

OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS

IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING ENVIRONMENT

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL¹

(Mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019)

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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.

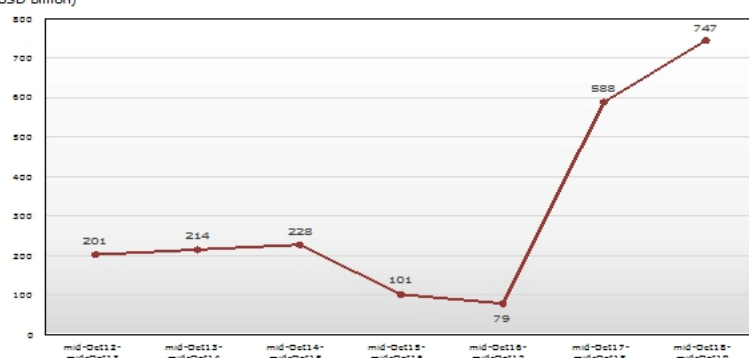
KEY FINDINGS

- This Report covers new trade and trade-related measures implemented by WTO Members between 16 October 2018 and 15 October 2019. During the review period, new trade restrictions and increasing trade tensions added to the uncertainty surrounding international trade and the world economy.
- World trade growth stalled during the review period and, on 1 October 2019, the WTO downgraded its forecast for world trade growth in 2019 to 1.2%; down from the previous estimate of 2.6% from last April. Risks to the forecast are predominantly on the downside and include a further ratcheting-up of trade-restrictive measures and a sharper slowing of GDP growth in one or more major economies.
- WTO Members implemented 102 new trade-restrictive measures during the review period. The trade coverage for the import-restrictive measures was estimated at USD 746.9 billion. This is the highest recorded since October 2012 and represents an increase of 27% compared to that in the previous annual overview (USD 588.3 billion) . The trade coverage of import-restrictive measures recorded in the last two annual overviews has soared.
- The stockpile of import restrictions implemented since 2009, and still in force, suggests that 7.5% of world imports are affected by import restrictions implemented since 2009. At the end of 2018, USD 1.5 trillion out of a total USD 19.5 trillion of world imports were estimated to be affected by import restrictions put in place by WTO Members over the last decade. The trade coverage of import-restrictive measures implemented since 2009 and still in force by mid-October 2019 is estimated at USD 1.7 trillion, suggesting that the stockpile of import restrictions has continued to grow.
- WTO Members also implemented 120 new measures aimed at facilitating trade. The trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures introduced by WTO Members during the review period was estimated at USD 544.7 billion. This is the second highest trade coverage reported for this type of measures since October 2012.
- Overall, for the review period, the monthly average of initiations of trade remedy actions by WTO Members remained stable compared to 2018. However, the second half of the review period saw this figure accelerate, in particular as a result of new anti-dumping investigations. The trade coverage of trade remedy initiations during the review period was estimated at USD 46.2 billion, and that of terminations at USD 24.8 billion. Both figures are significantly higher than the trade coverage recorded for these measures in the previous annual overview.

Trade coverage of new import-restrictive measures in each reporting period (not cumulative)

(USD billion)

Trade coverage of new Import -restrictive measures in each reported period (not cumulative)
(USD billion)



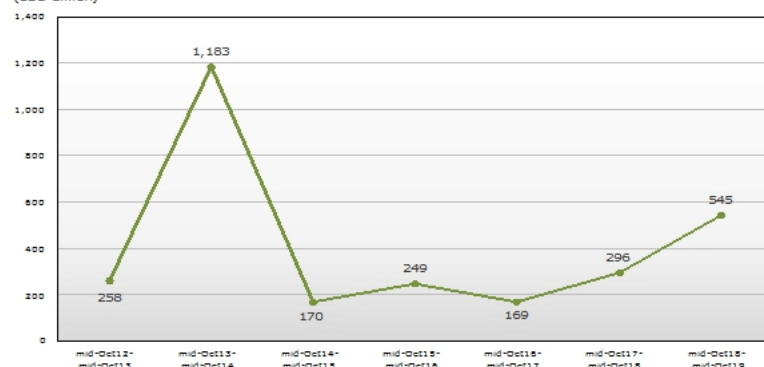
Note: These figures are estimates and represent the trade coverage of the measures (i.e. annual imports of the products concerned from economies affected by the measures) introduced during each reporting period, and not the impact of the trade measures.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Trade coverage of new import-facilitating measures in each reporting period (not cumulative)

(USD billion)

Trade coverage of new Import -facilitating measures in each reported period (not cumulative)
(USD billion)



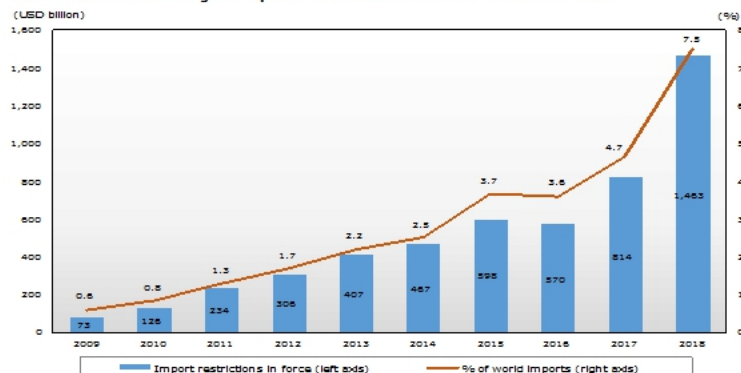
Note: These figures are estimates and represent the trade coverage of the measures (i.e. annual imports of the products concerned from economies affected by the measures) introduced during each reporting period, and not the impact of the trade measures. Liberalization associated with the 2015 Expansion of the WTO's ITA is not included in the figures.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Cumulative trade coverage of import-restrictive measures in force since 2009

(USD billion and % of world merchandise imports)

Cumulative trade coverage of Import -restrictive measures in force since 2009



Note: [See text in report].

Source: WTO Secretariat.

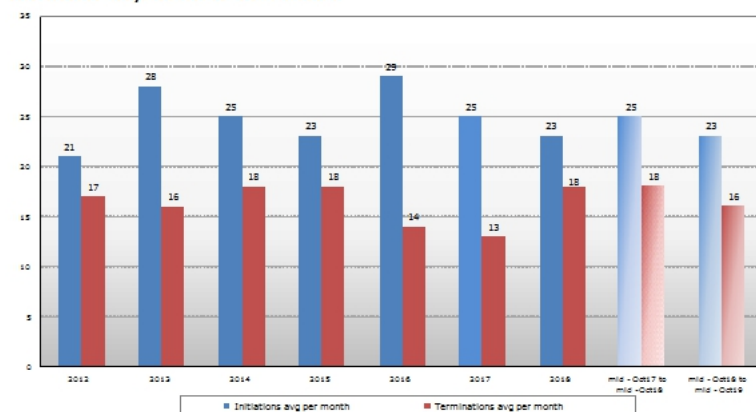
Note: The cumulative trade coverage estimated by the Secretariat is based on information available in the TMDB on import measures recorded since 2009 and considered to have a trade-restrictive effect. The estimates include import measures for which HS codes were available. The figures do not include trade remedy measures. The import values were sourced from the UNSD Comtrade database.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

WTO trade remedies initiations and terminations

(average per month)

WTO Trade remedy initiations and terminations



Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Trade measures, mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019

(by number)

G20 measures, mid - October 2018 to mid - October 2019

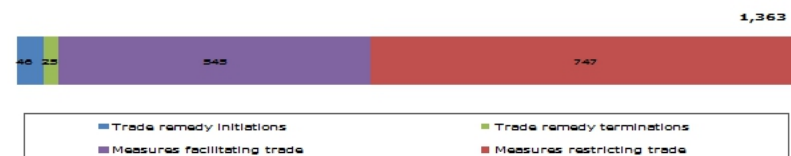


Source: WTO Secretariat.

Trade coverage of trade measures, mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019

(USD billion)

Trade coverage of Import measures, mid - October 2018 to mid - October 2019 (USD billion)



Note: 2018 figures. ITA expansion measures are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

This WTO Trade Monitoring Report covers new trade and trade-related measures implemented by WTO Members between 16 October 2018 and 15 October 2019.² During the review period, new trade restrictions and increasing trade tensions added to the uncertainty surrounding international trade and the world economy.

World trade growth stalled during the first half of 2019, with year-on-year growth in the volume of merchandise trade dropping to 0.6% from 2.4% in the second half of 2018 as trade tensions continued to escalate. In response to the slower-than-expected pace of expansion, on 1 October 2019, the WTO Secretariat downgraded its forecasts for world trade growth in 2019 and 2020 to 1.2% and 2.7%, respectively (down from the estimates from last April of 2.6% and 3.0%, respectively). Economic growth also slowed in major economies in the first half of the year, partly due to persistent trade tensions and partly as a result of cyclical and structural factors. World real GDP at market exchange rates is projected to increase by 2.3% in both 2019 and 2020. If these estimates are realized, trade volumes will only grow half as fast as world GDP in 2019.

The slowdown coincided with increasingly negative forward-looking indicators for world trade and output, including export orders derived from purchasing managers' indices, and economic policy uncertainty based on the frequency of keywords in press accounts. Risks to the forecast are predominantly on the downside and include a further ratcheting-up of trade-restrictive measures and a sharper slowing of GDP growth in one or more major economies.

More specifically, this Report shows that WTO Members implemented 102 new trade-restrictive measures during the review period, including tariff increases, quantitative restrictions, stricter customs procedures, and imposition of import taxes and export duties. The main sectors targeted by the new import restrictions were mineral and fuels oils (HS 27) 17.7%, machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 13%, electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS 85) 11.7%, and precious metals (HS 71) 6%.

The trade coverage for the new import-restrictive measures implemented by WTO Members was estimated at USD 746.9 billion. This is the highest recorded since October 2012 and represents an increase of 27% compared to the figure in the previous annual overview (USD 588.3 billion). The trade coverage of import-restrictive measures recorded in the last two annual overviews has soared.

WTO Secretariat estimates of the stockpile of import restrictions implemented since 2009, and still in force, suggest that 7.5% of world imports are affected by import restrictions. At the end of 2018, USD 1.5 trillion out of a total USD 19.5 trillion of world imports were estimated to be affected by import restrictions put in place by WTO Members over the last decade. The trade coverage of import-restrictive measures implemented since 2009 and still in force by mid-October 2019 is estimated at USD 1.7 trillion, suggesting that the stockpile of import restrictions has continued to grow.

WTO Members also implemented 120 new measures aimed at facilitating trade, during the review period, including reducing or eliminating tariffs, export duties and import taxes. The trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures implemented during the review period was estimated at USD 544.7 billion (excluding ITA-related measures). This is the second highest trade coverage reported for this type of measures since October 2012. The main sectors targeted by the new import-facilitating measures were machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 13.4%, electrical machines and equipment (HS 85) 12.1%, copper and articles thereof (HS 74) 7.6%, and motor vehicles (HS 87) 7.4%.

In addition, liberalization associated with 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 the import-facilitating measures implemented during the review period associated with the ITA Expansion Agreement amounted to USD 705 billion, according to preliminary WTO Secretariat estimates.

The monthly average of initiations of trade remedy actions by WTO Members remained stable compared to 2018. However, the second half of the review period saw this figure accelerate, in particular as a result of new anti-dumping investigations. Initiations of anti-dumping investigations continue to be the most frequent trade remedy action, accounting for around four fifths of all initiations during the review period. In the area of safeguards, the review period saw a significant increase in activity. Trade remedy measures continue to be a very important trade policy tool for WTO Members, and account for about 68% of all trade measures captured in this Report. The main sectors targeted by trade remedy initiations during the review period were on furniture (HS 94) 24.7%, iron and steel (HS 72) 14%, articles of iron and steel (HS 73) 12.1%, and machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 4.9%. The trade coverage of these initiations was estimated at USD 46.2 billion, and that of terminations at USD 24.8 billion. Both figures are significantly higher than the trade coverage recorded for these measures in the previous annual overview.

With respect to general economic support measures, the Secretariat received information from only eight WTO Members in response to the Director-General's request for information. As a result, the Secretariat has been unable to justify the inclusion of a separate annex on these measures in the Report. From the limited information received from the WTO Members, and from the research undertaken by the Secretariat, the current review period confirms that Members continue to implement such measures as part of their overall trade policy. Discussions at the informal TPRB meeting in July 2019 reinforced the need for further guidance as to how the Secretariat should cover these measures in the Trade Monitoring Reports. The selective commitment to transparency which has characterized general economic support measures in the context of the trade monitoring exercise should be of concern to all Members.

A range of other subjects are also covered by this Report. WTO Members have continued notifying their sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures and technical barriers to trade (TBT) measures, 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. Most TBT measures indicated the protection of human health or safety as their main objective. In both the SPS and TBT Committees, WTO Members have dedicated considerable time in 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. Since 1995, 43% of all STCs raised at the SPS Committee have been reported as resolved or partially resolved.

The Report provides evidence of the continuous increase of trade issues and concerns raised in a wider range of WTO bodies during the review period. About 230 trade concerns were raised in some 28 formal meetings of WTO bodies other than the SPS and TBT Committees, showing an increase of 8% per meeting compared to the previous annual report. A significant number of trade concerns were raised in successive meetings of the same Committee/Council, and often in multiple WTO bodies, confirming that many concerns involve what appear to be technically complex and persistent problems. WTO Members are increasingly using multiple platforms within the WTO committee structure to address various aspects of their trade concerns and for exploring solutions to trade frictions non-litigiously. At the same time, the reasons behind the repetition and non-resolution of the same trade concerns and issues in various WTO bodies may warrant further study.

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 under the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA). WTO Members continued asking questions on individual notifications and under Article 18.6 of the AoA, with the majority (70%) of those directed to domestic support notifications. The average number of questions raised under Article 18.6 per meeting has been increasing since 2011, reaching an average of 51 questions per meeting in 2019. Among the new issues raised during the review period, more than half related to Members' domestic support policies, and around 30% related to measures that restrict, or had the potential to restrict, trade of agricultural products.

The level of the WTO dispute settlement system activity remained high during the review period, despite the impasse over the appointment of new Appellate Body members. The Report shows that, over the last 12 months, 29 panels were composed and commenced work, and appeals were filed in 8 disputes, resulting in 55 panel, arbitration and appeal proceedings ongoing during each month on average.

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 efforts by some delegations to bring 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, as 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.

Work on the implementation of the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement advanced. Many Members concluded their domestic ratification processes, raising the total number of acceptances to about 89% of the entire WTO membership.

Many new measures affecting trade in services were introduced by WTO Members and Observers during the review period. While most of these were trade-facilitating, a significant number appeared to be trade-restrictive, in particular measures affecting communication and network-enabled services, as well as policies pertaining to the review of foreign investment in certain areas considered strategic or linked to national security.

The Report also draws attention to developments in Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), including the strengthening link between intellectual property (IP) and trade, and the development and diversification of national policies to streamline IP into the economy. 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.

Following MC11, work continued throughout 2019 to advance negotiations, particularly on fisheries subsidies, building on the decision taken by Members in Buenos Aires. Groups of Members also continued to pursue their discussions on other issues, including electronic commerce, investment facilitation, women's economic empowerment,

domestic regulation in services, and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) .

1 INTRODUCTION

- 0.1. 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 8 July 2019.³
- 0.2. This Report covers the period from 16 October 2018 to 15 October 2019, unless otherwise indicated.⁴ The Report is issued under the sole responsibility of the Director-General and is intended to be purely factual. 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.
- 0.3. 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 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 Reports, and to continue to support and cooperate with the WTO Secretariat in a constructive fashion.⁵
- 0.4. 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 review period.⁶ Measures implemented outside this period are not included in the Annexes. 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.⁷ Specific developments related to SPS measures and TBT are covered separately in Section 3.
- 0.5. 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.⁸ 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 79 Members⁹ (see Box below), which represents 48% of the membership, and covers around 92% of world imports.¹⁰ Three Observers also replied to the request for information. Overall, 99 Members were covered in the Secretariat's requests 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.¹¹ Where it has not been possible to confirm the information, this is noted in the Annexes.
- 0.6. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) contributed a topical box to this Report on an assessment framework on countries' external balances. The International Trade Centre (ITC) provided a box on international standards and access to global markets.

Participation in the preparation of this Report

Afghanistan	Guyana	Panama
Albania	Hong Kong, China	Philippines
Angola	India	Russian Federation
Argentina	Indonesia	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Australia	Iraq*	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of
Azerbaijan*	Japan	Serbia*
Bangladesh	Jordan	Seychelles
Brazil	Kazakhstan	Singapore
Canada	Kenya	South Africa
Chile	Korea, Republic of	Sri Lanka
China	Macao, China	Switzerland
Colombia	Mauritius	Chinese Taipei
Costa Rica	Mexico	Tajikistan
Cuba	Montenegro	Thailand
Dominican Republic	Morocco	Turkey
Egypt	Nepal	Ukraine
El Salvador	New Zealand	United States of America
European Union	Norway	Viet Nam

* Observer

WTO Members and Observers participating in the WTO trade monitoring exercise



Source: WTO Secretariat.

1 RECENT ECONOMIC AND TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

1.1 Overview

1.1. World trade growth stalled during the review period, as elevated trade tensions continued to weigh on the global economy. Year-on-year growth in the volume of world merchandise trade fell to 0.6% in the first half of 2019, down from 2.4% in the second half of 2018. The slowdown was broad-based, affecting countries at all levels of development and in all geographic regions to varying degrees. Leading economic indicators suggest that weak trade growth is likely to persist into the second half of 2019.

1.2. Economic growth also slowed in major economies in the first half of 2019, partly due to persistent trade tensions and partly as a result of cyclical and structural factors, including the changing stance of monetary policy in developed countries and continued Brexit-related uncertainty in Europe. Overall, risks to the economic outlook remain firmly tilted to the downside.

1.3. In contrast to the weak but still positive growth of merchandise trade in volume terms, world merchandise exports in value (i.e. USD) terms declined in the first half of 2019, falling 2.8% year-on-year after rising 6.4% in the second half of 2018. The decline is partly explained by falling commodity prices and the appreciation of the US dollar, both of which tend to reduce the measured value of traded goods priced in US dollars.

1.4. Commercial services trade in value terms also grew more slowly in the first half of 2019 but avoided a decline. Year-on-year growth in the US dollar value of commercial services exports fell from 3.9% on average in the second half of 2018 to 0.8% in the first half of 2019. The slowdown was stronger in Q1, when growth dropped to 0.1% before picking up to 1.5% in Q2. The stronger slowdown in Q1 was partly due to weakness in transport and travel services, exports of which were down 1.4% and 0.4%, respectively.

1.5. There are no quarterly statistics for gross domestic product (GDP) at the world level, but OECD estimates of G20 economies provide a reasonable approximation. These countries saw year-on-year growth in real GDP at purchasing power parity slow from an average rate of 3.4% in the second half of 2018 to 3.0% in the first half of 2019. As with trade, the slowdown touched all major economies, including the European Union, the United States, Japan, and China, to varying degrees. The slowdown in trade was more pronounced than the reduction in economic activity. This may be partly explained by rising trade policy uncertainty, as well as the fact that slowing growth in Europe tends to have a greater impact on world trade than on world output, due to the region's larger share in the former (37% of merchandise imports) than in the latter (23% of world GDP).

1.6. In response to worsening economic data, central banks of major economies continued to ease monetary policy in the first half of 2019, while countries in a position to do so adopted more expansionary fiscal policies. Stimulus measures have yet to translate into strong economic growth in developed economies, but the pace of expansion has picked up slightly in some developing economies. In the United States, GDP growth slowed from an annualized quarterly rate of 3.1% in Q1 to 2.0% in Q2. Growth in the European Union also eased from 2.0% in Q1 to 0.7% in Q2. In contrast, China's rate of economic growth picked up slightly to around 6.6% in Q2, after falling to 5.7% in Q1. Growth in Brazil and South Africa was also slightly stronger in Q2 than in Q1.

1.7. The worse-than-expected performance of trade in the first half of 2019 prompted WTO economists to issue, on 1 October 2019, a downward revision to their trade forecasts for 2019 and 2020. The Secretariat now expects the volume of world merchandise trade to increase by 1.2% in 2019, with GDP growth of 2.3% at market exchange rates. This would represent the slowest rate of trade expansion since the financial crisis of 2008-09. In 2020, trade volume growth should rebound to 2.7%, with GDP growth holding steady at 2.3%, but such a recovery would depend on an easing of trade tensions.

1.8. Some of the risk factors highlighted in the previous Trade Monitoring Report materialized during the review period, including escalating trade tensions and unresolved Brexit negotiations. These will continue to weigh negatively on the trade outlook until they are resolved. A sharper slowdown in economic growth in one or more economies could also lead to more negative outcomes for trade. On a more positive note, unemployment remains low in developed countries, and consumer spending has been resilient.

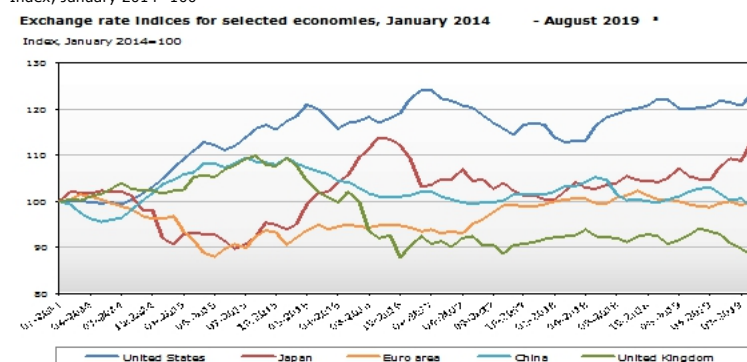
1.9. On 11 October 2019, the United States and China announced a limited trade deal that would see the United States refrain from further raising tariffs on Chinese goods and China purchase more US agricultural products. This truce could signal the beginning of a relaxation of trade tensions. If so, it would provide some limited upside potential to the WTO's trade forecast. However, as long as a durable solution to the trade conflict remains out of reach, world trade growth is unlikely to regain its earlier dynamism.

1.2 Economic Developments

1.10. Several factors contributed to the slower pace of global economic growth in the first half of 2019. Manufacturing activity declined in leading economies, particularly in the automobile sector where producers faced subdued consumer demand and adjustment costs associated with stricter emissions standards. Uncertainty over trade and economic policy discouraged and curbed investment spending and reduced imports of intermediate goods used in the manufacture of goods for export. Lower primary commodity prices also lowered revenues of natural resource exporters.

Chart 2.1 Exchange rate indices for selected economies, January 2014–August 2019^a

Index, January 2014=100



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

Source: Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

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

Source: Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

1.11. Commodity prices and exchange rates strongly influence nominal trade statistics, which are usually priced in US dollars. Recent exchange rate developments are illustrated in Chart 2.1, which shows indices of nominal effective exchange rates for selected economies through August 2019. The US dollar was up 4.5% for the year-to-date through August compared to a broad basket of currencies. However, the monthly rate of appreciation slowed during the year, as the Federal Reserve halted monetary tightening and cut interest rates for the first time since 2008. The Japanese yen appreciated strongly between April and August, as rising global economic uncertainty bid up the price of safe-haven assets. The yen was up 4.2% for the year-to-date and 6.9% year-on-year in August. Currencies of other major economies were down year-on-year in August, including the Chinese yuan (-1.2%), the euro (-1.3%), the pound Sterling (-3.1%), the Turkish lira (-34.1%) and the Brazilian real (-38.1%).

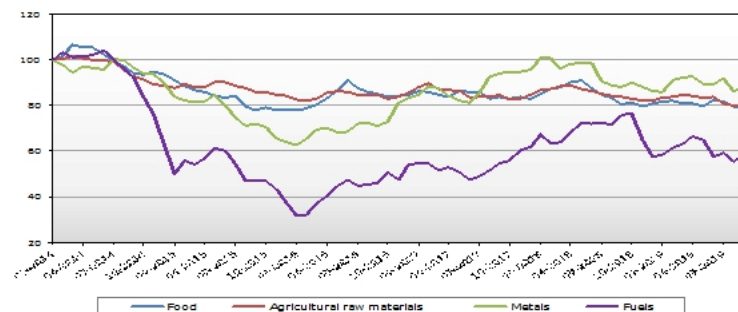
1.12. Chart 2.2 shows recent developments in primary commodity prices. Fuel prices were down 23% year-on-year in September, with substantial volatility over the course of the year. The price of fuel tumbled 25% between October and December 2018, then increased by 14% through April 2019, before dropping another 16% through September 2019. Fluctuations partly reflected changing economic expectations, as trade tensions rose and fell throughout the year. Other commodities recorded smaller year-on-year price declines through August, including food (-1.7%), agricultural raw materials (-4.4%) and metals (-0.2%).

Chart 2.2 Prices of primary commodities, January 2014–September 2019

Indices, January 2014=100

Prices of primary commodities, January 2014 – September 2019

Indices, January 2014=100



Source: World Bank Commodity Price Data.

Source: World Bank Commodity Price Data.

1.3 Merchandise Trade

1.13. Chart 2.3 shows growth in the US dollar value of world merchandise trade (red lines), as well as contributions to trade growth from developed and developing economies (stacked bars). World exports fell in the first half of 2019, with declines of 2.4% in the first quarter and 3.2% in the second. The declines as measured by imports were 2.6% in Q1 and 2.9% in Q2, with discrepancies due to differences in recording trade transactions. The contraction was broad-based, affecting developed and developing economies alike. Developed countries were responsible for slightly more than half of the decline in Q2, on both the export side (1.8 percentage points out of 3.2, or 56%) and the import side (1.6 percentage points out of 2.9, or 55%).

1.14. Chart 2.4 illustrates quarterly merchandise trade volumes by selected exporters and importers. The data show mixed results for major traders in the first half of the year. Imports of Developing Asia (which includes China) registered a decline of 0.9% in Q1, followed by an increase of 1.8% in Q2. The United States recorded consecutive quarters of falling imports, -1.7% in Q1 and -0.4% in Q2. Extra-EU imports rose 0.5% in the first quarter before declining by 1.4% in the second. Export volume growth was flat for most countries, except for Brazil, which recorded relatively steep declines of 2.9% in Q1 and 2.8% in Q2.

1.15. Monthly merchandise trade statistics in current US dollar terms are more timely than quarterly statistics in volume terms. These are shown in Chart 2.5 for selected economies through July, depending on data availability. Trade flows in the United States were little changed in the latest month compared to the same month in 2018 (-1% for exports, +1% for imports). The same was true for EU-extra (+1% for both exports and imports) and Japan (+1% for exports, +2% for imports). On the other hand, developing economies in Asia recorded strong fluctuations, including imports of China (-5%) and exports of the Republic of Korea (-12%). A major exception was Viet Nam, which saw strong year-on-year growth in both exports and imports through July (+11% and +8%, respectively). These figures should be interpreted with caution, as they may be strongly influenced by prices and exchange rates.

Chart 2.3 Contributions to year-on-year growth in world merchandise exports and imports, 2015Q1-2019Q2

(Percentage change in USD values)



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

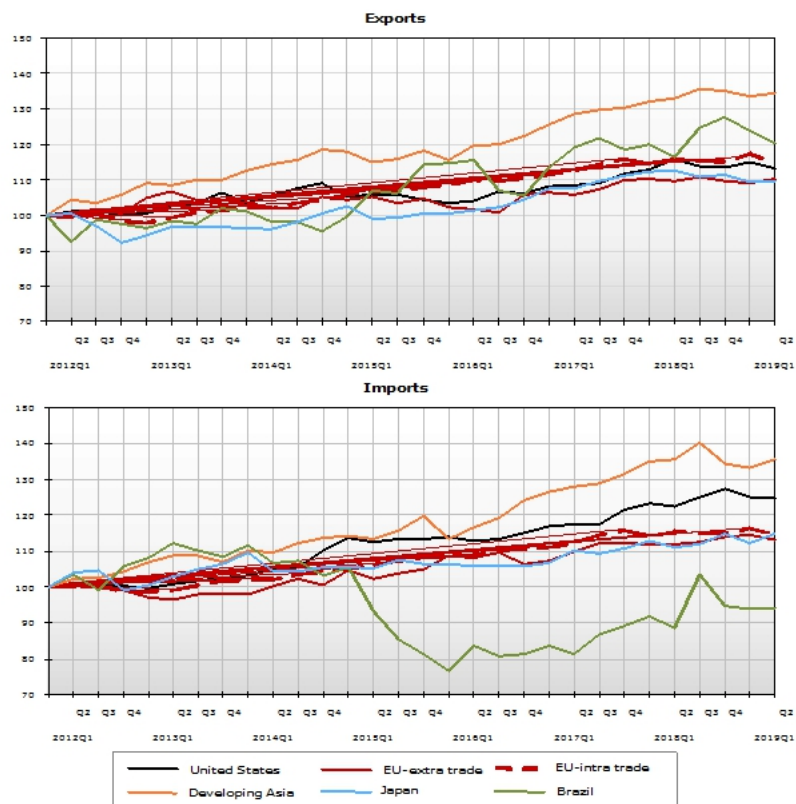
Note: Due to scarce data availability, Africa and Middle East are under-represented in world totals.

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

Chart 2.4 Volume of exports and imports of selected economies, 2012Q1-2019Q2

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

Volume of exports and imports of selected economies, 2012Q1 - 2019Q2
(Seasonally adjusted volume indices, 2012Q1 = 100)



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

Source: WTO Secretariat / UNCTAD.

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

Source: WTO Secretariat / UNCTAD.

Chart 2.5 Merchandise exports and imports of selected economies, January 2014-July 2019

(USD billion)
image

WTO_ECO.5 (continued)



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

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

1.4 Trade in Commercial Services

1.16. Recent trends in services trade are shown in Chart 2.6 for selected countries from 2018Q2 to 2019Q2. Year-on-year growth in the US dollar value of commercial services imports was down in most countries in Q2. A major exception was imports of the United States, where year-on-year growth accelerated to 5.7% in the latest period, from 4.0% in the previous quarter. In contrast, extra-EU imports declined by 3% in Q2, after increasing by 4.3% in Q1. Services imports of China also declined, with year-on-year growth of -7.1% in Q2, down from +8.5% in Q1. Import growth remained positive in India in Q2 at 4.1%, but was down sharply from 11.9% in Q1.

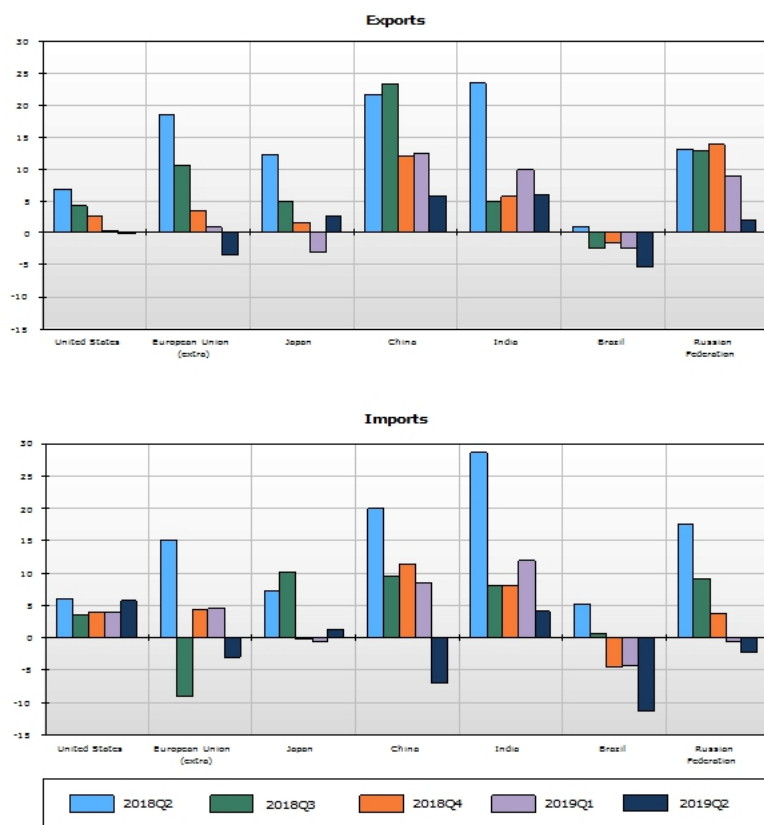
1.17. Services exports of the United States slowed to a crawl in 2019, with nearly zero growth in the first half. Meanwhile, extra-EU exports declined by 3.4% in Q2 and those of Brazil fell 5.3%. The nominal effective exchange rate of the US dollar rose only slightly between Q1 and Q2 (0.8%), which suggests that these changes mostly represent real rather than nominal fluctuations.

Chart 2.6 Commercial services exports and imports of selected economies, 2018Q2-2019Q2

(Year-on-year % change in current USD values)

Commercial services exports and imports of selected economies, 2018Q2 - 2019Q2

(Year-on-year % change in current US\$ values)



Source: WTO and UNCTAD Secretariats.

