124. Many Members commended Cambodia's active participation in WTO work as a strong voice for LDCs, in its capacity as LDC coordinator in 2017, contributing towards a meaningful outcome at MC11, and for its newly established separate Mission to the WTO. They noted that Cambodia remains committed to the rules-based multilateral trading system, while expanding its RTA commitments with its ASEAN partners, including through the negotiation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), thus increasing merchandise trade and removing barriers to trade in services at the regional level. They welcomed the implementation of the revenue mobilization strategy and the subsequent reduction in the fiscal deficit, as well as the progress made on the passing of the law on public procurement and the forthcoming entry into force of legislation on contingency measures. Cambodia's prudent macroeconomic management allowed for remarkably strong and inclusive growth. Its real GDP had grown at an average annual rate of 7.2% over the past six years. Consequently, income inequality has declined considerably, and poverty levels fell from 50% in 2005 to 14% in 2015. They commended Cambodia for furthering its WTO commitments by promptly ratifying the TFA and submitting all related notifications. They praised it for the benefits resulting from wide-ranging strategies such as the Industrial Development Policy 2015-25 and the Tourism Development Strategic Plan 2012-20. Members acknowledged that Cambodia's investor-friendly regime had played a key role in promoting growth. They welcomed its trade facilitation efforts including the Best Trader Programme – a stepping stone towards the Authorized Economic Operator Programme – and the increased use of ASYCUDA. Members welcomed the enactment of the Law on Geographical Indications, and appreciated Cambodia acceding to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks, the Patent Cooperation Treaty and the Hague Agreement concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs.

3.125. At the same time, they encouraged Cambodia to enhance business confidence and create an environment conducive to further investment by addressing challenges in several areas, such as the legal framework, the rule of law, institutional capacity, good governance, transparency, infrastructure bottlenecks and energy costs. Members also urged it to continue efforts to diversify its economy and integrate the informal sector. Agriculture, mining, manufacturing, banking, telecommunications, and tourism were seen by some as potential growth areas, and they encouraged Cambodia to undertake further reform to realize its economic potential. Members called for further improvements in customs clearance time. They appreciated the predictability of Cambodia's tariff regime, although some concerns were raised regarding the MFN applied tariff for certain lines, which exceed the bound rate, and the level of tariffs on agriculture. Some Members encouraged Cambodia to improve its notifications record on import prohibitions, import licensing, state trading, and TBTs, and to consider becoming an observer to the GPA. While acknowledging efforts to improve its SPS regime, Members urged Cambodia to continue improving the implementation of the SPS Agreement, particularly with respect to testing, inspection and certification systems. They also encouraged improvements in the fight against illegal fisheries and logging activities. On IPR, they urged Cambodia to become a signatory to international treaties such as the Berne Convention, the International Convention for Protection of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations, and other WIPO treaties. Several Members noted that further efforts were required regarding IPR infringement and enforcement.



**The Gambia: 23 and 25 January 2018**

3.126. Members commended The Gambia for maintaining an open trade and investment regime, and welcomed the new government trade policy, its main thrust being building trade capacity, improving competitiveness and promoting private sector development. The business environment is to be further reformed, and some taxes have already been reduced. The corporate income tax rate was cut from 30% to 27% in January 2018. Agriculture and fisheries, industry, transport and energy are critical for development. Members praised The Gambia for a range of reforms undertaken since the last Review. The country has adopted the five-band ECOWAS CET from 1 January 2017. The average CET (MFN) rate is 12.3%, down from an average rate of 14.1% of the previous customs tariff. None of the CET rates exceeds The Gambia's tariff bindings. Members also welcomed the modernization of the food safety, TBT, industrial property and government procurement regimes. The Gambian delegation said that fiscal consolidation in 2017 had already slowed the growth of debt accumulation and has significantly brought down interest rates. It also added that, while real GDP growth averaged 2.9% in the period 2010-16, growth had been forecast to reach 3% in 2017. It reiterated its commitment to the multilateral trading system, and announced that it had decided to open a trade mission in Geneva. It also informed Members that all draft trade-related legislation and regulations were reviewed by a National Technical Regulation Committee to ensure consistency with WTO agreements.

3.127. Members noted that the Gambian economy continued to face challenges, but there were encouraging signs that it was stabilizing and that higher growth might take place. Some of the main problems were high fiscal deficits, growing public debt, and financially distressed state-owned enterprises. Also, it was considered that high government borrowing combined with tight monetary policy had resulted in high interest rates crowding out private sector development. They noted the existing large gap between the average bound rate and average applied rates, and noted that only 15% of tariff lines were bound. The Gambia was invited to consider acceding to the GPA and several WIPO treaties, and was encouraged to deposit its instrument of acceptance of the Protocol amending the TRIPS Agreement. In response, the Gambian delegation informed Members that they had started consultations with WIPO on the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty. Members felt that there was room for improvement of the business environment, notably through facilitating access to financing, labour market reforms, and increasing efforts to enhance good governance. Some Members sought further clarification about the investment regime, notably with regard to taxation, environmental impact assessment, and remaining restrictions on FDI. The Gambia was invited to ensure WTO Members had an opportunity to comment on draft regulations affecting trade. Members welcomed the fact that The Gambia's instrument of acceptance of the TFA was deposited in July 2017, and were encouraged by the announcement that its TFA notifications were also submitted to the WTO. It was noted that these notifications would allow donors to identify assistance requirements. Overall, it was observed that The Gambia had a good track record in notifications, although some were still outstanding.

**Malaysia: 14 and 16 February 2018**

3.128. Members praised Malaysia's active participation in the WTO, and commended it for lowering tariffs under the ITA-2, and for ratifying the Protocol Amending the TRIPs Agreement. Malaysia's participation in the MSME, investment facilitation, e-commerce, and trade and women's economic empowerment initiatives at the MC11 was also highlighted. While Malaysia remains committed to the rules-based multilateral trading system, it has been expanding its RTA commitments, including through, *inter alia*, the negotiation of the RCEP and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). Members commended Malaysia's strong and steady economic growth since its last TPR in 2014. Its prudent macroeconomic management and diversified nature of the economy allowed for strong and inclusive growth, despite a challenging global economic environment. Malaysia's real GDP has grown at an average annual rate of 5% over the past four years, and nearly 6% in 2017. Members acknowledged that Malaysia's domestic reform, services sector liberalization, enhanced private sector participation, and trade openness had played a key role in promoting growth. Its growing role as an investment destination and as a foreign investor was acknowledged. Members commended Malaysia for being the fifth Member to ratify the TFA, and welcomed its latest notification for Category B of the Agreement. They acknowledged the establishment of the National Single Window, the Malaysian National Trade Repository portal, and other trade-facilitation initiatives. They welcomed the removal of subsidies on fuel and the reduction of subsidies provided to the fishery sector. They noted that Malaysia issued the Companies Act, simplified the tax structure, and modernized its business licensing system with a view to reducing

business costs. Members congratulated Malaysia on the progress made in achieving its Vision 2020 goals, which are being pursued in the context of the 11th five-year Malaysia Plan, encompassing reforms to promote innovation, labour productivity, entrepreneurship, and infrastructure development. They also welcomed the development of a national e-commerce strategic roadmap.

3.129. On the other hand, Members noted that the adoption of the transaction value method regarding automobile imports in Malaysia's customs valuation would be a positive step towards improving the transparency and openness of its trade regime. They also noted the increase in the average applied MFN tariff rate from 5.6% to 7.5% during the review period, the complexity of the tariff regime, tariff peaks, and the fact that 20% of tariffs were unbound. While appreciating Malaysia's aim to become a hub for halal products, Members sought clarity regarding halal certification procedures. It was encouraged to review and reduce non-tariff measures such as non-automatic import licensing, and to improve the overall transparency of its trade policies and measures by promptly addressing the issue of outstanding notifications. Some concerns were expressed at the increase in the number of definitive AD measures imposed by Malaysia during the review period. Members encouraged it to continue to improve its business climate and further liberalize foreign investment restrictions, including in the areas of energy, telecommunications, and financial services. They also encouraged it to review its subsidy programmes and to notify these to the WTO, particularly those related to export performance and the use of domestic goods over imported ones. Several Members expressed concern regarding the application of stringent SPS requirements and other standards. Malaysia was also encouraged to make its public procurement market more open and transparent to foreign suppliers, and to consider joining the GPA. Malaysia's efforts to review its IPR legislation and improve enforcement were appreciated.

#### **Egypt: 20 and 22 February 2018**

3.130. Members commended Egypt for being a strong advocate of the multilateral trading system, as witnessed by its active participation in the WTO. In particular, they recognized Egypt's participation in the ITA and its ratification of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement. They noted that Egypt had completed the domestic ratification of the TFA, and invited it to submit its instrument of acceptance to the WTO and to notify its Category B and C commitments as soon as possible. Efforts to update its WTO notifications were noted with appreciation. Members commended Egypt for its sustained economic growth since its previous Review in 2005, which has averaged 4.5% annually in the last 12 years. Although GDP growth slowed down in 2011, in recent years economic activity has accelerated on the basis of an expansionary fiscal policy. Members remarked that, since 2014, Egypt has undertaken notable reforms, including floating the Egyptian pound, tax reform, fuel subsidy reform, and further privatization steps. They took note that Egypt is implementing an ambitious economic reform programme that stems from its National Development Strategy (Egypt Vision 2030). It seeks to promote the participation of the private sector in the economy so as to foster GDP growth, and further address its external and fiscal imbalances. Additionally, the Industrial Development Strategy 2016-20 aims to make Egypt a leading industrial economy in the Middle East and North Africa region and a main export hub for medium-technology manufactured products by 2025, thus paving the way for the country to further diversify its trade. Egypt was praised for reducing its general average tariff as compared to 2005. Members recognized its great efforts to improve its business climate and further liberalize foreign investment restrictions, including the introduction of a new Investment Law and its regulations in 2017, as well as reforms in customs administration, making it more efficient and transparent. They welcomed the changes implemented with respect to government procurement, namely the steps adopted to encourage private sector participation in the procurement process, and the introduction of new procurement methods.

3.131. Members noted that Egypt faces important challenges, notably regarding reducing its relatively high unemployment rate and poverty alleviation. They noted that more needs to be done to improve the business environment, including further simplifying customs procedures, improving the risk assessment system, reducing red tape, and increasing transparency. They also noted that the 2017 tariff average was higher than in 2011. Several Members pointed out that tariff peaks remained in place in agriculture, and showed concerns with respect to the increase of some tariff rates to 60% and called for their reduction. Noting that tariff bindings appeared to be exceeded by applied rates for 46 tariff headings, Members urged Egypt to take action to ensure that all applied rates remained within their bound levels. Several Members raised questions regarding Egypt's extensive use of import licensing and invited it to notify its regime to the WTO. On government procurement, they noted that the 15% preference granted to domestic suppliers and products remained in place, and enquired about plans to eliminate it. Egypt was also encouraged to review

import registration and other regulatory requirements, which some Members considered an obstacle to trade. Some concerns were expressed regarding the frequent use of trade contingency measures, in particular AD and SG measures. Members invited Egypt to reform other measures that may restrict trade, including complex certification and quality control requirements on many products. Egypt was also requested to align its SPS requirements to international standards. Members enquired about Egypt's plans to create a food safety agency and to modernize its food regulatory legislation. Several questions were asked about the enforcement of IPRs, particularly with respect to the prevalence of pirated and counterfeit goods, including software, music, and videos. In this regard, Egypt was encouraged to increase transparency and predictability in the protection and enforcement of IPRs, to help it attract greater foreign trade and investment. Noting the strong participation of the State in the economy, some Members were of the view that this could lead to a suboptimal allocation of resources, and encouraged Egypt to adopt a more market-oriented approach. Some Members invited Egypt to join in the MSME Initiative launched at the last Ministerial Conference, and the GPA. Egypt was encouraged to continue to submit notifications on a regular basis.

### **The Philippines: 26 and 28 March 2018**

3.132. Members praised the Philippines for its strong commitment to preserving and strengthening the multilateral trading system, and its active role in advancing the negotiations in areas such as fisheries' subsidies. They also recognized its contribution to promoting the work in the WTO on MSMEs. Many Members welcomed the Philippines' ratification of the TFA and the related notifications of Category A, B and C commitments, as well as the implementation of its ITA expansion commitments. They commended the Philippines' impressive economic performance since its last TPR in 2012. Real GDP grew at an average annual rate of around 6% between 2012 and 2017, per-capita GDP had increased, and poverty had declined. Trade played an important role in this review period, which was marked by strong growth of manufactured exports, in particular electronics and electrical goods, as well as buoyant exports of services. Members applauded the policy reforms undertaken, including on investment, customs, competition, IP, and government procurement. They welcomed the improvements in the Philippines' foreign investment regime, such as allowing 100% foreign ownership in the banking sector, liberalizing access to certain professional services, and the implementation of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act aimed at streamlining customs rules and procedures. They also welcomed the improvement of IPR protection, including the establishment of the Bureau of Copyrights, and acknowledged the recent reforms in the food safety regime. Members took note of further ongoing reforms of the FDI regime. Furthermore, an amendment to the legislation regarding FDI in public utilities is under consideration, and a Constitutional Review Commission has been set up to address the constitutional limitations on FDI. Regarding maritime transport, Members were informed that international relays through co-loading of shipments on foreign vessels to enhance competition was now permitted.

3.133. On the other hand, Members noted the increase in the average applied MFN tariff rate from 6.4% to 7.6% during the review period, the high share of nuisance tariffs of around 14.9% of tariff lines in 2017, and the increased share of tariff peaks (8.5%). Several Members invited the Philippines to consider reducing high tariffs, particularly on agricultural products and automobiles. Some encouraged it to expand the coverage of its tariff binding commitments, currently at 63.7% of tariff lines. Several Members observed that, despite increased infrastructure investment, substantial gaps remained and foreign participation in infrastructure development was hindered by FDI restrictions, notably in utility projects. They noted that further domestic reforms in areas such as investment and government procurement were needed to enhance the competitiveness of the economy and attract foreign investment. Some Members raised concerns over market access conditions for foreign suppliers in public procurement, and encouraged the Philippines to improve these conditions. Some encouraged the Philippines to consider joining the GPA, and noted that caps on FDI in some sectors or activities remained a concern. Questions were raised regarding what some considered to be high capital requirements for foreign investment in the retail business. Several Members expressed reservations regarding pre-shipment inspection requirements. Some recognized the efforts made to combat corruption in customs services. It was noted that there was room for improvement of the business environment, including by reducing the complexity of the permit/licensing regime in certain sectors. Many Members sought further clarification concerning the general direction of the agricultural reform process, in particular regarding steps taken to reform the import regime and the high level of support for rice. The representative of the Philippines stated that the passing of legislation to remove the QRs on rice was a priority. In the meantime, the reduced MFN tariff rates on rice and other agricultural products had been extended. Other matters of concern raised by Members included use of reference prices in assessing customs duties on agricultural products, and

export restrictions on rice, corn and sugar. SPS-related concerns were raised, *inter alia*, on: regulations for handling imported meat and issues in exporting bovine meat for sale on wet markets; SPS requirements that were not aligned with international standards; accreditation of export establishments; and certain labelling requirements that were considered excessive. The Philippines was encouraged to liberalize its regime reserving certain cargo to be shipped by Philippines'-flagged vessels, and to review foreign equity limitations in telecommunications. Finally, the Philippines was encouraged to submit outstanding notifications, notably on agriculture.

#### **Montenegro: 11 and 13 April 2018**

3.134. Members welcomed Montenegro's wide-ranging action taken to align itself with WTO principles and the EU *acquis communautaire* in several areas. They took note of progress in accession negotiations to the European Union, which has been the driving force behind many of the recent reforms. Members commended Montenegro on its extensive commitments undertaken upon its accession to the WTO as well as on its ratification of the TFA, becoming a participant in the revised GPA, participating in the expansion of the ITA, and accepting the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement. Members referred to Montenegro's contribution to work in the areas of e-commerce, services, domestic regulation, investment facilitation, MSMEs, and women's empowerment. Montenegro has managed to maintain strong, albeit fluctuating, growth since its WTO accession. Members commended it for its openness to trade and investment and for its performance-boosting trade-related reforms, including the 2017-19 Economic Reform Programme and the fiscal consolidation strategy. Montenegro's use of the euro as its national currency provided stability to its economy but could also be a challenge for its monetary policy and competitiveness. Montenegro was praised for its efforts to strengthen the environment for business and investment, including judicial reforms, non-discriminatory incentive schemes, measures to tackle corruption, and rules on good regulatory practice. Members welcomed Montenegro's trade-facilitation strategy, and expressed interest in the steps undertaken to implement the TFA to strengthen competitiveness. They appreciated the predictability of Montenegro's tariff regime, as bindings were set on an *ad valorem* basis, and the limited gap between applied and bound rates. Some Members commended changes, such as streamlining customs procedures, the elimination of import quotas, the reduction in import licensing requirements and prohibitions, and reforms to the government procurement regime. Members noted with interest reforms underway in the areas of energy, transport and telecommunications. They also referred to the increasing service-orientation of the economy, which now accounts for over 70% of economic activity. Some saw opportunity for sustainable development in the agricultural and fisheries sectors, and for increasing the value added for goods.

3.135. Members urged Montenegro to further strengthen the rule of law and its regulatory framework. Some encouraged it to continue to address persisting structural imbalances and challenges, including the current account deficit, external debt, labour market rigidities, the concentration of exports on low-value products, and informal activities. They urged Montenegro to continue with productivity-related and foreign investment-attracting structural reforms in several areas. They noted that the tariff regime had become more complex due to its EU alignment, and there were some concerns about tariff binding observance. Some Members encouraged Montenegro to improve its WTO notifications record in certain areas, and took note of its stated commitment to submit pending notifications shortly. More information was sought on certain food standards and SPS requirements, as well as trade-related IPRs. Members encouraged Montenegro to improve market access for agricultural products.

#### **Guinea and Mauritania: 29 and 31 May 2018**

3.136. Members commended Guinea and Mauritania on the reforms that had helped to improve their macroeconomic situation. These reforms have included a restructuring of their exchange rate regimes, actions to combat fraud and enhance the transparency of their payment systems, and a tightening of both their monetary and budgetary policies. At the sectoral level, the adoption of new mining and petroleum legislation, the implementation of targeted measures in the agricultural sector, the improvement of the transport and communication infrastructure and, above all, the expansion of their electricity generation capacity had increased the attractiveness of those economies. The reforms contributed to a substantial increase in the annual GDP growth rate up to 2014. Members welcomed the new provisions on government procurement and on public-private partnerships, and called for their full and speedy implementation.

3.137. Members noted the decline in GDP due to the collapse of world prices of gold, bauxite and iron ore, exacerbated in 2015, in the case of Guinea, by the ebola epidemic, and, in the case of Mauritania, by a severe and prolonged drought. Owing to the sharp inequalities in wealth distribution, aggravated in part by the fall in world prices, poverty levels remain high within the two countries, which remain essentially dependent on the mining sector as their main source of export earnings. Members reiterated most of the concerns already expressed at the time of the previous joint Review, and emphasized the need to make further improvements in the business environment in both countries and to stimulate investment in the areas in which their potential remained largely untapped. Those concerns relate to: (i) the exceeding of WTO tariff bindings which will be aggravated following the implementation of the ECOWAS CET; (ii) the numerous import duties and charges; (iii) the waivers and exemptions which further complicate the taxation systems; (iv) the need to review the multiple export taxes; and (v) the gaps in notifications to the WTO, particularly regarding technical regulations, SPS measures and state trading. Members urged Mauritania and Guinea to ratify and implement the TFA and the Protocol amending the TRIPS Agreement. They also invited them to tackle the lack of competition, particularly in food product imports, to continue their efforts to diversify their economies, and to pursue their efforts to enhance governance, particularly in the mining sector. Emphasis was placed on the urgent need for sustainable management in the fisheries' industries. The two countries were invited once again to strengthen their commitments under the GATS, particularly where banking and insurance services were concerned. Several Members encouraged them to improve protection of IPRs by, among other measures, effectively combating counterfeiting.

#### **Colombia: 12 and 14 June 2018**

3.138. Colombia was praised for its commitment to trade liberalization and for achieving economic growth during the review period, with real GDP expanding at an annual average rate of 3.3% between 2012 and 2017, while a relatively low level of inflation was maintained. Members also commended Colombia for implementing an economic reform programme that included tax incentives, reductions in tariffs and other taxes, improvements in the investment regime, and increased infrastructure investment. They noted that Colombia has a relatively open trade regime, with an average MFN tariff of 7.1% in 2017. Members also congratulated Colombia on its recent signature of an accession agreement to the OECD, seeing it as further proof of its commitment to structural reforms and adherence to high international standards. They welcomed Colombia's signature of an internal peace agreement in 2016 that was considered an essential foundation for the country's stability and future economic and social development. They acknowledged its strong commitment to the rules-based multilateral trading system and its active participation in the WTO. They praised its leadership as coordinator of the Joint Statement Initiative on Investment Facilitation for Development, and its contribution to the negotiations on agriculture and fisheries' subsidies. It was also noted that Colombia was a signatory to the MC11 initiatives on e-commerce, domestic regulation in services, SMEs and women's economic empowerment. Members noted that Colombia had also actively pursued regional integration and the conclusion of FTAs, including the Pacific Alliance and other bilateral and regional agreements with key trading partners. They expressed their appreciation for the adoption of recent measures aimed at improving its investment regime, and providing new opportunities for FDI. Interest was also expressed in the financial and non-financial incentives provided for SMEs. Members acknowledged the changes introduced to improve efficiency in government procurement, and commended Colombia on the improvements made to its framework for the protection of IPRs. Some Members praised Colombia for playing an active role in pursuing agricultural policy reform and maintaining an open services regime. Some referred to improvements in the telecommunications sector, and others highlighted progress made in air connectivity and the efforts to promote tourism, in addition to its open regime in maritime transport.

3.139. Members encouraged Colombia to continue its reform efforts. They noted the challenges remaining in some areas, including the need to: increase efforts to diversify production and the export base; simplify the regulatory framework; and alleviate poverty and promote social inclusion, particularly in rural areas. Noting that Colombia was still in the process of ratifying the TFA, Members urged it to conclude it as soon as possible. Some Members also encouraged Colombia to bring its WTO notifications up-to-date in domestic support in agriculture, import licenses, subsidies and services, and to submit the required changes to its schedules to implement the Nairobi Ministerial Decision to eliminate export subsidies in agriculture. They also invited it to consider becoming a party to the GPA in view of the importance of this sector to its economy. Some Members noted that many provisions of the Customs Statute had not yet been implemented. Overall, Colombia was encouraged to improve the implementation and enforcement of legislation and to increase efforts

towards regulatory transparency. Members expressed concern over certain areas and invited Colombia to address them. These areas included the widespread use of registration and import licensing requirements, the use of reference prices for imports of textiles, clothing and footwear, taxation rules on beer, complex customs procedures, certain labelling requirements, and the scrapping scheme for trucks. Members also noted the increased use of trade contingency measures, in particular the greater number of AD investigations initiated. Some Members highlighted the need for a transparent and accountable implementation of the IPR provisions related to pharmaceuticals in the National Development Plan, while others indicated that they would monitor the implementation of rules relating to the use of compulsory licences. They noted that imports of agricultural products face higher tariffs than imports of non-agricultural products, and concerns were expressed regarding the effect of the Andean Price Band System and SPS requirements on trade flows. In the energy sector, Colombia was urged to continue its efforts to reduce fossil fuel subsidies.

#### **Norway: 18 and 20 June 2018**

3.140. Members were particularly appreciative of Norway's longstanding and dedicated commitment to an open, rules-based, inclusive, and effective multilateral trading system. They highlighted the timely ratification of the TFA, the implementation of the ITA expansion and the revised pharmaceutical product coverage, the completion of procedures to adopt the revised GPA, and the adoption of legislation to phase out agricultural export subsidies by the end of 2020. Low tariffs reflected the openness of its trade regime, where 85% of the tariff lines were duty free on an MFN basis. The simple average tariff had declined from 7.5% in 2012 to 6.9% in 2017, principally due to the elimination of low and nuisance tariffs on 114 agricultural tariff lines. Applied tariffs on manufactured goods averaged 0.5%. Some Members noted with appreciation that the policy of low tariffs was combined with a firm rejection of resorting to trade contingency measures. Norway's trade policies remained firmly anchored in the WTO and the EEA Agreement with the European Union, its largest trading partner. In addition, Norway's membership of EFTA provided an extensive network of FTAs. Members noted that Norway remained one of the wealthiest countries in the world, with a GDP per capita of around USD 75,000, despite significant economic headwinds in the period under review. As a major producer and exporter of crude oil, natural gas, and petroleum-related services, the Norwegian economy had felt the sharp decline in the price of petroleum that began in 2014. However, it had weathered the storm well, with expansive monetary policies and fiscal policy stimulus aided by solid public finances. Meanwhile, Norway's trade policies for goods and services had remained generally open and liberal. Members felt that the difficulties experienced in the petroleum sector may indeed have accelerated the "greening" of the domestic economy with a focus on renewable energy resources and energy efficiency, as well as the restructuring and consolidation of Norway's ocean industries, i.e. maritime services, oil and gas, fisheries, and aquaculture, into a forward-looking "blue" economy. Several Members highlighted its commitment to sustainable economic growth, including its high level of engagement and valuable expert contributions in the negotiations on fisheries subsidies, and its interest in concluding an agreement on trade in environmental goods. Norway was also a firm supporter of new initiatives in the WTO, such as the recent Ministerial declarations relating to MSMEs, the reform and phasing out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, e-commerce, services domestic regulations, and trade and gender. In addition, Norway continued to be a generous donor to activities that aided other WTO Members, in particular LDCs. Norway was commended for its exemplary record in meeting its notification obligations in virtually all areas of the WTO. Some Members also noted positively that Norway had never been a respondent in a WTO dispute settlement case.

3.141. Agriculture stood out as a sector with high levels of protection, regulatory intervention, and government assistance. Members noted that, despite consistent gains in productivity, technological advances, and continued high levels of support, Norwegian agriculture was not internationally competitive. The main outputs of the sector remained highly insulated from the world market and subject to extensive production-distorting government intervention. Applied tariffs on agricultural products averaged 37%. Norway's support to its agricultural sector was three times higher than the average for OECD countries. While some Members called for lower tariffs and less support, it was also noted that the under-utilization of many existing TRQs suggested scope for reform. The application of SPS measures was also related to agricultural policy. Here, some Members stressed the importance of science- and risk-based regulations, including for the registration and use of pesticides and other agricultural chemicals, and other innovative tools for supporting trade in agricultural products. Although access to Norway's markets for industrial goods and services was generally open and non-discriminatory, several Members noted that state ownership remained substantial. Some Members suggested that state frontiers in economic activities could be rolled back.

They also sought information regarding Norway's TBT measures, including conformity assessment, and their harmonization with EU practices.

#### **Uruguay: 27 and 29 June 2018**

3.142. Members praised Uruguay for its commitment to trade liberalization, and for continuing to implement macroeconomic policies geared towards ensuring stability despite external shocks and adverse regional situations. They commended it on 15 years of continuous economic growth, and noted that its real GDP grew at an annual average rate of some 3% between 2012 and 2017. This was a result of prudent monetary policy, a flexible exchange rate regime and lower fiscal deficit. It was also noted that the current account balance had improved, and that it now registered a surplus. Members also commended Uruguay on implementing a development strategy focused on the promotion of investment in key areas such as education, and of inclusive social policies which had resulted in a substantial decrease in poverty and inequality. They noted the significant role that trade has played in Uruguay's economic development, and also that merchandise exports and imports were equivalent to some 30% of GDP in 2017. The diversification of export markets since 2012 was also noted, especially the increasing importance of the Asian market, which resulted in a reduction of dependency on traditional markets. While observing that, as a member of MERCOSUR, Uruguay's trade policies are largely determined by the common policies adopted by the trading bloc, Members acknowledged the country's strong commitment to the rules-based multilateral trading system and its active participation in the WTO. Members noted that Uruguay had accepted the amendment to the TRIPS Agreement and had ratified the TFA. It had also granted preferential treatment to service providers from LDCs, and had recently notified its intention to eliminate export subsidies. Uruguay's leadership in chairing the Informal Working Group on MSMEs, in addition to its strong advocacy regarding other MC11 initiatives such as e-commerce, investment facilitation, and women's economic empowerment, were also noted. Members noted that Uruguay had a relatively open investment regime, and provided national treatment in most sectors, with a few exceptions, such as the provision of radio and broadcasting services, air and maritime cabotage, and fishing within its territorial waters. No prior authorization or registration was required to invest in Uruguay. Members noted that the country's trade regime was largely open, with low tariffs and few non-tariff barriers to trade. They expressed their appreciation of Uruguay's efforts to implement trade facilitation measures (e.g. the implementation of a Single Window for Trade; the use of digital customs clearance forms and an electronic payment system; and the implementation of a certification system for AEOs). Its average tariff rate in 2017 was 9.4%, unchanged since 2011. Members noted that Uruguay had recourse to few non-tariff barriers, and that these were mainly used to protect public health, national security, the environment, phytosanitary conditions, and consumers. It was also noted that it rarely resorts to AD, CVD or SG measures. Uruguay continued to reform its government procurement regime to expedite procedures and increase transparency. Members commended it on the improvements made to its framework for the protection of IPRs and for maintaining an open services regime. They noted that agriculture is of primary importance, given the country's reliance on exports of agricultural products, accounting for some two thirds of total exports in 2017.

3.143. Some Members noted that, despite diversification efforts, Uruguay continues to be dependent on exports of agricultural products. In this regard, they encouraged it to diversify its production, to continue its reform efforts aimed at becoming a party to the ITA, and to update its pending notifications. Some Members noted that FDI flows had fluctuated significantly during the period under review. In this respect, Members encouraged Uruguay to continue to maintain an open trade and investment regime, which, along with the guaranteed legal stability regarding incentives and rights accorded to the investor, the existence of an educated workforce, and the freedom to transfer capital, profits and other gains associated with investment, provides an attractive climate for FDI. Members noted that, despite efforts to dismantle several charges applied on imports, since 2012, Uruguay had increased its consular fee. They invited it to review this measure. In addition, the mandatory use of local customs agents remained. Some Members noted that tariff protection was higher for agricultural products, and sought more information regarding policy in this sector. Members identified some areas of Uruguay's trade regime where improvement would be welcome: those related to customs procedures, the licensing regime, export promotion measures, and pricing practices at ports. They also encouraged it to provide more information regarding the drawback system, the elaboration of technical regulations, and food-labelling requirements, and to improve some aspects of the implementation of its SPS regime. They noted that the GPA legislation continues to allow exceptions to the general public-tendering regime, with preferences being granted to specific sectors. Members sought clarification on the government procurement system and invited Uruguay

to consider becoming a Party to the GPA. In this regard, they also encouraged it to consider the efficiency of removing preferences for local providers and local content requirement. Some Members highlighted existing challenges regarding the protection of IPRs, such as the need to reduce the time required for granting patents, to promote innovation and to tackle the problem of counterfeiting and piracy. Uruguay was also encouraged to join the WIPO treaties on patents and trademarks. Although access to Uruguay's services' market was generally open and non-discriminatory, several Members noted that state ownership remained substantial. Public enterprises continued to play an important role in Uruguay's services' sector, operating in the financial services, transport, telecommunications and post, electricity, and water and sanitation subsectors. In the energy sector, Uruguay was invited to continue its efforts to diversify energy sources.

### **China: 11 and 13 July 2018**

3.144. Members highlighted the importance of China's contribution to global growth over recent years, and noted that the pace of its economic expansion has been moderating recently, prompting the authorities to rebalance growth by focusing on quality and sustainability rather than quantity. They generally expressed appreciation for China's active role in the WTO. Since China is the world's biggest merchandise trader and one of the largest recipients of FDI, its policies have a direct impact on the global economy. Members appreciated its contribution to ongoing discussions on recent initiatives, such as e-commerce, MSMEs and investment facilitation for development. They also noted its further involvement in regional trade agreements. Members commended China on its recent reform initiatives aimed at broadening market access and investment opportunities, the greater involvement of the private sector in the economy, and its commitment to fossil fuel subsidy reform. They also appreciated its ongoing reform of customs procedures, such as further use of single windows, and commitments in the TFA. Several Members commended China on the Belt and Road Initiative, and viewed it as an avenue for mutual cooperation and growth. They also commended recent announcements of liberalization in financial services, and tariff reductions in the automobile sector. China was congratulated for providing far-ranging preferences to products from LDCs. Many Members expressed appreciation for China's support and assistance to developing countries in areas such as Aid for Trade, and welcomed its continued FDI regime liberalization.

3.145. Members called upon China to assume the increased responsibility linked with being a major player in the multilateral trading system. They also encouraged it to further enhance access conditions for foreign investors. In this respect, concerns were raised regarding joint venture requirements and what some perceived as being inconsistent and unpredictable regulatory practices and technology transfer requirements. Members expressed serious concerns about the preponderant role of the State in general, and of state-owned enterprises in particular. Some felt that state influence in China's economy has increased in various sectors, while many were of the view that it would require a more market-oriented approach regarding investment and resource allocation. Members raised questions about China's support and subsidy policies and local content requirements, including those that may be part of the 2025 plan. Some noted the importance of enforcing competition policy, particularly in view of the recent amendment to the Anti-Unfair Competition Law. While Members looked forward to China's early accession to the GPA, some noted ongoing issues in its IPR regime, and encouraged continued IPR protection and enforcement. Some Members called for more predictability regarding market price support and public stockpiling measures used for certain agricultural products. Other areas of concern raised included: the administrative licensing and approval process, inconsistency in certain SPS measures, restrictions on certain agricultural products, cross-border data restriction and data localization requirements, the scope and impact of China's cybersecurity legislation and the restriction of Virtual Private Network services, restrictive measures in certain services' sectors such as tourism, and industrial policies in certain manufacturing sectors, including the production of new energy vehicles. Several Members also referred to what they perceived to be market-distorting policies resulting in excess capacity in some sectors such as steel and semi-conductors. China was called upon to help address global overcapacity in these sectors. It was encouraged to increase the transparency of its trade policy regime. Members highlighted the importance of fulfilling all WTO commitments, in particular notification obligations, and encouraged China to publish all laws, regulations and other measures related to trade, and to make them available in one of the WTO official languages. In this context, Members hoped that sufficient time would be given for comments before the introduction of new regulations. Regarding the TFA, Members encouraged China to implement all its category B commitments within the specified transition period. They invited it to follow international best practices and to adhere to a level playing field for trade and investment opportunities for all.



**Israel: 17 and 19 July 2018**

3.146. Israel's active role in WTO was praised by Members who noted that it had accepted the amendment to the TRIPS Agreement, ratified the TFA and submitted a notification of its Category A commitments, and notified that it would no longer give export subsidies for agricultural products after 1 January 2023. Israel is a party to the expanded ITA and the revised GPA. Some delegations welcomed its active participation in the ongoing discussions on recent joint initiatives after MC11. They remarked that Israel has signed RTAs with Canada, EFTA, the European Union, Jordan, Mexico, MERCOSUR, Turkey, and the United States, while new FTAs concluded with Colombia and Panama are not yet in force. Moreover, Israel is currently engaged in negotiations with China, the Republic of Korea, India, Ukraine, Viet Nam, and the Eurasian Economic Union. Members commended Israel for having taken measures to further liberalize trade, following protests in 2011 about the high cost of living. Since then, it has pursued a unilateral process of trade liberalization, notably by eliminating tariffs on many consumer goods. Israel is a high-income country, with a strong economy and a GDP per capita of over USD 40,000. During the period under review, economic growth averaged 3.3%, inflation was subdued, and unemployment declined to a historic low of 4.2% in 2017. It was noted that, although the value of trade in goods declined during the period under review, trade in services grew strongly, particularly exports of computer and other high-tech services. Furthermore, the decline in the value of trade in goods was not caused by measures that restrict trade but by the decline in imports of hydrocarbons, as the Tamar gas field started production in 2013 replacing imports of gas. Israeli goods' exports declined for many reasons, including an appreciating currency. In addition to exports of services, economic growth has been driven by several factors, including Israel's growing strength in innovation and technology, private consumption, and domestic investment. Many delegations praised Israel's economic performance, and were interested in its policies concerning high-technology goods and services. They noted the high level of investment in civilian research and development (consistently over 4% of GDP). Several Members wanted to know more about the Israel Innovation Authority and its role in promoting the high-tech sector, which is the basis for Israel's strong performance. As several delegations noted, R&D, not only in computers and electronics but also in more traditional fields like irrigation and chemicals, must be backed by a robust legislative framework for the protection and enforcement of IPRs. Trade reforms undertaken over the past six years were noted by many delegations. Israel's autonomous tariff reductions reduced the average applied MFN tariff to 5.2% in 2017, from 7.6% in 2012, with over two thirds of tariff lines duty free. Israel is currently implementing a programme to reduce the regulatory burden and cut administrative costs for imports, and it is in the process of aligning many technical standards to international ones. Israel was commended for its good record for notifications.

3.147. Members noted that Israel's economic performance could be even stronger if it were to open up further to competition from imports and investments by foreign service providers. On protection of IPRs, while recognizing improvements in the law and its enforcement, many Members encouraged Israel to do more in this regard. They noted that tariffs on some products remain high, including on fish and fish products and agriculture in general, but particularly animals and animal products, dairy products, and fruits and vegetables. The domestic TAMA tax is usually based on local prices which, being higher than import prices, is perceived by some delegations as a charge on imports. Furthermore, many high tariffs are either specific duties or are in more complex forms, the applied tariff on some products is above the tariff bindings, and about one quarter of tariff lines are not bound. In addition to high tariffs, Members also raised concerns about import prohibitions on some products, non-automatic licensing on others, and other measures which restrict imports. Another area where some delegations felt improvements could be made was in investment. Although the investment regime is generally open, there is little competition from foreign operators in some areas, such as retail banking, insurance, and construction, and there are foreign ownership restrictions in other areas, such as air and maritime transport services, and telecommunications and broadcasting. Several delegations pointed out that there were few SPS notifications, while some TBT notifications concerned SPS measures. Furthermore, some other notifications are currently outstanding, such as for import licensing, QRs, and state trading enterprises.

**Chinese Taipei: 12 and 14 September 2018**

3.148. Chinese Taipei has remained committed to an open and rules-based multilateral trading system, while expanding regional and extra-regional integration through recent RTAs signed with Singapore, New Zealand and Paraguay, and a New Southbound Policy. Members highly appreciated Chinese Taipei's active and constructive participation in the WTO's work, including in the areas of e-commerce, services domestic regulation, investment facilitation, MSMEs, and Environmental

Goods Agreement negotiations. They also commended its expanding WTO commitments, including through the ratification of the TFA, the implementation of ITA 2 by 2021, and the acceptance of the revised GPA, as well as supporting LDCs. They acknowledged its strong record of WTO notification. Members commended Chinese Taipei for its macroeconomic management, and for the reforms undertaken so far that ensured strong, albeit fluctuating, growth, coupled with low inflation and dropping unemployment, as well as the resilience of its outward-oriented competitive economy and high living standards. Members acknowledged its integration into the world economy and global value chains, as well as the beneficial effects of structural reforms in various areas. Chinese Taipei was commended for its transparent and predictable trade policies, as well as its initiatives to create a friendlier business and investment environment, including: investment regime liberalization; support to SMEs and entrepreneurs; increased transparency in the process of developing regulations; and the reduction of restrictions on the recruitment of overseas professionals. Members appreciated Chinese Taipei's trade-facilitation initiatives, e.g. in the areas of legislative amendments, single window, AEOs and certificates of origin, and encouraged continued improvements. They noted its comprehensive tariff binding coverage and the slight decrease of the simple average MFN applied tariff rate but also the persisting complexity of the tariff structure. They appreciated the strengthening and enforcement of IPRs. Chinese Taipei was applauded for, and encouraged to continue with, efforts to tackle illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fisheries. It stated that it will not claim the special and differential treatment granted to developing country Members in future negotiations in the WTO.

3.149. Chinese Taipei was encouraged to improve the transparency and predictability of its investment review process and/or to move forward with a simpler post-investment registration system, continue removing investment barriers, and apply a non-discriminatory regime towards overseas investors and traders. Some Members urged additional reforms to cope with increased competition from emerging economies. Several concerns were expressed about certain TBT and SPS requirements, and some encouraged the removal or review of many measures on food, medicines and chemicals, including those relating to maximum residue levels and genetically-modified food, the assurance of their scientific basis, and their alignment with international standards. Chinese Taipei was encouraged to undertake improvements in public procurement, including the expansion of the coverage of its GPA commitments. The persistence of public sector involvement in the economy was noted, and further privatization was encouraged. On IPRs, due to persisting concerns, Members encouraged Chinese Taipei to continue its enhancement efforts in certain areas. They called for the submission of an up-to-date notification on domestic support in agriculture. Chinese Taipei was urged to further liberalize its agriculture sector, with concerns being expressed about high tariffs, TRQs and subsidies. Members were interested in hearing more about its energy reform programme and any incentives being offered under the Five-Plus-Two Industries Innovation Plan. They noted reforms undertaken in the banking and securities sectors, and considered that there was further scope for financial services liberalization and services liberalization more generally. Chinese Taipei was also asked to remove certain shipping restrictions.

### 3.9 Other Selected Trade Policy Issues

3.150. The following Section provides a brief overview of the other selected trade policy issues where important developments took place during the review period. It also includes follow-up to a number of issues which saw outcomes at MC11 in Buenos Aires.

#### Regional Trade Agreements

3.151. During the review period, WTO Members notified five RTAs (8 notifications) as compared to 18 RTAs and three accessions to existing RTAs (29 notifications) during the previous period (Table 3.25). Of the new RTAs notified to the WTO, two relate only to trade in goods and were notified under the Enabling Clause, while three include trade liberalization in both goods and services and were notified under GATT Article XXIV and GATS Article V.

**Table 3.25 Notifications of RTAs between 15 October 2017 and 15 October 2018**

RTA name (parties)	Coverage	Date of notification (date of entry into force)	Notification
Turkey – Singapore	Goods & Services	14/09/18 (01/10/17)	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V

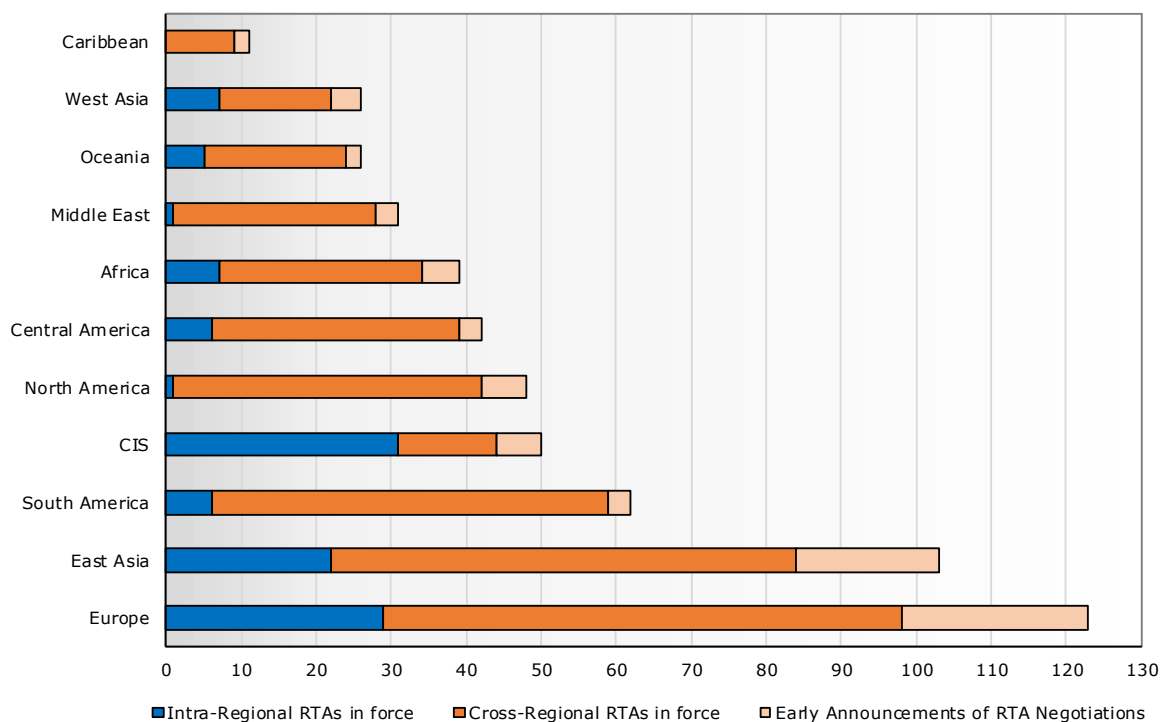
RTA name (parties)	Coverage	Date of notification (date of entry into force)	Notification
China – Georgia	Goods & Services	05/04/18 (01/01/18)	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
El Salvador – Ecuador	Goods	22/03/18 (16/11/17)	Enabling Clause
Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) – Egypt	Goods	19/02/18 (01/09/17)	Enabling Clause
Hong Kong, China – Macao, China	Goods & Services	18/12/17 (27/10/17)	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V

Source: RTA Database. Viewed at: <http://rtais.wto.org>.

3.152. As at 15 October 2018, the total number of RTAs notified to the WTO, and to the GATT before it and currently in force, amounted to 288 (145 covering goods and services, 142 goods only, and 1 services only).<sup>108</sup> The WTO Secretariat has also identified and verified, through the respective parties, 80 RTAs that are in force, but have not yet been notified to the WTO.<sup>109</sup>

3.153. Judging from overall notifications, RTA activity is strongest in Europe (20% of RTAs in force), with successive EU enlargements and agreements with countries in Eastern Europe and around the Mediterranean basin, as well as RTAs notified by EFTA; this is followed by East Asia (17%) and South America (12%). These regions also continue to be active in RTA negotiations (Chart 3.20).

**Chart 3.20 RTAs in force, and under negotiation by region**



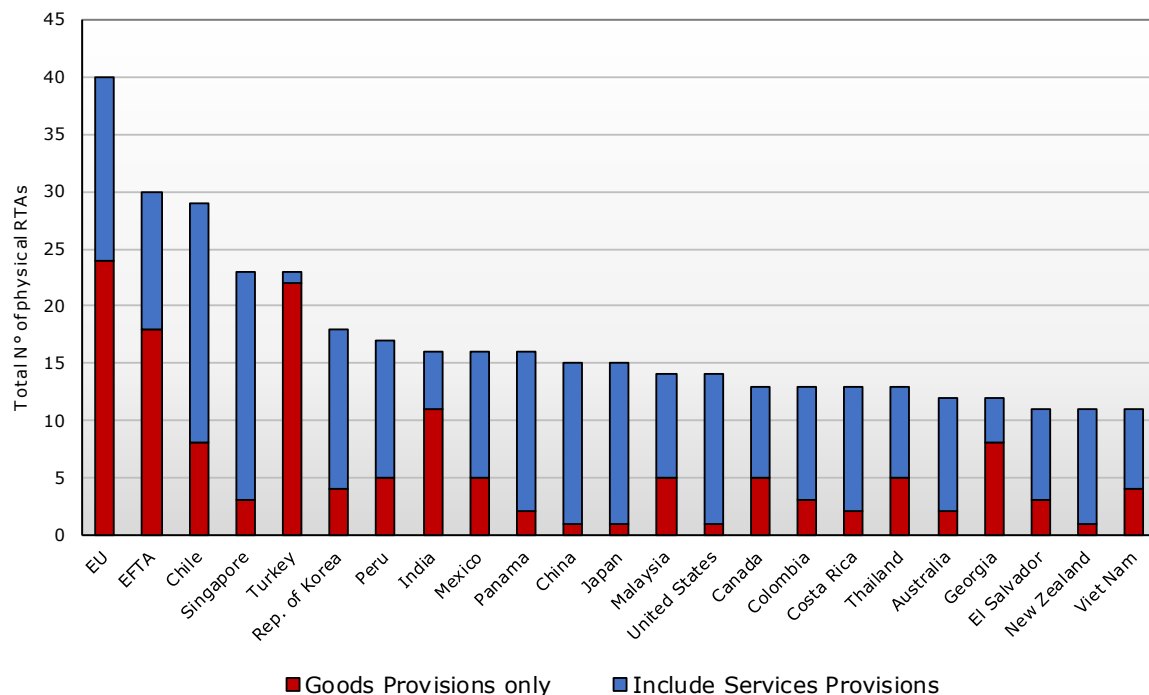
Note: RTAs involving countries/territories in two (or more) regions are counted more than once.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.154. The WTO Members with the most RTAs in force remain the European Union, the EFTA states, and Chile, with over 25 RTAs in force each, followed by Singapore, and Turkey, which have over 20 RTAs in force each (Chart 3.21). A number of other developing countries also have several RTAs in force, such as the Republic of Korea, Peru, India, Mexico and Panama.

<sup>108</sup> This figure does not take into account notifications of RTAs made in 2017 and that is not yet in force.

<sup>109</sup> WTO document WT/REG/W/133, 10 September 2018.

**Chart 3.21 WTO Members with the largest number of RTAs in force**

Source: RTA Section, WTO Secretariat.

3.155. WTO Members also continue to negotiate new bilateral and/or plurilateral RTAs. The regions that are most heavily involved in RTA negotiations include Europe and East Asia. In Europe, the European Union has recently concluded an RTA with Japan. Upon entry into force, it will become the world's largest RTA, accounting for nearly a third of the world's GDP. The European Union is also negotiating with MERCOSUR, is negotiating Economic Partnership Agreements with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, and has recently announced that it will start negotiations with Australia and New Zealand. The EFTA states are also continuing negotiations with the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), India and several ASEAN member states. In the Asia-Pacific, although the United States pulled out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, it has been signed by the remaining parties and is expected to enter into force in 2019. Negotiations are continuing to complete the 16-party Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement, which brings together the ten ASEAN member states and six others with which ASEAN already has RTAs in force (Australia, China, India, Republic of Korea, Japan and New Zealand).

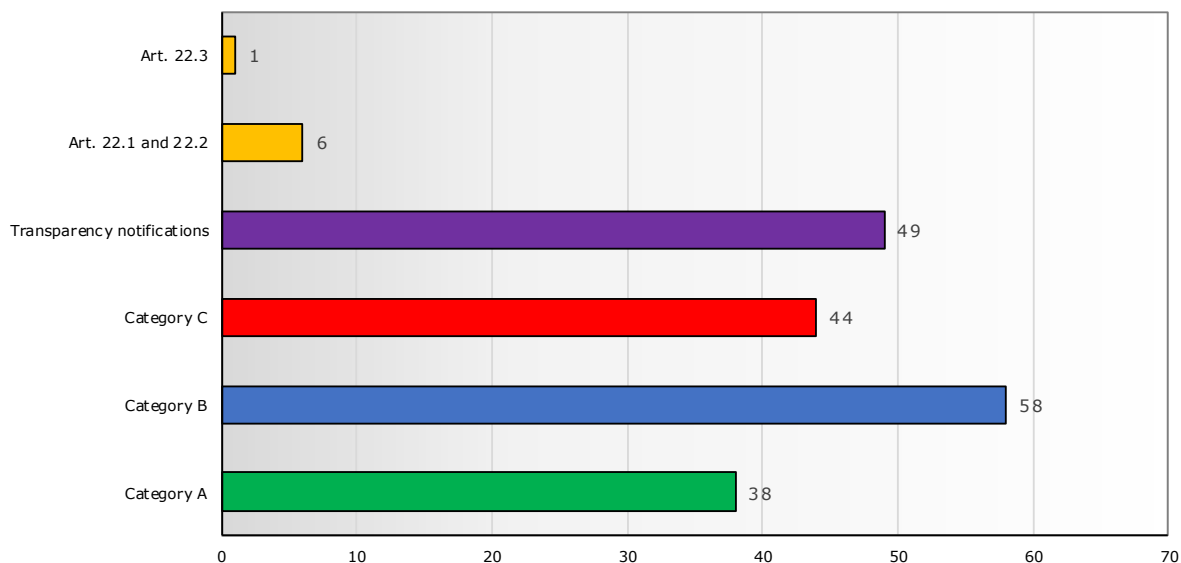
### Trade Facilitation

3.156. The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) entered into force on 22 February 2017, when two-thirds of WTO Members notified their corresponding instruments of acceptance. At the conclusion of the review period, 138 ratifications were accounted for, which corresponded to 84% of membership. The Secretariat has received 17 additional instruments of acceptance since October 2017.

3.157. With respect to implementation-related notifications mandated under the TFA, 38 Members presented notifications on category A, 58 on category B and 44 on category C. With these notifications, the cumulative total of Members who submitted category A notifications closed at 114, 71 for category B and 60 for category C for the review period.

3.158. Members also presented 49 notifications concerning transparency obligations included in Section I of the TFA and six donor Members submitted notifications on their technical assistance and capacity-building activities under Articles 22.1 and 22.2. In addition, one developing Member presented a notification under Article 22.3 relating to contact points of Members seeking TACB support.

**Chart 3.22 Number of Members to have presented notifications mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018**



Source: <https://www.tfadatabase.org/>

### ITA Expansion

3.159. Under the ITA Expansion Agreement, import tariffs on most of the 201 IT products covered by the Agreement have been progressively reduced since 1 July 2016 and will be eliminated after three years (by 1 July 2019), whereas other duties and charges are to be removed upon entry into force. For a limited number of sensitive products, tariffs will be phased out over five or seven years for the most exceptional cases. On 3 November 2017, Georgia joined the ITA Expansion Agreement, bringing the total number of Participants to 26, representing 55 WTO Members.

3.160. As of October 2018, 23 Participants were on track with the implementation of the tariff cuts, while the others were awaiting the completion of domestic procedural requirements.<sup>110</sup> As required by Paragraph 6 of the Declaration, all 26 Participants have also initiated the 1980 Procedures for Modification and Rectification of Schedules in order to include the new ITA Expansion concessions into their WTO Schedules and extend them to all WTO Members on an MFN basis. To date, the ITA Expansion schedules of 23 Participants have been certified by the WTO Director-General, and their concessions properly reflected in their WTO Schedules.

3.161. The ITA Expansion Declaration also provides for further work on non-tariff barriers in the IT sector, and for keeping the list of products covered under review to determine whether further expansion may be needed to reflect future technological developments.

### Aid for Trade

3.162. The 2018-19 Aid for Trade work programme, under the theme of "Supporting Economic Diversification and Empowerment for Inclusive, Sustainable Development Through Aid for Trade", was issued on 7 May 2018. The Aid for Trade work programme builds on the 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, which states that "Aid for Trade should aim to help developing countries, particularly LDCs, to build the supply-side capacity and trade-related infrastructure that they need to assist them to implement and benefit from WTO Agreements and more broadly to expand their trade". The programme also draws on the 2015 Ministerial Declaration on Aid for Trade and on the results of the 2017 Global Review. The latter has highlighted the importance of trade connectivity, its impact on the unconnected and the impediments to connectivity that fall disproportionately on MSMEs, women, youth, rural populations and LDCs. The results of the review also underscored Aid for Trade's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

<sup>110</sup> Members implementing the ITA Expansion Agreement are reflected in Annex 1.

3.163. The 2019 Global Review is to be the centre-piece of the 2018-19 work programme and will include an Aid for Trade monitoring and evaluation exercise conducted in partnership with the OECD. The information collected will provide the narrative for the joint OECD-WTO publication "Aid for Trade at a Glance 2019" that will also include an analysis of Aid for Trade financing flows.

3.164. Disbursements of Aid for Trade reached U\$38.7 billion in 2016, a decline of USD 1.6 billion as compared to 2015 when disbursements reached USD 40.3 billion. Total commitments recorded in 2016 also fell by USD 4.2 billion to USD 51.0 billion between 2015 and 2016. Aid for Trade disbursements to LDCs slowed, with a drop of USD 0.8 billion to USD 9.8 billion in 2016. Aid for Trade commitments to LDCs also fell from USD 17.7.5 billion in 2015 to USD 14.7 billion in 2016. Total disbursements of Aid for Trade since 2006 stand at more than USD 342.3 billion in official development aid, and a further USD 264.0 billion in other official flows.

### Trade Financing

3.165. The global trade finance gap, as measured by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), remained close to USD 1.5 trillion. The alternatives to bank financing are scarce in many developing countries and trade transactions are most often abandoned if such financing is unavailable, according to the ADB. Half of the USD 1.5 trillion trade finance gap is in developing Asia, with another significant gap in Africa. Around 60% of trade finance requests by SMEs are rejected, against only 7% for multinational companies. According the Global Enabling Trade Report of the World Economic Forum, lack of trade finance is among the top three obstacles to exporting for half of the countries in the world.