Source: WTO and UNCTAD Secretariats.

1.5 Trade Forecast and Economic Outlook

1.18. In October, the Secretariat issued a sharp downward revision to its trade forecasts for 2019 and 2020. The volume of world merchandise trade is now expected to increase by 1.2% in 2019, substantially less than the previous estimate of 2.6% from last April. The projected increase for 2020 has also been revised slightly downwards, to 2.7% from 3.0% previously. Exports of developed countries are expected to slow more than those of developing economies in 2019, while the opposite should be the case on the import side (Table 2.1).

1.19. Due to the inherent uncertainty of trade forecasts during an ongoing trade war, the estimate for 2019 is placed within a range of likely values, from 0.5% to 1.6%. The estimate for 2020 should fall within a wider range, from 1.7% and 3.7%. Several factors will play a role in these estimates, including the increase or decrease of trade tensions, cyclical and structural developments, the direction of monetary policies, and Brexit-related uncertainty. In addition, economic uncertainty will continue to impact business confidence negatively, with a knock-on effect on investment.

1.20. Monthly economic indicators provide some worrying clues about the near-term trajectory of world trade. An index of new export orders, compiled by IHS-Market and JPMorgan as part of their Global Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), declined from its recent peak of 54.0 in January 2018 to 47.4 in August 2019, before rebounding slightly to 48.0 in September. Values below 50 signal contraction, which suggests that trade growth is likely to remain weak into the second half of 2019.

1.21. A separate index of economic uncertainty based on the frequency of certain keywords in press accounts reached 350.8 in August, the highest level ever recorded, before receding to 323.2 in September. This is still extremely high compared to the baseline value of 100, which denotes the "average" level of uncertainty between 1997 and 2015. To the extent that economic uncertainty deters investment, it can have a disproportionately negative effect on trade, since capital goods that make up investments tend to have high import content.

1.22. Air freight is another indicator that tends to be leading with respect to world trade. An index of International Freight Tonne Kilometres (FTKs) from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) was down 4.6% year-on-year in August, which suggests continued weakness in global import demand. These indicators and others are included in the WTO's new Trade Barometers, which continue to point to weak global trade growth.

Table 2.1 Merchandise trade volume and real GDP growth, 2015-20

(Annual % change)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 ^a	2020 ^a
Volume of world merchandise trade^b	2.3	1.7	4.6	3.0	1.2	2.7
Exports						
Developed economies	2.4	1.0	3.6	2.1	0.4	2.2
Developing economies ^c	1.7	2.3	5.6	3.5	2.1	3.4
North America	1.1	0.3	4.2	4.3	1.5	3.6
South and Central America and the Caribbean	-0.4	0.7	3.0	0.6	1.3	0.7
Europe	2.9	1.2	3.7	1.6	0.6	1.7
Asia	1.4	2.3	6.8	3.8	1.8	3.8
Other	3.2	2.9	1.6	2.7	0.9	2.5
Imports						
Developed economies	4.2	2.0	3.3	2.5	1.6	1.2
Developing economies	0.6	1.3	6.8	4.1	1.1	4.3

economies ^c							
America	North	5.4	0.1	4.0	5.0	2.9	2.1
Central America and the Caribbean	South and	-8.4	-8.8	4.6	5.2	-0.7	4.5
	Europe	3.5	3.1	2.9	1.1	0.4	0.9
	Asia	3.9	3.6	8.3	5.0	1.3	3.9
	Other	-4.3	-1.9	2.5	0.5	2.6	4.3
regions ^d							
Real GDP at market exchange rates		2.8	2.4	3.0	2.8	2.3	2.3
economies	Developed	2.3	1.6	2.3	2.2	1.7	1.4
economies ^c	Developing	3.7	3.8	4.3	4.1	3.4	3.8
America	North	2.7	1.6	2.3	2.7	2.2	1.9
Central America and the Caribbean	South and	-0.8	-2.0	0.7	0.6	0.1	2.4
	Europe	2.4	2.0	2.7	2.0	1.3	1.2
	Asia	4.3	4.2	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.5
	Other	1.2	2.4	2.0	2.2	1.7	2.4
regions ^d							

a Figures for 2019 and 2020 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.

Box 2.1 The WTO Goods and Services Trade Barometers

The WTO recently revamped its World Trade Outlook Indicator (WTOI) and supplemented it with a new companion index to track world services trade. Like the WTOI, the Goods Trade Barometer is a composite leading indicator that combines information on several variables that are leading with respect to world merchandise trade into a single composite index. The Services Trade Barometer adopts a similar approach, combining information on variables related to services, to identify turning points and changing patterns in world services trade. Both indices are designed to provide "real time" information on the trajectory of world trade, relative to recent trends. They are not intended as a short-term forecast, although they do provide indications of the direction of trade in the near future. Readings of 100 indicate growth in line with medium-term trends; readings greater than 100 suggest above-trend growth; and values below 100 indicate the opposite.

The Goods Trade Barometer (released on 15 August 2019) includes the following component indices:

- an index of New Export Orders derived from Purchasing Managers' Indices (PMIs);
- automobile production and sales in major economies;
- container throughput of major ports in 20 food equivalent units (TEU);
- an Air Freight index from IATA;
- customs data on trade in semiconductors, in physical units; and
- customs data on agricultural raw materials trade, in physical units.

The Services Trade Barometer (released on 16 September 2019) includes the following components:

- a global services activity index derived from PMIs;
- an index of global financial transaction messages from SWIFT;
- data on ICT services from national sources;
- a passenger air travel index from IATA;
- container throughput of international ports in 20 food equivalent units (TEU); and
- an index of construction activity, based on national statistics of major economies.

Both Barometers show world trade below trend at the moment, although the Goods Trade Barometer reading of 95.7 is more negative than the Services Trade Barometer's preliminary value of 98.4. Despite the overall loss of trade momentum since the start of 2019, services trade has generally held up better than goods trade, since the latter is more directly affected by recent trade tensions. These results foreshadowed the recent downgrade to the WTO's trade forecast, issued on 1 October 2019, which revised the Secretariat's estimate for world merchandise trade volume growth in 2019 down to 1.2% from 2.6% previously. Like its predecessor, the Goods Trade Barometer will be issued on a quarterly basis, while the Services Trade Barometer will be updated two times a year.

Goods trade barometer

Index value, June 2019



Services Trade Barometer

Index value, June 2019



Source: WTO Secretariat.

1.1. The below Box 2.2 provides an assessment framework on countries' external balances.

Box 2.2 An External Balance Assessment Framework

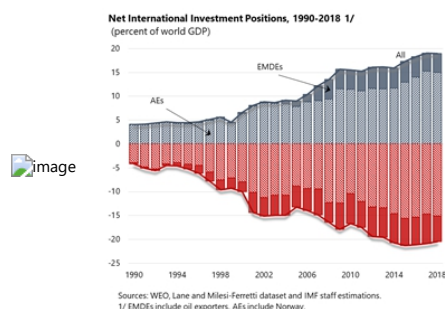
Countries may run current account surpluses and deficits, depending on their fundamentals and cyclical circumstances. The key challenge is to distinguish between imbalances that are desirable from an individual country and global perspective, and imbalances that are excessive^a and can point to macroeconomic and financial stress. Hence, a proper understanding of countries' external positions – current accounts, stock positions, and currencies – is required to highlight policymakers' shared responsibility to tackle external imbalances before they become too risky, with global repercussions that could affect both creditors and debtors alike.

The assessment of external positions and exchange rates is a key mandate of the IMF. External sector assessments rely on the External Balance Assessment (EBA) framework, launched in 2012 with new current account and real effective exchange rate econometric models.^b EBA models cannot capture all relevant country characteristics and potential policy distortions. Therefore, the IMF's external sector assessments are complemented by country-specific knowledge and insights. Internal review processes support the application of country-specific judgement in an objective, rigorous and even-handed manner. The annual External Sector Report (ESR)^c discusses the risks from the configuration of global excess imbalances for the 30 largest systemic economies, as well as policies to address them in a manner that is supportive of global growth. The EBA-Lite methodology provides an expanded external assessment framework for lower-income economies and those not covered by the EBA.

The IMF's 2019 External Sector Report, discussed by the IMF's Executive Board in July, studies the evolution of external positions since the global financial crisis, and documents that overall current account surpluses and deficits fell sharply from a historical peak of about 6% of global GDP in 2007 to about 3.5% in 2013. Since then, global current account imbalances declined at a slower pace, to 3% of world GDP in 2018, while remaining high by historical standards. Following the trend of recent years, these external imbalances continued to rotate towards advanced economies and away from emerging economies (see Figure A). Despite the narrowing of current account – or flow – imbalances, global stock imbalances – defined as the sum of countries' net creditor and debtor positions – continued to increase because, for the most part, creditor countries continued to run surpluses, while debtor countries continued to run deficits. At 40% of world GDP, stock imbalances have reached a historical peak and are about four times larger than in the early 1990s.

In the 2019 External Sector Report, about 35%-45% of overall current account surpluses and deficits were deemed excessive in 2018, marginally down from 40%-50% in 2017. Excessive surpluses remained concentrated in northern Europe and advanced Asia (Germany, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands and Singapore), while excessive deficits remained concentrated in north America (Canada and the United States), the United Kingdom, and some emerging market economies (Argentina, and Indonesia). China's external position was assessed to be in line with fundamentals, but a lasting external rebalancing will need a continued recalibration of macroeconomic and structural policies.

Figure A: Global current account imbalances and net investment positions



Note: AEs = advanced economies; EMEs = emerging market and developing economies.

Risks from the current configuration of external imbalances are generally contained, at least in the near term, as current account deficits, and debtor positions are largely concentrated in advanced economies that issue reserve currencies. However, an intensification of trade tensions or a disorderly Brexit outcome could further increase global risk aversion and affect economies that are highly dependent on foreign demand and external financing. Over the medium term, further increases in the external debt of key countries could trigger costly disruptive adjustments that could spill over to the rest of the world, as was the case during the global financial crisis.

Well-calibrated macroeconomic and structural policies are needed to achieve domestic and external objectives. Countries with excess deficits should adopt growth-friendly fiscal consolidation, while those with excess surpluses should use available fiscal space to boost public infrastructure investment and potential growth. Carefully tailored and sequenced structural policies could play a more prominent role in addressing external imbalances, while boosting domestic potential growth. Reforms that encourage investment and discourage excessive saving – through the removal of entry barriers and stronger social safety nets, respectively – would benefit excess surplus countries; whereas reforms that improve productivity and workers' skill base could boost exports in countries with excess deficits.

Protectionist policies, including in the form of bilateral tariffs, should be avoided. Recent trade tensions are already having a negative impact on business sentiment, investment, growth and trade, but with limited impact on external imbalances. Instead, surplus and deficit countries alike should work towards reviving liberalization efforts and strengthening the rules-based multilateral trading system. The 2019 External Sector Report analytical chapter highlights that exchange rate flexibility remains essential to facilitate external adjustment over the medium term. However, some important features of international trade – namely, integration into global value chains and trade invoicing in US dollars – can limit the benefits of exchange rate flexibility in the short term, and may need to be complemented by additional demand and supply-side policies.

- a Desirable policies correspond to normative benchmarks, capturing the appropriate levels of each policy variable in the model (e.g. fiscal policy, intervention, public health spending, credit gap, and capital account openness). The appropriate levels are determined by the IMF country teams, who have specific knowledge of each economy. Desirable imbalances would be those warranted by fundamentals (e.g. demographics, or institutional quality) and by desirable policies, while excess imbalances would be the rest. More details on methodology available at: <https://www.imf.org/~media/Files/Publications/WP/2019/WPTEA2019065.ashx>.
- b Although IMF staff have conducted external assessments since the IMF's inception, it was not until the early 1990s that assessments became informed by a multilaterally-consistent, model-based framework. Initially, assessments were based on the framework of the Consultative Group on Exchange Rates (CGER), which mostly focused on exchange rates. The latest generation of EBA models are described in Cubeddu, L. et al., 2019, IMF Working Paper No. 19/65. Viewed at: The External Balance Assessment Methodology: 2018 Update.
- c IMF, 2019 External Sector Report: The Dynamics of External Adjustment. Viewed at: <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/ESR/Issues/2019/07/03/2019-external-sector-report>.

Source: Carolina Osorio-Buitron and Pau Rabanal from the IMF Research Department.

2 TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED POLICY ISSUES

2.1 Overview of Trends Identified during the Review Period

Introduction

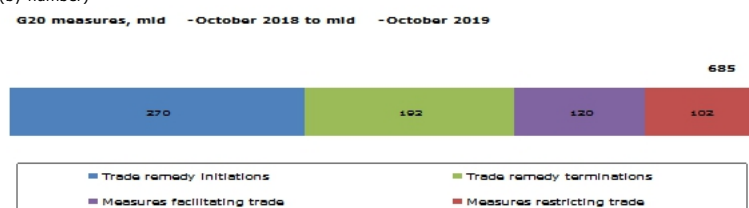
2.1. This Section seeks to provide analysis of selected trade and trade-related policy developments during the period from mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019. Several of the measures referred to were raised in various WTO Councils and Committees during that period. This is covered in more detail in Section 3.5.

2.2. During the review period, new trade restrictions and increasing trade tensions continued to add to the uncertainty surrounding international trade and the world economy. This Report builds on the findings of the July 2019 and November 2018 Trade Monitoring Reports¹², and provides further evidence that trade flows are being hit by new and additional trade restrictions at a historically high level.

2.3. A total of 685 trade measures were recorded for WTO Members and Observers during the review period (Chart 3.1).¹³ This figure includes measures facilitating trade, trade remedy measures and other trade and trade-related measures. Chart 3.2 below illustrates the trade coverage of the measures recorded during the review period. These measures are covered in detail below.

Chart 3.1 Overview of measures taken by WTO Members and Observers, mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019

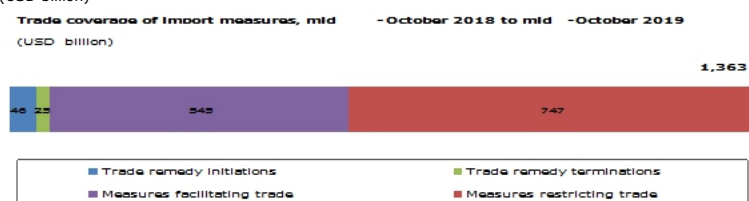
(by number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

Chart 3.2 Trade coverage of import measures, mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019

(USD billion)



Note: 2018 figures. ITA expansion measures are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Overview

2.4. The Sections below provide detailed information on the latest trends among WTO Members and Observers in trade policy-making and the implementation of trade-related measures. They also seek to present estimates of the stockpile of import-restrictive measures implemented since the beginning of the trade monitoring exercise in 2009 and still in place.

2.5. With the trade coverage of import-restrictive measures implemented during the review period estimated at USD 746.9 billion, the highest since 2012, this Report confirms that trade flows are being hit by new and additional trade restrictions. Additional measures have been announced for implementation after the current review period, and will be covered by the next Report.

2.6. The trade coverage of import-facilitating measures recorded for this period is the second highest since 2012. In addition, it is important to note the comprehensive liberalization which continues to take place as part of the ITA Expansion Agreement (Box 3.1).

2.7. Secretariat estimates of the stockpile of import restrictions implemented by WTO Members and Observers since 2009, and still in force, suggest that 7.5% of world imports are affected by these. In other words, at the end of 2018, USD 1.5 trillion out of a total USD 19.5 trillion of imports were affected by import restrictions put in place over the last decade and still in force. The trade coverage of import-restrictive measures implemented since 2009 and still in force by mid-October 2019 was estimated at USD 1.7 trillion¹⁴, indicating that the stockpile of import restrictions has continued to grow.

Measures Facilitating Trade

2.8. Annex 1 to this Report lists measures which are clearly trade-facilitating.

2.9. During the review period, 120 new measures aimed at facilitating trade were recorded for WTO Members and Observers (Table 3.1)¹⁵, including 47 of a temporary nature. This represent 18% of the total number of measures recorded.

Table 3.1 Measures facilitating trade (Annex 1)

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-Oct 18 (WT/TPR/OV/21)	Mid-Oct 18 to mid-Oct 19 (WT/TPR/OV/22)
Import	176	140	176	208	151	115	135	140	104
- Tariff	154	109	147	165	116	94	111	110	93
- Customs procedures	12	26	17	32	28	18	14	19	4
- Tax	2	4	2	6	4	3	7	8	6
- QRs	7	1	10	5	1	0	3	3	1
- Other	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Export	17	8	9	40	33	25	18	22	16
- Duties	7	3	3	18	5	1	6	5	10
- QRs	8	4	3	3	2	2	0	1	1
- Other	2	1	3	19	26	22	12	16	5
Other	6	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	0

Total	199	149	186	252	187	140	153	162	120
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>16.6</i>	<i>12.4</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>21.0</i>	<i>15.6</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>12.8</i>	<i>13.5</i>	<i>10.0</i>

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

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.10. Table 3.1 shows that, as for previous periods, the reduction or elimination of import tariffs continue to make up the overwhelming majority of trade-facilitating measures, followed by the reduction of taxes¹⁶ and the simplification of customs procedures.¹⁷

2.11. On the export side, reduction of export duties¹⁸ and simplification of customs procedures¹⁹ were recorded (Table 3.1) .

2.12. The trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures introduced during the review period was estimated at USD 544.7 billion (excluding ITA-related measures), i.e. 2.8% of the value of world merchandise imports (Chart 3.3) .²⁰ This share is the second highest trade coverage reported for this type of measures since October 2012 (Table 3.2) . The HS Chapters within which most of the import-facilitating measures were taken include: machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 13.4%, electrical machines and equipment (HS 85) 12.1%, copper and articles thereof (HS 74) 7.6%, and motor vehicles (HS 87), 7.4%.

Table 3.2 Share of trade covered by trade-facilitating measures

	Mid-Oct 13 to mid-Oct 14	Mid-Oct 14 to mid-Oct 15	Mid-Oct 15 to mid-Oct 16	Mid-Oct 16 to mid-Oct 17	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-Oct 18	Mid-Oct 18 to mid-Oct 19
Share in total world imports	6.4%	0.91%	1.51%	1.07%	1.68%	2.80%

Note: All data are based on data for the previous full calendar year. For example, data for mid-October 2013 to mid-October 2014 are based on data from calendar year 2013. For some countries, 2018 import data were not yet available. The data for the previous full calendar year were used for those countries.

Source: WTO Secretariat and UNSD Comtrade database.

Box 3.1 Trade coverage of the ITA Expansion Agreement

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

According to preliminary WTO Secretariat 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 705 billion, or around 3.6% of the value of world merchandise imports.^a These measures were implemented by Albania; Australia; Canada; China; the European Union; Hong Kong, China^b; Iceland^c; Israel; Japan^b; Korea, Republic of; Macao, China^a; Malaysia; Mauritius; Montenegro; New Zealand; Norway^b; Philippines; Singapore^b; Switzerland^c; 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 estimating the trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures in Section 3.1, as it would make any comparison with previous Reports difficult.

a Calculated at the HS six-digit level and using 2018 import figures.

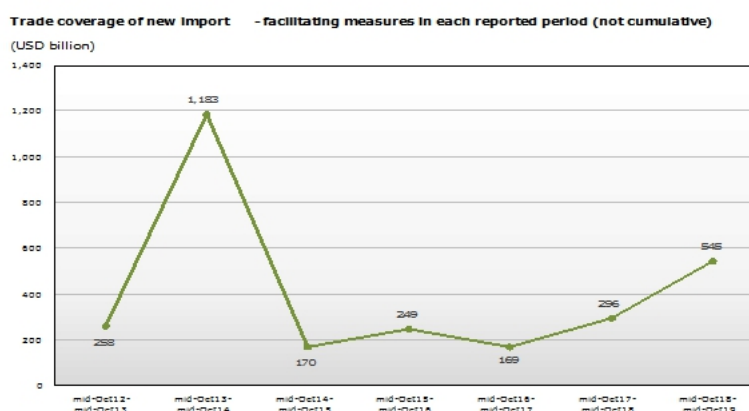
b All duty-free as of July 2016.

c All duty-free as of July 2017.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Chart 3.3 Trade coverage of new import-facilitating measures in each reporting period (not cumulative)

(USD billion)



Note: These figures are estimates and represent the trade coverage of the measures (i.e. annual imports of the products concerned from economies affected by the measures) introduced during each reporting period, and not the impact of the trade measures. Liberalization associated with the 2015 Expansion of the WTO's Information Technology Agreement is not included in the figures.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Trade Remedy Actions²¹

2.13. During the review period, 463 trade remedy actions were recorded for WTO Members, i.e. 68% of all trade measures recorded in this Report.²² Initiations of anti-dumping (AD) investigations continue to be the most frequent trade remedy action, accounting for around four fifths of all initiations during the review period (Table 3.3) . In the area of Safeguards, the review period saw a significant increase in activity.

Table 3.3 Trade remedy actions (Annex 2)

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	January to June 2019 (6 months)	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-Oct 18 (WT/TPR/OV/21)	Mid-Oct 18 to mid-Oct 19 (WT/TPR/OV/22)
Initiations	255	338	304	277	343	298	273	125	296	270
- AD	208	287	236	229	298	249	202	100	229	212
- CVD	23	33	45	31	34	41	55	15	53	32
- SG	24	18	23	17	11	8	16	10	14	26
<i>Average per</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>22.8</i>	<i>20.8</i>	<i>24.7</i>	<i>22.5</i>

month										
Terminations	208	186	221	212	172	157	221	103	212	193
- AD	177	160	186	167	142	128	197	84	182	172
- CVD	21	17	23	25	15	12	24	8	26	12
- SG ^a	10	9	12	20	15	17	0	11	4	9
Average per month	17.3	15.5	18.4	17.7	14.3	13.1	18.4	17.2	17.7	16.1

a The 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. The figures are normally taken as of October of each year. For this Report, it is taken as of end of September.

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

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.14. Trade remedy actions taken during the review period covered a wide range of products, including initiations of investigations on furniture (HS 94) 24.7%, iron and steel (HS 72) 14%, articles of iron and steel (HS 73) 12.1%, and machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 4.9%. The trade coverage of all trade remedy investigations initiated during the review period was estimated at USD 46.23 billion (0.24% of world merchandise imports) . For terminations, the trade coverage was estimated at USD 24.8 billion (Table 3.4) .

Table 3.4 Share of trade covered by trade remedy initiations

	Mid-Oct 13 to mid- Oct 14	Mid-Oct 14 to mid- Oct 15	Mid- Oct 15 to mid- Oct 16	Mid- Oct 16 to mid- Oct 17	Mid- Oct 17 to mid- Oct 18	Mid- Oct 18 to mid- Oct 19
Share in total world imports	0.20%	0.17%	0.55%	0.48%	0.53%	0.24%

Note: All data are based on data for the previous full calendar year. For example, data for mid-October 2013 to mid-October 2014 are based on data from calendar year 2013. For some countries, 2018 import data were not yet available. The data for the previous full calendar year were used for those counties.

Source: WTO Secretariat and UNSD Comtrade database.

Other Trade and Trade-related Measures

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

1.3. A total of 102 new trade-restrictive measures were recorded for WTO Members and Observers collectively. Tariff increases account for more than half of all import-restrictive measures recorded, followed by bans²³, other²⁴, stricter customs procedures²⁵, and taxes.²⁶ On the export side, duties²⁷, customs procedures²⁸, and quantitative restrictions²⁹ were recorded (Table 3.5) .

Table 3.5 Other trade and trade-related measures (Annex 3)

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-Oct 18 (WT/TPR/OV/21)	Mid-Oct 18 to mid-Oct 19 (WT/TPR/OV/22)
Import	129	139	130	172	105	89	108	118	81
- Tariff	76	87	81	113	70	51	63	79	47
- Customs procedures	31	28	18	31	16	18	6	5	7
- Tax	6	5	8	10	6	10	13	13	6
- QRs	14	17	8	12	12	8	17	17	12
- Other	2	2	15	6	1	2	9	4	9
Export	22	31	25	45	20	19	18	17	19
- Duties	3	5	11	13	6	5	9	7	6
- QRs	12	10	8	7	10	8	4	5	4
- Other	7	16	6	25	4	6	5	5	5
Other	13	7	12	15	13	14	1	2	2
- Other ^a	8	1	1	0	4	2	1	1	1
- Local content	5	6	11	15	9	12	0	1	1
Total	164	177	167	232	138	122	127	137	102
Average per month	13.7	14.8	13.9	19.3	11.5	10.2	10.6	11.4	8.5

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.

2.15. The trade coverage of the trade-restrictive measures affecting imports implemented during the review period was estimated at USD 746.9 billion, i.e. 3.84% of the value of world merchandise imports (Table 3.6) .³⁰ This is the highest trade coverage recorded since October 2012 (Chart 3.4) and represents an increase of 27% compared to the figure recorded in the previous annual overview (USD 588.3 billion) .

2.16. The measures recorded in Annex 3 cover a wide range of products. The main sectors affected (HS Chapters) were mineral and fuels oils (HS 27) 17.7%, machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 13%, electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS 85) 11.7%, and precious metals (HS 71) 6%.

Table 3.6 Share of trade covered by import-restrictive measures (Annex 3)

	Mid-Oct 13 to mid- Oct 14	Mid-Oct 14 to mid- Oct 15	Mid-Oct 15 to mid- Oct 16	Mid-Oct 16 to mid- Oct 17	Mid-Oct 17 to mid- Oct 18	Mid-Oct 18 to mid- Oct 19
Share in total world imports	1.17%	1.23%	0.62%	0.50%	3.33%	3.84%

Note: All data are based on data for the previous full calendar year. For example, data for mid-October 2013 to mid-October 2014 are based on data from calendar year 2013. For some countries, 2018 import data were not yet available. The data for the previous full calendar year were used for those counties.

Source: WTO Secretariat and UNSD Comtrade database.

Chart 3.4 Trade coverage of new import-restrictive measures in each reporting period (not cumulative)

(USD billion)
image

Note: These figures are estimates and represent the trade coverage of the measures (i.e. annual imports of the products concerned from economies affected by the measures) introduced during each reporting period, and not the impact of the trade measures.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

The Stockpile of Import-Restrictive Measures

2.17. Following a decade of the trade monitoring exercise, the Secretariat has attempted to quantify the cumulative figures for the trade coverage of import-restrictive measures in place, year-by-year, since 2009 (the stockpile) .³¹ Calculating and providing accurate figures on the trade coverage of the stockpile of import-restrictive measures in place depend on the availability of up-to-date information on when individual measures have been modified or terminated. Since 2009, WTO Members are periodically invited to update the information recorded for them individually in the Trade Monitoring Database (TMDB), in order to properly reflect the status of those trade restrictions which are no longer in force. Unfortunately, very few Members voluntarily update their records. For example, only three WTO Members submitted an update to the information recorded since 2009 in preparation for this Report.

2.18. Accurately estimating the roll-back of import-restrictive measures, and eventually the overall stockpile, is made more complex by the fact that most so-called temporary measures tend to remain in place far beyond the envisaged expiry date. As a result, the figures below are estimates based on the information recorded in the TMDB since 2009. These estimates are also conditioned by the availability of termination dates of the import-restrictive measures and of the HS codes of products covered.³²

2.19. Table 3.7 shows that the stockpile of import restrictions by WTO Members and Observers in force has been growing steadily since 2009 – in value terms and as a percentage of world imports – and that a significant increase in both took place from 2017 to 2018. This specific jump is largely explained by measures introduced on steel and aluminium, and by tariff increases introduced as part of bilateral trade tensions (but excluding those that have been terminated) . It is estimated that, at the end of 2018, some 7.5% of world imports were affected by import restrictions implemented by WTO Members since 2009 and still in force (Chart 3.5) . In US dollars, this is the equivalent of more than USD 1.5 trillion out of a total USD 19.5 trillion of world total imports. Table 3.7 also shows that the trade coverage for WTO Members and Observers terminations of import restrictions represents 0.03% of total imports, suggesting that a roll-back of such measures is minimal.

Table 3.7 Cumulative trade coverage of import-restrictive measures since 2009

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total imports (world)	12,486	15,163	18,109	18,193	18,483	18,654	16,360	15,812	17,500	19,476
Total import restrictions in force	73.07	125.75	234.42	305.91	407.26	467.39	598.43	570.24	814.45	1,462.60
Share in world imports (%)	0.59	0.83	1.29	1.68	2.20	2.51	3.66	3.61	4.65	7.51
Total import restrictions terminated		1.68	15.43	59.41	37.15	34.05	1.51	38.09	3.88	6.36
Share in world imports (%)		0.01	0.09	0.33	0.20	0.18	0.01	0.24	0.02	0.03

Source: WTO calculations, based on UNSD Comtrade database.

Chart 3.5 Cumulative trade coverage of import-restrictive measures in force, since 2009

(USD billion and % of world merchandise imports)



Note: The cumulative trade coverage estimated by the Secretariat is based on information available in the TMDB on import measures recorded since 2009 and considered to have a trade-restrictive effect. The estimates include import measures for which HS codes were available. The figures do not include trade remedy measures. The import values were sourced by the UNSD Comtrade database.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.20. The below Box 3.2 provides a non-exhaustive overview of the economic effects of the US-China trade tensions.

Box 3.2 Economic Effects of the US-China Trade Conflict – Insights from Literature

Since the imposition by the United States of the first additional tariffs on imports from China under Section 301 of the 1974 Trade Act in the first half of 2018, substantial economic literature on the possible economic effects of the US-China trade conflict has emerged. This literature can be divided into studies which infer these effects from actual changes in trade volumes and prices (*ex post* studies) and studies which use models to project the expected impact of the measures (*ex ante* studies) .

Since the start of this trade conflict, the two countries have raised tariffs substantially on each other's exports. The United States raised its average tariffs on Chinese imports from 3.1% to 21%, while China raised its average tariffs on US imports from 8% to 21.8% (Bown, 2019) . Further increases in tariffs are scheduled for the end of 2019.

Some of the *ex ante* studies include simulations with macroeconomic business cycle models, and others, simulations based on quantitative trade models. Table A provides an overview of nine studies, which differ in terms of: (i) the size of the tariff shocks (depending on when the study was conducted and whether rising trade costs in services were also considered); (ii) the time horizon (medium-run or long-run); and (iii) the variant of the model employed and the inclusion of additional channels (through changes in investment, productivity, and uncertainty) . Table A also includes the results of the simulations with the WTO Global Trade Model.

All of the *ex ante* studies aim to isolate the direct and/or indirect economic effects of the trade policies – none is trying to predict future trade or economic outcomes, which are likely affected by many more factors than trade policy changes. Such other factors can include changes in monetary and fiscal policy stances, other potential economic shocks such as energy price changes or even abnormal weather events. However, as discussed below, the *ex ante* model results are thus far supported by *ex post* analyses, providing some confidence that the estimated isolated effects are within reason.

The comparison of the studies leads to four main conclusions:

- the direct effect of the tariff increases on global GDP is projected to be around -0.2% in the long run. When additional productivity and uncertainty effects are taken into account, the estimated impact rises to between -0.3% and -0.5%;
- the estimated direct effect of the tariff increases on US GDP is relatively uniform across the different studies, ranging between -0.2% and -0.4% in the long run. Considering additional productivity and uncertainty effects, the projected impact rises to -1.2% to -1.6%;
- the estimated effect for China varies much more, with direct effects on Chinese GDP ranging between -0.3% and -1.4% in the long run. Considering additional productivity and uncertainty effects, the projected losses rise to between 1.7% and 2.5%; and
- the estimated direct effect of the tariff increases is positive for most third countries, indicating that the gains of import demand from the United States and China shifting to third countries (trade diversion effect) dominate the losses because of lower demand for intermediate inputs from China and the United States (value chain effect) . Taking into account the uncertainty and investment effects, the impact on third countries becomes negative in some of the studies. It is important to consider that a slowdown in global growth, whether related to the trade conflict or due to broader cyclical factors could have significant adverse effects on trade of third countries. Thus, while third countries are projected to see trade increase because of the conflict, the overall effects from various economic forces could be adverse.

The projected impacts of the tariff measures are relatively small in comparison to the projected GDP and trade losses of 2% and 17%, respectively, of a global trade war in Bekkers and Teh (2019), as reported in Box 2.2 of the July mid-year Trade Monitoring Report. This is because the conflict, so far, is contained within trade between the United States and China, whereas Bekkers and Teh (2019) model a trade war that would be global.

The *ex ante* studies can be compared with *ex post* analyses of changes in trade volumes and prices between the United States and China. US exports to China fell by about 7% in 2018, before diving by 19% in the first quarter of 2019. While Chinese exports to the United States still increased by 7% in 2018, mostly because of frontloading (raising imports just before tariffs are increased), they dropped by about 13% in the first quarter of 2019 (Constantinescu et al., 2019) . The reduction in bilateral trade between the United States and China is, so far, smaller than projected by the *ex ante* studies employing quantitative trade models (around 60%) . However, these models make projections for the long run, after value chains have been reorganized.

Ex post studies analysing changes in US-China trade so far come to similar conclusions (Amiti et al. (2019), Fajgelbaum et al.(2019) and Cavallo et al. (2019)) . These studies find that, in 2018, there was a complete pass-through of US tariffs to importer prices. In other words, additional tariffs paid by US importers led to proportional increases in importer prices. This means that, until early 2018, Chinese exporters did not reduce their prices to (fully or partially) offset the higher tariffs. As observed by Constantinescu et al. (2019), it is possible that Chinese export prices will fall in the future, given the fact that US demand for imports from China did not fall in 2018 in expectation of higher tariffs in 2019. Preliminary data analysed by Cavallo et al. (2019) indicate that, for most products, retailers absorbed the higher import prices in the form of lower profit margins.

Table A Comparison of studies on the effects of the US-China trade conflict

Study	% change real GDP rel. to baseline			Size shock	Variant	Type	Horizon
	China	United States	Global				
Ballistreri et al. (2018)	-0.34	-0.20	Section 232 (aluminum and steel) and Section 301 measures plus retaliation until January 2019		Standard	CGE	Medium-run
	-0.63	-0.34			Monopolistic competition		
Bellora and Fontagné (2019)	-0.39	-0.28	Section 232 (aluminum and steel) and Section 301 measures plus retaliation until January 2019. Tariff shocks aggregated with ref. weighting		Standard	CGE	Long-run (2030)
Caceres et al. (2019)	-0.4	-0.3	25% all goods trade US-China		Firm heterogeneity model	NQT	Medium-run
Felbermayr and Steininger (2019)	-0.25	-0.14	25% all goods trade US-China		Standard	NQT	Medium-run
Freund et al. (2018)	-2.5	-0.4	-0.3 25% all trade (including services) US-China		Standard	CGE	Long-run (2030)
	-3.5	-1.6	-1.7 Investment/GDP ratio falls by 0.5pp		With investment effects		
IMF (2019)	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2 All tariffs announced and implemented until August 2019 under Section 232 and Section 301 (plus response)		Standard	DSGE	Long-run
	-1.0	-0.6	-0.3		With confidence, market reaction and productivity effects		
Itakura (2019)	-1.4	-0.3	-0.2 Section 232 and Section 301 until June 2019 (including increase to 25% on 200 billion)		Standard	CGE	Long-run (2035)
	-1.7	-1.4	-0.3		With productivity effects		
Walmsley and Minor (2018)	-2.7	-1.3	25% all goods trade US-China. Aluminum and steel and cars (25%), Mexico and Canada exempted		Standard	CGE	Long-run (2030)
WTO Global Trade Model calculations	-0.34	-0.24	-0.13 All tariffs announced and implemented until August 2019 under Section 232 and Section 301 (plus response)		Firm heterogeneity	CGE	Long-run (2023)
	-0.43/-0.51	-1.15/-1.66	-0.34/-0.50		Including uncertainty effects		

Note: CGE=computable general equilibrium model. NQT=new quantitative trade model. DSGE=dynamic stochastic general equilibrium model. Models with a medium-run horizon are comparatively static, thus comparing an initial and counterfactual equilibrium. Long-run models take into account changes in investment.

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Source: WTO Secretariat based on various studies.

2.2 Trade Remedies³³

2.21. This analysis provides an assessment of trends in trade remedy actions in the periods from July 2016 to June 2017 ("first period"), July 2017 to June 2018 ("second period") and July 2018 to June 2019 ("third period") .³⁴ Concerning anti-dumping, data for the third period indicate a significant drop in the number of new investigations initiated. The number of countervailing duty investigations initiated decreased significantly from the second to the third period, to almost the same number as during the first period. Initiations of safeguard investigations continued their increasing trend recorded in the most recent periods.

Anti-Dumping Measures

2.22. Global anti-dumping initiations decreased by 20% in the second period, from 290 in the first period to 233, and then again, by 23%, to 179 in the third period (Table 3.8) . The Table provides more information on which Members initiated investigations.

Table 3.8 Initiations of anti-dumping investigations by reporting Member

Reporting Member	July 2016-June 2017	July 2017-June 2018	July 2018-June 2019
Argentina	21	18	15
Australia	18	15	8
Bahrain, Kingdom of; Kuwait, the State of; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; United Arab Emirates ^a	1	3	5
Brazil	12	9	0
Canada	19	11	9
Chile	2	2	0
China	12	23	18
Colombia	3	8	1
Dominican Republic	0	0	1
Egypt	13	1	2
El Salvador	1	1	0
European Union	12	8	11
India	55	44	21
Indonesia	7	1	0
Israel	4	0	0
Japan	3	0	0
Korea, Republic of	7	6	7

Madagascar	0	0	1
Malaysia	4	0	8
Mexico	6	8	5
Morocco	1	0	0
New Zealand	0	4	0
Pakistan	13	1	10
Paraguay	1	0	0
Peru	1	2	1
Russian Federation ^b	2	5	3
South Africa ^c	0	0	3
Chinese Taipei	0	2	0
Thailand	3	3	1
Turkey	19	8	0
Ukraine	2	7	11
United States	47	43	33
Viet Nam	1	0	5
Total	290	233	179

a Investigations are initiated at the level of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

b Notified by the Russian Federation, but investigations are initiated by the Eurasian Economic Union on behalf of all of its members, i.e. Armenia, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan (which became a WTO Member on 30 November 2015), and Belarus (a non-WTO Member), collectively.

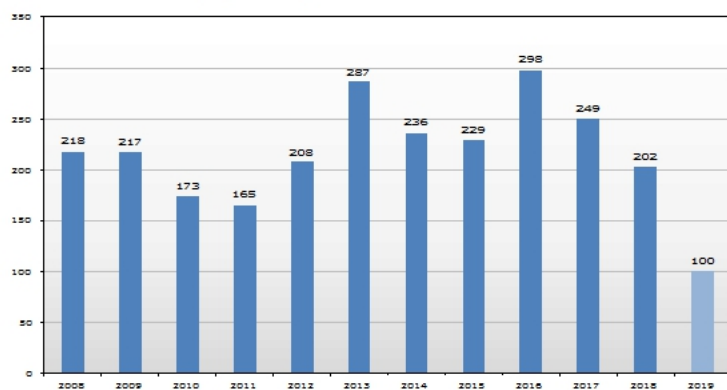
c Notified by South Africa, but investigations are initiated at the level of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), i.e. also in respect of Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Namibia.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.23. Chart 3.6 shows that the number of anti-dumping investigations initiated increased from 165 in 2011 to 287 in 2013, decreased to 236 and 229 initiations in 2014 and 2015, respectively, and increased to 298 in 2016. That was the highest number of initiations since the 311 of 2002 but was still off the all-time high of 372 in 2001. A downward trend was observed in 2017 (when the initiations decreased to 249) and 2018 (202) and 2019 (100).

Chart 3.6 Initiations of anti-dumping investigations, 2008-19

Initiations of anti -dumping Investigations , 2008 -2019



Note: Data for 2019 cover January to June.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Note: Data for 2019 cover January to June.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.24. While anti-dumping investigations do not necessarily lead to the imposition of measures, a decrease in the number of those initiated may be an early indicator of a likely decrease in the number of measures imposed.

2.25. Over the three 12-month periods since July 2016, a total of 573 anti-dumping measures were imposed (Table 3.9) . However, as it can take up to 18 months for an investigation to be concluded once initiated, these measures may not necessarily be the result of initiations in the same period. Comparing the three covered periods, while the number of measures increased slightly between the first and second periods, they dropped by 32%, from 217 to 148 measures, between the second and third periods.

Table 3.9 Number of anti-dumping measures imposed

Reporting Member	July 2016-June 2017	July 2017-June 2018	July 2018-June 2019
Argentina	2	13	6
Australia	11	10	10
Bahrain, Kingdom of; Kuwait, the State of; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; United Arab Emirates ^a	1	0	2
Brazil	14	10	3
Canada	12	2	13
Chile	2	1	1
China	10	12	17
Colombia	0	3	6
Costa Rica	1	0	0
Dominican Republic	1	0	0
Egypt	4	5	1
El Salvador	0	1	0
European Union	11	6	2
India	41	44	20
Indonesia	2	2	0
Israel	1	0	3
Japan	2	3	0
Korea, Republic of	2	7	6
Malaysia	0	4	2
Mexico	7	6	6
Morocco	0	5	1
Pakistan	4	26	5
Peru	1	1	0
Philippines	0	1	0
Russian Federation ^b	1	1	1
Chinese Taipei	8	0	0

Thailand	9	2	0
Turkey	7	16	2
Ukraine	3	1	8
United States	49	34	33
Viet Nam	2	1	0
Total	208	217	148

a Measures are imposed at the level of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

b Notified by the Russian Federation, but investigations are initiated by the Eurasian Economic Union on behalf of all its members, i.e. Armenia, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan (which became a WTO Member on 30 November 2015), and Belarus (a non-WTO Member), collectively.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.26. Chart 3.7 shows that there was little change in terms of the products affected by anti-dumping investigations initiated during the three periods examined, with the majority of initiations focused on products in the metals, chemicals, and plastics and rubber sectors.

2.27. Metal products were subject to the most initiations in each period, accounting for 41% of all initiations in the first period, 28% in the second period, and 45% in the third period. In each period, at least 65 initiations targeted metals, of which 75%-92% focused on steel products (Chapters 72 and 73 of the HS classification). Over the 3 periods combined, the United States (57), Canada (24), Australia (23), the European Union (18) and Pakistan (13) accounted for more than half of the 266 initiations on metals. An increase in the number of initiations against metal products was seen in the last period, with 12 investigations initiated by the United States, 10 each by Pakistan and India, 8 each by Canada and Malaysia, 6 by Ukraine, 4 each by China, the European Union, Mexico and Argentina, 3 each by Australia, the Russian Federation and Viet Nam, and 1 each by Thailand and the Dominican Republic. Initiations against metals across the three periods affected mostly products from China (82, of which 64 involved steel products), the Republic of Korea (17, all steel), Viet Nam (16, of which 13 involved steel), India (14, of which 13 involved steel), Chinese Taipei (11, all steel), Turkey (10, of which 9 involved steel) and the Russian Federation (10, of which 9 involved steel). In many instances, investigations were launched on the same product from several exporting countries. For instance, 8 steel products were the focus of 88 investigations.

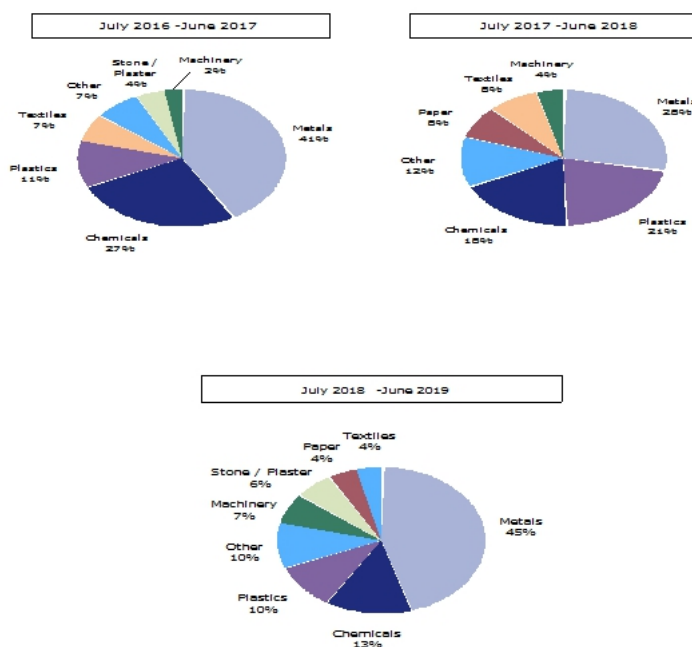
2.28. Chemical products accounted for the second-largest share of initiations over the three reporting periods, with a 27% share of initiations in the first period, a 18% share in the second period, and a 13% share in the third period. India accounted for 45 of the 144 new investigations on products in this sector over the 3 reporting periods, followed by China (29) and the United States (23). These initiations involved mostly chemical products from China (21), the Republic of Korea (15), Japan (11), Thailand (8), the United States (7) and Chinese Taipei, Russian Federation and India (6 each). As in the metals sector, investigations into chemicals frequently involved the same product from different countries – 15 products accounted for 75 of the investigations in this area.

2.29. Plastics and rubber ranked third over the three periods examined, accounting for 11% of all initiations in the first period, 21% in the second period, and 10% in the third period. India (25), the United States (16) and China (15) accounted for more than half of the 100 plastics and rubber investigations. China was once again the main target of investigations in this sector (19), followed by the Republic of Korea (16), Thailand (8), and Chinese Taipei and the United States (6 each).

2.30. In terms of countries affected by new anti-dumping investigations, 50 exporting Members were affected during the first period, while 46 were affected during the second period and 44 in the third period. China remained, by far, the most targeted Member by anti-dumping initiations during the three reporting periods, accounting for 27% of all investigations overall. The second most affected Member during the three reporting periods – the Republic of Korea – accounted for 8% of the total initiations, followed by Chinese Taipei, India, Thailand and Japan, at 4% each.

Chart 3.7 Initiations of anti-dumping investigations, by product

Initiations of anti-dumping investigations, by product



Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Countervailing Measures

2.31. As shown in Table 3.10, the number of global initiations of countervailing duty investigations decreased significantly to 37 in the third period, compared to 52 in the second period, after having increased from 36 in the first period. Around 90% of these investigations were conducted concurrently with an anti-dumping investigation.

2.32. Among the 14 Members using countervailing measures during the 3 periods examined, the United States initiated the largest number of new investigations (63), accounting for 50% of the total. Canada, the second-largest user, accounted for 13%, and India for 8%. The remaining investigations were conducted by 11 different countries.

Table 3.10 Initiations of countervailing investigations

Reporting Member	July 2016-June 2017	July 2017-June 2018	July 2018-June 2019
------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

Australia	5	2	1
Brazil	1	1	0
Canada	6	10	0
China	1	1	2
Colombia	0	0	1
Egypt	2	0	0
European Union	0	3	4
India	0	1	9
New Zealand	1	2	0
Peru	1	0	1
Chinese Taipei	0	5	0
Turkey	0	1	0
Ukraine	0	0	1
United States	19	26	18
Total	36	52	37

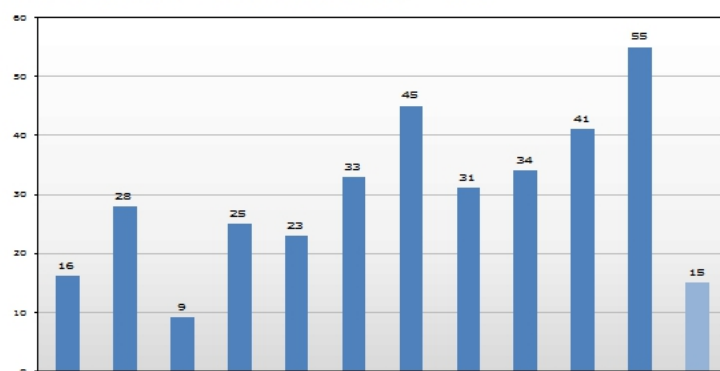
Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.33. Chart 3.8, reflecting annual figures, shows an upward trend in countervailing initiations from 2010 to 2014, notwithstanding some fluctuation in 2012. Following a decrease in 2015, the number of initiations steadily increased for the last four years. In fact, the number of initiations recorded in 2018 (55) was the peak of initiations observed since 1999.

2.34. As with anti-dumping, countervailing duty 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 78 countervailing measures were imposed (Table 3.11). 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. This lag may account for the substantial increase in the number of measures applied in the third period compared with the second period, despite the drop recorded in the number of investigations initiated.

Chart 3.8 Initiations of countervailing investigations, 2008-19

Initiations of countervailing investigations, 2008 - 2019



Note: Data for 2019 cover January to June.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Note: Data for 2019 cover January to June.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Table 3.11 Number of countervailing duty measures imposed

Reporting Member	July 2016-June 2017	July 2017-June 2018	July 2018-June 2019
Australia	3	1	1
Brazil	0	1	1
Canada	2	1	5
China	1	1	0
European Union	1	0	3
India	0	1	1
Mexico	0	0	0
Peru	0	0	1
United States	21	15	18
Total	28	20	30

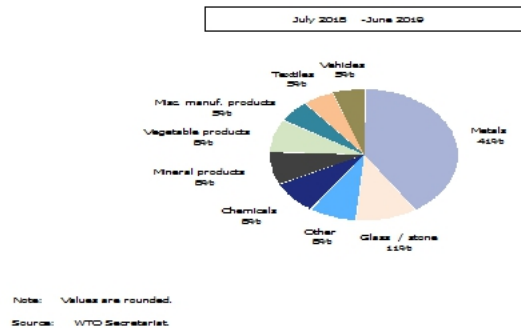
Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.35. Concerning the products affected by countervailing investigations, Chart 3.9 shows that metals accounted for most of the initiations reported over the three reporting periods, with 47%, 46% and 41% of all initiations, respectively. For the three periods combined, 56 of the 125 total initiations recorded covered metals, and 45 of these specifically targeted steel products. The United States initiated 24 of the 45 investigations on steel products. Of the 45 steel-related initiations in the third period, 25 involved products from China.

2.36. Over the three reporting periods, chemicals and plastics were the second and third most-investigated sectors, with 19 and 13 initiations, respectively, followed by vehicles and textile products with six and five initiations, respectively.

Chart 3.9 Initiations of countervailing investigations, by product





Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.37. In terms of countries or customs territories targeted by new countervailing investigations, 15 exporting Members were affected during the first period, 14 during the second period and 14 during the third period. China was the most frequent target of investigations, accounting for 43% of all investigations during the three periods. India, the second most frequent target, accounted for 12%, followed by Turkey, with 6%.

Safeguard Measures

2.38. 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.³⁵ They are subject to different rules and timelines than anti-dumping (AD) and countervailing (CVD) measures and are, therefore, not directly comparable to these other types of trade remedies.

Chart 3.10 Total safeguard investigation initiations and impositions, 2008-19

image

Note: Data for 2019 cover January to June.

Some notifications are ambiguous about the timing when the measures take effect. For those, Members sometimes subsequently file an additional notification clarifying, *ex post*, the timing of the measure's 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.

Table 3.12 Initiations of safeguard investigations

Reporting Member	July 2016-June 2017	July 2017-June 2018	July 2018-June 2019
Bahrain, Kingdom of; Kuwait, the State of; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; United Arab Emirates ^a	1	1	0
Canada	0	0	1
Chile	0	1	0
China	1	0	0
Colombia	0	0	1
Costa Rica	0	1	1
Egypt	0	0	1
European Union	0	1	0
India	0	1	0
Indonesia	0	1	2
Jordan	1	0	0
Madagascar	0	0	3
Morocco	0	0	2
Panama	0	0	1
Philippines	0	0	3
Russian Federation ^b	0	0	3
South Africa ^c	1	1	1
Turkey	2	1	1
Ukraine	0	1	0
United States	2	0	0
Viet Nam	2	0	0
Total	10	9	20

^a Investigations are initiated at the level of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

^b Identified here as the Russian Federation for brevity, but all investigations are initiated by the Eurasian Economic Union on behalf of all of its members, i.e. Armenia, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan (which became a WTO Member on 30 November 2015), and Belarus (a non-WTO Member), collectively.

^c Notified by South Africa, but investigations are initiated at the level of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), i.e. also in respect of Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Namibia.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.39. Chart 3.10 shows the trend of initiations of safeguard investigations, side by side with the trend of impositions on a calendar-year basis since 2008. Over this period, the year 2009 saw the largest number of initiations (25), with similar levels recorded in 2012 (24) and 2014 (23). From those previous high levels, initiations of safeguard investigations had been declining. However, the number has begun to climb again as of 2018. Projecting the 2019 semi-annual figure into a yearly number would suggest an increase from the previous year's level. Table 3.12, which shows the breakdown on a July-June basis of Members that initiated these investigations, confirms this development.

2.40. The data on the imposition of safeguard measures show a more spectacular change. At the current rate, the figure for 2019 as a whole would reach 16, twice the level recorded in 2017 and 2018. The previous peak, in 2003, was 15 safeguard measures imposed.

2.41. Table 3.13 shows the breakdown of Members that imposed safeguard measures on a July-June basis. It is noteworthy that non-traditional users of safeguards, like Canada (on steel products), the European Union (on steel products), the Eurasian Economic Union (on steel products; will come into effect on 1 December 2019) and Madagascar (which is an LDC; none of its measures relate to steel) imposed safeguard measures during 2019.

Table 3.13 Number of safeguard measures imposed

Reporting Member	2016	2017	2018	2019
Bahrain, Kingdom of; Kuwait, the State of; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; United Arab Emirates ^a	0	0	1	1
Canada	0	0	0	1
Chile	1	0	0	0
China	0	1	0	0
European Union	0	0	0	1

India	2	0	1	0
Indonesia	0	0	1	1
Jordan	0	1	0	0
Madagascar	0	0	0	2
Malaysia	0	2	0	0
Morocco	0	1	0	0
Russian Federation ^b	0	0	0	1
South Africa ^c	0	1	0	1
Thailand	0	1	0	0
Turkey	0	1	0	0
Ukraine	1	0	1	0
United States	0	0	2	0
Viet Nam	2	1	1	0
Total	6	9	7	8

a Investigations are initiated at the level of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

b Identified here as the Russian Federation for brevity, but all measures are imposed by the Eurasian Economic Union on behalf of all of its members, i.e. Armenia, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan (which became a WTO Member on 30 November 2015), and Belarus (a non-WTO Member), collectively.

c Notified by South Africa, but all measures are imposed at the level of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), i.e. also in respect of Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Namibia.

Note: Data for 2019 cover January to June.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Table 3.14 Number of safeguard measures imposed for the period under review

	July 2016-June 2017	July 2017-June 2018	July 2018-June 2019
Measures imposed	10	6	11

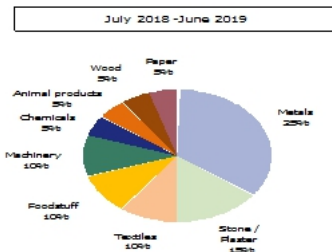
Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.42. The latest imposition figures, on a July-June basis, also show an increase from the second to the third period, to slightly above the level in the first period. Both sets of data – on initiation and imposition – suggest that safeguards have entered an active phase (Table 3.14) .

2.43. Chart 3.11 shows the products covered by the initiated safeguard investigations, on a July-June basis. While the metals sector (the vast majority of which involve steel products) still occupies the largest share, the number of investigations initiated in that sector was 9 percentage points lower than in the July 2017-June 2018 period.

Chart 3.11 Initiations of safeguard investigations, by product

image



Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.3 Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures³⁶

2.44. Under the SPS Agreement, WTO Members are obliged to provide an advance notice of intention to introduce new or modified SPS measures³⁷, 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 of protectionist measures, but rather enhanced transparency regarding food safety, animal and plant health measures, many or most of which presumably are legitimate health-protection measures.

2.45. In the period from 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019³⁸, 1,601 SPS notifications (regular and emergency, including addenda) were submitted³⁹ to the WTO, resulting in an almost similar number of total notified measures compared to the previous period (1,623 notifications from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018) . Notifications from developing-country Members accounted for 68% of the total number. In the previous period, these accounted for 75%. Consequently, in the period under review, there was an 11% decrease in the number of notifications made by developing-country Members as compared to the previous 12-month period (Chart 3.12) .

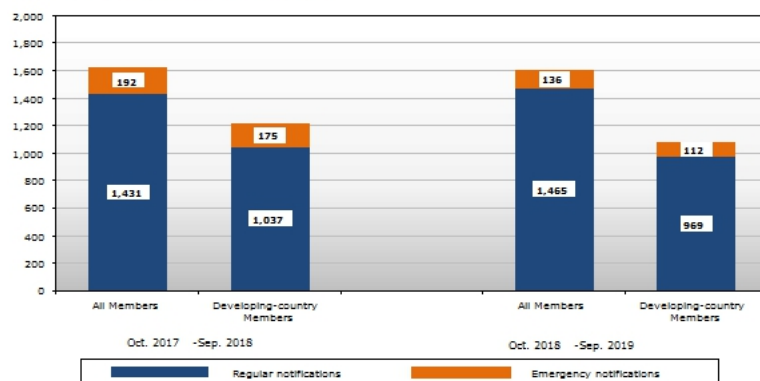
2.46. During the review period, WTO Members submitted 1,465 regular SPS notifications (including addenda), 66% of which were submitted by developing-country Members. Compared with the previous 12-month period, the total number of regular notifications remained stable while those submitted by developing-country Members decreased by 7%.

2.47. 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. While the total number of emergency notifications (including addenda) decreased by 29% in the review period (136 compared to 192 during the previous period), the proportion of all emergency notifications (including addenda) submitted by developing-country Members remained high, constituting 82% of the total (compared with 91% 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 could be because they may not have as extensive SPS regulatory systems as developed-country Members do. Consequently, when facing emergency challenges, they are more likely to have to introduce new regulations or change existing ones.

2.48. 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 1,127 regular notifications (excluding addenda) submitted from 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019, 56% indicated that at least one international standard, guideline or recommendation was applicable to the notified measure (Chart 3.13) . Of these, about 75% indicated that the proposed measure was in conformity with the applicable international standard.

Chart 3.12 Number of SPS notifications (including addenda)

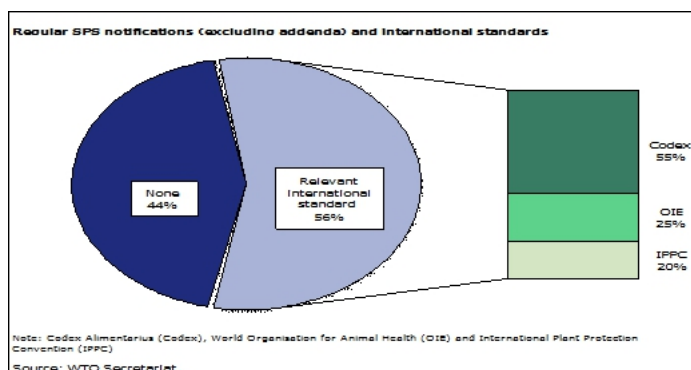
Number of SPS notifications (including addenda)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Chart 3.13 Regular SPS notifications (excluding addenda) and international standards

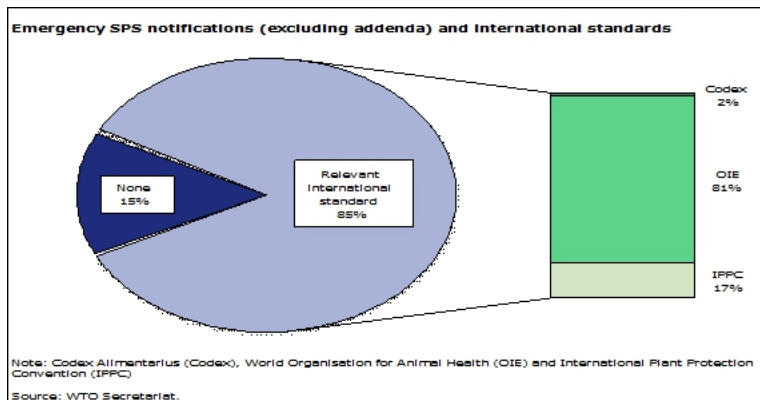


Note: Codex Alimentarius (Codex), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) .

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.49. International standards often provide useful guidance regarding measures to address disease outbreaks and other emergency situations. Indeed, about 85% (98 in total) of the 115 emergency notifications (excluding addenda) submitted during the review period indicated that an international standard, guideline or recommendation was applicable to the notified measure (Chart 3.14) . Of these, all but six indicated that the measure was in conformity with the applicable international standard.

Chart 3.14 Emergency 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

2.50. Of the 1,127 regular notifications (excluding addenda) submitted in the review period, the majority were related to food safety and animal health.⁴⁰ The remainder related to plant protection, the protection of humans from animal diseases or plant pests, and the protection of the Member's territory from other damage from pests. It is not unusual for regular notifications to contain more than one objective.

2.51. Of the 115 emergency measures (excluding addenda) notified in the same period, the majority related to animal health, followed by measures related to food safety, plant protection, the protection of humans from animal diseases or plant pests, and the protection of the Member's territory from other damage from pests. Similarly, emergency notifications may contain more than one objective.

2.52. 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 11-12 November 2018, 21-22 March 2019 and 18-19 July 2019, 17 STCs were raised for the first time (Table 3.15), and 23 previously-raised STCs were discussed again (Table 3.16) .

2.53. The margins of the SPS Committee meetings provide important opportunities for delegations, often including capital-based experts, to discuss and resolve STCs bilaterally. During the review period, Brazil withdrew an STC regarding Peru's restrictions on fresh pork meat. This item had been included in the proposed agenda for the July 2019 meeting, and was withdrawn because progress had been made in bilateral meetings scheduled to discuss the existing technical requirements. Furthermore, during the period under review, one STC was reported as resolved under the specific agenda item.⁴¹ Since 1995, 43% of all STCs raised at the Committee have been reported as resolved or partially resolved.

Table 3.15 New SPS STCs raised in November 2018, March 2019 or July 2019 meetings

STC	Document title	Members maintaining the measure	Members raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	Date raised	Primary objective
448	EU maximum residue levels (MRLs) for buprofezin, diflubenzuron, ethoxysulfuron, ioxynil, molinate, picoxystrobin and tepraloxydim (G/SPS/N/EU/264)	European Union	Colombia; India; United States	Argentina; Brazil; Canada; Chile; Costa Rica; Ecuador; Guatemala; Honduras; Nicaragua; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Turkey	01/11/2018	Food safety
449	Russian Federation's bluetongue-related import restriction on ruminants	Russian Federation	European Union		01/11/2018	Animal Health
450	Viet Nam's import restrictions in the draft law of animal production	Viet Nam	United States	Canada; Paraguay	01/11/2018	Food safety
451	Thailand's import fees related to approval procedures for live animals and/or animal products (G/SPS/N/THA/243)	Thailand	United States		01/11/2018	Other concerns
452	European Court of Justice Opinion 528/16 on organisms obtained by mutagenesis	European Union	United States	Argentina; Paraguay	01/11/2018	Other concerns
453	EU restrictions on the use of chlorothalonil (pesticide active substance) (G/TBT/N/EU/625)	European Union	Colombia	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Chile; Costa Rica; Ecuador; Guatemala; Honduras; Panama; Paraguay; Turkey; United States	21/03/2019	Food safety
454	EU transitional periods for MRLs and international consultations	European Union	Colombia	Brazil; Chile; China; Costa Rica; Ecuador; Guatemala; Honduras; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Turkey; United States	21/03/2019	Food safety
455	Indonesia's undue delay in authorization procedures for beef	Indonesia	Brazil	Philippines	21/03/2019	Food safety
456	Rep. of Korea's import restrictions on poultry due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	Korea, Republic of	European Union	Russian Federation	21/03/2019	Animal Health
457	EU amendments of MRLs for imazalil	European Union	Colombia; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Dominican Republic; Ecuador	Brazil; Cameroon; Guatemala; Honduras; Jamaica; Nicaragua; Panama; Peru; Senegal; United States; Uruguay	18/07/2019	Food safety
458	EU regulatory process for determining maximum levels of glycidyl fatty acid esters, 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD) and its fatty acid esters, in foods or food ingredients	European Union	Colombia	Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Ecuador; Guatemala; Honduras; Malaysia	18/07/2019	Food safety
459	New EU MRLs for lambda-cyhalothrin	European Union	China		18/07/2019	Food safety
460	China's restrictions on imports of US beef	China	United States		18/07/2019	Animal Health
461	Turkey's FMD-related import restrictions on live cattle	Turkey	Argentina		18/07/2019	Animal Health
462	Viet Nam's general restrictions on imports (melons, live cattle, beef, and meat and bone meal)	Viet Nam	Brazil		18/07/2019	Other concerns
463	Ukraine's restrictions on swine products	Ukraine	Brazil		18/07/2019	Animal Health
464	Japan's restrictions on avocados	Japan	Brazil		18/07/2019	Plant Health

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.54. Twenty-three previously-raised STCs were discussed at the November 2018, March 2019 or July 2019 SPS Committee meetings (six of these were discussed in all three meetings) ⁴² Of these previously-raised STCs, 7 addressed persistent problems that have been discussed 7 times or more. Specifically, 3 have been discussed on 12 or more occasions (Table 3.16) . In addition, three STCs raised for the first time in November 2018 were discussed again in March or July 2019⁴³, and one STC raised for the first time in March 2019 was discussed again in July 2019. ⁴⁴

Table 3.16 Previously-raised SPS STCs discussed in November 2018, March 2019 or July 2019 meetings

STC	Document title	Member(s) maintaining the measure	Member(s) raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	First date raised	Times subsequently raised	Primary Objective
184	China's AQSIQ official certification requirements for food imports (G/TBT/N/CHN/1209) (previously raised as Lack	China	Israel; United States	Australia; Canada; Chile; Costa Rica; European Union; Guatemala; Japan; Korea, Republic of;	01/03/2004	7	Other concerns

	of transparency for certain SPS measures)			Mexico; Norway; Singapore; Switzerland; Thailand			
193*	General import restrictions due to bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)		European Union; United States	Canada; Switzerland; Uruguay	01/06/2004	36	Animal Health
344	Measures on shrimp	Brazil	Ecuador		18/10/2012	6	Animal Health
382*	European Union 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; El Salvador; The Gambia; Ghana; Guatemala; Guinea; Honduras; 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	14	Food safety
390*	Russian Federation's import restrictions on processed fishery products from Estonia and Latvia	Russian Federation	European Union		15/07/2015	12	Food safety
395	China's proposed amendments to the implementation regulations on safety assessment of agricultural genetically modified organisms (GMOs)	China	Paraguay; United States		15/07/2015	9	Food safety
406*	China's import restrictions due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	China	European Union; United States		16/03/2016	9	Animal Health
411**	Russian Federation import restrictions on certain animal products from Germany	Russian Federation	European Union		30/06/2016	7	Food safety
413	Guatemala's restrictions on egg products	Guatemala	Mexico		27/10/2016	3	Food safety
414	Indonesia's food safety measures affecting horticultural products and animal products	Indonesia	Philippines		27/10/2016	2	Food safety
421	Thailand's import restriction on papaya seeds	Thailand	Chinese Taipei		22/03/2017	5	Plant Health
422	France's dimethoate-related restrictions on imports	European Union	United States	Argentina; Canada; Turkey	13/07/2017	4	Food safety
427	India's 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	4	Plant Health
430	EU maximum level of cadmium in foodstuffs	European Union	Colombia; Côte d'Ivoire; Ecuador; Madagascar; Peru	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; El Salvador; Ghana; Guatemala; Indonesia; Nicaragua; Nigeria; Panama; Trinidad and Tobago; United States	02/11/2017	3	Food safety
431*	South Africa's import restrictions on poultry due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	South Africa	European Union		02/11/2017	5	Animal Health
432	EU restrictions on poultry meat due to Salmonella detection	European Union	Brazil		02/11/2017	3	Food safety
438	Viet Nam's market access requirements for "white" offal	Viet Nam	United States	New Zealand	01/03/2018	1	Other concerns
439*	US import restrictions on apples and pears	United States	European Union		01/03/2018	4	Plant Health
440	New Zealand's draft import health standard for vehicles, machinery and equipment	New Zealand	Japan		12/07/2018	2	Plant Health
441	Lack of transparency and undue delays in Indonesia's approval procedures for animal products	Indonesia	European Union	Brazil	12/07/2018	3	Other concerns
442	EU Commission Decision 2002/994/EC on animal products	European Union	China		12/07/2018	4	Food safety
446	EU review of legislation on veterinary medicinal	European Union	Argentina; United States	Australia; Brazil; Canada; Chile;	12/07/2018	2	Food safety

447	products New EU definition of the fungicide folpet	European Union	China	Colombia; Paraguay	12/07/2018	3	Food safety
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* STCs raised in all three SPS Committee meetings.