3.166. The Director-General addressed the WTO Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance on 8 June 2018, to take stock of the efforts of the international community, including the WTO, multilateral development banks (MDBs) and international regulatory bodies, to address the challenges outlined in proposals by the Director-General on trade finance and SMEs. In these, he had recommended that MDBs dedicate increased resources to their trade finance facilitation programmes, that capacity-building support be enhanced, that a dialogue with trade finance regulators be opened, and that trade finance gaps be analysed. MDBs have been mobilizing increased resources for trade finance. In 2017, total financing and guarantees provided by MDBs under trade finance facilitation programmes in developing countries reached close to USD 30 billion, up from approximately USD 22 billion in 2016. With the recovery of global trade flows forecasted in 2018, demand for MDBs' credit and guarantee facilities is likely to rise further.

3.167. A positive development was the increase in the exposure of MDBs towards exporting and importing SMEs. For example, in 2017 the ADB supported trade transactions from more than 2,800 SMEs in countries such as Myanmar, Pakistan and Bangladesh. In the spring of 2018, the ADB increased by USD 350 million the limit of guarantees to be provided under its programme. The ADB is considering an increase in the guarantee coverage for its own trade finance facilitation programme, from 50% to 100% guarantee coverage.

3.168. Reducing the knowledge gap in local banking sectors for handling trade finance instruments remained a priority. Professional organizations from the private sector have been cooperating with MDBs to pool training initiatives where useful and courses provided by the IFC, the ITFC, the EBRD, and the ADB in co-operation with the ICC Academy have boosted the capacity-building work on trade finance.

3.169. MDBs also requested a regulatory dialogue with the Financial Stability Board (FSB) regarding the global phenomenon of de-risking which affects all cross-border banking flows and all regions. De-risking can disrupt essential cross-border financial services and lead to financial exclusion for certain categories of customers, particularly SMEs. According to the FSB, some of the most affected countries are in the Caribbean, the Pacific Islands, the Middle East, some sub-regions of Africa, and in Central and developing East Asia. As de-risking affects trade finance, financial exclusion leads to trade exclusion, potentially jeopardizing the supply of essential imports and the shipment of essential exports in the affected countries.

3.170. At the recent Annual Meetings of the World Bank and the IMF in Indonesia, the WTO and several partner organizations committed themselves to continue finding ways to close the gaps in trade finance provision.

## Government Procurement

3.171. The revised WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) continues to gain importance as an instrument for promoting trade and good governance in government procurement markets. Currently, the Agreement has 19 parties, comprising 47 WTO Members. Another 32 WTO Members/Observers participate as observers in the Committee on Government Procurement, with Belarus having been granted observer status in June 2018.<sup>111</sup>

3.172. Significant progress was made on several accessions to the Agreement. The negotiation on Australia's accession was successfully concluded in October 2018 and it will become a fully-fledged party of the Agreement in 2019 when necessary domestic ratification procedures are completed. The negotiation on the United Kingdom's GPA membership, in its own right, for the post-Brexit period, was officially initiated in June 2018 (currently, the United Kingdom participates in the GPA as an EU member State). A clear desire has been expressed by both the United Kingdom and the GPA parties that the United Kingdom continue to participate in the GPA post-Brexit, on the appropriate terms. China, on different occasions, reaffirmed its commitment to join the GPA and indicated that it would expedite the accession process by tabling a further revised market access offer with significant improvements. The Russian Federation has also been actively pursuing its accession process. The Kyrgyz Republic's and Tajikistan's accessions are considered to be close to the final stage if specific pending issues can be addressed. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia circulated its initial market access offer in February 2018 and expressed the hope that its accession can be concluded swiftly.

3.173. The accessions of four other WTO Members — Albania, Georgia, Jordan and Oman — are pending. Another five have provisions regarding accession to the Agreement in their respective Protocols of Accession to the WTO, namely Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Seychelles. During the review period, the Secretariat organized, in its own capacity or in cooperation with other international organizations, several global, regional and national workshops on government procurement, which addressed market access and good governance issues.

3.174. The GPA Committee continued to advance its work in relation to a number of specific work programmes. These address, *inter alia*: (i) ensuring sustainability in public procurement activities; (ii) improving the statistics that Parties submit pursuant to relevant provisions of the GPA; (iii) promoting access to government procurement markets by SMEs. The purpose of these work programmes is to enhance transparency, to improve the administration of the Agreement, and, where relevant, contribute to its future evolution. Remarkable progress has been made on the Work Programme on Sustainable Procurement, with a draft final report based on the Committee's discussions having been circulated recently.<sup>112</sup> The report highlighted a number of specific ways in which sustainability objectives can be promoted by governments in their respective procurement activities, consistent with GPA requirements (see Box 3.6). Throughout the review period, the Secretariat, at the Committee's request, has worked to strengthen the new "e-GPA system", an interactive, automated web portal to enhance the accessibility and usability of the market access and other information provided by Parties pursuant to the Agreement.

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<sup>111</sup> Belarus was granted observer status in the GPA Committee while still being in the process of accession to the WTO. The GPA, in its text (Article XXI), provides for the right for WTO Observers to become observers in the GPA Committee.

<sup>112</sup> Document GPA/WPS/SP/13, dated 1 October 2018.



### Box 3.6 Sustainable Public Procurement

The Work Programme on Sustainable Procurement of the WTO Committee on Government Procurement was established in 2012, at the time of the conclusion of the renegotiation of the GPA. Under the Work Programme, most GPA Parties have provided inputs on sustainable procurement policies, goals and legislation. The WTO Secretariat compiled all the submissions into a document, which was circulated in October 2016.<sup>a</sup> In addition, the Committee held a symposium on sustainable procurement in February 2017.<sup>b</sup> The symposium featured contributions from a broad range of experts on sustainability issues.

Among the main takeaways from the Committee's symposium was that the revised GPA provides significant scope for the reflection of sustainability considerations in procurement covered by the Agreement, particularly with respect to environmental or "green" policy objectives. Recently, a draft report on sustainable procurement was circulated by the Secretariat upon the request of the Committee.<sup>c</sup> In addition to the "green procurement" objectives which are favoured by most Parties and referenced in the revised GPA, some Parties also favour the promotion of "social" aspects of sustainable procurement (e.g. labour rights), consistent with the Agreement.

a Document GPA/WPS/SP/10, dated 12 October 2016.

b Document GPA/W/341, dated 30 May 2017.

c Document GPA/WPS/SP/13, dated 1 October 2018.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Dispute Settlement

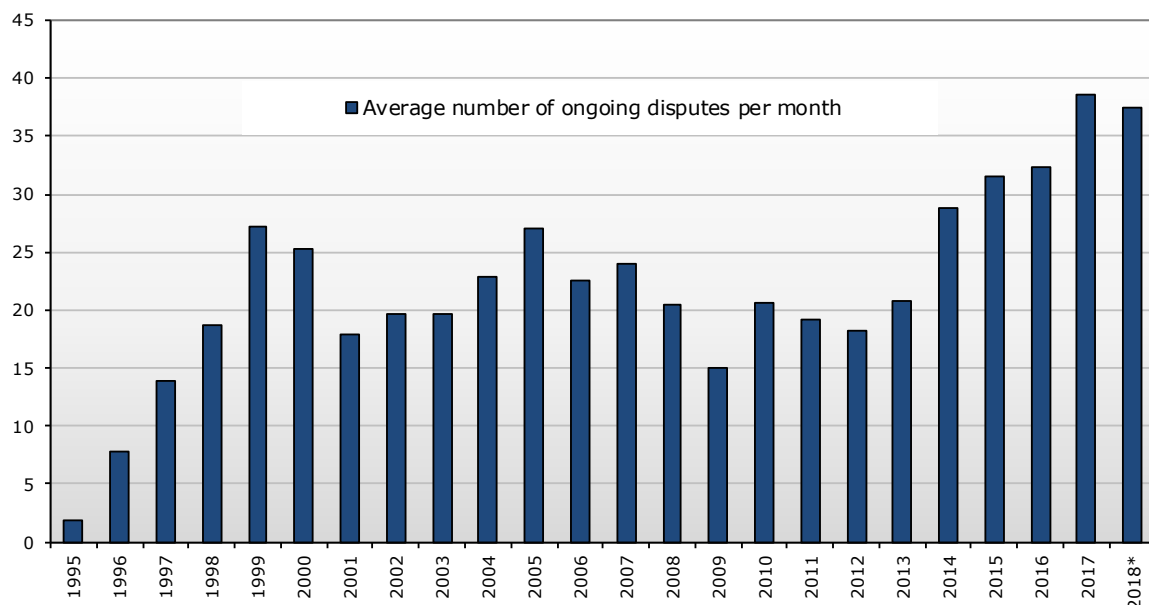
3.175. The high level of dispute settlement activity witnessed in previous years continued throughout the review period. Between October 2017 and October 2018, there were on average 36 ongoing panel, appellate and arbitration proceedings each month (see Chart 3.23 below). Panels, the Appellate Body and arbitrators circulated 23 dispute settlement reports during this time. This included 17 panel reports, five Appellate Body reports and one arbitral decision regarding the reasonable period of time for implementation of DSB recommendations and rulings.

3.176. During the review period, Members filed a significantly increased number of complaints about alleged breaches of WTO Agreements by other Members, thereby demonstrating a continued reliance on WTO dispute settlement procedures. Between mid-October 2017 and mid-October 2018, Members requested consultations in 39 cases, more than twice the number of requests filed during the previous review period. Thirty-five of these requests concerned new disputes, while in four cases Members sought proceedings on compliance with past DSB rulings. Sixteen new panels were established by the Dispute Settlement Body and, following their establishment, 12 new panels were formally composed through the appointment of panellists. In addition, as of mid-October 2018, eight established panels remained in the process of composition. The number of cases in respect of which panels had been established or panel requests were pending, as well as the exceptionally high number of requests for consultations filed by Members in recent months, foreshadows a potential surge in workload for the Secretariat in the near future.

3.177. The number of disputes pending before the Appellate Body has steadily increased over the last year. By mid-October 2018, 11 appeals were pending, including two exceptionally large ones: the compliance proceedings in one of the large civil aircraft cases and the appeals of the panel reports in *Australia – Tobacco Plain Packaging*. From September 2017 to September 2018, the Appellate Body issued seven reports.

3.178. The subject matter of disputes brought to the WTO continues to span a wide range of agreements, including the GATT 1994, the Anti-Dumping Agreement, the SCM Agreement, the SPS Agreement, the TBT Agreement, the GATS, the TRIPS Agreement and the Agreement on Agriculture. A high number of recently-filed complaints concern provisions of the Safeguards Agreement, as well as Articles I, II and XIX of the GATT 1994. The first request for consultations citing the TFA has also been made. As in previous years, both developed and developing country Members have been involved in dispute settlement proceedings, as complainants, respondents and third parties.



**Chart 3.23 Average annual number of ongoing proceedings per month**

\* 2018 data based on the average of the number of active disputes from January to September.

Note: Several disputes are counted as one if they deal with the same subject matter. Annual averages are calculated on the basis of the number of ongoing proceedings per month (January to December) over the yearly period concerned (e.g. in 2017, 39 proceedings were ongoing per month, on average).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

## Trade and Environment

3.179. Debates at recent meetings of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) have raised important global issues at the intersection between trade and environmental policies. For instance, delegations have discussed and shared information on, *inter alia*, their trade-related climate mitigation policies, approaches regarding the inclusion of environmental provisions in RTAs, strategies to promote a sustainable ocean economy, efforts to ensure the sound management of chemicals and wastes, the promotion of green and biological products and sustainability certification schemes, experiences in the efficient use of natural resources, and their actions on fossil fuel subsidy reform.<sup>113</sup>

3.180. On climate change, several delegations presented the trade elements of their nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement. Delegations were also briefed on developments taking place in other forums with potential trade effects, such as at the International Maritime Organization and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Several delegations expressed their interest in discussing trade and climate change in a more focused manner at the CTE. Some other delegations believed climate change should not be discussed in the WTO, as the issues under the Paris Agreement were delicate, and part of a balanced and long-term process of negotiation.<sup>114</sup>

3.181. Several delegations<sup>115</sup> acknowledged the importance of fossil fuel subsidy reform, shared their experience in this area, and supported continued discussions of the topic in the CTE, including any potential role for the WTO. Some other delegations noted that the phasing-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encouraged wasteful consumption was a voluntary G20 initiative not linked to the WTO, and were of the view that the WTO was not the appropriate venue to discuss such matters. At the 28 June 2018 CTE meeting<sup>116</sup> discussions continued on this topic, with the signatories

<sup>113</sup> See Annual Report 2017, WT/CTE/24. See also, Minutes of the June 2018 CTE meeting, WT/CTE/M/65.

<sup>114</sup> See Annual Report 2017, WT/CTE/24, paragraph 21.

<sup>115</sup> Annual Report 2017, WT/CTE/24, paragraphs 12-13.

<sup>116</sup> See Minutes of the June 2018 CTE meeting, WT/CTE/M/65, paras. 1.1-1.19.

to the Statement on Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform delivered at the MC11 last year (WT/MIN(17)/54) briefing the CTE on the initiative.

### **Fishery Subsidies**

3.182. During the reporting period, work on fisheries subsidies in the Negotiating Group on Rules intensified, with a view to fulfilling the MC11 Ministerial Decision to complete these negotiations in 2019. This work, which has taken place on the basis of agreed work programmes, has involved a range of activities, including technical discussions and workshops, thematic discussions, streamlining of the working texts, and a structured brainstorming process using Incubator Groups. The aim of these activities is to increase the understanding of Members' differences points of view, and to develop ideas to bridge the gaps. The work in 2019 will aim to build upon these elements to develop specific solutions that can attract consensus.

3.183. The Ministerial Decision incorporates the main elements of SDG Target 14.6 including its deadline. It instructs Members to engage constructively in the fisheries subsidies negotiations with a view to adopting, by MC12, comprehensive and effective disciplines that prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing country Members and LDC Members should be an integral part of these negotiations.

3.184. The following box by the OECD looks at fisheries' subsidies.

### Box 3.7 Fisheries Subsidies – Government Support Amounts to 20% of Earnings

Fisheries policies in 38 countries (33 OECD and 5 other important fishing economies) transferred USD 13 billion to fishers in 2015. This means that for every dollar earned by fishers (the value of their landings), an additional 20 cents were provided as some form of public support. Of these transfers, on average, 47% was provided through measures likely to increase fishing effort, most importantly policies that lower the price of fuel. The balance of support, approximately 53%, was spent on general services support to the sector. General services support includes such things as port infrastructure and the cost of fisheries management (see full list below<sup>a</sup>). The OECD Review of Fisheries regularly reports on how the support is provided and how it has evolved over time, as well as providing context related to other policies, management and developments in the fishing sector.

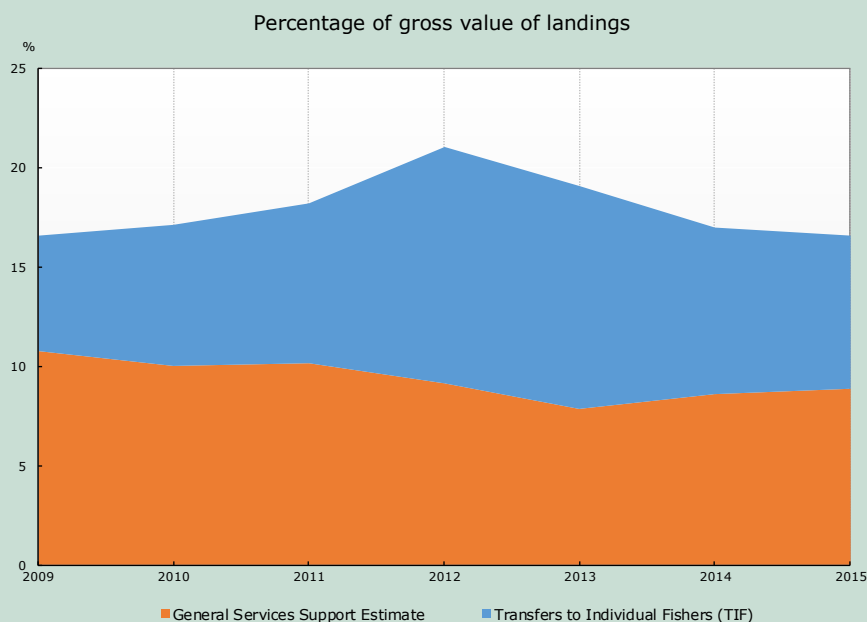
As illustrated in the figure below, the OECD Fisheries Support Estimate (FSE) database<sup>b</sup> shows a decline in overall support since 2012 and a shift from transfers to individual fishers (TIF) towards general services support policies (GSSE), measures less likely to increase fishing effort.

Overall, policy efforts to restore threatened fish stocks have had mixed results. Concerns regarding the sustainability of global fisheries are reflected in the fact that some 40% of fish stocks with measurable management targets set by governments are failing to meet those targets. And that story is incomplete, as many more stocks are not measured in a manner that will lead to an accurate assessment.

Harvests of wild fish continue to trend downward in aggregate. In some cases, this is due to the effects of declining fish stocks, while in other cases, greater control of overfishing has also contributed. The increasing value of fish products has moderated the effects of reduced landings on revenue. However, unit values and value of landings have both been declining since their peak in 2011.

Global aquaculture production (includes aquatic plants), by contrast, continues to display strong growth, and already exceeds the volume of catch from wild fisheries. Average annual aquaculture growth has accelerated and now averages 2.1% per year. Globally, it is even more rapid, at 6% per year. Moreover, average prices of aquaculture products are also increasing, providing an extra boost to the value of the aquaculture sector. Most governments have policies in place to further support the development of aquaculture as a source of nutritious food and a contributor to local economic development.

#### Evolution of budgetary support to fisheries, 2009-15



<sup>a</sup> General services includes payment for access to other countries' waters, provision of infrastructure, marketing and promotion, transfers supporting fishing communities, education and training, research and development, management of resources, and a miscellaneous category for other forms not otherwise classified.

<sup>b</sup> The FSE contains data on budgetary policies supportive of the fisheries sector and are classified using a consistent method. The FSE includes all OECD member countries with significant marine fisheries as well as other economies, totalling 38 countries to date. This includes programmes that provide payments to individual fishers such as payments for modernisation or decommissioning of fishing vessels. It also includes policies that provide an overall benefit to the sector, such as investments in port infrastructure or monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS). Non-budgetary support such as excise tax exemptions for fuel use is also included when it is directed at the fishing sector.

Source: OECD.

## Electronic Commerce

3.185. Discussions on electronic commerce in the WTO are continuing under two parallel tracks – multilaterally under the General Council and its relevant subsidiary bodies, and under the Joint Statement on e-commerce initiative. At the multilateral level, efforts are ongoing to reinvigorate the 1998 Work Programme on Electronic Commerce as agreed by Ministers at MC11. At its session in July 2018, the General Council reviewed progress in the Work Programme based on reports submitted by the Chairs of the Goods, Services and TRIPS Councils and the Committee on Trade and Development. In addition, India and South Africa submitted a document, *Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmissions: Need for a Re-think*. The General Council Chair continues to consult with Members on how best to discuss the moratorium.

3.186. Under the Joint Statement on the e-commerce initiative, exploratory discussions among a group of Members towards future negotiations on trade-related aspects of e-commerce are continuing. Discussions are grouped into four themes: enabling digital trade/e-commerce, openness and digital trade/e-commerce, trust and digital trade/e-commerce, and cross-cutting issues including development, transparency and cooperation. While the initiative was endorsed by a diverse group of more than 70 Members, participation in the discussions is open to all Members. Other Members have expressed opposition to these discussions, often on the grounds that they are not part of the current negotiating mandate.

## Investment Facilitation

3.187. The Joint Ministerial Statement on Investment Facilitation for Development<sup>117</sup> co-sponsored by a group of 70 WTO Members at MC11 called for the start of "structured discussions with the aim of developing a multilateral framework on investment facilitation". According to the proponents, investment facilitation was about creating a more efficient, predictable and "investment-friendly" business climate – by making it easier for investors to establish operations and conduct their day-to-day business – and that such an agreement could facilitate global investment in the same way that the WTO was helping to facilitate global trade with its Trade Facilitation Agreement. However, other Members opposed discussions of investment facilitation in the WTO, mostly on the grounds that it is not part of the current negotiating mandate.

3.188. Between mid-May and mid-October 2018, three meetings, organized by the proponents<sup>118</sup>, were held and addressed the following topics: (i) improving the transparency and predictability of investment measures, (ii) streamlining and speeding up administrative procedures and requirements and (iii) enhancing international cooperation, information sharing, the exchange of best practices, and relations with relevant stakeholders, including dispute prevention.

## Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

3.189. Since MC11, the 88 WTO Members of the Informal Working Group on MSMEs – the so-called Friends of MSMEs – have met regularly to follow the road map of thematic sessions that was developed at the beginning of 2018. Some Members oppose or do not support discussions on this issue, noting that it is not part of the original Doha Round discussions and that focusing on DDA issues should be the priority. The discussions in the Informal Working Group on MSMEs aim to identify a set of concrete, horizontal and non-discriminatory measures that Members could take to strengthen MSME participation in global trade. The Group, led by a nine-Member Coordinating Committee<sup>119</sup>, has held four open-ended meetings since May 2018 to discuss issues related to access to information, trade finance, trade facilitation and logistics, and technical assistance and capacity building. Forthcoming meetings include follow-up sessions on trade finance and trade facilitation as well as a discussion on how digital technologies can help MSMEs join global markets. To date, the

<sup>117</sup> WT/MIN(17)/59.

<sup>118</sup> On 28 June, 23 July and 21 September.

<sup>119</sup> The Coordinating Committee consists of Uruguay, as general coordinator, and eight co-coordinators: Bahrain, Kingdom of; Côte d'Ivoire; El Salvador; Hong Kong, China; Nigeria; Pakistan; the Philippines; and Switzerland.

Friends of MSMEs, which represent all major regions and all levels of development, account for almost 79% of world exports and 65% of global GDP.

### **Women's Economic Empowerment**

3.190. In December 2017, 121 WTO Members and Observers agreed to support the Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment. This was the first collective initiative in the history of the Organization to increase the participation of women in trade. The Declaration provides a platform to better understand the links between trade and women's empowerment. The signatories to the Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment have committed to organize a series of six thematic workshops (from March 2018 to June 2019) to explore how trade can promote women's economic empowerment and to share their best practices and national experiences along with case stories from the private sector. Three workshops have already taken place. During these discussions Members first outlined the importance of gender-based analysis in trade, examined the current body of work and discussed ways how best to advance this work. Some Members oppose discussions on this issue, noting that the empowerment of women is not a trade issue.

#### 4 POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE IN SERVICES

4.1. Over the period covered by this Report, several new measures affecting trade in services were introduced by WTO Members and Observers. The majority of these are horizontal in nature, affecting different modes of supply across various sectors. Most sector-specific measures relate to telecommunication, ICT and audiovisual services, financial services, and transport services. Even though the majority of the new measures are trade-facilitating, a number of them appear to be trade-restrictive. Annex 4 provides additional information on 132 entries for new measures, which concern 59 WTO Members and two Observers.

##### Measures affecting supply through commercial presence

4.2. Various governments introduced changes to their investment policy that affect the supply through commercial presence (mode 3) across various sectors. In most cases, these new measures eased ownership restrictions or other limits on foreign investment. For example, in [Angola](#), the new Private Investment Law, which entered into effect on 26 June 2018, liberalized conditions of access for foreign investments by eliminating the general requirement that foreign investors partner with domestic firms and the 65% limit on foreign capital participation. The new Law maintains local content requirements in certain areas governed by a specific legal framework, such as the oil and gas sector. In [Zimbabwe](#), the Government removed, in March 2018, the requirement that at least 51% of all businesses be owned by indigenous Zimbabweans. The requirement is only maintained for companies involved in the diamond and platinum extractive industries.

4.3. In [China](#), the Government released a new negative list for foreign investment, which provides for 22 opening-up measures in various sectors, and reduces from 63 to 48 the number of activities where foreign investment is restricted or prohibited. With respect to services sectors, the new Negative List, for example, increases the foreign shareholding limit to 51% in securities companies, security investment fund management companies, futures companies, and life insurance companies. It also removes restrictions on the construction and operation of petrol stations, as well as on grain purchasing and wholesaling, and repeals the prohibition on investment in Internet cafes.

4.4. [India](#) now allows FDI in single brand retailing up to 100% under the automatic route. Previously, FDI above 49% required government approval. Further, foreign airlines are allowed to invest up to 49% in Air India under the approval route, subject to certain conditions. [Lao PDR](#) abolished the general requirement that foreign investors establishing a company invest a minimum of USD 120,000, while, in the [United Arab Emirates](#), amendments to the Commercial Companies Law gave the Government the power to relax the requirement that at least 51% of shares in limited liability companies be held by nationals of the United Arab Emirates. [Myanmar](#) now allows companies that have up to 35% of their shares held by foreign nationals to be considered domestic companies under the law, thereby permitting foreign investors to participate in business activities that were previously limited to wholly domestically-owned companies. The [Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's](#) General Investment Authority extended the duration of foreign investment licences to five years, up from one year.

4.5. In addition, a number of governments took steps aiming to streamline procedures or otherwise facilitate investment in services and other sectors. These include [Angola](#), [Argentina](#), [Botswana](#), [Cuba](#) and [Thailand](#). For example, Botswana established a new "One Stop Service Centre", aimed at facilitating investment by minimizing inconveniences and impediments, and at improving the ease of doing business. The Government of Cuba amended certain rules governing foreign investment, simplifying procedures for the approval of projects, including through the elimination of the requirement of a feasibility study.

4.6. A number of Members adopted new measures in relation to investment that tighten review procedures, for national security purposes. In [Norway](#), the new National Security Law provides the Government with the authority to control acquisitions of Norwegian companies that play a crucial role in supporting critical national services. Acquisitions of at least one third of any business of vital security interest are required to be notified to the relevant ministry. The ministry has 60 business days to decide whether to approve or prohibit the transaction, or impose conditions. In the [United Kingdom](#), a new measure lowers the threshold for the review of mergers and takeovers in certain key strategic sectors relating to national security. Transactions involving military use and dual use technologies, as well as computing hardware and quantum technology, will be subject to review

where the UK turnover of the target exceeds GBP 1 million (previously GBP 70 million) or where the acquirer obtains an equity stake of 25% or more.

4.7. In the United States, the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act (FIRRMA) expands the jurisdiction and powers of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), which reviews foreign investments for potential national security issues. FIRRMA expands the scope of CFIUS' purview by covering "emerging or foundational technologies" as well as non-controlling investments by foreign entities that involve critical technologies, infrastructure or personal data of American citizens. In Italy, a new measure approved in December 2017 extended the Government's "golden powers", which allow blocking and imposing conditions on takeovers by non-EU companies in high technology sectors in cases of threats to national security or public order. Sectors concerned now include critical or sensitive infrastructure such as storage and management of data, as well as critical technology, including artificial intelligence.

4.8. Finally, in Tanzania, a new measure affecting trade through modes 1 and 3 imposes preferences for local services and suppliers. Among other things, the regulations require a non-indigenous Tanzanian company wishing to provide services in the mining industry to incorporate a joint venture company in which a local company holds equity participation of at least 20%. The regulations also require risks relating to mining activities to be insured through an indigenous brokerage company and, where applicable, an indigenous reinsurance broker. Companies engaged in mining activities can only retain the services of a Tanzanian legal practitioner, or a legal firm whose principal office is located in Tanzania. In a similar fashion, the regulations require the maintenance of a bank account with an indigenous Tanzanian bank, and the conduct of financial transactions with banks in the country.<sup>120</sup>

### Communication services

4.9. Several Members adopted new measures in relation to the communications sector or to Internet and other network-enabled services.

4.10. For instance, in Viet Nam, on 12 June 2018, the National Assembly adopted a cybersecurity law requiring domestic and foreign companies to store their data in Viet Nam for a certain duration of time specified by authorities. The law applies to companies that (i) provide services in Viet Nam over telecommunication networks or the Internet or value-added services in cyberspace; and (ii) engage in the collection, exploitation, analysis, and processing of personal information, data about users' relationships, and data generated by users in Viet Nam. The law also requires foreign suppliers to establish a branch or representative office in Viet Nam.

4.11. Kenya adopted a new cybercrime law that covers the investigation and prosecution of computer and cybercrimes, including cyber-harassment, child pornography, computer-borne forgery, cyber-stalking, cyber-bullying, and the publication of false information. In Tanzania, a new licensing regime was introduced for online content creators, including traditional media websites, online TV and radio channels, bloggers, and podcasters. Providers of online content are required to store providers' details for 12 months, and have the means to identify their sources and disclose financial sponsors. The measure also forbids online content that is false, indecent, causes annoyance, or threatens public disorder or national security. In Uganda, the Government introduced a tax on users accessing 60 over-the-top (OTT) social media mobile apps. Users are required to pay UGX 200 shillings a day, a fee that is collected by telecom companies. The Government also introduced a 0.5% excise duty on mobile money transactions. Zambia approved, in August 2018, the issuance of a Statutory Instrument to introduce a daily levy of ZMK 0.30 for Internet phone calls. The levy will be collected by the national fixed-line incumbent, Zamtel, and Internet services providers.

4.12. In Egypt, a new anti-cybercrime law was adopted to regulate online activities. It addresses various types of offences, including infringement of privacy, immoral content, hacking, and threats to national security. It grants the investigative authority the power to block foreign or domestic

<sup>120</sup> Indigenous companies are defined as those with at least 51% of equity owned by Tanzanian citizens, and at least 80% of executive and senior management positions and 100% of other positions held by Tanzanian citizens.

websites that publish content threatening national security or the national economy. Providers of communications and IT services are required to store records for 180 days.

4.13. China adopted a new e-Commerce Law on 31 August 2018. Among other things, the Law prohibits e-commerce operators from abusing their dominant position to exclude or restrict competition. It also provides that platform operators shall be liable to consumers if they fail to verify the qualifications of operators on their platforms or to protect consumers' safety in respect of goods or services that may affect human health. On 1 May 2018, China's new standards on personal data protection came into force. These new measures requires that personal data subjects be notified of the type of information being collected, and the subjects' consent be obtained prior to collecting the personal information. Collection of sensitive personal information can only take place with explicit consent. The new policy also requires security impact assessments for the outsourcing of data processing, the sharing and transfer of personal information, and the disclosure of personal information to the public. In another development, the use of unlicensed virtual private networks (VPNs) was banned in China on 1 April 2018. The Circular on Cleaning Up and Regulating the Internet Access Service Market requires all VPN providers to be licensed by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), and mandates pre-approval for cross-border business operations intending to set up their own or lease private leased circuits (PLCs), including VPNs. If approved, PLCs can only be used to handle internal official business, and not to connect onshore and offshore data centres or business platforms to carry out telecom business operations.

4.14. In the Russian Federation, new rules for owners of electronic messenger services came into force on 1 January 2018. Owners are required to register with the national regulator and to maintain certain information on local servers. In Thailand, the Cabinet approved, on 22 May 2018, the Draft Data Protection Act, setting out requirements for data controllers and processors that collect, use, or disclose personal data of individuals in Thailand. Cross-border data transfer would only be allowed to countries that provide sufficient personal data protection, in compliance with guidelines of the Personal Data Protection Committee. The European Union's new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) entered into force on 25 May 2018, strengthening the rights of data subjects and imposing new requirements on organizations that process personal data. France enacted a new data protection law, which broadens the supervisory power of the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL) and transposes the Police-Justice Directive into French Law. The law complements the GDPR by addressing the processing of data related to criminal convictions, security measures, health data, genetic data, biometric data, and social security numbers.

4.15. In India, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) approved the recommendations on net neutrality put forward by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). The new policy directives issued by the DoT provide that Internet access services should not discriminate against, restrict, or interfere in the treatment of content, including through blocking, degrading, slowing down, or granting preferential speeds or treatment to any content. In the United States, the Federal Communications Commission, in January 2018, repealed net neutrality rules previously put in place.

4.16. Benin entered the free mobile roaming zone established by countries in West Africa (Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo). Travellers in the region benefit from outgoing calls billed at local rates, plus free incoming calls (currently capped at 300 incoming minutes per month). The Government also withdrew a decree adopted in August 2018 that imposed a tax of XOF 5 per megabyte of data used for OTT and social media apps, as well as a 5% levy on the value of voice and SMS communications. In Chile, the Parliament approved a bill establishing an obligation for providers of fixed and mobile Internet services to provide guaranteed minimum Internet access speed, while Niger abolished its tax on incoming international traffic. Togo set new minimum levels of service under the universal service scheme. The decree updates the scope of universal service to, most notably, include Internet access and set minimum Internet bandwidth requirements.

4.17. A number of policy changes during the period under review relate more specifically to audiovisual services. The Government of Italy adopted new measures regulating the audiovisual sector, including increased quotas for Italian and EU content. The overall quota for the broadcasting of EU works will increase from 50% to 53% in 2019, to 56% in 2020, and to 60% in 2021. For public broadcasters, at least half of that quota must be used for Italian works, and at least one third in the case of private broadcasters. In the European Union, the European Parliament voted, on 2 October 2018, to update the rules on audiovisual media services (Audiovisual Media Services Directive), which will apply to broadcasters, video-on-demand and video-sharing platforms. The



revisions include requirements that on-demand catalogues contain at least a 30% share of European content.

4.18. Egypt adopted new legislation regulating the press and media, effective since 22 September 2018. The law treats social media accounts of over 5,000 followers as media outlets, and places them under the supervision of the media regulator, the Supreme Council for the Administration of the Media. Newspapers, media outlets and websites can be blocked if found to be disseminating false news or inciting violence, discrimination, or violation of laws. The new measure requires a company seeking to establish an online video channel on a website to have capital of EGP 2.5 million. In Turkey, a new measure requires media service suppliers to obtain a broadcasting licence, and platform operators to obtain authorization from Turkey's Radio and Television Supreme Council in order to provide radio, television and on-demand broadcasting services on the Internet. In December 2017, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia approved licensing regulations for cinemas, lifting the long-standing prohibition on this activity.

### Financial services

4.19. Various policy changes took place during the review period in the financial services sector. For instance, since 28 June 2018, China allows foreign investors to engage in the insurance agency and public insurance loss adjustment businesses. Another new measure removed foreign ownership limits on new financial asset investment companies established by commercial banks. In March 2018, it lifted some limits on the operation of foreign-owned non-banking payment institutions.

4.20. In India, the Reserve Bank issued a Directive requiring all payment system operators to store data within the country. Operators are given a maximum of six months to comply with the requirement and to submit an audit report certifying compliance. In addition, the Reserve Bank announced that sub-targets for lending to small and marginal farmers and micro enterprises will be applied to foreign banks with 20 branches or more.

4.21. Indonesia adopted a measure requiring domestic retail debit and credit transactions to be processed through switching institutions located in Indonesia and licensed by the Bank of Indonesia. The measure also imposed a 20% foreign equity cap on firms seeking to obtain switching licences to participate in the National Payment Gateway (NPG). Foreign firms wishing to process transactions through the NPG must form partnership agreements with licensed NPG switch institutions and agree to transfer technology as part of these agreements. Also, a measure effective since 31 October 2017 requires that insurance services for the maritime transport of exports of coal and crude palm oil, and imports of rice, be supplied by national companies. Pursuant to an amendment to this measure that took effect on 1 August 2018, Indonesian insurance companies must be utilized without exception, thereby removing the possibility of obtaining insurance from foreign companies if domestic services are not available.

4.22. In South Africa, the new Insurance Act prohibits, since 18 January 2018, foreign-based insurers and reinsurers from soliciting business in South Africa on a cross-border basis, except where foreign reinsurers conduct business through a branch established in South Africa.

### Transport services

4.23. With respect to maritime transport, a measure effective since 1 February 2018 in the Russian Federation grants to vessels sailing under the flag of the Russian Federation the exclusive right to transport oil, natural gas, gas condensate, and coal produced in the Russian Federation or in an area which is under the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation and loaded onto vessels located in the Northern Sea Route area. The Russian Federation also established, on 3 August 2018, an open register of ships, which provides for the granting of the right to sail under the national flag of the Russian Federation to ships that are owned by foreign citizens, foreign legal entities or legal persons registered in accordance with the Federal Law on International Companies.

4.24. Since 31 October 2017, Indonesia requires that Indonesian-flag vessels be used for exports of coal and crude palm oil, and for imports of rice. Amendments to this measure, which took effect on 1 August 2018, introduced additional requirements for the verification of compliance with the measure before imports or exports are made. A technical search procedure, which is to be conducted by authorized surveyors, must be carried out before the loading of goods for import or export.

4.25. In India, since 22 May 2018, foreign-flag ships no longer require a licence to engage in coastal shipping trade in India for carriage by sea of specified agricultural, fisheries, animal husbandry and horticultural commodities. Viet Nam eliminated, on 20 February 2018, the requirement that foreign investors establish joint ventures with local enterprises in order to provide logistics services. China now allows foreign services suppliers to set up wholly-owned enterprises to operate international shipping transportation, international ship management businesses, international shipping agencies, international maritime cargo handling businesses, and international maritime container station and depot services.

#### Other services sectors

4.26. As regards distribution services, Myanmar now allows wholly foreign-owned enterprises to operate retail and wholesale trade businesses in the country. Previously, foreign suppliers were required to establish joint ventures with domestic investors. The measure also provides that wholly foreign-owned enterprises and joint ventures can now engage in the trading and distribution of all commodities. However, neither foreign-owned enterprises nor joint ventures are allowed to operate minimarts or convenience stores with a floor area of less than 929 m<sup>2</sup>. Viet Nam eased regulations in relation to the activities of foreign-invested enterprises engaged in trade in goods and related activities, while the Republic of Iraq, an Observer, introduced a law limiting the importation of goods for resale to registered commercial agents, which can only be Iraqi nationals or companies wholly-owned by Iraqi nationals.

4.27. With respect to education services, Egypt adopted new legislation that allows foreign universities to provide their services through commercial presence, and Myanmar now allows full foreign capital participation in private education institutions. The President of Indonesia instructed his Cabinet to allow 100% foreign ownership in universities, and to permit foreign institutions to open campuses in the country.

4.28. In relation to postal and courier services, Argentina increased, from USD 1,000 to USD 3,000, the maximum limit for purchases abroad that are imported through courier services. The European Union adopted a new measure aimed at improving regulatory oversight and transparency of tariffs, supporting competition, and increasing consumer confidence in cross-border e-commerce. Among others, it requires all parcel delivery service providers to submit to the national regulatory authority of the Member State in which they are established information about the characteristics of services offered, as well as their general terms and conditions, including complaints procedures for users and any potential limitations of liability.

4.29. Japan adopted new legislation allowing casino gambling at integrated resorts. A maximum of three licences will be granted for the establishment of casinos along with facilities for meetings, incentive travel, conventions and exhibitions. With respect to medical services, China's authorities issued new guidelines to further regulate online medical diagnoses and treatment. Among other things, the guidelines allow licensed medical institutes to provide online services.

#### Services supplied through the movement of natural persons

4.30. Various Members adopted measures affecting the supply of services through the movement of natural persons. For instance, the United Kingdom exempted non-EU doctors and nurses from the UK Tier 2 visa cap, and Estonia took steps to facilitate the arrival of certain foreign specialists by exempting them from the annual immigration quota, and extending from nine months to one year the maximum period of short-term employment allowed without a working permit. Australia launched, on 1 July 2018, the Global Talent Scheme (GTS), a 12-month pilot scheme providing businesses with a way to sponsor overseas workers to fill highly-skilled and specialized positions that cannot be filled by Australian workers or through other visa programmes. Also, on 18 March 2018, Australia's new Temporary Skill Shortage Visa replaced the Temporary Work (Skilled) Visa (subclass 457).

4.31. In May 2018, Brazil increased the validity of its Short-Term Technical Visa to 180 cumulative, rather than consecutive, days per year, and allowed foreign nationals travelling under the visa to provide technical assistance to multiple companies. Hong Kong, China launched the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS), which provides a fast-track arrangement allowing eligible technology companies and institutes to contract technology talent from outside the territory, and

Chile introduced a new temporary "Opportunity Visa" (Temporary Residence Visa for Workers) for foreigners holding graduate degrees who wish to work in Chile.

4.32. In Chinese Taipei, the duration of work permits for foreign special professionals was extended from three to five years, and a new visa category, the Employment Gold Card, enables foreign special professionals to obtain work permits, residence visas, residency permits and re-entry permits in a single card and with a single online application process. Thailand created a new SMART visa programme to attract qualified foreigners that are experts, senior executives, investors and start-up entrepreneurs. This programme provides for the possibility of multiple entries and the option of working for the duration of the validity of the visa without needing to obtain a separate work permit.

4.33. For its part, Switzerland increased the yearly ceiling for work permits for highly-qualified workers from non-EU/EFTA States by 500 in 2018, reaching a total of 8,000. 4,500 work permits are allocated for short stays (L permits), and 3,500 for long stays (B permits). Further, a new measure requires employers hiring foreign workers to undertake a labour market test for certain occupations where the rate of unemployment is above 8%. This threshold will be lowered to 5% on 1 January 2020.

4.34. In Nigeria, since 5 February 2018, the Ministry of Interior no longer grants visas to foreign workers whose skills are readily available in the country. In January 2018, Oman banned the recruitment of foreign workers by private companies for a range of occupations across various sectors, such as information and technology, insurance, media, aviation, engineering, and medical services. It subsequently extended by six months the temporary suspension of the recruitment of foreign nationals with respect to certain categories of persons. In the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, a prohibition on foreign workers in 12 additional sectors gradually entered into force from September 2018.

4.35. Table 4.1 below presents information on air services agreements (ASAs) concluded during the period under review. These include both new ASAs and revisions of pre-existing ones. As far as can be assessed from available sources, the vast majority of these ASAs provides for access conditions that are more liberal than was previously the case.

**Table 4.1 Air Services Agreements concluded or amended during the reporting period (October 2017 – October 2018)**

Parties		Date of signature	Source
United Arab Emirates	Bahrain, Kingdom of	09.10.2017	<a href="http://www.ttnworldwide.com/Article/268580/UAE,-Bahrain-sign-key-aviation-agreement">http://www.ttnworldwide.com/Article/268580/UAE,-Bahrain-sign-key-aviation-agreement</a>
Bangladesh	Canada	Autumn 2017	<a href="http://en.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/news/164773/Air-Canada-to-start-Dhaka-Toronto-operation">http://en.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/news/164773/Air-Canada-to-start-Dhaka-Toronto-operation</a>
Nigeria	Canada	09.11.2017	<a href="http://aitonline.tv/post-nigeria_canada_sign_air_service_agreement">http://aitonline.tv/post-nigeria_canada_sign_air_service_agreement</a>
Philippines	Republic of Korea	14.11.2017	<a href="http://thestandard.com.ph/business/transport-tourism/251625/ph-korea-expand-flight-entitlements.html">http://thestandard.com.ph/business/transport-tourism/251625/ph-korea-expand-flight-entitlements.html</a>
Haiti	Dominican Republic	22.11.2017	<a href="https://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/Haiti-Dominican-Republic-Sign-Air-Services-Agreement--20171122-0008.html">https://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/Haiti-Dominican-Republic-Sign-Air-Services-Agreement--20171122-0008.html</a>
Rwanda	Cabo Verde	24.11.2017	<a href="http://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/224159/">http://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/224159/</a>
China	Panama	11.2017	<a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/31/c_136938930.htm">http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/31/c_136938930.htm</a>
India	Greece	27.11.2017	<a href="https://centreforaviation.com/news/government-of-india-visit-of-minister-of-foreign-affairs-of-greece-to-india-november-25-28-2017-743630">https://centreforaviation.com/news/government-of-india-visit-of-minister-of-foreign-affairs-of-greece-to-india-november-25-28-2017-743630</a>
Nigeria	United Arab Emirates	09.12.2017	<a href="http://punchng.com/fg-signs-bilateral-air-service-agreement-with-uae/">http://punchng.com/fg-signs-bilateral-air-service-agreement-with-uae/</a>
Bahamas	Qatar	09.12.2017	<a href="http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Bahamas_signs_air_services_agreement_with_Qatar,_Australia_and_Finland">http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Bahamas_signs_air_services_agreement_with_Qatar,_Australia_and_Finland</a>
Bahamas	Australia	09.12.2017	<a href="http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Bahamas_signs_air_services_agreement_with_Qatar,_Australia_and_Finland">http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Bahamas_signs_air_services_agreement_with_Qatar,_Australia_and_Finland</a>

Parties		Date of signature	Source
Bahamas	Finland	09.12.2017	<a href="http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Bahamas_signs_air_services_agreement_with_Qatar,_Australia_and_Finland">http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Bahamas_signs_air_services_agreement_with_Qatar,_Australia_and_Finland</a>
China	European Union	15.12.2017	<a href="https://www.ch-aviation.com/portal/news/62450-china-inks-liberal-air-service-agreements-with-eu-uk">https://www.ch-aviation.com/portal/news/62450-china-inks-liberal-air-service-agreements-with-eu-uk</a>
China	United Kingdom	15.12.2017	<a href="https://www.ch-aviation.com/portal/news/62450-china-inks-liberal-air-service-agreements-with-eu-uk">https://www.ch-aviation.com/portal/news/62450-china-inks-liberal-air-service-agreements-with-eu-uk</a>
Russian Federation	Egypt	15.12.2017	<a href="https://centreforaviation.com/news/15-----750062">https://centreforaviation.com/news/15-----750062</a>
Kiribati	Tuvalu	18.12.2017	<a href="https://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/346780/kiribati-and-tuvalu-to-reconnect-through-air-service">https://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/346780/kiribati-and-tuvalu-to-reconnect-through-air-service</a>
Ghana	Qatar	24.12.2017	<a href="https://www.ghanacrusader.com/ghana-qatar-sign-4-economic-partnership-agreement-targeted-at-aviation-and-youth-development/">https://www.ghanacrusader.com/ghana-qatar-sign-4-economic-partnership-agreement-targeted-at-aviation-and-youth-development/</a>
Jordan	China	15.01.2018	<a href="http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?Site_Id=1&amp;lang=2&amp;NewsID=336128&amp;CatID=13&amp;Type=Home&amp;GType=1">http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?Site_Id=1&amp;lang=2&amp;NewsID=336128&amp;CatID=13&amp;Type=Home&amp;GType=1</a>
Canada	Israel	25.01.2018	<a href="https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/air-canada-welcomes-expanded-canada-israel-air-services-agreement-671144333.html">https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/air-canada-welcomes-expanded-canada-israel-air-services-agreement-671144333.html</a>
Nigeria	Algeria	02.2018	<a href="https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/">https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/</a>
Nigeria	Congo	02.2018	<a href="https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/">https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/</a>
Nigeria	China	02.2018	<a href="https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/">https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/</a>
Nigeria	Qatar	02.2018	<a href="https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/">https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/</a>
Nigeria	Singapore	02.2018	<a href="https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/">https://independent.ng/nigerias-air-services-pacts-algeria-others/</a>
Ukraine	Armenia	05.03.2018	<a href="https://www.kyivpost.com/ukraine-politics/ukraine-armenia-agree-liberalization-passenger-transportation-air-freight-transportation-road.html">https://www.kyivpost.com/ukraine-politics/ukraine-armenia-agree-liberalization-passenger-transportation-air-freight-transportation-road.html</a>
Singapore	Bangladesh	12.03.2018	<a href="https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/transport/singapore-bangladesh-expand-air-services-agreement">https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/transport/singapore-bangladesh-expand-air-services-agreement</a>
Rwanda	Nigeria	26.03.2018	<a href="http://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/231770">http://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/231770</a>
Saint Kitts and Nevis	United Arab Emirates	10.04.2018	<a href="https://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/death-penalty/st-kitts-nevis-signs-air-services-agreement-with-the-uae/">https://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/death-penalty/st-kitts-nevis-signs-air-services-agreement-with-the-uae/</a>
Qatar	Panama	11.04.2018	<a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-04/11/c_137103795.htm">http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-04/11/c_137103795.htm</a>
Grenada	United States	11.04.2018	<a href="http://www.travelweekly.com/Travel-News/Government/US-Grenada-remove-restrictions-on-air-service">http://www.travelweekly.com/Travel-News/Government/US-Grenada-remove-restrictions-on-air-service</a>
Ukraine	Moldova, Republic of	11.04.2018	<a href="https://www.kyivpost.com/business/ukraine-moldova-sign-air-transport-agreement.html">https://www.kyivpost.com/business/ukraine-moldova-sign-air-transport-agreement.html</a>
Uzbekistan	Russian Federation	11.04.2018	<a href="https://www.azernews.az/region/130310.html">https://www.azernews.az/region/130310.html</a>
Papua New Guinea	Australia	12.04.2018	<a href="https://postcourier.com.pg/parliament-votes-favour-revised-air-service-agreement/">https://postcourier.com.pg/parliament-votes-favour-revised-air-service-agreement/</a>
India	Morocco	April 2018	<a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/morocco-looks-to-double-tourist-footfalls-from-india-by-2019/articleshowprint/63958895.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/morocco-looks-to-double-tourist-footfalls-from-india-by-2019/articleshowprint/63958895.cms</a>
Jamaica	United States	10.05.2018	<a href="http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Ja,_US_sign_agreement_to_amend_2008_air_transport_accord?profile=1228">http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Ja,_US_sign_agreement_to_amend_2008_air_transport_accord?profile=1228</a>
Japan	Papua New Guinea	16.05.2018	<a href="https://postcourier.com.pg/japan-png-sign-air-service-agreement/">https://postcourier.com.pg/japan-png-sign-air-service-agreement/</a>
Rwanda	Ghana	21.05.2018	<a href="https://www.newtimes.co.rw/latest-news/rwanda-ghana-sign-air-service-agreement">https://www.newtimes.co.rw/latest-news/rwanda-ghana-sign-air-service-agreement</a>
Bangladesh	Austria	17.05.2018	<a href="http://www.theindependentbd.com/post/150933">http://www.theindependentbd.com/post/150933</a>
Canada	Serbia	21.05.2018	<a href="https://www.exyuaviation.com/2018/09/belgrade-toronto-flights-expected-in.html">https://www.exyuaviation.com/2018/09/belgrade-toronto-flights-expected-in.html</a>
Rwanda	Togo	22.05.2018	<a href="http://ktpress.rw/2018/05/angolatogo-sign-bilateral-air-service-agreement-with-rwanda/">http://ktpress.rw/2018/05/angolatogo-sign-bilateral-air-service-agreement-with-rwanda/</a>

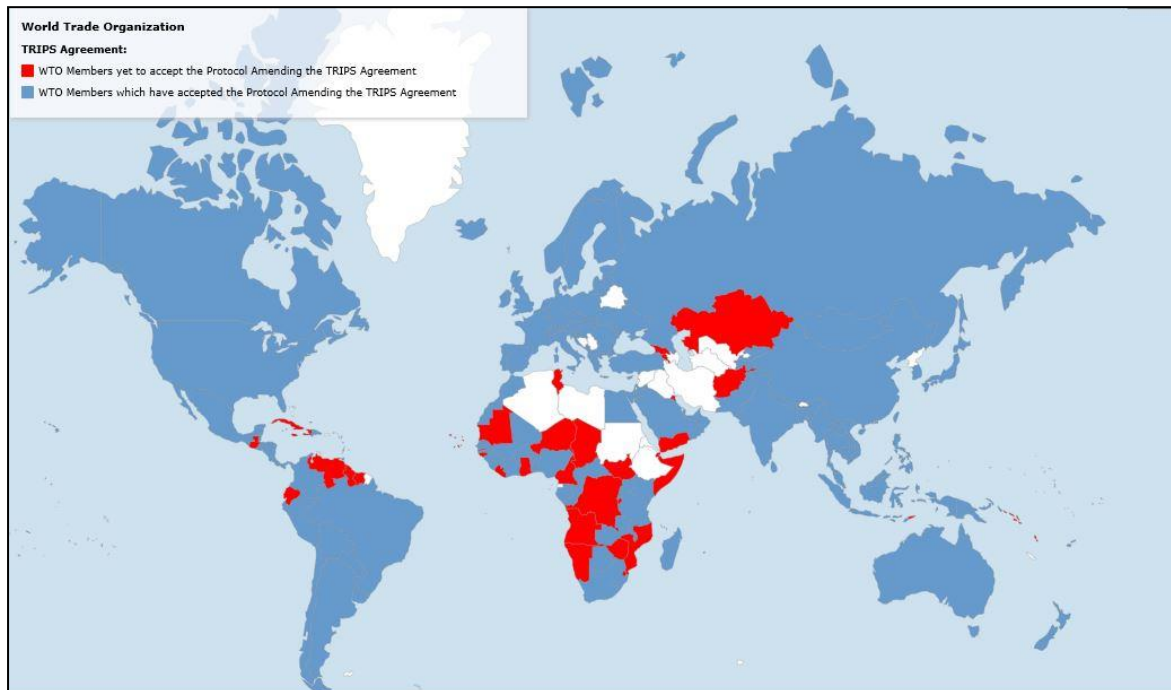
Parties		Date of signature	Source
Rwanda	Angola	23.05.2018	<a href="https://www.newtimes.co.rw/rwanda/angola-open-aviation-space-new-deal">https://www.newtimes.co.rw/rwanda/angola-open-aviation-space-new-deal</a>
Papua New Guinea	Marshall Islands	23.05.2018	<a href="https://www.pngindustrynews.net/infrastructure-and-services/news/1338747/new-routes-for-air-niugini">https://www.pngindustrynews.net/infrastructure-and-services/news/1338747/new-routes-for-air-niugini</a>
Ethiopia	Portugal	June 2018	<a href="http://www.2merkato.com/news/alerts/5386-ethiopia-signs-an-air-service-bilateral-agreement-with-portugal">http://www.2merkato.com/news/alerts/5386-ethiopia-signs-an-air-service-bilateral-agreement-with-portugal</a>
Nepal	Japan	18.06.2018	<a href="https://thehimalayantimes.com/business/nepal-japan-sign-amended-air-service-agreement/">https://thehimalayantimes.com/business/nepal-japan-sign-amended-air-service-agreement/</a>
Australia	India	22.06.2018	<a href="https://centreforaviation.com/news/australia-and-india-sign-new-air-services-agreement-liberalising-access-to-six-cities-on-each-side-813873">https://centreforaviation.com/news/australia-and-india-sign-new-air-services-agreement-liberalising-access-to-six-cities-on-each-side-813873</a>
India	Philippines	July 2018	<a href="http://www.bworldonline.com/direct-flights-to-india-expected-to-boost-two-way-visitor-traffic/">http://www.bworldonline.com/direct-flights-to-india-expected-to-boost-two-way-visitor-traffic/</a>
Rwanda	Mozambique	21.07.2018	<a href="https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-mozambique-sign-five-bilateral-pacts">https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-mozambique-sign-five-bilateral-pacts</a>
Canada	United Arab Emirates	27.07.2018	<a href="https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/canada-expands-air-transport-agreements-with-egypt-and-the-united-arab-emirates-1027407920">https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/canada-expands-air-transport-agreements-with-egypt-and-the-united-arab-emirates-1027407920</a>
Canada	Egypt	27.07.2018	<a href="https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/canada-expands-air-transport-agreements-with-egypt-and-the-united-arab-emirates-1027407920">https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/canada-expands-air-transport-agreements-with-egypt-and-the-united-arab-emirates-1027407920</a>
Brazil	United Kingdom	14.08.2018	<a href="https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/air-transport/2018-08-15/brazil-pushes-bilateral-open-skies-deals-eu-countries">https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/air-transport/2018-08-15/brazil-pushes-bilateral-open-skies-deals-eu-countries</a>
Brazil	Netherlands	14.08.2018	<a href="https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/air-transport/2018-08-15/brazil-pushes-bilateral-open-skies-deals-eu-countries">https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/air-transport/2018-08-15/brazil-pushes-bilateral-open-skies-deals-eu-countries</a>
Brazil	Luxembourg	14.08.2018	<a href="https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/air-transport/2018-08-15/brazil-pushes-bilateral-open-skies-deals-eu-countries">https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/air-transport/2018-08-15/brazil-pushes-bilateral-open-skies-deals-eu-countries</a>
Myanmar	Thailand	15.08.2018	<a href="https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50523256/myanmar-thailand-promote-strategic-partnership/">https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50523256/myanmar-thailand-promote-strategic-partnership/</a>
Rwanda	Italy	20.08.2018	<a href="https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-italy-agreement">https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-italy-agreement</a>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

## 5 POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

5.1. During the period under review, Congo, Gabon, Madagascar and Côte d'Ivoire deposited instruments of acceptance of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement.<sup>121</sup> The Protocol gave effect to the 2005 Decision to amend the TRIPS Agreement to address public health needs of countries with limited or no domestic pharmaceutical production capacity by creating an additional legal pathway for production and export of generic medicines.<sup>122</sup>

### Acceptance of the Amendment to the TRIPS Agreement



5.2. On the bilateral and regional fronts, Members continued to implement and negotiate a network of trade agreements that contain substantive IP provisions. Currently, 74% of the RTAs in force and notified to the WTO contain specific IP provisions. Over time, the conclusion and implementation of RTAs have further developed the interconnection between IP and trade in goods and services, and the links of the IP system to other normative areas, such as investment, e-commerce, and competition policy. Notable provisions on IP standards and work programmes were contained in several agreements reached during the review period, including the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership<sup>123</sup>; the African Continental Free Trade Area<sup>124</sup>; and the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).<sup>125</sup> Significant IP issues were reportedly under consideration during the re-negotiations of the Association Agreement between Mexico and the European Union<sup>126</sup>, as well as in the continuing negotiations in the framework of the Pacific Alliance<sup>127</sup> and between MERCOSUR and the European Union.<sup>128</sup>

<sup>121</sup> The Amended TRIPS Agreement entered into force in January 2017 and applies to all Members which have accepted the Protocol. A waiver, agreed in 2003 (WT/L/540 and its Corr.1), continues to apply to those Members that are yet to accept the Protocol.