** STC reported as resolved.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.55. Of the 17 STCs raised for the first time in the 3 SPS Committee meetings, 8 (47%) concerned food safety, 5 (29%) concerned measures covering animal health, 1 (6%) covered plant health, and 3 (18%) related to other types of concerns.⁴⁵ Regarding previously-raised STCs in the review period, 12 (52%) concerned measures covering food safety, 4 (17%) concerned animal health, 4 (17%) related to plant health, and 3 (13%) covered other types of concerns. Of the total (40) raised or discussed STCs in the review period, 20 (50%) concerned measures covering food safety, 9 (23%) covered animal health, 5 (13%) concerned plant health and 6 (15%) related to other types of concerns.

2.56. Discussions among Members in the SPS Committee continue to be multifaceted and dynamic. They have recently included STCs related to pesticide MRLs and veterinary medicinal products (antimicrobial resistance), and some Members have raised issues related to the possible need to use such substances due to changes in climate conditions.

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 any proposed SPS and TBT measures that may have a significant effect on trade and are not in accordance with existing international standards. 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,
- TBT IMS: www.tbttims.wto.org, and
- ePing: 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: product, notifying Member, and objective. ePing is an online alert system allowing users (governments, economic operators, and 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.

2.4 Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs)⁴⁶

2.57. 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.⁴⁷ 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.⁴⁸

2.58. From 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019, WTO Members submitted 2,077 new regular notifications of TBT measures.⁴⁹ This represents roughly the same number of notifications submitted during the preceding 12-month period.⁵⁰ The majority (around 70%) continued to come from developing countries.

2.59. The Members which notified the most TBT measures during the review period – covering almost 60% of all new regular notifications – were Uganda (194), Kenya (160), the United States (136), Ecuador (135), the European Union (125)⁵¹, Rwanda (103), Tanzania (96), China (85), the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Yemen (84) (collectively as Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Standardization Organization (GSO) members)⁵² and the Republic of Korea (76) .

2.60. Of the 2,077 new regular TBT notifications received during the review period, the majority indicated the protection of human health or safety as their main objective.⁵³ The remaining notifications related to consumer information, labelling, the prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection, and protection of the environment.

2.61. A total of 1,043 "follow-up notifications"⁵⁴ were submitted during the review period, representing an increase of about 18% as compared with those notified (883) during the preceding 12-month period. The continuing and frequent use by Members of this type of notification increases transparency and predictability across the measures' regulatory lifecycle.

2.62. 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 but may also relate to the implementation of existing adopted measures. Issues raised can range from simple requests for additional information and clarifications to more substantive questions about the consistency of measures with the TBT Agreement.

2.63. A total of 186 (31 new and 155 previously-raised) STCs were discussed during the 3 Committee meetings that fell within the review period: 63 (8 new and 55 previously-raised) at the November 2018 meeting, 59 (11 new and 48 previously-raised) at the March 2019 meeting, and 64 (12 new and 52 previously-raised) at the June 2019 meeting.

2.64. As depicted in Table 3.17, measures by the European Union (9), India (3), the Republic of Korea (3), China, Chile, Uruguay, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (2 each), attracted the majority of the 31 new STCs raised during the review period. They were followed by new STCs concerning measures by the Russian Federation, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Israel, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and the GSO-GCC members (one each) . These new STCs covered a wide range of products/issues, including cosmetics, solid waste, toys, aircraft systems, wine and wine products, food products, medical devices, pesticides, energy, chemicals, poultry, electronic devices and electrical equipment, tobacco products, spirits and eco-design requirements.

Table 3.17 New STCs raised in the TBT Committee meetings of November 2018, March 2019, and June 2019

New STCs
European Union: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules and procedures for compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonization legislation on products and amending relevant regulations (ID 565) <i>(raised by China and Canada)</i>
Chile: Public Consultation for draft legislation setting out rules on the preparation, description and labelling of milk products deriving from milk (ID 566) <i>(raised by European Union and United States)</i>
Russian Federation: Federal Law No 487-FZ, providing a framework for comprehensive use of special labelling and traceability of goods and Decision No. 792-r specifying the goods to which labelling will apply and the dates of introduction of the mandatory labelling (ID 567) <i>(raised by European Union)</i>
Brazil: Technical Regulation 14, 8 February 2018, to set the additional official identity, quality standards for wine and derivatives of grape and wine products as well as the requirements to be acquainted and Technical Regulation No. 48, 31 August 2018, published in the Official Gazette on 10 September 2018 (ID 568) <i>(raised by European Union)</i>
Dominican Republic: Regulation on Cosmetic and Hygiene Products (ID 569) <i>(raised by Mexico and United States)</i>
Chile: Regulations on the classification, labelling and notification of chemical substances and mixtures (ID 570) <i>(raised by Mexico)</i>
Egypt: Halal requirements for Poultry Parts and Offal (ID 571) <i>(raised by United States)</i>
Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Oman, United Arab

Emirates, Yemen: GCC Technical Regulations for the Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment (572) *(raised by United States and European Union)*

Israel: Bill on the Restriction on Advertising and Marketing of Tobacco Products (Amendment No. 7, 5778-2018) (ID 573) *(raised by Dominican Republic and Canada)*

Trinidad and Tobago: Regulation related to the prohibition of commercialization and importation of plastic products of polystyrene (ID 574) *(raised by Dominican Republic)*

European Union: Draft Commission Regulation laying down eco-design requirements for electronic displays pursuant to Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 1275/2008 and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) 642/2009 (and its accompanying annexes) (ID 575) *(raised by China, United States and Japan)*

China: Draft Cosmetics Supervision and Administration Regulation (Draft) (ID 576) *(raised by Japan, Republic of Korea, United States and European Union)*

Republic of Korea: Warning statement and graphic health warnings on alcoholic beverages (ID 577) *(raised by United States)*

Uruguay: Labelling of Packaged Food (ID 578) *(raised by Costa Rica, United States, European Union and Guatemala)*

European Union: Chlorothalonil (pesticide active substance) (ID 579) *(raised by United States, Colombia, Guatemala, Brazil, Panama, Paraguay, Canada, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Honduras)*

European Union: Transitional periods for minimum residual limits (MRLs) and international consultations (ID 580) *(raised by Colombia, Guatemala, United States, Paraguay, Brazil, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Panama)*

Jamaica: Regulations Banning Single-Use Plastic Products (ID 581) *(raised by Dominican Republic)*

Republic of Korea: Regulation on Energy Efficiency Management Equipment (ID 582) *(raised by China)*

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Technical Regulation for plastic products OXO – biodegradable (ID 583) *(raised by European Union and United States)*

China: Regulation on Cosmetic Inspection in Registration and Filing (ID 584) *(raised by Japan, Republic of Korea and United States)*

European Union: Explanatory memorandum of unmanned aircraft systems and third-country operators of unmanned aircraft (ID 585) *(raised by China)*

India: Notification of 2018 draft cosmetic rules, amending provisions of the India Drug and Cosmetics Act of 1940 (ID 586) *(raised by United States and European Union)*

India: Toys (Quality Control) Order, 2019 (ID 587) *(raised by United States, European Union and Canada)*

Republic of Korea: Package Recycle Classification Regulation (ID 588) *(raised by United States and Canada)*

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Added Sugar Upper Limit in Some Food Products (ID 589) *(raised by United States, Switzerland, European Union and Russian Federation)*

Uruguay: Analysis of Imported Products – Resolution of the Board of the National Grape Growing and Wine Production Institute (INAVI) – exogenous water in wine (ID 590) *(raised by United States, Chile, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand)*

European Union: Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) (ID 591) *(raised by Indonesia)*

European Union: Concerns on regulations with regard to eco-design requirements for various products in EU (ID 592) *(raised by China)*

European Union: EU regulations on the definition, description, presentation, labelling of spirit drinks, the use of the names of spirit drinks in the presentation and labelling of other foodstuffs, the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks, the use of ethyl alcohol and distillates of agricultural origin in alcoholic beverages, which repeals Regulation (EC) No. 110/2008 (ID 593) *(raised by Guyana)*

European Union: Medical Device Regulation (MDR) and In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices Regulation (IVDR) (ID 594) *(raised by United States and Canada)*

India: Moisture content for Cassia Vera (Cinnamomum Burmani) (ID 595) *(raised by Indonesia)*

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.65. As indicated in Chart 3.15, STCs are frequently discussed in the regular meetings of the TBT Committee, with almost 60 discussed per meeting in recent years. Depending on the extent of the trade-restrictiveness and the 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 593 new STCs.

Chart 3.15 STCs raised per Committee meeting, January 2009 to June 2019

(number)



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 under-reporting 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.

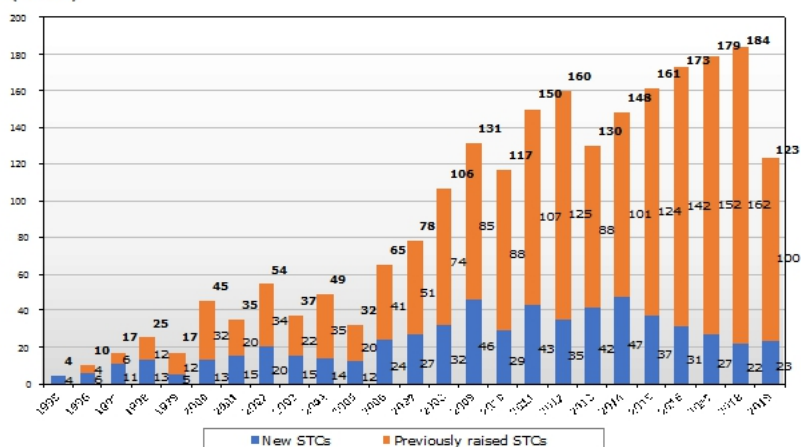
2.66. Overall, the number of STCs (new and previously-raised) discussed in Committee meetings has been increasing every year, despite Members raising fewer *new* STCs. This may, in part, be because they raised relatively more *previously-raised* STCs in recent years. Since 2009, Members have raised more than 100 STCs (new and previously-raised) every year (Chart 3.16).³⁵ During the 3 Committee meetings held in 2018, 184 STCs were discussed, which represents a 136% increase compared to 2007, when 78 STCs were raised. Additionally, as indicated above, the total number of STCs discussed in the first 2 Committee meetings of 2019 (March and June) was 59 and 64, respectively, indicating that the total number of STCs for the 2019 may be as high as, or higher than, that observed in 2018.

Chart 3.16 STCs raised per year, January 1995 to June 2019

(number)

STCs raised per year, January 1995 to June 2019

(Number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.67. As illustrated in Chart 3.17, there is a marked correlation between the number of notifications submitted by Members and the number of STCs raised each year.⁵⁶ The overall trend suggests an increasing use of the TBT Committee as a forum for Members to raise and resolve trade concerns non-litigiously.

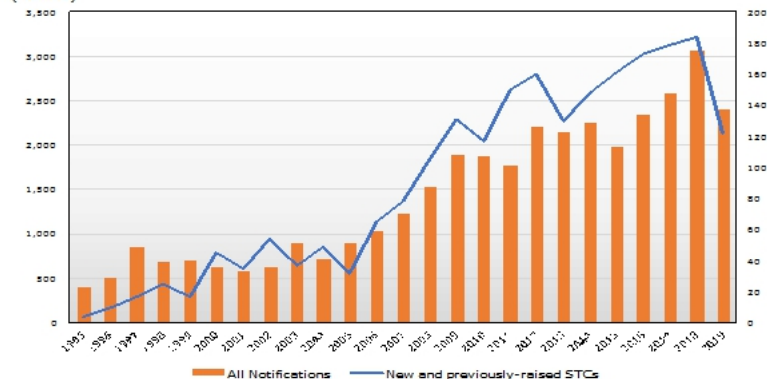
2.68. As mentioned, STCs may be discussed at subsequent meetings, as previously-raised STCs, and usually represent more serious concerns. The majority of STCs (57%) have been raised at one or two Committee meetings, 24% were raised three to five times, and 19% were raised more than five times (Chart 3.18) . The share of "persistent" STCs, i.e. those raised more than five times, decreased in 2018 in comparison with 2017.

Chart 3.17 Number of TBT notifications and new/previously-raised STCs, 1995-2019

(number)

Notifications and new/previously -raised STCs, 1995 -2019

(Number)



Notes: [See document]

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Note: 2019 data cover the period from January to September.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Chart 3.18 Number of times an STC is raised, 1995-2018 (plus 2019, until September only)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.69. During the review period, which includes STCs raised in the TBT Committee meeting in November 2018, and in March and June 2019, seven persistent STCs that were raised more than 16 times in TBT Committee meetings, were discussed (Table 3.18) .

Table 3.18 Persistent STCs raised between 1 October 2018 and 30 September 2019

Persistent STCs
India: 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 Nos. 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>26 times</u> since 2010
China: 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>25 times</u> since 2011
Indonesia: Technical Guidelines for the Implementation of the Adoption and Supervision of Indonesian National Standards for Obligatory Toy Safety (ID 328) – raised <u>22 times</u> since 2011
Russian Federation: Draft Technical Regulation on Alcohol Drinks Safety (published on 24 October 2011) (ID 332) – raised <u>22 times</u> since 2012
European Union: 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) – raised <u>20 times</u> since 2012
India: Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012 (ID 367) – raised <u>19 times</u> since 2013
European Union: Hazard-based approach to plant protection products and setting of import tolerances (ID 393) – raised <u>18 times</u> since 2013

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.70. The TBT Committee has been busy implementing its 2019-21 Workplan. The new Workplan involves implementing 30 newly adopted recommendations intended to pave the way for WTO Members to further reduce technical barriers to trade. The number of recommendations shows that Members continue to engage constructively in the TBT Committee in order to achieve concrete outcomes. Ongoing implementation items include: a recommendation for Members to notify adopted final texts of regulations; and a mandate to develop guidelines on the choice and design of appropriate "conformity assessment procedures" (CAPs) . The Committee's process of facilitating Members raising and discussing concerns (STCs) with each other's regulations remains in high demand, suggesting that Members find it very effective to address regulatory trade frictions without having to resort to formal disputes. Discussions and/or notifications of regulations on new complex digital economy issues – such as cybersecurity, drones, 5G, internet-of-things (IoT), blockchain – are becoming increasingly prevalent. WTO Members have also agreed to explore new TBT Committee procedures. In particular, Members agreed in 2018 to put into operation on a trial basis new procedures for raising STCs, so as to give them more time to prepare for meetings. As part of the ongoing 2019-21 TBT Committee Workplan, these new procedures were then made permanent, after being successfully tested.

2.71. Fish and fishery products are among the most heavily traded commodities. These products are subject to various non-tariff measures, including TBT regulations. Box 3.4 takes a closer look at these types of measures as notified to, and discussed in, the TBT Committee over the years.

Box 3.4 Regulations on fish and fish products and the TBT Agreement

Fish and fish products (Harmonized System headings 1604, 1605, 2301 and Chapter 3) are among the most heavily traded commodities in the world. They provide food, jobs, and economic benefits for millions of people globally.^a They are considered important for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Global fish production in 2019 is expected to reach 177.8 million tonnes, almost the same production level observed in 2018.^b The European Union was the world's largest exporter of fish and fish products in 2018, with USD 35.8 billion of exports. The other top exporters were: China (USD 21.5 billion), Norway (USD 11.8 billion), Viet Nam (USD 8.9 billion), and India (USD 6.9 billion) . The European Union was also the world's largest importer of fish and fishery products in 2018 (USD 57.7 billion), followed by the United States (USD 23.8 billion); Japan (USD 15.3 billion); China (USD 14.4 billion) and the Republic of Korea (USD 5.9 billion) .

Fish and fish products are subject to various non-tariff measures, including regulations falling under both the TBT and SPS Agreements. In terms of TBT measures, from January 1995 to September 2019, WTO Members notified almost 1,000 regulations related to fish and fish products.^d The most commonly stated policy objective of these TBT measures is the protection of human health and safety. Other frequently stated objectives include the prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection, as well as consumer information and labelling.

To date, WTO Members have discussed at least ten STCs regarding measures regulating fish and fish products. These measures were maintained by the European Union (2), Japan, the United States, the Republic of Korea, Brazil, Peru, China, and the GCC GSO members (one each), and covered the following products: fishing vessels, tuna, sardines, and fish heads (e.g. hake, cod and pollack) . The policy objectives indicated were the prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection; and consumer information and labelling (see Table A) .

Table A – TBT STCs on fish and fish products

Member	TBT STCs: Fish and fish products
Japan	Legislation on Fishing Vessels (ID 37) – raised for the first time on 11 June 1999 by the United States; European Union
United States	Dolphin-Safe Tuna Labelling Requirement (ID 42) – raised for the first time on 25 February 2000 by Brazil; Mexico; Egypt
European Union	Amendment to Regulation on Sardines (ID 87) – raised for the first time on 20 March 2003 by Canada; Chile; Ecuador; Mexico; Norway; Peru; United States; Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of
Korea, Republic of	Fish Heads (ID 96) – raised for the first time on 2 July 2003 by Iceland; New Zealand; Norway; European Union
Brazil	Canned Sardines – Ministerial Act No. 406, 10 August 2010 (ID 290) – raised for the first time on 24 March 2011 by Norway; Peru; European Union
Peru	Act to Promote Healthy Eating Among Children and Adolescents (ID 383) – raised for the first time on 17 June 2013 by Argentina; Brazil; Canada; Colombia; Costa Rica; Guatemala; Mexico; Switzerland; United States; European Union
South Africa	Labelling and advertising of pre-packaged foodstuff (ID 446) – raised for the first time on 5 November 2014 by New Zealand; European Union
European Union	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Cloning of Animals of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species kept and reproduced for farming purposes (197) and Proposal for a Council Directive on the placing on the market of food from animal clones (198), G/TBT/N/EU/197 and G/TBT/N/EU/198 , (ID 492) – raised for the first time on 4 November 2015 by Brazil; United States
Oman, Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen	Guide for control of imported foods – Certification requirements for animal products (ID 540) – raised for the first time on 14 June 2017 by United States; European Union
China	Certification requirements for processed foods (ID 547) – raised for the first time on 8 November 2017 by European Union; United States; Guatemala; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Japan; Korea, Republic of; Switzerland; Mexico

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Eight disputes have been brought to the WTO where a significant part of the panel's and/or Appellate Body's findings related to the TBT Agreement. Two of these involved regulations related to fish and fish products: *EC – Sardines* (complaint by Peru) and *US – Tuna II* (complaint by Mexico) .^e Both disputes concerned measures on the marking, packaging or labelling of these products. Although not regulating fish or fish products *per se*, the objective of the measure at issue in *EC – Seal Products* (separate complaints by Canada and Norway) was to address "public moral concerns regarding seal welfare" regarding products made from these animals. The measure contained certain exceptions, accommodating "other interests", including one for products obtained from seals hunted for purposes of marine resource management (the MRM exception) . The MRM exception took into account the fact that small-scale hunts were conducted on an occasional basis for the purpose of ensuring the reduction of the seal population because, according to scientific studies, this could, in a particular area, pose a threat to fisheries and/or the ecosystem.^f

Two other disputes involved claims that certain measures on fish or fish products were inconsistent with the TBT Agreement, namely the *US – Import Prohibition of Certain Shrimp and Shrimp Products* (complaint by the Philippines), which, however, never proceeded beyond formal consultations^g; and *EC – Scallops* (separate complaints by Canada, Peru and Chile), which proceeded to litigation but was then settled amicably during panel proceedings.^h

a FAO. 2019, *GlobeFish Highlights: A Quarterly Update on Seafood Markets*. Viewed at: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca5870en/ca5870en.pdf>.

b FAO. 2019, *Food Outlook – Biannual Report on Global Food Markets*: May 2019. Rome. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

c Import and export data were sourced from the ITC Trade Map and UNSD Comtrade database. Data for the European Union include EU intra-trade.

d TBT notifications are included when the text mentions fish, molluscs, crustaceans, cod, tuna, squid, shrimp, lobsters, sardines, mackerel, shellfish, cuttlefish, milk fish, salmon, tilapia, dolphins, cephalopods, pangasius, pelagics, fish oil, fish meal, bivalves and crabs. Revisions, supplements, and addenda to the notifications are not counted.

e See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds381_e.htm.

f See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds400_e.htm and https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds401_e.htm. This measure (and related ones by certain individual EU member States) were also the object of STCs raised and discussed in the TBT Committee. See European Communities – Seal products (TBT STCs ID 222); Germany – Ban on Seal Products (TBT STC ID 188); and Belgium and The Netherlands – Seal products (TBT STC ID 112) .

g See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds61_e.htm.

h See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds7_e.htm; https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds12_e.htm; and https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/cases_e/ds14_e.htm.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.72. The below Box on standards and certification has been provided by the ITC.

Box 3.5 Climbing the ladder of standards to access global markets

The ability of MSMEs to meet international standards can mean the difference for a firm to access or not a new market. Being able to diversify into new markets can create greater growth and job prospects while supporting innovation. Particular attention is warranted into the conditions

under which this may or may not happen.⁸

A wealth of evidence suggests that the adoption of standards can be challenging for businesses in developing countries, especially for smaller firms.⁹ Adopting standards may increase sales in foreign markets, but the fixed costs associated with certification can be particularly onerous for smaller companies.¹⁰ Not surprisingly, evidence shows that large firms are more likely to adopt international standards than small ones¹¹ but there is relatively little knowledge about how this tendency differs across types of standards. This knowledge gap – if crossed – can better inform governments and international agencies on how to tailor trade-related capacity building for MSMEs, to help them meet these standards.

Analysis of data from almost 1,000 firms in Kenya shows that the prevalence of different types of certification varies among companies of different sizes. Although larger firms are more likely to be certified to an international standard in general, it depends on the type of certification. Large companies, with 100 employees or more, and medium ones, with at least 20 employees, appear to have a different pattern of certification than small companies and micro-sized ones, with less than five employees.

Figure A Larger businesses are more likely to be certified



Note: The survey question was: "Does this establishment's main product or service hold any of the following types of internationally-recognized certificates? Safety certificate; quality or performance certificate; sustainability certificate". Source: 896 Kenyan firms interviewed in 2017 and 2018 for the SME Competitiveness Survey by the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the International Trade Centre, and the Kenyan Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives. For more information, please see <http://www.intracen.org/publication/SME-competitiveness-Kenya>.

Source: ITC.

International safety certification appears to be relatively inclusive, with 32% of micro-sized firms and 41% of small firms adhering. At the other extreme, just 10% and 13% of micro and small firms, respectively, held a sustainability certificate. Safety standards were also more egalitarian than sustainability schemes: large firms had double the rate of international safety certification compared to micro firms, but more than four times the rate of sustainability certification. Certification to international quality standards was the most popular across all firm sizes, but there were still moderate differences in the rates of adoption of micro, small, medium and large firms. One third of interviewed companies with less than five employees held an international quality standard, which amounts to less than half the average rate of quality certification among large companies.

These findings can be partly explained by the fact that small and micro firms are more likely to be certified to just one standard and that, when a firm holds just one international certification, it is more likely to focus on quality. Indeed, quality standards accounted for the largest share of single certified firms of all sizes. A lower, but still significant share of single-adopters held safety certificates.¹² It appears that smaller firms tend to opt for quality certificates to enter foreign markets, while larger ones opt for sustainability schemes. Certificates for social, environmental and economic performance are often adopted by large firms, in addition to the quality and safety standards they already have. Indeed, 24% of the total number of international certificates held by surveyed large firms regard sustainability standards, while only 13% of small firms' total number of certificates relate to sustainability schemes.

This is the case even though small firms express awareness of, and concern for, environmental sustainability. In Botswana, 63% of the almost 550 small and micro-sized firms interviewed for ITC's SME Competitiveness survey felt that environmental risks were significant for their business, and 36% were investing to reduce their environmental footprint. Taken together, these findings suggest that small companies tend to start using standards to leverage entry into foreign markets with an international quality standard, such as those offered by the ISO. They may then, as they grow, add on an international safety standard, such as those defined by Codex, the IPPC, or the OIE, or adopted in national legislation. Sustainability schemes appear to be adopted at a higher rung on the standards "ladder", often when the firm has grown to 20 or more employees.¹³

The implication is that companies may turn to sustainability certification only once quality standards have been met. This raises questions concerning the accessibility of sustainability certification for smaller firms, including the small-scale farmers that are considering the adoption of sustainability standards for bananas, cocoa, coffee and cotton.¹⁴ It suggests that helping smaller firms obtain quality and/or safety certification can be a necessary first step in enabling them to take advantage of the increasing demand for sustainable products in key markets.¹⁵

Technical assistance for the adoption of ISO and other technical standards can build small firms' capacity to keep records and manage changes in production procedures. The skills and expertise gained through this process can be instrumental to success in choosing, adopting and benefitting from sustainability standards. The International Trade Centre's Standards Map¹⁶ is designed to help enterprises with this process, providing information and enterprise tools on over 150 sustainability standards, codes of conduct and audit protocols.

- a ITC. (2017) SME Competitiveness Outlook 2016: Meeting the standard for trade. Geneva.
- b Factors Affecting the Incidence and Intensity of Standards Certification: Evidence from Exporting Firms in Pakistan. Masakure, Henson, Cranfield. 2011. Applied Economics.
- c World Bank. (2005) . Food Safety and Agricultural Health Standards: Challenges and Opportunities for Developing Country Exports (No. 31207) . Washington DC: World Bank. Viewed at: http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANET/TRADE/Resources/Topics/Standards/standards_challenges_synthesisreport.pdf.
- d Hudson, J. and Orviska, M. (2013) Firms' adoption of international standards: One size fits all? Journal of Policy Modeling 35(2): 289-306.
- e Interviewed manufacturing companies who held just one international standard were less likely to have chosen safety schemes than their peers in the services and agricultural sectors. Just 22% of single-certified manufacturing companies were safety certified, compared to 38% and 44% of agricultural and services firms, respectively.
- f ITC. (2019) Promoting SME Competitiveness in Botswana: a bottom up approach to economic diversification.
- g Van Beuningen, C. and Knorringa, P. (2009) . Inclusive Improvement: Standards and Smallholders. The Hague: ISS & HIVOS.
- h Willer, H., Sampson, G., Voora, V., Dang, D., and Lernoud, J. (2019) The State of Sustainable Markets 2019 – Statistics and Emerging Trends. Geneva: International Trade Centre.
- i ITC and EC. 2019. The European Union Market for Sustainable Products: The retail perspective on sourcing policies and consumer demand. Geneva: International Trade Centre and European Commission.
- j Viewed at: www.standardsmap.org.

Source: ITC.

2.5 Trade Concerns Raised in Other WTO Bodies⁵⁷

2.73. During the review period, several trade concerns were raised by Members in formal meetings of various WTO bodies. This Section provides a factual overview of those raised between mid-October 2018 and mid-October 2019.⁵⁸ 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 to overall 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 an 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.

2.74. At the 7 May 2019 meeting of the *General Council (GC)*⁵⁹, concerns were raised on: (i) the EU safeguard measures on Indica rice from Cambodia (raised by Cambodia); (ii) China's SPS agriculture issues, including Canola trade (raised by Canada); and (iii) Brazil's trade-restrictive measures, relating to Brazil's market access for Ecuador's bananas (raised by Ecuador) .

2.75. At the 23-24 July 2019 GC meeting⁶⁰, issues were raised on: (i) Japan's export restrictive measures (raised by Korea, Republic of); and (ii) the US Trade Restrictive Measures on the ICT industry (raised by China under Other Business) .

2.76. At the meeting of the *Council for Trade in Goods (CTG)* on 12 and 13 November 2018⁶¹, new concerns were raised on (i) the EU renegotiation of tariff-rate quota commitments in response to Brexit (raised by Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, United States, and Uruguay); (ii) the EU enlargement to include Croatia (raised by Russian Federation); (iii) the US export restrictions on a certain enterprises of China (raised by China); (iv) the EU draft implementing regulations regarding protected designations of origin and GIs, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine products (raised by Argentina and United States); and (v) Australia's market access prohibition on 5G equipment (raised by China) .

2.77. At the meeting, concerns were again raised on: (i) Brazil's measures restricting shrimp imports (raised by Ecuador); (ii) a selective tax by Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, and United Arab Emirates on certain imported products (raised by European Union, Switzerland, and United States); (iii) Indonesia's import and export policies (raised by European Union, Japan, and Norway); (iv) US measures relating to imports of fish and seafood products (raised by China); (v) India's customs duties on ICT products (raised by Canada, China, European Union, Japan, Norway, Chinese Taipei, and United States); (vi) Pakistan's measures relating to sugar exports (raised by Australia and European Union); (vii) India's measures relating to sugar exports (raised by Australia and European Union); (viii) the EU quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs, and the registration of the term "Danbo" as a geographical indication (raised by United States and Uruguay); (ix) Egypt's manufacturer registration system (raised by European Union); (x) Mongolia's quantitative restrictions and prohibitions on the importation of certain agricultural products (raised by Russian Federation); (xi) Viet Nam's Decree No. 116/2018 on the regulation regarding conditions for automobile manufacturing, assembling, importing, and automotive warranty and maintenance (raised by Japan and United States); (xii) China's measures restricting the import of scrap materials (raised by United States); (xiii) India's quantitative restrictions on imports of certain pulses (raised by Australia, Canada, European Union, Russian Federation, and United States); (xiv) China's customs duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by European Union, Japan, and Chinese Taipei); (xv) China's draft new export control law (raised by Japan); (xvi) the US proposal on prohibiting the use of universal service support on equipment or services from companies that pose national security threats released by the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) (raised by China); (xvii) the US civil aviation security measures (raised by China); and (xviii) the Russian Federation's trade-restricting practices (raised by European Union) .

2.78. At the CTG meeting on 11 and 12 April 2019⁶², new issues were raised on: (i) the EU safeguard measures on Indica rice from Cambodia (raised by Cambodia); (ii) EU regulation EC No. 1272/2008 concerning the update of the classification, labelling and packaging of chemical substance mixtures (raised by Russian Federation); (iii) Jamaica's Regulations 145 and 146 banning single-use plastic products (raised by Dominican Republic); and (iv) Trinidad and Tobago's announcement concerning the ban on the marketing and importation of polystyrene plastics (raised by Dominican Republic) .

2.79. At the same meeting, trade concerns were repeated on: (i) the EU enlargement to include Croatia (raised by Russian Federation); (ii) the selective tax on certain imported products by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Kingdom of Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates (raised by European Union, Switzerland, and United States); (iii) Indonesia's import and export policies (raised by European Union, Japan, Norway and United States); (iv) India's customs duties on ICT products (raised by Canada, China, European Union, Japan, Norway, Chinese Taipei, and United States); (v) the EU quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs, and the registration of certain terms of cheese as geographical indications (raised by Argentina, Uruguay, and United States); (vi) Egypt's manufacturer registration system (raised by European Union); (vii) Mongolia's quantitative restrictions and prohibitions on the importation of certain agricultural products (raised by Russian Federation); (viii) Viet Nam's Decree No. 116/2018 on the regulation regarding conditions for automobile manufacturing, assembling, importing, and automotive warranty and maintenance (raised by United States); (ix) China's measures restricting the import of scrap materials (raised by United States); (x) India's quantitative restrictions on imports of certain pulses (raised by Australia, Canada, European Union, Russian Federation, and United States); (xi) China's customs duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by European Union, Japan, and Chinese Taipei); (xii) the EU draft implementing regulations regarding protected designations of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine sector products (raised by Argentina and United States); (xiii) China's new draft export control law (raised by Japan); (xiv) the US proposal on prohibiting the use of universal service support on equipment or services from companies that pose national security threats released by the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) (raised by China); (xv) Australia's discriminatory market access prohibition on 5G equipment (raised by China); (xvi) the US measures on aviation security equipment (raised by China); (xvii) the Russian Federation's trade-restricting practices (raised by European Union); (xviii) the EU (Croatia) regulation of import and sale of certain oil products (raised by Russian Federation); and (xix) the EU amendments to Directive 2009/28/EC on renewable energy directive (raised by Malaysia and Colombia) .

2.80. At the CTG meeting on 8 and 9 July 2019⁶³, new issues were raised on: (i) the EU implementation of non-tariff barriers on agricultural products (raised by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Malaysia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States, and Uruguay); (ii) the US measures regarding market access prohibition for ICT products (raised by China); (iii) the US export control measures for ICT products (raised by China); (iv) the EU medical device regulation and in vitro diagnostic medical devices regulation (raised by United States); (v) Tunisia's import restriction measures (raised by European Union); (vi) Angola's import restricting practices (raised by United States); (vii) Japan's export control measures on materials essential for semiconductors and displays (raised by Korea, Republic of under "Other Business") .

2.81. At the meeting, concerns were again raised on: (i) the EU enlargement to include Croatia (raised by Russian Federation); (ii) the selective tax on certain imported products by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Kingdom of Bahrain, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates (raised by Switzerland); (iii) Indonesia's import and export policies (raised by European Union, Brazil, Chinese Taipei, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Thailand and United States); (iv) India's customs duties on ICT products (raised by Australia; Canada; China; Japan; Korea, Republic of; New Zealand; Norway; Singapore; Switzerland; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; and United States); (v) the EU quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs, and the registration of certain terms of cheese as geographical indications (raised by Argentina, Uruguay, and United States); (vi) Egypt's manufacturer registration system (raised by European Union); (vii) Mongolia's quantitative restrictions and prohibitions on the importation of certain agricultural products (raised by Russian Federation); (viii) Viet Nam's Decree No. 116/2018 on the regulation regarding conditions for automobile manufacturing, assembling, importing, and automotive warranty and maintenance (raised by United States); (ix) China's measures restricting the import of scrap materials (raised by United States); (x) India's quantitative restrictions on imports of certain pulses (raised by Australia, Canada, European Union, Russian Federation, and United States); (xi) China's customs duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by European Union, Japan, and Chinese Taipei); (xii) the EU draft implementing regulations regarding protected designations of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine sector products (raised by Argentina, Brazil and United States); (xiii) China's new draft export control law (raised by Japan); (xiv) the US prohibitive proposal on communication equipment or services released by the US FCC (raised by China); (xv) Australia's discriminatory market access prohibition on 5G equipment (raised by China); (xvi) EU Regulation 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging (raised by Russian Federation); (xvii) the US measures on aviation security equipment (raised by China); (xviii) the Russian Federation trade-restricting practices (raised by European Union); (xix) the EU (Croatia) regulation of import and sale of certain oil products (raised by Russian Federation); and (xx) the EU amendments to Directive 2009/28/EC on renewable energy (raised by Malaysia and Colombia) .

2.82. At the 28 May 2019 meeting of the *Committee on Market Access (CMA)*⁶⁴, new and persistent trade concerns were raised on: (i) Australia's market access prohibition on 5G equipment (raised by China); (ii) China's custom duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by European Union, Japan and Chinese Taipei); (iii) the EU enlargement negotiations under Article XXIV:6 of the GATT 1994 to include Croatia (raised by Russian Federation); (iv) the EU renegotiations of tariff rate quotas under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 (raised by Russian Federation); (v) the rectifications and modifications of the United Kingdom's Schedule XIX (raised by Russian Federation); (vi) India's customs duties on telecommunication and other products (raised by Canada, China, Norway, Chinese Taipei and United States); (vii) India's quantitative restrictions on certain pulses (raised by Australia, Canada, European Union and United States); (viii) Indonesia's customs duties on telecommunication products (raised by United States); (ix) Jamaica's Regulations Nos. 145 And 146 banning single-use plastic products (raised by Dominican Republic); (x) 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 European Union, United States and Switzerland); (xi) Mongolia's quantitative restrictions on the importation of certain agricultural products (raised by Russian Federation); (xii) US measures regarding export control and market access prohibitions for ICT products (raised by China); and (xiii) Pakistan's import control order (raised by Thailand) .

2.83. At the meeting of the *Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products* on 14 May 2019⁶⁵, new and previously repeated trade issues were raised on: (i) India's continued tariff increases for certain ICT products⁶⁶ (raised by Canada, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Norway, Chinese Taipei and United States); (ii) China's new tariffs concerning multi-component integrated circuits (raised by European Union, Japan and Chinese Taipei); and (iii) Indonesia's tariffs on certain ICT products which appeared inconsistent with its bound commitments (raised by United States) .

2.84. At the meeting of the *Committee on Import Licensing (CIL)* on 22 October 2018⁶⁷, new and persistent trade concerns were raised on: (i) Indonesia's import licensing regime for cell phones, handheld computers and tablets (raised by United States); (ii) Indonesia's import requirements related to milk supply and circulation (raised by European Union and United States); (iii) India's import licensing requirements for boric acid (raised by United States); (iv) India's import requirements on certain pulses (raised

by Australia, Canada and European Union); (v) Viet Nam's import licensing for cyber security products (raised by the United States); (vi) China's changes to import licensing for solid waste and certain recoverable materials (raised by United States); (vii) Thailand's import procedures on feed wheat (raised by European Union); (viii) Brazil's import licensing on industrial nitrocellulose (raised by European Union); and (ix) the Russian Federation's import procedures for specified medicines and pharmaceutical products, i.e. the Good Manufacturing Practice certificate requirements (raised by European Union) .

2.85. At the 4 April 2019⁶⁸ CIL meeting, new trade concerns were raised on: (i) Tunisia's import-restrictive measures of 28 November 2018 and use of non-automatic licences (raised by European Union); (ii) Dominican Republic's import licensing permits for agricultural products (raised by United States); and (iii) Ghana's import procedures and permits for poultry (raised by United States) . Persistent trade concerns were reiterated on: (i) Indonesia's import licensing regime for cell phones, handheld computers and tablets (raised by United States); (ii) India's import licensing requirements on boric acid (raised by United States); (iii) Viet Nam's import licensing for cyber security products (raised by United States); (iv) China's changes to import licensing for solid waste and certain recoverable materials (raised by United States); (v) Thailand's import procedures on feed wheat (raised by European Union); and (vi) Brazil's import licensing on industrial nitrocellulose (raised by European Union) .

2.86. At the 4 October 2019⁶⁹ CIL meeting, new and persistent trade concerns were raised on: (i) Brazil's import licensing on industrial nitrocellulose (raised by European Union); (ii) China's changes to import licensing for solid waste and certain recoverable materials (raised by United States); (iii) Ghana's import procedures and permits for poultry (raised by United States); (iv) India's import licensing requirements on boric acid (raised by United States); (v) Indonesia's import licensing regime for cell phones, handheld computers and tablets (raised by United States); (vi) Myanmar's import licensing requirements for agricultural products (raised by United States); and (vii) Thailand's import procedures on feed wheat (raised by European Union) .

2.87. At the meeting of the *Committee on Customs Valuation* on 19 November 2018⁷⁰, a new concern was raised on Tajikistan's customs valuation procedures and practices (raised by Ukraine) . At the same meeting, concerns were repeated on: (i) Pakistan's determination of the customs value of paper (raised by Thailand); (ii) Indonesia's status of PSI notifications (raised by United States); and (iii) Egypt's status of PSI notifications (raised by United States) . Moreover, two previously raised trade issues were removed from the agenda, following resolution between the concerned Members, regarding (i) Armenia's alleged use of reference prices (raised by United States); and (ii) Oman's Customs valuation of cigarettes and introduction of the selective tax (raised by Switzerland) .

2.88. At the 23 May 2019 meeting of the Customs Valuation Committee⁷¹, concerns were repeated on: (i) Pakistan's determination of the customs value of paper (raised by Thailand); and (ii) Tajikistan's customs valuation procedures and practices (raised by Ukraine) .

2.89. At the meetings of the *Committee on Agriculture* (CoA)⁷² on 26-27 November 2018, 26-27 February 2019 and 25-26 June 2019, several questions and concerns were raised with respect to Members' individual notifications, and on implementation-related matters under Article 18.6. During the period concerned, a total of 390 questions were discussed, on individual notifications (229 questions), Article 18.6 matters (141 questions on 71 implementation-related matters), overdue notifications (19 questions), and counternotifications (1 question) . Additional details regarding these questions and concerns can be found in Section 3.6 of this Report.

2.90. At the meetings of the *Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices* (ADP)⁷³ on 24 October 2018 and 1 May 2019, issues were raised as per Table 3.19.

Table 3.19 Concerns raised on anti-dumping practices

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Argentina	
Investigation on parenteral solutions	Mexico
Armenia	
Investigation by the Eurasian Economic Union on zinc-plated or -coated flat-rolled steel products	Ukraine
Brazil	
Measures on milk powder products	New Zealand
Sunset review of measures on heavy plates	Ukraine
Sunset review of measures on tyres for passenger cars	Ukraine
China	
Investigation and provisional measure on broiler or chicken products	Brazil
Preliminary determination on acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber	Japan
Initiation of investigation and preliminary determination on stainless steel billets, hot-rolled plates and coils	Japan
Measures on acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber	Korea, Republic of
Canada	
Normal value review on certain liquid dielectric transformers	Korea, Republic of
Normal value review on certain carbon and alloy steel line pipes	Korea, Republic of
Measures on Oil Country Tubular Goods (OCTG)	Turkey
Colombia	
Measures on cylindrical metal drums	Chile
Investigation and measures on frozen fries	European Union
European Union	
Sunset review on seamless steel pipes and tubes	Russian Federation
Provisional duties on mixtures of urea and ammonium nitrate	Russian Federation
India	
Sunset review on soda ash	Turkey
Indonesia	
Measures on hot-rolled coil	Kazakhstan
Israel	
Investigation on low-voltage copper cables	Turkey
Investigation on Portland cement	Turkey
Mexico	
Sunset review on ferro-silico-manganese	Ukraine
Peru	
Measures on biodiesel	Argentina
Investigation on certain steel bars	Brazil
United States	
Preliminary determination on large-diameter welded pipes	Canada
Sunset review on stainless steel bar	Japan
Administrative reviews on OCTG, circular welded non-alloy pipe, heavy-walled rectangular welded carbon steel pipes and tubes, large-diameter welded pipe and corrosion resistant steel	Korea, Republic of
Measures on circular welded carbon steel pipes and tubes	Thailand

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.91. Additional issues and concerns were raised at the October 2018 meeting on: (i) the non-notification by some Members of their legislative status in the ADP Committee, albeit doing so in the context of the TPRB forum (raised by United States); (ii) the enactment and implementation of the amendments to the Basic AD Regulation of the European Union allowing the latter not to apply the lesser duty rule in case of price distortions for raw materials in the exporting country (raised by Russian Federation); (iii) the US application of adverse facts available and the determination of particular market situation in investigations (raised by Korea, Republic of; Japan; China; and Russian Federation); and (iv) the European Union's use of the cost adjustment methodology, already challenged by certain Members under the DS mechanism (raised by Russian Federation) .

2.92. Further concerns raised in the May 2019 ADP Committee meeting referred to: (i) the non-notification of anti-dumping legislation by Kenya (raised by United States); (ii) the US particular market situation determination in the imposition of anti-dumping measures (raised by Korea, Republic of; and Thailand); (iii) the US application of adverse facts available (raised by Korea, Republic of); (iv) the EU amendments to its anti-dumping regulation pertaining to the non-application of the lesser duty rule and to the application of the cost adjustment methodology (raised by Russian Federation); and (v) Mexico's non-market economy methodologies applied in anti-dumping investigations and reviews (raised by Russian Federation) .

2.93. At the meetings of the *Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures*⁷⁴ on 23 October 2018 and 30 April 2019, concerns were raised on countervailing duty actions as per Table 3.20.

Table 3.20 Concerns raised on countervailing duty actions

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
India Increased use of countervailing duties by India	China
United States Imposition of countervailing duties on ripe olives	European Union
Determinations in various countervailing investigations	Turkey
Investigation on fabricated structural steel	Mexico
Investigations on hot-rolled and cold-rolled steel products and large-diameter welded pipes	Korea, Republic of

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.94. At the same meetings, concerns were raised on China's alleged subsidy programmes in the steel sector (raised by European Union and United States) .

2.95. 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 pursuant to Articles 25.8 and 25.9 (raised by United States); (iv) subsidies and overcapacity (raised by Canada, European Union, Japan, Mexico, and United States); (v) the implementation of paragraph 2 of the Ministerial Decision on Fisheries Subsidies (raised by Argentina; Australia; Canada; Costa Rica; European Union; Iceland; Japan; Korea, Republic of; New Zealand; Norway; Chinese Taipei; and United States) .

2.96. At the meeting of the *Trade-Related Investment Measures* (TRIMs) Committee on 17 October 2018⁷⁵, new or persistent issues were raised, as per Table 3.21:

Table 3.21 Concerns raised at the October 2018 TRIMs Committee meeting

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Argentina Act 27,263 on the development and strengthening of auto-parts ^a	Mexico
China Local content in cybersecurity measures (including provisions on insurance system informatization) ^b	United States
Indonesia Requirements for 4G LTE mobile devices ^c	European Union, Japan, United States
Provisions in the energy sector (mining, oil and gas) ^d	European Union, Japan, United States
Industry Law and Trade Law ^e	European Union, Japan
Minimum local-product requirement for the modern retail sector ^f	European Union, Japan
Measures relating to investment in the telecommunications sector ^g	European Union, Japan
Requirements for pharmaceutical products and medical devices ^h	European Union, United States
Russian Federation Measures implementing the Russian Federation's import substitution policy ⁱ	European Union, United States
Turkey Practices and measures in the pharmaceutical sector	European Union, United States

a WTO documents [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/1](#), 1 May 2017; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/2](#), 22 May 2017; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/3](#), 11 October 2017; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/4](#), 5 February 2018; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/5](#), 3 May 2018; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/6](#), 7 June 2018; and [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/7](#), 25 September 2018.

b WTO document [G/TRIMS/Q/CHN/1](#), 3 June 2016.

c WTO documents [G/TRIMS/W/148](#), 26 March 2015; and [G/TRIMS/W/162](#), 27 April 2015.

d WTO documents [G/TRIMS/W/70](#), 9 October 2009; [G/TRIMS/W/74](#), 6 August 2010; [G/TRIMS/W/79](#), 22 December 2010; [G/TRIMS/W/88](#), 22 September 2011; [G/TRIMS/W/100](#), 6 July 2010; [G/TRIMS/W/108](#), 20 September 2012; [G/TRIMS/W/123](#), 30 April 2013; [G/TRIMS/W/128](#), 4 October 2013; [G/TRIMS/W/137](#), 13 August 2014; and [G/TRIMS/W/137/Corr.1](#), 25 September 2014.

e WTO documents [G/TRIMS/W/138](#), 13 August 2013; [G/TRIMS/W/140](#), 16 September 2014; [G/TRIMS/W/157](#), 24 April 2015; and [G/TRIMS/W/158](#), 27 April 2015.

f WTO documents [G/TRIMS/W/139](#), 15 September 2014; [G/TRIMS/W/141](#), 17 September 2014; [G/TRIMS/W/159](#), 24 April 2015; and [G/TRIMS/W/161](#), 27 April 2015.

g WTO documents [G/TRIMS/W/61](#), 8 May 2009; [G/TRIMS/W/63](#), 17 September 2009; [G/TRIMS/W/71](#), 17 December 2009; [G/TRIMS/W/75](#), 6 August 2010; [G/TRIMS/W/78](#), 20 September 2010; [G/TRIMS/W/80](#), 22 December 2010; [G/TRIMS/W/86](#), 22 September 2011; [G/TRIMS/W/96](#), 4 May 2012; [G/TRIMS/W/104](#), 5 September 2012; [G/TRIMS/W/131](#), 14 October 2013; [G/TRIMS/W/154](#), 13 April 2015; [G/TRIMS/W/160](#), 27 April 2015; [G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/1](#), 2 May 2017; and [G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/2](#), 21 September 2018.

h WTO document [G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/3](#), 21 September 2018.

i WTO documents [G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/4](#), 26 May 2016; [G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/5](#), 27 September 2016; [G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/6](#), 27 April 2017; [G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/7](#), 8 November 2017; [G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/8](#), 24 January 2018; and [G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/9](#), 22 March 2018.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.97. At the meeting of the TRIMs Committee on 6 June 2019⁷⁶, new or continuing issues were raised, as per Table 3.22:

Table 3.22 Concerns raised at the June 2019 TRIMs Committee meeting

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Argentina Act 27,263 on the development and strengthening regime of the Argentine autopatrim ^a	Mexico
China Local content in cybersecurity measures (including provisions on insurance system informatization) ^b	United States
Indonesia Comprehensive review of localization measures	European Union, Japan, United States
Requirements for pharmaceutical products and medical devices ^c	European Union, United States
Russian Federation Measures implementing the Russian Federation's import substitution policy ^d	United States
Measures to support the automotive industry to replace the automotive investment incentive programmes	United States

- a WTO documents [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/1](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/2](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/3](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/4](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/5](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/6](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/7](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/8](#) ; and [G/TRIMS/Q/ARG/9](#) .
- b WTO document [G/TRIMS/Q/CHN/1](#) .
- c WTO documents [G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/3](#) ; [G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/4](#) ; and [G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/5](#) .
- d WTO 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.

2.98. At the meetings of the *Committee on Safeguards*⁷⁷, on 22 October 2018 and 29 April 2019, concerns were raised on specific safeguard actions as per Table 3.23.

Table 3.23 Concerns raised at the Committee on Safeguards meetings

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Canada Investigation on certain steel products	Mexico; Turkey; Japan; Korea, Republic of
Chile Investigation on powdered milk and Gouda cheese	United States, New Zealand
Egypt Investigation on semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel and steel rebar (bars, rods and coils) for construction purposes	Ukraine, Pakistan
Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Russian Federation^a Investigation on certain flat-rolled steel products Investigation on welded tubes of stainless steel	Ukraine; Japan; Korea, Republic of Ukraine, European Union
European Union Investigation on certain steel products	Brazil; Japan; Switzerland; Turkey; China; Ukraine; Russian Federation; Korea, Republic of
Kingdom of Bahrain; the State of Kuwait; Oman; Qatar; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and United Arab Emirates^b Investigation on certain flat-rolled steel products	Ukraine; Japan; Korea, Republic of
India Investigation on solar cells	Japan
Indonesia Investigation on ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles Investigation on aluminium foil	Japan Japan; Korea, Republic of
Madagascar Investigation on pasta	Mauritius, United States, Egypt
Morocco Investigation on coated wood board Investigation on cold-rolled sheets and plated or coated sheets Investigation on wire rods and reinforcing bars	European Union Turkey, European Union Turkey, Ukraine
Philippines Investigation on float glass	European Union
South Africa Investigation on threaded fasteners of iron or steel	European Union
Turkey Investigation on iron and steel products Investigation on wallpaper and similar wallcoverings Investigation on yarn of nylon or other polyamides	European Union; Korea, Republic of; Japan; Brazil; China; Ukraine European Union; Korea, Republic of European Union; Korea, Republic of
Ukraine Investigation on flexible porous plates, blocks and sheets of polyurethane foams	European Union
United States Investigation on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells Investigation on large residential washers Measures taken following Section 232 investigations	China; Japan; Korea, Republic of; Norway Korea, Republic of Turkey, Japan, Russian Federation, China, India
Viet Nam Investigation on certain semi-finished and finished products of alloy and non-alloy steel	Japan

- a Investigations are initiated at the level of the Eurasian Economic Union.
- b Investigations are initiated at the level of the GCC.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.99. At the meeting of the *Working Party on State Trading Enterprises* (STEs) on 19 October 2018,⁷⁸ trade concerns were raised on: (i) Canada's milk class 7 (raised by European Union); (ii) the adequacy of China's notification (raised by United States); (iii) measures imposed by India limiting the importation of pulses (raised by Australia, Canada, European Union and United States); (iv) the provision of kiwi fruit nursery stock free of charge by New Zealand's Zespri Group Limited to growers outside New Zealand (raised by European Union); (v) the continued non-notification of STEs by the Russian Federation (raised by United States and European Union); (vi) the continued non-notification of STEs by the United Arab Emirates (raised by United States); and (vii) the low level of compliance with the notification obligations relating to STEs (raised by United States) .

2.100. At the meeting of the Working Party on STEs on 16 July 2019⁷⁹, trade concerns were raised on: (i) measures imposed by India limiting the importation of pulses (raised by Australia and Canada); (ii) the provision of kiwi fruit nursery stock free of charge by New Zealand's Zespri Group Limited to growers outside New Zealand (raised by European Union); (iii) Brazil's notification of no STEs (raised by United States); (iv) the continued non-notification of STEs by the Russian Federation (raised by United States, European Union and Ukraine); (v) the continued non-notification of STEs by the United Arab Emirates (raised by United States); and (vi) the low level of compliance with the notification obligations relating to STEs (raised by United States) .

2.101. At the meeting of the *Committee on Trade and Environment* (CTE) on 15 May 2019⁸⁰, Colombia and Malaysia provided information on the sustainability aspects of palm oil production, with a view to dispelling misconceptions that could impact trade and consumption.

2.102. At the meeting of the *Council for Trade in Services* (CTS) held on 7 December 2018, issues were reiterated about cybersecurity measures by China (raised by Japan and United States⁸¹) and by Viet Nam (raised by Japan and United States) .⁸² As part of its reply, China reiterated its concerns about measures by the United States that China alleges may affect other Members' cybersecurity interests.⁸³

2.103. An issue about cybersecurity measures by China was repeated at the meeting of the Council held on 21 March 2019 (raised by Japan) .⁸⁴ As part of its reply, China expressed its concerns about the definition of "critical infrastructure" contained in Japan's cybersecurity legislation.⁸⁵ Issues related to Viet Nam's cybersecurity measures were also reiterated at that meeting (raised by Japan and United States) .⁸⁶

2.104. At the meeting of the CTS of 27 June 2019, issues were reiterated about cybersecurity measures by China and Viet Nam (raised by Japan and United States) .⁸⁷ As part of its reply, China expressed concerns about a cybersecurity measure by the United States.⁸⁸

2.105. At the meetings of the *Committee on Trade and Development* (CTD) on 21 November 2018, 5 April 2019 and 28 June 2019⁸⁹, the LDC Group expressed concerns regarding the utilization rate of trade preferences by LDCs, and called for technical assistance to allow for a better utilization of these preferences. At the meetings of the CTD's Dedicated Session on Small Economies on 1 November 2018 and 29 April 2019⁹⁰, a trade concern raised related to the challenges small economies experience in their efforts to

reduce trade costs, particularly in the area of trade facilitation. Also at the meeting of 29 April 2019, concerns were expressed with regard to the vulnerability of small economies to natural disasters, the impact on trade, and issues relating to small economies' trade in commodities.

2.106. This Section attempts to provide evidence of the continued increase of trade concerns raised in various WTO bodies between mid-October 2018 and mid-October 2019. Some 230 new or repeated trade concerns were raised in 28 formal meetings of WTO bodies other than the SPS and TBT Committees, showing an increase of 8% in the number of concerns raised per meeting compared to the previous annual report. A significant number of trade concerns were raised in successive meetings of the same Committee/Council, and often in multiple WTO bodies.

2.107. The issues outlined in this Section confirm that a large number of trade concerns involve what appears to be technically complex and persistent problems. This, in turn, may explain why WTO Members are increasingly using multiple platforms within the WTO committee structure to address various aspects of such concerns. It is systemically significant that Members see the formal meetings of the relevant WTO bodies as important platforms for calling attention to specific trade issues and concerns, and for exploring solutions to trade friction non-litigiously. At the same time, however, the repetition and non-resolution of the same trade concerns and issues in various WTO bodies may also be a source of concern. The Secretariat will continue to closely monitor developments in this area.

2.6 Policy Developments in Agriculture

2.108. The Committee on Agriculture (CoA) provides a forum for WTO Members to discuss matters related to agriculture trade, and to consult on matters relating to Members' implementation of commitments under the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA). The review work of the CoA is based on notifications Members make in relation to their commitments. Article 18.6 allows them to raise any matter relevant to the implementation of the commitments under the AoA.

2.109. In the framework of the three CoA meetings that took place between mid-October 2018 and mid-October 2019²¹, Members posed a total of 370 questions, including questions both on individual notifications and under Article 18.6. The majority of questions concerning individual notifications (70%) were directed at domestic support notifications. Half of the questions raised under Article 18.6 related to domestic support policies, 31% to policies affecting market access, and 19% to other policies in the area of export competition.

2.110. In total, 11 Members raised 141 questions on 71 implementation-related matters (Article 18.6) in the November 2018 and February and June 2019 CoA meetings. As can be seen in Chart 3.19, the average number of questions raised under Article 18.6 per meeting has been on the rise since 2011, reaching an average of 51 questions per meeting in 2019. 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 (1995-2019^a)



a 2019 data cover up to the June 2019 CoA meeting.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.111. Out of the 71 implementation-related matters raised in the CoA during the review period, 49 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.

2.112. Domestic Support: more than half of the new issues raised related to domestic support policies potentially benefiting producers of beef (i.e. the European Union support package to Irish beef farmers), cotton (i.e. Egypt's pest control subsidy), dairy products (i.e. the European Union intervention policy, India's dairy loans and National Dairy Plan Phase I, New Zealand's support to dairy processing plants, and the Russian Federation's increased support to the dairy sector), canola (i.e. Canada's support to canola producers) and palm oil (i.e. Thailand's support to palm oil growers). Members also raised questions concerning domestic support policies with a wider scope, such as China's credit programme, the European Union's drought support to farmers and its coupled payments, Nigeria's domestic support programmes and the U.S. 2018 Farm Bill and its Boson Bounty Bucks Funds programme. At the June 2019 CoA meeting, India received several questions concerning various of its domestic support programmes (i.e. its transparency with Green Box measures, its National Food Security Mission, its Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, its increased budget on agriculture and rural development, its PM-KISAN income guarantee scheme, its short-term crop loans, and its Transport and Marketing Assistance).

2.113. Market Access: around 30% of the issues raised related to measures that restricted, or had the potential to restrict, trade of agricultural products, including coarse grains (i.e. European Union's malting barley HS code), dairy products (i.e. India's whey milk powder duty, Pakistan's import tariffs for dairy products, and Sri Lanka's tax on imported milk powder), juices and beverages (i.e. European Union's fruit juices TRQs, and the Republic of Moldova's environmental charges), poultry (i.e. Ghana's poultry imports), wheat (i.e. India's wheat policies, and Brazil's wheat quota), and edible oils (i.e. India's import duty protections). Questions involving more than one specific product were also raised (i.e. European Union's modification of its agricultural schedule of commitments, Indonesia's measure 18 in DS477 and DS478, and US TRQs).

2.114. Export Competition: a total of ten issues were raised to seek clarification on policies that potentially subsidized exports of chocolate (i.e. Switzerland's "Loi Chocolatière"), wheat (i.e. Turkey's flour exports and Turkish Grain Board), rice (i.e. China's rice policies, India's support to rice exporters, and Japan's export subsidies), oilseeds (i.e. India's soyameal export subsidies) and agricultural products in general (i.e. Egypt's export subsidies and arrears programme, India's Maharashtra State support subsidies, the Russian Federation's support to exporting industry in east of the country, and U.S. trade promotion payments). Table 3.24 lists the specific issues relating to implementation of commitments that were discussed for the first time during the three CoA meetings covered by the Report.²²

Table 3.24 Article 18.6 new issues

Question summary	Question raised by	Products	Number of questions	CoA Meetings	ID number
China's rice policies	United States	Rice	4	91	91133, 91134, 91135, 91136
European Union – Modification of agricultural schedule of commitments	Canada, New Zealand, Thailand		4	89, 90, 91	91015, 90087, 90028, 90128, 90129, 89001
U.S. Farm Bill 2018	Australia, European Union, India	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other	4	90, 91	91062, 90010, 90071, 90037
Canada's support to canola producers	Ukraine, European Union, India	Seeds	3	91	91003, 91019, 91060
Mexico's Strategic Programme of Guaranteed Prices	Canada, United States	Milk, Fresh vegetables, Wheat, Corn, Rice	3	90, 91	91084, 91159, 90089
Canada's compensation for farmers after trade concessions	Australia, European Union		2	91	91002, 91018
Ghana's poultry imports	United States	Poultry	2	89, 90	90041, 89023
India's Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA)	Australia, United States		2	91	91006, 91154
India's support to rice exports	Japan, Thailand, United States	Rice	2	90, 91	91153, 90111, 90130
India's dairy loans	United States	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other	2	89, 91	91149, 89027
Japan's export subsidies	United States	Rice	2	89, 91	91158, 89028
Sri Lanka's tax on imported milk powder	New Zealand	Milk powders	2	89, 90	90068, 89064
Brazil's wheat quota	Ukraine	Wheat	1	91	91001
China's credit programme	United States		1	89	89022
Egypt's export subsidy and Arrears Program	United States		1	91	91138
Egypt's pest control subsidy	Australia	Cotton	1	90	90019
European Union's coupled payments	India		1	91	91061

European Union's fruit juices TRQ	United States	Fruit and vegetable beverages	1	91	91176
European Union's malting barley HS code	United States	Coarse grains	1	91	91142
European Union's support package to Irish beef farmers	Australia	Bovine	1	91	91004
European Union's intervention policy	New Zealand	Milk powders	1	90	90026
European Union's drought support to farmers	Ukraine		1	89	89056
India's wheat policies	Ukraine	Wheat	1	91	91009
India's Maharashtra State export subsidies	United States		1	91	91155
India's National Dairy Plan Phase I	United States	Dairy	1	91	91152
India's National Food Security Mission	United States		1	91	91157
India's Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	United States		1	91	91156
India's transparency with Green Box measures	United States		1	91	91150
India's increased budget on agriculture and rural development	European Union		1	91	91020
India's PM-KISAN income guarantee scheme	New Zealand		1	91	91007
India's short-term crop loans	United States		1	91	91147
India's wheat public stockpiling	United States	Wheat	1	91	91141
India's soymeal export subsidies	United States	Oil seeds, fats and oils	1	90	90044
India's import duty protections	United States	Oils	1	90	90042
India's whey milk powder duty	United States	Milk powders	1	89	89025
Indonesia's Measure 18 in DS477 and DS478	New Zealand		1	91	91010
Moldova's environmental charges	Ukraine	Alcoholic beverages, Fruit and vegetable beverages	1	90	90005
New Zealand's support to dairy processing facilities	European Union	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other	1	90	90006
Nigeria's domestic support programmes	Australia		1	90	90034
Pakistan's import tariffs for dairy products	European Union	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other	1	89	89062
Russian Federation's support to exporting industry in east of the country	European Union		1	91	91021
Russian Federation's increased support to dairy sector	European Union	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other	1	90	90007
Switzerland's "Loi Chocolatière" and implementation of the Nairobi Decision on Export Competition	European Union	Cocoa (other)	1	90	90020
Thailand's support to palm oil growers	European Union	Vegetable oils and fats	1	90	90008
Turkey's flour export and Turkish Grain Board	European Union	Wheat	1	90	90009
U.S. Boston Bounty Bucks funds programme	India		1	90	90038
U.S. disaster bill	European Union	Fresh vegetables	1	91	91025
U.S. TRQs	Russian Federation		1	91	91026
U.S. trade promotion payments	European Union		1	90	90013

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.115. Other measures that were discussed related to follow-up questions on persistent areas of concern (Table 3.25)⁹³. A number of these issues had been raised in the CoA multiple times. Two have been raised in 13 CoA meetings (i.e. Canada's new milk ingredient class and its wine sale policy) while questions on India's pulse policies have been raised in 8 meetings. The Philippine's rice waiver and Pakistan's wheat export subsidies were subject to review in seven CoA meetings. A number of these questions were co-sponsored by two or three WTO Members. Policies from the European Union, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Suriname, Thailand, the United States and Zimbabwe were also the subject of repeated concerns under Article 18.6.