<sup>122</sup> Document WT/L/641.

<sup>123</sup> Viewed at: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/free-trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements-concluded-but-not-in-force/cptpp/cptpp-overview/>

<sup>124</sup> Viewed at: <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20180321/au-member-countries-create-history-massively-signing-afcfta-agreement-kigali>; and Articles 6 to 8 as seen in <https://www.tralac.org/documents/resources/african-union/1870-agreement-establishing-the-afcfta-kigali-draft-text-march-2018-1/file.html>

<sup>125</sup> Viewed at: <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/fact-sheets/2018/october/united-states%E2%80%93mexico%E2%80%93canada-trade-fa-1>

<sup>126</sup> Viewed at: <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/eu-mexico-trade-agreement/>

<sup>127</sup> Viewed at: <https://alianzapacifico.net/inicio-en-chile-la-tercera-ronda-de-negociaciones-con-los-candidatos-a-estado-asociado/>

<sup>128</sup> As seen in [http://www.sice.oas.org/TPD/MER\\_EU/MER\\_EU\\_s.asp](http://www.sice.oas.org/TPD/MER_EU/MER_EU_s.asp)



5.3. The relationship between IP and trade continued to develop and diversify as Members developed their own national strategies to streamline IP into the economy (Box 5.1); and continued to modernize and fine-tune their IP legislation and administration (Box 5.2).

### Box 5.1 National IP Strategies

#### **Canada<sup>a</sup>**

In April 2018, Canada launched its IP Strategy to help entrepreneurs better understand and protect intellectual property and improve access to shared IP. Its objective is to improve IP legislation, literacy and advice. It will also support businesses in pursuing their own IP strategies.

#### **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia<sup>b</sup>**

In July 2018, the Saudi Intellectual Property Authority launched its strategy which is based on eight objectives, namely developing and following up the implementation of a national strategy for IP, developing and updating IP laws and regulations, providing IP products and services with high quality, increasing IP awareness, providing IP information and cooperating with the other bodies concerned with enforcing IPRs. The Saudi Intellectual Property Authority was established in 2017 as part of the National Transformation Program 2020.

#### **Moldova<sup>c</sup>**

In April 2018, the Republic of Moldova approved the Action Plan for the years 2018-20 to implement the National IP Strategy. This final stage of the implementation of the IP Strategy and the Plan sets out concrete actions and applicable deadlines; delegates responsibility; provides costs estimates; identifies financing sources, and indicates expected results as well as the monitoring indicators.

#### **South Africa<sup>d</sup>**

Phase I of the Intellectual Property Policy of South Africa was launched in August 2018. The objectives of the Policy are: to consider the development dynamics and improve how IP supports small institutions and vulnerable individuals in society, including in the domain of public health; to nurture and promote a culture of innovation, by enabling creators and inventors to reach their full potential and contribute towards improving the competitiveness of the industry; to promote South African arts and culture; and to solidify South Africa's various international obligations, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (Nagoya Protocol on ABS) in the service of genetic resources and the associated traditional knowledge.

<sup>a</sup> Viewed at: [http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/108.nsf/eng/h\\_00000.html](http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/108.nsf/eng/h_00000.html)

<sup>b</sup> Submission by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>c</sup> Submission by the Republic of Moldova for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>d</sup> Submission by South Africa for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Box 5.2 Domestic Legislation and Administrative Developments

#### **Australia<sup>a</sup>**

In August 2018, the IP law was amended to clarify parallel imports of trademarked goods and repeal the requirement for patentees to provide the Commonwealth with financial information relating to patents with extended terms.

#### **China<sup>b</sup>**

The Anti-unfair Competition Law entered into force in January 2018. Supporting regulations related to IPRs will be formulated, *inter alia*, on market confusion, infringement of business secrets and Internet unfair competition. Special law enforcement actions and coordinated deployment and investigation will be undertaken to strengthen IP enforcement and fair competition.

#### **Colombia<sup>c</sup>**

In July 2018, the Copyright Law was amended to update the provisions on: protection of copyrights and related rights; technological measures; information on rights management; exemptions and limitations; orphan works; and enforcement.

<sup>a</sup> Submission by Australia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>b</sup> Submission by China for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>c</sup> Submission by Colombia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report and notifications to the TRIPS Council.

**Indonesia<sup>d</sup>**

In July 2018, a regulation was issued to allow patent holders to postpone compliance with the local manufacturing requirement set out in Article 20 of the Patent Law.

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia<sup>e</sup>**

In July 2018, the Saudi Cabinet approved the accession to the WIPO Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled. A royal decree has been prepared in this regard. In September and October 2018, the Saudi Intellectual Property Authority signed cooperation memoranda of understanding with the Korean Intellectual Property Office and the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

**Mauritius<sup>f</sup>**

In July 2018, the Finance Act 2018, containing several IP customs enforcement provisions, was enacted.

**Mexico<sup>g</sup>**

In March 2018, Mexico amended its Industrial Property Law: introducing a new specific regime for geographical indications, in addition to the one of denominations of origin; strengthening the right of inventors and designers to be named in patent/design application; reducing the period of protection for industrial designs from 15 non-renewable years to 5 renewable years, for a maximum of 25 years; regulating the priority of inter-related patent applications; establishing a non-extendable period of one month for trademark opposition; and increasing penal sanctions for trademark counterfeiting.

**Myanmar<sup>h</sup>**

The draft laws on copyrights, trademarks, industrial designs and patents have been drafted by the Ministry of Education Science and Technology and are under discussion at the bicameral Assembly of the Union.

**Pakistan<sup>i</sup>**

In April 2018, a regional office of the Intellectual Property Organization was established in Peshawar.

**Philippines<sup>j</sup>**

In October 2018, the Rules for Mediation were revised to include provisions on mandatory mediation for administrative complaints regarding violation of IPRs, unfair competition, *inter-partes* cases, technology transfer payments, licenses of copyrights on public performances or any other communication of the work and appeals.

**Seychelles<sup>k</sup>**

In February 2018, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the establishment of the centralized IP Office, which includes the assignment of all operational matters to the Office of Registration and the policy matters to the Ministry of Finance, Trade and Economic Planning.

**Singapore<sup>l</sup>**

In October 2017, Singapore amended its Patent and Registered Designs Laws to fine-tune them and adapt them to technological advances, e.g. protection of designs of non-physical products such as virtual keyboards.

**Chinese Taipei<sup>m</sup>**

In April 2018, regulations on patent term extension for pharmaceutical and agrochemical products, as well as their manufacturing procedures, were amended. In June 2018, the Enforcement Rules of the Trademark Act were amended to incorporate updates of the International Classification of Goods and Services published by WIPO.

**Thailand<sup>n</sup>**

Since November 2017, Thailand has implemented its Accession to Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks.

**Turkey<sup>o</sup>**

In November 2017, Turkey amended its Copyright Law to take account of digital developments, improve transparency of collecting societies and address problems related to licensing. In May 2018, the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office established Industrial Property Valuation, Engineering and Consultancy Corporation, which is responsible for raising awareness on IP valuation, facilitating commercialization of IPRs and assist innovators.

**Ukraine<sup>p</sup>**

In July 2018, the Law on Efficient Management of Property Rights of Right holders in the Sphere of Copyright and/or Related Rights entered into force.

<sup>d</sup> Submission by Indonesia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>e</sup> Submission by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>f</sup> Submission by Mauritius for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>g</sup> Submission by Mexico for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report and notifications to the TRIPS Council.

<sup>h</sup> Submission by Myanmar for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>i</sup> Submission by Pakistan for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>j</sup> Submission by Philippines for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>k</sup> Submission by Seychelles for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>l</sup> Submission by Singapore for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>m</sup> Submission by Chinese Taipei for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>n</sup> Submission by Thailand for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>o</sup> Submission by Turkey for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>p</sup> Submission by Ukraine for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report and document IP/N/1/UKR/4.



## TRIPS Council

5.4. During the review period, the TRIPS Council met on three occasions, i.e. from 19 to 20 October 2017; on 27 February 2018; and from 5 to 6 June 2018.

5.5. At the October 2017 meeting, India posed questions<sup>129</sup> to the European Union regarding the Commission Notice on the Customs Enforcement of IPRs Concerning Goods Brought into the Customs Authority of the Union without being released for free circulation, including goods in transit.<sup>130</sup> The objective of the Commission Notice is to update the EC Guidelines concerning the enforcement by EU customs authorities of IPRs with regard to goods, in particular medicines, in transit through the European Union by reflecting EC Regulation No 1383/2003 and the EU Trademark Package. In response to India, the European Union indicated that the Regulations were compliant with the TRIPS Agreement, particularly its enforcement provisions. It also indicated its willingness to engage in bilateral talks with Members concerned.<sup>131</sup> Members also adopted the annual report on the functioning of the special compulsory licensing system under the TRIPS Amendment, and agreed on a two-year extension of the period for acceptance of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement until 31 December 2019. After several years of consideration, the TRIPS Council reached consensus on granting observer status to the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).

5.6. The discussion on non-violation and situation complaints under the TRIPS Agreement continued in the run-up to MC11, where ministers agreed to extend the moratorium until MC12. Members continued discussions on the scope and modalities on non-violation and situation complaints at the February and June 2018 meetings.

5.7. During the three meetings that took place during the period under review, Members also continued to share their national experiences and engaged in constructive policy discussions on two themes, namely IP and Innovation and IP and the Public Interest. Specific agenda items concerned inclusive innovation and trade of MSMEs<sup>132</sup>; the Societal Value of IP in the New Economy<sup>133</sup>; IP Improving Lives<sup>134</sup>; compulsory licences<sup>135</sup>; the regulatory review exemption<sup>136</sup> specifically related to public health and the role competition law and policy play in promoting public health objectives.<sup>137</sup>

5.8. During the review period, 12 Members<sup>138</sup> notified legislative measures under Article 63.2, with most of them providing the rationale for these. These measures provided insights into recent legislative changes in the areas, for instance, of copyrights and related rights; trademarks; geographical indications; industrial designs; patents; plant variety protection; and enforcement. Macao, China submitted its contact points for technical cooperation, as per Article 67.<sup>139</sup> Finland and Mauritius submitted their checklist of issues on enforcement, following Article 69.<sup>140</sup>

5.9. The TRIPS Council discussed the proposal presented by the LDCs' Consultative Group on how to improve transfer of technology<sup>141</sup> at the February and June meetings.

<sup>129</sup> These questions were a follow-up to the presentation provided by the European Union, in June 2016, on the main features of its Trademark Package (Directive 2015/2436 and Regulation 2015/2424).

<sup>130</sup> Document IP/C/W/636.

<sup>131</sup> In 2009, the TRIPS Council had intensive discussions on the detention on patent infringement grounds of generic drugs originating in India, transiting through ports in EU member States to third country destinations, pursuant to the EC Regulation No 1383/2003. India and Brazil alleged that the measures at issue were, in several respects, inconsistent as such and as applied, with the obligations of the European Union under the TRIPS Agreement, in particular Articles 28, 31, 41 and 42. In May 2010, India and Brazil requested consultations with the European Union on this issue (DS408 and DS409, respectively), which are still pending.

<sup>132</sup> Document IP/C/W/635 and IP/C/W/638.

<sup>133</sup> Document IP/C/W/641.

<sup>134</sup> Document IP/C/W/642.

<sup>135</sup> Document IP/C/W/630.

<sup>136</sup> Document IP/C/W/639.

<sup>137</sup> Document IP/C/W/643.

<sup>138</sup> Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Finland, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Chinese Taipei, Ukraine and the United States.

<sup>139</sup> Document IP/N/7/MAC/2.

<sup>140</sup> Documents IP/N/6/FIN/2 and IP/N/6/MUS/1, respectively.

<sup>141</sup> Document IP/C/W/640.

**TRIPS-related Discussions in Trade Policy Reviews**

5.10. During the review period, the Trade Policy Reviews of 23 Members<sup>142</sup> took place. These reviews included discussions on a wide range of IP issues with bearing on trade policy, including:

- exhaustion regimes and parallel imports;
- copyright: registration, exceptions and limitations; folklore protection; and collective management organizations;
- trademarks: pre-registration; well-known marks; and unregistered marks;
- geographical indications;
- protection of registered and unregistered industrial designs;
- patents: patentability criteria; second uses; exceptions; certificates of supplementary protection; and granting of compulsory licences;
- protection of undisclosed information and test data;
- enforcement online and at the border: copyright online enforcement measures and liability of Internet service providers; *ex officio* authority for border measures; and application of border measures to goods in transit;
- international agreements: acceptance and domestic implementation of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS; accession to, and ratification of, WIPO Treaties, the UPOV Convention and the 2015 Bangui Agreement; and regional IP regimes, namely the Andean Community and the African Intellectual Property Organization;
- commercialization of, and trade, in IPRs.

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<sup>142</sup> Members of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo), the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Cambodia, The Gambia, Malaysia, Egypt, the Philippines, Montenegro, Guinea and Mauritania, Colombia, Norway, Uruguay, China, Israel and Chinese Taipei.

## 6 TRANSPARENCY OF TRADE POLICIES

### Notifications and Surveillance in WTO Councils and Committees<sup>143</sup>

6.1. This Section provides a factual overview of the compliance and timeliness of Members' notifications to the WTO. Notifications are the primary instrument for ensuring transparency in the multilateral trading system. They are submitted by each Member and reviewed by the relevant bodies of the WTO. The importance attached by WTO Members to this issue explains the very elaborate system of notifications and cross-notifications put in place under the terms of most Agreements. Transparency in trade and in trade policy-making is fundamental for allowing trade policy makers and economic agents to make informed decisions and markets to operate more efficiently.

6.2. The overview of the compliance and timeliness of Members' notifications to the WTO illustrates that, with a few exceptions, compliance with notification requirements of the various WTO Agreements remains very uneven. Although there have been significant and sustained efforts by some delegations to bring the overall record of their notifications further up to date, the general sense is that progress on this front remains too slow. The lack of compliance with notification obligations across WTO bodies is problematic because it undermines individual agreements and more generally the operation of the multilateral trading system. There are several reasons for the low compliance with notification requirements and an important one relates to the lack of capacity of many WTO Members despite the continued efforts by the WTO Secretariat and the Committees. This lack of capacity, as well as other reasons behind the poor compliance, must be addressed collectively by the WTO membership.

#### Anti-Dumping

6.3. Pursuant to Article 16.4 of the Agreement on the Implementation of Article VI of GATT 1994 ("the Anti-Dumping Agreement"), all Members are required to submit to the Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices, on a semi-annual basis, reports of any AD actions taken within the preceding six months, using an agreed standard form. Members that have not established an authority competent to conduct AD investigations have the option to make a one-time "nil" notification, valid unless and until they establish an investigating authority, in lieu of submitting nil notifications every six months.

6.4. Fifty-three Members (counting the European Union as one) submitted semi-annual reports, either of AD actions taken, or of no actions having been taken, during the six-month period January-June 2018. Forty-nine Members have submitted one-time nil notifications. The remaining 34 Members failed to submit semi-annual reports in respect of AD actions during this period. However, few if any, of these non-notifiers are likely to have taken AD actions.

#### Subsidies and Countervailing Measures

6.5. The trends in the status of compliance with the obligation to notify subsidies to the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures under Article 25.1 during the period 1995-2017 are shown in Table 6.1. Subsidy notifications are required every two years and the most recent notifications were due on 30 June 2017. Further notifications for this period are expected to be received. The share of Members that have notified subsidies has remained between 39% and 50% between 1995 and 2017.<sup>144</sup> The share of Members that made a "nil" notification fell significantly over the same period. Excluding 1995, the share of Members making the required notifications has not exceeded 70%, and generally has hovered around 60%. Conversely, the share of Members not making any notification registered a substantial increase since 1995, from 25% to 48%, albeit with some intervening fluctuations.

<sup>143</sup> Notifications in the SPS and TBT Committees are dealt with in Sections 3.3 and 3.4 of this Report.

<sup>144</sup> For the purposes of this section, the European Union is counted as one Member.

**Table 6.1 Status of subsidy notifications<sup>a</sup>**

New and full subsidy notification (due on 30 June of the years shown)	1995	1998	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
	% share of total										
Members that notified subsidies	50	39	44	45	47	48	48	47	47	46	41
Members that made a "nil" notification	25	16	15	14	13	11	17	20	18	16	11
Sub-total notifying Members	75	55	59	59	60	59	65	67	65	62	52
Members that did not make any notification	25	45	41	41	40	41	35	33	35	38	48

a As at 19 October 2018.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.6. Pursuant to Article 25.11 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, all Members are required to submit to the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, on a semi-annual basis, reports of any CVD actions taken within the preceding six months using an agreed standard form. Members that have not established an authority competent to conduct CVD investigations have the option to make a one-time "nil" notification, valid unless and until they establish an investigating authority, in lieu of submitting nil notifications every six months.

6.7. Fifty-four Members (counting the European Union as one) submitted semi-annual reports, either of CVD actions taken, or of no actions having been taken, during the six-month period January-June 2018. Forty Members have submitted one-time nil notifications. The remaining (42) Members failed to submit semi-annual reports in respect of CVD actions during this period. Few, if any, of these non-notifiers is likely to have CVD actions.

### State Trading Enterprises

6.8. Notifications related to state trading enterprises are reviewed by the Working Party on State Trading Enterprises on behalf of the CTG. In July 2012, the Council agreed to extend indefinitely the new biannual frequency of new and full notifications. Thus, all WTO Members must notify their state trading enterprises every two years, with no updating notifications in the intervening years.

6.9. Table 6.2 presents notifications received for the years in which a new and full notification was due. It shows a declining trend in total notifications over the period examined, which has accentuated over the past few years. Although it is likely that additional notifications will be received for more recent periods, compliance with this notification requirement has clearly been deteriorating.

**Table 6.2 Status of notifications<sup>a</sup>**

New and full STE notification (due on 30 June of the year shown)	% share									
	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016
Members submitting notifications (including "nil" notifications)	67	54	55	50	49	50	50	43	40	36

a As at 15 October 2018.

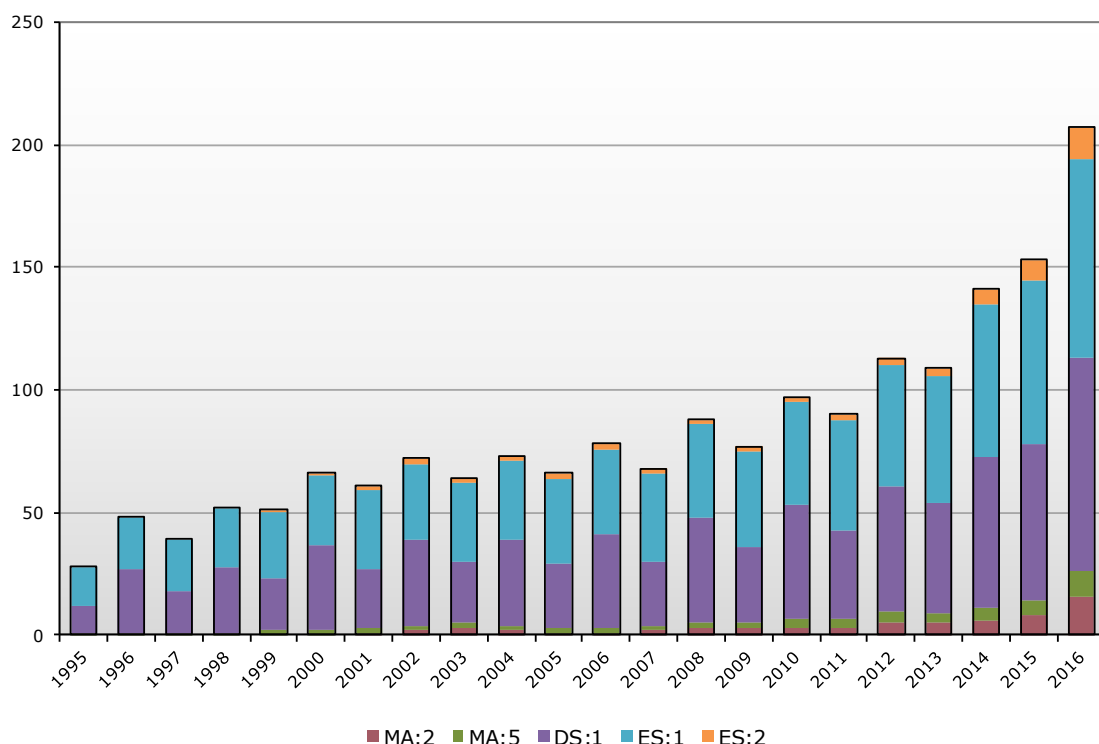
Source: WTO Secretariat.

## Agriculture

6.10. The CoA continued its review of the implementation of Members' commitments under the Agreement. Timely and complete notifications are essential for effective monitoring of the implementation of commitments. Twelve distinct notification requirements are applicable in the domain of agriculture, covering the following areas: market access, domestic support, export subsidies, export prohibitions or restrictions and the follow-up to the Marrakesh Net Food-Importing Developing Countries (NFIDC) Decision. The applicability of a notification requirement to a Member is largely dependent on its specific commitments under the AoA. Out of the 12 notification requirements, the following five are "regular" or "annual" notification requirements: (i) imports under tariff and other quotas (MA:2); (ii) special SGs (MA:5); (iii) domestic support (DS:1); (iv) export subsidies (ES:1) and (v) total exports (ES:2). Annual notifications are required to be submitted no later than a certain number of days following the end of the year in question, in accordance with the deadlines set out in document G/AG/2.

6.11. For the period 1995-2016, there were a total of 1,841 outstanding regular notifications.<sup>145,146</sup> Out of the five annual notification requirements, domestic support (DS:1) and export subsidy (ES:1) notifications had the highest number of outstanding notifications, as seen in Chart 6.1 and frequently have constituted the majority of pending notifications in every year since 1995. Members' outstanding notifications of imports under tariff and other quotas (MA:2), special SGs (MA:5) and total exports (ES:2) is much lower. It should be noted, however, that domestic support and export subsidy notifications must be submitted by the whole Membership, whereas, in the other areas the obligation to notify will depend upon each Members' commitments.

**Chart 6.1 Total outstanding notifications per type of notification requirement per year (1995-2016)**



Note: MA:2 - imports under tariff and other quotas, MA:5 - special SGs, DS:1 - domestic support, ES:1 - export subsidies, ES:2 - total exports.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

<sup>145</sup> "Ad hoc" notification obligations applicable only upon maintenance of a specific measure (e.g. ER:1 required upon the application of export restrictions) as well as the annual notifications where it was not possible to determine *a priori* whether the concerned notification requirement would be applicable (e.g. Table NF:1 applicable to donor Members only) are excluded.

<sup>146</sup> Compliance with notification obligations – Note by the WTO Secretariat (G/AG/GEN/86/Rev.32).

6.12. On average, Members have submitted 62% of their expected notifications for the period 1995-2016. Compliance with notification obligations varies according to region. As noted in Table 6.3, the region with the highest level of compliance is North America (Canada, Mexico and the United States) with 97% of compliance, followed by Europe with 78% compliance. Africa is the region with the lowest level of compliance, i.e. approximately half of expected notifications covering the years 1995-2016 remain outstanding.

**Table 6.3 Average compliance with notifications by region (1995-2016)**

Region	Average compliance (%)
Africa	49
Asia	65
CIS, including associate and former member States	67
Europe	78
Middle East	65
North America	97
South and Central America and the Caribbean	69
<b>WTO Members</b>	<b>62</b>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.13. Table 6.4 shows those Members whose average compliance with their notification obligations is between 90% and 100%. It should be noted that the number of annual notification obligations varies per Member; while all Members are required to submit domestic support and export subsidy notifications (DS:1 and ES:1), only some Members are required to submit MA:2, MA:5 and/or ES:2 notifications.

**Table 6.4 Members with average compliance between 90%-100% (1995-2016)<sup>a,b</sup>**

WTO Member	MA:2	MA:5	DS:1	ES:1	ES:2	Average
Botswana		100	100	100		100
Brazil	100		100	100	100	100
Cameroon			100	100		100
Costa Rica	100	100	100	100	100	100
Cuba			100	100	100	100
Ecuador	100	100	100	100		100
Hong Kong, China			100	100		100
Israel	100	100	100	100	100	100
Jamaica			100	100		100
Macao, China			100	100		100
Mexico	100	100	100	100	100	100
Moldova, Republic of	100		100	100		100
New Zealand	100	100	100	100	100	100
Nicaragua	100	100	100	100		100
Nigeria			100	100		100
Norway	100	100	100	100	100	100
Panama	100	100	100	100		100
Paraguay			100	100		100
Russian Federation	100		100	100		100
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines			100	100		100
Singapore			100	100		100
Togo			100	100		100
United Arab Emirates			100	100		100
Uruguay		100	100	100	100	100
European Union	100	100	95	100	100	99
Iceland	95	100	100	100	100	99
Honduras			95	100	100	98
Australia	100	100	91	100	100	98
Switzerland	100	100	91	100	100	98
Bahrain, Kingdom of			100	95		98
Guatemala	100	95	95	100		98
Japan	100	100	91	100		98
Mali			94	100		97
Senegal			94	100		97
Canada	100	100	91	95	95	96
Burundi			92	100		96
Gabon			95	95		95
Malaysia	100	100	77	100	100	95
Peru			91	100		95

WTO Member	MA:2	MA:5	DS:1	ES:1	ES:2	Average
United States of America	95	95	95	95	95	95
Fiji			95	95		95
Chile	94		95	95	95	95
Congo			95	95		95
Colombia	91	95	95	95	95	95
Georgia			94	94		94
Philippines	95	95	95	95	86	94
Chinese Taipei	100	100	73	100		93
Armenia			86	100		93
Chad			90	95		93
South Africa	100	91	91	91	91	93
Argentina			91	91	91	91
Korea, Republic of	95	100	77	86		90

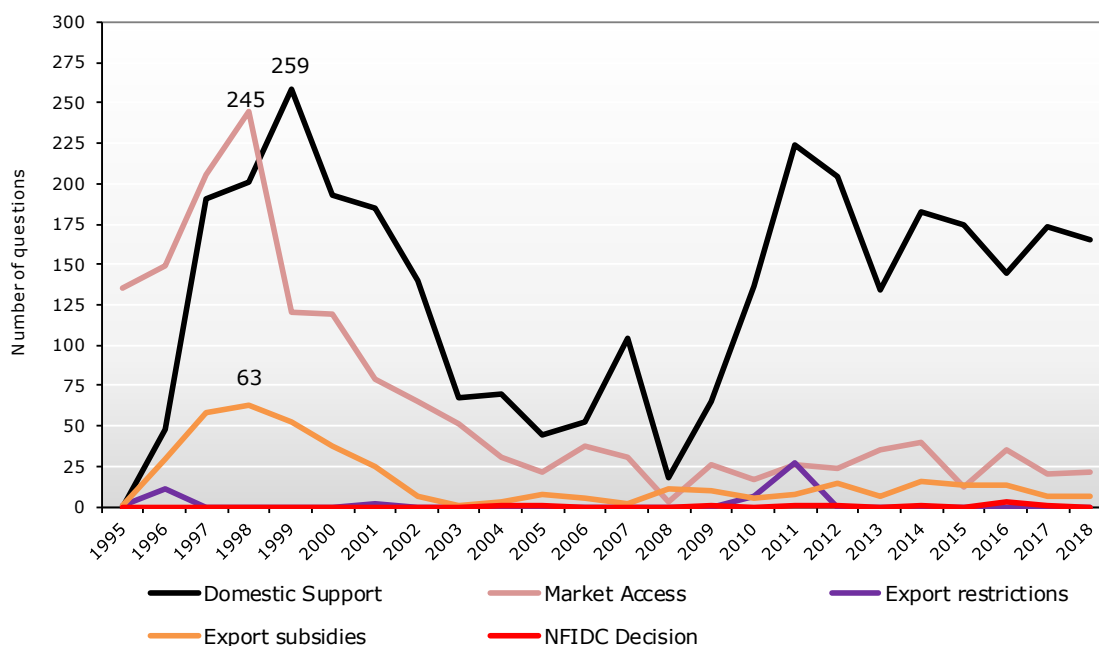
a Compliance takes into account notifications issued as at 13 September 2018.

b An empty field means that the notification requirement does not apply.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.14. More than 5,000 questions have been raised in connection with individual notifications under the CoA's review process from 1995-2018 (up to the September 2018 CoA meeting). Throughout the years, most of these questions have focused on domestic support notifications (DS:1 and DS:2) followed by questions concerning market access, in particular TRQs (MA:1 and MA:2) (Chart 6.2).

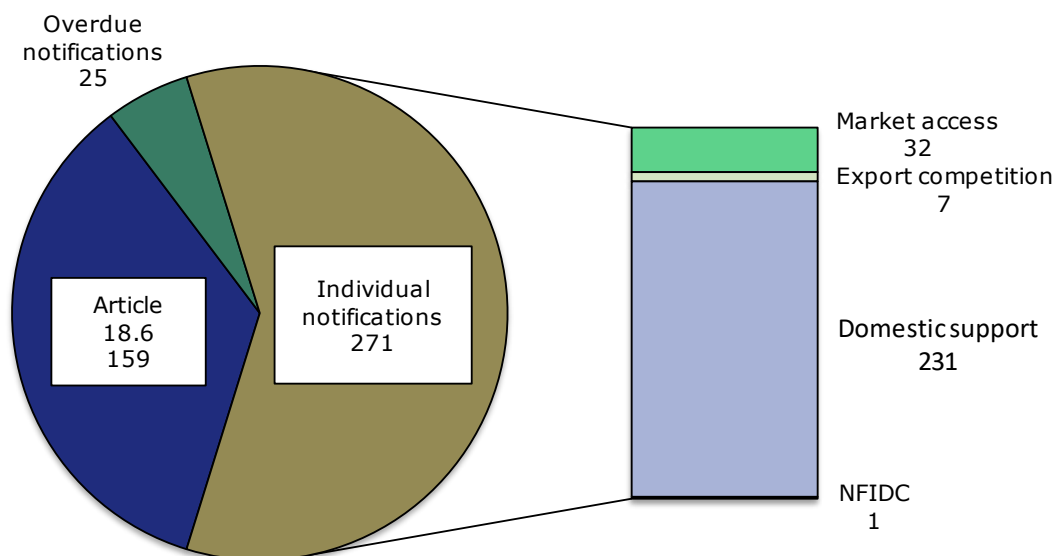
**Chart 6.2 Questions raised on individual notifications per section per year (1995-2018<sup>a</sup>)**



a 2018 data covers up to the September 2018 CoA meeting.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

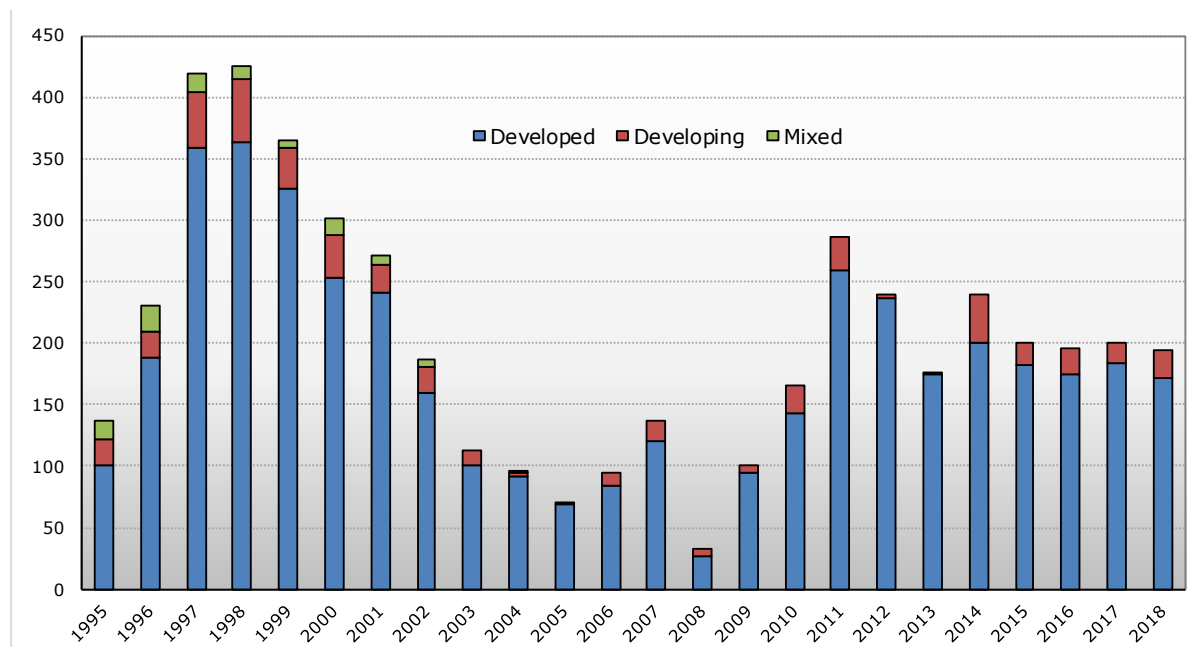
6.15. From 15 October 2017 to 15 October 2018, Members submitted 228 notifications, (including addenda and corrigenda). A total of 271 questions were posed concerning individual notifications during the CoA meetings that took place during this period. As seen in Chart 6.2, and in line with the historical trend, most of the questions raised related to domestic support notifications (85%). Domestic support notifications by India, Egypt, Turkey, the European Union and the United States attracted a considerable number of questions. Additionally, 25 questions were raised concerning the lack of notifications from China, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, the Republic of Korea, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania, Thailand and Turkey.

**Chart 6.3 Number of questions raised per section (mid-October 2017 – mid May 2018<sup>a</sup>)**

a 2018 data covers up to the September 2018 CoA meeting. Questions raised in the CoA meetings in October 2017, February, June and September 2018.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.16. The participation in the CoA review process, although substantive, is essentially carried out by only a few WTO Members. Questions raised in the CoA in connection with individual notifications have been posed primarily by developed country Members (Chart 6.4).

**Chart 6.4 Number of questions raised per type of Member<sup>a</sup>**

a The term "mixed" refers to a question raised by both developed and developing country Members.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.17. Article 18.7 of the Agreement on Agriculture establishes that "Any Member may bring to the attention of the Committee on Agriculture any measure which it considers ought to have been notified by another Member". Additionally, under the CoA agreed working procedures,



"Counternotifications under Article 18:7 of the Agreement shall be considered by the Committee at the earliest opportunity". During the review period, and for the first time since the Committee's inception, a WTO Member submitted a counter-notification regarding another Member's domestic support policies. The counter-notification, submitted by the United States<sup>147</sup>, addressed certain measures of India's market price support to rice and wheat during marketing years 2010/11 through 2013/14, covered by India's DS:1 notifications G/AG/N/IND/10 and G/AG/N/IND/11. The United States also posed questions on this matter during the June 2018 CoA meeting. The questions, corresponding answers and Members' follow up comments can be found in section 5 of document G/AG/W/181.

### Quantitative Restrictions (QRs)

6.18. The notification of QRs to the Market Access Committee is an obligation established by the 2012 Decision on Notification Procedures for Quantitative Restrictions (G/L/59/Rev.1). The Decision requires Members, every two years, to notify the WTO Secretariat of the QRs they have in force, as well as any changes in the interim. As at 15 October 2018, a total of 36 Members had submitted notifications. The number of notifications for each biennial period is provided in Table 6.5.

6.19. The Decision on Reverse Notification of Non-Tariff Measures (G/L/60) gives Members the possibility of making reverse notifications of non-tariff measures imposed by another Member, subject to certain conditions. Only one such notification has been made since the adoption of the Decision in 1995.

**Table 6.5 Notification procedures for QRs**

No.	Notification requirement	Total number of notifications received as of 16 October 2018, by biennial period
1	QRs in force (regular notification)	2012-14: 27 notifications from 22 Members. 2014-16: 31 notifications from 28 Members. 2016-18: 22 notifications from 22 Members. 2018-20: 5 notifications from 5 Members.
2	Changes to the QRs maintained ( <i>ad hoc</i> ), or introduction of new QRs	2012-14: 2 Members notified the WTO Secretariat of changes made to their existing QRs. 2014-16: 2 Members notified the WTO Secretariat of changes made to their existing QRs. 2016-18: no Member has notified the WTO Secretariat of any changes. 2018-20: no Member has notified the WTO Secretariat of any changes.
3	QRs maintained by other Members ( <i>reverse notification</i> )	No Member has given notification.
4	Non-tariff measures maintained by other Members ( <i>reverse notification</i> )	No Member has given notification.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Import Licensing

6.20. Notification requirements in the area of import licensing procedures result from the WTO Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures and are complemented by the "Procedures for Notification and Review under the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures" adopted by the Committee on Import Licensing in 1995 (G/LIC/3) and the "Understanding on Procedures for the Review of Notifications submitted under the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures" adopted on 23 October 1996 (G/LIC/4). The notification requirements are described in Table 6.6.

<sup>147</sup> WTO document G/AG/W/174 dated 9 May 2018.

**Table 6.6 Notification procedures for import licensing**

No.	Notification requirement	Established in:	Type	Notification category
1	Submission of full texts of relevant laws and regulations and any changes thereto	Article 8.2(b) of the Agreement; G/LIC/3	One-off and <i>ad hoc</i>	N/1
2	Sources in which information concerning import licensing procedures are published	Article 1.4(a) of the Agreement; G/LIC/3	One-off and <i>ad hoc</i>	N/1
3	New import licensing procedures and changes to existing procedures	Article 5 of the Agreement	<i>Ad hoc</i>	N/2
4	Reply to the Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures	Article 7.3 of the Agreement; G/LIC/3	Annual, by 30 September each year	N/3

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.21. The N/1 notification requires a WTO Member to notify all relevant laws and regulations with regard to import licensing procedures, as well as identify the source/publications containing such information. It contains both a one-off element (notification of existing laws and regulations and source/publications) and an *ad hoc* element (changes to laws and regulations thereafter). In theory, a WTO Member should have at least one N/1 submission, providing its laws and regulations on import licensing or indicating that its government does not maintain any import licensing regime.

6.22. The N/2 notification is an obligation for Members to notify new licensing procedures or changes being made to existing procedures. It is *ad hoc* in nature and only due when specific circumstances occur. The N/3 notification requires Members to reply to a Questionnaire describing all import licensing procedures in place by 30 September every year.

6.23. As of 10 October 2018, 15 Members had not yet submitted any notification under any provision of the Agreement since joining the WTO. In addition, another 10 Members had not yet submitted notifications regarding domestic import licensing-related laws or regulations; and another nine Members are yet to submit their Replies to the Annual Questionnaire under Article 7.3.<sup>148</sup> During the review period, as at 10 October 2018, 77 new notifications under the Agreement on Import Licensing have been received and circulated by the Secretariat. Of these, 16 N/1 notifications are from the following 10 Members: Botswana; Ecuador; the European Union; India; Israel; Liechtenstein; Macao, China; Paraguay; Switzerland; and the Ukraine.

6.24. The Committee also reviewed, 20 N/2 notifications relating to the institution of new import licensing procedures or changes in these procedures from 10 Members: Argentina; Canada; the European Union; Indonesia; Israel; Japan; Paraguay; the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Chinese Taipei; and the Ukraine. The Committee also reviewed 41 N/3 notifications from 33 Members: Argentina; Australia; Burundi; Canada; China; Cuba; El Salvador; the European Union; Georgia; Hong Kong, China; India; Israel; Japan; Kazakhstan; Macao, China; Malaysia; Mali; Mauritius; Montenegro; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Norway; Paraguay; Peru; Qatar; the Russian Federation; Singapore; Switzerland; Chinese Taipei; the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Ukraine; the United States and Uruguay.

6.25. During the review period, two Members submitted notifications for the first time to the Committee under various Articles of the Agreement: (i) under Articles 1.4(a)/8.2(b): Botswana; (ii) under Articles 5.1-5.4: Canada.

### Rules of Origin

6.26. The Agreement on Rules of Origin contains two notification obligations, described in Table 6.7. Recent notifications have improved the overall compliance with notification obligations and about 77% of WTO Members have submitted information about their preferential or non-preferential rules of origin (or the absence thereof).

<sup>148</sup> Document G/LIC/W/49.

**Table 6.7 Notification procedures for rules of origin**

No.	Legal source	Notification requirement	Type
1	Article 5 of the Agreement	<u>Non-Preferential Rules of Origin</u> : all Members must submit a notification indicating: if they apply non-preferential rules of origin (informing what the rules are); or if they do not apply any non-preferential rules of origin. Changes to legislation must also be notified.	One-off
2	Paragraph 4 of Annex II of the Agreement	<u>Preferential Rules of Origin</u> : Members only notify if they adopt new preferential rules of origin or if they make changes to existing preferential rules (e.g. new FTAs or other new trade preferences).	<i>Ad hoc</i>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.27. As at 16 October 2018, 49 Members had notified the Committee that they implement non-preferential origin requirements; 57 Members had notified that they do not implement rules of origin for non-preferential purposes; and 31 Members had never submitted notifications to the Committee.<sup>149</sup>

6.28. A related development is the Ministerial Decision on Preferential Rules of Origin for LDCs (WT/L/917/Add.1), adopted during the Nairobi Ministerial Conference. The Nairobi Decision builds on the earlier 2013 Ministerial Decision on preferential rules of origin by providing more detailed directions on specific issues, such as methods for determining when a product qualifies as "made in an LDC", and when inputs from other sources can be "cumulated" into the consideration of origin. The provisions also call on preference-granting Members to consider simplifying requirements related to origin. As part of the efforts to implement the Decision, the Committee on Rules of Origin adopted, in 2017, a detailed template for the notification of preferential rules of origin for LDCs. Sixteen preference-granting WTO Members have notified their preferential rules of origin for LDCs using the new template (G/RO/LDC/N document series). Six WTO Members, who also implement trade preferences for LDCs, still have to notify their preferential rules of origin to the Secretariat.<sup>150</sup>

### Customs Valuation

6.29. Notifications in the area of customs valuation stem not only from the Agreement on Customs Valuation itself, but also from a number of Decisions that have been adopted by the Committee on Customs Valuation. There are five main notification requirements (Table 6.8).

**Table 6.8 Notification procedures for customs valuation**

No.	Notification requirement	Established in	Type
1	Submission of complete texts of national legislation (laws, regulations, etc.)	Decision on the notification and circulation of national legislation in accordance with Article 22 of the Agreement (G/VAL/5, B.2, paragraph (i))	One-off
2	Changes in laws and regulations on customs valuation	Article 22.2 of the Agreement on Customs Valuation	<i>Ad hoc</i>
3	Responses to the checklist of issues	Decision on the Checklist of Issues (G/VAL/5, B.3)	One-off

<sup>149</sup> The European Union and its member States are counted as one.

<sup>150</sup> Document G/RO/W/163/Rev.4 contains a summary of all notifications related to preferential rules of origin for LDCs.

No.	Notification requirement	Established in	Type
4	Decision on interest charges - date of implementation	Decision on the treatment of interest charges in the customs value of imported goods (G/VAL/5, A.3, last paragraph)	One-off
5	Decision on carrier media (software) - application of paragraph 2	Decision on the valuation of carrier media bearing software for data processing equipment (G/VAL/5, A.4, paragraph 2)	<i>Ad hoc</i>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.30. The notification requirements in the area of customs valuation are either one-off or *ad hoc*, which means that different approaches are required to estimate their level of compliance. In addition, any estimate must take into account that the European Union notifies on behalf a group of Members, and that this number has changed several times since the WTO entered into force. Taking all these elements into account, the maximum number of one-off notifications as at 16 October 2018 cover 136 members (counting the EU as one). This denominator has been used to estimate the degree of compliance for the following notifications (i) submission of the complete texts of national legislation; (ii) responses to the checklist of issues; and (iii) date of implementation of the Decision on the treatment of interest charges in the customs value of imported goods (Table 6.9).

6.31. Because *ad hoc* notifications are, by definition, only due when specific circumstances occur, no maximum number of notifications can be used to estimate the overall degree of compliance. This is the case regarding: (i) changes in laws and regulations on customs valuation; and (ii) the application of paragraph 2 of the Decision on Carrier Media (software).

**Table 6.9 Compliance regarding customs valuation notifications**

No	Notification requirement	Compliance as at 12 October 2018
1	Submission of complete texts of national legislation (laws, regulations, etc.)	Currently, 98 Members have notified their legislation and 38 Members have still to notify. This gives a compliance rate of 72%.
2	Changes in laws and regulations on customs valuation	Since this is an <i>ad hoc</i> type of notification (i.e. a Member is only required to notify if there is a change in its national legislation), it is not possible to assess the level of compliance. Thirty-three Members have notified changes to their national legislation on customs valuation since 1995.
3	Responses to the checklist of issues	Currently, 66 Members have notified responses to the checklist of issues and 70 Members have not yet fulfilled this requirement, giving a compliance rate of 49%.
4	Decision on interest charges - date of implementation	To date, 48 Members have notified the date from which they will apply the Decision on Interest Charges and 88 Members have still to notify. This gives a compliance rate of 35%.
5	Decision on carrier media (software) - application of paragraph 2	Since this is an <i>ad hoc</i> notification (i.e. a Member is only required to notify if its imports of carrier media bearing data and software are valued as provided for in paragraph 2 of the Decision), it is not possible to assess the level of compliance. To date, 41 Members have made this notification, but it is not possible to know whether Members are applying the paragraph without having submitted the notification.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Preshipment Inspection

6.32. Article 5 of the Agreement on Preshipment Inspection (PSI) provides that Members shall submit to the Secretariat copies of the laws and regulations under which they put the Agreement into force, as well as copies of any other laws and regulations relating to PSI. Changes in such laws and regulations shall also be notified immediately after their publication. No Members have submitted notifications relating to PSI to the Committee on Customs Valuation, which is the body responsible for administering the implementation of the Agreement on PSI, since the last report.

**Table 6.10 Compliance with PSI notifications**

No	Notification requirement	Notifications received in 2017 (up to 12 October 2018)
1	Submission of copies of laws and regulations putting the Agreement into force	No Member
2	Other laws and regulations relating to PSI	No Member
3	Changes in laws and regulations relating to PSI	No Member
4	Absence of laws and regulations on PSI	Afghanistan

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Integrated Database (IDB)

6.33. Reliable information on applied tariffs and import statistics are essential to enhance transparency and to formulate sound economic policies. The submission of tariff and import information to the IDB is a notification requirement provided in the General Council Decision of 16 July 1997.<sup>151</sup> To overcome gaps in Members' notifications and to reduce delays in providing the information to users, the Committee on Market Access adopted, in July 2009<sup>152</sup>, a framework to enhance IDB notifications' compliance. The Decision gave the WTO Secretariat flexibility to collect missing information from official sources and after approval from the Member concerned, to integrate it into the IDB. Therefore, the information included in the IDB is either directly notified by Members or collected by the Secretariat. The IDB data collection policy could serve as an example of good practice for other in-house notification requirements, including where a network of reliable external data providers can help ease the notification burden of Members.

6.34. The completeness of IDB tariff and import' notifications are presented in Charts 6.4 and 6.5 and show the share of notifications directly submitted by Members to the IDB and the share of those collected by the Secretariat.

6.35. As at 30 September 2018, the coverage of IDB notifications was 81% for tariffs and 72% for imports statistics, a slight improvement compared to last year. The highest percentage of tariff data availability was for 2012, at 97% (Chart 6.5) with more than 40% of information collected from framework sources. Regarding import' statistics, the most complete year was 2006, with 87% data availability. The highest percentage of collected data was in 2011, where 40% of the available import statistics were collected by the Secretariat from other available data sources (Chart 6.6). The import statistics that are required for the IDB are very detailed and can only be found in limited other sources. For that reason, the share of import statistics collected by the Secretariat remained low, i.e. around 20% between 1996 and 2016.

6.36. Data availability varies among Members. Table 6.11 shows Members' completeness of their IDB information since their accession to the WTO. For applied tariffs, only 38 Members have no data gaps. For imports, considering data up to 2016 (2017 figures are not yet due for certain Members), 48 Members have no gaps. The deadline for submitting the 2017 imports information was 30 September 2018, but for imports through preferential trade agreements (reviewed through the Preferential Trading Agreements Transparency Mechanism (PTA-TM)), the deadline was 31 October 2018. Table 6.11 shows that 72% of Members have at least one outstanding tariff notification, and 64% have at least one outstanding import notification.

**Table 6.11 Completeness of IDB notifications**

No. of years with outstanding data	Tariff (up to 2018)		Imports (up to 2016)	
	No of Members	%	No of Members	%
None (complete data)	38	28%	48	36%
1-2 years	27	20%	17	13%

<sup>151</sup> Document WT/L/225. The deadlines are 30 March for the tariff of the current year and 30 September for imports of the previous year (WTO document G/MA/IDB/1/Rev.1/Add.1, 4 December 1997).

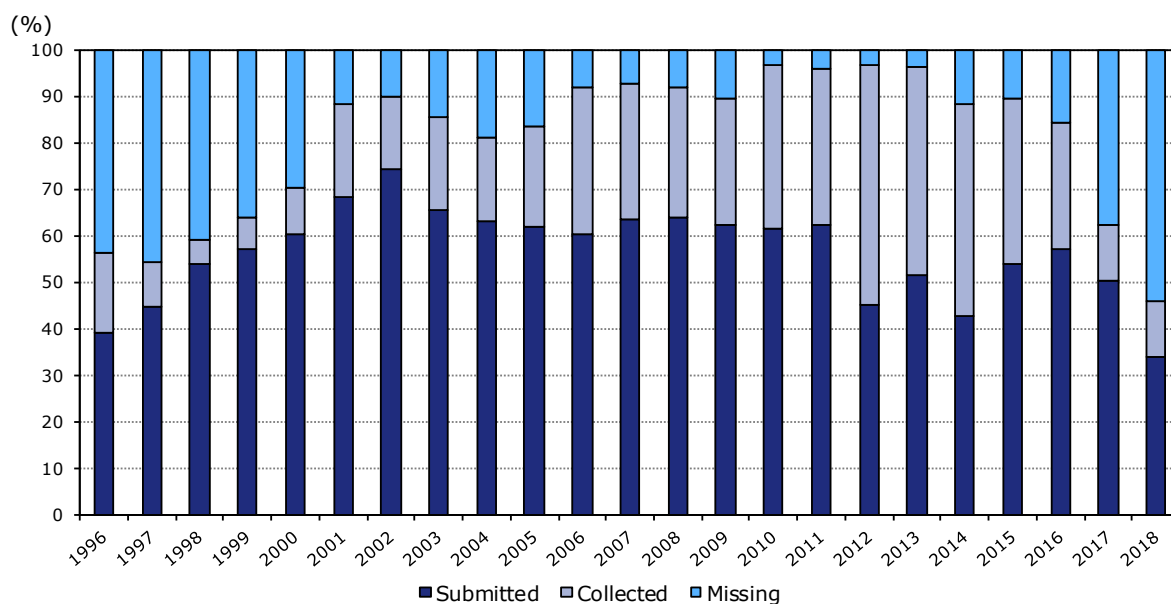
<sup>152</sup> Document G/MA/239.

No. of years with outstanding data	Tariff (up to 2018)		Imports (up to 2016)	
	No of Members	%	No of Members	%
3-5 years	28	21%	22	16%
6 or more years	42	31%	48	36%
Total number of schedules <sup>a</sup>	135	100%	135	100%
<i>Memo: With at least one year of outstanding data</i>	97	72%	87	64%

a The completeness of notifications is calculated on the number of Members' schedules and not on the number of WTO Members (i.e. EU member States are included in the EU schedule, and Lichtenstein in Switzerland's schedule).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 6.5 Completeness of IDB tariff notifications<sup>a</sup>**



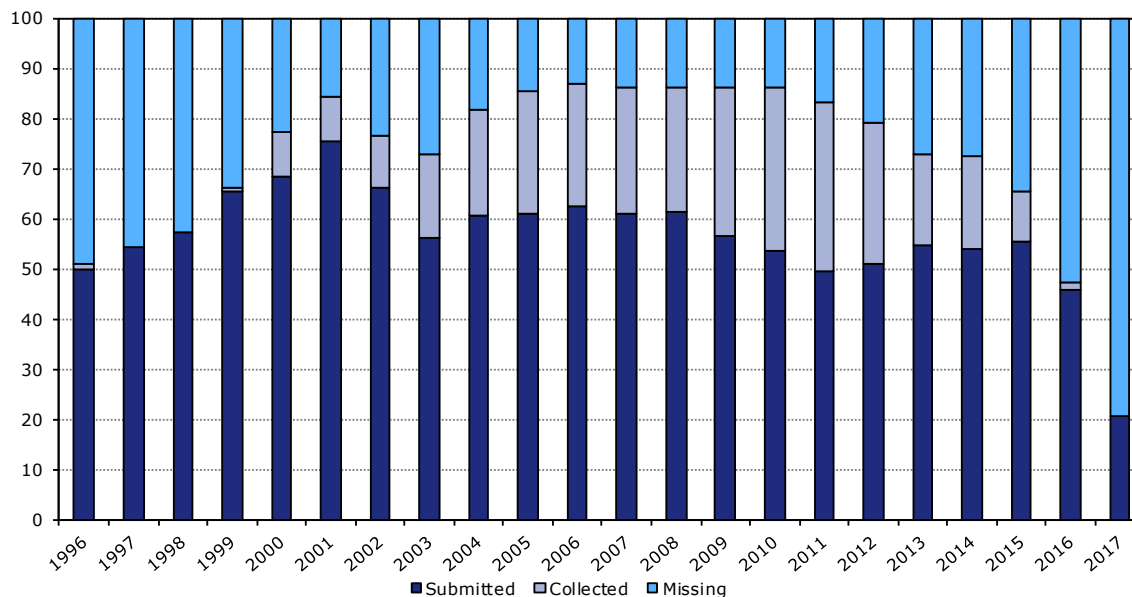
a Data for 2018 cover data available from January to September.

Note: The completeness of notifications is calculated on the number of Members' schedules and not on the number of WTO Members (i.e. EU member States are included in the EU schedule, and Lichtenstein in Switzerland's schedule).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 6.6 Completeness of IDB import notifications<sup>a</sup>**

(% )



a Data for 2017 were due on 30 September 2018, and on 31 October 2018 for members of the PTA-TM.

Note: The completeness of notifications is calculated on the number of Members' schedules and not on the number of WTO Members (i.e. EU member States are included in the EU schedule, and Lichtenstein in Switzerland's).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.37. Timeliness of IDB notifications, defined as obtaining the expected data within the year the data are due, is illustrated in Table 6.12 since 2000. In cases where a notification has been received on time but has been replaced or revised later, the initial submission is included in the number of timely notifications. The same is true for data collected within the deadline but later replaced either by a notification or by data retrieved from another source.<sup>153</sup> Timely availability of tariffs was highest in 2013, but data punctuality has slowed down again and, since 2015, only about half of expected data are available within the year they were due. Table 6.12 also shows that import data are generally not obtained by the due date. The highest percentage of timeliness was in 2010, when 50% of import data was received within the expected timeframe. The very detailed requirement to notify imports by preferential duty scheme for PTA beneficiaries has repercussions on the timeliness of imports submissions as Members require more time to compile those statistics.

**Table 6.12 Percentage of IDB data available within the year of the deadline<sup>a</sup>**

(% of expected schedules)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Tariff	26	33	42	32	31	28	24	22	26	38	53	69	62	75	52	50	50	48	46
Imports	29	34	29	26	19	17	22	21	31	27	50	45	43	38	21	42	27	21 <sup>b</sup>	n.a.

a The numbers differ slightly from those reported in the past, as the review of some submissions indicated that data were not suitable for inclusion in the IDB because of technical problems.

b The deadline for 2017 import data for 23 PTA-TM countries is 31 October 2018.

n.a. Not applicable.

Source: IDB, 30 September 2018.