Table 3.25 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	51	13	79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91	91132, 90018, 90120, 90039, 89020, 89053, 89055, 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,

Canada's wine sale policy	Australia, European Union, New Zealand, United States	Alcoholic beverages	24	13	79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91	80003, 80005, 80006, 80025, 79035, 91137, 90040, 89021, 89054, 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
India's pulses policies	Australia, Canada, Russian Federation, Ukraine, United States	Processed vegetables	40	8	84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91	91005, 91008, 91075, 91076, 91077, 91140, 90032, 90088, 90029, 90004, 90043, 89004, 89007, 89024, 89057, 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
Philippines' rice waiver	Australia, Japan, Thailand, United States	Rice	9	7	84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91	91012, 89063, 88032, 87082, 86008, 85071, 84057, 84015, 84079
Pakistan's wheat export subsidies	Australia, United States	Wheat	8	7	76, 77, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91	91160, 90045, 89030, 88072, 87021, 76020, 76028, 77029
Thailand's import permits for feed wheat	Australia, European Union, United States	Animal feed, Wheat, Corn	9	6	83, 84, 85, 86, 88, 91	91022, 88002, 86106, 85039, 84074, 84059, 83107, 83045, 83013
Republic of Korea's rice imports	Australia, Thailand, United States	Rice	8	6	23, 78, 86, 87, 88, 89	89029, 89060, 88045, 87090, 86036, 23006, 78020, 78024
Russian Federation's railway subsidy for exports	Australia, Canada, European Union, Ukraine, United States	Cereals, Wheat, Corn, Rice, Malt, Coarse grains	11	5	85, 86, 87, 88, 91	91161, 91162, 88073, 87022, 87098, 86010, 86068, 86067, 86038, 86047, 85036
Pakistan's sugar policies	Australia, Brazil, Guatemala, Russian Federation	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other	7	5	85, 86, 87, 88, 89	89061, 89091, 88033, 88124, 88125, 87081, 86007, 86009, 85069
Mongolia's quota regime for importation	Russian Federation	Milk, Cereal	5	5	86, 87, 88, 90, 91	91011, 90027, 88104, 87094, 86001
U.S. proposed domestic support measures	Australia, Canada, China, European Union, India, Japan, Ukraine, New Zealand	Swine, Milk, Fresh vegetables, Wheat, Corn, Coarse grains	17	4	88, 89, 90, 91	91013, 91014, 91016, 91023, 91024, 91027, 91063, 91080, 90035, 89047, 89066, 88030, 88048, 88028, 88047, 88029, 88098
India's sugar policies	Australia, Brazil, European Union, Russian Federation	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other	9	4	87, 88, 89, 90	90033, 89058, 89090, 88046, 88130, 88129, 88128, 88127, 88039, 88042, 88043, 87002, 87079
India's skim milk powder export subsidies	Australia, European Union, New Zealand, United States	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other	6	4	88, 89, 90, 91	91151, 90002, 89026, 88070, 88037, 88122, 88040
U.S. dairy policies	Canada	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other	6	4	85, 86, 87, 89	89005, 89006, 87105, 87106, 86084, 85079
Thailand's sugar policies	Australia, European Union, Brazil	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other	6	4	76, 77, 89	76001, 76021, 76033, 77031, 77046
Zimbabwe's tobacco export incentive	United States	Tobacco	4	4	88, 89, 90, 91	91163, 90046, 89033, 88076
Suriname's poultry tariffs	United States	Poultry	4	4	86, 87, 88, 89	89031, 88074, 87023, 86049
U.S. support to the cotton sector	Brazil, European Union, India	Cotton	3	3	86, 87, 90	90036, 87103, 86069
India's Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)	Australia, New Zealand, United States	MEIS	3	2	88, 89	89059, 88123, 88038, 88067
EU's common agricultural policy (CAP) reform	New Zealand, Australia		2	2	88, 90	90022, 88062
India's proposed domestic support programmes	European Union		2	2	88, 90	90003, 88041
Thailand's import licensing for meat	United States	Meat, Bovine, Swine, Sheep and goat, Poultry, Horses, Other	2	2	88, 89	89032, 88075

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.116. Members continued to take steps towards the implementation of the December 2015 Nairobi Ministerial Decision on Export Competition. Out of the 16 Members with positive export subsidy commitment levels in their schedules at the time of adoption of the Nairobi Decision on Export Competition, 11 had their revised export subsidy schedules certified (Australia, Colombia, Iceland, Israel, Mexico, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey, the United States and Uruguay); 2 (Canada and the European Union) circulated their draft revised schedules (but are still pending for certification); and 3 still have to circulate their revised draft ES schedules (Brazil, Indonesia, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) .

2.117. Members undertook the 2019 annual dedicated discussion on the implementation of the Nairobi Ministerial Decision on export competition at its June 2019 CoA meeting. In the context of this review, a total of 32 questions were raised regarding policies in the area of export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes,

international food aid and State Trading Enterprises (Table 3.26)⁹⁴.

Table 3.26 Questions raised at the June 2019 CoA annual dedicated discussion on export competition

ID number	Question raised by	Question answered by	Areas
91111	United States	Argentina	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91028	European Union	Australia	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91055	European Union	Brazil	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91057, 91112	European Union, United States	Canada	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes; international food aid
91064, 91070, 91114, 91115, 91117	European Union, United States	China	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes; state trading enterprises; international food aid
91118, 91119	United States	European Union	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes; international food aid
91120	United States	Hong Kong, China	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91072, 91073, 91213	European Union, United States	India	State trading enterprises
91071	European Union	Indonesia	Export subsidies
91123	United States	Korea, Republic of	International food aid
91069, 91124	European Union, United States	Malaysia	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91068	European Union	New Zealand	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91125	United States	Pakistan	State trading enterprises
91126, 91127	United States	Russian Federation	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes; state trading enterprises
91067	European Union	Switzerland	Export subsidies
91110, 91130	United States	Thailand	State trading enterprises; export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91065, 91066	European Union	Turkey	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes; export subsidies
91056	European Union	United States	International food aid
91122	United States	Uruguay	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes
91109	United States	Viet Nam	Export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.7 General Economic Support

2.118. At the most recent informal TPRB meeting, on 22 July 2019, several WTO Members expressed disappointment that it had again been impossible for the Secretariat to establish a separate annex on general economic support measures. At the meeting, the Director-General called on the WTO membership to provide the Secretariat with guidance on how such measures should be covered by future Trade Monitoring Reports.

2.119. Over the past couple of years, the Secretariat has been unable to justify the inclusion of a separate annex on general economic support measures in the Trade Monitoring Reports. This was partly a reflection of the low participation and response rate of WTO Members to the request for information, and partly because such an annex would have been biased against those Members that traditionally publish detailed information of such measures and programmes. Compounding this scarcity of information volunteered by Members, some delegations often insisted on excluding general economic support measures identified by the Secretariat from public sources and for which verification was sought. The informal meeting generated an exchange of views on how to address this issue, with one delegation exploring the option of requesting those Members which ask for the omission of a support measure for clarification of such a request.

2.120. In response to the Director-General's September 2019 request for information for this Trade Monitoring Report, only eight WTO Members (Bangladesh; China; Colombia; the European Union; Hong Kong, China; Kenya; Thailand; and Turkey) and one Observer (Azerbaijan) volunteered information on general economic support measures. From the Secretariat's own research, it was clear that many support measures with potentially important ramifications for trade were not reported by Members for this review period.

2.121. Secretariat research on general economic support measures implemented during the review period shows that some conclusions with respect to the use and scope of these measures still stand out. Sectors which received significant disbursements during the review period included support to farmers, investment in technology and innovation programmes, and investment in various energy sectors. Other measures included transportation aid schemes, loan guarantees to SMEs (often linked to export), aid arrangements to telecommunication service providers, favourable income tax policies, and miscellaneous support policies for the steel sector. Several of these measures are multi-year programmes, with financial disbursements staggered over the lifetime of a project. Other measures were one-off grants or aid schemes. In monetary terms, general economic support measures submitted by delegations or identified by the Secretariat envisaged disbursements ranging from a few hundred thousand US dollars to several billion US dollars.

2.122. The current review period has confirmed that WTO Members continue to implement such measures as part of their overall trade policy. The way the application of these measures appears to expand – in scope as well as in monetary terms – should be of concern to those who fund them, as well as to those who must compete with them. Although the large economy-wide subsidies and bail-outs of 2009-10 are no longer common, there is no evidence that governments have turned their back on subsidization as a policy tool, particularly in certain strategic industries or sectors. The selective commitment to transparency which has characterized general economic support measures in the context of the trade monitoring exercise may warrant further reflection by all Members.

2.123. It is important to emphasize that the trade monitoring exercise does not make any judgement as to the WTO compatibility of such measures. While it is possible that these measures may affect trade in some way, it is not always straightforward to conclude that they restrict or facilitate trade, or that they distort competition. The discussions at the July informal TPRB meeting reinforced the need to look for a way forward in the reporting of these measures in the Trade Monitoring Reports. There is little doubt that this would have to explore manners in which transparency on such measures can be increased while, at the same time, safeguarding Members' ability to argue why a specific measure does not qualify for inclusion in this Report.

2.8 Overview of Trade Policy Reviews

2.124. Between mid-October 2018 and mid-October 2019, 16 Trade Policy Reviews (TPRs) were undertaken (Table 3.27) . They provided the WTO membership with enhanced transparency and a better understanding of the trade and economic development in each of the Members reviewed. Discussions among participants at the level of the Trade Policy Review Body were substantive, constructive and insightful.⁹⁵

Table 3.27 Trade Policy Reviews from mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019 – Summary tariff indicators

	Simple applied average (%)			Duty free ^a	Non-ad valorem ^a
	Total	WTO agriculture	WTO non-agriculture		
Vanuatu (2018)	9.3	16.9	8.0	26.0	0.04
Armenia (2018)	7.5	12.8	6.0	19.6	13.0
Hong Kong, China (2018)	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0
Nepal (2018-19)	12.4	15.0	11.9	3.6	0.9

United States (2018 ^b)	4.8	9.4	4.0	37.5	10.6
Ecuador (2018)	12.2	18.5	11.2	37.3	5.0
EAC (2018)	12.9	20.7	11.7	37.4	1.0
Bangladesh (2018-19)	14.8	18.1	14.1	4.6	0.4
Samoa (2018 ^c)	11.4	15.0	10.7	3.3	1.0
Papua New Guinea (2018)	4.0	11.0	2.8	74.0	1.4
Trinidad & Tobago (2018)	9.1	17.9	7.3	60.7	0.4
Canada (2019)	6.1	21.8	2.5	70.4	3.7
North Macedonia (2019)	8.5	17.6	5.8	40.1	3.2
Suriname (2019)	11.4	19.5	9.8	5.0	0.0
Costa Rica (2019)	7.0	14.1	5.6	2.6	0.0
Peru (2019)	2.2	3.0	2.1	69.9	0.6

a % of total tariff lines.

b As of February 2018.

c As of 3 April 2018.

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.

Figure in brackets refer to the year of the tariff schedule applied.

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

Vanuatu: 23 and 25 October 2018

2.125. Vanuatu's initiatives to integrate into the multilateral trading system were greatly appreciated. Members valued the country's strong commitment to the WTO and welcomed its recent opening of a permanent mission in Geneva. They noted Vanuatu's active pursuit of regional integration and the conclusion of FTAs, most notably in the South Pacific. They noted its considerable strides in improving its economic and trade performance since its accession to the WTO. They highlighted that, despite the extensive damage caused by Cyclone Pam in 2015 and Vanuatu's considerable exposure to natural disasters and climate change, it had managed to achieve reasonable growth rates and has been able to maintain a positive economic outlook. Vanuatu's per capita GDP has reached USD 2,900, and its graduation from LDC status is expected. Members commended Vanuatu on its national development strategy, "Vision 2030", launched in 2017, and the adoption of a trade policy framework in 2012, which both focus on mainstreaming trade and investment into the overall development agenda. They praised Vanuatu for its open trade and investment regime, with relatively low average tariffs and considerable reductions in customs clearance times. Noting the importance of comprehensive policy reforms together with trade liberalization, Members also underlined the role that technical assistance had played in improving Vanuatu's business environment and in enhancing its understanding of WTO principles. Members commended Vanuatu on the notification of its category A, B, and C commitments under the TFA. They appreciated its active role in the WTO negotiations on fisheries subsidies and commended it on its efforts to combat IUU fishing activities. They noted that the services sector is the mainstay of the economy, contributing about two-thirds to GDP. It was recognized that, due to Vanuatu's increasing popularity as a travel destination, the sector is largely driven by tourism, which is a major foreign exchange earner and provider of formal employment. The information and communications technology (ICT) and transport subsectors also gained important momentum in the past years.

2.126. On its development strategy, Members noted the challenges remaining in some areas, including the need to step up efforts to diversify the production and export base, and alleviate poverty and promote social inclusion, particularly in rural areas. They encouraged further domestic regulatory reforms to continue improving the business environment, with a view to facilitating commercial activity and stimulating growth. Members also took note of Vanuatu's positive steps to establish and strengthen an intellectual property rights protection regime, including the institution of the Vanuatu Intellectual Property Office. Concern was expressed regarding applied rates exceeding bound rates for some tariff lines. Members strongly encouraged Vanuatu to ratify the TFA. They also urged it to fulfil its notification obligations in areas such as agriculture, SPS, TBT, customs valuation, import licensing, and contingency measures. They noted the significance of the agriculture sector for exports and rural development and encouraged Vanuatu to further support the improvement of rural living standards, for example through better access to credit and basic energy services.

Armenia: 20 and 22 November 2018

2.127. Members noted Armenia's improvement in its economic and trade performance since its first review, in particular its recovery from the 2008 global financial crisis, with an average annual GDP growth rate of 4%. They recognized that its economy was characterized by low inflation, declining poverty and significant progress in enhancing its macroeconomic stability, in which trade in goods and services (equivalent of 87% of GDP) played a growing role. Members praised Armenia's general openness to FDI, and its recognition of the important contribution it can have on economic development. They welcomed its efforts to pursue broader economic partnerships by acceding to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) in 2015, to the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA), in 2018 and to several FTAs. Members were encouraged by the advances towards further economic integration into the world economy, and the objectives of the Development Strategy 2014-25. They recognized Armenia's positive record of fulfilling its WTO transparency commitments. Encouraging Armenia to continue its constructive engagement with the WTO, Members commended it on its accession to the GPA in 2011 and to the revised agreement in 2015, and more recently on its ratification of the TFA in 2017. Members noted that, further to notifying its A, B and C category commitments, Armenia had already implemented many of the B category commitments earlier than indicated in the notification.

2.128. On the other hand, Members noted the challenges remaining in some areas, including the country's vulnerability to external shocks, and the need to step up efforts to diversify the narrow production and export base, which continue to be concentrated in the mining and tourism sectors and are reliant on a limited number of trading partners. They were also interested in better understanding the impact of membership of the EAEU on Armenia's trade policy and its WTO obligations. Several issues were raised in this regard: (i) accession to the EAEU had led to tariff increases on many tariff lines, with the average applied tariff increasing from 2.7% in 2009 to 7.5% in 2018. Noting that it was currently engaged in negotiations with interested parties under GATT Articles XXIV and XXVIII, Members hoped that Armenia would be able to conclude these negotiations at an early date; (ii) on TBT and SPS measures, Armenia was asked to clarify, *inter alia*, the status in Armenia of EAEU technical regulations not yet notified to the WTO; (iii) concerns about certain legislative changes in government procurement as a result of Armenia's EAEU accession, such as harmonized EAEU blacklisting provisions and their compatibility with the GPA; and (iv) clarifications of recent amendments to harmonize national competition law with that of the EAEU. Members encouraged Armenia to make further efforts in its WTO notifications in the areas of: import licensing and QRS; subsidies and countervailing measures; and domestic support for agriculture. They encouraged it to become a party to the ITA, and to ratify the protocol amending the TRIPs Agreement. At the same time, they encouraged further domestic regulatory reforms to continue the improvement of the business environment, with a view to facilitating commercial activity and stimulating sustainable growth. Members also highlighted that they wanted to see more effective enforcement and progress in Armenia's capacity-building in the protection of IPRs. Noting that cigarette and other tobacco product manufacturing was becoming increasingly important as a source of revenue, Members encouraged Armenia to continue its efforts to control illicit trade in tobacco products.

Hong Kong, China: 26 and 28 November 2018

2.129. Members commended Hong Kong, China's strong commitment to, and support for, the multilateral trading system. In particular, on its active role in the MC11 joint initiatives on investment facilitation for development, MSMEs, services domestic regulation, and electronic commerce. Hong Kong, China was highly praised for maintaining one of the most open and market-oriented economies in the world, and for achieving robust economic growth, despite a challenging external environment. It was congratulated for being the first Member to accept the TFA. Its participation in plurilateral trade initiatives, including the revised GPA and the expansion of the ITA, was also acknowledged. Some Members noted that Hong Kong, China had not made any use of special and differential treatment in recent years. Overall, Members praised Hong Kong, China for its open, transparent and efficient trade regime. They commended it for maintaining a tariff-free import regime with very few import restrictions, no legislation pertaining to anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard measures, and relatively simple TBT and SPS systems. Hong Kong, China continued to implement measures to further streamline customs procedures and facilitate trade. Members welcomed the full implementation of the AEO (Authorized Economic Operator) program, the conclusion of several mutual recognition agreements concerning AEO's, and the forthcoming implementation of the Trade Single Window (the first phase was scheduled for end-2018). They acknowledged that Hong Kong, China's good economic performance was underpinned by sound macroeconomic fundamentals, including a healthy fiscal balance and a strong external financial position, as well as a business-friendly environment, transparent regulatory settings and modern infrastructure. They further noted that Hong Kong, China's liberal approach to trade and investment had enabled it to obtain some of the highest rankings in major world indicators of competitiveness, economic freedom and ease of doing business. It was recognized that Hong Kong, China's highly outward-oriented economy was particularly sensitive to global trade tensions, rising protectionism and heightened volatility in financial markets. The importance of the services sector to the economy of Hong Kong, China, and its orientation towards a knowledge-based society, were highlighted, and Members acknowledged its achievements as a major global trade, finance and logistics center. They also welcomed the entry into force of its first Competition Ordinance in 2015. Changes recently introduced by Hong Kong, China to its government procurement regime were also acknowledged, with some Members expressing interest in further discussing its implementation of the GPA and opportunities for foreign supplier participation. Members took note of the steps taken by Hong Kong, China to upgrade its intellectual property regime and enforcement capacity and welcomed the adoption of legislation to establish an original grant patent system. They noted with interest Hong Kong, China's active engagement in bilateral and regional trade agreements (such as those signed with the ASEAN nations, Georgia, and Macao, China), and the recent conclusion of an FTA with Australia. They also noted its increasingly deep economic and financial integration with Mainland China through the conclusion of four subsidiary agreements to the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA).

2.130. On the other hand, noting that half of its tariff schedule remained unbound, some Members encouraged Hong Kong, China to expand the coverage of its tariff bindings to enhance the predictability of its trade regime. They encouraged it to further liberalize its services markets (particularly in professional services) and make efforts to follow the best practices of administrative transparency. Some Members expressed concerns regarding IPR enforcement in the digital environment and the transit of counterfeit and other infringing goods through Hong Kong, China. They also encouraged it to press ahead with the adoption of new copyright legislation. Noting that merger rules only apply to the telecommunications sector, some Members encouraged it to consider extending the scope of these provisions.

Nepal: 3 and 5 December 2018

2.131. Members commended Nepal on its positive economic performance during the review period (average annual real GDP growth rate of 4.4%) . This was achieved despite being hit by big earthquakes in 2015 that caused considerable loss of lives, and damage to infrastructure and production. It was noted that Nepal is taking steps to diversify its narrow production and export base, which continue to be concentrated in textiles, clothing and agricultural products, and are reliant on a limited number of trading partners, particularly India. Members appreciated Nepal's relatively open trade regime, with a simple average MFN applied tariff of 12% in 2018. They praised its general openness to FDI, and its recognition of the important contribution it can have on economic development. Nepal also took several steps to further liberalize its trade regime, including ongoing programs on import procedures, and the electronic government procurement system. Moreover, new laws were enacted, such as the Industrial Enterprises Act, 2016, the Special Economic Zone Authority Act, 2016, and the Labour Act, 2017, while other laws are being drafted, notably a new single tax code to improve, consolidate and harmonize the main domestic taxes. Nepal was praised for its ratification of both the TFA and the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement. Members noted that, further to notifying its Category A, B and C commitments under the TFA, Nepal's Customs Reform and Modernization Strategies Action Plan will be fully adopted by 2021, and the National Customs Single Window is being implemented. Members welcomed Nepal's adoption of its new Constitution in 2015. In response, Nepal stated that the new Constitution laid down a solid foundation for the country's socio-economic transformation. Political stability should allow Nepal to update legislation and enact laws which were in development at the time of the last TPR, for example a bill on safeguards, anti-dumping and countervailing measures.

2.132. Members encouraged Nepal to continue its economic reform process, including through its National Trade Integration Strategy, and address its supply-side constraints, notably high transit and transportation costs. This, in turn, would enable Nepal to tackle its growing remittances-induced trade deficit, further reduce poverty, and achieve its objectives of graduating from LDC status by 2022 and becoming a middle-income country by 2030. Member asked Nepal to fulfil its outstanding WTO notifications, including in the areas of domestic support for agriculture, customs valuation, import licensing, and services. Some Members asked it to become an observer to the GPA and the ITA and consider joining ongoing discussions on the MC11 Joint Initiatives. Questions were asked about Nepal's two overlapping regional agreements, the South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA) and the Framework Agreement on the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), and about Nepal's 17 bilateral trade agreements. On its trade regime, Members expressed concern over certain areas, i.e. (i) cases when applied MFN tariffs exceed bound rates; (ii) the simplification of the corporation tax and excise duty systems; (iii) an increase of efforts towards regulatory transparency; and (iv) the investment of more resources on its standardization and conformity assessment infrastructure. On FDI, Members encouraged Nepal to continue liberalizing its investment regime and address issues of institutional capacity to attract larger FDI inflows, with a view to facilitating commercial activity and stimulating sustainable growth. While acknowledging progress regarding IPRs, including through the IP Policy 2017, Members urged Nepal to more effectively enforce competition policy and protection of IPRs. It was acknowledged that Nepal aims to double agricultural production in the next five years, shift a large part of the population to off-farm and other emerging sectors, and develop a trade surplus for agricultural goods. Members showed interest in Nepal's plans to facilitate FDI in hydroelectricity and provide clean energy. Based on tourism-related receipts, Nepal became a net exporter of services during the review period, and it targets welcoming two million tourists under its "Visit Nepal 2020" program. Improving connectivity, particularly with respect to telecoms and transport, is an imperative for raising efficiency of the economy and the competitiveness of Nepalese exports.

United States: 17 and 19 December 2018

2.133. The United States was complimented for being among the main architects of a rules-based international trading system that underpinned decades of economic growth and prosperity at home and abroad. Members highlighted the historical leadership role of the United States in the GATT and the WTO, and expressed their commitment to engage with the United States on constructive proposals to improve the functioning of the rules-based multilateral trading system. Members were of the view that the trade and investment regime of the United States remained overall open and liberal. The United States had bound all its tariffs, except for two tariff lines, and the simple average applied tariff rate was 4.8%, with little or no tariff escalation. Taking account of trade preferences, nearly 70% of all imports entered duty free. The United States had taken measures to further facilitate trade, by completing the deployment of core capabilities in its Automated Commercial Environment. It strongly backed the entry into force of the TFA and was supporting other WTO Members in implementing it. Several Members appreciated the renewal of trade preferences granted under the GSPs and the AGOA. They noted that the U.S. economy had performed well since the last Review. The economy was in its ninth consecutive year of expansion, more recently also stimulated by a pro-cyclical fiscal policy. The unemployment rate was at its lowest level in 50 years, consumer and business confidence were high, and inflation remained subdued. Strong economic growth had been accompanied by a widening current account deficit. The United States remained a net exporter of services, and the leading exporter of goods and services that embody intellectual property. It was both a top source and destination for FDI. Regarding services, it was noted that the U.S. economy is open to foreign service providers, with limited exceptions, and that regulatory processes are transparent, accessible and open to public input. Members also noted the United States' efforts to reform global agriculture trade. On the negotiating front, appreciation was expressed regarding the productive engagement of the United States on services domestic regulation disciplines, its determination to establish WTO rules prohibiting harmful fisheries subsidies, and its active role in the Joint Statement Initiative on Electronic Commerce.

2.134. Members noted that a shift had occurred in U.S. trade policy, with a distinct new emphasis on national security considerations in the pursuit of free, fair and reciprocal trade relations. The five pillars of the current U.S. Trade Policy Agenda were repeatedly highlighted: the adoption of trade policies supporting the national security policy, the building of a stronger U.S. economy, the negotiation of better trade deals, vigorous enforcement of domestic trade laws and rights under existing trade agreements, and the reform of the multilateral trading system. Several Members stressed the increasingly active recourse to anti-dumping and countervailing measures by the United States, as well as their long duration, and expressed their reservations with respect to certain methodologies used in investigations. It was also noted that, in the period under review, the United States had applied global safeguard measures on solar cell products and large residential washing machines. In addition, the United States had acted under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, related to U.S. national security, in the form of additional tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum products. It had also taken action as a result of an investigation under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Members also raised concerns with respect to the introduction of new "Buy American" provisions with respect to government procurement legislation. The low uptake of international standards in the United States, which may result in unnecessary trade barriers, was noted, as well as the level of protection of geographical indications, that some considered insufficient. The need to reform outdated maritime and cabotage legislation was stressed. Some Members questioned the effect on third parties of the introduction of new rules of origin in the automotive sector, resulting from the renegotiation of regional trade agreements. Some reiterated their longstanding concerns regarding aspects of U.S. agricultural policy, particularly the limited market access for sugar, dairy and cotton, high tariffs, and the continued use of trade-distorting support. The launch of a USD 12 billion aid package for agricultural producers hurt by market disruption and retaliatory tariffs was attracted wide interest. Members noted that the WTO was facing unprecedented challenges, and that positive initiatives to deal with them could include steps to strengthen the notification and transparency functions of the WTO, enhance compliance, and end the impasse regarding the dispute settlement mechanism. In the view of the Members, although the short-term economic outlook for the United States remained positive, mounting public debt, higher interest rates, and increasing trade tensions were of concern. It was in this context that the continued support and commitment of the United States to a predictable, rules-based multilateral trading system took on a critical dimension, for its trading partners, but also for the long-term economic well-being of the United States itself.

Ecuador: 5 and 7 March 2019

2.135. Members appreciated Ecuador's participation in the multilateral trading system and took note that the development dimension was crucial for the country. They welcomed its continued efforts to submit notifications to the WTO, and its contribution to the negotiations on fisheries subsidies. It was also noted that Ecuador was a signatory to some of the MC11 initiatives. Members congratulated Ecuador for its recent ratification of the TFA. They acknowledged the adoption of several measures to facilitate trade, such as the implementation of an electronic customs system, a single window for foreign trade, and a risk management system, as well as the introduction of an AEO scheme. Ecuador was praised for restoring macroeconomic stability in the aftermath of the balance of payments crisis, which occurred during the review period. It was noted that GDP had grown at an average annual rate of 3% between 2011 and 2017, leading to an increase in per capita GDP and a decrease in poverty. Members welcomed the significant decline of oil, and the increase of agricultural and fish products in the share of exports. Members appreciated Ecuador's steps to phase out its BOP measure. Ecuador also actively pursued further regional integration and concluded an agreement with the European Union and the EFTA countries. Members appreciated the significant changes in the IPR legal framework.

2.136. Ecuador remains highly dependent on oil exports, which renders the economy vulnerable to commodity price fluctuations in world markets. In this respect, Members urged it to continue its efforts towards diversification to reduce its vulnerability to external shocks. Ecuador's economy was severely affected by the decline in oil prices in 2014-15, which led to an increase in the current account deficit and a sharp decline in reserves. To deal with the crisis, among other measures, in 2015-17, Ecuador adopted a BOP safeguard in the form of tariff surcharges, affecting some 40% of its tariff lines. Some Members noted that their bilateral trade had been affected by this measure and considered it to be Ecuador's most important trade policy issue. Overall, Members urged Ecuador to adopt the appropriate policies to deal with challenging economic situations, so that in the future there would be no need to resort to the use of similar import-restrictive measures. The fiscal deficit did not decline as planned, and the public debt increased; some Members were of the view that servicing the accumulated debt could be costly. While noting that dollarization had served the economy well, it had also limited Ecuador's policy options and increased its dependency on exports and inflows of capital. Observing that FDI, a traditional source of financing in the country, had declined since 2014, Members urged Ecuador to further open its economy to foreign investment by enhancing the predictability and transparency of its policies. In this context, Members enquired about Ecuador's decision to rescind bilateral investment protection agreements and encouraged it to take the necessary steps to provide an appropriate framework for the resolution of disputes. Some Members noted that Ecuador still used many pre-import control documents, including registration of importers, prior import permits and authorizations, and non-automatic licensing. Ecuador was encouraged to consider simplifying such requirements and increase efforts towards regulatory transparency, in order

to reduce trade costs. Members observed that tariffs were used as an instrument to promote industrial policy and could be modified as required. It was noted that, in addition to the BOP safeguard surcharge, the general level of tariffs also increased during the review period. They also expressed concern about the predictability of the Andean Price Band Mechanism and urged Ecuador to supply *ad valorem* equivalents. Some noted that applied tariff rates for some tariff lines appeared to exceed bound rates. Members remarked that imports of agricultural products faced higher tariffs than imports of non-agricultural products. Concerns were expressed regarding some SPS requirements, which could become a barrier to trade. Some Members noted that burdensome procedures were affecting their exports of agricultural products, including cumbersome tariff-quota management and long processes for the granting of import licenses, in certain instances linked to the availability of domestic production. In addition, Members noted that the Government intervened in the marketing and pricing of certain agricultural commodities. In general, Members encouraged Ecuador to increase the transparency of its trade-related agricultural policies. Specific questions regarding the implementation of the IPR legal framework, compulsory licensing, and the enforcement of IPRs were raised. Several Members encouraged Ecuador to join, or at least become an observer to, the GPA.

East African Community (EAC): Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda: 20 and 22 March 2019

2.137. Members praised the EAC countries for their strong commitment to the multilateral trading system. They commended them on their strong overall economic performance and the concurrent improvement in their key socio-economic indicators. This performance was largely supported by increased public investments in infrastructures for transport, energy, and ICT. Members took note of the adoption of the Tripartite Agreement, aimed at harmonizing policies between the EAC, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and of the progress towards the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area. Members welcomed progress made in liberalizing intra-community trade through the dismantling of tariff and some non-tariff measures, the establishment of one-stop border posts, the introduction of an AEO scheme, and initiatives for the interconnectivity of customs systems. The EAC's aspirations for deeper integration were also acknowledged, notably the adoption of the East African Monetary Union Protocol aimed at establishing a monetary union by 2024.