<sup>153</sup> The percentage of timely notifications is also based on the number of expected schedules.



6.38. The notification of non-MFN regimes to the IDB, i.e. preferential tariffs resulting from PTAs and FTAs/RTAs, is becoming more regular. This is partly due to the requirement under the PTA-TM where Members are required to notify non-reciprocal preferences, notably the GSP and LDC preferential trading schemes, and the amount of trade that occurs under these regimes. Notification of tariffs for other non-MFN trading schemes remains voluntary. However, since 2015, the number of preferential tariff schemes included in the IDB has increased consistently from 60% to 71% for the 2018 tariffs. The revised format of the Status of Submissions to the IDB document, indicates the availability of preferential trading regimes in the IDB over the latest 10 years. The IDB is available through the Tariff Analysis Online (<https://tao.wto.org>), the Tariff Download Facility (<http://tdf.wto.org>), and for tariff information and trade statistics related to PTAs, through the PTA database (<http://ptadb.wto.org>). The IDB, complemented with additional data from other international organizations, such as the ITC and UNCTAD, is used to calculate the applied tariff and trade indicators published in the World Tariff Profiles, a yearly compendium of comprehensive market access indicators.

### Balance-of-Payments Restrictions

6.39. Notification obligations in relation to restrictions to SG a country's balance of payments stem from Articles XII and XVIII of the GATT 1994 and the Understanding on Balance-of-Payments (BOP) Provisions (described in Table 6.13).

**Table 6.13 Notification procedures for BOPs restrictions**

Legal source	Notification requirement	Type
GATT Article XII:4(a)	Any Member applying new restrictions or raising the general level of restrictions by a substantial intensification of the measures applied under this Article shall immediately after instituting or intensifying such restrictions (or, in circumstances in which prior consultation is practicable, before doing so) consult with Members as to the nature of its BOPs difficulties, alternative corrective measures which may be available, and the possible effect of the restrictions on the economies of other Members.	<i>Ad hoc</i> , followed by annual consultations
GATT Article XVIII:12(a)		<i>Ad hoc</i> , followed by biennial consultations
Understanding on BOP Provisions, para. 9	A Member shall notify to the General Council the introduction of or any changes in the application of restrictive import measures taken for BOPs purposes, as well as any modifications in time-schedules for the removal of such measures as announced under paragraph 1. Significant changes shall be notified to the General Council prior to, or not later than, 30 days after their announcement.	<i>Ad hoc</i> , followed by a yearly consolidated notification

Source: WTO Secretariat.

6.40. The BOP consultations with Ecuador were completed in July 2017 and no Member has notified the Secretariat of the imposition of measures for BOP purposes since then.

### Regional Trade Agreements

6.41. Following an announcement by the Chair of the CRTA at the Committee meeting of 28 and 29 June 2011, the Secretariat has continued to circulate a list of agreements that have been verified by their parties as being in force through factual presentations prepared by the Secretariat, but not notified to the WTO. The list is circulated as a working document of the Committee before each meeting. The most recent list was circulated on 10 September 2018 and contained 80 such agreements.<sup>154</sup> The Secretariat is also aware of a number of other agreements that are in force but these have not yet been verified with the parties. Members have intervened in various meetings of the CRTA to urge those whose agreements are on the list to notify them to the WTO. The Secretariat also continues to keep track of agreements under negotiation, and reminds Members to notify these

<sup>154</sup> document WT/REG/W/133, 10 September 2018.



agreements when they come into force. The Secretariat's technical assistance work has also been used to explain notification requirements and procedures to Members.

### Preferential Trade Arrangements

6.42. Under the Transparency Mechanism for Preferential Trade Arrangements (PTAs), which was established in December 2010<sup>155</sup>, newly notified PTAs are to be considered in dedicated sessions of the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), on the basis of Secretariat-prepared factual presentations. Since the establishment of the Transparency Mechanism, eight PTAs have been notified to the WTO. Three of these have been considered by the CTD in dedicated sessions, while for several others the notifying Members have yet to provide the Secretariat with the full set of data or information required for the preparation of the factual presentations. The CTD Chair provides an update at each CTD meeting on the PTAs that are to be considered in dedicated sessions, and urges the notifying Members to provide the data and information as soon as possible.

6.43. The Transparency Mechanism for PTAs also stipulates that an electronic database on individual PTAs is to be maintained by the Secretariat. The Database on PTAs<sup>156</sup> currently contains information on 33 PTAs. Table 6.14 provides an overview of the PTAs included in the database, which is updated primarily on the basis of the information provided by the Members implementing PTAs. The CTD Chair has urged Members to ensure that they are up-to-date with their notification and information requirements, and has invited them to remain in touch with the Secretariat on this matter.

**Table 6.14 PTAs of WTO Members**

WTO Member	Number of PTAs	Name or description of PTA
Armenia	1	Generalized System of Preferences
Australia	2	Generalized System of Preferences
		South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement <sup>a</sup>
Canada	2	Generalized System of Preferences
		Commonwealth Caribbean Countries Tariff
Chile	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs
China	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs
European Union	4	Generalized System of Preferences
		Trade preferences for countries of the Western Balkans
		Trade preferences for Pakistan <sup>b</sup>
		Trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova <sup>c</sup>
Iceland	1	Generalized System of Preferences
India	1	Duty-Free Tariff Preference Scheme for LDCs
Japan	1	Generalized System of Preferences
Kazakhstan	1	Generalized System of Preferences
Republic of Korea	1	Preferential Tariff for LDCs
Kyrgyz Republic	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs
Montenegro	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs
Morocco	1	Duty-free treatment for African LDCs
New Zealand	2	Generalized System of Preferences
		South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement <sup>a</sup>
Norway	1	Generalized System of Preferences
Russian Federation	1	Generalized System of Preferences
Switzerland	1	Generalized System of Preferences
Chinese Taipei	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs
Tajikistan	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs
Thailand	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs

<sup>155</sup> Document WT/L/806.

<sup>156</sup> Viewed at: <http://ptadb.wto.org>.

WTO Member	Number of PTAs	Name or description of PTA
Turkey	1	Generalized System of Preferences
United States	6	African Growth and Opportunity Act
		Andean Trade Preference Act <sup>d</sup>
		Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act
		Former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
		Generalized System of Preferences
		Trade preferences for Nepal

- a Australia and New Zealand both provide preferences under this PTA.  
b The preferences granted under this PTA expired on 31 December 2013.  
c The preferences granted under this PTA expired on 31 December 2015.  
d The preferences granted under this PTA expired on 31 July 2013.

Source: Database on PTAs.

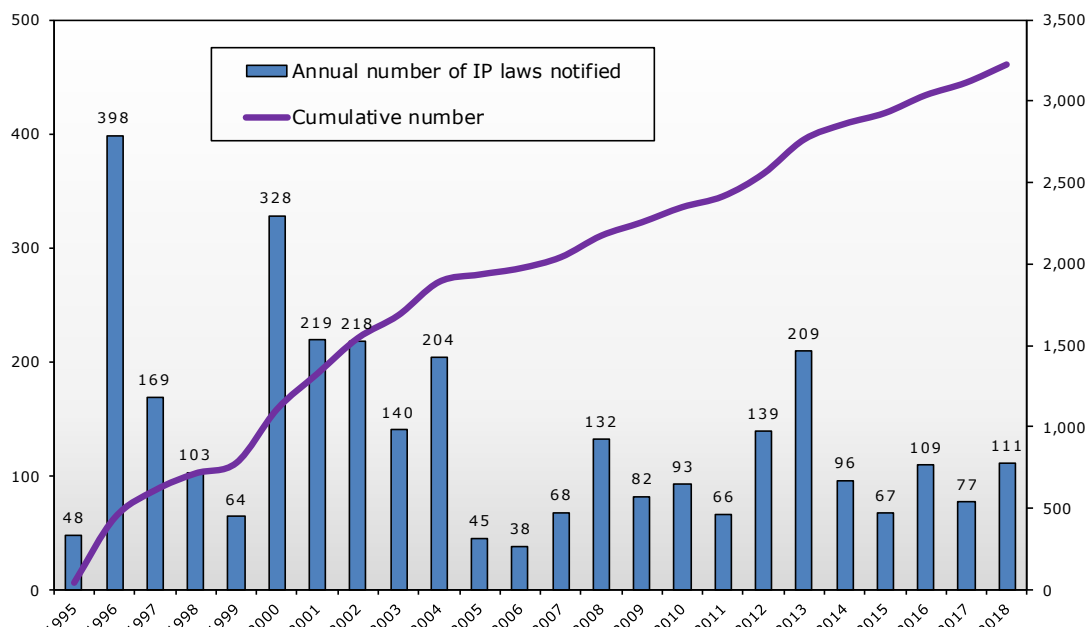
### Government Procurement

6.44. To ensure the transparency and predictability of its Parties' procurement regimes, the Agreement on Government Procurement sets out notification obligations for its Parties in five areas: (i) national implementing legislation on government procurement; (ii) procurement thresholds in national currencies; (iii) statistics on procurement activities; (iv) modifications to schedules of commitments; and (v) media for the publication of procurement-related information. Numerous notifications are made during the year pursuant to each of these requirements.

### Transparency of TRIPS

6.45. The TRIPS Agreement requires WTO Members to notify to the Council for TRIPS of their IP laws and regulations; to establish and notify contact points in their administrations for the purposes of cooperation with each other aimed at the elimination of trade in infringing goods; and to notify the Council if they wish to use certain options under the Agreement relating to substantive obligations. Members have also undertaken to provide information on specific subjects, through Checklists on Enforcement and on the respective Reviews of Articles 24.2 (geographical indications) and 27.3(b) (biotech patenting and plant variety protection). The Council has also agreed that developed country Members will provide reports on technical cooperation and on transfer of technology incentives for the benefit of LDCs.

6.46. The bulk of notifications are laws and regulations notified pursuant to Article 63.2. Chart 6.7 provides information on laws and regulations notified from 1995 to mid-October 2018. Notifications peaked in 1996, when developed country Members notified existing laws or amendments that implemented the TRIPS Agreement. From 2000 onwards notifications of laws and regulations have been predominately from developing countries and recently-acceded Members. The most recent rise in notifications also reflects a trend of diverse approaches by Members to the revision and updating of their IP legal and policy settings so as to respond to changing economic, technological and social dimensions of IP in the national development and economic context. The cumulative total of laws and regulations notified as of 15 October 2018 was 2,942 legal texts, representing a wide array of distinct national means of adapting and applying TRIPS standards according to national priorities and wider policy frameworks. However, there known significant gaps in the coverage of more recent laws and legislative amendments, as several Members have not updated to their initial notifications for well over a decade.

**Chart 6.7 TRIPS Notifications, from 1995 to 15 October 2018**

Source: WTO Secretariat (2018 data covers until mid-October).

6.47. Transparency obligations also refer to final judicial decisions and administrative rulings of general application, pertaining to the subject matter of the TRIPS Agreement, as well as to agreements which are in force between the government or a governmental agency of a Member and the government or a governmental agency of another Member, as provided for by Article 63.1. So far, very few Members have shared such information with the TRIPS Council.<sup>157</sup>

6.48. Following the recommendation made by the TRIPS Council in March 2010<sup>158</sup>, Members agreed to share information on, and notify bilateral agreements related to, the protection of geographical indications to which they are a party. The records indicate that few Members have shared or notified such agreements to the TRIPS Council<sup>159</sup>, despite several such agreements having been concluded.

### TRIPS Checklists

6.49. The TRIPS Council has agreed that Members should provide responses to illustrative lists of questions (i.e. Checklists) on Issues on Enforcement<sup>160</sup>; as well as on the Review under Article 24.2 of the Section on Geographical Indications<sup>161</sup> and the Review of the Provisions of Article 27.3(b).<sup>162</sup> These Checklists are circulated and reviewed by the TRIPS Council. They provide detailed information on measures taken to implement the provisions of the TRIPS Agreement at the national level. More specifically, the three Checklists include trade policy components which touch on many aspects of the global economy, amongst them enforcement measures at the border. Chart 6.8 shows the Checklists on Enforcement, Geographical Indications and Article 27.3(b) submitted until 15 October 2018. Submissions peaked in 1997, 1999 and 2000-2001, when developed-country and developing-country Members deposited their respective Checklists.

<sup>157</sup> See, for example: documents IP/N/1/PHL/2; IP/N/1/GBR/1; and IP/N/1/HKG/3.

<sup>158</sup> Paragraphs 73 and 74 of IP/C/M/62.

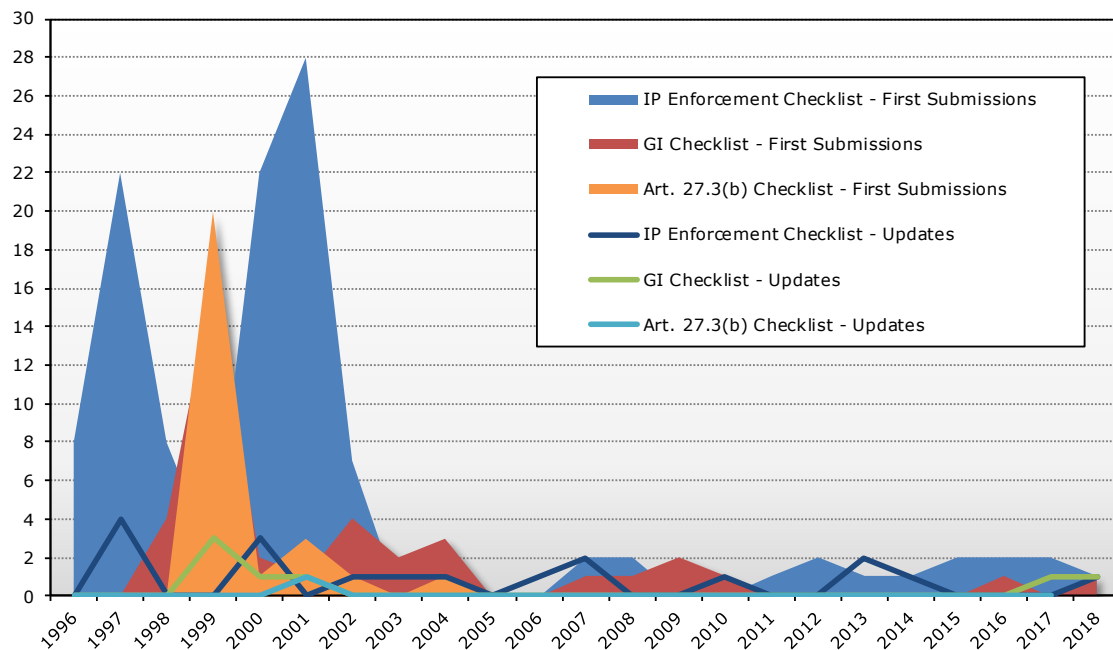
<sup>159</sup> Paragraph 9.2 of IP/C/M/74.

<sup>160</sup> See Checklist in document IP/C/5; and responses circulated in the IP/N/6/\* series of documents.

<sup>161</sup> See Checklist in documents IP/C/13 and its Addendum; and responses circulated in the IP/C/W/117/\* series of documents.

<sup>162</sup> See Checklist in documents IP/C/W/122, IP/C/W/273 and its Rev.1; and responses circulated in the IP/C/W/125/\* series of documents.

**Chart 6.8 TRIPS Checklists on enforcement, geographical indications and Article 27.3(b), 1995 to 15 October 2018**



Source: WTO Secretariat (2018 data covers until mid-October).

6.50. During the review period, Finland and Mauritius submitted, respectively, an updated and an initial Checklist on Enforcement.<sup>163</sup> Since 1996, 110 Members have submitted their Checklists; 15 have notified revisions. However, but a significant number have not updated their reports for over 20 years.

6.51. The Checklist on Geographical Indications has been submitted by only 36 Members<sup>164</sup>, of which six have notified updates. During the review period, the Ukraine submitted its Checklist and Mexico submitted its updates detailing the implementation of GI-related provisions, which has already been notified to the TRIPS Council.<sup>165</sup>

6.52. The submission of Checklists on Article 27.3(b) peaked with the start of the review of this provision in 1999. So far, 25 Members<sup>166</sup> have notified their Checklists, of which only one has provided an update. The last submission took place in January 2004.

## e-TRIPS

6.53. e-TRIPS is an online information submission and management system, designed to facilitate the processing of, and access to, TRIPS-related information. As a substantial advancement in the development of e-TRIPS, the Secretariat is now using the e-TRIPS system to process notifications and other types of TRIPS documents internally, to test and fine-tune the system during this initial phase of Secretariat-use only, with the aim of making it available for Members in the near future. Implementation of this system will make it significantly easier for Members to review what they have notified and reported in the past, to identify gaps in their notifications and to provide notifications,

<sup>163</sup> Documents IP/N/6/FIN/2 and IP/N/6/MUS/1, respectively.

<sup>164</sup> Australia; Bulgaria; Canada; Chinese Taipei; Colombia; Croatia; Cuba; Czech Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; Estonia; European Union; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; Japan; Republic of Korea; Liechtenstein; Lithuania; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Morocco; New Zealand; Norway; Peru; Poland; Romania; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Switzerland; Turkey; United States of America; Ukraine; Uruguay and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

<sup>165</sup> Documents IP/C/W/117/Add.35 and IP/C/W/117/Add.14/Rev.1, respectively.

<sup>166</sup> Australia; Bulgaria; Canada; China; Czech Republic; Estonia; European Union; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; Japan; the Republic of Korea; Lithuania; Moldova, Republic of; Morocco; New Zealand; Norway; Poland; Romania; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; South Africa; Switzerland; Thailand; United States of America and Zambia.

reports, and updates to earlier materials. The Secretariat is providing detailed briefings and demonstrations to Members on its use.

### **Services**

6.54. From mid-October 2017 to mid-October 2018, 22 notifications were made under various GATS provisions. Out of those, 11 were made under GATS Article III:3 by six WTO Members. GATS Article III:3 requires each Member to notify to the Council for Trade in Services at least annually any regulatory changes that significantly affect trade in services covered by its specific commitments.

6.55. During the same reporting period, four agreements concerning economic integration in services were notified under GATS Article V:7, involving eight WTO Members. These agreements were referred to the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements for consideration.

6.56. Seven notifications were made under GATS Article VII:4 by four WTO Members. GATS Article VII:4 requires Members to notify to the Council for Trade in Services any new or existing mutual recognition agreements or arrangements.

6.57. No notifications received under other GATS provisions during this period.

**ANNEX 1****MEASURES FACILITATING TRADE<sup>1</sup>**

(MID-OCTOBER 2017 TO MID-OCTOBER 2018)

**Confirmed information<sup>2</sup>**

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Albania</b>		
Reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (70 tariff lines at 6-digit level in HS Chapters 32; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90)	Permanent Delegation of Albania to the WTO (25 October 2018) and WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.1, 28 January 2016	Effective 31 May 2018
<b>Argentina</b>		
Trade facilitation measure for importers through the implementation of the "Authorized Economic Operator" scheme	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resolución General No. 4150-E (26 October 2017)	Effective 28 October 2017
Trade facilitation measure for exporters through the implementation of the "Authorized Economic Operator" scheme	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resolución General No. 4150-E (26 October 2017)	Effective 28 October 2017
Elimination of the requirement for exporters to settle their foreign currency originating from export operations (all sectors)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Decreto No. 893/2017 - Entidades Financieras (1 November 2017)	Effective 2 November 2017
Elimination of the sworn declaration requirement ( <i>Declaración Jurada de Ventas al Exterior "DJVE"</i> ) for the export of certain products (with small export volume) (e.g. rye; oats; millet; worked oat grains; certain oil seeds ( <i>cartamo</i> ); linseed oils and its fractions; oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soyabean oil ( <i>tortas de soja y expellers de soja</i> ); certain oil-cake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of vegetable fats or oils ( <i>lino, nabo y colza</i> ) (NCM 1002; 1004; 1008; 1104; 1207; 1515; 2304; 2306)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Resolución No. 364-E/2017 - Ministerio de Agroindustria (16 November 2017)	Effective 23 November 2017
Elimination of "reference values" for exports of all goods	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resolución General No. 4161-E (23 November 2017)	Effective 28 November 2017
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain machinery, equipment and goods (NCM Chapters 39; 70; 72; 73; 74; 84; 85; 90) destined for the production of renewable energy ( <i>Régimen de Fomento de las Energías Renovables</i> )	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Decreto No. 814/2017 (10 October 2017)	Effective 1 January 2018 for 60 months

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the Annex implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

<sup>2</sup> This Section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Elimination of the Register Export Operation ( <i>Registro de Operaciones de Exportación - ROE-ROJO</i> ) for the export of certain live bovine animals, bovine meat and edible offal, certain products of animal origin, certain prepared or preserved meats, extracts and juices of meat, soups and broths, gelatine of animal origin (NCM 0102; 0201; 0202; 0206; 0210; 0504; 1602; 1603; 2104; 3503) requiring the recording of export operations (established in 2006)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Resolución Conjunta General No. 4170-E/2017 - Ministerio de Agroindustria y Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos (14 December 2017)	Effective 20 December 2017
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on static converters and (to 10%) on electrical motor vehicles for the transport of 10 or more persons (NCM 8504.40.10; 8702.40.90). Further reduction of the Mercosur Common Tariff depends on multiple variables, including local content thresholds	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Decreto No. 51/2018 (16 January 2018)	Effective 20 January 2018
Inclusion in the "Authorized Economic Operator" scheme of "in-factory customs regime" users ( <i>Plan Piloto Operador Económico Autorizado para Usuario del Régimen de Aduana en Factoría (RAF)</i> )	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Resolución General AFIP No. 4197-E (29 January 2018)	Effective 31 January 2018
Elimination of import tax surcharges on "high cube" containers	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 65/2018 Administración General de Puertos (15 May 2018)	Effective 21 May 2018
Elimination of export tax surcharges on "high cube" containers	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 65/2018 Administración General de Puertos (15 May 2018)	Effective 21 May 2018
Reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on certain parts and accessories of motor vehicles not locally produced in Mercosur, destined for transformation by local industries (128 tariff lines at 8 digit-level in NCM 4009; 4016; 7304; 7608; 7616; 8409; 8412; 8413; 8414; 8418; 8419; 8481; 8482; 8483; 8501; 8505; 8507; 8512; 8533; 8536; 8537; 8539; 8547; 8708; 9026; 9027; 9031; 9032; 9401)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 67/2018 Secretaría de Industria, Ministerio de Producción (12 July 2018)	Effective 20 July 2018
Amendments introduced to the list of imported capital goods (326 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 84; 85; 86; 87; 90) not locally produced (Mercosur Common External Tariff set at 2%)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Decreto No. 837/2018 (19 September 2018)	Effective 20 September 2018
Amendments introduced in the list of machinery, equipment and goods granted a temporary reduction of import tariffs (130 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 73; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 94) destined for local transformation and then for export	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Decreto No. 854/2018 - Importaciones (25 September 2018)	Effective 26 September 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Amendments introduced to the national list of exemptions to the Mercosur Common Tariff (89 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 15; 22; 28; 29; 31; 32; 37; 38; 39; 40; 45; 48; 54; 55; 59; 64; 70; 72; 73; 76; 84; 85; 87) (e.g. palm kernel or babassu oil, whiskies, organic chemicals, mineral or chemical fertilizers, insecticides, plastics and articles thereof, rubber and articles thereof, corks and stoppers, paper and paperboard, synthetic filament yarn and staple fibres, footwear, woven fabrics, iron and steel, articles of iron and steel, aluminium plates, machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical machinery and equipment, motor vehicles, motorcycles, vehicle parts and accessories)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Decreto No. 847/2018 (25 September 2018)	Effective 26 September 2018
Amendments introduced to the list of informatics and telecommunications goods (186 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 74; 84; 85; 90) granted elimination of import tariffs	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Decreto No. 864/2018 (26 September 2018)	Effective 27 September 2018
<b>Australia</b>		
Elimination of the "special duty" of \$A 12,000 on imports of used passenger vehicles (the previous duty was 5% plus \$A 12,000 and is now 5%)	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (25 May 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (86 tariff lines at 6-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 49; 59; 84; 85; 90; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.2, 26 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Belize</b>		
Reduction of import tariffs (from 100% to 70%) on flour; (from 60% to 50%) on seats of bamboo and or rattan; (from 75% to 50%) on upholstered seats with wooden frames; and (from 60% to 10%) on prefabricated buildings of wood (HS 1101.00.90; 9401.52.00; 9401.53.00; 9401.59.00; 9401.61.00; 9401.69.00; 9406.10.00)	Permanent Delegation of Belize to the WTO (17 October 2018)	Effective 1 April 2018
<b>Brazil</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain vaccines for human medicine, under an import quota of 11 million doses (NCM 3002.20.27; 3002.20.29) (effective 1 December 2017 to 30 November 2018); and on certain vaccines for human medicine ( <i>hepatite A</i> ), under an import quota of 2,250,000 doses (NCM 3002.20.29) (effective 2 April 2018 to 1 October 2018). Temporary reduction (to 2%) of import tariffs on certain polyesters, under an import quota of 850 tonnes (NCM 3907.99.99) (effective 18 October 2017 to 17 January 2018); and on jute (NCM 5303.10.10), under an import quota of 7,000 tonnes (effective 18 October 2017)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), Camex Resolution Nos. 84/2017 (17 October 2017) and 89/2017 (30 November 2017) and Secex Portaria Nos. 40/2017 (19 October 2017), 42/2017 and 43/2017 (1 December 2017)	Effective: see individual dates in measure



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 1,105 capital goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 86; 87; 89; 90; 94), and 3 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM 8517.62.39; 8543.70.99; 9032.89.81), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunications equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), Camex Resolution Nos. 80/2017, 81/2017 (17 October 2017) and 90/2017 (13 December 2017)	Effective until 30 June 2019
Decrease of import tariffs (from 14% to 2%) on sensitized photographic plates and film in the flat for x-ray; and on certain polyesters, certain organic surface-active agents, and certain acrylic polymers in primary forms; (from 16% to 2%) on plastics of poly(vinyl butyral), on electrical fixed capacitors (i.e. single layer ceramic dielectric, multilayer ceramic dielectric, dielectric of paper or plastics, variable or adjustable (pre-set)), on other variable resistors, including rheostats and potentiometers, and on other apparatus for protecting electrical circuits, fixed resistors for a power handling capacity not exceeding 20 W (effective 1 January 2018); and on tantalum, multilayer ceramic dielectric and certain apparatus for switching or protecting electrical circuits (NCM 8532.21.20; 8532.24.20; 8536.90.60) (effective 2 March 2018); and (from 4% to 2%) on certain supported catalysts (effective 1 January 2018). Elimination of import tariffs (from 6%) on transistors, other than photosensitive transistors, with a dissipation rate of less than 1 W (NCM 3701.10.10; 3907.99.93; 3907.99.94; 3907.99.95; 3920.91.00; 3921.90.13; 8532.23.10; 8532.24.10; 8532.25.10; 8532.29.10; 8532.30.10; 8533.40.12; 8536.30.10; 8541.21.20; 3404.90.22; 3815.90.93; 3906.90.48; 8533.21.20)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), Camex Resolution Nos. 54/2017 (5 July 2017) and 95/2017 (19 December 2017) and 11/2018 (28 February 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Temporary reduction (to 2%) of import tariffs on certain poly(ethylene terephthalate) (NCM 3907.61.00), under an import quota of 10,000 tonnes (effective 30 December 2017 to 29 December 2018); on certain printing ink (NCM 3215.19.00), under an import quota of 600 tonnes (effective 30 December 2017 to 29 December 2018); on non-alloyed nickel ( <i>catodos</i> ) (NCM 7502.10.10), under an import quota of 1,350 tonnes (effective 4 January 2018 to 3 April 2018); on dimethylamine (NCM 2921.11.21), under an import quota of 12,000 tonnes (effective 23 January 2018 to 22 January 2019); on black printing ink (NCM 3215.11.00), under an import quota of 350 tonnes (effective 23 January 2018 to 22 January 2019); on non-roasted malt (NCM 1107.10.10), under an import quota of 156,531 tonnes (effective 22 December 2017 to 21 December 2018); on polycarbonates (NCM 3907.40.90), under an import quota of 35,040 tonnes (effective 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018); on certain compounded rubber, unvulcanized in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strip (NCM 4005.99.90), under an import quota of 1,300 tonnes (effective 2 January 2018 to 1 July 2018); on certain synthetic filament yarn (other than sewing thread), not for retail sale (NCM 5402.47.10), under an import quota of 2,200 tonnes (effective 2 January 2018 to 1 January 2019); and on certain boards, panels, consoles, desks, cabinets and other bases, equipped with two or more apparatus under heading HS 8535 or 8536, for electrical control or the distribution of electricity, including those incorporating instruments or apparatus under HS Chapter 90, and numerical control apparatus, other than switching apparatus under heading HS 8517 (NCM 8537.20.90), under an import quota of 31 units (effective 2 January 2018 to 1 January 2019). Temporary elimination of import tariffs on sardines (NCM 0303.53.00), under an import quota of 50,000 tonnes (effective 22 December 2017 to 21 June 2018); on p-xylene (NCM 2902.43.00), under an import quota of 180,000 tonnes (effective 22 December 2017 to 21 December 2018); and on certain vaccines for humans ( <i>dengue</i> ) (NCM 3002.20.29)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), Camex Resolution Nos. 97/2017 (20 December 2017), 98/2017 (21 December 2017) and 99/2017 (29 December 2017), and Secex Portaria Nos. 48/2017, 49/2017, 50/2017, 51/2017 (22 December 2017) and 1/2018 (2 January 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Elimination of import tariffs (from 8%) on certain medicines consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses (including those in the form of transdermal administration systems) or in forms or packings for retail sale ( <i>dicloridrato de daclatasvir and dasatinibe</i> ) (NCM 3004.90.69; 3004.90.79) (effective 1 February 2018), and on certain medicaments ( <i>idursulfase</i> ) (NCM 3003.90.24; 3004.90.14) (effective 1 February 2018); (from 14%) on certain parts for teleferics (NCM 8431.39.00) (effective 6 February 2018), and teleferics, chair-lifts, ski-draglines, and traction mechanisms for funiculars (NCM 8428.60.00) (effective 7 March 2018); (from 20%) on certain fairground amusement parts (NCM 9508.90.90) (effective 6 February 2018); and on certain industrial robots (NCM 8479.50.00) (effective 28 February 2018); (from 6%) on diodes, other than photosensitive or light emitting diodes (NCM 8541.10.22; 8541.10.29) (effective 28 February 2018); and on unwrought aluminium, non-alloyed (NCM 7601.10.00), under an import quota of 353,000 tonnes (effective until 30 June 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), Camex Resolution Nos. 1/2018 (15 January 2018), 4/2018 (5 February 2018), 9/2018 (28 February 2018), 11/2018 (28 February 2018) and 16/2018 (7 March 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Temporary reduction (to 2%) of import tariffs on disodium sulphate, under an import quota of 910,000 tonnes (NCM 2833.11.10) (effective 31 January 2018 to 30 January 2019); on rectangular (including square) aluminium plates and sheets of aluminium alloys, under an import quota of 2,937 tonnes (NCM 7606.12.90) (effective 1 February 2018 to 31 January 2019); on aluminium foil, rolled but not further worked, under an import quota of 2,137 tonnes (NCM 7607.11.90) (effective 1 February 2018 to 31 January 2019); on viscose rayon staple fibres (NCM 5504.10.00), under an import quota of 40,000 tonnes (effective 28 March 2018 to 27 March 2019); on non-alloyed nickel (catodos) (NCM 7502.10.10), under an import quota of 7,200 tonnes; on titanium oxides (NCM 2823.00.10), under an import quota of 8,000 tonnes; on palm kernel or babassu oil and fractions thereof (NCM 1513.29.10), under an import quota of 224,785 tonnes; and on certain electrical apparatus for switching or protecting electrical circuits (NCM 8535.90.00), under an import quota of 500 units (effective 25 April 2018). Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain pharmaceutical products ( <i>cloridrato de duloxetina, clavulanato de potássio</i> ) (NCM Chapters 3003.90.89), under an import quota of 48 tonnes (effective 3 May 2018, for 12 months)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), Camex Resolution Nos. 3/2018 (30 January 2018), 17/2018 (27 March 2018), 27/2018 (24 April 2018) and 32/2018 (2 May 2018), and Secex Portaria Nos. 4/2018 (31 January 2018) and 15/2018 (28 March 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 1,115 capital goods tariff lines, and 97 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 89; 90), through the "ex-out" regime	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), and Camex Resolution Nos. 14/2018 and 15/2018 (28 February 2018), 22/2018 and 23/2018 (27 March 2018), and 30/2018 and 31/2018 (2 May 2018)	Effective until 31 December 2019
New legislation streamlining the medical device importation process	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018) and Resolução da Diretoria Colegiada - RDC No. 208 - Ministério de Saúde-MS, Agência Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária - ANVISA (5 January 2018)	Effective 8 January 2018
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 557 capital goods tariff lines, and 40 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 73; 84; 85; 90; 94), through the "ex-out" regime	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution Nos. 37/2018, 38/2018 (5 June 2018) and 44/2018, 45/2018 (28 June 2018)	Effective until 31 December 2019
Temporary reduction (to 2%) of import tariffs on monochloroacetic acids (NCM 2915.40.10), under an import quota of 4,500 tonnes (effective 25 May 2018 to 24 May 2019); on isocyanates (NCM 2929.10.10), under an import quota of 23,000 tonnes (effective 25 May 2018 to 24 May 2019); on certain mixtures of odoriferous substances (NCM 3302.90.90), under an import quota of 1,250 tonnes (effective 25 May 2018 to 24 May 2019); on certain polymers of vinyl chloride (NCM 3904.90.00), under an import quota of 3,794 tonnes (effective 25 May 2018 to 24 May 2019); on poly(methylene phenyl isocyanate) (crude MDI, polymeric MDI) (NCM 3909.31.00), under an import quota of 105,000 tonnes (effective 25 May 2018 to 24 May 2019); on certain self-adhesive laminates (NCM 3919.90.90), under an import quota of 200 tonnes (effective 25 May 2018 to 24 May 2019); on certain films of polymers of propylene (NCM 3920.20.19), under an import quota of 600 tonnes (effective 25 May 2018 to 24 May 2019); on preparations suitable for infants or young children, put up for retail sale (NCM 1901.10.90), under an import quota of 502 tonnes (effective 29 June 2018 to 28 June 2019); on certain organic chemicals ( <i>ametrina</i> ) (NCM 2933.69.91), under an import quota of 7,500 tonnes (effective 29 June 2018 to 28 June 2019); on lignin sulphonates (NCM 3804.00.20), under an import quota of 72,000 tonnes (effective 29 June 2018 to 28 June 2019); on other yarn of polyesters partially oriented (NCM 5402.46.00), under an import quota of 97,500 tonnes (effective 29 June 2018 to 28 June 2019); on casein (NCM 3501.10.00), under an import quota of 317 tonnes (effective 29 June 2018 to 28 August 2018); on photographic film in rolls for x-ray (NCM 3702.10.20), under an import quota of 500 tonnes (effective 29 June 2018 to 28 December 2018); on certain amine-function compounds (NCM 2921.19.23), under an import quota of 26,282 tonnes (effective 14 August 2018 to 13 August 2019); on acrylic or modacrylic (NCM 5503.30.00),	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018), Camex Resolution Nos. 35/2018 (24 May 2018), 43/2018 (28 June 2018), 46/2018 (3 July 2018), 48/2018 (23 July 2018), 51/2018 (3 August 2018), 57/2018 (22 August 2018), 63/2018, 64/2018 (10 September 2018) and 67/2018 (21 September 2018), and Secex Portaria Nos. 27/2018, 28/2018 (28 May 2018), 32/2018 (29 June 2018), 34/2018 (5 July 2018), 39/2018 (24 July 2018), 44/2018 (7 August 2018), 47/2018 (24 August 2018) and 50/2018 (20 September 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<p>under an import quota of 9,000 tonnes (effective 14 August 2018 to 13 August 2019); on uncoated paper and paper board weighing more than 150 g/m<sup>2</sup> but less than 225 g/m<sup>2</sup> (NCM 4805.92.90), under an import quota of 31,985 tonnes (effective 4 July 2018 to 3 July 2019); on flax tow and waste (NCM 5501.30.00), under an import quota of 6,240 tonnes (effective 4 July 2018 to 3 July 2019); on high tenacity yarn of polyesters, whether or not textured (NCM 5402.20.00), under an import quota of 8,400 tonnes (effective 24 July 2018 to 23 July 2019); on hope cones, neither ground nor powdered nor in the form of pellets (NCM 1210.20.10), under an import quota of 1,800 tonnes (effective 23 August 2018 to 22 August 2019); on o-, m-, p-phenylenediamine, diaminotoluenes, and their derivatives; salts thereof (NCM 2921.51.33), under an import quota of 10,440 tonnes (effective 23 August 2018 to 22 August 2019); on acrylic or modacrylic filament tow (NCM 5501.30.00), under an import quota of 6,240 tonnes (effective 23 August 2018 to 22 August 2019); on shelled walnuts (NCM 0802.22.00), under an import quota of 2,500 tonnes (effective 23 August 2018 to 31 December 2018); on yarn of viscose rayon, untwisted or with a twist not exceeding 120 turns/m (NCM 5403.31.00), under an import quota of 1,249 tonnes (effective 20 September 2018 to 19 September 2019); (to 6%) on pigments and preparations based on titanium dioxide (NCM 3206.11.10), under an import quota of 100,000 tonnes; and (to 2%) on pigments (<i>tipo rutilo</i>) (NCM 3206.11.10), under an import quota of 9,672 tonnes (effective 12 September 2018 to 11 September 2019). Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 6%) on not-alloyed unwrought aluminium (NCM 7601.10.00), under an import quota of 282,500 tonnes (effective 4 July 2018 to 3 July 2019); (from 10%) on sardines (NCM 0303.53.00), under an import quota of 50,000 tonnes (effective 6 August 2018 to 5 February 2019); and on vaccines for humans (<i>dengue</i>) (NCM 3002.20.29), under an import quota of 1 million doses (effective 23 August 2018 to 22 February 2019)</p>		
Trade facilitation measures through the gradual implementation of the single-window platform for all import operations	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective October 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
All exports procedures processed through the Brazilian Single-Window of Foreign Trade system. As from July 2018, export operations required to use the Single Export Declaration ( <i>Documento Único de Exportação - DUE</i> )	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 1 July 2018
Elimination of import tariffs (from 20%) on certain fairground amusements equipment (NCM 9508.90.90) (effective until 6 October 2018); (from 6%) on extracts of glands or other organs or of their secretions (NCM 3001.20.90) (effective 4 July 2018); and (from 2%) on immunological products, put up in measured doses or in forms or packings for retail sale (NCM 3002.15.90) (effective 4 July 2018). Reduction of import tariffs (from 18% to 2%) on artificial filament yarn of viscose rayon, untwisted or with a twist not exceeding 120 turns/m (NCM 5403.31.10) (effective 2 October 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution Nos. 36/2018 (4 June 2018), 46/2018 (3 July 2018) and 71/2018 (2 October 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 18%) on lithium-ion accumulators (NCM 8507.60.00) (effective 24 July 2018 to 31 December 2021); and (from 35%) on fire fighting vehicles (NCM 8705.30.00) (effective 24 July 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution No. 49/2018 (23 July 2018)	
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 930 capital goods tariff lines, and 68 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 87; 89; 90; 94), through the "ex-out" regime	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution Nos. 54/2018, 55/2018 (10 August 2018), 60/2018, 61/2018 (31 August 2018), 72/2018 and 73/2018 (5 October 2018)	Effective until 30 June 2020
Elimination of export taxes on wet blue leather (NCM Chapter 41) (originally implemented in May 2001)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution No. 65/2018 (12 September 2018)	Effective 13 September 2018
<b>Canada</b>		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (56 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 84; 85; 88; 90)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.3, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Chile</b>		
New law updating import customs procedures and establishing the "Authorized Economic Operator" (AEO) scheme (e.g. AEO certification requirements, activities liable to be taken into consideration for certification, and the requirements, conditions, rights and obligations of the AEO terms and procedures)	Permanent Delegation of Chile to the WTO (18 May 2018)	Effective 12 January 2018
New law updating export customs procedures and establishing the "Authorized Economic Operator" (AEO) scheme (e.g. AEO certification requirements, activities liable to be taken into consideration for certification, and the requirements, conditions, rights and obligations of the AEO terms and procedures)	Permanent Delegation of Chile to the WTO (18 May 2018)	Effective 12 January 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>China</b>		
Imposition of interim tariffs resulting on temporary reduction of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates (HS Chapter 03); on cheese and curd (HS Chapter 04); on certain edible fruit and nuts (HS Chapter 08); on sausages and similar products (HS 1601.00.10; 1601.00.20); on certain preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk (HS 1901.10.90; 1902.19.00); on jams (HS 2007.10.00); on other food preparations (HS 2106.90.50; 2106.90.90); on certain beverages, spirits and vinegar (HS 2201.10.10; 2205.10.00; 2208.20.00; 2208.30.00); on medicaments (HS 3004); on certain essential oils and resinoids (HS Chapter 33); on certain articles of leather (HS Chapter 42); on certain articles of apparel and clothing accessories (HS Chapters 61 and 62); on blankets and travelling rugs (HS 6301.20.00); on certain footwear (HS Chapter 64); on certain nuclear reactors, boilers, and machinery (HS Chapter 84); on certain electrical machinery and equipment (HS Chapter 85); on baby carriages (HS 8715.00.00); on certain optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision medical or surgical instruments (HS 9004.90.10; 9021.29.00); on certain toys, games and sports requisites (HS 9506.11.00; 9506.12.00; 9506.19.00; 9506.70.10; 9506.70.20); and on certain miscellaneous manufactured articles (HS Chapter 96)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (28 May 2018)	Effective December 2017
Reduction of import taxes (from 5% to 2%) on raw donkey skins (HS 4101.20.20)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (28 May 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (289 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 49; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.4, 28 January 2016 and Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 October 2018)	Effective 1 July 2018
Reduction of import tariffs (to 15%) on certain vehicles (139 tariff lines) (HS Chapter 87) and (to 6%) on certain components (79 tariff lines)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2018). Viewed at: <a href="http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhe ngcefabu/201805/P020180522506508786661.pdf">http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhe ngcefabu/201805/P020180522506508786661.pdf</a>	Effective 1 July 2018



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Reduction of import tariffs on certain products (1,449 tariff lines), e.g. fish and crustaceans; prepared foodstuffs; pasta; preparations of cereals; preparations of vegetables and fruits; miscellaneous edible preparations; waters; pharmaceutical products; printing ink; perfumery and cosmetic preparations; soaps; plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof; articles of leather; travel goods; furskins and artificial fur; plaiting materials; paper and paperboard; carpets; articles of apparel and clothing accessories; blankets; bed linen; footwear; headgear and parts thereof; umbrellas; prepared feathers and down and articles made of feathers or of down; ceramic products; glass and glassware; articles of jewellery; articles of iron or steel; copper household articles; aluminium household articles; tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metals, parts thereof of base metal; miscellaneous articles of base metal; machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical machinery and equipment; bicycles and other cycles; optical fibres; frames and mounting for spectacles; cameras; clocks and watches and parts thereof; musical instruments; mattresses; skis; miscellaneous manufactured articles; and paintings (HS Chapters 03; 16; 19; 20; 21; 22; 30; 32; 33; 34; 36; 37; 39; 40; 42; 43; 44; 46; 48; 49; 57; 58; 59; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 69; 70; 71; 73; 74; 76; 82; 83; 84; 85; 87; 90; 91; 92; 94; 95; 96; 97)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2018), and State Council Tariff Commission Circular (2018-4) on reduction of import tariff for certain consumables. Viewed at: <a href="http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201805/t20180531_2914284.html">http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201805/t20180531_2914284.html</a>	Effective 1 July 2018
VAT rebate rates increased on exports of certain electromechanical and cultural products (in Chapters HS 28; 29; 32; 34; 35; 38; 39; 40; 44; 48; 49; 68; 70; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 78; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 87; 89; 90; 91; 93; 94; 96)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 15 September 2018
<b>Colombia</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on raw materials and capital goods not produced locally (3,650 tariff lines) (HS Chapters 03; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 45; 47; 48; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 58; 59; 60; 63; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 94; 96)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (24 April 2018) and Decreto No. 272 Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (13 February 2018)	Effective 13 February 2018
New law updating customs procedures, resulting in improvement of import procedures	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (24 April 2018) and Decreto No. 349 Ministerio de Hacienda y Crédito Público (20 February 2018)	Effective 7 March 2018
New law updating customs procedures, resulting in improvement of export procedures	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (24 April 2018) and Decreto No. 349 Ministerio de Hacienda y Crédito Público (20 February 2018)	Effective 7 March 2018



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain equipment and goods (245 HS tariff lines) for the construction of ships, boats and floating structures ( <i>Programa de Fomento de la Industria de Astilleros</i> ) (HS Chapters 27; 28; 32; 34; 35; 38; 39; 40; 44; 48; 56; 59; 63; 68; 69; 70; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 87; 89; 90; 91; 94; 96)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (24 April 2018) and Decreto No. 590 Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (2 April 2018)	Effective 2 April 2018
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain chemicals and insecticides (HS 3102; 3808)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (28 September 2018)	Effective 18 June 2018 to 18 June 2020
<b>Costa Rica</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on rice in the husk (paddy or rough) (HS 1006.10.90), under an import quota of 62.507 metric tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Costa Rica to the WTO (27 September 2018)	Effective January 2018 to August 2018
<b>Dominican Republic</b>		
Trade facilitation measures through the establishment of the National Trade Facilitation Committee and the interlink to the single-window system ( <i>ventanilla única de comercio exterior "VUCE"</i> ) of agencies associated with import operations	Permanent Delegation of the Dominican Republic to the WTO (1 May 2018)	Effective December 2017
Trade facilitation measures through the establishment of the National Trade Facilitation Committee and the interlink to the single-window system ( <i>ventanilla única de comercio exterior "VUCE"</i> ) of agencies associated with export operations	Permanent Delegation of the Dominican Republic to the WTO (1 May 2018)	Effective December 2017
<b>Egypt</b>		
Elimination of export duties (L 3,000/tonne) on sugar (HS 1701)	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 5 August 2018
<b>European Union</b>		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (126 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 84; 85; 88; 90)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.7/Rev.1, 20 February 2017	Effective from 1 July 2018
<b>Guatemala</b>		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (206 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 49; 68; 84; 85; 88; 90; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.8, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 January 2018, with all covered tariffs to be phased out by no later than 1 July 2024
<b>India</b>		
Elimination of export duties on electrodes of a kind used for furnaces (HS 8545.11.00)	Notification No. 23/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Elimination of import tariffs on specified parts of cellular mobile phones and other electronic goods (e.g. inputs or parts for use in the manufacture of chargers or adapters for cellular mobile phones (HS 8504.90.90; 3926.90.99)	Notification No. 22/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Decrease of import tariffs on motor cycles (including mopeds) and cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with or without side cars, and side cars, new, which have not been registered anywhere prior to importation - (1) as a completely knocked down (CKD) kit containing all the necessary components, parts or sub-assemblies for assembling a complete vehicle with: (from 30% to 25%) (i) engine, gearbox or transmission mechanism in pre-assembled form, not mounted on a body assembly; and (from 60% to 50%) (ii) in a form other than included in (1) above (HS 8711)	Notification No. 26/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (12 February 2018)	Effective 12 February 2018
Decrease of import tariffs (from 10% to 7.5%) on bricks, blocks, tiles and other ceramic goods of siliceous fossil metals (e.g. kieselguhr, tripolite or diatomite) or of similar siliceous earths (HS 6901). Elimination of import tariffs (from 5%) on solar tempered glass or solar tempered (anti-reflective coated) glass for the manufacture of solar cells/panels/modules (HS Chapter 70)	Notification No. 6/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Elimination of import tariffs on inputs or parts for the manufacture of printed circuit board assembly (PCBA) and moulded plastics of chargers or adapters of cellular mobile phones (HS 3926.90.99; 8504.90.90)	Notification No. 22/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Extension of the concessional rate (2.5% of the basic customs tariff) on certain products, i.e. ball screws (HS 8483.40.00), linear motion guides (HS 8466.93.90), and CNC systems (HS 8537.10.00) for the manufacture of all types of CNC machine tools falling under HS 8456 and 8463	Notification No. 6/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Elimination of the import ban on second hand goods imported for the purpose of repair/refurbishing/re-conditioning or re-engineering, subject to items being re-exported	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (9 May 2018) and Notification No. 58/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Foreign Trade (28 March 2018)	Effective 28 March 2018
Elimination of import tariffs on auxiliary textile machinery (HS 8448)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 72/2018-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (28 September 2018)	Effective 28 September 2018
Decrease of import tariffs on certain machines for the reception, conversion and transmission or regeneration of voice, images or other data, including switching and routing apparatus (HS 8517.62.90; 8517.69.90)	Notification No. 75/2018-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (11 October 2018)	Effective 12 October 2018
<b>Indonesia</b>		
Elimination of VAT on imports of certain products, e.g. certain products of animal origin; maize; oil seeds; miscellaneous grains, fats and oils and their fractions, of fish or marine mammals; inactive yeasts; residues and waste from food industries, prepared animal fodder; and lecithins and other phosphor-aminolipids (HS 0505; 0511; 1005; 1201; 1212; 1504; 2102; 2301; 2302; 2303; 2304; 2306; 2308; 2923)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Regulation 142/PMK.010/2017	Effective 23 November 2017

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Reduction of import tariffs (under the APEC Environmental Goods Initiative) (to 8%) on auxiliary plants for use with boilers; condensers for steam or other vapour power units; non-electric instantaneous or storage water heaters; automatic vending machines; AC generators (alternators) of an output exceeding 750 kVA; and wind-powered generating sets (HS Chapters 44; 84; 85; 90)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (25 April 2018) and Regulation 213/PMK.010/2017 (29 December 2017)	Effective 1 January 2018
Elimination of import tariffs (from 10%) on non-industrial diamonds, unworked or simply sawn, cleaved or bruted	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (25 April 2018) and Regulation 17/PMK.010/2018 (1 March 2018)	Effective 1 March 2018
<b>Iraq, Rep. of</b>		
Reduction of the customs duty rates to four levels (0.5%, 10%, 15% and 30%), and adoption of the Harmonized System Nomenclature (21 Categories), resulting in the decrease of import tariffs for certain products	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Iraq (24 April 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018
<b>Israel</b>		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (119 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 49; 84; 85; 88; 90; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.11, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Japan</b>		
On 31 March 2018, elimination of "tariff emergency measures" (applied tariff rate (38.5%) back to the bound tariff rate (50%)) on frozen beef (HS 0202) (implemented on 1 August 2017)	Permanent Delegation of Japan to the WTO (25 May 2018)	
Elimination of import tariffs on aluminium hydroxide (HS 2818.30), zirconium oxychloride (HS 2827.49), p-tertiary-butylphenol (HS 2907.19), 1-adamantyl trimethylammonium hydroxide "ADAH" and tetraethylammonium hydroxide "TEAH" (HS 2923.90), dysprosium iron alloys (HS 3824.99), single flax yarn (HS 5306.10), ramie yarn (HS 5308.90), and kote for kendo (HS 6216.00). Reduction of import tariffs on certain cosmetics (HS 3307.90) and on apparel and clothing accessories (HS Chapters 61; 62; 63)	Permanent Delegation of Japan to the WTO (25 May 2018)	Effective 1 April 2018
<b>Kazakhstan</b>		
Trade facilitation measure for importers through the establishment of the National Trade Facilitation Committee and the implementation of the Customs Code of the Eurasian Economic Union, resulting in quicker release of goods from one day to four hours	Permanent Delegation of Kazakhstan (2 May 2018)	Effective 25 January 2018
Trade facilitation measure for exporters through the establishment of the National Trade Facilitation Committee and the implementation of the Customs Code of the Eurasian Economic Union, resulting in quicker release of goods from one day to four hours	Permanent Delegation of Kazakhstan (2 May 2018)	Effective 25 January 2018
<b>Korea, Rep. of</b>		
Trade facilitation measure for importers through the extension of the electronic clearance examination to all goods imported by Authorized Economic Operator companies	Permanent Delegation of Korea to the WTO (4 June 2018)	Effective 23 October 2017

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (443 tariff lines at 10-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 59; 63; 84; 85; 88; 90)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.13, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Malaysia</b>		
Amendments introduced to the list of prohibited export products, resulting in the removal of certain items (e.g. certain miscellaneous edible preparations; pharmaceutical goods; certain articles of iron and steel; certain articles of copper; nickel bars, rods, profiles and wire; aluminium and articles thereof; certain articles of lead; certain articles of zinc; split air conditioning; certain freezers) (18 tariff lines) (HS 2103; 3006; 7310; 7419; 7505; 7612; 7806; 7611; 7907; 8418; 8415)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (5 June 2018)	Effective 20 October 2017
Amendments introduced to the list of prohibited import products, resulting in the removal of certain items (e.g. flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel; miscellaneous edible preparations; certain products of animal origin; coral; cereal pellets; oil-cake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of soyabean oil; organic or inorganic compounds of mercury; plastic articles for the conveyance or packing of goods; iron and steel reservoirs; certain articles of copper; certain articles of nickel; aluminium reservoirs; certain articles of lead; certain articles of zinc; drying machines; washing, bleaching or dyeing machines; and certain preparations of fish and crustaceans (29 tariff lines) (HS 7211; 2103; 0507; 0508; 0511; 1103; 2304; 2852; 3923; 7309; 7310; 7419; 7508; 7611; 7612; 7806; 7907; 8451; 1604; 1605)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (5 June 2018)	Effective 23 February 2018
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (50 tariff lines at 9-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 49; 84; 85; 90; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.14, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Mauritius</b>		
Elimination of import tariffs on knock-down furniture under certain requirements such as the integration of 20% local value addition	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (24 April 2018)	Effective 11 November 2017
Trade facilitation measure for importers through the implementation of the "E-Customs Strategy", e.g. mobile application for bill of entry and online currency declaration platform	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (24 April 2018)	Implemented as from February 2018
Trade facilitation measure for exporters through the implementation of the "E-Customs Strategy", e.g. mobile application for bill of entry and online currency declaration platform	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (24 April 2018)	Implemented as from February 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Elimination of import tariffs (from 10%) on bars and rods, hot-rolled, in irregularly wound coils, of iron or non-alloy steel, containing indentations, ribs, grooves or other deformations produced during the rolling process; and other bars and rods of iron or non-alloy steel, not further worked than forged, hot-rolled, hot-drawn or hot-extruded, but including those twisted after rolling, containing indentations, ribs, grooves or other deformations produced during the rolling process or twisted after rolling; (from 15%) on acoustic doors (HS 7213.10.20; 7214.20.20; 4418.20.00; 3925.20.00; 7308.30.00; 7610.10.00)	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (28 September 2018)	Effective 15 June 2018
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (4 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 49; 85; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.15, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Mexico</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on onions and lemons (HS 0703.10.01; 0805.50.01; 0805.50.02; 0805.50.99), under certain import quotas	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (30 May 2018) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 26 December 2017	Effective 27 December 2017
Extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain toys and baby products (HS 3924.90.99; 8715.00.01; 9401.80.01; 9503.00.01; 9503.00.02; 9503.00.03; 9503.00.04; 9503.00.05; 9503.00.06; 9503.00.11; 9503.00.12; 9503.00.14; 9503.00.15; 9503.00.16; 9503.00.20; 9503.00.24; 9503.00.36; 9503.00.99; 9504.90.99; 9506.62.01), under certain import quotas (originally effective from March 2015 to 31 December 2017)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (30 May 2018) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 26 December 2017	Effective until 31 December 2020
Elimination of import tariffs on microwave ovens (HS 8516.50.01)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective December 2017
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on meat of swine chilled or frozen (HS 0203), under an import quota of 350,000 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (26 October 2018), and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 5 June 2018	Effective 5 June 2018
Creation of two tariff lines, resulting in the elimination of import tariffs on I and H sections of iron or non-alloy steel ( <i>perfiles</i> ) (HS 7216.32.04; 7216.33.02)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (26 October 2018) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 17 August 2018	Effective 18 August 2018
<b>Montenegro</b>		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (109 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.16, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>New Zealand</b>		
Trade facilitation measure through: (i) cooperation in customs procedures; (ii) supply chain security and risk management; (iii) mutual administrative assistance; (iv) information exchanges; and (v) exchange of personnel with European Union counterparts (imports)	Permanent Delegation of New Zealand to the WTO (20 April 2018)	Effective 1 May 2018
Trade facilitation measure through: (i) cooperation in customs procedures; (ii) supply chain security and risk management; (iii) mutual administrative assistance; (iv) information exchanges; and (v) exchange of personnel with European Union counterparts (exports)	Permanent Delegation of New Zealand to the WTO (20 April 2018)	Effective 1 May 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (193 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 84; 85; 88; 90; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.17, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
Trade facilitation measures through the introduction of; (i) Advance Rulings, in respect of a particular set of facts or circumstances concerning the valuation of imported goods for the purposes of the tariff; and (ii) provisional value for imported goods using transfer pricing system	Permanent Delegation of New Zealand to the WTO (19 October 2018)	Effective 1 October 2018
<b>Pakistan</b>		
Implementation of the Budget 2018-19 resulting in the decrease of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. pepper, cinnamon, gypsum, bituminous coal, carbon, organic chemicals, tanning or dyeing extracts, miscellaneous chemical products, plastics and articles thereof, medium density fibreboard of wood, cotton, woven fabrics of flax, rubberized textile fabrics, knitted or crocheted fabrics, press-fasteners and buttons (74 tariff lines at 8-digit levels in HS Chapters 09; 25; 27; 28; 29; 32; 34; 38; 39; 44; 52; 53; 59; 60; 90; 96)	Permanent Delegation of Pakistan to the WTO (29 October 2018)	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Panama</b>		
Implementation of the Central American Import Tariff (for 2,200 tariffs lines), resulting in the decrease of tariffs for certain products	Permanent Delegation of Panama to the WTO (24 April 2018)	Effective 1 March 2018
<b>Peru</b>		
Trade facilitation measure for importers through the implementation of the Multi-sectoral Commission for Trade Facilitation on a permanent basis. The aims of the Commission are to strengthen the coordination between state entities linked to foreign trade, to reduce logistic costs, and to increase transparency and predictability in the operations of foreign trade	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (23 May 2018) and Decreto Supremo No. 122/2017/PCM (20 December 2017)	
Trade facilitation measure for exporters through the implementation of the Multi-sectoral Commission for Trade Facilitation on a permanent basis. The aims of the Commission are to strengthen the coordination between state entities linked to foreign trade, to reduce logistic costs, and to increase transparency and predictability in the operations of foreign trade	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (23 May 2018) and Decreto Supremo No. 122/2017/PCM (20 December 2017)	
<b>Philippines</b>		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (163 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 49; 84; 85; 88; 90; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.19, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Elimination of import tariffs on capital equipment, spare parts and accessories (HS Chapters 40; 59; 68; 69; 70; 73; 76; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 89; 90; 96) imported by board of investments registered new and expanding enterprises. Imports subject to certain conditions: (i) not manufactured domestically in sufficient quantity, of comparable quality, and at reasonable prices; and (ii) items are reasonably needed and will be used by the enterprise in its registered activity	Permanent Delegation of the Philippines to the WTO (27 September 2018)	Effective 7 July 2018
<b>Russian Federation</b>		
Introduction of import tariff quotas on wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sapwood, or roughly squared (HS 4403). In-quota rate fixed at 6.5% but not less than €4/m <sup>3</sup> (out-of-quota rate for the year 2018 fixed at 25% but not less than €15/m <sup>3</sup> )	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018
<b>Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 8%) on magnetrons with an operating frequency of at least 2.44 GHz but not more than 2.47 GHz and an output power of not less than 600 W but not more than 1 kW (effective 6 February 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 5%) on turbo-jets of a kind used in civil aircraft of a thrust exceeding 110 kN but not exceeding 132 kN, and turbo-jets of a kind used in civil aircraft of a thrust exceeding 132 kN but not exceeding 145 kN (effective 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 8%/7%/3%) on certain fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates (effective 29 December 2017 to 31 December 2019); (from 8%/5%) on certain preparations of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates (effective 29 December 2017 to 31 December 2019); (from 6.5%) on polyethylene of a kind used for applying three-layer anti-corrosion coating on pipes (effective 1 January 2018 to 30 September 2018); and (from 5%) on compressors of a kind used in refrigerating equipment of a power not exceeding 0.4 kW (effective 3 March 2018 to 31 December 2019) (HS 8540.71.00; 8411.12.30; 8411.12.80; 0306.19.90; 0307.43.19; 0307.43.38; 0307.43.90; 0307.52.90; 1605.40.00; 1605.53.90; 3901.20.90; 8418.30.20)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Reduction of import tariffs (from 10% but not less than €0.25/ kg to 10% plus €0.08/kg) on linoleum; (from 15% but not less than €0.165/l to 15%) on household refrigerators; (from 15% but not less than €0.165/l to 15%) on household freezers of a capacity exceeding 400 l but not exceeding 800 l; (from 15% but not less than €0.16/l to 15%) on household freezers of a capacity exceeding 250 l but not exceeding 900 l; (from 5% but not less than €0.5/1 cm <sup>3</sup> of cylinder capacity to 5%) on dumpers designed for off-highway use with compression-ignition internal combustion piston engines (diesel or semi-diesel engines) and of a cylinder capacity exceeding 2,500 cm <sup>3</sup> or with spark-ignition internal combustion piston engines and of a cylinder capacity exceeding 2,800cm <sup>3</sup> with a number of axles not exceeding two; (from 15% but not less than €2,907 per1 p/st to 15%) on car bodies; (from 9% but not less than €13.8 per 1 t of total weight to 9%) on automobile semi-trailers, with a total weight more than 15 tonnes and with an overall length of less than 13.6 m; and (from 9% but not less than €9.7/m <sup>3</sup> of internal body space to 9%) on refrigerating equipment, with an internal body space of not less than 76 m <sup>3</sup>	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 24 March 2018
Extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on cocoa paste and cocoa butter (HS 1803.10.00; 1804.00.00) (originally implemented on 26 March 2016 until 31 December 2017)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019
Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 3%) on precious metal ores and concentrates (effective 24 June 2018 to 30 June 2020); (from 12.5%) on silver (effective 24 June 2018 to 30 June 2020), (from 12%-12.5%) on gold (effective 24 June 2018 to 30 June 2020); (from 12%-15%) on platinum (effective 24 June 2018 to 30 June 2020); (from 3%-8%) on fish and crustaceans (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 3%) on cocoa paste (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 5%) on cocoa butter (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 15%) on waste and scrap of precious metals (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 5%) on compressors used in refrigerating equipment (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 5%) on sultanas, veering sheets, magnetrons (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 May 2019); (from 7.5%) chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate, other than dissolving grades (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 May 2019); (from 85%) cases of base metal (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 May 2019); (from 10%) on dials (effective	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure



Measure	Source/Date	Status
<p>1 September 2018 to 31 May 2019); (from 5%) on photographic plates and film, cruise ships (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2018); (from 5%) on natural calcium phosphates, natural aluminium calcium phosphates and phosphatic chalk (effective 1 September 2018 to 4 January 2019); (from 3%) on lead ores and concentrates (effective 1 September 2018 to 24 May 2019); (from 5%) on parts of railways or tramways locomotive or rolling-stock (effective 1 September 2018 to 30 June 2020); (from 3%) on parts suitable for use solely or principally with spark-ignition internal combustion piston engines (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 5%) turbo-propellers jets (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 5%) on paints and varnishes, stamping foils, turbines for aircraft (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019); (from 14%) on rods of optical glass (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019); (from 6.5%) on organic surface-active agents (other than soap); surface- active preparations, washing preparations (including auxiliary washing preparations) and cleaning preparations, whether or not containing soap (effective 1 September 2018 to 28 February 2019); (from 5%) on frames (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2020); (from 8%) on cases, clock or watch parts (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 May 2019); (from 5%) on nuts (effective 2 September 2018 to 31 August 2021); (from 5%) on industrial fatty alcohols (effective 2 September 2018 to 31 August 2021); (from 6.5%) on acrylic polymers in primary forms (effective 28 July 2018 to 31 August 2021); (from 6.5%) on certain articles of plastic (effective 17 August 2018 to 31 August 2019); (from 8%) on transformers (effective 31 August 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 6%) on fish and crustaceans (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 5%) on hydrides and nitrides, terephthalic acid and its salts, halides and halide oxides of non-metals, artificial staple fibres (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 3%) on organo-inorganic compounds (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 8%) on military transport aircraft (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); (from 10%) on fruit or nut purée (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2018); (from 5%) on fluoride of aluminium (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 6.5%) on super-absorbents (effective</p>		

Measure	Source/Date	Status
1 September 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 7%) on pressure-reducing valves (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 8%) on transformers (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 December 2020); (from 5% on ether-alcohols (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 March 2019); (from 5%) on inorganic tanning substances and tanning preparations (effective 1 September 2018 to 30 June 2019); (from 6.2%) on polyethylene (effective 1 September 2018 to 30 September 2018); (from 6.5%) on cylinders (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019); (from 5%) on high-tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 July 2019); (from 10%) on vessels (effective 23 September 2018 to 31 December 2019); and on certain furskins and artificial fur; manufactured thereof (HS 4301; 4302) (effective 12 October 2018 to 30 September 2020)		
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (from 10%-13% to 5%) on watch straps, bands and bracelets, and parts thereof; (from 10% to 5%) on springs, including hair-springs, plates and bridges (effective 1 September 2018 to 31 May 2020)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Reduction of import tariffs (from 20%, but not less €0.5/kg to 17%, but not less €0.43/kg) on homogenized preparations; (from 10.8% but not less than €0.054/kg to 10% but not less than €0.05/kg) on mango chutney; (from €0.04/l to €0.018/l on beer; (from 7.9% to 6.5%) on waxes and polishes, creams and similar preparations, for footwear or leather; (from 8.8% to 6.5%) on propellant powders, fireworks, liquid or liquefied-gas fuels, ferro-cerium and other pyrophoric alloys in all forms; (from 7.9% to 6.5%) on tall oil fatty acids; (from €15.84/1,000 units to €15/1,000 units) on cans; (from 11.7%, but not less than €0.55/ kg to 10%) on mattress supports; (from 13.3% but not less than €0.48/kg to 12%) on mattresses; (from 15%, but not less than €0.96 euro/kg) on articles of bedding and similar furnishing; (from 6.3% to 5.5%) on ethylene glycol; (from 8.8% to 6.5%) on prepared explosives, other than propellant powders, safety fuses; detonating fuses; percussion or detonating caps, igniters, electric detonators, matches; (from 8.8%, but not less than €0.13/kg to 6.5%, but less than €0.096/kg) on floor coverings of plastics; (from 6%, but not less than €0.13/kg to €0.096/kg) on floor coverings of polymers of vinyl chloride; (from 20%, but not less than €0.33 – €0.78/cm <sup>3</sup> volume of engine to 17%) on motor cars and other motor vehicles; (from 25%, but not less than €0.4 – €1/cm <sup>3</sup> volume of engine to 22%, but not less than €0.36 – €0.88/cm <sup>3</sup> volume of engine) on motor cars and other motor vehicles; (from 12.9% – 16.4% to 11.4% – 15.7%) on helicopters; (from 12.9% to 11.4%) on aeroplanes; (from 14.6% to 13.6%) on aeroplanes and other aircraft; on seats; and on furniture and parts thereof	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective 1 September 2018
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>		
Trade facilitation measure for importers through the implementation of a National Single Window and the "Authorized Economic Operator" scheme	Permanent Delegation of Saudi Arabia to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 31 December 2017
Trade facilitation measure for exporters through the implementation of a National Single Window and the "Authorized Economic Operator" scheme	Permanent Delegation of Saudi Arabia to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 31 December 2017
<b>Seychelles</b>		
Elimination of import tariffs on dietary supplements; certain food preparations; asbestos-cement corrugated sheets; bicycles and other cycles (including delivery tricycles) with motors for propulsion (effective 1 January 2018); and protective clothing for industrial, agriculture or marine use (effective 1 April 2018) (HS 2106; 6811; 8711; 6211)	Permanent Delegation of Seychelles to the WTO (9 May 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Elimination of import tariffs on articles of apparel and clothing accessories (HS Chapters 61 and 62)	Permanent Delegation of Seychelles to the WTO (28 September 2018)	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>South Africa (for SACU – Southern African Customs Union)</b>		
Elimination of import tariffs (from 10%) on canola seeds (HS 1205.10.20) (effective 25 May 2018); on slings and the like, of rope of a diameter not exceeding 4 mm (excluding that of wire plated, coated or clad with copper and that identifiable as conveyor belt cord) (HS 7312.90.10) (effective 15 June 2018); and on ethylene-alpha-olefin copolymers (HS 3901.40) (effective 3 August 2018)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (25 October 2018), and International Trade Administration Commission Notice Nos. R. 538 - Government Gazette No. 41651 (25 May 2018), R. 603 - Government Gazette No. 41705 (15 June 2018), and R. 794 - Government Gazette No. 41812 (3 August 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
<b>Sri Lanka</b>		
Temporary reduction of the special commodity levy (SCL) on imports of certain fish (HS 0302; 0303)	Permanent Delegation of Sri Lanka to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Gazette Extraordinary No. 2028/31 - Government Notifications - Special Commodity Levy Act (1 August 2018)	Effective 1 August 2018, for 2 months
Temporary reduction of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. milk powder (0402.10; 0402.21; 0402.29)	Permanent Delegation of Sri Lanka to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective September 2018
Reduction of VAT (to 5%) on imports of certain textiles and textiles articles (HS 5007; 5111; 5112; 5113.00; 5208; 5209; 5210; 5211; 5212; 5309; 5310; 5311.00.00; 5407; 5408; 5512; 5513; 5514; 5515; 5516; 5801; 5802; 5804; 5806; 5809.00; 5811.00; 5903; 6001; 6002; 6003; 6004; 6005; 6006)	Gazette Extraordinary No. 2098/13 - Government Notifications, Valued Added Tax Act (17 September 2018)	Effective 17 September 2018
<b>Switzerland</b>		
Increase of the import quota (by 1,000 tonnes to 17,428 tonnes) on eggs for consumption (HS 0407.21.10; 0407.29.10; 0407.90.10)	Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the WTO (14 May 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018
<b>Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu</b>		
Elimination of import tariffs (from 20%) on palm kernel shell (HS1404.90.99); (from 5%) on silicone adhesive (HS 3214.10.90); and on certain plastics and articles thereof (HS 3920.59.10); (from 8%) on glass (HS 7007.19.00); (from 10%) on raw silk products (HS 5002; 5003; 5004); (from 4%) on other machinery under heading HS 8479 (HS8479.89.99); and (from 4.5%) on other electrical machines and apparatus (HS 8543.70.99)	Permanent Delegation of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 24 November 2017
Trade facilitation measure for importers to allow cargo to be examined and released next to the airplane through the implementation of joint examination by licensing agencies (quarantine and sanitation authorities)	Permanent Delegation of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO (20 April 2018)	Effective 11 December 2017
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (124 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 90)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.22, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Thailand</b>		
Introduction of automatic import license for certain minerals	Permanent Delegation of Thailand to the WTO (5 June 2018)	Effective 31 January 2018
Introduction of automatic export license for certain minerals	Permanent Delegation of Thailand to the WTO (5 June 2018)	Effective 31 January 2018
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (176 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 59; 68; 84; 85; 90; 95)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.23, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Turkey</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 19.3%) on certain dried leguminous vegetables (e.g. chickpeas ( <i>garbanzos</i> ), beans) (effective 2 December 2017 to 1 June 2018); and (from 35%) on barley (effective 31 December 2017 to 1 April 2018). Temporary reduction of import tariffs (from 34% to 5%) on paddy or rough rice; (from 45% to 10%) on brown rice; and (from 45% to 15%) on semi-milled or wholly milled rice, and broken rice (effective 31 December 2017 to 1 July 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Elimination of import tariffs (from 4%) on bran of maize (corn); (from 5%) on bran of other cereals or leguminous plants; (from 2%) on flours of fish (effective 22 November 2017); (from 7.8%) on pure-bred breeding bovine animals; and (from 10%) on live bovine animals for stockbreeding (effective 31 December 2017). Reduction of import tariffs (from 30% to 10%) on cashew nuts; (from 43.2% to 15%) on almonds and walnuts; and (from 13.5% to 6.5%) on certain residues of cotton seeds, linseed, sunflower seed, rape or colza seed; and on residues of other seeds (effective 31 December 2017)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
<b>Ukraine</b>		
Trade facilitation measures through the establishment of the single-window system for import operations	Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to the WTO (17 October 2018)	Effective 4 October 2018
Trade facilitation measures through the establishment of the single-window system for export operations	Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to the WTO (17 October 2018)	Effective 4 October 2018
<b>United States of America</b>		
Tariff reclassifications resulting in the elimination of import tariffs on LG Chromebase (HS 8471.49.00) (effective 23 June 2018); on knife care set (HS 6815.99.20) (effective 15 August 2018); and on floor sinks (HS 7324.90.00) (effective 11 July 2018)	US Customs and Border Protection 19 CFR PART 177 - Customs Bulletin and Decisions, Vol. 52 Nos. 23 (23 June 2018), 28 (11 July 2018) and 33 (15 August 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (92 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 85; 90; 94)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.24, 28 January 2016	Effective 1 July 2018

### Recorded, but non-confirmed information<sup>3</sup>

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Algeria</b>		
Temporary special authorization ( <i>exclusion du régime des restrictions à l'importation</i> ) to import self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastic, whether or not in rolls (HS 3919.90.11; 3919.90.12; 3923.21.30; 3923.21.90; 3923.29.30)	Press reports referring to Communiqué relatif aux Mécanismes d'Encadrement des Opérations d'Importation de Marchandises - Ministère du Commerce	Effective 1 January 2018

<sup>3</sup> This Section includes information which has been obtained from public sources but has not yet been confirmed by the delegation concerned.

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Sudan</b>		
Implementation of the National Budget 2018 resulting in the decrease/elimination of import tariffs (to 10%) on new pneumatic tyres of rubber (HS 4011) and parts and accessories of vehicles (HS Chapter 87); (to zero) on bovine semen and other semen for breeding (HS 0511.10.00; 0511.99.10), on glucose and glucose syrup (HS 1702.30; 1702.40), on tomato prepared for industry (HS 2002.90.10), on essences and concentrates for mineral water (HS 2106.90.10), on bread improver (HS 2106.90.40), on chemical industry products (HS Chapter 28 except 2805.40.00), on organic chemical products (HS Chapter 29 except 2922.30.00), on tanning extracts, dying and colouring matters (HS 3201; 3202; 3203; 3204 (except 3204.90.10); 3206.50; 3207), on printing ink (HS 3215), on mixtures of kind used for food or drink industries (HS 3302), on preparations for dental hygiene (HS 3306.90.20), on preparations for artificial eyes and lenses (HS 3307.90.10), on dextrin and other modified starches, prepared glues and adhesives (HS 3505; 3506), on insecticides fungicides, herbicides (HS 3808), on finishing agents (HS 3809), on diagnostic or laboratory reagents (HS 3822), on polymers in primary forms (HS 3901; 3902; 3903; 3904; 3905; 3906; 3907; 3908; 3909; 3910; 3911; 3912; 3913; 3914), on articles for conveyance packing of goods (HS 3923.10; 3923.50; 3923.30; 3923.40), on new pneumatic tyres of rubber for trucks and buses (HS 4011), on articles of apparel and clothing accessories (HS 4015), on pulps of fibres (HS 4701; 4702; 4703; 4704; 4705; 4706), on newsprint, papers, uncoated craft paper and paperboard, carbon paper, paper and paperboard cellulose (HS 4801; 4802; 4804; 4805; 4809; 4810; 4811; 4813; 4816; 4821) on apparel and clothing for surgery and operation theatres (HS 4818.50.10), on yarn (HS 5106; 5107; 5108), on cotton (HS 5201; 5202; 5203; 5205), on synthetic and artificial yarn (HS 5402; 5403), on synthetic tow and artificial and waste yarn (HS 5501; 5502; 5503; 5504; 5505; 5506; 5507; 5509; 5510), on sacks and bags (HS 6305), on shoe parts (HS 6406), on parts of industrial and agricultural machineries (HS Chapter 84) and on medical operations theatre lamps (HS 9405)	Press reports referring to Ministerial Decree No. 20/2017 (7 December 2017)	

**ANNEX 2****TRADE REMEDIES<sup>1</sup>**

(MID-OCTOBER 2017 TO MID-OCTOBER 2018)

**Confirmed information<sup>2</sup>**

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Argentina</b>		
Initiation on 7 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of vacuum cleaners (NCM 8508.11.00; 8508.19.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Termination on 1 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of woven fabrics of wool (NCM 5112.11.00; 5112.19.10; 5112.20.10; 5112.30.10; 5112.90.00; 5515.13.00) from Brazil, China and Peru (investigation initiated on 31 May 2016 and provisional duty imposed on 7 December 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/ARG, 16 February 2018	
Termination on 31 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of electrical connection terminals for cable diameters of up to 35 mm <sup>2</sup> (NCM 8536.10; 8536.50; 8536.90) from Germany (imposed on 4 September 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/ARG, 16 February 2018	
Termination on 16 February 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of electrical transformers having a power handling capacity exceeding 10,000 kVA but not exceeding 600,000 kVA (NCM 8504.23.00) from India (initiated on 19 August 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Termination on 21 February 2018 of AD duties on imports of men's or boys' suits, blazers and jackets (NCM 6203.11.00; 6203.12.00; 6203.19.00; 6203.22.00; 6203.23.00; 6203.29.10; 6203.29.90; 6203.31.00; 6203.32.00; 6203.33.00; 6203.39.00) from China (investigation initiated on 16 February 2010 and definitive duty imposed on 3 January 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 22 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of denim fabrics (NCM 5208.43.00; 5209.42.10; 5209.42.90; 5209.49.00; 5210.49.10; 5211.42.10; 5211.42.90; 5211.49.00) from Brazil, China and Peru	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 1 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of zinc oxide (NCM 2817.00.10) from Brazil and Peru	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 6 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of hand pincers (NCM 8203.20.90) from China and India	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the Annex implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

<sup>2</sup> This Section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 23 April 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of emergency lighting devices (NCM 9405.10.99) from China (initiated on 5 September 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 24 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of shock absorbers for motorcycles (NCM 8714.10.00; 8714.99.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018; and Resolución No. 50/2018, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (5 October 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 9 October 2018
Termination on 17 May 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of plates, sheets, film, foil and strip of poly(methyl methacrylate), non-cellular and not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials (NCM 3920.51.00; 3926.90.90) from Brazil and China (initiated on 8 December 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Termination on 7 June 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of metal protection grilles (NCM 8414.90.20) from China and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 8 December 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 14 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of voltage isolators (NCM 8535.30.17; 8535.30.18; 8535.30.19; 8535.30.27; 8535.30.28; 8535.30.29) from Italy	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 29 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of parenteral solutions (NCM 3004.90.99) from Brazil and Mexico	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018; and Resolución No. 47/2018, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (5 October 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 9 October 2018
Initiation on 29 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of aluminium radiators (NCM 7615.10.00) from China, Italy and Spain	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ARG, 27 September 2018	
Termination on 7 September 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of textured yarn of polyesters (NCM 5402.33.00) from India and Indonesia (initiated on 13 September 2017)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 529/2018 Secretaría de Comercio, Ministerio de Producción (5 September 2018)	
Initiation on 24 September 2018 of AD investigation on imports of central heating boilers other than those of heading HS 8402 (NCM 8403.10.10) from Italy and Slovak Republic	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 35/2018 Secretaría de Comercio, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (20 September 2018)	
Initiation on 28 September 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain polyesters ( <i>resina de poliéster insaturadas alcídicas sin aceite</i> ) (NCM 3907.91.00) from Brazil	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 46/2018 Secretaría de Comercio, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (26 September 2018)	
Termination on 4 October 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of phthalic anhydride and bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalates "DOP" (NCM 2917.32.00; 2917.35.00) from Chile; Korea, Rep. of and Mexico (initiated on 5 April 2017)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 45/2018, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (3 October 2018)	



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 5 October 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of ceramic sanitary ware (NCM 6910.10.00; 6910.90.00) from China (initiated on 20 May 2017)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución No. 56/2018 Secretaría de Comercio, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (4 October 2018)	
<b>Australia</b>		
Initiation on 19 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of certain aluminium extrusions (HS 7604.10.00; 7604.21.00; 7604.29.00; 7608.10.00; 7608.20.00; 7610.10.00; 7610.90.00) from China and Thailand	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Australia Customs Anti-dumping Notice No. 2018/120 (24 July 2018)	Terminated on 24 July 2018 (without measure)
Initiation on 13 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of steel pallet racking (HS 7308.90.00) from China and Malaysia	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 18 June 2018
Termination on 20 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of hot-rolled coil steel "HRC" (HS 7208.25.00; 7208.26.00; 7208.27.00; 7208.36.00; 7208.37.00; 7208.38.00; 7208.39.00; 7208.53.00; 7208.54.00; 7208.90.00; 7211.14.00; 7211.19.00) from Japan; Korea, Rep. of and Malaysia (investigation initiated on 15 June 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 5 October and 20 December 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/AUS, 13 March 2018	
Termination on 6 February 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of certain wind towers (HS 7308.20.00; 7308.90.00; 8502.31.10) from Viet Nam (initiated on 8 June 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018	
Initiation on 19 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of A4 copy paper (HS 4802.56.10) from Austria; Finland; Korea, Rep. of; the Russian Federation and the Slovak Republic	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 18 May 2018 on imports from Finland; Korea, Rep. of; the Russian Federation and the Slovak Republic
Termination on 26 March 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of steel rod in coils (HS 7213.91.00; 7227.90.90) from Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 7 June 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018	
Initiation on 18 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of railway wheels (HS 8607.19.00) from China and France	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 18 June 2018
Initiation on 18 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of railway wheels (HS 8607.19.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/AUS, 12 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 18 June 2018
Resumption on 2 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of alloy round steel bars (HS 7228.20.10; 7228.20.90; 7228.30.10; 7228.30.90; 7228.60.10; 7228.60.90) from China (originally initiated on 10 January 2017 and terminated on 25 January 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018	
Initiation on 4 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of PVC flat electrical cables (HS 8544.49.20) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018	
Initiation on 4 June 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of PVC flat electrical cables (HS 8544.49.20) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/AUS, 12 September 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 25 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of ammonium nitrate (HS 3102.30.00) from China, Sweden and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/AUS, 28 August 2018; and Australia Customs Anti-dumping Notice No. 2018/166 (24 October 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 25 October 2018
Termination on 5 August 2018 of AD duties on imports of aluminium zinc coated steel (HS 7210.61.00) from Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 5 September 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 6 February and 5 August 2013)	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Australia Customs Anti-dumping Notice No. 2018/97 (17 July 2018)	
<b>Brazil</b>		
Initiation on 17 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of plasterboards or plaster compositions, faced or reinforced with paper or paperboard only (NCM 6809.11.00) from Mexico	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018; and Camex Resolution No. 69/2018 (25 September 2018)	Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 28 March and 25 September 2018
Termination on 18 October 2017 of AD duties on imports of cold polymerized emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber (ESBR) (NCM 4002.19.11; 4002.19.19) from the European Union (investigation initiated on 27 May 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 20 November 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/BRA, 11 April 2018	
Termination on 7 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of stainless steel cutlery of a high standard (NCM 8211.10.00; 8211.91.00; 8215.20.00; 8215.99.10) from China (investigation initiated on 13 June 2011 and definitive duty imposed on 6 December 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/BRA, 11 April 2018	
Initiation on 2 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of poly(ethylene terephthalate) films (NCM 3920.62.19; 3920.62.91; 3920.62.99) from the Kingdom of Bahrain and Peru	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	
Temporary suspension on 19 January 2018 of AD duties on imports of hot-rolled steel (NCM 7208.10.00; 7208.25.00; 7208.26.10; 7208.26.90; 7208.27.10; 7208.27.90; 7208.36.10; 7208.36.90; 7208.37.00; 7208.38.10; 7208.38.90; 7208.39.10; 7208.39.90; 7208.40.00; 7208.53.00; 7208.54.00; 7208.90.00; 7225.30.00; 7225.40.90) from China and the Russian Federation (investigation initiated on 20 July 2016 and definitive duty imposed on 19 January 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	
Initiation on 26 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of rolls for rolling mills (NCM 8455.30.10; 8455.30.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	
Termination on 9 April 2018 of AD duties on imports of lightweight coated paper (NCM 4810.22.90) from Canada and the United States (investigation initiated on 10 December 2010. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 10 November 2011 and 23 April 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 8 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of iron pipes (NCM 7303.00.00) from China, India and the United Arab Emirates	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	
Initiation on 10 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of non-oriented silicon steel (NCM 7225.19.00; 7226.19.00) from Germany	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	
Temporary suspension on 21 May 2018 of CVD duties on imports of hot-rolled steel (NCM 7208.10.00; 7208.25.00; 7208.26.10; 7208.26.90; 7208.27.10; 7208.27.90; 7208.36.10; 7208.36.90; 7208.37.00; 7208.38.10; 7208.38.90; 7208.39.10; 7208.39.90; 7208.40.00; 7208.53.00; 7208.54.00; 7208.90.00; 7225.30.00; 7225.40.90) from China (investigation initiated on 21 November 2016 and definitive duty imposed on 21 May 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/BRA, 3 September 2018	
Termination on 21 May 2018 of AD duties on imports of one piece crank (NCM 8714.96.00) from China (imposed on 11 October 2007. Duties suspended from 23 May 2014 to 22 May 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	
Temporary suspension on 19 June 2018 of AD duties on imports of basic refractories (NCM 6902.10.18; 6902.10.19) from China and Mexico (investigation initiated on 2 July 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 19 December 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/BRA, 11 September 2018	
Temporary suspension on 13 July 2018 of AD duties on imports of unrefined salt "sal grosso" (NCM 2501.00.19) from Chile (investigation initiated on 12 March 2010 and definitive duty imposed on 8 September 2011)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution No. 47/2018 (12 July 2018)	
Temporary suspension on 20 September 2018 of AD duties on imports of graphite electrodes (NCM 8545.11.00; 3801.10.00) from China (imposed on 9 April 2009)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution No. 66/2018 (20 September 2018)	
Termination on 17 July 2018 of AD duties on imports of manual hoist up to 3 tons without lever (NCM 8425.19.10) from China (imposed on 24 August 2007)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Secex Circular No. 64/2017 (30 November 2017)	
Termination on 1 October 2018 of AD duties on imports of optical frames with or without lenses (NCM 9003.11.00; 9003.19.10; 9003.19.90; 9004.90.10; 9004.90.90) from China (imposed on 8 October 2007)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Secex Circular No. 64/2017 (30 November 2017)	
<b>Canada</b>		
Initiation on 27 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of certain copper pipe fittings (HS 7412.10.00; 7412.20.00) from Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CAN, 14 September 2018	Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 25 January and 25 May 2018
Initiation on 27 October 2017 of CVD investigation on imports of certain copper pipe fittings (HS 7412.10.00; 7412.20.00) from Viet Nam	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CAN, 19 September 2018	Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 25 January and 25 May 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 2 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of certain silicon metals (HS 2804.69.00) from Brazil, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia and Thailand (investigation initiated on 20 February 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 5 July 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/CAN, 14 March 2018	
Termination on 2 November 2017 of CVD duties on imports of certain silicon metals (HS 2804.69.00) from Brazil, Kazakhstan, Malaysia and Norway (investigation initiated on 20 February 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 5 July 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/328/CAN, 26 March 2018	
Initiation on 28 December 2017 of AD investigation on imports of certain dry wheat pasta (HS 1902.19.21; 1902.19.22; 1902.19.23; 1902.19.29; 1902.19.93; 1902.19.91; 1902.19.99; 1902.19.92) from Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CAN, 14 September 2018; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 28 March and 26 July 2018
Initiation on 28 December 2017 of CVD investigation on imports of certain dry wheat pasta (HS 1902.19.21; 1902.19.22; 1902.19.23; 1902.19.29; 1902.19.93; 1902.19.91; 1902.19.99; 1902.19.92) from Turkey	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CAN, 19 September 2018; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 28 March and 26 July 2018
Termination on 14 February 2018 of CVD duties on imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate (PET resin) (HS 3907.61.00; 3907.69.00) from Oman and Pakistan (investigation initiated on 18 August 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 16 November 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CAN, 19 September 2018	
Termination on 16 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate (PET resin) (HS 3907.61.00; 3907.69.00) from China, India, Oman and Pakistan (investigation initiated on 18 August 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 16 November 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CAN, 14 September 2018	
Termination on 16 March 2018 of CVD duties on imports of certain polyethylene terephthalate (PET resin) (HS 3907.61.00; 3907.69.00) from China and India (investigation initiated on 18 August 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 16 November 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CAN, 19 September 2018	
Initiation on 18 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain sucker rods (HS 8413.91.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CAN, 14 September 2018; and Canada Border Service Agency Notices SR 2018 IN (16 August 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 16 August 2018
Initiation on 18 May 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain sucker rods (HS 8413.91.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CAN, 19 September 2018; and Canada Border Service Agency Notices SR 2018 IN (16 August 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 16 August 2018
Initiation on 25 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain cold-rolled steel (HS 7209; 7211; 7225) from China; Korea, Rep. of and Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CAN, 14 September 2018; and Canada Border Service Agency Notice CRS 2018 IN (23 August 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 23 August 2018
Initiation on 25 May 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain cold-rolled steel (HS 7209; 7211; 7225) from China; Korea, Rep. of and Viet Nam	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CAN, 19 September 2018; and Canada Border Service Agency Notice CRS 2018 IN (23 August 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 23 August 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 21 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain 54 inch gypsum board (HS 6809.11.00) from the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CAN, 14 September 2018; and Canada Border Service Agency Notice GB2 2018 IN (23 August 2018)	Terminated on 23 August 2018 (without measure)
Initiation on 20 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain carbon steel welded pipe (HS 7306.30.00) from Pakistan, Philippines, Turkey and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 October 2018) and Canada Border Service Agency Notice CSWP3 2018 IN (20 July and 18 October 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 18 October 2018
Initiation on 26 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of corrosion-resistant steel sheet (HS 7210.30.00; 7210.69.00; 7212.50.00; 7210.49.00; 7210.69.00; 7225.91.00; 7212.20.00; 7225.92.00; 7212.30.00; 7226.99.00; 7210.61.00) from China; India; Korea, Rep. of and Chinese Taipei	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 October 2018) and Canada Border Service Agency Notice COR 2018 IN (26 July 2018)	
Initiation on 21 September 2018 of AD investigation on imports of nitisinonbe capsules (HS 3004.90.00) from Sweden	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 October 2018) and Canada Border Service Agency Notice NIT 2018 IN (21 September 2018)	
Initiation on 11 October 2018 of SG investigation on imports of certain steel products (HS 7208; 7210; 7211; 7212; 7213; 7214; 7223; 7225; 7226; 7227; 7304; 7305; 7306)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/CAN/4, 15 October 2018; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 25 October 2018
<b>Chile</b>		
Termination on 17 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of steel bars (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7227.90.00; 7228.30.00) from Mexico (investigation initiated on 27 November 2015. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 19 May and 17 November 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/CHL, 22 March 2018	
Initiation on 8 March 2018 of SG investigation on imports of powdered milk and Gouda cheese (HS 0402; 0406)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/CHL/20, 9 March 2018	
Initiation on 8 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of steel bars (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7227.90.00; 7228.30.00) from Mexico	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHL, 27 August 2018	
Termination on 22 April 2018 of AD duties on imports of steel wire rod (HS 7213.20.00; 7213.91.10; 7213.91.20; 7213.91.90; 7213.99.00; 7227.10.00; 7227.20.00; 7227.90.00) from China (investigation initiated on 22 August 2016. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 22 February and 22 April 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHL, 27 August 2018	
Initiation on 8 June 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel grinding balls forged for mills of less than 4 inches in diameter (HS 7326.11.10) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHL, 27 August 2018	
<b>China</b>		
Initiation on 16 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of hydriodic acid (HS 2811.19.90) from Japan and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 16 June 2018
Initiation on 30 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of ethanolamines (HS 2922.11.00; 2922.12.00; 2922.13.10) from Malaysia, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Thailand and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 16 June 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 9 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (NBR) (HS 4002.59.10; 4002.59.90) from Japan and Korea, Rep. of	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/CHN, 18 April 2018; and MOFCOM Announcement No. 61/2018 (16 July 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 16 July 2018
Initiation on 29 December 2017 of AD investigation on imports of butan-1-ol (n-butyl alcohol) (HS 2905.13.00) from Malaysia, Chinese Taipei and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018; and MOFCOM Announcement No. 67/2018 (4 September 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 4 September 2018
Initiation on 23 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of ortho dichlorobenzene (ODCB) (HS 2903.91.10) from India and Japan	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018; and MOFCOM Announcement Nos. 6/2018 (24 January 2018) and 70/2018 (10 October 2018)	Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 20 April and 12 October 2018
Initiation on 4 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of grain sorghum (HS 1007.90.00) from the United States (provisional duty imposed on 18 April 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018	Terminated on 18 May 2018
Initiation on 4 February 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of grain sorghum (HS 1007.90.00) from the United States (provisional duty imposed on 18 April 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CHN, 22 October 2018	Terminated on 18 May 2018
Termination on 27 February 2018 of AD duties on imports of broiler chicken products (HS 0207.11.00; 0207.12.00; 0207.13.11; 0207.13.19; 0207.13.21; 0207.13.29; 0207.14.11; 0207.14.19; 0207.14.21; 0207.14.22; 0207.14.29; 0504.00.21) from the United States (investigation initiated on 27 September 2009. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 5 February and 27 September 2010)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018	
Termination on 27 February 2018 of CVD duties investigation on imports of broiler chicken products (HS 0207.11.00; 0207.12.00; 0207.13.11; 0207.13.19; 0207.13.21; 0207.13.29; 0207.14.11; 0207.14.19; 0207.14.21; 0207.14.22; 0207.14.29; 0504.00.21) from the United States (investigation initiated on 27 September 2009. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 28 April and 29 August 2010)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/CHN, 22 October 2018	
Termination on 13 March 2018 of AD duties on imports of toluene diisocyanate (TDI80/20) (HS 2929.10.10) from the European Union (investigation initiated on 23 March 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 13 November 2012 and 12 March 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018	
Initiation on 26 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of phenol (HS 2907.11.10) from the European Union; Japan; Korea, Rep. of; Thailand and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018	
Termination on 8 June 2018 of AD duties on imports of sulfamethoxazole (HS 2935.00.30) from India (imposed on 16 June 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/CHN, 23 October 2018	



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 23 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) (HS 7218.91.00; 7218.99.00; 7219.11.00; 7219.12.00; 7219.13.12; 7219.13.19; 7219.13.22; 7219.13.29; 7219.14.12; 7219.14.19; 7219.14.22; 7219.14.29; 7219.21.00; 7219.22.00; 7219.23.00; 7219.24.10; 7219.24.20; 7219.24.30; 7220.11.00; 7220.12.00) from the European Union; Indonesia; Japan and Korea, Rep. of	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2018) and MOFCOM Announcement No. 62/2018 (23 July 2018)	
<b>Colombia</b>		
Initiation on 13 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of citric acid (HS 2918.14.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/COL, 3 October 2018	
Initiation on 26 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of welded carbon steel tubes and pipes (HS 7306.30.10; 7306.30.92; 7306.30.99; 7306.50.00; 7306.61.00; 7306.69.00; 7306.90.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/COL, 3 October 2018	
Termination on 12 June 2018 of AD duties on imports of radial tyres for buses or lorries (HS 4011.20.10) from China (investigation initiated on 22 June 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 25 September 2012 and 12 June 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/COL, 3 October 2018	
Initiation on 6 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of paper and paperboard coated, impregnated or covered with plastics "tetra brick aseptic" (HS 4811.59.20) from Brazil	Resolución No. 198 Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (6 August 2018)	
<b>Costa Rica</b>		
Initiation on 29 March 2018 of SG investigation on imports of bars and rods of steel for concrete reinforcement (HS 7214.20.00; 7214.99.20; 7228.30.00; 7228.50.00; 7228.60.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/CRI/4, 26 March 2018	
<b>Dominican Republic</b>		
Initiation on 30 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of corrugated or deformed steel rods and bars for concrete reinforcement (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7214.30.00; 7214.91.00; 7214.99.00) from Costa Rica	Permanent Delegation of the Dominican Republic to the WTO (28 September 2018)	
<b>Egypt</b>		
Termination on 23 October 2017 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of polyvinyl chloride (HS 3904.10.00) from the United States (initiated on 16 November 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/EGY, 31 January 2018	
Termination on 15 January 2018 of AD duties on imports of ball point pens (HS 9608.10.00) from China (imposed on 22 January 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EGY, 13 July 2018	
Termination on 5 March 2018 of AD duties on imports of tyres for buses and lorries from China (HS 4011.20) (imposed on 10 March 2008)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EGY/Rev.1, 1 October 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 3 April 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, cold-rolled (cold-reduced), not clad, plated or coated (HS 7209) from Belgium, China and the Russian Federation (initiated on 5 October 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EGY, 13 July 2018	
Initiation on 26 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of pile weather strip (HS 5404.12.00; 5404.19.00; 5404.90.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EGY, 13 July 2018	
Termination on 26 April 2018 (without measure) of CVD investigation on imports of bars and rods of iron alloy or non-alloy steel rebar, hot-rolled in wound coil or bars or rods (steel rebar for construction) (HS 7213; 7214; 7227; 7228) from China and Turkey (initiated on 22 December 2016)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/EGY, 13 July 2018	
<b>El Salvador</b>		
Initiation on 16 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of liquid ultra-high-temperature (UHT) processed milk in long-life containers (HS 0401.10.00; 0401.20.00) from Costa Rica	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/SLV, 22 January 2018	
<b>European Union</b>		
Initiation on 20 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of electric bicycles "e-bikes" (HS 8711.60.10; 8711.60.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/EU, 29 March 2018; and Commission Implementing Decision No. 2018/1012 (17 July 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 18 July 2018
Initiation on 19 December 2017 of AD investigation on imports of silicon (HS 2804.69.00) from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Brazil	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/EU, 29 March 2018; and Commission Implementing Decision No. 2018/1193 (21 August 2018)	Terminated on 22 August 2018 (without measure)
Initiation on 21 December 2017 of CVD investigation on imports of electric bicycles "e-bikes" (HS 8711.60.10; 8711.60.90) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/328/EU, 28 March 2018	
Termination on 30 January 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of certain cast iron articles (HS 7325.10.00; 7325.99.10) from India (initiated on 10 December 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EU, 23 October 2018	
Initiation on 31 January 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of biodiesel (HS 1516.20.98; 1518.00.91; 1518.00.95; 1518.00.99; 2710.19.43; 2710.19.46; 2710.19.47; 2710.20.11; 2710.20.15; 2710.20.17; 3824.99.92; 3826.00.10; 3826.00.90) from Argentina	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/EU, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 26 March 2018 of SG investigation on imports of certain steel products (HS Chapters 72 and 73)	Commission Notices 2018/C 111/10 (26 March 2018) and 2018/C 225/07 (28 June 2018); Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2018/1013 (17 July 2018); and WTO documents G/SG/N/6/EU/1, 27 March 2018; G/SG/N/6/EU/1/Suppl.1, 29 June 2018; and G/SG/N/7/EU/1, 18 July 2018	Provisional measure imposed on 19 July 2018
Initiation on 23 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of solar glass (HS 7007.19.80) from Malaysia	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EU, 23 October 2018	
Initiation on 24 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of hot-rolled steel sheet piles (HS 7301.10.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EU, 23 October 2018	



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 5 June 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of ferro-silicon (HS 7202.21.00; 7202.29.10; 7202.29.90) from Egypt and Ukraine (investigation initiated on 2 August 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/EU, 23 October 2018	
Termination on 23 July 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of low carbon-ferro-chrome (HS 7202.49.50) from China, the Russian Federation and Turkey (initiated on 23 June 2017)	Commission Implementing Decision No. 2018/1037 (20 July 2018)	
Initiation on 13 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of mixtures of urea and ammonium nitrate (HS 3102.80.00) from the Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States	Commission Notice 2018/C 284/08 (13 August 2018)	
Termination on 3 September 2018 of AD duties on imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules or panels and cells and wafers of the type used in crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules or panels with a thickness not exceeding 400 µm (HS 3818.00.10; 8501.31.00; 8501.32.00; 8501.33.00; 8501.34.00; 8501.61.20; 8501.61.80; 8501.62.00; 8501.63.00; 8501.64.00; 8541.40.90) from China (investigation initiated on 6 September 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 5 June and 5 December 2013 (undertaking and provisional measures amended on 3 August 2013))	Commission Notice 2018/C 310/06 (3 September 2018)	
Termination on 3 September 2018 of CVD duties on imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules or panels and cells and wafers of the type used in crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules or panels with a thickness not exceeding 400 µm (HS 3818.00.10; 8501.31.00; 8501.32.00; 8501.33.00; 8501.34.00; 8501.61.20; 8501.61.80; 8501.62.00; 8501.63.00; 8501.64.00; 8541.40.90) from China (investigation initiated on 8 November 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 6 June and 5 December 2013)	Commission Notice 2018/C 310/07 (3 September 2018)	
Termination on 8 September 2018 of CVD duties on imports of stainless steel wires "SSW" (HS 7223.00.19; 7223.00.99) from India (investigation initiated on 10 August 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 8 May and 7 September 2013)	Commission Notice 2018/C 315/11 (7 September 2018)	
Initiation on 28 September 2018 of AD investigation on imports of welded tubes, pipes and hollow profiles of square or rectangular cross-section, of iron other than cast iron or steel other than stainless (HS 7306.61.92; 7306.61.99) from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Russian Federation and Turkey	Commission Notice 2018/C 347/06 (28 September 2018)	
<b>India</b>		
Initiation on 2 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of uncoated copier paper (HS 4802) from Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 28 November 2017 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of n-butyl alcohol (HS 2905.13.00) from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (investigation initiated on 2 September 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 9 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of metronidazole (HS 3004.90.22) from China (imposed on 17 April 2000)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 9 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of cellophane transparent film (HS 3920.71.11) from China (imposed on 30 March 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 9 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of geogrid/geostrips/geostraps made of polyester or glass fibre in all its forms (including all widths and lengths) (HS 3902.10.00; 3914.00.90; 3920.10.19; 3926.90.99; 5503.40.00; 5603.13.30; 5603.94.00; 5604.90.00; 5903.10.90; 5911.10.00; 5911.31.50; 5911.31.90; 5911.90.90; 7019.40.00; 7019.59.00; 7019.90.10; 7019.90.90) from China (investigation initiated on 20 December 2010 and definitive duty imposed on 24 January 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 9 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of phosphoric acid of all grades and all concentrations (excluding agriculture/fertilizer grade) (HS 2809.20.10) from Israel and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 4 February 2011. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 13 January and 4 April 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 23 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of phosphoric acid-technical grade and food grade (HS 2809.20.10) from China (imposed on 14 September 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 25 November 2017 of AD duties on imports of caustic soda-I (HS 2815.11.10; 2815.11.20) from Iran, Islamic Rep. of (imposed on 26 December 2000)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 11 December 2017 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of polybutadiene rubber (butadiene rubber "PBR") (HS 4002.20.00) from Iran, Islamic Rep. of; Korea, Rep. of; the Russian Federation; Singapore and South Africa (investigation initiated on 16 September 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 13 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of sodium hydrosulphite-I (HS 2831; 2832) from China (imposed on 28 March 2001)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Initiation on 19 December 2017 of AD investigation on imports of sodium nitrite (HS 2834.10) from the Russian Federation	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/29/2017-DGAD, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce (30 July 2018)	Terminated on 30 July 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 19 December 2017 of SG investigation on imports of solar cells, whether or not assembled in modules or panels (HS 8541.40.11)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/IND/44, 3 January 2018; and G/SG/N/8/IND/31/Suppl.2, 6 August 2018	Definitive duty imposed on 30 July 2018
Termination on 20 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of choline chloride, in all forms and concentrations, used for animal feed (HS 2309.90.10; 2923.10.00) from China (investigation initiated on 25 October 2011 and definitive duty imposed on 21 December 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 30 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of saccharin (HS 2925.11.00) from China (imposed on 6 June 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IND, 19 April 2018	
Termination on 31 December 2017 of SG duties on imports of sodium citrate (HS 2918.15.20) (investigation initiated on 4 March 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 31 December 2014)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (9 May 2018)	
Initiation on 2 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of zeolite 4A (HS 2839.90.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 2 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of fluoroelastomers "FKM" (HS 3904) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 10 January 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of caustic soda (HS 2815.11.01; 2815.11.02; 2815.12.00) from Japan and Qatar (initiated on 14 October 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 12 January 2018 of AD duties on imports of nylon filament yarn (HS 5402.10; 5402.11; 5402.19) from China; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia; Chinese Taipei and Thailand (imposed on 29 March 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 17 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of sun-dust control film (HS 3920.69.29) from China; Hong Kong, China; Korea, Rep. of and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 22 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of dimethylformamide "DMF" (HS 2921.11.10) from China, Germany and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (9 May 2018) and Notification F. No. 6/37/2017-DGAD - Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (22 January 2018)	
Initiation on 23 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of coated paper (HS 4810) from China, the European Union and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 24 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of meta-phenylene diamene-4-sulphonic acid "MPDSA" (HS 2922.29.26) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	Terminated on 16 May 2018 (without measure)
Termination on 25 January 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of polyester staple fibre "PSF" (HS 5503.20.00) from China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand (initiated on 2 February 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 6 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of textured tempered coated and uncoated glass 70 (HS 7007.19.00; 7003.19.90; 7005.10.10; 7005.10.90; 7005.21.90; 7005.29.90; 7005.30.90) from Malaysia	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 7 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of flax yarn of below 70 lea count (HS 5306.10.90; 5306.20.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018; and Notification No. 53/2018 Customs (ADD) Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (18 October 2018)	Definitive duty imposed on 18 October 2018
Termination on 7 March 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of playing cards (HS 9504.40.00) from China (initiated on 30 March 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 13 March 2018 of SG duties on imports of hot-rolled flat products of non-alloy and other alloy steel in coils of a width of 600 mm or more (HS 7208; 7225.30.90) (initiated on 7 September 2015. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 14 September 2015 and 29 March 2016)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (9 May 2018)	
Termination on 19 March 2018 of AD duties on imports of melamine (HS 2933.61.00) from the European Union; Indonesia; Iran, Islamic Rep. of and Japan (investigation initiated on 7 December 2010 and definitive duty imposed on 8 October 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 23 March 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of solar cells (HS 8541.40.11) from China, Malaysia and Chinese Taipei (initiated on 21 July 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 27 March 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of new pneumatic tyres for buses and lorries (HS 4011.20) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/IND, 12 September 2018	
Initiation on 4 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain epoxy resins (epoxide resins) (HS 3907.30.10; 3907.30.90) from China; the European Union; Korea, Rep. of; Chinese Taipei and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 4 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) sheet for solar modules (HS 3901; 3902; 3921) from China; Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia; the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 10 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of non-plasticized industrial grade nitrocellulose (excluding nitrocellulose damped in ethanol and waterwet) (HS 3912.20.19) from Brazil, Indonesia and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 16 April 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of acrylic fibre (HS 5501.30; 5503.30; 5506.30) from Belarus, China, the European Union, Peru and Ukraine (initiated on 19 April 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 23 April 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of saturated fatty alcohols (HS 3823.70.10; 3823.70.20; 3823.70.40; 3823.70.90) from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (initiated on 24 April 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 27 April 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of dioctyl phthalate "DOP" (HS 2917.39.20) from Korea, Rep. of and Chinese Taipei (initiated on 1 June 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 1 May 2018 of AD duties on imports of partially oriented yarn (POY)-III (HS 5402.42) from China (imposed on 2 August 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 3 May 2018 of AD duties on imports of viscose filament yarn (HS 5403) from China (imposed on 24 May 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 15 May 2018 of AD duties on imports of peroxosulphates (persulphates) (HS 2833.40) from Japan (imposed on 19 March 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 1 June 2018 of AD duties on imports of digital offset printing plates (HS 3701.30.00; 3704.00.90; 3705.10.00; 7606.91.90; 7606.92.90; 8442.50.20) from China (investigation initiated on 13 June 2011. Provisional and definitive duty imposed on 4 June and 3 December 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 6 June 2018 of AD duties on imports of plain gypsum plaster boards (HS 6809.11.00; 6809.19.00; 6809.90.00) from China, Indonesia, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates (investigation initiated on 21 July 2011. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 7 June 2012 and 12 April 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Termination on 7 June 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of sodium dichromate (HS 2841.30.00) from Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, South Africa and Turkey (initiated on 4 July 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 14 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of saccharin (HS 2925.11.00) from Indonesia	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/13/2018-DGAD - (Case No. OI-10/2018) Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (14 June 2018)	
Termination on 30 June 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of belting fabric (HS 5910.00.90) from China (initiated on 23 August 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/IND, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 9 August 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of welded stainless steel pipes and tubes (HS 7306.40.00; 7306.61.10; 7306.11.00; 7306.21.00) from China and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/22/2018-DGAD - (Case No. OI-8/2018) Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (9 August 2018)	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 10 August 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of saccharin (HS 2925.11.00) from China	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/18/2018-DGAD - (Case No. (CVD) 5/2018) Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (10 August 2018)	
Initiation on 14 August 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of fluoroelastomers "FKM" (HS 3904.69.90) from China	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/21/2018-DGTR - (Case No. (CVD) 7/2018) Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (14 August 2018)	
Initiation on 14 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of high speed steel of non-cobalt grade (HS 7228.10.10; 7228.10.90) from Brazil, China and Germany	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/23/2018-DGTR, Department of Commerce - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (14 August 2018)	
Initiation on 27 August 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of atrazine technical (HS 3808.91.99; 3808.93.90; 3808.99.90) from China	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/19/2018-DGAD - (Case No. (CVD) 6/2018) Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (27 August 2018)	
Termination on 6 September 2018 of AD duties on imports of graphite electrodes of all diameters (HS 3801.10.00; 3801.90.00; 8311.90.00; 8535.40.10; 8545.11.00; 8545.19.00; 8545.90.90; 8547.10.90) from China (investigation initiated on 20 May 2013 and definitive duty imposed on 13 February 2015)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 44/2018 Customs (ADD) Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue (6 September 2018)	
Initiation on 10 September 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of continuous cast copper wire rods (HS 7407.10.10; 7407.10.20; 7408.11.90; 7408.19.20; 7408.19.90; 7409.11; 7409.19) from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. No. 6/17/2018-DGAD - (Case No. OI (CVD) 4/2018) Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (10 September 2018)	
<b>Indonesia</b>		
Initiation on 27 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of spin drawn yarn "SDY" (HS 5402.47.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/IDN, 20 April 2018	
Initiation on 29 March 2018 of SG investigation on imports of ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; and ceramic mosaic cubes and the like, whether or not on a backing (HS 6907)	WTO document G/SG/N/10/IDN/20/Suppl.1, 8 October 2018	Definitive duty imposed on 12 October 2018
Initiation on 9 October 2018 of SG investigation on imports of aluminium foil (HS 7607.11.00; 7607.19.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IDN/29, 12 October 2018	
<b>Israel</b>		
Termination on 25 October 2017 (without measure) of AD investigation on cocoa spread (HS 1806.90.99; 1806.90.20) from the European Union (initiated on 27 September 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/ISR, 14 February 2018	
<b>Korea, Rep. of</b>		
Termination on 2 April 2018 of AD duties on imports of PET film (HS 3920.62) from Japan (investigation initiated on 2 December 2013 and definitive duty imposed on 30 December 2014)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/KOR, 4 October 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 18 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of stainless steel bar (HS 7222.11; 7222.19; 7222.20; 7222.30) from Italy and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/KOR/Rev.1, 22 October 2018	
<b>Madagascar</b>		
Initiation on 20 September 2018 of SG investigation on imports of pasta (HS 1902.19.90; 1902.30.90)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MDG/1, 9 October 2018	
Initiation on 20 September 2018 of SG investigation on imports of blankets and travelling rugs (HS 6301.10.00; 6301.20.00; 6301.30.00; 6301.40.00; 6301.90.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MDG/2, 9 October 2018	
<b>Malaysia</b>		
Termination on 19 February 2018 of AD duties on imports of steel wire rods (HS 7213.10.00; 7213.20.00; 7213.91.00; 7213.99.00) from China; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 26 June 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 23 October 2012 and 20 February 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/MYS, 16 October 2018	
Termination on 22 April 2018 of AD duties on imports of biaxially oriented polypropylene films "BOPP" (HS 3920.20.10; 3920.20.20) from China, Indonesia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 27 July 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 24 November 2012 and 23 April 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/MYS, 16 October 2018	
Initiation on 25 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of flat-rolled products of iron alloy or non-alloy steel, plated or coated with zinc, using hot dip process (galvanized iron coils/sheets or galvanized steel coils/sheets) (HS 7210; 7212; 7225; 7226) from China and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (29 October 2018) and Federal Government Gazette - Notice AD 01/18 (25 July 2018)	
<b>Mexico</b>		
Initiation on 14 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of steel plate in sheets (HS 7208.51.01; 7208.51.02; 7208.51.03; 7208.52.01; 7225.40.99) from Italy and Japan	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/MEX, 12 March 2018	
Termination on 15 January 2018 of AD duties on imports of graphite electrodes for electric arc furnaces (HS 8545.11.01) from China (investigation initiated on 1 September 2010. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 31 May 2011 and 1 March 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/MEX, 17 August 2018	
Initiation on 6 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of short-fibre polyester (HS 5503.20.01; 5503.20.99) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/MEX, 17 August 2018	
Termination on 6 March 2018 of AD duties on imports of monobutyl ether of ethylene glycol (HS 2909.43.01) from the United States (investigation initiated on 11 March 2011. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 9 April and 11 September 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/MEX, 17 August 2018	