2.138. On the other hand, regarding fiscal deficits, some Members called for fiscal prudence, mainly concerning macroeconomic convergence within the EAC and the reduction of Members' reliance on border taxes. Further reforms, aimed at improving participation by women in the economy, were viewed as a way of making the EAC countries' performance more inclusive. Members sought details about regional and national initiatives for implementation of the TFA. They encouraged Burundi and Tanzania to promptly ratify it, and invited Kenya and Uganda to submit their outstanding notifications of Categories B and C commitments. They requested information about the full implementation of the Tripartite Agreement initiatives that aim at addressing concerns relating to overlapping memberships. Members recommended further simplification of the customs procedures and documentation requirements. They also saw scope for further harmonization of internal taxes, standards and technical regulations, competition and IPR regimes, and sectoral policies, including on services. Some Members urged the EAC countries to limit their frequent and extensive recourse to waivers from the common external tariff (CET). Concerns were also expressed about the increase in non-*ad valorem* duties under the CET. The EAC countries were urged to ensure compliance with their tariff binding commitments and to continue improving their adherence to WTO disciplines on notifications, customs valuation, SPS, TBT, and IPRs. They were encouraged to become observers to the GPA, and some Members invited them to join the initiatives on investment facilitation, MSMEs and electronic commerce, given the recent efforts to modernize their ICT infrastructures.

Bangladesh: 3 and 5 April 2019

2.139. Members praised Bangladesh for its strong support for, and active participation in, the multilateral trading system, as well as for its role as a prominent coordinator for LDCs at the WTO. It was also commended for expanding its WTO commitments, including through TFA ratification. Members congratulated Bangladesh for its achievements in trade facilitation, including the implementation of the AEO system, as well as measures to make customs formalities and procedures simpler, more transparent, and more efficient, including through the Customs Modernization Action Plan 2013-17 and plans to establish a national single window for traders by end-2021. Members commended it on its strong economic performance, which was enabled by prudent macroeconomic management. Robust GDP growth over the period under review led to a reduction in poverty and an improvement of other social indicators. It also enabled Bangladesh to cross the World Bank's threshold for lower-middle-income countries in 2015, and to be on track to graduate from LDC status by 2024. Members commended Bangladesh on its implementation of several policies, including Visions 2021 and 2041, the National Industrial Policy 2016, and the Export Policy 2018-21, and on its efforts in areas of regulatory reform, taxation and improving its business environment, including the One-Stop Shop Act and promoting trade facilitation. Some Members appreciated its efforts in implementing the regulatory and institutional framework for competition policy, and in strengthening its IPR protection legislation. Its participation in several RTAs was also noted.

2.140. On the other hand, Members stressed, that in order to keep the growth momentum and address post-LDC graduation challenges, Bangladesh would have to engage further in ongoing reforms, which would enhance the diversification of its economy and the competitiveness of its industries, as well as improve its business environment and fiscal conditions. Bangladesh was encouraged to consider joining the WTO Government Procurement Agreement as an observer, and to participate actively in the joint statement initiatives on e-commerce, investment facilitation, MSMEs, and women's empowerment agreed at the MC11 in Buenos Aires. Members noted Bangladesh's record of WTO notifications, and encouraged the strengthening of efforts in this area and the furthering of regulatory transparency. Despite praise for the use of mainly *ad valorem* tariff rates, some concern was raised regarding the overall gap between the simple averages of bound rates and MFN applied rates and the lack of predictability that this gap could lead to. Consequently, Bangladesh was encouraged to find ways to provide more certainty to importers and traders. Other issues were raised on climate change vulnerability, efforts at improving workers' safety, diversification of the economy, policies to encourage privatization, expansion of special economic zones, power generation capacity, transport infrastructure development, regulatory guidelines for pharmaceuticals and medical devices, support to the textiles sector, development of the ICT sector, liberalization of trade in services, and challenges to the banking sector.

Samoa: 10 and 12 April 2019

2.141. Members praised Samoa for the overall good performance of the economy, with an annual GDP growth rate of close to 2% in the period 2012-18. The economy proved resilient in the face of the devastation caused by cyclones Evan (2012) and Gita (2018), as well as the closure of the country's largest manufacturing plant in 2017. They commended Samoa on its commitment to engage in an open, non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral trading system. Members congratulated Samoa on the reforms undertaken since its accession, in areas such as customs legislation and clearance procedures, taxation, SPS legislation, and competition policy. They also welcomed the reforms aimed at strengthening its IPR regime and joining certain WIPO treaties, while recognizing Samoa's recent accession to the International Registration of Marks Protocol of the Madrid Agreement. Members noted that the average applied MFN tariff rate of 11.5% in 2018 is virtually unchanged since its WTO accession in 2012. It was noted that Samoa was the first Pacific Island WTO Member to ratify the TFA in 2016. Members welcomed Samoa's active participation in the negotiations on fisheries subsidies and its sponsorship of the MC11 Ministerial Statement on Fossil Fuels Subsidies Reform, and of the Joint Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment. They noted that Samoa is a party to the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA), and benefits from preferences granted by Australia and New Zealand under the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement (SPARTECA). Samoa informed Members that it is due to ratify the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER Plus) between the Forum Island Countries, and Australia and New Zealand, by June 2019.

2.142. At the same time, Members recognized the major challenges SAMOA faces in achieving higher economic growth and attracting more investment, owing to its remoteness and small domestic market, and vulnerability to natural disasters. They invited it to further enhance its participation in the WTO, by fulfilling outstanding notification obligations in areas such as agriculture, customs valuation, SPS and TBT. Some Members invited Samoa to reduce its tariff peaks. The Samoan delegation announced that the HS 2017 nomenclature would be introduced this year. Several Members noted with concern that the applied tariff rates on certain products appear to exceed Samoa's tariff. Some Members sought clarification regarding the implementation of the planned 20% excise tax on food items with a high fat, sugar or salt content. They sought clarification from Samoa on several issues, including the SPS import list maintained by the Samoa Quarantine Services, its intention to join the GPA as an observer, price control policy, FDI restrictions maintained on fishing, regulatory challenges regarding Money Transfer Operators, and the regulatory regime for offshore financial services providers. They also showed interest in Samoa's fisheries policies, efforts to diversify the export base, the economic benefits of the new submarine cables, and progress in the economic empowerment of Samoan women.

Papua New Guinea: 8 and 10 May 2019

2.143. Members commended Papua New Guinea for its positive economic performance during 2010-18 which was attributed, among other, to prudent macroeconomic management and increased revenues from LNG exports. They highlighted that despite its considerable exposure to natural disasters and climate change, PNG had managed to achieve reasonably strong rates of economic growth for most of the review period and maintain a positive economic outlook. Against the background of the growing role of trade in its economy, PNG's strong commitment to the WTO was greatly appreciated. Members welcomed PNG's notification of its Category A commitments under the TFA and praised it for having deposited its instrument of acceptance, and for having accepted the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement. Members noted with satisfaction that PNG's simple average applied tariff was 3.9% in 2019, down from 5.1% in 2010. They recognized its important leadership role in regional integration efforts. Several Members commended PNG for its efforts at making economic growth more inclusive and for promoting the participation of women. Papua New Guinea was praised for adopting its first ever National Trade Policy, covering the period 2017-32. Members also noted PNG's general openness to foreign investment. On agriculture, many Members noted the significance of this sector for PNG's exports and rural development and praised PNG for having submitted its first domestic support notification to the WTO. They noted PNG's constructive engagement in fisheries subsidies agreement negotiation. On services, it was noted that PNG's vast potential for attracting foreign tourists and fostering employment and economic growth remains largely untapped. Some Members underlined the importance of continued technical assistance for PNG's enhanced participation in the WTO.

2.144. On the other hand, Members noted that a big earthquake in 2018 had caused extensive damage, weakening PNG's external position and creating fiscal challenges. They indicated that further regulatory reforms and opening of the economy would stimulate commercial activity and growth. At the same time, PNG was encouraged to step up

efforts to diversify its production and export base, as well as to alleviate poverty and promote social inclusion, particularly in rural areas. They hoped that, together with the newly established National Trade Office, it would help to make PNG's business environment more competitive. Several Members mentioned with concern that applied tariff rates on certain products appeared to exceed their corresponding bound rates. In their written questions, some Members also flagged recent tariff increases on approximately 300 lines. Members strongly encouraged PNG to notify its Category B and C commitments under the TFA and urged it to fulfil its notification obligations in areas such as agriculture, SPS, TBT, customs valuation, and import licensing. PNG was also invited to consider joining the GPA and the ITA and participating in the Joint Statement Initiative on Electronic Commerce. Concerns were raised about its membership in overlapping RTAs. Members sought clarification on several issues, including plans to simplify customs clearance through the creation of a single window for traders, the status of PNG's Tariff Reduction Program, the outdated SPS and TBT regimes, the scientific basis for certain import restrictions, draft legislation concerning AD, CVD and SG measures, the competition regime and the role of state-owned enterprises *vis-à-vis* private firms, efforts to develop a national IP plan and align the existing legal framework to the WTO TRIPS Agreement, and implementation of public-private partnership and government procurement reforms. PNG was urged to further improve essential infrastructure, especially electricity, telecommunications, and transport, much of which is still operated by state-owned, including monopoly, enterprises. PNG was encouraged to pursue further improvement of rural living standards, for example through better access to credit and basic energy services. On services, some Members enquired about its control and monitoring capacity and policies on foreign flagged fishing vessels. Interest was expressed about the development of LNG projects, the key driver of PNG's economic growth, and its impact on other sectors.

Trinidad and Tobago: 22 and 24 May 2019

2.145. Members commended Trinidad and Tobago for positive developments in economic indicators, such as declining inflation and low unemployment. To address its declining and volatile revenue from the energy sector, the Government launched various reform plans including "Vision 2030", the National Aid for Trade Strategy, the National E-Commerce Strategy, as well as its sector policies for e-commerce, special economic zones, ICT development, the yachting industry and the national quality system. Members appreciated the active role played by Trinidad and Tobago in the WTO, including in the negotiating groups. They were pleased to see that Trinidad and Tobago accepted the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement in 2013 and ratified the TFA in 2015. They were encouraged by the steps taken by Trinidad and Tobago to improve its government procurement regime through the new Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act. Members commended Trinidad and Tobago for the ongoing modernization of its customs infrastructure. The introduction of a single electronic window in 2012 had already contributed significantly to trade and business facilitation, and they noted that Trinidad and Tobago is making efforts to further improve this tool. Members also welcomed the introduction in 2019 of a new online payment system for import tariffs, other taxes, and user fees.

2.146. Members noted that during the period under review the economy of Trinidad and Tobago was negatively impacted by fluctuations in oil and gas prices. The economy remains driven by natural gas and petrochemical exports, even if the industrial and financial sectors are being developed to diversify the economy. Areas of concern were (i) tariff breaching, where applied MFN rate exceeded the corresponding bound rate on 59 tariff lines in 2018, up from 50 in 2011, (ii) import surcharges imposed in 1990 which were supposed to be temporary and that Trinidad and Tobago continued to apply new import surcharges. Many Members were interested to know the reasons for applying and maintaining these surcharges, and asked Trinidad and Tobago to elaborate on its plans to abolish them, and (iii) outstanding notifications: which are not up to date or outstanding in several areas, including domestic support and export subsidies in agriculture, quantitative restrictions, customs valuation, and state trading enterprises. Noting that transparency is essential to the functioning of the WTO, many Members encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to comply with notification requirements. Members encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to facilitate access to visas and foreign exchange, with a view to establishing a more conducive environment for business and investment, and to join the ITA. Some Members suggested areas for improvement in the SPS regime, including reducing approval process times for foreign meat-exporting establishments, and increasing predictability and clarity of the SPS requirements, particularly regarding the importation of animals. Concerns were also expressed over Trinidad and Tobago's announcement of an import prohibition on plastics from 2019. Some Members urged Trinidad and Tobago to notify the measure to the TBT Committee. Many Members viewed IP rights as an important tool to foster creative industries, entrepreneurship, and fuel economic growth. They expressed interest in knowing more about enforcement actions, particularly those intended to address piracy of televised programming and infringement on the Internet through streaming devices.

Canada: 12 and 14 June 2019

2.147. Members commended Canada's work in the WTO and its leadership role in many areas, including the Ottawa Group to further WTO reform. They also praised Canada for its contribution to the regular work of Committees and for its commitment to strengthening the multilateral trading system overall. Several Members noted that Canada was pioneering the pursuit of an inclusive trade agenda by taking into account the particular needs of women, MSMEs, and Indigenous peoples in its trade and trade-related policies. They also appreciated its track record in providing timely notifications to the WTO. Several Members showed appreciation for Canada's support of LDCs, particularly with respect to the Aid-for-Trade and Trade Facilitation initiatives. Members also noted the importance of trade for Canada, with aggregate two-way commercial trade flows equivalent to 65% of GDP. They noted that its average MFN applied tariff had remained relatively stable at 6.1% in 2019 and that the number of duty-free tariff lines had increased since the last review, to over 70%. This was partly due to unilateral MFN liberalization under ITA II. Canada was commended for having implemented several measures to facilitate trade, including using streamlined border processes through various programs. Canada is a major player in agricultural trade as a globally competitive exporter. Members acknowledged Canada's efforts to diversify its trade, as exemplified by the recently launched Export Diversification Strategy. They commended Canada for its overall solid economic performance, with its economy characterized by moderate but improving GDP growth, low inflation, a relatively stable federal government debt to GDP ratio, and a declining current account deficit. The economy had adjusted to lower oil prices and the ensuing deterioration of its terms of trade through the implementation of various monetary and fiscal policies. They also noted that the unemployment rate (5.8%), was at its lowest level in over 40 years. By maintaining an open and competitive economy, Canada had achieved a high standard of living for its population, with GDP per capita exceeding USD 46,000 in 2018. Not only had Canada continued to pursue liberalization initiatives in the WTO (e.g. the ITA, fisheries' subsidies, agriculture, domestic regulation, and others), it had also been active in pursuing new bilateral or plurilateral agreements during the period. Additional market access, as well as the new disciplines incorporated into the Canada-EU Comprehensive and Trade Agreement (CETA), the Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (CUFTA), the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA), were all expected to have a further positive impact on trade, investment, and employment for Canada. The modernization of existing FTAs was also noted as an important development. On investment, Members highlighted the importance of an open and transparent investment regime as FDI played an important role in its economy. Several Members expressed appreciation for the implementation of changes to Canada's internal trade regime as the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) had been replaced by the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) in 2017.

2.148. At the same time, Members noted that applied tariff averages continued to differ considerably between agricultural and non-agricultural goods and some expressed concern about national treatment issues in Canada's regime relating to the taxation and sale of alcoholic beverages. It was noted that reduced or zero excise taxes applied to domestic brewers and to wine made entirely from Canadian-grown agricultural products. The importation, inter-provincial/territorial trade, and retail sale of alcoholic beverages remained the exclusive business of provincial and territorial Liquor Control Authorities and did not always guarantee a fair and competitive environment. They noted that Canada is an active user of trade remedy measures. Members noted its inward-looking supply management systems applicable to dairy, eggs, and poultry. Canada's supply management was underpinned by imports subject to tariff quotas, high out-of-quota tariffs averaging 238.7% for dairy, and pricing arrangements and restraints on domestic producers that distorted competition. Canada was encouraged to be transparent in its dairy pricing policies and on any new assistance provided to dairy farmers and processors, and to undertake further domestic reforms to demonstrate Canada's commitment to global reform of agricultural trade. While there had been some liberalization of investment during the review period, many Members inquired about longstanding restrictions and hoped these could be addressed. On tariffs, they noted that averages continued to differ considerably between agricultural and non-agricultural goods.

Republic of North Macedonia: 15 and 17 July 2019

2.149. Member's commended North Macedonia for its active role in the WTO. North Macedonia has accepted the Protocol amending the TRIPs Agreement, acceded to the Civil Aircraft Agreement, and has applied almost all TFA provisions immediately upon the entry into force of the TFA. Moreover, North Macedonia has demonstrated its openness to new ideas on the evolution of the trading system by participating in several Joint Statement initiatives on domestic regulation in services, electronic commerce, MSMEs and in the Declaration on Women and Trade. It is currently in the process of accession to the GPA, which it hopes to conclude by the end of 2019. Members highlighted several positive aspects of North Macedonia's recent economic performance. Economic growth at an average annual rate of 2.2% resulted in significant increases in GDP per capita and substantial reductions in unemployment and poverty. The period since the previous Review also witnessed improvements in certain aspects of the business climate, as illustrated by the change in North Macedonia's ranking in the World Bank Index from 29 in 2013 to top 10 in 2019. The almost fivefold increase in FDI inflows from 2012 to 2018 was another indicator of the recent improvement in North Macedonia's economic performance. Several Members emphasized the significance of the recent resolution of the name dispute with Greece under the Prespa Agreement. They noted with appreciation that, as a small landlocked country that is very dependent upon trade, North Macedonia's trade and investment policies seek to use openness to the regional and global economy within the framework of the WTO and RTAs to improve the competitiveness of its economy. Members noted North Macedonia's strategic objective of European Union integration and welcomed the progress made by North Macedonia in achieving convergence with EU rules in many areas of its trade and economic policy. Among the recent changes in specific areas that were mentioned were the increased transparency and predictability under the new Public Procurement Law, the modernization of the customs legislation and procedures, the implementation of trade facilitation measures, and the existence of a generally open regime for FDI. They noted and appreciated updates provided by the Minister on the program of modernization of transport infrastructure, on pending notifications and on increased training for judges and prosecutors relating to IPR cases.

2.150. On the other hand, Members encouraged North Macedonia to vigorously pursue recently initiated structural reforms to improve the functioning of its labour market, reduce the size of the informal sector, ameliorate the quality of public institutions and develop a more efficient and fairer tax system. Such reforms are essential to enable North Macedonia to address the fundamental problem of low and stagnant productivity. They were also interested in how North Macedonia will implement measures provided for in its recent Economic Growth Plan and Industrial Strategy to promote the growth of the manufacturing sector, attract FDI, and promote the development of spill-over effects of FDI to domestic investment. The question of the cost-effectiveness of the different business support schemes applied by North Macedonia was also raised. The need to prioritize the

modernization of the transport infrastructure and of reducing the reliance on price controls was mentioned. Regarding its tariff commitments, a concern was expressed that, according to the WTO Secretariat's analysis, applied tariff rates are higher than bound rates in 13 tariff lines and that tariffs on agricultural products are generally significantly higher than on non-agricultural products. Members noted the clarification by the Minister of Economy, that applied tariffs are in conformity with the bound rates in eight of the 13 lines. Some Members were noted that in certain areas notifications remained outstanding, e.g. domestic support in agriculture, SPS measures and QRS. The point was made that effective enforcement of North Macedonia's IPR regime posed a significant challenge in the absence of a system of specialized IPR courts and lack of reliable statistics on IPR enforcement. Clarification was sought as to how it conducted risk assessments for SPS purposes and complied with its notification obligations under the SPS Agreement.

Suriname: 11 and 13 September 2019

2.151. Members commended Suriname on the recent implementation of the Electronic Single Window, hoping that this measure would contribute to significantly reduce clearance times and enhance transparency in import procedures, and its accession to the WCO in November 2018. Members welcomed the Government's objective, as outlined in its Development Plans, to improve the business climate, advance the investment framework, and diversify the economy. On WTO participation, they welcomed Suriname's plans to consider establishing a permanent mission in Geneva.

2.152. At the same time, Members took note of Suriname's difficult and highly volatile economic environment since 2013, coupled with a relatively low level of diversification, which had led to a decline of per capita GDP in US dollar terms. They noted that more and meaningful reforms could help Suriname develop and diversify by improving conditions for trade and investment. In this respect, it was noted that while some constraints and challenges, such as poor infrastructure, are shared with countries at a similar stage of development, others are related to outdated national laws and public administration shortcomings that could be improved. Many Members agreed that an improvement of the business environment was key for diversification of its economy and an increased participation in international markets. With a view to promote foreign investment, Members encouraged Suriname to facilitate the registration of new businesses, minimize discretionary decision-making, and make approval processes more transparent and predictable. On tariffs, Members noted that for nearly 600 tariff lines applied rates continued to exceed bound rates and encouraged Suriname to successfully conclude renegotiations under Article XXVIII. Some Members also found that there was scope for Suriname to reduce its applied tariffs. Members expressed concerns that approval and implementation of crucial legislation, on issues such as customs procedures, investment, trade facilitation, VAT, mining, competition and IPR, had been pending, sometimes for more than ten years. As some of these draft laws had already been in the process of being prepared at the time of its last Trade Policy Reviews, in 2013 and 2004, Members urged Suriname to address this backlog in adopting trade-related legislation. In this context, Members also encouraged Suriname to ratify the TFA and to fulfil its notification obligations in the WTO. Other issues also raised by Members included the ratification of already concluded preferential trade agreements, the role of the investment agency InvestSur, the risk management system for imports, plans to introduce legislation on contingency measures, the privatization of state-owned enterprises, the participation of women in the economy, SPS measures on imports, government procurement procedures, the management and preservation of forest resources, and support for MSMEs.

Costa Rica: 18 and 20 September 2019

2.153. Members expressed appreciation for Costa Rica's support for the multilateral trading system and its active engagement in the WTO. It was noted that it had ratified the TFA, participated in the ITA negotiations, and, in 2015, become an observer to the GPA. Members welcomed Costa Rica's active participation across a range of topics of importance to the WTO, including electronic commerce, services domestic regulation, investment facilitation, women's economic empowerment, micro, SMEs, fossil fuel subsidy reform, and environmental goods. Members commended Costa Rica's active and constructive engagement in the agriculture and fisheries subsidies negotiations. They also recognized Costa Rica's good notification record and its active and constructive contributions to committee work in the WTO. The stability and predictability of Costa Rica's trade regime was noted as was the fact that its applied average MFN tariff had remained mainly unchanged since the last Review. Costa Rica was commended for its commitment to implement most provisions of the TFA immediately on its entry into force, and for taking steps towards the facilitation of trade, including the introduction of an electronic payment system and of digital customs clearance forms, the implementation of a Single Window for Trade, and the certification of Authorized economic operators (AEOs). Members noted the overall positive achievements of Costa Rica's economy during the period under review. Costa Rica had posted an average GDP growth rate of 3.5% during the period since the last review, which had allowed an increase in per capita income of some 20%, and for keeping inflation under control. This was linked to the strong role of foreign investment and trade. Costa Rica was commended for its adoption of clear, predictable and transparent trade policies and measures. Members remarked the importance of trade in both goods and services for Costa Rica. They noted that, although it was a major exporter of agricultural products, such as pineapples and bananas, Costa Rica had also become a significant exporter of manufactured goods, such as electrical equipment and parts, and that exports of services had continued to increase. Tourism had become an important source of foreign exchange. Costa Rica's investment regime was open, with few barriers to market access. Members recognized Costa Rica's recent ongoing efforts to strengthen IP enforcement, such as the issuance of decrees to address piracy issues and the streamlining of the tasks of the IP offices. At the same time, they reiterated the importance of better protection and effective enforcement of IPRs. They welcomed the adoption of the new competition law and encouraged Costa Rica to continue opening and liberalizing the services sector, in particular the financial sector, where state owned institutions were granted advantages for business operations and remain primary players. They welcomed the approval and recent implementation of a comprehensive fiscal package.

2.154. On the other side, Members noted that some challenges to the quest of keeping the economy on a path of sustained and inclusive growth remained. These included dealing with labour market rigidities, witnessed by a 10% unemployment rate, continuing with the process of regulatory reform, and addressing the persistent fiscal deficits resulting in a high debt to GDP ratio. They noted that tariffs on agricultural products remained above the average rate of protection. Members also highlighted that applied tariffs for three tariff product lines exceeded their bound rates. The resort to safeguard measures affecting rice were also noted, as was the initiation of a safeguard investigation on sugar. The compatibility with multilateral rules of the special tax levied on imported but not domestically produced beer was questioned. They highlighted that state ownership and participation in the economy remained important, and that some sectors were reserved for public investment. It was noted that the State continues to play a major role in financial services, communications and energy. Members encouraged Costa Rica to further open its agriculture market, as they found that restrictions to market access were imposed on some agriculture and agri-food products. They questioned the need for maintaining the requirement to use a customs broker for imports or exports. Members encouraged Costa Rica to take steps toward accession to the GPA.

Peru: 22 and 24 October 2019

2.155. Members commended Peru's strong commitment to the multilateral trading system and its active participation in the WTO. They also noted Peru's support for MC11 initiatives, such as those on e-commerce, MSMEs and women's economic empowerment. Peru was also commended for its support for agricultural reform and for a successful agreement on fisheries subsidies' negotiations. Members welcomed Peru's ratification of the TFA and its good notifications record. Peru was praised for its unilateral import tariff reductions, which had led to an average MFN tariff of just 2.2% in 2019; one of the lowest among WTO Members. Members also noted the decrease in the use of trade remedies, in particular the lower number of AD investigations initiated. Members welcomed Peru's efforts to improve governance and tackle tax non-compliance. Peru was widely praised for its commitment to trade liberalization and for achieving solid economic growth, with real GDP expanding at an annual average rate of 4% between 2013-18, while maintaining a relatively low level of inflation and reducing poverty levels. These positive results have been underpinned by solid macroeconomic policies, including measures to ensure fiscal sustainability. Members also commended Peru for maintaining an economic strategy that included unilateral reductions in import tariffs, the promotion and diversification of exports, and measures to enhance productivity and competitiveness. Peru's commitment to open markets, amidst growing external challenges was applauded as was its open investment regime. In addition, Members were appreciative of the National Strategic Export Plan 2015-2025 (PENX 2025), which seeks the internationalization of Peruvian enterprises, the increase in exports of value-added goods and services, and the enhancement of the competitiveness of the export sector. Members acknowledged that Peru had adopted several measures geared at facilitating trade. These included the strengthening of the Single Window for Foreign Trade, measures to improve foreign trade logistics, the simplification of administrative formalities, and the establishment of a National Trade Facilitation Committee. Members acknowledged that Peru had actively pursued the conclusion of FTAs, and that five such agreements had been signed, including the Pacific Alliance, and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and other bilateral agreements with key trading partners. Peru's services regime was very open, and it was noted that recent measures to foster the development and competition in the telecommunications sector, and improvements with respect to financial intermediation were significant developments. Efforts to increase the efficiency of its government procurement regime and adapt it to best international practices, including OECD recommendations, were noted. Peru was also commended for improvements in the enforcement of IPR. The importance of the mining sector for Peru's economy was highlighted, as more than 60% of exports are mineral products. Some Members were appreciative of the sector's openness to foreign investment but cautioned against the effects of fluctuating international prices and hence welcomed Peru's current efforts to diversify exports.

2.156. At the same time, Members noted the need to further alleviate poverty and promote social inclusion, particularly in rural areas, to enhance investment in infrastructure and to pursue further structural reforms. They referred to trade policy areas where further improvements would be welcome. These areas include: different taxation rules on domestic alcoholic beverages (pisco); labelling requirements regarding food packages; GMOs moratorium; and certification of imports of processed food of animal origin. Some Members raised questions regarding its standardization and accreditation policies and others expressed concerns with respect to the application and effect of the Price Band System for certain agricultural products, especially rice. Questions were raised regarding the protection of geographical indications; damages for copyright infringement; and enforcement and judicial remedies. Members noted that more needed to be done to enhance financial inclusion. In their written submissions, Members raised questions regarding recent changes to lift restrictions in maritime cabotage and developments in civil aviation. Some Members invited Peru to consider becoming a member of the GPA and to join the expansion of the ITA.

2.9 Other Selected Trade Policy Issues

2.157. 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 (RTAs)

2.158. During the review period, WTO Members notified 15 RTAs (20 notifications) as compared to 5 RTAs (8 notifications) during the previous period (Table 3.28).⁹⁶ Of the new RTAs, eight relate only to trade in goods, seven of which were notified under the Enabling Clause and one under GATT Article XXIV; five RTAs include trade liberalization in both goods and services and were notified under GATT Article XXIV and GATS Article V, while trade liberalization in services only was notified for two RTAs. The notifications included two very significant RTAs in terms of the potential share of trade: the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), an agreement with 11 parties, ratified by 7 of them, and the FTA between the European Union and Japan. Both agreements include provisions to liberalize trade in goods and services, and additional provisions.

Table 3.28 Notifications of RTAs between 15 October 2018 and 15 October 2019

RTA name (parties)	Coverage	Date of notification (date of entry into force)	Notification
Peru-Honduras	Goods & Services	17/10/18 (01/01/17)	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
EFTA-Philippines	Goods & Services	26/10/18 (01/06/18)*	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)	Goods & Services	20/12/18 (30/12/18)**	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
European Union-Japan	Goods & Services	14/01/19 (01/02/19)	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Hong Kong, China-Georgia	Goods & Services	12/02/19 (13/02/19)	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)-Israel	Goods	29/03/19 (23/12/09)	GATT Art. XXIV
Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA)	Services	17/06/19 (17/09/13)	GATS Art. V
Morocco-United Arab Emirates	Goods	19/06/19 (09/07/03)	Enabling Clause
Ecuador-Mexico	Goods	23/07/19 (01/05/83)	Enabling Clause
Mexico-Paraguay	Goods	23/07/19 (01/01/84)	Enabling Clause
Argentina-Mexico	Goods	23/07/19 (01/01/87)	Enabling Clause
Mexico-Cuba	Goods	23/07/19 (28/02/01)	Enabling Clause
Brazil-Mexico	Goods	23/07/19 (02/05/03)	Enabling Clause
Mexico-Plurinational State of Bolivia	Goods	23/07/19 (07/06/10)	Enabling Clause
European Union-Armenia	Services	23/08/19 (01/06/18)	GATS Art. V

* Entry into force: 1 June 2018 for Philippines, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. Ratification for Iceland is still pending and the Agreement has therefore not entered into force for them.

** Entry into force: 30 December 2018 for Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Singapore, and 14 January 2019 for Viet Nam. For the rest of the Parties, entry into force would be in accordance with Article 3 (Entry into Force), paragraph 2, of the CPTPP.

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

2.159. As at 15 October 2019, the total number of RTAs notified to the WTO, and to the GATT before it and currently in force, amounted to 301 (151 covering goods and services, 148 goods only, and 2 services only).⁹⁷ The WTO Secretariat has also identified and verified, through the respective parties, 79 RTAs that are in force, but have not yet been notified to the WTO.⁹⁸

2.160. Judging from overall notifications, RTA activity is strongest in Europe (19% 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 (13%). 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.

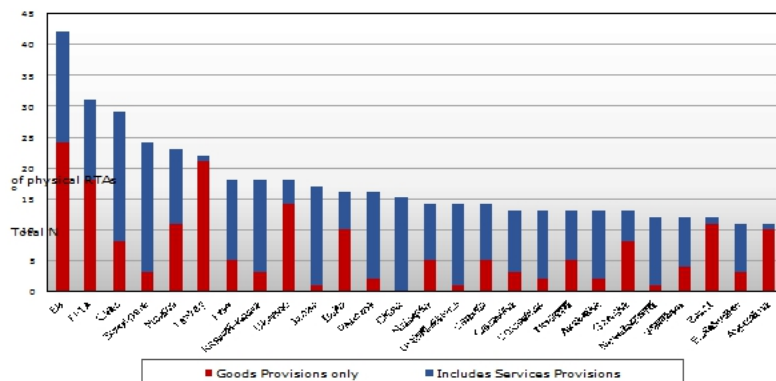
2.161. The WTO Members with the most RTAs in force remain the European Union, the EFTA States, and Chile, with over 25 RTAs in force each, followed by Singapore, Mexico and Turkey, which have over 20 RTAs in force each (Chart 3.21). A number of other developing countries also have several RTAs in force,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

2.162. While new RTAs continue to be notified to the WTO, RTA partners are also making changes to their existing RTAs to add new provisions or bring them up to date with their trade needs. Most notable among these includes the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), renamed the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which was signed on 30 November 2018 by Canada, Mexico and the United States; it has been ratified by Mexico. Other RTAs that have been "modernized" include Canada-Chile, Canada-Israel and EU-Mexico. Mexico is also a party to the Pacific Alliance (with Chile, Colombia and Peru), which consolidates the parties' existing bilateral FTAs and updates other provisions. The African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) entered into force in July 2019 and, once remaining chapters are negotiated, will consolidate existing preferential relationships in Africa.

2.163. Negotiations for new bilateral and plurilateral RTAs remain strong. MERCOSUR recently concluded negotiations with both the European Union and EFTA, and continues to negotiate with Canada, the Republic of Korea and Singapore. The United States and Japan concluded the first stage of their agreement, covering mainly agricultural products. The United States appears to be negotiating similar RTAs in stages with other partners, notably India, China and Brazil. The European Union continues its negotiations (EPA and other) with Australia, New Zealand, India, and several ASEAN members; and EFTA with India and several ASEAN members. 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, the Republic of Korea, Japan and New Zealand).

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

WTO Members with the largest number of RTAs in force



Source: RTS Section, WTO Secretariat.