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 28 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of aluminium foil coils (HS 7607.11.01) from China	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (26 October 2018) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 28 August 2018	
<b>Morocco</b>		
Termination on 9 November 2017 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of ceramic tiles (HS 6908.90.00) from Spain (initiated on 18 May 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/MAR, 29 March 2018	
Initiation on 31 July 2018 of SG investigation on imports of coated wood board (HS 4410.11.20; 4410.11.30; 4410.19.92; 4410.19.93)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MAR/10, 31 July 2018	
<b>New Zealand</b>		
Termination on 8 February 2018 of AD duties on imports of preserved peaches (HS 2008.70.09) from China (imposed on 21 August 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/NZL, 13 September 2018	
Termination on 3 March 2018 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of reinforcing steel bar and coil (rebar) (HS 7213.10.90; 7213.91.90; 7213.99.90; 7214.20.90; 7214.99.90; 7227.90.00; 7228.30.00; 7228.50.00; 7228.60.00) from China and Malaysia (initiated on 15 August 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/NZL, 13 September 2018	
Termination on 3 March 2018 (without measure) of CVD investigation on imports of reinforcing steel bar and coil (rebar) (HS 7213.10.90; 7213.91.90; 7213.99.90; 7214.20.90; 7214.99.90; 7227.90.00; 7228.30.00; 7228.50.00; 7228.60.00) from China (initiated on 15 August 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/NZL, 13 September 2018	
Initiation on 9 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain hollow steel sections (HS 7306.30.19; 7306.61.00; 7306.69.00) from China and Malaysia	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/NZL, 13 September 2018	Provisional duties imposed on 26 July 2018 on imports from Malaysia
Initiation on 9 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain hollow steel sections (HS 7306.30.19; 7306.61.00; 7306.69.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/NZL, 13 September 2018	
<b>Pakistan</b>		
Termination on 18 October 2017 of CVD duties on imports of fine cotton yarn (HS 5205.15.00; 5205.27.00; 5205.28.00; 5205.35.00; 5205.47.00; 5205.48.00) from India (investigation initiated on 20 April 2016 and provisional duty imposed on 18 January 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/328/PAK, 26 February 2018	
Initiation on 13 December 2017 of AD investigation on imports of lead pencils (HS 9609.10.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/PAK, 28 August 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 6 June 2018
Termination on 16 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of phthalic anhydride (HS 2917.35.00) from the Russian Federation (investigation initiated on 13 February 2016 and provisional duty imposed on 31 May 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/PAK, 26 February 2018	
Termination on 8 February 2018 of AD duties on imports of formic acid 85% and above (HS 2915.11.00) from China and Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 23 February 2011 and definitive duty imposed on 10 February 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/PAK, 28 August 2018	



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 20 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of tinplate of a width of 600 mm or more and of a thickness of less than 0.5 mm (HS 7210.12.10; 7210.12.90) from China, the European Union, South Africa and the United States	Notice ADC No. 53/2018/NTC/TP, National Tariff Commission (20 August 2018)	
<b>Peru</b>		
Termination on 25 October 2017 of AD duties on imports of all types of footwear (other than sandals and flipflops) with uppers of materials other than plastic, rubber and leather (except textile materials) (HS 64) from China (imposed on 31 January 2000)	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (23 May 2018)	
Initiation on 2 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of certain steel bars (HS 7213; 7214; 7217; 7228) from Brazil and Mexico	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/PER, 17 April 2018	
Initiation on 25 July 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of maize (HS 1005.90.11) from the United States	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (25 October 2018) and INDECOPI Resolución No. 088-2018/CDB-Indecopi (13 July 2018)	
<b>Philippines</b>		
Termination in May 2018 of SG duties on imports of newsprint (HS 4801.00.10; 4801.00.90) (investigation initiated on 20 September 2013 and definitive duty imposed on 5 May 2015)	Permanent Delegation of Philippines to the WTO (24 April 2018)	
Initiation on 10 September 2018 of SG investigation on imports of cement (HS 2523.29.90; 2523.90.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/PHL/11, 24 September 2018	
<b>Russian Federation (for the Eurasian Economic Union)</b>		
Termination on 25 January 2018 of AD duties on imports of enamelled baths of cast-iron (HS 7324.21.00) from China (investigation initiated on 15 June 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 26 January and 26 May 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/RUS, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 2 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of aluminium alloy wheels (HS 8708.70) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/RUS, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 26 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of single mode optical fibre (HS 9001.10) from Japan and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/RUS, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 29 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of zinc plated or coated flat-rolled steel products (HS 7210.49; 7210.61; 7212.30; 7212.50; 7225.92) from China and Ukraine	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/RUS, 4 October 2018	
Initiation on 7 August 2018 of SG investigation on imports of certain flat-rolled steel products (HS 7208; 7209; 7210; 7211; 7212; 7225; 7226)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/RUS/5, 4 September 2018	
Termination on 14 June 2018 of AD duties on imports of light commercial vehicles (HS 8704.21.31; 8704.21.91) from Germany, Italy and Turkey (investigation initiated on 16 November 2011 and definitive duty imposed on 15 June 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/RUS, 4 October 2018	
<b>South Africa (for SACU - Southern African Customs Union)</b>		
Initiation on 20 April 2018 of SG investigation on imports of other screws fully threaded with hexagon heads made of steel (HS 7318.15.39)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/ZAF/6, 24 April 2018 and G/SG/N/7/ZAF/3/Suppl.1, 7 August 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 3 August 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 4 May 2018 of AD duties on imports of fully threaded screws with hexagon heads, excluding those of stainless steel (HS 7318.15.39) from China (investigation initiated on 18 November 2011. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 4 May and 16 November 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/ZAF, 26 July 2018	
Initiation on 17 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of clear float glass with a thickness of 3 mm to 6 mm (HS 7005.29.17; 7005.29.23; 7005.29.25; 7005.29.35) from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (25 October 2018)	
Termination on 24 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of shock tubes (HS 3603.00) from China (initiated on 3 July 2009)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (25 October 2018)	
<b>Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu</b>		
Initiation on 16 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain carbon cold-rolled steel products (HS 7209.15; 7209.16; 7209.17; 7209.18; 7209.25; 7209.26; 7209.27; 7209.28; 7209.90; 7210.70; 7210.90; 7211.23; 7211.29; 7211.90; 7212.40; 7212.50; 7212.60; 7225.19; 7225.50; 7225.99; 7226.19; 7226.92; 7226.99) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/TPKM, 27 August 2018	
Initiation on 16 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain flat-rolled products of stainless steel, hot-rolled (HS 7219.11; 7219.12; 7219.13; 7219.14; 7219.21; 7219.22; 7219.23; 7219.24; 7220.11; 7220.12) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/TPKM, 27 August 2018	
Initiation on 16 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain carbon cold-rolled steel products (HS 7209.15; 7209.16; 7209.17; 7209.18; 7209.25; 7209.26; 7209.27; 7209.28; 7209.90; 7210.70; 7210.90; 7211.23; 7211.29; 7211.90; 7212.40; 7212.50; 7212.60; 7225.19; 7225.50; 7225.99; 7226.19; 7226.92; 7226.99) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/TPKM, 13 September 2018	
Initiation on 16 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain flat-rolled products of stainless steel, hot-rolled (HS 7219.11; 7219.12; 7219.13; 7219.14; 7219.21; 7219.22; 7219.23; 7219.24; 7220.11; 7220.12) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/TPKM, 13 September 2018	
Initiation on 16 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain flat-rolled products, plated or coated with zinc or zinc alloys (HS 7210.30; 7210.41; 7210.49; 7210.61; 7210.90; 7212.20; 7212.30; 7212.50; 7225.91; 7225.92; 7225.99; 7226.99) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/TPKM, 13 September 2018	
Initiation on 16 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of carbon steel plate (HS 7208.51; 7208.52; 7208.90; 7211.14; 7225.40; 7226.91) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/TPKM, 13 September 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 16 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of flat-rolled products of stainless steel, whether in coils or sheets (HS 7219.32; 7219.33; 7219.34; 7219.35; 7220.20) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/TPKM, 13 September 2018	
<b>Thailand</b>		
Initiation on 29 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of flat hot-rolled steel, in coils and not in coils (HS 7208.10; 7208.36; 7208.37; 7208.38; 7208.39; 7208.40; 7208.51; 7208.52; 7208.53; 7208.54; 7208.90; 7211.13; 7211.14; 7211.19) from Australia and Egypt	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/THA, 2 February 2018	
Initiation on 29 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of melamine tableware (HS 3924.10.10) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/THA, 2 February 2018	
Termination on 7 March 2018 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of galvanized flat sheet and coil (HS 7210.49.12; 7210.49.13; 7210.49.19; 7210.49.99; 7212.30.10; 7212.30.20; 7210.30.99; 7225.92.90) from China; Korea, Rep. of and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 14 September 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/THA, 10 September 2018	
Initiation on 22 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain iron or steel pipe and tubes (HS 7306) from Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of Thailand to the WTO (1 October 2018)	
<b>Turkey</b>		
Termination on 28 November 2017 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of tubes and pipes of cast iron (HS 7303.00.10; 7303.00.90) from India and the United Arab Emirates (initiated on 31 July 2016)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/TUR, 14 March 2018	
Initiation on 28 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of polycarboxylate polymers (HS 3824.40; 3906.90.90) from Korea, Rep. of	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/TUR, 14 March 2018	
Initiation on 30 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of lighters (gas, oven and cooker component) (HS 9613.80.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/TUR, 18 September 2018	Definitive duty imposed on 19 June 2018
Termination on 29 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of copper wired rod (HS 7408.11) from the Russian Federation (imposed on 9 November 2005)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/TUR, 14 March 2018	
Termination on 29 December 2017 of AD duties on imports of copper wired rod (HS 7408.11) from Ukraine (imposed on 8 June 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/TUR, 14 March 2018	
Termination on 5 January 2018 (without measure) of SG investigation on imports of pneumatic tyres (HS 4011.10; 4011.20; 4011.70; 4011.80; 4011.90; 8708.70) (initiated on 6 April 2017)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/TUR/22/Suppl.1, 17 January 2018	
Initiation on 6 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of cored wire of base metal (HS 8311.20.00) from Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/TUR, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 20 March 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of acrylic or modacrylic (HS 5501.30.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/TUR, 19 September 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 21 March 2018 of AD investigation on imports of acrylic or modacrylic (HS 5501.30.00) from China; Germany; Korea, Rep. of and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/TUR, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 27 April 2018 of SG investigation on imports of iron and steel products (HS 7208; 7209; 7210; 7211; 7212; 7225; 7226; 7213; 7214; 7215; 7216; 7217; 7227; 7228; 7302; 7303; 7304; 7305; 7306; 7219; 7220)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/TUR/24, 3 May 2018 and G/SG/N/7/TUR/13, 5 October 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 17 October 2018
Initiation on 22 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of polystyrene (HS 3903.19.00) from Iran, Islamic Rep. of	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/TUR, 18 September 2018	
<b>Ukraine</b>		
Initiation on 2 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of syringes (HS 9018.31.10) from China, India and Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/UKR, 19 March 2018	
Initiation on 3 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of kitchen salt, extra class (HS 2501.00.91) from Belarus	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/UKR, 19 March 2018	
Initiation on 29 December 2017 of AD investigation on imports of electric incandescent lamps (HS 8539.22.90) from Belarus	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/UKR, 19 March 2018	
Initiation on 27 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of medical rubber plugs (HS 4016.99.97) from China and Poland	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/UKR, 18 September 2018	
Termination on 27 April 2018 of AD duties on imports of cement-asbestos board corrugated (HS 6811.40.00) from the Russian Federation (imposed on 28 May 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/UKR, 18 September 2018	
Termination on 28 May 2018 of AD duties on imports of citric acid (monohydrate) (HS 2918.14.00) from China (investigation initiated on 27 January 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 27 April 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/UKR, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 2 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of cement (HS 2523.10.00; 2523.29.00) from Belarus, Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation	Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to the WTO (17 October 2018)	
Initiation on 2 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of rods made of carbon and other steel alloys (HS 7213; 7214; 7227; 7228) from Belarus and Republic of Moldova	Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to the WTO (17 October 2018)	
<b>United States of America</b>		
Termination on 16 October 2017 (without measure) of AD investigation on imports of titanium sponge (HS 8108.20.00) from Japan and Kazakhstan (initiated on 20 September 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/308/USA, 21 March 2018	
Termination on 16 October 2017 (without measure) of CVD investigation on imports of titanium sponge (HS 8108.20.00) from Kazakhstan (initiated on 20 September 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/328/USA, 22 February 2018	
Initiation on 23 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of polyethylene terephthalate "PET" resin (HS 3907.61.00; 3907.69.00) from Brazil; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of; Pakistan and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 4 May 2018
Initiation on 26 October 2017 of AD investigation on imports of polytetrafluoroethylene "PTFE" resin (HS 3904.61.00; 3904.69.50) from China and India	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 7 May 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 26 October 2017 of CVD investigation on imports of polytetrafluoroethylene "PTFE" resin (HS 3904.61.00; 3904.69.50) from India	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 8 March 2018
Initiation on 1 November 2017 of AD investigation on imports of forged steel fittings (HS 7307.99.10; 7307.99.30; 7307.99.50; 7307.92.30; 7307.92.90; 7326.19.00) from China, Italy and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018; and Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-583-863, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 48280 (24 September 2018)	Provisional duty imposed on 17 May 2018. Definitive duty imposed on 24 September 2018 on imports from Chinese Taipei
Initiation on 1 November 2017 of CVD investigation on imports of forged steel fittings (HS 7307.99.10; 7307.99.30; 7307.99.50; 7307.92.30; 7307.92.90; 7326.19.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 14 March 2018
Initiation on 4 December 2017 of AD investigation on imports of common alloy aluminium sheet (HS 7606.12.30; 7606.11.30; 7606.11.60; 7606.12.60; 7606.91.30; 7606.91.60; 7606.92.30; 7606.92.60; 7607.11.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 22 June 2018
Initiation on 4 December 2017 of CVD investigation on imports of common alloy aluminium sheet (HS 7606.12.30; 7606.11.30; 7606.11.60; 7606.12.60; 7606.91.30; 7606.91.60; 7606.92.30; 7606.92.60; 7607.11.90) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 23 April 2018
Initiation on 4 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of sodium gluconate, gluconic acid and derivative products (HS 2918.16.10; 2918.16.50; 2932.20.50; 2918.16.50; 3824.99.28; 3824.99.92) from China and France	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	Terminated on 22 January 2018 on imports from France
Initiation on 4 January 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of sodium gluconate, gluconic acid and derivative products (HS 2918.16.10; 2918.16.50; 2932.20.50; 2918.16.50; 3824.99.28; 3824.99.92) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 23 May 2018
Initiation on 23 January 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain plastic decorative ribbon (HS 3920.20.00; 3926.40.00; 3920.10.00; 3920.30.00; 3920.43.50; 3920.49.00; 3920.62.00; 3920.69.00; 3921.90.11; 3921.90.15; 3921.90.19; 3921.90.40; 3926.90.99; 5404.90.00; 9505.90.40; 4601.99.90; 4602.90.00; 5609.00.30; 5609.00.40; 6307.90.98) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 23 January 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain plastic decorative ribbon (HS 3920.20.00; 3926.40.00; 3920.10.00; 3920.30.00; 3920.43.50; 3920.49.00; 3920.62.00; 3920.69.00; 3921.90.11; 3921.90.15; 3921.90.19; 3921.90.40; 3926.90.99; 5404.90.00; 9505.90.40; 4601.99.90; 4602.90.00; 5609.00.30; 5609.00.40; 6307.90.98) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 22 June 2018
Initiation on 20 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of large diameter welded pipe (HS 7305.11.10; 7305.11.50; 7305.12.10; 7305.12.50; 7305.19.10; 7305.19.50; 7305.31.40; 7305.31.60; 7305.39.10; 7305.39.50) from Canada; China; Greece; India; Korea, Rep. of and Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 20 February 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of large diameter welded pipe (HS 7305.11.10; 7305.11.50; 7305.12.10; 7305.12.50; 7305.19.10; 7305.19.50; 7305.31.40; 7305.31.60; 7305.39.10; 7305.39.50) from China; India; Korea, Rep. of and Turkey	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	Provisional duty imposed on 29 June 2018
Termination on 20 February 2018 of AD duties on imports of 100 to 150seat large civil aircraft (HS 8802.40.00) from Canada (investigation initiated on 26 May 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 13 October 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Termination on 20 February 2018 of CVD duties on imports of 100 to 150seat large civil aircraft (HS 8802.40.00) from Canada (investigation initiated on 26 May 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 2 October 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 23 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of cast iron soil pipes (HS 7303.00.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 23 February 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of cast iron soil pipes (HS 7303.00.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 27 February 2018 of AD investigation on imports of rubber bands (HS 4016.99.35; 4016.99.60) from China, Sri Lanka and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	Terminated on 22 March 2018 on imports from Sri Lanka
Initiation on 27 February 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of rubber bands (HS 4016.99.35; 4016.99.60) from China, Sri Lanka and Thailand	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	Terminated on 22 March 2018 on imports from Sri Lanka
Initiation on 3 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of laminated woven sacks (HS 6305.33.00; 3923.21.00; 3923.29.00; 3917.39.00; 3921.90.11; 3921.90.15; 5903.90.25; 4601.99.05; 4601.99.90; 4602.90.00) from Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 3 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of laminated woven sacks (HS 6305.33.00; 3923.21.00; 3923.29.00; 3917.39.00; 3921.90.11; 3921.90.15; 5903.90.25; 4601.99.05; 4601.99.90; 4602.90.00) from Viet Nam	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 16 April 2018 of AD duties on imports of silicon metals (HS 2804.61.00; 2804.69.10; 2804.69.50) from Australia, Brazil and Norway (investigation initiated on 4 April 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 12 October 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Termination on 16 April 2018 of CVD duties on imports of silicon metals (HS 2804.61.00; 2804.69.10; 2804.69.50) from Australia, Brazil and Kazakhstan (investigation initiated on 4 April 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 14 August 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 24 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain steel wheels (HS 8708.70.45; 8708.70.60; 8716.90.50; 4011.20.10; 4011.20.50; 8708.99.48) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 24 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain steel wheels (HS 8708.70.45; 8708.70.60; 8716.90.50; 4011.20.10; 4011.20.50; 8708.99.48) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 25 April 2018 of AD investigation on imports of glycine (HS 2922.49.43; 2922.49.80) from India, Japan and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 25 April 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of glycine (HS 2922.49.43; 2922.49.80) from China, India and Thailand	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 16 May 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain quartz surface products (HS 6810.99.00; 6810.11.00; 6810.19.12; 6810.19.14; 6810.19.50; 6810.91.00; 6815.99.40; 2506.10.00; 2506.20.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	
Initiation on 16 May 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain quartz surface products (HS 6810.99.00; 6810.11.00; 6810.19.12; 6810.19.14; 6810.19.50; 6810.91.00; 6815.99.40; 2506.10.00; 2506.20.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Termination on 5 June 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of citric acid and certain citrate salts (HS 2918.14.00; 2918.15.10; 2918.15.50; 3824.99.92) from Thailand (investigation initiated on 30 June 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 3 November 2017)	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Initiation on 18 June 2018 of AD investigation on imports of steel propane cylinders (HS 7311.00.00) from China, Chinese Taipei and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	Terminated on 26 June 2018 on imports from Chinese Taipei
Initiation on 18 June 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain steel propane cylinders (HS 7311.00.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/334/USA, 27 September 2018	
Termination on 18 June 2018 of AD duties on imports of solid agricultural grade ammonium nitrate (HS 3102.30.00) from Ukraine (imposed on 12 September 2001)	WTO document G/ADP/N/314/USA, 18 September 2018	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 10 July 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain steel racks (HS 7326.90.86; 9403.20.00; 9403.90.80; 7308.90.30; 7308.90.60; 7308.90.95) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-570-088, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 33195 (17 July 2018)	
Initiation on 10 July 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain steel racks (HS 7326.90.86; 9403.20.00; 9403.90.80; 7308.90.30; 7308.90.60; 7308.90.95) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-570-089, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 33201 (17 July 2018)	
Termination on 21 July 2018 of CVD duties on imports of certain new pneumatic off-the-road tires (HS 4011.20.10; 4011.20.50; 4011.61.00; 4011.62.00; 4011.63.00; 4011.69.00; 4011.92.00; 4011.93.40; 4011.93.80; 4011.94.40; 4011.94.80; 4011.99.45; 4011.99.85; 8424.90.90; 8431.20.00; 8431.39.00; 8431.49.10; 8431.49.90; 8432.90.00; 8433.90.50; 8503.00.95; 8708.70.05; 8708.70.25; 8708.70.45; 8709.90.00; 8716.90.10; 8716.90.50) from Sri Lanka (investigation initiated on 10 February 2016. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 20 June 2016 and 6 March 2017)	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-542-801, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 35213 (25 July 2018)	
Termination on 3 August 2018 of CVD duties on imports of super-calendered paper (HS 4802.61.30; 4802.62.30; 4802.62.60; 4802.69.30) from Canada (investigation initiated on 26 March 2015. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 3 August and 10 December 2015)	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-122-854, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 32268 (12 July 2018)	
Termination on 9 August 2018 of AD duties on imports of stainless steel bar (SSB) (HS 7222.10.00; 7222.11.00; 7222.19.00; 7222.20.00; 7222.30.00) from Brazil and Japan (imposed on 21 February 1995) and Spain (imposed on 2 March 1995)	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-351-825, A-533-810, A-588-833 and A-469-805, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 49910 (3 October 2018)	
Initiation on 28 August 2018 of AD investigation on imports of certain steel wheels 12 to 16.5 inches in diameter (HS 8716.90.50) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-570-090, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 45095 (5 September 2018)	
Initiation on 28 August 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of certain steel wheels 12 to 16.5 inches in diameter (HS 8716.90.50) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-570-091, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 45100 (5 September 2018)	
Initiation on 25 September 2018 of AD investigation on imports of strontium chromate (HS 2841.50.91; 3212.90.00) from Austria and France	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-433-813 and A-427-830, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 49543 (2 October 2018)	
Initiation on 9 October 2018 of AD investigation on imports of mattresses (HS 9404.21.00; 9404.29.10; 9404.29.90; 9401.40.00; 9401.90.50) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-570-092, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 52386 (17 October 2018)	
Initiation on 10 October 2018 of AD investigation on imports of refillable stainless steel kegs (HS 7310.10.00; 7310.29.00) from China, Germany and Mexico	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-570-093, A-428-846 and A-201-849, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 52195 (16 October 2018)	
Initiation on 10 October 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of refillable stainless steel kegs (HS 7310.10.00; 7310.29.00) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-570-094, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 52192 (16 October 2018)	



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 11 October 2018 of AD investigation on imports of aluminium wire and cables (HS 8544.49.90; 8544.42.90) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-570-095, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 52811 (18 October 2018)	
Initiation on 11 October 2018 of CVD investigation on imports of aluminium wire and cables (HS 8544.49.90; 8544.42.90) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-570-096, Federal Register/Vol 83 FR No. 52805 (18 October 2018)	

**ANNEX 3****OTHER TRADE-RELATED MEASURES<sup>1</sup>**

(MID-OCTOBER 2017 TO MID-OCTOBER 2018)

**Confirmed information<sup>2</sup>**

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Algeria</b>		
Amendment introduced to the list of products subject to a temporary import ban (877 tariff lines at 10-digit level, in HS Chapters 02; 04; 07; 08; 11; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 25; 39; 44; 48; 57; 68; 69; 70; 76; 84; 85; 87; 94; 96) (e.g. meat and edible meat offal; dairy produce; natural honey; edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers; edible fruit and nuts; products of the milling industry; preparations of meat, fish or crustaceans; sugar and sugar confectionery; chocolates; preparations of cereals, flours, starch or milk; preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts; miscellaneous edible preparations; waters; cement; plastics and articles thereof; articles of wood; paper and paperboard; carpets; marble; ceramic products; laminated safety glass; aluminium and articles thereof; machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical machinery and equipment; vehicles; furniture; miscellaneous manufactured articles)	Décret Exécutif No. 18-139 portant désignation des marchandises soumises au régime de restrictions à l'importation - Journal Officiel (traduction Française) No. 29 (23 May 2018)	Effective 23 May 2018
<b>Argentina</b>		
Temporary export ban on iron and steel ferrous waste and scrap (NCM 7204; 7404; 7602)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Decreto No. 848/2017 (23 October 2017)	Effective 27 October 2017, for 360 days
Amendments introduced to the list of products requiring non-automatic import licensing requirements	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (28 May 2018) and Resolución Secretaría de Comercio Nos. 898/2017 (24 November 2017), E-8/2018 (8 January 2018) and 170/2018 (27 March 2018)	Effective 1 December 2017

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the Annex implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

<sup>2</sup> This Section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Temporary suspension of the registration ( <i>registración</i> ) requirement from the sworn declaration requirement ( <i>Declaración Jurada de Ventas al Exterior "DJVE"</i> ) for the export of certain products (e.g. flours and meals of soya beans; soya bean oil and its fractions; residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder; cereals; other worked grains of oat; certain oil seeds and oleaginous fruits, whether or not broken; certain animal fats and oils; oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soyabean oils; and oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of vegetable fats and oils (NCM 1002; 1004; 1008; 1104; 1207; 1208; 1507; 1515; 1518; 2302; 2304; 2306; 2309))	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución Ministerio de Agroindustria Nos. 249/2018 (13 August 2018) and 290/2018 (31 August 2018)	Effective 13 August 2018
Temporary export duties ( <i>derechos de exportación</i> ) on certain products, e.g. soya beans flours; soya-bean oils and its fractions; certain animal and vegetable fats and oils; residues and waste from the food industries, prepared animal fodder (NCM 1208.10.00; 1507.10.00; 1507.90.19; 1507.90.90; 1517.90.90; 1518.00.90; 2302.50.00; 2304.00.10; 2304.00.90; 2308.00.00; 2309.90.10; 2309.90.60; 2309.90.90)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Decreto 757/2018 (DCTO-2018-APN-PTE-Posiciones arancelarias) (14 August 2018)	Effective 15 August 2018 to 28 February 2019
Inclusion of 2 new tariff lines "undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength by volume of 80% vol. or higher; ethyl alcohol and other spirits, denatured, of any strength" (NCM 2207.10.10; 2207.10.90) to the list of products requiring non-automatic import licensing requirements	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Resolución Ministerio de Comercio - Secretaría de Comercio Nos. 507/2018 (27 August 2018) and 526/2018 (3 September 2018)	Effective 27 August 2018
Temporary increase of export duties ( <i>derechos de exportación</i> ) for all products (NCM Chapters 01 to 99). Certain capital goods exempted	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Decreto Nos. 793/2018 (DCTO-2018-793-APN-PTE-Derechos de exportación. Modificación) (3 September 2018) and Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur 865/2018 (27 September 2018)	Effective 4 September 2018 to 31 December 2020

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Amendments introduced to the list of products granted temporary authorization to increase the Mercosur Common External Tariff (but not above their bound levels), (90 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 7; 9; 11; 15; 21; 22; 23; 24; 29; 33; 36; 38; 40; 44; 64; 68; 71; 73; 82; 83; 84; 85; 87; 89; 90; 92; 94; 95; 96) (e.g. garlic; roasted coffee; wheat gluten; olive oil and its fractions; margarine; miscellaneous edible preparations; waters, wines; preparations of a kind used in animal feeding; unmanufactured tobacco; fireworks; herbicides, anti-sprouting products and plant-growth regulators; new rubber pneumatic tyres; wood and articles of wood; parts of footwear; granite; refractory bricks; imitation jewellery; articles of iron and steel; miscellaneous articles of base metal; machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical machinery and equipment; motorcycles; boats; sunglasses; musical instruments; miscellaneous manufactured articles)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Decreto No. 847/2018 (25 September 2018)	Effective 26 September 2018
<b>Brazil</b>		
Elimination of the temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on certain isocyanates (NCM 2929.10.30), under an import quota of 1,000 tonnes (originally effective 23 January 2017 to 22 January 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018) and Camex Resolution No. 94/2017 (13 December 2017)	Eliminated on 13 December 2017
Increase of import tariffs (from 2% to 14%) on industrial fatty alcohols ( <i>láurico</i> ) (NCM 3823.70.20) and <i>ácido caprílico</i> (NCM 3823.19.10); (from zero to 14%) on sinkers, needles and other articles used in forming stitches (NCM 8448.51.10) (effective 1 January 2018); (from 2% to 12%) on certain acyclic monoamines and their derivatives (NCM 2921.19.94) (effective 2 March 2018); and (to 25%) on onions and shallots (NCM 0703.10.19) (effective 22 December 2017 to 31 December 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 May 2018), and Camex Resolution Nos. 54/2017 (5 July 2017) 95/2017 (19 December 2017), 98/2017 (21 December 2017) and 11/2018 (28 February 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Increase of import tariffs (from 2% to 14%) on acyclic ethers and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives ( <i>sevoflurano</i> ) (NCM 2909.19.20); (from 8% to 14%) on certain pharmaceutical products ( <i>sevoflurano</i> ) (NCM 3003.90.97; 3004.90.97)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Camex Resolution No. 71/2018 (2 October 2018)	Effective 2 October 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Canada</b>		
Imposition of countermeasures (surtaxes of 25% and 10%) against the United States in response to U.S. tariffs imposed on Canadian steel and aluminium products. Surtax of 25% on 131 steel tariff lines (in HS Chapters 7206; 7207; 7208; 7209; 7210; 7211; 7212; 7213; 7214; 7215; 7216; 7217; 7218; 7221; 7222; 7223; 7224; 7225; 7226; 7227; 7228; 7229; 7304; 7305; 7306), surtax of 10% on 19 aluminium tariff lines (in HS Chapters 7604; 7610; 7611; 7612; 7613; 7615; 7616); and surtax of 10% on 79 tariff lines (in Chapters HS 0403; 0901; 1602; 1702; 1704; 1806; 1905; 2001; 2007; 2009; 2103; 2104; 2202; 2208; 3304; 3305; 3307; 3401; 3402; 3406; 3506; 3808; 3923; 3924; 4412; 4802; 4811; 4818; 4822; 4909; 7321; 8418; 8419; 8422; 8433; 8450; 8903; 9401; 9404; 9504; 9608)	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 October 2018) and Canada Gazette, Part II, Volume 152, Number 14, United States Surtax Order (Steel and Aluminium): SOR/2018-152 (28 June 2018); Canada Border Service Agency Customs Notice 18-08 Surtaxes Imposed on Certain Products Originating in the United States (29 June 2018)	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>China</b>		
The tariff reduction obligation for 128 items imported from the United States was suspended on 2 April 2018, and the tariff was hereafter imposed on the basis of the current tariff rate (15% on edible fruits and nuts; wine of fresh grapes; undenatured ethyl alcohol; ginseng roots; iron or steel seamless tubes, pipes and hollow profiles; and 25% on pork products; and aluminium waste and scrap)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (28 May 2018)	Effective 2 April 2018
Decrease of VAT rebate rates (from 17% to 16% and from 11% to 10%) on exports of certain products	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (28 May 2018)	Effective 1 May 2018
Imposition of an additional 25% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain agricultural goods, automobiles, aquatic products (545 tariff lines) (HS Chapter 02; 03; 04; 05; 07; 08; 10; 11; 12; 14; 16; 20; 22; 23; 24; 52; 87) from the United States	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notice of the Customs Tariff Commission of the States Council (Tariff Commission Circular 2018-3). Viewed at: <a href="http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201806/t20180616_2930325.html">http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201806/t20180616_2930325.html</a>	Effective 6 July 2018
Imposition of an additional 25% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain chemical products, medical equipment and energy products (333 tariff lines) (HS Chapter 23; 26; 27; 29; 34; 35; 39; 40; 44; 45; 47; 51; 52; 55; 63; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 79; 80; 81; 85; 87; 89; 90) from the United States	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notice of the Customs Tariff Commission of the States Council (Tariff Commission Circulars 5/2018 and 7/2018. Viewed at: <a href="http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201806/t20180616_2930325.html">http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201806/t20180616_2930325.html</a> ; <a href="http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201808/t20180808_2983770.html">http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201808/t20180808_2983770.html</a> ; and <a href="http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201808/20180802775598.shtml">http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201808/20180802775598.shtml</a>	Effective 23 August 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Further increase of import tariffs (to 10%) on 3,571 tariffs lines (in HS Chapters 01; 02; 03; 04; 05; 06; 07; 08; 09; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 45; 46; 47; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97); (to 20%); and (to 5%) on 1,636 tariffs lines (in HS Chapters 01; 04; 05; 07; 09; 11; 12; 13; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 25; 26; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 43; 44; 47; 48; 49; 52; 54; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97) on imports from the United States	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Announcement of the Taxation Committee Nos. 6/2018 and 8/2018. Viewed at: <a href="http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/a/e/ai/201808/20180802772616.shtml">http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/a/e/ai/201808/20180802772616.shtml</a> ; <a href="http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201808/t20180803_2980950.html">http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201808/t20180803_2980950.html</a> ; and <a href="http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201809/t20180918_3022592.html">http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201809/t20180918_3022592.html</a>	Effective 24 September 2018
<b>Colombia</b>		
Amendments introduced to import tariffs on articles of apparel and clothing accessories (HS 61; 62; 64). <i>Ad valorem</i> tariff (40%) on apparel and clothing accessories for FOB value declared of US\$10/kg or less. For waterproof footwear; certain footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or plastic; and footwear with outer soles of rubber, plastic, leather or composition leather and uppers of textile materials (HS 6401; 6402; 6404), <i>ad valorem</i> tariff (35%) for FOB value declared of US\$6/pair or less. For "other footwear" (HS 6405), <i>ad valorem</i> tariff (35%) for FOB value declared of US\$7/pair or less. For footwear with outer soles of rubber, plastic, leather or composition leather and uppers of leather (HS 6403), <i>ad valorem</i> tariff (35%) for FOB value declared of US\$10/pair or less	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (24 April 2018) and Decreto No. 1786 Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (2 November 2017)	Effective 2 November 2017
Introduction of specific import tariffs for certain textiles and textile products to avoid customs fraud and the use of arbitrary customs value (HS Chapter 52; 54; 55; 56; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (24 April 2018) and Decreto No. 2218 Ministerio de Hacienda y Crédito Público (27 December 2017)	Effective 27 December 2017
<b>Costa Rica</b>		
Imposition of a temporary special agricultural SG (11.67%) on imports of husked (brown) rice (HS 1006.20.00)	Permanent Delegation of Costa Rica to the WTO (24 October 2018)	Effective 21 September 2018 to 31 December 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Egypt</b>		
Extension of the temporary export taxes (LE 5,000/tonne) on waste, parings and scrap of plastics except crushed plastics (pranged or granular) (effective 31 August 2018 to 31 August 2019); (LE 12,000/tonne) on fresh, chilled, or frozen fish (effective 25 August 2018 to 24 August 2019); (LE 500/tonne) on azotic fertilizers (excluding pure ammonium nitrate with a concentration higher than 34.2% nitrogen) (effective 18 September 2018 to 17 September 2019); and on crust leather (effective 2 May 2018) (HS 3915; 0302; 3102; 4104; 4105; 4106)	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Temporary export taxes (LE 20,000/tonne) on copper aluminium rods, angles and special shapes (HS 7407)	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 14 September 2018
<b>European Union</b>		
Imposition of additional <i>ad valorem</i> import customs duties (25%) on certain products, e.g. on vegetables; on maize (corn); on rice; on prepared foods obtained by swelling or roasting of cereals or cereal products; on vegetables, fruit, nuts and other edible parts of plants; on fruit juices and vegetables juices; on undenatured ethyl alcohol; on tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes; on beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin; on articles of apparel and clothing accessories; on bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen; on footwear; on iron and steel; on articles of iron and steel; on aluminium and articles thereof; on motorcycles; on yachts and other vessels for pleasure or sports; (to 10%) on playing cards (HS 9504.40.00) from the United States (in Chapters 07; 10; 19; 20; 22; 24; 33; 61; 62; 63; 64; 72; 73; 76; 87; 89; 95)	WTO document G/SG/N/12/EU/1, 18 May 2018; and Commission Implementing Regulation Nos. 2018/724 (16 May 2018) and 2018/886 (20 June 2018)	Effective on 22 June 2018
<b>India</b>		
Increase of import tariffs (to 50%) on peas ( <i>pisum sativum</i> ) (HS 0713.10.00) (effective 8 November 2017) and (to 45%) on soya beans, whether or not broken (HS 1201.10.00; 1201.90.00) (effective 17 November 2017)	Notification Nos. 84/2017-Customs - Ministry of Finance (8 November 2017) and 88/2017-Customs - Ministry of Finance (17 November 2017)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 20%) on footwear (HS 6401; 6402; 6403; 6404; 6405) and on certain toys, games and sport requisites (HS 9503; 9504; 9505.90.10; 9506; 9507; 9508); and (from 10% to 15%) on certain footwear with uppers of leather or composition leather, and with uppers of textiles materials (HS 6406); on key pads, and GSM antennas of any technology (HS 8517.70.90); on certain clocks and watches (HS 9101; 9102; 9103; 9105); on microphone rubber cases, sensor rubber cases, sealing gaskets, and silicone for use in the manufacture of cellular mobile phones (HS 4016.99.90); and on truck and bus radial tyres (HS 4011.20.10); and (from 15% to 20%) on cellular mobile phones (HS 8517.12.10; 8517.12.90)	Indian Budget 2018-19, Finance Bill 2018, Clause 101(a) (14 March 2018)	Effective February 2018
Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 15%) on certain parts, sub-parts or accessories of cellular mobile phones (e.g. heat dissipation sticker; battery cover; sticker-battery slot; protective film for main lens; Mylar for LDC FPC; film-front flash (HS 3919.90.90); battery cover; front cover; front cover (with zinc casting); middle cover; back cover; main lens; camera lens (HS 3920.99.99); PU case; sealing gasket (HS 3926.90.91), sealing gaskets/cases from PE, PP, EPS, PC and all other individual polymers or combination/combination of polymers; SIM sockets/other mechanical items (plastic); conductive cloth; LCD conductive foam; LCD foam; and BT foam (HS 3926.90.99)	Notification No. 22/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 20%) on kites (HS 4823.90.90); (from 5% to 7.5%) on refractory bricks, blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods (HS 6902); and on other refractory ceramic goods (e.g. retorts, crucibles, muffles, nozzles, plugs, supports, cupels, tubes, pipes, sheaths and rods) other than those of siliceous fossil metals or of similar siliceous earths (HS 6903); (from zero to 5%) on preform of silica for use in the manufacture of telecommunication grade optical fibres or optical fibre cables (HS Chapter 70); (from 7.5%-10% to 15%) on USB cables of cellular mobile phones (HS 8544) and on LCD/LED/OLED panels of television and certain parts (HS 8529); and (from 30% to 50%) on certain food preparations (excluding compound alcoholic preparations of a kind used for the manufacture of beverages, of an alcoholic strength exceeding 0.5% by volume, determined at a temperature of 20° centigrade) (HS 2106.90)	Notification No. 6/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Increase of import tariffs (from zero to 10%) on 11 specified parts used in the manufacture of liquid crystal display and light emitting diode TV panels of HS 8529 (e.g. open cell (15.6" and above), plate diffuser, film diffuser, reflector sheet, film-top, film-middle, film-bottom, bar led, bezel, back cover sheet, and black light unit modules (HS 8529); and on cushions/gaskets of liquid crystal display and light emitting diode TV panels (HS 4016)	Notification No. 6/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 15%) on certain parts and accessories for cellular mobile phones: screws (HS 7318.15.00); SIM sockets/other mechanical items (metal) (HS 7326.90.99); chargers or adapters (HS 8504.40 except HS 8504.40.21); cells or batteries (HS 8506 except HS 8506.90.00); battery packs (other than lithium-ion batteries) (HS 8507 except 8507.90); microphones, wired headsets and receivers (HS 8518); and side key (HS 8538.90.00); and (from 10% to 20%) on lithium-ion batteries (8507.60.00) and wrist wearable devices "smart watches" (HS 8517.62.90)	Notification No. 22/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Increase of import tariffs (from 7.5% to 15%) on spark ignition engines and compression ignition engines (HS 8407; 8408) of motor vehicles falling under HS 8702; 8703; 8704; 8711; on parts suitable for use (HS 8409) principally with the engines of HS 8407; 8408, of a kind used in motor vehicles falling under HS 8702; 8704, motor cars falling under HS 8703, or motor cycles falling under HS 8711; on crank shafts (HS 8483.10.91; 8483.10.92) for engines falling under HS 8407 and 8408 and used in motor vehicles falling under HS 8702; 8703; 8704; 8711; and on electrical ignition or starting equipment and cut-outs (HS 8511) of motor vehicles falling under HS 8702; 8703; 8704; 8711	Notification No. 6/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Elimination of the exemption of customs duties on printed circuit board assembly (PCBA) and moulded plastics for the manufacture of chargers or adapters of cellular mobile phones. Basic customs tariff (BCD) set at 10%	Notification No. 22/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (2 February 2018) and Finance Bill 2018 (14 March 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Imposition of "Social Welfare Surcharge" (10%) on imported goods	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (5 June 2018)	Effective 2 February 2018
Increase of import tariffs (from 30% to 40%) on chickpeas ( <i>garbanzos</i> ) HS 0713.20.00) (effective 6 February 2018). On 1 March 2018, further increase of import tariffs (from 40% to 60%)	Notification Nos. 25/2018-Customs (6 February 2018) and 28/2018-Customs (1 March 2018)- Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
On 6 February 2018, further increase of import tariffs (from 50% to 100%) on raw sugar and refined or white sugar (raw sugar if imported by bulk consumer) (HS 1701). On 20 March 2018, import tariffs eliminated	Notification Nos. 24/2018-Customs (6 February 2018) and 30/2018 (20 March 2018) - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 15%) on motor cycles (including mopeds) and cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with or without side cars, and side cars, new, which have not been registered anywhere prior to importation - (1) as a completely knocked down (CKD) kit containing all the necessary components, parts or sub-assemblies for assembling a complete vehicle with: (a) engine, gearbox and transmission mechanism not in a pre-assembled condition (HS 8711)	Notification No. 26/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (12 February 2018)	Effective 12 February 2018
Imposition of minimum import price "MIP" on peppers resulting in an import ban on imports if their c.i.f. MIP is below Rs 500/kg (imports with a c.i.f. MIP of Rs 500/kg or above are free) (HS 0904)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (9 May 2018) and Notification No. 53/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Foreign Trade (21 March 2018)	Effective 21 March 2018
Import ban on seal skins (HS Chapters 41; 42; 43)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (9 May 2018) and Notification No. 59/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Foreign Trade (28 March 2018)	Effective 28 March 2018
Increase of tariff (from zero to 10%) on camera modules for use in the manufacture of cellular mobile phones; connectors for use in manufacture of cellular mobile phones; and populated, loaded or stuffed printed circuit boards (HS 8517; 8525; 8529)	Notification Nos. 36/2018 and 37/2018 - Customs (2 April 2018) - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)	Effective 2 April 2018
Increase of import tariffs (from 30% to 40%) on whey and modified whey, whether or not concentrated or containing added sugar or other sweetening matter (HS 0404) (whey, concentrated, evaporated or condensed, liquid or semi-solid exempted)	Notification Nos. 43/2018-Customs and 44/2018-Customs (10 April 2018)- Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)	Effective 10 April 2018
Increase of import tariffs (to 100%) on walnuts in shell (HS 0802.31.00) and (to 40%) on protein concentrates and textured protein substances (HS 2106.10.00)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification Nos. 45/2018-Customs and 46/2018- Customs, Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (23 May 2018)	Effective 23 May 2018
Imports of natural rubber, balata, gutta-percha, guayule, chicle and similar natural gums, in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strip (HS 4001) only permitted through sea ports in Chennai and Nhava Sheva (Jawaharlal Nehru). Port restrictions not applicable for imports under Advance Authorization	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 11/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce (12 June 2018)	Effective 12 June 2018
Increase of import tariffs (to 35%) on soya-bean oil and its fractions; crude and edible grade oils (e.g. of ground-nut, olive, sunflower-seed, coconut (copra), rape, colza, mustard, and other fixed vegetables fats); (to 45%) on refined and edible grade oils (e.g. ground-nut, olive, sunflower-seed, coconut (copra), rape, colza, mustard, and other fixed vegetables fats) (HS 1507; 1508; 1509; 1510; 1512; 1513; 1514; 1515; 1516; 1517; 1518)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 47/2018-Customs-Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (14 June 2018)	Effective 14 June 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Further increase of import tariffs (to 70%) on certain chickpeas (garbanzos) (HS 0713.20.10; 0713.20.20; 0713.20.90); (to 40%) on lentils (HS 0713.40.00); (to Rs 42/Kg) on almonds in shell, (to Rs 120/Kg) on shelled almonds (HS 0802.12.00); (to 120%) on walnuts in shell (HS 0802.31.00); (to 75%) on apples (HS 0808.10.00); (to 20%) on phosphoric acid (HS 2809.20.10), on certain diagnostic or laboratory reagents (HS 3822.00.90), and grain-oriented silicon-electrical steel (HS 7225.11.00); (to 17.5%) on boric acid (HS 2810.00.20) and on certain miscellaneous chemical products (HS 3824.99.90); (to 27.5%) on flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel of a thickness of less than 0.5 mm (HS 7210.12.10; 7210.12.90); (to 22.5%) on certain flat-rolled products of stainless steel, of a width of 600 mm or more (HS 7219.12.00, 7219.13.00; 7219.21.90; 7219.90.90); (to 25%) on certain articles of iron and steel (HS 7307.29.00; 7307.99.90; 7308.90.90; 7310.29.90; 7318.15.00; 7318.16.00; 7318.29.90; 7320.90.90; 7325.99.99; 7326.19.90; 7326.90.99)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 48/2018-Customs - Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (20 June 2018)	Effective 20 June 2018
Import prohibition on oxytocin (HS 2937.19.00; 2937.29.00; 2937.90.19; 2937.90.90; 3004)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 19/2015-2020 (12 July 2018) - Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce)	Effective 12 July 2018
Addition of Vishakhapatnam port to the list of 15 existing ports/inland container depots through which imports of new vehicles is permitted (HS 87)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 12 July 2018
Increase of import tariffs (to 20%) on certain textiles and textile articles (504 tariff lines at 8-digit), e.g. woven fabrics; wadding of textile materials and articles thereof; nonwovens; carpets and other textile floor coverings; impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; articles of apparel and clothing accessories (HS 5310; 5407; 5601; 5603; 5701; 5702; 5703; 5704; 5705; 5901; 5910; 6004; 6103; 6104; 6105; 6106; 6108; 6109; 6110; 6111; 6114; 6115; 6116; 6117; 6201; 6203; 6204; 6205; 6206; 6209; 6210; 6212; 6217; 6301)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 53/2018-Customs (16 July 2018)- Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)	Effective 16 July 2018
Amendments introduced to the import policy of areca nut (HS 0802.80.10), resulting in an import prohibition, except for imports with a minimum import price <i>c.i.f.</i> equal or above Rs 251/kg	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 25 July 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Amendments introduced to the policy condition of "pepper" (HS 0904.11; 0904.12), resulting in an exemption of the import prohibition for: (i) imports under the Advance Authorization scheme; (ii) imports by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs); and (iii) imports by units in the Special Economic Zones. As from 17 September 2018, imports of long pepper (HS 0904.11.10) are also exempted	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 25 July 2018
Amendments introduced to the policy condition of urea (HS 3102.10.00), resulting in an exemption of the import prohibition for: imports of urea for industrial/non-agricultural/technical grade	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 27 July 2018
Increase of import tariffs (to 15%) on screw or SIM socket/other mechanical items (metal) for cellular mobile phones (HS 7318.15.00; 7326.90.99)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 57/2018-Customs-Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (7 August 2018)	Effective 7 August 2018
Increase of <i>ad valorem</i> import tariffs (from 10% to 20%) on 328 tariff lines of carpets, apparels and other textiles products (HS Chapters 57; 61; 62)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification No. 58/2018-Customs-Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (7 August 2018)	Effective 7 August 2018
Import prohibition on petroleum coke (HS 2713.11.00; 2713.12.00). Imports exempted only for cement, lime kiln, calcium carbide, and gasification industries, when used as feed stock or in the manufacturing process. As from 28 August 2018, imports of petroleum bitumen and other residues of petroleum oils exempted (HS 2713.20.00; 2713.90.00)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification Nos. 25/2015-2020 (17 August 2018) and 30/2015-2020 (28 August 2018)- Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce)	Effective 17 August 2018
Amendments introduced to the import policy of biofuels (HS 2207.20.00; 2710.20.00; 3826.00.00), resulting in an import restriction. Imports for non-fuel purposes exempted	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 21 August 2018
Amendments introduced to the import policy of peas (including yellow peas, green peas, dun peas and kaspa peas) (HS 0713.10.00), resulting in an extension of the import restriction of until 30 September 2018	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 30 August 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Increase of import tariffs (to 15%) on baths, shower-baths, sinks, wash-basins, bidets, lavatory pans, seats and covers, flushing cisterns and similar sanitary ware, of plastics; articles for the conveyance or packing of goods, stoppers, lids, caps and other closures of plastics; tableware, kitchenware, other household articles and hygienic or toilet articles, of plastic; new pneumatic rubber tyres for motor cars; leather travel goods, handbags and similar containers; (to 25%) footwear; (to 20%) jewellery, goldsmiths' and silversmiths' wares and other articles; air conditioning machines; refrigerators, freezers and other refrigerating or freezing equipment; laundry-type washing machines; (to 10%) compressors of a kind used in refrigerating equipment; (from 2.5% to 7.5%) on cut and polished coloured gemstones; diamonds and non-industrial diamonds; (to 10%) all goods other than: (i) speakers and (ii) the following parts of cellular mobile phones (namely microphone, wired headset and receiver); and (from zero to 5%) on aviation turbine fuel (HS 3922; 3923; 3924; 3926; 4011.10.10; 4202; 6401; 6402; 6403; 6404; 6405; 7113; 7114; 8414.30.00; 8414.80.11; 8415.10; 8415.20; 8415.81; 8415.82; 8415.83; 8418.10.90; 8418.21.90; 8418.29.00; 8450.11.00; 8450.12.00; 8450.19.00; 71; 8518; 2710.19.20)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2018), and Notification F. Nos. 67/2018-Customs, 68/2018-Customs, 69/2018-Customs and 70/2018-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (26 September 2018)	Effective 27 September 2018
Increase of import tariffs (to 20%) on other apparatus for transmission or reception of voice, images or other data, including apparatus for communication in a wired or wireless network (such as a local or wide area network) (HS 8517.61.00; 8517.69.00)	Notification No. 74/2018-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (11 October 2018)	Effective 12 October 2018
<b>Indonesia</b>		
Imposition of import tariffs on certain digital goods	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (25 April 2018)	
Increase of import taxes on certain products (1,084 tariff lines at 8-digit in Chapters 09; 10; 11; 12; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 27; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 39; 40; 42; 43; 44; 46; 57; 58; 59; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 73; 76; 82; 84; 85; 87; 89; 90; 91; 92; 94; 95; 96)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 13 September 2018
Increase of export taxes on mineral products; ores, slag and ash; mineral fuels and lignite (70 tariff lines at 8-digit in Chapters 25; 26; 27)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (25 October 2018)	Effective 13 September 2018
<b>Iraq, Rep. of</b>		
Reduction of the customs duty rates to four levels (0.5%, 10%, 15% and 30%), and adoption of the Harmonized System Nomenclature (21 categories), resulting in the increase of import tariffs for certain products	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Iraq (24 April 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Extension of the temporary import ban on certain vegetables and fruits, e.g. potatoes, tomatoes, lettuces, carrots, and melons (to protect local production) (HS 0701; 0702; 0705; 0706; 0807)	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Iraq (24 April 2018)	
<b>Malaysia</b>		
Amendments introduced to the list of prohibited export products, resulting in the addition of palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined, but not chemically modified (3 tariff lines) (HS 1511.90.31; 1511.90.32; 1511.90.41)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (5 June 2018)	Effective 20 October 2017
Amendments introduced to the list of prohibited import products, resulting in the addition of certain items (e.g. preparations of a kind used in animal feed; certain antibiotics; and certain medication) (7 tariff lines) (HS 2309; 2941; 3003; 3004; 2852; 2933)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (5 June 2018)	Effective 23 February 2018
Import requirement (e.g. import licensing, certificate of approval) on certain products, e.g. certain heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom(s) only; iron and steel; and aluminium and articles thereof (HS 2933; 7227; 7215; 7228; 7604; 7606)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (29 October 2018) and Federal Government Gazette, Customs (prohibition of imports (amendment) (No.2)) Order 2018 (29 August 2018)	Effective 1 September 2018
Export requirement on certain heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom(s) only (HS 2933.39.90)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (29 October 2018) and Federal Government Gazette, Customs (prohibition of exports (amendment) (No.2)) Order 2018 (29 August 2018)	Effective 1 September 2018
Imposition of sale taxes on import of certain products, e.g. wine, spirit, malt liquor, tobacco and tobacco products, marble and anchovies (for Langkawi area); and motor vehicles (for Tioman area) (HS 2203; 2402; 6802; 0305.59.21; 0305.63.00; 8703)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (29 October 2018) and Federal Government Gazette, Sale Tax (imposition of sale tax in respect of designated areas) Order 2018 (28 August 2018)	Effective 1 September 2018
<b>Mauritius</b>		
Increase of import tariffs (from zero to 10%) on blended oil; and (from zero to 80%) on cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form (HS 1517.90.10; 1701.12.00; 1701.13.00; 1701.14.90; 1701.91.00; 1701.99.10; 1701.99.90)	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (28 September 2018)	Effective 15 June 2018
<b>Mexico</b>		
Further extension of the temporary increase of import tariffs (from zero to 15%) on 97 iron and steel tariff lines (HS Chapter 72) (originally implemented on 7 October 2015 for 180 days, extended on 4 April 2016 for an additional period of 180 days, and extended again on 6 April 2017 for 180 days)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (30 May 2018); Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 17 October 2017; and WTO document WT/TPR/OV/20, 16 November 2017	On 17 October 2017, the measure was again extended for 180 days. On 16 April 2018, the measure was terminated
Establishment of a list of petroleum and oil products (HS 2709; 2710; 2711) subject to mandatory prior import authorization by the Ministry of Energy	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 5 December 2017
Establishment of a list of petroleum and oil products (HS 2709; 2710; 2711) subject to mandatory prior export authorization by the Ministry of Energy	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 5 December 2017

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Amendments introduced in the Law of general taxes of import and export resulting in the temporary increase of import tariffs on certain iron and steel, and products of iron and steel (HS Chapters 72 and 73)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective 5 July 2018 to 31 January 2019
Temporary increase of import tariffs (to 15%) on certain semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel ( <i>planchón de acero</i> ) (HS 7207.12.01; 7207.12.99; 7224.90.02)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (26 October 2018), and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 17 August 2018	Effective 17 August 2018 to 30 November 2018
<b>Myanmar</b>		
List of products subject to non-automatic import licensing (4,818 tariff lines in Chapters HS 01 to 31; 34; 38; 40; 41; 43; 47; 50; 51; 52; 55; 63; 70; 71; 72; 74; 75; 76; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 84; 85; 87; 88; 89; 90; 93; 95; 96; 97)	Permanent Delegation of Myanmar to the WTO (16 October 2018)	Effective 14 March 2018
List of products subject to non-automatic export licensing (3,345 tariff lines in Chapters HS 01 to 07; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 17; 23; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 36; 38; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 47; 49; 51; 52; 67; 68; 69; 71; 72; 74; 75; 76; 78; 79; 80; 81; 83; 84; 85; 87; 88; 89; 90; 93; 95; 96; 97)	Permanent Delegation of Myanmar to the WTO (16 October 2018)	Effective 8 May 2018
<b>New Zealand</b>		
Amendments introduced in the Climate Change (Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Levies) Regulation, resulting in the incorporation of additional goods and also the increase on certain levy rates (HS 3909; 8415; 8418; 8476; 8479; 8479; 8609; 8704; 8716; 8901; 8902)	New Zealand - Climate Change (Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Levies) Regulation 2013 (SR 2013/46)	Effective 1 January 2018
<b>Pakistan</b>		
Implementation of the Budget 2018-19 resulting in the increase of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. fish and crustaceans, soya-beans crude oil, petroleum oils, self-adhesive plates in rolls, and accessories of paper (53 tariff lines at 8-digit levels in HS Chapters 03; 15; 27; 39; 48)	Permanent Delegation of Pakistan to the WTO (29 October 2018)	Effective 1 July 2018
<b>Panama</b>		
Implementation of the Central American Import Tariff (for 2,200 tariffs lines), resulting in the increase of tariffs for certain products	Permanent Delegation of Panama to the WTO (24 April 2018)	Effective 1 March 2018
<b>Russian Federation</b>		
Government Resolution No. 1469 established restrictions and conditions of access of bare metal stents for coronary arteries, stents for coronary arteries, releasing drugs, balloon standard catheters for coronary angioplasty, and aspirating catheters for embolectomies, originating from foreign states, for the purpose of procurement for state and municipal needs	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 4 December 2017 to 1 July 2018
Introduction of temporary export duties (from zero to 7.5%) on waste and scrap of tungsten (wolfram) and waste and scrap of cermet (HS 8101.97.00; 8113.00.40)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 30 December 2017 to 30 December 2018
Further extension of the temporary export ban on tanned leather (HS 4104.11; 4104.19) (originally effective from 1 February 2017 to 1 August 2017)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective 10 June 2018



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Suspension of substantially equivalent concessions and other obligations under GATT 1994 to the trade with the United States in the form of an increase in tariffs on selected products (e.g. tools for tapping or threading; tools for drilling; tools for milling; tools for boring or broaching; tools for turning; hoods; cranes; trucks fitted with lifting or handling equipment; bulldozers; machining centres; lathes (including turning centres) for removing metal; machine-tools; valves and similar appliances; motor vehicles for the transport of goods; optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables) (79 tariff lines at 10-digit level, in Chapters 82; 84; 87; 90)	WTO document G/SG/N/12/RUS/2, 22 May 2018; Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (26 October 2018); and Decree No. 788 of the Government of the Russian Federation (6 July 2018)	Effective 5 August 2018
<b>Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)</b>		
Temporary increase of import tariffs (from zero to 5%) on injection-moulding machines with a clamping force of not more than 2,200 tonnes (22,000 kN) and an injection volume of not more than 28,200 kN (HS 8477.10.00)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 15 December 2017 to 15 December 2019
Elimination of the temporary reduction of import tariffs (from 13% to 5%) on Brussels sprouts (HS 0704); and (from 5% to zero) on nuts, dates, and dried grapes (HS 0802; 0804; 0806) (originally implemented on 22 April 2016)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (30 May 2018)	Effective 1 February 2018
Temporary increase of import tariffs on injection-moulding machines	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective 1 September 2018 to 15 December 2019
<b>South Africa (for SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Eswatini))</b>		
Increase of import tariffs (from 5% to 15%) on certain aluminium bars, rods and profiles (HS 7604.21.15; 7604.29.15; 7604.29.65) (effective 17 November 2017); and (from zero to 20%) on pre-fabricated buildings of iron or steel (HS 9406.90.10; 9406.90.90) (effective 17 November 2017) and self-adhesive tapes (HS 3919.10.41; 3919.10.43) (effective 29 December 2017). Imports from the European Union, EFTA and Southern African Development Community (SADC) members exempted	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (28 May 2018), International Trade Administration Commission Notice Nos. R. 1282 and R. 1283 - Government Gazette No. 41257 (17 November 2017) and R. 150 - Government Gazette No. 41363 (29 December 2017)	Effective: see individual dates in measure



Measure	Source/Date	Status
Increase of import excise duties (from 5% to 7%) on certain perfumes and toilet waters; beauty or make up preparations; and certain motorcycles; (from 7% to 9%) on machines for the reception, conversion and transmission of voice, image or other data; certain perfumes and toilet waters; fireworks; certain furskin articles; machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical machinery and equipment; water scooters; and arms, toys and games (HS 8517.62.20; 8517.69.10; 3303.00.90; 3304.10.90; 3304.20.90; 3304.30.90; 3304.91.90; 3304.99.90; 3604.10; 4303.10; 4304.00.10; 8415.10.10; 8415.10.20; 8415.81.10; 8415.82.10; 8415.83.10; 8415.90.05; 8517.11; 8517.12.10; 8518.21; 8518.22; 8518.29; 8518.40; 8518.50; 8519.81.90; 8519.89.90; 8521.90.90; 8525.80.90; 8527.13.10; 8527.19.10; 8527.21; 8527.29; 8527.91.10; 8527.92.10; 8527.99.10; 8528.49.10; 8528.49.90; 8528.52.20; 8528.52.90; 8528.59.15; 8528.59.90; 8528.69.90; 8528.71.10; 8528.71.90; 8528.72.20; 8528.72.50; 8528.72.90; 8528.73.20; 8528.73.50; 8528.73.90; 8711.20.90; 8711.30; 8711.40; 8711.50; 8711.90.20; 8711.90.30; 8903.99.10; 9302.00.10; 9302.00.25; 9302.00.29; 9302.00.39; 9303.10; 9303.20.11; 9303.20.12; 9303.20.13; 9303.20.20; 9303.30.10; 9303.30.20; 9303.30.90; 9304.00.20; 9504.30.10; 9504.50.10; 9506.32); and (from 25% to 30%) on motor vehicles (HS Chapter 87)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (28 May 2018) and International Trade Administration Commission Notice No. R. 347 - Government Gazette No. 41515 (23 March 2018)	Effective 23 March 2018
<b>Sri Lanka</b>		
Increase of the excise duties on imports of certain motor vehicles (HS 8703)	Gazette Extraordinary No. 2082/10 - Government Notifications, Excise (special provisions) (31 July 2018)	Effective 1 August 2018
Temporary increase of the special commodity levy (SCL) on imports of certain vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage (e.g. soya-bean, sunflower seed, coconut, palm kernel) (HS 1507; 1511; 1512; 1513)	Permanent Delegation of Sri Lanka to the WTO (25 October 2018) and Gazette Extraordinary No. 2085/36 - Government Notifications - Special Commodity Levy Act (24 August 2018)	Effective 25 August 2018, for 6 months
<b>Switzerland</b>		
Decrease of the import quota (by 1,000 tonnes to 16,307 tonnes) on eggs for further processing (HS 0407.21.10; 0407.29.10; 0407.90.10)	Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the WTO (14 May 2018)	Effective 1 January 2018
Regular Amendments of the agricultural components ( <i>éléments mobiles</i> ) of customs duties on certain agricultural products based on updated reference prices (HS 0403; 0405; 0710; 1517; 1704; 1806; 1901; 1902; 1904; 1905; 2001; 2004; 2005; 2007; 2008; 2101; 2104; 2105; 2106; 2905; 3501)	Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the WTO (12 October 2018)	Effective 1 May 2018
<b>Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu</b>		
Special SG measure (volume-based) on imports of poultry offal (HS 0207; 0210; 0504; 1602)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/164, 7 August 2018	Effective 18 July 2018 to 31 December 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Special SG measure (volume-based) on imports of fresh milk (HS 0401.10.10; 0401.20.10; 0401.40.10; 0401.50.10; 0402.99 10)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/166, 22 August 2018	Effective 3 August 2018 to 31 December 2018
<b>Turkey</b>		
Increase of import tariffs on certain products; (to 5%) on paracetamol; (from 2.3% to 20%) on hair clippers and other articles of base metal cutlery; (to 25%) on coated electrodes of base metals such as nickel and others for electric arc-welding; (to 14.9%) on other kind of centrifugal pumps; (from 6% to 7.6%) on works trucks fitted with mechanic lifting equipment; (to 20%) on pressure-reducing valves; valves for oleohydraulic or pneumatic transmission; and check "non-return" valves composed of cast iron or steel; safety or relief valves; appliances for pipes, boiler shells, tanks, vats or the like (excluding pressure-reducing valves, valves for the control of pneumatic power transmission, check "non-return" valves and safety or relief valves) and parts of valves; (to 9.3%) on AC motors, single-phase, of an output > 7,5 kW; (to 11.3%) and other AC motors, multi-phase, of an output > 750 W but ≤ 75 kW; (to 16.8%) on certain single axle tractors' pedestrian controlled agricultural tractors and similar tractors for industry (excluding tractor units for articulated lorries); (to 13.3%) on hydraulic steering boxes; (to 20%) on syringes, with or without needles, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences; (to 23.4%) on artists' brushes and writing brushes; (to 20%) on vacuum flasks and other vacuum vessels, and parts thereof (excluding glass inners) (HS Chapters 82; 83; 84; 85; 87; 90; 96); on plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood (HS 4412); and on tools, tool bodies, tool handles, broom or brush bodies and handles, of wood; boot or shoe lasts and trees, of wood (HS 4417)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective 28 March 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Suspension of substantially equivalent concessions and other obligations under GATT 1994 to the trade with the United States in the form of an increase in tariffs on selected products (e.g. nuts (HS 0802); rice (HS 1006); food preparations (HS 2106.90); undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength of < 80% (HS 2208); unmanufactured tobacco (HS 2401); mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation (HS 2701; 2704.00; 2713.11); beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin (HS 3304); plastics and articles thereof (HS 3904.10; 3908.10; 3926); fuel wood (HS 4401); paper and paperboard (HS 4802; 4804; 4811); artificial filament tow of cellulose acetate (HS 5502.10); iron or steel structures and parts of structures (HS 7308.90); nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 8413.70; 8479.89); motor cars and other motor vehicles (HS 8703); apparatus based on the use of x-rays (HS 9022.19))	WTO documents G/SG/N/12/TUR/6, 22 May 2018 and G/SG/N/12/TUR/6/Suppl.1, 15 August 2018	Effective 21 June 2018
Implementation of registration procedures on exports of worked grains of wheat, maize and barley (effective 1 September 2018), rice and rye (effective 28 September 2018) (HS 1006; 1103; 1104)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 October 2018)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
<b>United States of America</b>		
Imposition of an additional 25% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain steel articles (HS Chapters 72 and 73) for national security reasons. See Presidential Proclamations for country specific exemptions	Permanent Delegation of the United States to the WTO (4 June 2018) and Presidential Proclamation on adjusting imports of steel into the United States (8, 22 March 2018, 30 April 2018, 31 May 2018). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states/</a> and <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-2/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-2/</a> and <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-3/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-3/</a> and <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-4/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-4/</a>	Effective 23 March 2018. See Presidential Proclamations and WTO document G/MA/QR/N/USA/4, 3 October 2018 for country specific exemptions

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Imposition of an additional 10% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain aluminium articles (e.g. unwrought aluminium; aluminium bars, rods, and profiles; aluminium wire; aluminium plate, sheet, strip, and foil (flat-rolled products) (HS Chapter 76); aluminium tubes and pipe fittings; and aluminium castings and forgings) for national security reasons. See Presidential Proclamations for country specific exemptions	Permanent Delegation of the United States to the WTO (4 June 2018) and Presidential Proclamation on adjusting imports of aluminium into the United States (8 and 22 March 2018, 30 April 2018, 31 May 2018). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states/</a> and <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states-2/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states-2/</a> and <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states-3/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states-3/</a> and <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states-4/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-adjusting-imports-aluminum-united-states-4/</a>	Effective 23 March 2018. See Presidential Proclamations and WTO document G/MA/QR/N/USA/4, 3 October 2018 for country specific exemptions
Imposition of an additional duty of 25% on a list of 818 products from China	Permanent Delegation of the United States to the WTO (29 October 2018); Office of the USTR, Docket No. USTR-2018-0005 - Notice of Determination and Request for Public Comment Concerning Proposed Determination of Action Pursuant to Section 301 (3 April 2018). Viewed at: <a href="https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/Press/Releases/301FRN.pdf">https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/Press/Releases/301FRN.pdf</a> ; and Office of the USTR, Docket No. USTR-2018-0018 - Notice of Action and Request for Public Comment Concerning Proposed Determination of Action Pursuant to Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation (20 June 2018)	Effective 6 July 2018
Tariff reclassifications resulting in the increase of import tariffs (to 5%) on natamycin (HS 3808.92.50) ; (to 1.5%) on cordierite pizza stones (HS 7116.20.40); (to 30%) on glass candle jar (HS 7013.99.50); (to 6.5%) on butadiene rubber (HS 3902.90.00); (to 4.6%) on jump smart trampoline and trampoline safety enclosures (HS 9506.91.00)	US Customs and Border Protection 19 CFR PART 177 - Customs Bulletin and Decisions, Vol. 52 No. 28 (11 July 2018)	Effective 11 July 2018

Measure	Source/Date	Status
An additional 10% <i>ad valorem</i> duty on products of China, e.g. (5,745 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 02; 03; 04; 05; 07; 08; 10; 11; 12; 14; 15; 16; 17; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 24; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 45; 46; 47; 48; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 65; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90; 91; 94; 96)	Permanent Delegation of the United States to the WTO (29 October 2018); Office of the USTR, Docket No. USTR-2018-0026 - Billing Code 3290-F8, Request for Comments Concerning Proposed Modification of Action Pursuant to Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation (10 July 2018) and Press Release (September 2018). Viewed at: <a href="https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/301/2018-0026%20China%20FRN%207-10-2018_0.pdf">https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/301/2018-0026%20China%20FRN%207-10-2018_0.pdf</a> and <a href="https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2018/september/ustr-finalizes-tariffs-200">https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2018/september/ustr-finalizes-tariffs-200</a>	Effective 24 September 2018

### Recorded, but non-confirmed information<sup>3</sup>

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Algeria</b>		
Extension of the list of imported products subject to the Internal Consumption Tax (30%) ( <i>Taxe Intérieure de Consommation "TIC"</i> ) (e.g. salmon, cashew nuts, almonds, grapes, prunes, peppers, sugar confectionery, certain miscellaneous edible preparations, modems and decoders, burglar or fire alarms and similar apparatus, automatic data processing machines, yachts and other vessels for pleasure or sport) (HS Chapters 03; 08; 09; 17; 21; 84; 85)	Press reports referring to Communiqué relatif aux Mécanismes d'Encadrement des Opérations d'Importation de Marchandises - Ministère du Commerce	Effective 1 January 2018
Increase of import tariffs on certain finished goods (129 HS tariff lines ), e.g. sunflower seeds, whether broken or not; certain articles of plastic; industrial furnaces; filtering or purifying machinery and apparatus; overhead travelling cranes, transporter cranes, gantry cranes, bridge cranes, mobile lifting frames and straddle carriers; printing machinery; automatic data processing machines and units thereof; taps, cocks, valves and similar appliances for pipes, boiler shells, tanks, vats or the like, including pressure-reducing valves and thermostatically controlled valves; modems; telephone sets; certain apparatus for communication in a wired or wireless network; cards incorporating a magnetic strip; smart-cards; electrical apparatus for switching or protecting electrical circuits; insulated wire and cables (including co-axial cables); bodies for certain vehicles; trailers and semi-trailers, other vehicles, not mechanically propelled, and parts thereof; prepared or preserved ground-nuts; jams and marmalades; liquid dielectric transformers; water; primary cells and primary batteries; and beer made from malt (HS Chapters 12; 20; 21; 22; 39; 84; 85; 87)	Press reports referring to Communiqué relatif aux Mécanismes d'Encadrement des Opérations d'Importation de Marchandises - Ministère du Commerce	Effective 1 January 2018

<sup>3</sup> This Section includes information which has been obtained from public sources but has not yet been confirmed by the delegation concerned.

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Temporary import ban on 45 products, e.g. dairy produce, edible fruits and nuts (except bananas), vegetables, meats, corn derivatives, meat and fish preparations, glucose syrup, sugar and sugar confectionery, pasta, preparations of cereals, preserved vegetables, miscellaneous edible preparations, mineral waters, tanning or dyeing extracts, paper and paper board, plastics and articles thereof, carpets, marble, granite, ceramics, glass and glassware, certain vehicles, furniture, cement, electrical appliances and certain machinery	Press reports referring to Communiqué relatif aux Mécanismes d'Encadrement des Opérations d'Importation de Marchandises - Ministère du Commerce	Effective 1 January 2018
Imposition of import quota on certain vehicles, e.g. tractors, motor vehicles for the transport of 10 or more persons, motor cars, motor vehicles for the transport of goods, and special purpose motor vehicles (semi-knocked-down "SKD" excepted) (HS 8701; 8702; 8703; 8704; 8705)	Press reports referring to Communiqué relatif aux Mécanismes d'Encadrement des Opérations d'Importation de Marchandises - Ministère du Commerce	Effective 1 January 2018
<b>Angola</b>		
Temporary export ban on scraps	Press reports referring to Ordinance 76/18, Ministry of Industry (March 2018)	
<b>Philippines</b>		
Elimination of the special treatment for rice (HS 1006), granting minimum market access for rice imports and establishing country-specific quotas (originally effective from 17 June 2017 to 30 June 2020)	WTO document WT/TPR/OV/20, 16 November 2017 and Philippines Daily Inquirer (29 April 2018)	Effective 29 April 2018
<b>Russian Federation</b>		
Imposition of certain counter-restrictive measures to maintain the volume of metallurgical production	World Service Wire (13 April 2018)	
<b>Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)</b>		
Temporary increase (to 5%) of import tariffs on certain types of components of double-decker passenger railcars of locomotive traction	Eurasian Economic Commission press release (24 April 2018)	Effective for two years
<b>Rwanda</b>		
Temporary import ban on second hand garments	The Guardian (29 December 2017)	Effective January 2018
<b>Sudan</b>		
Temporary import ban of 19 commodity groups (541 tariff lines), e.g. meat products, live animals, dairy products except powder milk and infant milk, juices, sugar, fish, fruits and nuts, vegetables, cocoa preparations, pasta, seeds oil except crude oil, artificial flowers, plaiting materials products, toys and games, ornamental birds, natural plants and flowers, umbrellas, detergents and sponge mattresses (HS Chapters 01; 03; 04; 06; 07; 08; 14; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 34; 66; 67; 94; 95)	Press reports referring to Ministerial Decree No. 20/2017 (7 December 2017)	Effective 7 December 2017 to 31 December 2018
Implementation of the National Budget 2018 resulting in the increase of import tariffs (from zero to 10%) on wheat flour (HS 1101); (from 10% to 40%) on plants and parts of plants (HS 1211) and (from 3% to 40%) on glutamic acid (HS 2922.42.10)	Press reports referring to Ministerial Decree No. 20/2017 (7 December 2017)	
Implementation of the National Budget 2018 resulting in the increase of additional import taxes (from zero to 20%) on household articles of porcelain (HS 6911; 6912; 6913; 6914) and household articles of aluminium products (HS 7615); (from 150% to 230%) on other manufactured tobacco (HS 2403) and water pipe tobacco (HS 2403.11.00)	Press reports referring to Ministerial Decree No. 20/2017 (7 December 2017)	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Suriname</b>		
Increase of import tariffs (from 20% to 40%) on poultry products	Press reports	
<b>Tunisia</b>		
Increase of import tariffs (to 20%) on IT products	Agence Ecofin (21 September 2017)	Effective 1 January 2018
<b>Zimbabwe</b>		
Temporary import ban on fruits and vegetables	Reuters (October 2017)	Effective October 2017

## ANNEX 4

### MEASURES AFFECTING TRADE IN SERVICES<sup>1</sup>

(MID-OCTOBER 2017 TO MID-OCTOBER 2018)

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>MEASURES AFFECTING VARIOUS SECTORS</b>					
<b>Angola</b>					
Angola created a new single agency to facilitate private investment in the country and to promote exports. The Private Investment and Export Promotion Agency (AIPEX) replaces the Technical Unit for Private Investment (UTIP), the Investment Promotion Agency (Apiex) and the Technical Units to Support Private Investment (UTAIP).	Mode 3	All sectors	Presidential Decree no. 81/18  Viewed at: <a href="https://macauhub.com.mo/2018/03/14/pt-agencia-de-angola-para-o-investimento-privado-e-promocao-das-exportacoes-formalmente-criada/">https://macauhub.com.mo/2018/03/14/pt-agencia-de-angola-para-o-investimento-privado-e-promocao-das-exportacoes-formalmente-criada/</a>	3 March 2018	
The National Assembly approved a new investment law that liberalizes access conditions for foreign investment and eases bureaucratic burdens in relation to foreign and domestic investment. The new law eliminates rules that previously required foreign investors to partner with domestic firms, and withdraws the requirement that at least 35% of capital come from domestic partners. It also ends the minimum investment requirement of AOA 50 million.	Mode 3	All sectors	Law 10/18  Viewed at: <a href="https://citizen.co.za/news/news-africa/1900561/angola-passes-law-to-attract-foreign-investment/">https://citizen.co.za/news/news-africa/1900561/angola-passes-law-to-attract-foreign-investment/</a>  <a href="http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IPM/MeasureDetails?id=3235&amp;hubc=null&amp;rgn=&amp;grp=&amp;c=99&amp;t=&amp;s=&amp;df=&amp;dt=&amp;pq=1&amp;map=true&amp;isSearch=true">http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IPM/MeasureDetails?id=3235&amp;hubc=null&amp;rgn=&amp;grp=&amp;c=99&amp;t=&amp;s=&amp;df=&amp;dt=&amp;pq=1&amp;map=true&amp;isSearch=true</a>	Adopted on 19 April 2018	

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the Annex implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.



Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Argentina</b>					
The Government adopted a series of measures simplifying administrative procedures in order to encourage private investment. Among the changes, the Decree eliminates the <i>Registro Industrial de la Nación</i> , which required the registration of all companies, a process taking eight months.	Mode 3	All sectors	Decreto 27/2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNormaBusquedaAvanzada/177429/20180111">https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNormaBusquedaAvanzada/177429/20180111</a>	Published in the Official Gazette on 11 January 2018	YES
<b>Botswana</b>					
Botswana established a new "One Stop Service Centre" aimed at facilitating investment by minimizing inconveniences and impediments, and improving the ease of doing business.	Mode 3	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.bitc.co.bw/botswana-launches-one-stop-service-centre">http://www.bitc.co.bw/botswana-launches-one-stop-service-centre</a>	Effective 26 October 2017	
<b>China</b>					
The State Council published a new Circular to facilitate the implementation of reforms within the country's free trade zones. Changes include, but are not limited to, the following: - foreign-invested enterprises are allowed to engage in printing activities; - foreign investors are allowed to establish wholly foreign-owned air transport sales agencies and wholly-foreign owned enterprises to operate freight storage, ground services, in-flight meals and car parks; - wholly foreign-owned enterprises are allowed to operate entertainment venues; - joint Chinese-foreign travel agencies that meet required conditions are permitted to provide foreign travel services (except for travel in Chinese Taipei); - with respect to direct selling, the requirement that foreign investors have at least 3 years of prior experience is suspended; - foreign investors are permitted to establish wholly foreign-owned enterprises to construct and operate petrol stations;	Mode 3	Various sectors	Decision on Temporarily Adjusting Relevant Administrative Regulations, State Council Documents and Department Rules Approved by the State Council within FTZs (State Council Circular No. 57, 2017)  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.china-briefing.com/news/2018/02/08/china-eases-foreign-investment-restrictions-free-trade-zones.html">http://www.china-briefing.com/news/2018/02/08/china-eases-foreign-investment-restrictions-free-trade-zones.html</a>	9 January 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- foreign investors are permitted to establish wholly foreign-owned enterprises to undertake international shipping, international ship management, international marine cargo handling, and international maritime container freight station and container yard businesses;</li> <li>- foreign investors are allowed to establish equity joint ventures or cooperative joint ventures to undertake international shipping agency business, with the proportion of foreign shareholding relaxed to 51%.</li> </ul>					
<p>China's new E-Commerce Law was published on 31 August 2018. It refers to e-commerce as activities of selling goods and providing services through the Internet or other information network. It covers, <i>inter alia</i>, registration, data protection, rights and interests of intellectual property rights holders, competition and consumer protection.</p> <p>It stipulates the responsibilities and obligations of e-commerce operators, and requires them to register with the government agency, the Administration of Industry and Commerce (AIC), and pay taxes on their e-commerce revenue. It prohibits any e-commerce operator from abusing its dominant position to exclude or restrict competition. Platform operators are liable to consumers if they fail to verify the qualifications of operators on their platforms or to protect consumers' safety in respect of goods or services that may affect human health.</p>	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	<p>E-Commerce Law</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/xinwen/2018-08/31/content_2060172.htm">http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/xinwen/2018-08/31/content_2060172.htm</a> </p>	Effective 1 January 2019	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<p>The Government released a new negative list for foreign investment, which provides for 22 opening-up measures in various sectors, and reduces, from 63 to 48, the number of activities where foreign investment is restricted or prohibited.</p> <p>As regards services sectors, the new Negative List, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increases the foreign shareholding limit to 51% in securities companies, security investment fund management companies, futures companies, and life insurance companies. In 2021, all restrictions in the financial sector, including foreign ownership limits, are to be withdrawn;</li> <li>- removes limits on foreign investment in passenger railway transport, international maritime transport, and international shipping agency companies;</li> <li>- removes restrictions on the construction and operation of petrol stations, and on grain purchasing and wholesaling;</li> <li>- repeals the prohibition on investment in Internet cafes;</li> <li>- eliminates restrictions on investment in surveying and mapping companies.</li> </ul> <p>At the same time, the revised Negative List further clarifies restrictions on foreign investment in certain services sectors.</p>	Mode 3	Various sectors	Special Administrative Measures (Negative List) for Foreign Investment Access (2018 Edition) (Order of the NDRC and the MOFCOM No.18 of 2018)	Effective 28 July 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
A new Circular extended across the territory the corporate income tax incentives for advanced technology service enterprises (ATSEs) that provide, e.g. computer and information services, research and development technical services, cultural activity-related technical services, and medical services linked to traditional Chinese medicine.	Mode 3	Various sectors	<p>Circular of the Ministry of Finance, State Administration of Taxation, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Science and Technology and National Development and Reform Commission on Promoting the Nationwide Implementation of Income Tax Policy for Technologically Advanced Service Enterprises in Pilot Areas of Service Trade Innovation and Development (Cai Shui [2018] No. 44)</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://home.kpmg.com/cn/en/home/insights/2018/06/china-tax-weekly-update-22.html">https://home.kpmg.com/cn/en/home/insights/2018/06/china-tax-weekly-update-22.html</a> </p>	Issued on 19 May 2018	YES
China's new standards on personal data protection came into force on 1 May 2018. The measure requires that personal data subjects be notified of the type of information being collected, and that the subjects' consent be obtained prior to collecting the personal information. Collection of sensitive personal information can only take place with explicit consent. The new policy also requires security impact assessments for the outsourcing of data processing, the sharing and transfer of personal information, and the disclosure of personal information to the public. Requests to access, collect or delete personal information must receive a response within 30 days.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	<p>Information Security Technology - Personal Information Security Specification (Personal Information National Standards)</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://www.iflr.com/Article/3807448/PRIMER-Chinas-national-standards-for-personal-data-protection.html">http://www.iflr.com/Article/3807448/PRIMER-Chinas-national-standards-for-personal-data-protection.html</a>  <a href="http://www.mondaq.com/china/x/697096/Data+Protection+Privacy/China+Issues+New+Standards+On+Personal+Information+Security">http://www.mondaq.com/china/x/697096/Data+Protection+Privacy/China+Issues+New+Standards+On+Personal+Information+Security</a> </p>	Effective 1 May 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Cuba</b>					
The government of Cuba amended certain rules governing foreign investment, with the aim improving the ease of doing business for foreign-owned companies. The new rules simplify procedures for the approval of projects, including through elimination of the requirement of a feasibility study.	Mode 3	All sectors	Decree 347 from 5 March 2018, amending complementary rules of Law 118 on Foreign Investment (Decree 325 of 9 April 2014).  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-08/03/c_137365873.htm">http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-08/03/c_137365873.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.cubadebate.cu/noticias/2018/08/02/inversion-extranjera-modifican-normas-juridicas-para-agilizar-el-proceso-inversionista/#.W6oxPKYzZPY">http://www.cubadebate.cu/noticias/2018/08/02/inversion-extranjera-modifican-normas-juridicas-para-agilizar-el-proceso-inversionista/#.W6oxPKYzZPY</a>	Effective 1 September 2018	YES
<b>Egypt</b>					
Egypt enacted a new anti-cybercrime law that regulates online activities. It addresses various types of offences, including infringement of privacy, immoral content, hacking, and threats to national security. It grants the investigative authority the power to block foreign or domestic websites that publish content threatening national security or the national economy. Providers of communication and IT services are required to store IT system records for 180 consecutive days.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	Law No. 175/2018 on Combating Information Technology Crimes ("Anti-Cybercrime Law")  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=90440972-f53e-46dd-b225-7f7cbdea7d73">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=90440972-f53e-46dd-b225-7f7cbdea7d73</a>  <a href="https://edition.cnn.com/2018/08/19/middleeast/egypt-sisi-internet-cyber-law-terrorism/index.html">https://edition.cnn.com/2018/08/19/middleeast/egypt-sisi-internet-cyber-law-terrorism/index.html</a>	Effective 15 August 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>European Union</b>					
The new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which entered into force on 25 May 2018, overhauls the EU data protection regime by strengthening data subject rights and imposing new requirements on organizations that process personal data.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016  Viewed at: <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32016R0679">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32016R0679</a>	Effective 25 May 2018	YES
<b>France</b>					
France enacted a new data protection law, which broadens the supervisory power of the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL) in accordance with Article 57(1) of the GDPR, and transposes the Police-Justice Directive into French Law. The law complements the GDPR by addressing the processing of data related to criminal convictions, security measures, health data, genetic data, biometric data, and social security numbers. Under this law, class action lawsuits can, in accordance with Article 80(1) of the GDPR, be lodged to claim compensation, including for material and moral damage related to data protection breaches. The law applies to data subjects residing in France regardless of the location of the data controller.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	Law No. 2018-493  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cnil.fr/fr/entree-en-vigueur-de-la-nouvelle-loi-informatique-et-libertes">https://www.cnil.fr/fr/entree-en-vigueur-de-la-nouvelle-loi-informatique-et-libertes</a>  <a href="https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/loi/2018/6/20/JUSC1732261L/jo/texte">https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/loi/2018/6/20/JUSC1732261L/jo/texte</a>	Effective 21 June 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>India</b>					
The Union Cabinet approved changes to India's FDI policy. Among the modifications, FDI in single brand retailing is permitted up to 100% under the automatic route. Previously, FDI above 49% required government approval. Under the new measure, a foreign single brand retailer can, for the first 5 years, satisfy the obligation to source 30% of its purchases from India through incremental sourcing of goods from India by its foreign operations. <sup>2</sup> After 5 years, the retailer will be required to meet the 30% sourcing norms directly by its Indian operation on an annual basis. Further, foreign airlines are allowed to invest up to 49% in Air India under the approval route, subject to certain conditions. The amendments also clarify that real estate broker services do not amount to real estate business, and are therefore eligible for 100% FDI under the automatic route.	Mode 3	Various sectors	Amendments to the Consolidated FDI Policy  Viewed at: <a href="http://dipp.nic.in/policies-rules-and-acts/press-notes-fdi-circular">http://dipp.nic.in/policies-rules-and-acts/press-notes-fdi-circular</a>	Approved on 10 January 2018	
<b>Indonesia</b>					
A new regulation provides that only Indonesian-flag vessels can be used for exports of coal and crude palm oil, and for imports of rice and goods of government procurement. Further, such transport can only be insured by national insurance companies. Foreign vessels and insurance services may be used if domestic supply is insufficient.	Modes 1-3	Maritime transport services and insurance services	Trade Ministry Regulation No. 82/2017 on the Terms of Use of National Shipping and Insurance Companies for the Export and Import of Certain Goods	Effective 31 October 2017	YES

<sup>2</sup> For this purpose, incremental sourcing has been defined to mean the increase, in terms of value, of such global sourcing from India for that single brand in a particular financial year over the preceding financial year, by the non-resident entities undertaking single brand retail trading, either directly or through their group companies.

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<p>The Government implemented two amendments to Regulation 82 from 2017, which mandate the utilization of vessels controlled by Indonesian shipping companies, and the procurement of insurance from Indonesian insurance companies, in relation to the export of coal and crude palm oil, and the import of rice and goods of government procurement.</p> <p>The first amendment provides that Indonesian insurance companies must be utilized without exception, thereby removing the possibility of obtaining insurance from foreign companies even if domestic services are not available. With respect to the mandatory utilization of vessels controlled by Indonesian shipping companies, the effective date has been postponed to 1 May 2020.</p> <p>The second amendment introduces additional requirements for the verification of compliance with Regulation 82 before imports or exports are effected. A technical search procedure must be carried out before the loading of goods for import or export, and can only be conducted by authorized surveyors. An importer or exporter must submit an application to the designated surveyor to organize the verification procedure.</p>	Modes 1-3	Maritime transport services and insurance services	<p>Ministry of Trade Regulation No. 48/2018 (the "First Amendment Regulation") and Ministry of Trade Regulation No. 80/2018 (the "Second Amendment Regulation")) to amend Ministry of Trade Regulation No. 82/2017 on the Utilisation of Indonesian Sea Carriage and Insurance for Export of Certain Goods (Regulation 82/2017)</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=95493964-68d0-4055-b1ba-e5e3db776813">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=95493964-68d0-4055-b1ba-e5e3db776813</a></p>	Effective 1 August 2018	



Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Italy</b>					
A new measure extends the Government's "golden powers", which allow the blocking of, and imposing of conditions on, takeovers by non-EU companies, in high technology sectors in the case of threats to national security or public order, subject to the prior adoption of administrative regulations. Sectors concerned can now include, if individuated by a regulation: critical or sensitive infrastructure such as the storage and management of data; critical technology, including robotics and artificial intelligence; security of the supply of critical inputs; access to sensitive information or the ability to control sensitive information.	Mode 3	Various sectors	Legislative Decree No. 148/2017  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2017/12/05/17A08254/SG">http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2017/12/05/17A08254/SG</a>	Approved on 4 December 2017	YES
<b>Kenya</b>					
Kenya adopted a new cybercrime law that covers the investigation and prosecution of cybercrimes, including cyber-harassment, child pornography, computer-borne forgery, cyber-stalking, cyber-bullying, and the publication of false information.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Law  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-kenya-lawmaking/kenyas-president-signs-cybercrimes-law-opposed-by-media-rights-groups-idUSKCN1IH1KX">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-kenya-lawmaking/kenyas-president-signs-cybercrimes-law-opposed-by-media-rights-groups-idUSKCN1IH1KX</a>	Adopted on 16 May 2018	
<b>Lao People's Democratic Republic</b>					
The Government abolished the minimum registered capital requirements for foreign investors, contained in the Law on Investment Promotion of 2009. The previous requirement that foreign investors invest at least USD 120,000 was abolished for foreign investors seeking to register a company in the country, except where such minimum requirements are imposed through sector-specific regulations.	Mode 3	All sectors	Notification No. 2633/Cabinet/MOIC	7 November 2017	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Myanmar</b>					
The new Companies Law adopted by the Government will allow companies that have up to 35% of their shares held by foreign nationals to be considered a domestic company. This will permit foreign investors to participate in business activities that were previously limited to 100% domestically-owned companies.	Mode 3	All sectors	Companies Law 2017  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.dica.gov.mm/en/news/myanmar-companies-law-2017">https://www.dica.gov.mm/en/news/myanmar-companies-law-2017</a>	Approved on 6 December 2017. Date of entry in effect to be determined.	
<b>Nigeria</b>					
A new executive order prohibits the Ministry of Interior from giving visas to foreign workers whose skills are readily available in Nigeria.  The new measure, which aims to promote science, technology and innovation in national economic development, also instructs all procuring authorities to give preference to Nigerian companies in the award of contracts. Further, Nigerian companies shall lead in any consultancy services involving joint ventures relating to such matters as law, engineering, ICT, and architecture.	Multiple modes	All sectors	Presidential Executive Order 5 for Planning and Execution of Projects, Promotion of Nigerian Content in Contracts and Science, Engineering and Technology.  Viewed at: <a href="http://statehouse.gov.ng/news/press-release-president-buhari-signs-executive-order-to-improve-local-content-in-science-engineering-and-technology-procurement/">http://statehouse.gov.ng/news/press-release-president-buhari-signs-executive-order-to-improve-local-content-in-science-engineering-and-technology-procurement/</a>	Effective 5 February 2018	
<b>Norway</b>					
The new National Security Law provides the Government with the authority to control acquisitions of Norwegian companies that play a crucial role in supporting critical national services. Acquisitions of at least one third of any such businesses are required to be notified to the relevant ministry. The ministry will then have 60 business days to decide whether to approve or prohibit the transaction, or impose conditions.	Mode 3	All sectors	Decree on the National Security Act  Viewed at: <a href="http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IPM/MeasureDetails?id=3248&amp;rgn=&amp;grp=&amp;t=&amp;s=&amp;pg=&amp;c=&amp;dt=&amp;df=&amp;isSearch=false">http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IPM/MeasureDetails?id=3248&amp;rgn=&amp;grp=&amp;t=&amp;s=&amp;pg=&amp;c=&amp;dt=&amp;df=&amp;isSearch=false</a>	Adopted in June 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Philippines</b>					
Through Memorandum Order No. 16, the President of the Philippines directed the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board to take immediate steps to lift or ease existing restrictions on foreign participation in the following areas: private recruitment; practice of professions where foreign participation would be of public benefit; contracts for the construction and repair of locally-funded public works; public services, except where recognized as public utilities, such as the transmission and distribution of electricity, water distribution, and sewage services; culture, production, milling, processing, and trading (except retailing) of rice and corn; teaching at higher education levels; retail trade enterprises; and domestic market enterprises. The Order also calls for new measures to clarify the definition of "public utilities".	Mode 3	Various sectors	Memorandum Order No. 16  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.manilatimes.net/duterte-lift-limits-foreign-investment/364705/">http://www.manilatimes.net/duterte-lift-limits-foreign-investment/364705/</a>	21 November 2017	YES
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>					
The Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA) extended the duration of foreign investment licences to 5 years, up from 1 year. The licensing period continues to be renewable.	Mode 3	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=fc92f8a2-23c0-4e6d-a115-58324ede1d2c">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=fc92f8a2-23c0-4e6d-a115-58324ede1d2c</a>	Effective 27 February 2018	YES
<b>Tanzania</b>					
The Government's new regulations for the mining sector impose preferences for local services and suppliers. For example, they require a non-indigenous Tanzanian company wishing to provide goods or services in the mining industry to incorporate a joint venture company in which an indigenous company holds equity of at least 20%.	Modes 1 and 3	Various sectors	Mining (Local Content) Regulations, G.N. No. 3 of 2018  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.tcme.or.tz/resources/view/the-mining-local-content-regulations-2018">http://www.tcme.or.tz/resources/view/the-mining-local-content-regulations-2018</a>	Published on 10 January 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<p>The regulations also require all insurable risks relating to mining activities to be insured through an indigenous brokerage company and, where applicable, an indigenous reinsurance broker. Companies engaged in mining activities can only retain the services of a Tanzanian legal practitioner, or a legal firm whose principal office is located in Tanzania. In a similar fashion, the regulations require the maintenance of a bank account with an indigenous Tanzanian bank, and the conduct of financial transactions with banks in the country.</p> <p>Indigenous companies are defined as those with at least 51% of equity owned by Tanzanian citizens, and at least 80% of executive and senior management positions and 100% of other positions held by Tanzanian citizens.</p>					
<p>A new licensing regime was introduced for online content creators, including traditional media websites, online TV and radio channels, bloggers, and podcasters. Providers of online content are required to store providers' details for 12 months, and have means to identify their sources and disclose financial sponsors. The measure also forbids online content that is false, indecent, causes annoyance, or threatens public disorder or national security.</p>	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	<p>Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Content) Regulations 2018</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://www.africanews.com/2018/04/12/tanzania-cyber-law-introduces-900-fees-for-bloggers-compulsory-passwords/">http://www.africanews.com/2018/04/12/tanzania-cyber-law-introduces-900-fees-for-bloggers-compulsory-passwords/</a>  <a href="https://techweez.com/2018/04/10/tanzania-electronic-and-postal-communications-regulations-2017/">https://techweez.com/2018/04/10/tanzania-electronic-and-postal-communications-regulations-2017/</a> </p>	May 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Thailand</b>					
The Cabinet approved the principle of the Draft Data Protection Act, which establishes requirements for both data controllers and processors, regardless of their locations, as long as they collect, use, or disclose personal data of individuals in Thailand. Data controllers must inform the data subject of the purpose for the collection of personal data, and obtain the data subject's consent. Cross-border data transfer is only allowed to countries that provide sufficient personal data protection, in compliance with the guideline prescribed by the Personal Data Protection Committee.	Modes 1-3	All sectors	Data Protection Act  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.lawamendment.go.th/index.php/component/k2/item/1297-5-20-2561">http://www.lawamendment.go.th/index.php/component/k2/item/1297-5-20-2561</a>	Approved by Cabinet on 22 May 2018	YES
The new Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) Act sets out rules and procedures for promoting and easing investment in 10 targeted industries, including automotive, smart electronics, robotics, aviation and logistics. The EEC area covers Chonburi, Rayong, Chacheongsao, and other provinces to be announced by royal decree. Among other incentives, foreign investors are allowed to own land in special economic promotion zones (SEPZs), and to lease land for 50 years, with renewal for an additional 49 years. The Act also allows the waiving of work permit requirements for certain skilled labour in SEPZs.	Modes 3 and 4	Various sectors	Eastern Economic Corridor Act B.E. 2561  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/2018/03/09/thailand-eastern-economic-corridor-eec.html">https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/2018/03/09/thailand-eastern-economic-corridor-eec.html</a>	Adopted on 8 February 2018	YES
The Board of Investment of Thailand published a series of announcements adding new sectors, and withdrawing others, from the list of activities eligible for investment incentives.	Mode 3	Various sectors	Announcements of the Board of Investment No. Sor. 3/B.E. 2560 (2017), No. Sor. 1/B.E. 2561 (2018), No. Por. 4/B.E. 2560 (2017).	October 2017 – February 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Uganda</b>					
The Government introduced a tax on users accessing 60 OTT social media mobile apps. Users are required to pay UGX 200 a day, a fee that is collected by telecom companies. The Government also introduced a 0.5% excise duty on mobile money transactions.	Modes 1-3	Various sectors	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.theeastafrikan.co.ke/business/Uganda-nets-millions-from-social-media-mobile-money-tax/2560-4669442-dil001z/index.html">http://www.theeastafrikan.co.ke/business/Uganda-nets-millions-from-social-media-mobile-money-tax/2560-4669442-dil001z/index.html</a>	Effective 1 July 2018	
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>					
Amendments to the Commercial Companies Law give the Government the power to relax the requirement that at least 51% of shares in limited liability companies be held by nationals of the United Arab Emirates. The sectors concerned will be identified through subsequent regulations.	Mode 3	All sectors	Federal Law No. 18 of 2017  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=6cd7f244-17de-4581-9a9d-59cad9275201">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=6cd7f244-17de-4581-9a9d-59cad9275201</a>	Effective 28 October 2017	
<b>United Kingdom</b>					
New legislation lowers the threshold for the review of mergers and takeovers in certain key strategic sectors relating to national security. Transactions involving military use and dual use technologies, as well as computing hardware and quantum technology, will be subject to review where the UK turnover of the target exceeds GBP 1 million (previously GBP 70 million), or where the acquirer obtains an equity stake of 25% or more.	Mode 3	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-merger-and-takeover-rules-come-into-force">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-merger-and-takeover-rules-come-into-force</a>	Effective 11 June 2018	YES
<b>United States</b>					
A new law expands the jurisdiction and powers of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), which reviews foreign investments for potential national security issues.  FIRRMA expands the scope of CFIUS' purview by covering "emerging or foundational technologies", as well as non-controlling investments by foreign entities	Mode 3	All sectors	Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 (FIRRMA)  Viewed at: <a href="https://home.treasury.gov/sites/default/files/2018-08/The-Foreign-Investment-Risk-Review-Modernization-Act-of-2018-FIRRMA_0.pdf">https://home.treasury.gov/sites/default/files/2018-08/The-Foreign-Investment-Risk-Review-Modernization-Act-of-2018-FIRRMA_0.pdf</a>	Effective 13 August 2018. Certain provisions of the new law will become effective after implementation regulations are adopted.	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
that involve critical technologies, infrastructure or personal data of American citizens. CFIUS is no longer voluntary, as the reporting of certain transactions is now mandatory.					
On 28 June 2018, the State of California adopted the California Privacy Act of 2018, providing users with control over their personal information. It affords Californian residents the right to be informed of the types of information collected, the purpose of collection, and whether their personal information is sold or disclosed, and to whom. It also establishes the right to delete personal information, opt out of the sale of personal information, and receive equal service and pricing from a business.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	California Consumer Privacy Act 2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB375">https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB375</a>	Effective 1 January 2020	
The new measure enables U.S. law enforcement to compel, through a warrant, access to data that is within the provider's possession, custody, or control, regardless of the location of the data. It also establishes a framework for foreign governments to enter into bilateral agreements with the United States to access data in lieu of using the existing mutual legal assistance treaties (MLATs).	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	The Clarifying Lawful Overseas Use of Data Act (CLOUD Act), amending the 1986 Stored Communications Act (SCA).  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4943/text">https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4943/text</a>	Effective 23 March 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of</b>					
The Government adopted measures to modify its foreign investment regime. Among changes introduced, the minimum term required for foreign investment to remain in the country was reduced from 5 to 2 years. After such term, investors can send remittances abroad in relation to the capital originally invested. The law specifies that foreign investors may not participate, directly or indirectly, in the national political debate, or contribute to the formation of an opinion on matters of public interest in social media.	Mode 3	All sectors	Constitutional Law on Productive Foreign Investment  Viewed at: <a href="http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IPM/MeasureDetails?id=3178&amp;rgn=&amp;grp=&amp;t=&amp;s=&amp;pg=1&amp;c=121%2C122&amp;dt=&amp;df=&amp;isSearch=true">http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IPM/MeasureDetails?id=3178&amp;rgn=&amp;grp=&amp;t=&amp;s=&amp;pg=1&amp;c=121%2C122&amp;dt=&amp;df=&amp;isSearch=true</a>	Effective 29 December 2017	
<b>Viet Nam</b>					
On 12 June 2018, the National Assembly approved a law on cybersecurity that requires relevant domestic and foreign companies to store data in Vietnam for a certain duration of time required by the government.  The law applies to companies that: 1) provide services over telecom networks, Internet networks, or value-added services in cyberspace in Viet Nam, and; 2) engage in the collection, exploitation, analysis, and processing of personal information, data about users' relationships, and data generated by users in Viet Nam.  The law also requires foreign companies to establish either a branch or representative office in Viet Nam.	Modes 1-3	Various sectors	Law No. 24/2018/QH14  Viewed at: <a href="http://moj.gov.vn/en/Pages/Activities-of-public-administrative-and-justice-reform.aspx?ItemID=3255">http://moj.gov.vn/en/Pages/Activities-of-public-administrative-and-justice-reform.aspx?ItemID=3255</a>	Effective 1 January 2019	YES



Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Zimbabwe</b>					
The Government removed the requirement that at least 51% of all businesses be owned by indigenous Zimbabweans. The requirement is only maintained for companies involved in the diamond and platinum extractive industries. In addition, only Zimbabwean citizens may own a business in 12 reserved sectors, including passenger transportation, retail and wholesale trade, packaging, and advertising agencies. Reserved sectors were previously limited to "indigenous locals" instead of citizens.	Mode 3	All sectors	Amendments to the Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Act, Chapter 14:33  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=264798c1-24b0-4b7f-b7f9-6a2403345085">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=264798c1-24b0-4b7f-b7f9-6a2403345085</a>	Effective 14 March 2018	
<b>POSTAL AND COURIER SERVICES</b>					
<b>Argentina</b>					
The Government increased, from USD 1,000 to USD 3,000, the maximum limit for purchases abroad that are imported through courier services. The maximum limit for sending products abroad under the same modality remains at USD 1,000. The new limit applies to goods not exceeding 50 kg that are imported through the import regime for suppliers of postal and courier services.	Modes 1-3	Postal and courier services	AFIP General Resolution 4259/2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cronista.com/negocios/La-AFIP-actualizo-el-monto-tope-para-recibir-productos-del-exterior-20180601-0079.html">https://www.cronista.com/negocios/La-AFIP-actualizo-el-monto-tope-para-recibir-productos-del-exterior-20180601-0079.html</a>  <a href="https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/resoluci%C3%B3n-4259-2018-311069/texto">https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/resoluci%C3%B3n-4259-2018-311069/texto</a>	Effective 1 June 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>European Union</b>					
<p>The new measure aims to establish regulatory principles and rules necessary to improve the regulatory oversight and transparency of tariffs, to support competition, and to increase consumer confidence in cross-border e-commerce. It requires all parcel delivery service providers to submit to national regulatory authority of the Member State in which they are established the information about the characteristics of services offered, as well as their general terms and conditions, including complaints procedures for users and any potential limitations of liability.</p> <p>All cross-border parcel delivery service providers shall also provide the public list of tariffs for the delivery of single-piece postal items each calendar year. On the basis of the public lists of tariffs, the national regulatory authority shall undertake an assessment, identify those cross-border tariffs that it considers to be unreasonably high, and submit its assessment to the EU Commission. The Commission shall then publish the non-confidential version of such assessment.</p>	Modes 1-3	Postal and courier services	<p>Regulation 2018/644 on cross-border parcel delivery services</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R0644&amp;from=NL">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R0644&amp;from=NL</a> </p>	Effective 22 May 2018	YES
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ICT/AUDIOVISUAL SERVICES</b>					
<b>Algeria</b>					
<p>The new Law on Post and Electronic Communications mandates Algeria's incumbent telecom operator (Algérie Telecom) to offer access under transparent and non-discriminatory terms upon request from a licensed operator for the supply of Internet access. The Law also establishes the legal framework for the establishment of an independent regulator, and guarantees number portability for voice telephony.</p>	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	<p>Law No. 18-04 setting General Rules with respect to Post and Electronic Communications</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.arpce.dz/fr/doc/req/loi/Loi18-04.pdf">https://www.arpce.dz/fr/doc/req/loi/Loi18-04.pdf</a> </p>	Effective 6 June 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Australia</b>					
A new measure requires foreign persons with an interest of 2.5% or more in certain regulated media assets to notify the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). The new notification requirement aims to improve transparency with respect to foreign investment in Australian media companies. It applies to media companies holding a commercial television broadcasting licence or a commercial radio broadcasting licence, as well as companies publishing certain newspapers.	Mode 3	Audiovisual services	Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Foreign Media Ownership, Community Radio and Other Measures) Act 2018 ("Registration Act")  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.mondaq.com/australia/x/732934/broadcasting+film+television+radio/THE+NEW+FOREIGN+OWNERSHIP+OF+AUSTRALIAN+MEDIA+INTERESTS+REGISTER+AN+OVERVIEW">http://www.mondaq.com/australia/x/732934/broadcasting+film+television+radio/THE+NEW+FOREIGN+OWNERSHIP+OF+AUSTRALIAN+MEDIA+INTERESTS+REGISTER+AN+OVERVIEW</a>	Effective 1 September 2018	YES
<b>Belgium</b>					
The Belgian national regulatory authority (the Conference of Regulators of the electronic communications sector (CRC)) received approval from the European Commission on new regulations to open up cable and fibre access in Belgium, improving competition in the market.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=52747">http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=52747</a>	25 May 2018	
<b>Benin</b>					
Benin entered the free mobile roaming zone established by countries in West Africa (Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo). Travellers among the above countries benefit from outgoing calls billed at local rates, plus free incoming calls (currently capped at 300 incoming minutes per month).	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="https://arcep.bj/free-roaming-de-lafrique-de-louest/">https://arcep.bj/free-roaming-de-lafrique-de-louest/</a>	25 May 2018	
The Government withdrew a decree adopted in August 2018 that imposed a tax of XOF 5 per megabyte of data used for OTT and social media apps, as well as a 5% levy on the value of voice and SMS communications.	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="https://face2faceafrica.com/article/benin-becomes-first-african-country-to-listen-to-its-citizens-and-cancel-internet-tax">https://face2faceafrica.com/article/benin-becomes-first-african-country-to-listen-to-its-citizens-and-cancel-internet-tax</a>	September 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Botswana</b>					
Cellular operators in Botswana have been required to reduce interconnection charges by 41%. The Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority (BOCRA) ruled, in March 2017, that mobile termination rates (MTRs) were to fall from BWP 295 to BWP 220 on 1 June 2017, and then drop further to BWP 130 from 1 June 2018.	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	Regulatory Directive 1/2017  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.bocra.org.bw/sites/default/files/documents/Directive%20No.%201%202017.pdf">http://www.bocra.org.bw/sites/default/files/documents/Directive%20No.%201%202017.pdf</a>	Effective 24 March 2018	YES
<b>Chile</b>					
The Parliament approved a bill modifying the General Telecommunications Law, in order to establish an obligation for providers of fixed and mobile Internet services to provide guaranteed minimum access speed of the Internet.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Law No. 21.046 "Establece La Obligación De Una Velocidad Mínima Garantizada De Acceso A Internet", modifying Law No. 18.168 "General De Telecomunicaciones L"  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.leychile.cl/Navegar?idNorma=1111298">https://www.leychile.cl/Navegar?idNorma=1111298</a>	25 November 2017	YES
<b>China</b>					
As of 1 April 2018, the use of unlicensed virtual private networks (VPNs) is banned. In January 2017, a Circular required all VPN providers to be licensed by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT). Providers were given up until 31 March to comply, after which unlicensed services would be blocked.  The Circular requires pre-approval for cross-border business operations intending to set up their own or lease private leased circuits (PLCs), including VPNs. If approved, PLCs can only be used to handle internal official business, and not to connect onshore or offshore data centres or business platforms to carry out telecom business operations.	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	Circular on Cleaning Up and Regulating the Internet Access Service Market (Circular 32), issued on 17 January 2017.  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.techradar.com/news/china-will-block-all-non-approved-vpns-from-next-month">https://www.techradar.com/news/china-will-block-all-non-approved-vpns-from-next-month</a>  <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=9716093a-89af-46a3-b72b-84023241a8f7">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=9716093a-89af-46a3-b72b-84023241a8f7</a>	Effective 1 April 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</b>					
The governments signed a Protocol amending the Treaty Establishing the Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL) to reflect the changes in the telecom industry, including the convergence between services, networks and technologies in the sector. The Protocol paves the way for ECTEL to address such issues as the quality of telecommunication services, consumer protection, and more affordable access to retail and wholesale telecom services.	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	Protocol Amending Treaty Establishing Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL)  Viewed at: <a href="http://ntrc.vc/docs/news/Protocol%20Amending%20Treaty%20Establishing%20ECTEL/ECTEL%20Press%20Release%20-%20Protocol%20Amending%20ECTEL%20Treaty%20signed%20by%20Prime%20Ministers.pdf">http://ntrc.vc/docs/news/Protocol%20Amending%20Treaty%20Establishing%20ECTEL/ECTEL%20Press%20Release%20-%20Protocol%20Amending%20ECTEL%20Treaty%20signed%20by%20Prime%20Ministers.pdf</a>	Signed on 6 July 2018	
<b>Egypt</b>					
Egypt adopted new legislation regulating the press and media. The law treats social media accounts of over 5,000 followers as media outlets, and places them under the supervision of the media regulator (the Supreme Council for the Administration of the Media). Newspapers, media outlets or websites can be blocked, if found to be disseminating false news or inciting violence, discrimination, or violation of laws. The new measure requires a company seeking to establish an online video channel on a website to have capital of EGP 2.5 million. The newly-adopted law cancels Laws 96/1996 and 92/2016.	Multiple modes	Audiovisual and telecommunication services	Law 180/2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://edition.cnn.com/2018/08/19/middleeast/egypt-sisi-internet-cyber-law-terrorism/index.html">https://edition.cnn.com/2018/08/19/middleeast/egypt-sisi-internet-cyber-law-terrorism/index.html</a>  <a href="http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/310663/Egypt/Politics-/Sisi-ratifies-new-law-on-press-and-media-in-Egypt-.aspx">http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/310663/Egypt/Politics-/Sisi-ratifies-new-law-on-press-and-media-in-Egypt-.aspx</a>  <a href="https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/egypt-president-approves-law-clamping-down-on-social-media-10676410">https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/egypt-president-approves-law-clamping-down-on-social-media-10676410</a>	Effective 28 August 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>European Union</b>					
<p>The European Commission announced that preliminary agreement was reached with the European Parliament and Council on the main elements of revised audiovisual rules that will apply to broadcasters, video-on-demand and video-sharing platforms. Revisions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a requirement that on-demand catalogues contain at least a 30% share of European content;</li> <li>- the possibility for Member States to impose financial contributions (direct investments in content or levies paid to a national fund) upon media service providers to contribute to the development of European productions;</li> <li>- alignment of the procedures for exceptions to the country-of-origin principle for on-demand service providers as for TV broadcasters;</li> <li>- increased protections of minors and rules against hate speech for TV and on-demand services;</li> <li>- extension of certain audiovisual commercial communications rules to video-sharing platforms;</li> <li>- extension of the scope to cover video-sharing platforms, and the obligation for them to put in place measures to protect the general public, including minors, from certain content;</li> <li>- new rules to ensure that audiovisual regulators are legally distinct from the Government, and functionally independent from the Government and any other public or private body;</li> <li>- increased flexibility regarding the airing of TV advertising.</li> </ul>	Modes 1-3	Audiovisual services	<p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3567_en.htm">http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3567_en.htm</a></p>	26 April 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>France</b>					
French telecoms regulator, Arcep, adopted decisions aimed at ensuring greater competition in the fixed markets for the period 2017-20, including by allowing alternative operators better access to Orange France's infrastructure.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Decision No. 2017-1347 Decision No. 2017-1348 Decision No. 2017-1349 Decision No. 2017-1488  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1347.pdf">https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1347.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1348.pdf">https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1348.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1349.pdf">https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1349.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1488.pdf">https://www.arcep.fr/uploads/tx_gsavis/17-1488.pdf</a>	Effective 14 December 2017	YES
<b>Guyana</b>					
The Minister of Public Telecommunications signed a commencement order to establish the National Telecommunications Agency (NATA), a new independent regulatory body for telecoms. This represents the first phase in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 2016. The Agency will be responsible for the finalization of licensing procedures, in preparation for the liberalization and issuance of new licences to telecommunication entities.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="https://mopt.gov.gy/news/related-news/national-telecommunications-agency-in-effect/">https://mopt.gov.gy/news/related-news/national-telecommunications-agency-in-effect/</a>	Effective 19 January 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>India</b>					
The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) approved the recommendations on net neutrality put forward by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). The new policy directives issued by the DoT provide that Internet access services are to be governed by a principle that restricts any form of discrimination, restriction, or interference in the treatment of content, including practices like blocking, degrading, slowing down, or granting preferential speeds or treatment to any content. The new measure does not apply to critical IoT or specialized services, including autonomous vehicles and remote surgery operations.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Policy Directives on Net Neutrality DoT letter no. 12-30/NT/2015/OTT(Pt), dated 31 July 2018  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.dot.gov.in">www.dot.gov.in</a>  <a href="https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/CP_NetNeutrality2017_01_04.pdf">https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/CP_NetNeutrality2017_01_04.pdf</a>	31 July 2018	YES
The TRAI issued an amendment to the interconnection regulations, which allows a service provider to request additional ports at a point of interconnection (POI) if the expected utilization of the POI over a 60-day period is likely to be more than 85%. Every service provider will now be required to deliver to its interconnecting service providers a forecast of "busy-hour" outgoing traffic for the following six months at each POI.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	The Telecommunication Interconnection (Amendment) Regulations, 2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/RegulationEngTIAR05072018.pdf">https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/RegulationEngTIAR05072018.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.traigov.in/sites/default/files/PRNo73Eng05072018.pdf">https://www.traigov.in/sites/default/files/PRNo73Eng05072018.pdf</a>	5 July 2018	YES
The DoT issued a notice clarifying that tower companies are covered by the Right of Way (RoW) rules introduced in November 2016. The rules simplified the process for operators to secure permissions to install infrastructure or purchase land from state governments, by establishing a nationwide, standardized framework of procedures for granting approvals and settling disputes within a specific time-frame.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.dot.gov.in/sites/default/files/IP-1RoWOrder_0.PDF">http://www.dot.gov.in/sites/default/files/IP-1RoWOrder_0.PDF</a>	Effective 22 May 2018	YES



Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Italy</b>					
<p>The Government adopted new measures regulating the audiovisual sector, including increased quotas for Italian and EU content. The overall quota for the broadcasting of EU works will increase from 50% to 53% in 2019, to 56% in 2020, and to 60% in 2021. For public broadcasters, at least half of that quota must be used for works of Italian original expression, and at least one third in the case of private broadcasters. The new rules also set out the minimum number of works of Italian original expression to be broadcast during prime-time hours, and require additional investment by broadcasters in works of Italian original expression and European productions from independent producers.</p> <p>The rules further lay down specific quotas (30%) for European works and investment obligations for on-demand services.</p>	Modes 1-3	Audiovisual services	<p>Legislative Decrees No. 202 on Provisions on Employment in the Film and Audiovisual Sector; No. 203 on the Reform of Legislation on the Protection of Minors in the Film and Audiovisual Sector; and No. 204 on the Reform of Legislation on the Promotion of European and Italian Works by Providers of Film and Audiovisual Works.</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://www.medialaws.eu/three-new-pieces-of-legislation-implementing-franceschini-act-on-cinema-and-audio-visual-media-services/">http://www.medialaws.eu/three-new-pieces-of-legislation-implementing-franceschini-act-on-cinema-and-audio-visual-media-services/</a></p>	Effective 1 December 2017	YES
<b>Niger</b>					
The Government voted to abolish the tax on incoming international traffic, under the Finance Act 2018.	Mode 1	Telecommunication services	<p>Finance Act 2018</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://www.finances.gouv.ne/index.php/lois-de-finances/file/365-2016-josp-n-26-loi-de-finances-2018-1er">http://www.finances.gouv.ne/index.php/lois-de-finances/file/365-2016-josp-n-26-loi-de-finances-2018-1er</a></p>	Effective 1 March 2018	
<b>Portugal</b>					
Portugal's National Communications Authority (ANACOM) issued a decision to deregulate the wholesale market for fixed-line call origination for the provision of retail telephone services through indirect access (including carrier pre-selection, call-by-call carrier selection, and subscriber line reference offer services)	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	<p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.anacom.pt/render.jsp?contentId=1458118">https://www.anacom.pt/render.jsp?contentId=1458118</a>   <a href="https://www.anacom.pt/streaming/ProjDecisaofinal_MercadoOriginacao9ago2018.pdf?contentId=1458114&amp;field=ATTACHED_FILE">https://www.anacom.pt/streaming/ProjDecisaofinal_MercadoOriginacao9ago2018.pdf?contentId=1458114&amp;field=ATTACHED_FILE</a></p>	9 August 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
ANACOM confirmed that there is no longer a justification for identifying universal service providers within the fixed-line sector, due to low level of usage.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.anacom.pt/render.jsp?cont entId=1435604">https://www.anacom.pt/render.jsp?cont entId=1435604</a>	18 May 2018	
<b>Russian Federation</b>					
<p>The Government introduced new rules for owners of electronic messenger services. Owners must register with the national regulator, and are required to maintain certain information on local servers. They are also required to identify users through mobile phone numbers, and to store this information in the Russian Federation.</p> <p>Electronic messenger services are defined in the law as any technology or software designed or used to exchange electronic messages among users.</p>	Modes 1-3	Electronic messaging services	<p>Federal Law of 29 July 2017 No. 241-FZ on Amendments to Articles 10.1 and 15.4 of the Federal Law of 27 July 2006 No. 149-FZ on Information, Information Technologies and Data Protection (the "Messengers Law")</p> <p>Viewed at: <a href="http://www.gorodissky.com/publications /articles/russia-further-regulates-instant-messaging-services-providers/">http://www.gorodissky.com/publications /articles/russia-further-regulates-instant-messaging-services-providers/</a> <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=6d53e547-d732-4314-9b65-c9508b093263">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=6d53e547-d732-4314-9b65-c9508b093263</a></p>	Effective 1 January 2018	
A new measure requires operators of virtual private networks (VPNs) and similar technologies to prevent Russian users from accessing websites and other resources that have been blocked by Russian authorities.	Modes 1-3	VPN services	<p>Law on Amendments to IT Law No. 276-FZ, dated 29 July 2017 (the "Law on Amendments")</p> <p>Viewed at: <a href="https://themoscowtimes.com/news/russian-law-banning-anonymous-online-surfing-comes-into-effect-59434">https://themoscowtimes.com/news/russian-law-banning-anonymous-online-surfing-comes-into-effect-59434</a></p>	Effective 1 November 2017	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>					
The Government introduced a new technology- and service-neutral licensing regime. The "Facilities Based Unified Licence" allows a holder to provide a range of fixed, mobile, data and other services and networks, using any type of communications infrastructure and technology capable of delivering the desired service.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	CITC Decisions 337/1438, 336/1438, 335/1438; Decision by Minister of Communications and Information Technology  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.citc.gov.sa/en/RulesandSystems/RegulatoryDocuments/Licenses/LicensingRegulatoryFrameworks/Documents/PL-SP-020-E-Licensing.pdf">http://www.citc.gov.sa/en/RulesandSystems/RegulatoryDocuments/Licenses/LicensingRegulatoryFrameworks/Documents/PL-SP-020-E-Licensing.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.citc.gov.sa/en/RulesandSystems/RegulatoryDocuments/Licenses/LicensingRegulatoryFrameworks/Documents/PL-SP-019-E-Licensing.pdf">http://www.citc.gov.sa/en/RulesandSystems/RegulatoryDocuments/Licenses/LicensingRegulatoryFrameworks/Documents/PL-SP-019-E-Licensing.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/Decisionsoffer/Decisions/Pages/335-1438.aspx">http://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/Decisionsoffer/Decisions/Pages/335-1438.aspx</a>  <a href="http://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/PressReleases/Pages/2017092402.aspx">http://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/PressReleases/Pages/2017092402.aspx</a>	November 2017-January 2018	YES
The Government approved licensing regulations for cinemas, lifting the long-standing prohibition on this activity.	Mode 3	Audiovisual services	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.qcam.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/News/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.qcam.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/News/Pages/default.aspx</a>	Effective 11 December 2017	YES
<b>South Africa</b>					
A new measure adopted by Parliament gives the Film and Publications Board (FPB) the regulatory power to monitor and classify online content, including online videos, streaming services, and social media. The Bill has been transmitted to the National Council of Provinces for approval, before the President can sign it into law.	Modes 1-3	Online content	Films and Publications Amendment Bill  Viewed at: <a href="https://altadvisory.africa/2018/03/07/south-africas-national-assembly-passes-the-films-and-publications-amendment-bill/">https://altadvisory.africa/2018/03/07/south-africas-national-assembly-passes-the-films-and-publications-amendment-bill/</a>	Adopted by the National Assembly on 6 March 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Togo</b>					
The Council of Ministers adopted a decree establishing new minimum levels of service required under the universal service scheme. The decree updates the scope of universal service, most notably, to include Internet access and set minimum Internet bandwidth requirements.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="http://numerique.gouv.tg/article/adopti-on-du-decret-sur-le-service-universel-pour-garantir-un-acces-minimum-aux">http://numerique.gouv.tg/article/adopti-on-du-decret-sur-le-service-universel-pour-garantir-un-acces-minimum-aux</a>	Adopted on 18 April 2018	
<b>Turkey</b>					
<p>A new measure requires media service suppliers to obtain a broadcasting licence, and platform operators to obtain an authorization, for transmission from Turkey's Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTÜK), in order to provide radio, television and on-demand broadcasting services on the Internet. Lack of a valid licence can result in removal of the content or blocking of access.</p> <p>The measure applies to the media service suppliers and platform operators who wish to broadcast only via Internet.</p> <p>If the content is provided from abroad, or the service supplier is based abroad, the licence requirement applies in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) service providers or platforms that broadcast in violation of international agreements and the Broadcasting Law;</li> <li>b) broadcasters of Internet content in Turkish and aimed at persons in Turkey; and</li> <li>c) broadcasting organizations that do not broadcast in Turkish but include commercial communications aimed at persons in Turkey.</li> </ul>	Modes 1-3	Internet broadcasting services	<p>Addition of Article 29/A to Law No. 6112 on the Establishment of Radio and Television Enterprises and Media Services</p> <p>Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=9cdac9b6-6923-4bf3-9d47-3b9fbaa6f58f">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=9cdac9b6-6923-4bf3-9d47-3b9fbaa6f58f</a>  <a href="http://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMeti n/1.5.6112.pdf">http://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMeti n/1.5.6112.pdf</a></p>	Effective 2 March 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>United Kingdom</b>					
Ofcom published a Statement containing a set of measures aimed at increasing investment in full-fibre broadband networks and lowering the upfront building costs. The main measures cover competitors' access to BT's infrastructure, price deregulation of Openreach's wholesale superfast broadband products, price cuts for entry-level superfast broadband service, and stricter requirements on Openreach to fix faults and install new broadband lines.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Quality of service for WLR, MPF and GEA: Statement on quality of service remedies  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/112210/statement-qos-wlr-mpf-gea2.pdf">https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/112210/statement-qos-wlr-mpf-gea2.pdf</a>	Effective 1 April 2018	
<b>United States</b>					
The FCC released a ruling on Restoring Internet Freedom, thereby repealing net neutrality rules previously put in place. As part of the means of doing so, the FCC ruling reversed the previous administrations classification of Internet as a common carrier service.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Declaratory Ruling, Report and Order, and Order (FCC 17-166)  Viewed at: <a href="https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-17-166A1.pdf">https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-17-166A1.pdf</a>	4 January 2018	
<b>Zambia</b>					
Zambia approved the issuance of a Statutory Instrument to introduce a daily levy of ZMK 0.30 for Internet phone calls. The levy will be collected by the national fixed-line incumbent, Zamtel, and Internet services providers.	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: <a href="https://arcep.bj/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/De%CC%81cret-N%C2%B02018-341-du-25-Juillet-2018.pdf">https://arcep.bj/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/De%CC%81cret-N%C2%B02018-341-du-25-Juillet-2018.pdf</a>	Approved 12 August 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>FINANCIAL SERVICES</b>					
<b>China</b>					
The measure removes various approval requirements and replaces them by reporting requirements. The services and activities concerned include the following: a) custody services provided to securities invested funds by locally incorporated foreign-invested banks; b) custody services provided to overseas wealth management products issued by banks for, and on behalf of, customers by foreign-invested banks (including locally incorporated foreign-invested banks and foreign banks' PRC branches); and c) overseas wealth management services issued for, and on behalf of, customers by foreign-invested banks. The measure also allows locally incorporated foreign-invested banks to establish or invest in CBRC-regulated banking financial institutions. Finally, the measure unifies, to a great extent, the market access standards for foreign-invested banks and domestic-funded banks, by 1) consolidating the various approval procedures for the establishment and opening of sub-branches into one approval for business commencement; 2) optimizing the conditions regarding the raising and issuing of debt and capital supplement instruments by locally incorporated foreign-invested banks; and 3) simplifying the qualification review procedures for the authorization of executives.	Mode 3	Banking services	Decision of the China Banking Regulatory Commission on Revising the China Banking Regulatory Commission Implementing Measures for the Administrative Licensing Items of Foreign-funded Banks (Order No. 3 [2018] of the China Banking Regulatory Commission)	Effective 13 February 2018	YES
Crude oil futures were listed for trade on the subsidiary of the Shanghai Futures Exchange, the Shanghai International Energy Exchange Co., Ltd., on 26 March 2018. Overseas traders and overseas brokerage agencies can now legally participate in crude oil futures trading.	Mode 1	Financial services	Interim Measures on Administration of Trading of Specific Kind of Futures in China by Overseas Traders and Overseas Brokers (Order No. 116 of China Securities Regulatory Commission)	26 March 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
A new measure lifts market access restrictions on non-banking payment institutions. Foreign suppliers wishing to provide electronic payment services for domestic transactions and cross-border transactions must obtain a payment service licence and establish foreign-invested enterprises within the territory of of China. The foreign-invested payment institution shall be capable of independently completing the payment business within the territory of China. The storage, processing and analysis of personal and financial information collected and generated by foreign investment payment agencies in China must be conducted within the territory. In order for the information to be transferred overseas, the supplier must comply with the laws and regulations of the relevant regulatory authorities, fulfil corresponding information confidentiality obligations, and obtain the consent of the personal information subject.	Modes 1-3	Banking and other financial services	The Announcement on Matters Concerning Foreign Investment and Payment Institutions. Announcement by People's Bank of China (2018 No. 7)	Effective 19 March 2018	
The Government now allows foreign investors to engage in the insurance agency business and the public insurance loss adjustment business in China.	Mode 3	Insurance services	<p>Notice on Allowing Foreign Investors to Engage in the Insurance Agency Business in China; Notice on Allowing Foreign Investors to Engage in the Public Insurance Loss Adjustment Business in China.</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/cbirc-issues-notices-allowing-foreign-invested-insurance-agencies-and-loss">https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/cbirc-issues-notices-allowing-foreign-invested-insurance-agencies-and-loss</a> </p>	Effective 28 June 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
A new measure removes foreign ownership limits on new financial asset investment companies established by commercial banks. The caps on foreign holdings in such financial institutions were previously 20% for a single overseas institution and 25% for group investors.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Measures for the Administration of Financial Asset Investment Companies (for Trial Implementation)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.moodyanalytics.com/regulatory-news/june-29-18-cbirc-issues-rules-for-financial-asset-management-companies-in-china">https://www.moodyanalytics.com/regulatory-news/june-29-18-cbirc-issues-rules-for-financial-asset-management-companies-in-china</a>	Effective 29 June 2018	YES
A new measure removed the limit on foreign ownership in Chinese banks and financial asset management companies, uniting the ownership proportion rule for domestic and foreign capital.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Decision of China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission on Annuling and Amending Some Rules  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.jqknews.com/news/60508-China_cancels_restrictions_on_foreign_shareholding_of_Chinese_banks_and_financial_Asset_Management_Co.html">https://www.jqknews.com/news/60508-China_cancels_restrictions_on_foreign_shareholding_of_Chinese_banks_and_financial_Asset_Management_Co.html</a>	Effective 23 August 2018	YES
A new measure allows foreign investors to be controlling shareholders in joint venture securities companies, expands the business scope for joint venture securities companies, offers equal treatment between companies with and without foreign investment, and removes the requirement that, for joint venture securities companies, one of the domestic shareholders must be a securities company.	Mode 3	Financial services	Administrative Measures for Foreign-Invested Securities Companies  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ft.com/content/0efc397a-4b89-11e8-8a8e-22951a2d8493">https://www.ft.com/content/0efc397a-4b89-11e8-8a8e-22951a2d8493</a>	Effective 28 April 2018	



Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>India</b>					
The Reserve Bank announced that sub-targets for lending to small and marginal farmers and micro enterprises will be applied to foreign banks with 20 branches or more. The sub-target of 8% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure (CEOBE), whichever is higher, will apply to lending to small and marginal farmers from fiscal year 2018-19. The lending target for micro enterprises will be 7.5% of ANBC or CEOBE, whichever is higher. The new measure also removes the credit caps on MSMEs (Services) under the Priority Sector.	Mode 3	Banking services	Reserve Bank of India, Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies – February 2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/PressRelease/PDFs/PR2147D452F23A943B4865A3C8C775F9D7EF8D.PDF">https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/PressRelease/PDFs/PR2147D452F23A943B4865A3C8C775F9D7EF8D.PDF</a>	Effective from fiscal year 2018-19	YES
The Reserve Bank issued a Directive on 6 April 2018 requiring all payment systems operators to store data within the country. Operators are given a maximum of 6 months to comply with the requirement and to submit an audit report certifying compliance.	Modes 1-3	Banking and other financial services	Directive from the Reserve Bank of India issued under Section 10(2), read with Section 18 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act 2007, (Act 51 of 2007).  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11244&amp;Mode=0">https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11244&amp;Mode=0</a>	6 April 2018	YES
<b>Indonesia</b>					
A new measure requires domestic retail debit and credit transactions to be processed through switching institutions located in Indonesia and licensed by the Bank of Indonesia. The measure also imposes a 20% foreign equity cap on firms that wish to obtain switching licences to participate in the National Payment Gateway (NPG). Foreign firms wishing to process transactions through the NPG must form partnership agreements with licensed NPG switch institutions, and agree to transfer technology as part of these agreements.	Modes 1-3	Banking and other financial services	Bank Indonesia Board of Governors Regulation 19/10/PADG/2017 concerning National Payment Gateway	Bank Indonesia has begun the implementation of these measures, requiring Indonesian issuers to begin issuing ATM and/or debit cards with the NPG national logo by 1 January 2018.	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
A new measure limits foreign ownership in a privately-owned insurance company to 80%. It allows foreigners that exceeded this level at time of entry into force of the measure to retain their stakes. Any capital injections in insurance companies must comply with the 80% limit on foreign ownership. The initial regulation from 1992 had capped foreign ownership at 80%, but, in 1999, authorities allowed foreign investors to exceed the ceiling in the wake of the financial crisis.	Mode 3	Insurance services	Regulation No. 14/2018 on Foreign Ownership of Insurance Companies  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.indonesia-investments.com/finance/financial-columns/indonesia-caps-foreign-ownership-in-insurance-companies-at-80/item8812?">https://www.indonesia-investments.com/finance/financial-columns/indonesia-caps-foreign-ownership-in-insurance-companies-at-80/item8812?</a>	Effective 18 April 2018	
<b>Jordan</b>					
The Government adopted a new law limiting the entities that are allowed to broker or mediate on behalf of third parties in foreign stock exchanges. Only banks and financial services companies licensed by the Jordan Securities Commission are allowed to carry out these activities. Since the adoption of the law, 14 companies have been licensed for these activities.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Law No. 1 of 2017, Regulating Dealings with Foreign Stock Exchanges  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=92fd4b56-3fba-4281-a8a8-aa9fd0f17b1b">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=92fd4b56-3fba-4281-a8a8-aa9fd0f17b1b</a>	October 2017	YES
<b>Moldova, Republic of</b>					
The Republic of Moldova adopted a series of measures in relation to financial services, including new rules regarding access to the activity of credit institutions, and the prudential supervision of credit institutions and investment firms.	Modes 1-3	Financial services	Law No. 242 of 23 November 2017 amending Article 29 of the Law on Insurance (No. 407/2006); Law No. 33 amending the Capital Market Law; Law No. 225 of 15 December 2017 amending some legislative acts (Fiscal Code, Customs Code, Law on NCFM) in the context of the Capital Market Law (No. 171/2012); Law on Non-banking Credit Organizations (No. 1 of 16 March 2018); Law Amending Certain Legal Acts (Law on NCFM, Law on Leasing) (No. 35 of 16 March 2018); NCFM Decision No. 13/10 of 13 March 2018	November 2017 – April 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Myanmar</b>					
The Government recently permitted 7 of the 13 foreign banks operating in Myanmar to provide export-financing services. This puts the foreign banks on a par with their local counterparts. Besides providing export-financing services, the selected foreign banks will be allowed to extend credit to foreign businesses as well as local banks.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	ASEAN briefing, 21 March 2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/2018/03/21/banking-sector-reforms-myanmar.html">https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/2018/03/21/banking-sector-reforms-myanmar.html</a>	December 2017	
<b>Philippines</b>					
The Central Bank of the Philippines adopted a series of new measures affecting banking and other financial services. For example, the requirements on the issuance of bonds and commercial papers by banks and quasi-banks (QBs) were streamlined, by removing the minimum bond features, such as the requirement on eligible collateral, which could constrain banks and QBs from issuing debt securities.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Circular Nos. 975-976, 978-985, and 988-999.	Implemented between October 2017 and April 2018	YES
The Central Bank of the Philippines adopted a series of new measures affecting banking and other financial services, relating, for example, to the settlement of instant retail payments, credit exposure limits, and the operation of credit card issuers.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Circular Nos. 1000-1011	Implemented between April and September 2018	
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>					
Foreign investors are allowed to invest directly in the Parallel Market (NOMU). Foreign investors in NOMU are no longer required to qualify as foreign institutional investors, but must meet eligibility criteria. NOMU is an alternative equity market with lighter listing requirements than the main market; it is especially used by small and medium-sized companies.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Resolution from the Capital Market Authority (CMA) Board  Viewed at: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/Pages/default.aspx">https://cma.org.sa/en/Pages/default.aspx</a>	Effective 1 January 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
The CMA's Board of Commissioners adopted revised regulations on mergers and acquisitions, new regulations in relation to the establishment and licensing of special purpose entities in the financial services sector, and updated rules for Qualified Foreign Financial Institutions Investment in Listed Securities.	Mode 3	Financial services	Merger and Acquisition Regulations; Rules for Special Purposes Entities; Rules for Qualified Foreign Financial Institutions Investment in Listed Securities. Viewed at: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/">https://cma.org.sa/en/</a>	Effective 23 April 2018; 1 April 2018; and 13 January 2018.	YES
Saudi Arabia adopted a series of new measures in relation to financial services: - the CMA's Board of Commissioners updated information on the rules for qualified foreign financial institutions' investment in listed securities; - the Board approved amendments to the Instructions for Listed Companies Announcements, aimed at enhancing the level of transparency and disclosure adequacy in the capital market; - the Board approved the amendment of paragraph (C) of Article 5 of the "Procedures and Instructions Related to Listed Companies with Accumulated Losses Reaching 20% or More of their Share Capital". The amendment clarifies the periods to be announced by the company in accordance with Article 150 of the Companies Law; - the Board approved the instructions on the Price Stabilization Mechanism for Initial Public Offerings.	Mode 3	Financial services	Viewed at: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2424.aspx">https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2424.aspx</a> <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2437.aspx">https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2437.aspx</a> <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2448.aspx">https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2448.aspx</a> <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2447.aspx">https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2447.aspx</a>	June-August 2018	YES
<b>South Africa</b>					
The new Insurance Act introduced regulations on the activities of foreign-based insurers. It prohibits such insurers and reinsurers from soliciting business in South Africa on a cross-border basis, except where foreign reinsurers conduct business through a branch established in South Africa.	Modes 1-2	Insurance services	Insurance Act 2017.  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/south-african-insurance-bill-signed-into-law?utm_source=Mondaq&amp;utm_medium=syndication&amp;utm_campaign=View-Original">https://www.clydeco.com/insight/article/south-african-insurance-bill-signed-into-law?utm_source=Mondaq&amp;utm_medium=syndication&amp;utm_campaign=View-Original</a>	Effective 18 January 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>					
The Government relaxed certain limits on the activities of foreign bank branches. First, the TWD credit limit that a foreign bank branch may extend to a same juristic person, same related party or same affiliated entity was increased. While the original credit limit was capped at TWD 7 billion, the new measure relaxed the credit limit to TWD 7 billion or two times the net worth of that foreign bank branch, whichever is higher. Second, a new measure relaxed foreign bank branches' outstanding TWD loan limits. For branches that do not offer retail deposit business or that do not meet a certain threshold of retail activities, the limiting of outstanding TWD loans has been increased, but not exceed 40 times the branch's net worth.	Mode 3	Banking services	Article 14 of the Regulations Governing Foreign Bank Branches and Representative Offices  Article 19-3 of the Regulations Governing Foreign Bank Branches and Representative Offices	Effective 31 March 2018	
<b>Thailand</b>					
A new measure by the Bank of Thailand modifies the quantifying criteria with respect to limits on foreign banks' physical branches and ATMs.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Notification of the Bank of Thailand No. FPG. 4/2561 (Number and quantifying criteria of service locations of foreign commercial bank's subsidiary and branch of a foreign commercial bank)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.bot.or.th/English/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.bot.or.th/English/Pages/default.aspx</a>	Effective 6 March 2018	YES
<b>DISTRIBUTION SERVICES</b>					
<b>Irak, Republic of (observer)</b>					
The New Commercial Agency Law specifies that goods for resale can only be imported by a registered commercial agent. Only an Iraqi national, or a company wholly-owned by Iraqi nationals, can be a commercial agent. The Law also protects commercial agents from the termination or non-renewal of contracts with foreign entities.	Mode 3	Distribution services	Law No. 79 of 2017 (the New Commercial Agency Law)	Effective 13 November 2017	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Myanmar</b>					
The Government allows joint ventures between foreign and domestic companies for the retail and wholesale trade of agricultural machinery.	Mode 3	Retail and wholesale trade services	Ministry of Commerce, Notification No. 55/2017 <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=69014aa8-a1ac-4ca7-872f-bff16be68b79">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=69014aa8-a1ac-4ca7-872f-bff16be68b79</a>	Effective 17 November 2017	
A new measure allows wholly foreign-owned enterprises to operate retail and wholesale trade businesses in the country. Previously, foreign suppliers were required to form joint ventures with domestic investors. The measure also provides that wholly foreign-owned enterprises and joint ventures may now conduct trading and distribution of all commodities, subject to certain capital and registration requirements. However, neither foreign-owned enterprises nor joint ventures are allowed to operate minimarts or convenience stores with a floor area of less than 929 m <sup>2</sup> .	Mode 3	Retail and wholesale trade services	Notification 25/2018 Viewed at: <a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/11/c_137172463.htm">http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/11/c_137172463.htm</a>	Effective 8 May 2018	YES
<b>Viet Nam</b>					
The Government eased certain regulations in relation to the activities of foreign-invested enterprises engaged in trade in goods and related activities. The decree clarifies that a business licence is required for such activities as retail distribution, trade intermediation services and e-commerce services. It also expands distribution rights for certain commodities to foreign-invested enterprises meeting specified conditions. For example, foreign supermarkets and convenience stores may receive retail distribution rights for rice, sugar, media recordings, books, newspapers and magazines.	Mode 3	Distribution services	Decree No. 9/2018/ND-CP	Effective 15 January 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>EDUCATION SERVICES</b>					
<b>Egypt</b>					
The Government adopted a new law regulating the establishment of foreign universities and their branches. The objective of the law is to improve the quality of higher education services and scientific research activities in Egypt. Foreign universities are now allowed to provide their services through commercial presence, either as a branch of a foreign university or as a "university institution".	Mode 3	Higher education services	Law 162/2018  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.egypttoday.com/Article/1/55380/Sisi-approves-regulations-for-foreign-universities-in-Egypt">http://www.egypttoday.com/Article/1/55380/Sisi-approves-regulations-for-foreign-universities-in-Egypt</a>	Effective 3 August 2018	YES
<b>Indonesia</b>					
The President of Indonesia instructed his Cabinet to allow 100% foreign-ownership in universities, and to permit foreign institutions to open campuses in the country.	Mode 3	Education services	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-investment-education/indonesia-plans-to-open-university-sector-to-100-percent-foreign-ownership-idUSKCN1HB0T4">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-investment-education/indonesia-plans-to-open-university-sector-to-100-percent-foreign-ownership-idUSKCN1HB0T4</a>	4 April 2018	
<b>Myanmar</b>					
The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) allows full foreign capital participation in private education institutions. The new measure applies to basic education schools, technical, vocational and training schools, higher education institutions, subject-based schools, and private schools designated by the Ministry of Education.	Mode 3	Education services	MIC Notification 7/2018  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.mmtimes.com/news/myanmar-permits-full-foreign-capital-investments-education-sector.html">https://www.mmtimes.com/news/myanmar-permits-full-foreign-capital-investments-education-sector.html</a>	Notification issued on 20 April 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b>					
<b>India</b>					
The Supreme Court of India rendered a judgment in which it held that foreign law firms cannot set up offices in India or practice in Indian Courts. Foreign law firms or foreign lawyers are not prohibited from visiting India for a temporary period, in order to provide legal advice regarding foreign law on diverse international legal issues, on a "fly in and fly out" basis if it does not amount to practice including appearances in Courts of India. The Supreme Court also held that foreign lawyers are not barred if the matter is governed by particular rules of an arbitral institution, or if the matter otherwise falls under Section 32 or 33 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act. Even in such cases, the Code of Conduct applicable to the legal profession in India must be followed.	Modes 3-4	Legal Services	Supreme Court of India, judgment dated 13 March 2018, Civil Appeal Nos. 7875-7879 of 2015, entitled Bar Council of India vs. A.K. Balaji and Ors.  Viewed at: <a href="https://sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2012/13890/13890_2012_Judgement_13-Mar-2018.pdf">https://sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2012/13890/13890_2012_Judgement_13-Mar-2018.pdf</a>	13 March 2018	YES
<b>HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES</b>					
<b>China</b>					
China's health authorities issued new guidelines to further regulate online medical diagnoses and treatment. The guidelines allow medical institutes that are licensed to practice to provide online services. Medical staff providing online services must be registered in the national e-registration system, and physicians must possess at least 3 years of independent clinical experience. The guidelines also provide that patients must first receive a diagnosis in person before accessing online medical diagnosis and treatment services.	Modes 1-3	Health and medical services	Viewed at: <a href="http://en.nhfpc.gov.cn/2018-09/17/c_73776.htm">http://en.nhfpc.gov.cn/2018-09/17/c_73776.htm</a>	Effective 14 September 2018	YES



Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>RECREATIONAL SERVICES</b>					
<b>Japan</b>					
Japan adopted new legislation allowing casino gambling at integrated resorts. A maximum of three development plans will be allowed to grant licences for the establishment of casinos along with MICE facilities (meetings, incentive travel, conventions and exhibitions hotels).	Mode 3	Gambling services	Integrated Resort Implementation Law  Viewed at: <a href="https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Five-things-to-know-about-Japan-s-new-casino-law">https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Five-things-to-know-about-Japan-s-new-casino-law</a>	Adopted on 20 July 2018	YES
<b>TRANSPORT SERVICES</b>					
<b>China</b>					
Foreign services suppliers may set up wholly-owned enterprises in China to operate international shipping transportation, international ship management business, international shipping agencies, international maritime cargo handling business, and international maritime container station and depot services. The measure effectively extends nationally increased foreign limits that had been put in place for the country's free trade zones in January 2018.	Mode 3	Maritime transport services	Notice of the State Council on Effectively Replicating and Promoting the Fourth Group of Experience in the Reform Pilot Programs of Pilot Free Trade Zones (Guo Fa [2018] No. 12) and Special Administrative Measures (Negative List) for Foreign Investment Access (2018 Edition) (Order of the NDRC and the MOFCOM No. 18 of 2018)	Issued on 23 May and 28 June 2018, respectively. To be implemented after the revision of the Regulations on International Maritime Transport.	YES
<b>India</b>					
A foreign-flag ship is no longer required to obtain a licence from the Director General of Shipping to engage in coastal trade in India for the carriage by sea of specified agricultural, fisheries, animal husbandry and horticultural commodities.	Modes 1-2	Maritime transport services	General Order (No. 2 of 2018) with respect to the Relaxation under Section 407 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, for coastal movement of agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and animal husbandry commodities  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201805230236156996537GeneralOrderNo02of2018_sd.pdf">http://www.dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201805230236156996537GeneralOrderNo02of2018_sd.pdf</a>	Effective 22 May 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Philippines</b>					
The Civil Aeronautics Board of the Department of Transportation adopted new guidelines on the granting of permits to domestic carriers intending to operate scheduled or non-scheduled international or domestic air transport services. The guidelines cover, among other things, minimum capital requirements. The Board also adopted a new measure on passenger fuel surcharges for domestic and international flights.	Mode 3	Air transport services	<p>Resolution No. 32 (BM 03-05-25-2018)</p> <p>Resolution No. 44 (SBM-05S-08-17-2018)</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.cab.gov.ph/">https://www.cab.gov.ph/</a> </p>	<p>Adopted 25 May 2018</p> <p>Adopted 17 August 2018</p>	
<b>Russian Federation</b>					
<p>A new federal law introduced changes to the Merchant Shipping Code of the Russian Federation. The measure grants to vessels sailing under the flag of the Russian Federation the exclusive right to transport by sea oil, natural gas, gas condensate, and coal produced in the Russian Federation or in an area which is under the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation and loaded onto vessels located in the Northern Sea Route area. This exclusive right is exercised unless otherwise provided under international law, international treaties of the Russian Federation, and decisions on the sea transport of other cargoes in other water areas using vessels sailing under the flag of the Russian Federation.</p> <p>The law regulates how vessel documents are issued, including electronically. For vessels bought outside the Russian Federation, a temporary certificate regarding the right to sail under the flag of the Russian Federation, which would remain valid until the registration of the vessel occurs, can no longer be obtained from one of Russia's consular institutions. Right to sail is granted from the date of registration.</p>	Modes 1-2	Maritime transport services	<p>Amendments to the Merchant Shipping Code of the Russia Federation</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://en.kremlin.ru/acts/news/56546">http://en.kremlin.ru/acts/news/56546</a> </p>	Effective 1 February 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
The new amendments establish an open register of ships, which provides for the granting of the right to sail under the national flag of the Russian Federation to ships that are owned by foreign citizens, foreign legal entities or legal persons registered in accordance with the Federal Law on International Companies.	Mode 3	Maritime transport services	Amendments to the Merchant Shipping Code as regards the formation of the Russian Open Register of Ships  Viewed at: <a href="http://en.kremlin.ru/acts/news/copy/58219">http://en.kremlin.ru/acts/news/copy/58219</a>	Effective 3 August 2018	YES
<b>Viet Nam</b>					
The Government issued regulations for logistics services. They eliminate the requirement that foreign investors establish through joint-ventures with local enterprises. Logistics services are defined in the regulations as covering an array of services, including container handling, warehousing, freight transport agencies, delivery, customs brokerage, and maritime/rail/road/air freight transport services. Foreign ownership limits remain for some of these services. The regulations state that logistics services supplied partly or entirely over electronic networks must comply with e-commerce regulations, which include a registration requirement.	Mode 3	Logistics and transport services	Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/vietnam-allows-foreign-investors-establish-logistics-firms.html/">http://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/vietnam-allows-foreign-investors-establish-logistics-firms.html/</a>	Effective 20 February 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>SERVICES SUPPLIED THROUGH THE MOVEMENT OF NATURAL PERSONS</b>					
<b>Australia</b>					
<p>On 18 March 2018, the Government replaced the Temporary Work (Skilled) (subclass 457) visa with the new Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS) visa.</p> <p>The TSS visa facilitates the targeted use of overseas workers to address temporary skill shortages, while ensuring that Australian workers get priority. TSS visa holders can work in Australia in their nominated occupation for their approved sponsor under one of three streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Short-term stream, underpinned by the Short-term Skilled Occupations List (STSOL);</li> <li>- the Medium-term stream, underpinned by the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL);</li> <li>- the Labour agreement stream: labour agreements are developed between the Department and employers where there is a demonstrated need that sits outside the standard TSS visa programme.</li> </ul> <p>Employers in regional areas may nominate overseas workers in the Medium-term stream in occupations on the Regional Occupation List (ROL), in addition to occupations on the MLTSSL.</p> <p>The Short-term stream is eligible for stay periods of up to two years, and can be renewed on one occasion onshore, unless an international trade obligation applies.</p> <p>The Medium-term stream is eligible for stay periods of up to four years, with no restrictions to onshore renewals.</p>	Mode 4	All sectors	<p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Work/457-abolition-replacement">https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Work/457-abolition-replacement</a>  <a href="https://www.jobs.gov.au/SkilledMigrationList">https://www.jobs.gov.au/SkilledMigrationList</a></p>	18 March 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
The STSOL, MLTSSL, and ROL are subject to regular review by the Department of Jobs and Small Business. The TSS visa is also supported by such measures as: enhanced labour market testing; mandatory police checks; and a 2-year work experience requirement.					
The Global Talent Scheme (GTS), a new 12-month pilot scheme, was launched on 1 July 2018 to provide businesses with a way to sponsor overseas workers to fill highly-skilled and specialized positions that cannot be filled by Australian workers or through other visa programmes, in particular the TSS visa. The GTS provides faster processing and more flexible concessions, and is not restricted to the occupations lists used in the TSS visa. Once a GTS agreement is in place, employers can sponsor overseas workers for a 4-year TSS visa, and workers can apply for permanent residence after 3 years.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/">https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/</a>	Effective July 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Brazil</b>					
<p>The new Migration Law simplifies procedures for the entry and residence of foreigners in Brazil. The Law reorganizes Brazil's visa system into the following categories: visitor visas, temporary visas, and official, diplomatic and courtesy visas.</p> <p>Visitor visas are applicable to foreigners who do not intend to establish residence in Brazil, but carry out tourist, business, transit, artistic or sporting activities. Remunerated activities cannot be performed under this visa category. Initial stays are granted for a maximum of 90 days, with the possibility of extending stays for a further 90 days, except for foreigners conducting auditing and consulting, maritime, artistic or sports/athletic activities.</p> <p>Temporary visas are designed for employment, research, health treatment, study, vacation, summer jobs, family reunions and investment. They are valid for up to 2 years, and can be renewed for an additional 2-year period. Foreigners may apply for temporary visas without a formal job offer if they provide evidence of a higher degree diploma or equivalent.</p>	Mode 4	All sectors	<p>Migration Law 13.445</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/services/people-organisation/publications/assets/pwc-brazil-new-migration-law-to-affect-visas-tax-residence-rules.pdf">https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/services/people-organisation/publications/assets/pwc-brazil-new-migration-law-to-affect-visas-tax-residence-rules.pdf</a> </p>	Effective 21 November 2017	YES
<p>Brazil's Ministry of Labour increased the validity of its Short-Term Technical Visa to 180 cumulative, rather than consecutive, days per year, and allows foreign nationals travelling under the visa to provide technical assistance to multiple companies.</p>	Mode 4	All sectors	<p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.fragomen.com/insights/alerts/technical-visa-rules-relaxed">https://www.fragomen.com/insights/alerts/technical-visa-rules-relaxed</a> </p>	Effective May 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Chile</b>					
A new temporary "Opportunity Visa" (Temporary Residence Visa for Workers) was introduced for foreigners holding graduate degrees who wish to work in Chile. 3,000 such visas are available between 1 August and 30 November 2018. Visas are granted based on a scoring system that evaluates education, age, language, occupation and territory. Fluency in Spanish is required.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://investchile.gob.cl/es/visa-tech-chile/">https://investchile.gob.cl/es/visa-tech-chile/</a>	Effective 1 June 2017	YES
<b>Colombia</b>					
Colombia's new Immigration Law (Law 6045 of 2017) replaces the previous 21 visa categories with three types of visas, namely visitor visas, migrant visas and resident visas, each with corresponding sub-categories.  As part of the reorganization, the duration of stay for short-term technical visitors has been increased from 180 days to up to 2 years. Moreover, immigration authorities are now required to adjudicate a complete visa application within 5 business days of submission, or within 30 days of submission of any additional information or documentation that may have been required.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/sites/default/files/Normograma/docs/resolucion_minrelaciones_6045_2017.htm">https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/sites/default/files/Normograma/docs/resolucion_minrelaciones_6045_2017.htm</a>	Effective 15 December 2017	
<b>Estonia</b>					
The latest amendments to the Aliens Act 1993 facilitate the arrival of top foreign specialists, by exempting them from the annual immigration quota. A top specialist must have appropriate professional training or experience, be employed by a qualifying company, and be paid at least twice the national gross average wage.	Mode 4	All sectors	Amendments to the Aliens Act 1993  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/505072018004/consolide/current,%20%C2%A7106%20and%20%C2%A7115">https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/505072018004/consolide/current,%20%C2%A7106%20and%20%C2%A7115</a>	Effective 15 July 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
In addition, the amended rules now allow short-term employees to carry out work without a work permit for up to 12 months (365 days during a 455-day period), rather than 9 months previously, with possible longer periods in some instances.					
<b>Hong Kong, China</b>					
The Government launched the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS), which provides a fast-track arrangement allowing for eligible technology companies and institutes to contract technology talent from outside the territory. In the first year of operation, a maximum of 1,000 persons could be admitted. Normal processing time for complete applications is 2 weeks. Approval is valid for 6 months.	Mode 4	Selected sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.itc.gov.hk/en/techtas/index.htm">https://www.itc.gov.hk/en/techtas/index.htm</a>	Effective 25 June 2018	YES
<b>Israel</b>					
The Israeli Ministry of Interior created a new "Hi-Tech" (HIT) visa in February 2018 for employees of hi-tech companies approved by the Israeli Innovations Authority. The new visa has an initial validity period of up to 1 year, renewable for up to a total of 5 years and 3 months, and a streamlined applications process. Under recently-amended rules, non-Israeli registered hi-tech companies, as well as their local Israeli branches, are not eligible to apply for the HIT visa.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://blog.newlandchase.com/israel-changes-to-hi-tech-hit-visa-applications-process">https://blog.newlandchase.com/israel-changes-to-hi-tech-hit-visa-applications-process</a> <a href="http://fgiimmigration.com/2018/09/07/israel-new-guidelines-for-hi-tech-visas/">http://fgiimmigration.com/2018/09/07/israel-new-guidelines-for-hi-tech-visas/</a>	Effective February and September 2018, respectively.	



Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Oman</b>					
The Ministry of Manpower banned the recruitment of foreign workers by private companies for a range of occupations across several sectors, such as the information and technology sector, and insurance, media, aviation, engineering and medical services.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: <a href="http://gulfbusiness.com/oman-extend-foreign-worker-ban-new-sectors/">http://gulfbusiness.com/oman-extend-foreign-worker-ban-new-sectors/</a>	Effective 24 January 2018	
The Ministry of Manpower has extended, by 6 months, the temporary suspension of the recruitment of foreign nationals with respect to: private sector establishments in the construction and cleaning sectors, as specified in Ministerial Resolution No. 338/2014, starting from 1 June 2018; private sector establishments for certain professions, as specified in Ministerial Resolution No. 608/2013, starting from 31 May 2018; and private sector establishments for activities specified in Ministerial Resolution No. 122/2014, beginning on 1 July 2018.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.omanobserver.om/ban-on-hiring-expats-extended-for-six-months/">http://www.omanobserver.om/ban-on-hiring-expats-extended-for-six-months/</a>	Effective 1 May and 1 July 2018	
<b>Poland</b>					
Poland's Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy has designated approximately 200 job titles as shortage occupations, including in the information technology, healthcare and transportation sectors. Employers filing a Work Permit, Single Permit or EU Blue Card application for locally-hired foreign workers in these titles are now exempt from conducting a labour market test, and may enjoy a faster application process as a result.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.fragomen.com/insights/alerts/labor-market-testing-waived-shortage-occupations">https://www.fragomen.com/insights/alerts/labor-market-testing-waived-shortage-occupations</a>	Effective 1 July 2018	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>					
The Ministry of Labour and Social Development introduced a new prohibition on foreign workers in 12 additional sectors: automobile and mobile shops; shops selling home furniture and ready-made office materials; sale outlets of ready-made garments; children's clothes and men's suppliers; watch shops; optical stores; electrical and electronics shops; medical equipment stores; outlets selling car spare parts; building material shops; outlets selling all types of carpets; household utensils shops; and pastry shops.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Ministerial decision  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.financialexpress.com/world-news/big-setback-to-indians-saudi-arabia-bans-foreign-workers-in-12-sectors-check-full-list-of-expatriates-affected/1054178/">https://www.financialexpress.com/world-news/big-setback-to-indians-saudi-arabia-bans-foreign-workers-in-12-sectors-check-full-list-of-expatriates-affected/1054178/</a>  <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=8a369bc1-b793-42db-9902-93475690a6d4">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=8a369bc1-b793-42db-9902-93475690a6d4</a>	To be effective from 11 September 2018, 9 November 2018 and 7 January 2019, depending on the sector.	YES
Employment visas issued for foreign private sector workers in Saudi Arabia are now valid for 1 year, down from 2 years.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.arabianbusiness.com/politics-economics/381916-saudi-expat-work-visas-limited-to-one-year">http://www.arabianbusiness.com/politics-economics/381916-saudi-expat-work-visas-limited-to-one-year</a>	Effective 1 November 2017	YES
<b>Serbia (observer)</b>					
A number of changes have been introduced in relation to the employment of foreign workers. Work permits for posted workers and for inter-corporate transferees can now be issued for period of 1 year, and renewed for 2 additional periods of a maximum of 2 years. Further extensions are subject to consent by the authorities. The Government also introduced a new work permit for special cases of employment, which concern training, apprenticeship, professional practice, and vocational training.	Mode 4	All sectors	Amendments to the Law on Employment of Foreigners  Viewed at: <a href="https://zuniclaw.com/en/work-permit-serbia/">https://zuniclaw.com/en/work-permit-serbia/</a>	Effective 25 December 2017	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>Singapore</b>					
The 14-day job advertising requirement for "Employment Pass" applicants has been extended to cover companies with at least 10 employees (compared with the previous threshold of at least 26 employees). Positions for ICTs and jobs paying a fixed salary of SGD 15,000 or more a month are exempted from this advertising requirement.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.mom.gov.sg/~media/mom/documents/budget2018/factsheet-foreign-workforce-policy-announcements.pdf?la=en">https://www.mom.gov.sg/~media/mom/documents/budget2018/factsheet-foreign-workforce-policy-announcements.pdf?la=en</a>	Effective 1 July 2018	YES
<b>Slovak Republic</b>					
Parliament adopted new measures making it easier to employ workers from non-EU countries. Simpler procedures apply to certain professions with shortages of workers and in districts/regions where the unemployment rate is below 5%. Foreign workers in these professions/regions cannot constitute more than 30% of the total number of workers in any company. This temporary measure was taken in order to solve a temporary shortage of workforce. A list of professions is expected to be set in due course.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Amendments to the Law on Employment Services  Viewed at: <a href="https://spectator.sme.sk/c/20756618/slovakia-simplifies-rules-for-import-of-foreign-workers.html">https://spectator.sme.sk/c/20756618/slovakia-simplifies-rules-for-import-of-foreign-workers.html</a>	Effective 1 May 2018	YES
<b>Switzerland</b>					
The yearly ceilings for work permits for highly-qualified workers from non-EU/EFTA States increased by 500 in 2018, reaching a total of 8,000. 4,500 work permits are allocated for short stays (L permits), and 3,500 for long stays (B permits).	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/fr/home/aktuell/news/2017/ref_2017-09-290.html">https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/fr/home/aktuell/news/2017/ref_2017-09-290.html</a>  <a href="https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/fr/home/aktuell/news/2017/ref_2017-11-222.html">https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/fr/home/aktuell/news/2017/ref_2017-11-222.html</a>	Effective 1 January 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
Employers hiring foreign workers will be required to undertake a labour market test for certain occupations where the rate of unemployment is above 8%. This threshold will be lowered to 5% on 1 January 2020. Employers will need to advertise vacancies with Switzerland's Employment Service for at least 5 days.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/fr/home/aktuell/news/2017/ref_2017-12-081.html">https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/fr/home/aktuell/news/2017/ref_2017-12-081.html</a>	Effective 1 July 2018	YES
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>					
The duration of work permits for foreign special professionals was increased from 3 to 5 years. Furthermore, foreign special professionals may apply for a new visa category ("Employment Gold Card") that combines work permit, residence visa, residency permit and re-entry permit in a single card, and with a single online application process. The Gold Card is valid for 1 to 3 years, and can be obtained in the following fields: science and technology, economics, education, culture, arts, sports, finance, law and architectural design.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://foreign.talentact.ndc.gov.tw/en/Content_List.aspx?n=24C15F2CEE245632">https://foreign.talentact.ndc.gov.tw/en/Content_List.aspx?n=24C15F2CEE245632</a>	Effective 8 February 2018	YES
<b>Thailand</b>					
A new SMART visa programme has been created to attract qualified foreigners who are experts, senior executives, investors and start-up entrepreneurs. The improvements introduced by the new visa programme include the possibility of multiple entries, and the option for foreign nationals to work during the validity of the visa without needing to obtain a separate work permit.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.boj.go.th/upload/content/BOI-brochure%202018-smart%20visa-EN-20180125_97687.pdf">http://www.boj.go.th/upload/content/BOI-brochure%202018-smart%20visa-EN-20180125_97687.pdf</a>	Effective 1 February 2018	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
Under a new measure, if urgent and necessary work or business activities cannot be completed within 15 days, a foreigner may request an extension of up to 15 days by notifying the work permit official before the end of the initial 15-day period. Foreign nationals no longer need to exit the country and re-enter to apply for a new UWP.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Emergency Decree on Managing the Work of Aliens B.E. 2561  Viewed at: <a href="https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archi-ve-news/thailand-revises-regulations-on-foreign-workers.aspx">https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archi-ve-news/thailand-revises-regulations-on-foreign-workers.aspx</a>	Effective 28 March 2018	YES
A new decree has exempted 3 additional categories of foreign natural persons from the requirement to obtain a work permit. The three categories are: - foreigners entering Thailand irregularly for the arrangement or attendance of meetings, the expression of views, the lecture or presentation in a meeting, training, a visit or seminar, or for the participation in arts, culture, or sports competition; - foreigners entering Thailand to operate or invest in a business, or possessing knowledge, capacity and skills that will benefit the country's development; - representatives of foreign juridical persons with a licence to operate a business under the law.  The decree also allows the electronical submission of work permit applications.	Mode 4	All sectors	Amendment to the Emergency Decree on Managing the Work of Aliens B.E. 2560 (2017)	Effective 28 March 2018	YES
<b>United Kingdom</b>					
Non-EU doctors and nurses are exempt from the UK Tier 2 visa cap.	Mode 4	Health and medical services	Viewed at: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/726265/Tier_2_Policy_Guidance_07_2018_Revised.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/726265/Tier_2_Policy_Guidance_07_2018_Revised.pdf</a>	Effective 6 July 2018	YES

## APPENDIX 1 PARTICIPATION

Member/ Observer	Replies to DG fax (OV/W/12) (√ = replies received)	Replies to DG fax (OV/21) (√ = replies received)	Annual overview (OV/21) – Replies to request for verification (√ = replies received)	New measures (√ = information sent)	Services (√ = information sent)	General economic support (√ = information sent)	Summary and status (√ = information sent)
1. Albania			√	√			
2. Algeria*				√	√		
3. Angola				√	√		
4. Argentina	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
5. Armenia (EEU)				√			
6. Australia	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
7. Bahrain, Kingdom of							
8. Bangladesh							
9. Belarus (EEU)				√			
10. Belize			√	√			
11. Benin					√		
12. Botswana (SACU)			√	√	√		
13. Brazil	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
14. Canada	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
15. Chile	√	√	√	√	√		√
16. China	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
17. Colombia	√	√		√		√	√
18. Costa Rica	√	√	√	√			
19. Cuba			√		√		
20. Democratic Rep. of the Congo							
21. Dominica					√		
22. Dominican Republic	√	√		√		√	
23. Ecuador			√			√	
24. Egypt		√	√				
25. Eswatini (SACU)				√			
26. European Union	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
27. Georgia							
28. Ghana						√	
29. Grenada					√		
30. Hong Kong, China	√	√	√		√	√	
31. Iceland							
32. India			√	√	√	√	√
33. Indonesia	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
34. Iraq, Rep. of*	√	√					
35. Israel				√	√		√
36. Japan	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
37. Jordan						√	
38. Kazakhstan (EEU)	√	√		√		√	
39. Kenya					√		
40. Korea, Republic of	√	√	√	√		√	√
41. Kuwait, the State of							
42. Kyrgyz Republic (EEU)				√			
43. Lesotho (SACU)				√			
44. Macao, China	√	√					
45. Madagascar				√			
46. Malaysia	√	√	√	√			√
47. Mali							
48. Mauritius	√	√		√		√	

Member/ Observer	Replies to DG fax (OV/W/12) (√ = replies received)	Replies to DG fax (OV/21) (√ = replies received)	Annual overview (OV/21) – Replies to request for verification (√ = replies received)	New measures (√ = information sent)	Services (√ = information sent)	General economic support (√ = information sent)	Summary and status (√ = information sent)
49. Mexico	√	√	√	√		√	√
50. Moldova, Republic of	√						
51. Mongolia							
52. Montenegro				√			
53. Morocco			√	√		√	√
54. Myanmar			√		√		
55. Namibia (SACU)				√			
56. Nepal							
57. New Zealand	√	√	√	√			√
58. Nigeria							
59. Norway	√	√	√		√	√	
60. Oman					√		
61. Pakistan		√	√	√		√	√
62. Panama	√						
63. Peru	√	√	√	√		√	√
64. Philippines		√		√	√		
65. Russian Federation	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
66. Rwanda							
67. Saint Kitts and Nevis					√		
68. Saint Lucia					√		
69. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines					√		
70. Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	√	√	√		√	√	√
71. Serbia*	√						
72. Seychelles	√	√		√			
73. Singapore	√	√			√		
74. Somalia*							
75. South Africa (SACU)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
76. Sri Lanka			√	√			
77. Sudan				√			
78. Suriname				√			
79. Switzerland	√		√	√			
80. Chinese Taipei	√	√	√	√	√		√
81. Tanzania					√		
82. Thailand	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
83. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia			√			√	
84. Togo		√					
85. Tunisia				√			
86. Turkey	√	√	√	√		√	√
87. Uganda					√		
88. Ukraine	√	√	√	√			√
89. United States of America	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
90. Uruguay			√			√	
91. Viet Nam			√	√	√		
92. Zambia					√		
93. Zimbabwe					√		

\* Observer.