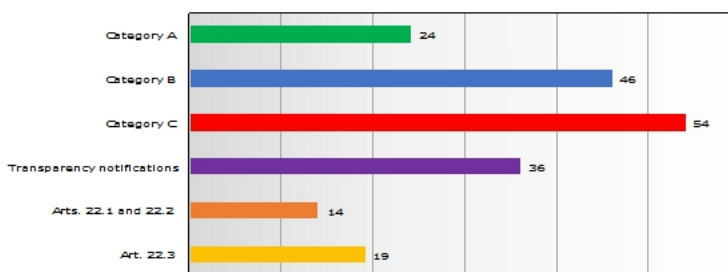
Source: RTA Section, WTO Secretariat.

Trade Facilitation

2.164. The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) entered into force on 22 February 2017, when two thirds of WTO Members presented their corresponding instruments of acceptance. At the conclusion of the review period, the data accounted for 146 ratifications, which represents 89% of the WTO membership. Eight additional instruments of acceptance have been received by the Secretariat since October 2018.

Chart 3.22 Number of Members that presented TFA notifications, mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019

Number of WTO Members that presented TFA notifications, mid-May 2019 to mid-Oct 2019



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

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

2.165. Members also remained active in the presentation of implementation notifications. Sixty-one Members submitted various notifications with their commitments under categories A, B and C, of which 24 presented Category A commitments, 46 presented Category B commitments and 54 presented Category C commitments. Notifications were also made on the transparency side. Thirty-six Members presented notifications under Articles 1.4, 10.4.3, 10.6.2 and 12.2.2. Furthermore, 14 Members notified their technical assistance and capacity-building activities, in accordance with Article 22. Lastly, 19 Members presented notifications under Article 22.3, relating to contact points for coordinating capacity-building support (Chart 3.22).

Aid for Trade

2.166. The WTO 2019 Global Review of Aid for Trade (AFT), held in Geneva on 3-5 July 2019 under the theme of "Supporting Economic Diversification and Empowerment", convened over 1,500 participants in 84 sessions to examine the role of AFT in promoting global trade and development. At the Review's opening plenary session, the joint OECD-WTO 2019 Aid for Trade at a Glance publication⁹⁹ was launched, delivering a strong message on how economic diversification and economic empowerment are linked and interdependent, and are both essential for the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the Review, other plenary sessions were organized on South-South and triangular cooperation supporting economic diversification and empowerment; the blue economy and the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement; and on LDC graduation. Out of the 17 thematic sessions planned, some focused on the regional dimension of AFT, and visited the work of regional development institutions such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB). Thematic issues and other topics covered at the Global Review also included e-commerce; access to trade finance *vis-à-vis* other constraints to trade faced by governments in developing countries (a key finding of the 2019 Aid for Trade Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) exercise); women's economic empowerment; youth and MSMEs; trade facilitation; SPS; quality infrastructure; green growth; and trade and peace in the context of accessions to the WTO.

2.167. Since the AFT initiative launched at the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference in December 2005, seven consecutive Global Reviews have taken place. Disbursements of AFT reached a total of USD 409 billion between 2006 and 2017, primarily dedicated to building trade capacity and economic infrastructure and to technical assistance. AFT disbursements amounted to USD 43 billion in 2017, an encouraging increase from the USD 23.2 billion baseline average of 2002-05.

Trade Financing

2.168. On 3 July, the WTO and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) launched a new publication entitled "Trade Finance and the Compliance Challenge: A Showcase of International Cooperation". The publication showcases the mobilization of international organizations after a joint meeting at the 2018 Fall Meetings of the IMF and World Bank, during which they pledged to cooperate to address the trade finance impact of the reduction in correspondent banking relationships affecting mainly developing countries. Since the end of the financial crisis, perceived regulatory risk, combined with the low capacity of the financial sector in some countries, had created new gaps in trade finance provision mainly affecting banks in developing and least-developed countries. The publication highlights capacity-building activities recently undertaken by the IFC with WTO participation in Rwanda, Madagascar, Zimbabwe and Zambia. It looks at the issues dealt with, the insights of participants, as well as the lessons learned. It also describes similar activities organized by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the ADB and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB). The WTO Secretariat will continue participating in such capacity-building activities in the second half of 2019, notably with the IFC, the African Import and Export Bank (a subsidiary of the African Development Bank), and the EBRD.

Government Procurement

2.169. The WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) continues to gain importance as an instrument for promoting trade and good governance in government procurement markets. On 5 May 2019, Australia became a fully-fledged party to the GPA, adding significantly to the government procurement markets covered by the Agreement and bringing the GPA membership to 20 (covering 48 WTO Members).¹⁰⁰ Paraguay, Ecuador and the Philippines were granted observer status in the Committee on Government Procurement in 2019. Consequently, 34 WTO Members/Observers can now participate as observers in the Committee.

2.170. Significant progress was made on several accessions to the Agreement. On 21 October 2019, China circulated its seventh market access offer, which covers more provincial governments and state-owned enterprises. The new offer will be subject to GPA Parties' review and comments. China also indicated that preparatory work is underway to modify its legislation on government procurement. The Russian Federation has also been pursuing its accession process by engaging in internal coordination with a view to covering local government entities in its next offer. North Macedonia has also been making progress in its accession to the GPA, including by bringing a new public procurement law into effect in early 2019. The law makes reference to the GPA and includes the principle of non-discrimination. The Kyrgyz Republic's and Tajikistan's accessions are at an advanced stage, and the latter indicated that its final offer is pending approval from its Government.

2.171. The United Kingdom's expected future participation in the GPA in its own right was made possible by the GPA Committee's approval of a decision in February 2019 on the terms of the United Kingdom's future accession to the GPA. Under this decision, the United Kingdom is covered by the GPA as a member State of the European Union until the date of its withdrawal therefrom or, if the European Union and the United Kingdom conclude an agreement that provides for a transition period during which the EU law would apply to and in the United Kingdom, until the date of expiry of that transition period. Following Brexit, the United Kingdom would become a party to the GPA in its own right after submission of an instrument of accession at the earliest 30 days before Brexit. On 26 June 2019, the GPA Committee adopted a decision extending the period for submission of such an instrument by six months, until 27 February 2020, and updating the terms of the United Kingdom's accession in light of the entry into force of the GPA for Australia on 5 May 2019.

2.172. The accessions of four other WTO Members – Albania, Georgia, Jordan and Oman – are pending. Another five Members 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 covered market access and good governance issues.

2.173. The GPA Committee continued to advance its work in relation to the Work Programmes established under the GPA concerning, *inter alia*, (i) sustainable procurement; (ii) the collection and reporting of statistical data; and (iii) SMEs. The purpose of these Work Programmes is to enhance transparency, to improve the administration of the GPA and, where relevant, contribute to its future evolution. Throughout the review period, the Secretariat, at the Committee's request, continued to develop the "e-GPA system"¹⁰¹, an interactive, automated web portal to enhance the accessibility and usability of market access and other information provided by Parties pursuant to the GPA.

Dispute Settlement

2.174. During the period under consideration, WTO Members filed fewer complaints about trade-restrictive measures than during the previous review period. However, despite this relative decline in the number of new cases, the overall level of dispute settlement activity remained high.

2.175. Between October 2018 and October 2019, Members requested consultations in 24 new cases, compared to 35 such requests made between October 2017 and October 2018. This difference can be explained by the exceptionally high number of complaints filed in the first half of 2018. A comparison with the two years immediately preceding 2018 shows, nevertheless, that the number of new cases initiated by WTO Members over the last year has remained higher than figures reported in 2016 and 2017 (Chart 3.23). Indeed, during the first nine months of 2019, Members requested consultations in as many new cases as for the full years of 2016 and 2017.

Chart 3.23 Number of requests for consultations in new disputes initiated per year, 1995-2019



Note: 2019 data are based on the average of the number of active disputes from January to September.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

2.176. Between October 2018 and October 2019, 29 panels were composed and commenced work. Appeals were filed in 8 disputes. As a result, on average, 55 panel, arbitration and appeal proceedings were ongoing each month of the review period (Chart 3.24). As at the end of September 2019, panels and arbitrators were working, respectively, on 32 panel proceedings and on four arbitrations on the determination of the level of suspension of concessions or other obligations under Article 22.6 of the DSU. In addition, ten panels were at the composition stage.

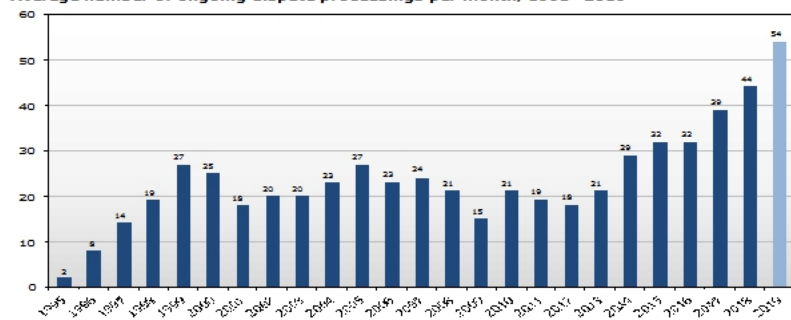
2.177. Twelve appeals were also pending before the Appellate Body during the review period. Four of the seven positions on the Appellate Body remain vacant and the mandates of two of the current Appellate Body Members will expire in December 2019. Following several reform proposals, Members are actively working with the DSB chair, appointed as a facilitator by the General Council to resolve this matter.

2.178. During the review period, panels and arbitrators circulated rulings in a total of 16 cases and the Appellate Body issued nine reports in seven disputes. It should be noted that in four of the recently initiated disputes, Members found a mutually agreed solution before circulation of the panel reports.

2.179. The subject matter of disputes brought to the WTO continues to span a wide range of agreements, with claims in the currently active cases under, *inter alia*, the GATT 1994, the Anti-Dumping Agreement, the SCM Agreement, the Safeguards Agreement, the GATS, the SPS Agreement and the Agreement on Agriculture. As in previous years, both developed and developing country Members have been involved in dispute settlement proceedings, as complainants, respondents, and third parties.

Chart 3.24 Average number of ongoing dispute proceedings per month, 1995-2019

Average number of ongoing dispute proceedings per month, 1995 -2019



Note: 2019 data are based on the average of the number of active disputes from January to September. 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.

Note: 2019 data are based on the average of the number of active disputes from January to September. 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

2.180. Debates at recent meetings of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) have continued to raise important global issues at the intersection between trade and environmental policies. For instance, delegations have discussed and shared information on, *inter alia*, integrating environmental and social considerations in trade policies, approaches regarding the implementation of environmental provisions and institutions in RTAs, strategies to promote a sustainable ocean economy, efforts to address plastic pollution, the promotion of environmental goods, development of global environmental standards, technical challenges in implementing traceability schemes, and Members' actions on fossil fuel subsidy reform.¹⁰²

2.181. Several delegations 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.¹⁰³ 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 30 November 2018 and 15 May 2019 CTE meetings¹⁰⁴, discussions continued on this topic, with a briefing in May on the recently adopted methodology to measure and collect national data on fossil fuel subsidies in the context of Sustainable Development Goal 12(c) .

Fisheries Subsidies

2.182. The negotiations on fisheries subsidies in the WTO continued in the Negotiating Group on Rules. These are based on the mandate from target 14.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Ministerial Decision of the Eleventh WTO Ministerial Conference, to reach by the end of 2019 an agreement on disciplines that prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing, with appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing country Members and LDC Members being an integral part of these negotiations.

2.183. In July 2019, the Group endorsed the working papers by the four facilitators for the negotiations. This represented an important step forward, although progress across the different areas remains uneven. While the working papers include legal language for some provisions, in other areas they highlight two or more alternatives for disciplines or highlight areas where disciplines will be required and suggest possible ways forward. WTO Members remain committed to the deadline of the end of the year to reach agreement, and are engaged in intensive and detailed discussions based on the facilitators' reports and proposals from Members.¹⁰⁵

Electronic Commerce

2.184. Discussions on electronic commerce in the WTO are continuing under two parallel tracks – multilaterally under the General Council and its relevant subsidiary bodies, as well as under the Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce initiative. At the multilateral level, efforts are ongoing to reinvigorate the 1998 Work Programme on Electronic Commerce as agreed by Ministers at the MC11 in Buenos Aires. Members are also discussing the impact and scope of the decision not to impose customs duties on electronic transmissions (the Moratorium) . Since MC11, two proposals on the Moratorium have been submitted and discussed. The General Council reviewed the Work Programme at its session in July 2019. In October 2019, the General Council Chair began consultations with Members on the way forward on the Work Programme and the Moratorium, with a view to having a decision for the General Council's consideration prior to the expiration of the Moratorium in December 2019.

2.185. Following exploratory work in 2018, 76 WTO Members issued a Joint Statement in January 2019, launching WTO negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce. Since then, four additional Members have joined the initiative, bringing the total number of participants to 80. To date, four substantive meetings focusing on textual proposals have been held. Additional substantive meetings are scheduled for October and November. An organizational meeting will be held in December. The co-conveners of the discussions encourage all WTO Members to participate in order to further enhance the benefits of e-commerce for businesses, consumers and the global economy. Other Members have expressed opposition to these negotiations on the grounds that they are not part of the current negotiating mandate.

Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs)

2.186. Established in December 2017 at MC11, the Informal Working Group on MSMEs currently consists of 90 WTO Members, covering all regions of the world and all levels of development. At the end of 2018, the Group decided to organize work around various thematic clusters, including access to information and transparency, trade finance, trade facilitation, good regulatory practices, and outreach activities to WTO Members and other organizations. Some Members continue to oppose, or 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 Group 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 Uruguay, has held three open-ended meetings since November 2018, as well as various workshops on MSME cybersecurity, trade facilitation, and access to finance. The Group is now working towards a set of recommendations and an updated work programme to be adopted at the next WTO Ministerial Conference in June 2020.

Women's Economic Empowerment

2.187. Launched in December 2017, in the margins of the MC11, the Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment provides a platform for WTO Members to share information and best practices on how they have been integrating gender into their trade policies and strategies. The Declaration, signed by 126 WTO Members and Observers, representing 75% of world trade, seeks to ensure that the WTO works to make trade more inclusive and increases the participation of women in trade. Some Members oppose discussions on this issue, noting that the empowerment of women is not a trade issue.

2.188. The Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM) was identified by the signatories of the Declaration as one of the WTO instruments which could support Members in gathering and sharing information on their trade policies in support of women's economic empowerment. In 2019, as part of their TPRs, eight Members (out of ten TPRs) voluntarily included information on their gender-responsive trade policies. Out of these Members, three dedicated specific chapters/sections on this issue. This represents a 30% increase in the number of Members sharing information on gender-related policies in comparison to 2018. Many Members also continue to integrate gender issues in their national development strategies and as part of their trade policy objectives.
















3 POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE IN SERVICES

3.1. Many new measures affecting trade in services were introduced by WTO Members and Observers between mid-October 2018 and mid-October 2019. While most of the new measures are trade-facilitating, a significant number of new policies appear to be trade-restrictive, in particular measures affecting communication and network-enabled services as well as policies pertaining to the review of foreign investment in certain areas considered strategic or linked to national security. Annex 4 provides additional information on 142 entries for new measures, which concern 63 WTO Members and 3 Observers.¹⁰⁶

Measures Affecting Supply Through Commercial Presence

3.2. Various governments introduced changes to their investment policies that affect the supply through commercial presence (mode 3) across various sectors. In March 2019, China adopted its new Foreign Investment Law, which provides for non-discrimination between foreign and domestic investors and enterprises, except in sectors set out in a 'negative list'. The new law also prohibits forced technology transfers, and stipulates that China may retaliate against countries that discriminate against Chinese investments abroad. On 30 July 2019, China reduced the number of sectors where foreign investment is either prohibited or restricted. The 2019 National Negative List now contains 40 restricted and prohibited activities, 8 less than in 2018. Modifications include the removal of the limit on foreign shareholding in domestic shipping agencies and the elimination of the limit on foreign shareholding on the construction and operation of cinemas.

3.3. In Thailand, the Ministry of Commerce issued a new regulation, effective from 26 June 2019, that exempts certain services activities from the 49% foreign ownership limit under the Foreign Business Act. In the Philippines, the government relaxed limitations on foreign investment in selected sectors, for example by permitting 100% foreign ownership in Internet businesses and in certain higher education services, as well as by increasing from 20% to 40% the foreign ownership limit in private radio communications networks. Qatar adopted a new law allowing wholly-owned foreign investments in most economic sectors, while Algeria, an observer, abolished the rule that limited maximum foreign capital ownership in non-strategic sectors to 49%.

3.4. On 1 July 2019, Oman published a new law that aims to streamline procedures and remove obstacles to foreign investment. The new framework no longer requires foreign investors to have local Omani partners, in activities to be specified in future regulations. In January 2019, India allowed foreign companies in the defence, telecom, information and broadcasting, and private security sectors to open branch offices, subject to approval from the regulator and the ministry concerned. Approval of the Reserve Bank of India is no longer required. In the United Arab Emirates,               

3.16. In [Tanzania](#), the Parliament adopted a new law giving the Tanzania Film Board the right to vet raw footage of foreign companies filming in the country. Foreign filmmakers are also required to submit a finished copy to get clearance before exiting the country and must allow the government to use the content to promote the country. In August 2019, the government of [Turkey](#) adopted a new regulation that broadens the scope of broadcasting legislation to media services provided as over-the-top (OTT) services. Under the new measure, foreign entities have to establish a company in Turkey, and media service suppliers and Internet broadcast platforms operating subscription-based services are required to pay 0.5% of their annual net sales to the Turkish Radio and Television Supreme Council. Further, the Turkish government introduced a new tax on online advertising services. Since 1 January 2019, a 15% tax is applied to payments made to providers of online advertising services or intermediaries.

3.17. In the [Russian Federation](#), a new law on the operation of the Internet, signed on 1 May 2019, provides that telecommunication operators, trans-border telecommunication line-owners and Internet exchange point owners have to provide for centralized traffic management in case of emerging threats to the operation of the Internet in the Russian Federation. The law foresees the installation by operators of equipment provided by the regulator to counteract threats.

3.18. In [Thailand](#), the National Legislative Assembly approved, in February, the Personal Data Protection Act and the Cybersecurity Act. The new data protection law allows cross-border data transfers to countries that provide sufficient personal data protection in compliance with guidelines of the Personal Data Protection Committee, as well as in certain other specified circumstances.

Financial Services

3.19. Certain policy changes took place during the review period in the financial services sector, generally towards greater openness. [Brazil](#) adopted a number of new measures in the sector. Since 26 September 2019, the Central Bank is authorized to recognize the increase in foreign capital participation in domestic financial institutions, as well as the licensing of new branches of foreign financial institutions, as being in the interest of the government. Therefore, Presidential Decrees are no longer required. Furthermore, a new law eliminated, in September 2019, the reciprocity requirement that had regulated insurance and reinsurance operations within the country to date, and which conditioned the capacity of foreign firms to carry out insurance transactions and establish in Brazil on equal treatment of Brazilian insurers in the foreign country. In addition, since 8 May 2019, the establishment of branches by foreign insurance companies is no longer subject to the granting of a Presidential Decree, but rather depends on an authorization from the Ministry of the Economy.

3.20. On 20 July 2019, [China](#) announced 11 measures aimed at accelerating the opening-up of the country's financial sector. This includes allowing foreign ownership to exceed 25% in insurance asset management companies. In [Ethiopia](#), an observer, the parliament adopted, on 31 July 2019, a measure allowing members of the Ethiopian diaspora, who have taken up nationalities in other countries, to invest and buy shares in banks, and to set up lending businesses in the country. Ethiopia's banking sector is otherwise closed to foreign investment.

3.21. The Reserve Bank of [India](#) announced, on 26 June 2019, that payment system providers had to ensure, within a period of 6 months, that all their data were stored only in India. For the foreign leg of a transaction, the data could also be stored in the foreign country, if required. Payment transactions could be processed outside India by payment system operators authorized by the Reserve Bank, but the data must be deleted from the systems abroad and brought back to India no later than one business day or 24 hours after payment processing, whichever is earlier. Further, as part of the Union Budget 2019-20, India announced, on 5 July, that 100% foreign direct investment would be permitted for insurance intermediaries, up from the previous 49% limit.

3.22. In the [Kingdom of Saudi Arabia](#), the Monetary Authority issued new rules allowing foreign insurance and reinsurance companies to establish as branches. In [Chinese Taipei](#), foreign Futures Commission Merchants (FCM) may now directly supply trade, clearing and settlement services of futures to domestic FCMs, and are no longer required to establish a branch or subsidiary in Chinese Taipei. In [Myanmar](#), the Central Bank confirmed in January 2019 that foreign banks and foreign financial institutions could hold up to 35% of equity investment in local private banks. As regards insurance, up to three licences are to be granted to foreign life insurers as 100% wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Transport Services

3.23. Certain Members adopted new policies in relation to transport services. From 24 March 2019, a new [European Union](#) regulation establishing a framework for the provision of port services is being implemented in each Member State. Also, in June 2019, the [European Union](#) adopted a harmonised European Maritime Single Window that brings together all reporting obligations associated with a port call, including customs procedures for entry and exit of goods. In [Brazil](#), Congress has passed Law 13.842 amending the Brazilian Aviation Code to remove restrictions on foreign ownership and control of national airlines. Previously, airlines wishing to establish in Brazil faced a foreign ownership limit and were required to have exclusive Brazilian management and control. As a result of the amendment, from 17 June 2019, international airlines can now own a subsidiary company in Brazil, subject to the requirement that its headquarters and administration are based in the country.

3.24. [Argentina](#) simplified the regime for obtaining coastal traffic waivers that allow foreign vessels to carry out commercial activities in the Argentinian sea in the event that no Argentinian vessels are available to perform such activities. In [China](#), foreign investors can now invest in and operate international shipping transportation, international shipping agencies, international shipping management, international shipping cargo handling, international shipping cargo warehousing, and international shipping container station and yard business.

3.25. On 27 June 2019, the Parliament of [Tanzania](#) adopted a new measure that expands the exclusive rights of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation ("TASAC"). TASAC's exclusive rights to implement clearing and forwarding functions was expanded to cover the import and export of fertilizers, industrial sugar, domestic sugar, edible cooking oil, wheat, oil products, gas, liquefied gas and chemicals or any other liquid related products. Exclusivity also extends to cover an array of shipping agency functions in relation to a number of goods.

Other Services Sectors

3.26. The government of [India](#) relaxed, in August 2019, the rules applying to foreign-invested suppliers of single brand retail trade services. Foreign-invested companies are now allowed to conduct online retail trade prior to the opening of physical stores, subject to the condition that the latter are established no later than two years after the start of online operations. The new measure also modifies the 30% local sourcing rule for companies with more than 51% foreign ownership. For instance, all procurement made from India by single brand retailers will now be counted towards local sourcing, irrespective whether the goods are sold in India or exported.

3.27. On 22 August 2019, the President of the [Seychelles](#) signed the Tourism Development Act, which sets out a new legal framework for tourism activities. In [Bangladesh](#), the Central Bank adopted a number of measures easing foreign exchange limits in relation to the consumption of tourism services abroad. With respect to gambling services, [Switzerland](#) adopted a new measure permitting licensed casinos established in the country to offer online gaming services. Under the new law, unlicensed operators, including foreign-based suppliers, will be blocked by Internet access providers. Unlicensed sites will be blocked as of 1 July 2019.

3.28. Some new measures relating to health and medical services were also adopted. In [China](#), a new Circular from the National Health Commission requires big data in the health care industry to be stored in the country. Where such data must be transferred abroad for business reasons, a security assessment must be carried out in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations. In the [Kingdom of Saudi Arabia](#), the government allowed 100% foreign ownership, operation and management of Private Healthcare Institutions (PHI), with the exception of clinics. A new law in the [United Arab Emirates](#) (UAE) imposes, from 14 May 2019, a general prohibition on the transfer, storage, generation, and processing of UAE health data in or to other countries.

Services Supplied through the Movement of Natural Persons

3.29. Various Members adopted measures affecting the supply of services through the movement of natural persons, most of which are trade-facilitating. For example, [Japan](#) expanded, in May 2019, the range of fields in which foreign students who have graduated from a Japanese university or graduate school are able to find employment under the status of residence of "Designated Activities".

3.30. In [India](#), the Government increased the permitted duration of stay under the electronic Business Visa to 180 days, up from 60 days. Multiple visits are now allowed in a calendar year, and foreign nationals holding an employment visa are now able to extend it for up to 10 years, up from 5. The immigration authority in [Angola](#) replaced the Ordinary Visa with the Tourism Visa for business visitors. Issued for 120 days, the Tourism Visa allows multiple entries and may be extended twice for 30 days, whereas the Ordinary Visa was issued for 90 days.

3.31. [Canada](#) made permanent its Global Talent Stream programme. The programme provides for a streamlined Labour Market Impact Assessment and expedited work permit processing for highly-skilled foreign workers in STEM-related professions (science, technology, engineering, math). The [Kingdom of Saudi Arabia](#) no longer requires labour market tests before a block visa request is submitted by employers seeking to hire foreign nationals, while [Egypt](#) removed the requirement that limited liability companies in the country appoint at least one manager of Egyptian nationality. In [Panama](#), several Executive Decrees enacted in May 2019 introduced changes to the rules on work permits for foreigners. Among changes, the period of validity for work permits within the 10% or 15% quotas has been extended to two years, from one year previously.

3.32. For its part, [Oman](#) introduced a ban on the recruitment of foreign nationals to senior management positions in the private sector. It also extended for another six months the suspension of the recruitment of foreign workers in 87 professions across various industries, starting 5 August 2019. In the [United Arab Emirates](#), the Ministry of Human

Resources and Emiratization (MOHRE) expanded, from 1 August 2019, the labour market testing requirement to companies of all sizes. Finally, under a new law effective since 1 June 2019, foreign nationals seeking to work in Zambia may only apply for positions appearing in an official critical skills list. Employers are additionally required to designate a local worker to be trained by each foreign worker over a two-year period.

Air Services Agreements

3.33. 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 more liberal access conditions than was previously the case.

Table 4.1 Air Services Agreements¹⁰⁷ concluded or amended during the reporting period (October 2018-October 2019)

Parties	Date of signature	Source
Macao, China	10.10.2018	http://www.macaubusiness.com/macau-qatar-inks-bilateral-open-skies-agreement-with-macau
Singapore	16.10.2018	https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/singapore-peru-open-skies-agreement-10834954
Jamaica	17.10.2018	http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Jamaica_to_sign_new_air-service_agreements?profile=1228
Jamaica	17.10.2018	http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Jamaica_to_sign_new_air-service_agreements?profile=1228
Jamaica	17.10.2018	http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Jamaica_to_sign_new_air-service_agreements?profile=1228
Jamaica	17.10.2018	http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Jamaica_to_sign_new_air-service_agreements?profile=1228
Korea, Republic of	18.10.2018	http://www.airrang.co.kr/News/News_View.asp?nseq=225078
Bosnia	07.11.2018	https://www.exyuaviation.com/2018/11/bosnia-and-uae-ink-air-agreement.html
Philippines	20.11.2018	https://www.bworldonline.com/phl-signs-new-air-deal-with-switzerland
Kyrgyz Republic	21.11.2018	https://www.azernews.az/region/141495.html
Kuwait, the State of	25.11.2018	https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2761136&language=en
Guyana	28.11.2018	http://www.financial-news.co.uk/51645/2018/11/guyana-signs-air-service-agreement-with-ghana-201811280/
Macao, China	27.11.2018	https://macaodailytimes.com.mo/mainland-macau-ink-new-agreement-on-air-transport.html
Australia	10.2018	https://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/377024/qantas-to-increase-fiji-flights
United Kingdom	28.11.2018	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-us-agree-new-open-skies-arrangements
Nepal	29.11.2018	https://thehimalayantimes.com/business/nepal-cambodia-ink-initial-pact-on-bilateral-air-services
United Kingdom	2.12.2018	https://www.atn.aero/#/article.html?id=70624
Congo	10.12.2018	https://www.theafrican.co.ke/business/Congo-US-sign-air-transport-agreement/2560-4888688-14tdiip/index.html
Ghana	11.12.2018	http://www.ghananewsagency.org/economics/ghana-and-seychelles-sign-bilateral-air-services-agreement-143061
Ghana	13.12.2018	https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Government-eyes-aviation-gateway-as-Ghana-signs-deals-with-Canada-et-al-708488
Ghana	13.12.2018	https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Government-eyes-aviation-gateway-as-Ghana-signs-deals-with-Canada-et-al-708488
Ghana	13.12.2018	https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Government-eyes-aviation-gateway-as-Ghana-signs-deals-with-Canada-et-al-708488
Ghana	13.12.2018	https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Government-eyes-aviation-gateway-as-Ghana-signs-deals-with-Canada-et-al-708488
Kenya	15.12.2018	https://www.journalducameroun.com/en/kenya-concludes-highest-number-of-air-service-agreements/
Kenya	15.12.2018	https://www.journalducameroun.com/en/kenya-concludes-highest-number-of-air-service-agreements
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Kenya	15.12.2018	https://www.journalducameroun.com/en/kenya-concludes-highest-number-of-air-service-agreements
Seychelles	14.12.2018	http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/10202/Eyeing+new+tourism+and+trade%2C+Seychelles+signs+air+agreements+with++countries
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Seychelles	14.12.2018	http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/10202/Eyeing+new+tourism+and+trade%2C+Seychelles+signs+air+agreements+with++countries
Seychelles	14.12.2018	http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/10202/Eyeing+new+tourism+and+trade%2C+Seychelles+signs+air+agreements+with++countries
Seychelles	14.12.2018	http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/10202/Eyeing+new+tourism+and+trade%2C+Seychelles+signs+air+agreements+with++countries
United Kingdom	17.12.2018	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-eu-air/uk-signs-air-service-deal-with-switzerland-for-post-brex-it-flights-idUSKBN10G00E
Rwanda	07.01.2019	https://ktpress.rw/2019/01/rwanda-signs-air-service-agreement-with-israel/
Nigeria	16.01.2019	https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/fg-signs-air-agreement-with-india.html
Cambodia	30.01.2019	https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50574394/air-deal-inked-with-finland/
Kazakhstan	05.02.2019	https://www.aviationpros.com/airlines/news/21056146/kazakhstan-announces-time-of-signing-open-sky-agreement-with-us
Qatar	06.02.2019	https://www.logupdateafrica.com/eu-qatar-ink-new-air-service-agreements-to-strengthen-ties-aviation
Zimbabwe	23.02.2019	https://colombogazette.com/2019/02/23/zimbabwe-welcomes-launch-of-air-services-with-sri-lanka
Zimbabwe	23.02.2019	https://colombogazette.com/2019/02/23/zimbabwe-welcomes-launch-of-air-services-with-sri-lanka/
Peru	08.03.2019	https://mundo.sputniknews.com/america-latina/201903081085948043-peru-cuba-llegan-acuerdo-para-aumentar-frecuencia-vuelos-comerciales
Dominica	28.02.2019	https://wicnews.com/caribbean/several-member-states-caricom-sign-multilateral-air-services-agreement-220917044
Grenada	28.02.2019	https://wicnews.com/caribbean/several-member-states-caricom-sign-multilateral-air-services-agreement-220917044
Jamaica	28.02.2019	https://wicnews.com/caribbean/several-member-states-caricom-sign-multilateral-air-services-agreement-220917044
Trinidad and Tobago	28.02.2019	https://wicnews.com/caribbean/several-member-states-caricom-sign-multilateral-air-services-agreement-220917044
Morocco	19.03.2019	https://www.politicalanalysis.co.za/morocco-and-rwanda-sign-new-partnership-agreement-in-12-different-sectors
Ghana	26.03.2019	https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Ghana-signs-Air-Services-Visa-waiver-agreements-with-Malta-733255
Nigeria	02.04.2019	https://punchng.com/nigeria-cape-verde-finalise-air-transport-agreement
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	02.04.2019	https://aaco.org/media-center/news/aeropolitical/saudi-arabia-and-georgia-sign-air-service-agreement
China	20.05.2019	http://www.ecns.cn/news/2019-05-22/detail-izfikase6326510.shtml
Zimbabwe	20.06.2019	https://www.herald.co.zw/zim-moza-sign-air-service-agreement/
Argentina	26.06.2019	https://www.investing.com/news/economy-news/us-argentina-sign-modernized-air-services-agreement-1908521
Brazil	28.06.2109	https://centreforaviation.com/analysis/reports/brazil-portugal-aviation-more-growthwill-flow-from-new-mou-481937
Canada	16.07.2019	http://www.tribune242.com/news/2019/jul/16/bahamas-seeking-tourism-boost-via-canada-air-deal/

Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	Senegal	23.07.2019	http://www.tradearabia.com/news/TTN_356885.html
Nepal	China	25.07.2019	https://thehimalayantimes.com/business/nepal-china-revise-air-services-pact/
Philippines	Rwanda	25.07.2019	https://business.inquirer.net/275525/ph-rwanda-ink-air-service-agreement
Ghana	Belgium	12.08.2019	https://www.modernghana.com/news/950150/ghana-belgium-seal-bilateral-air-services-agreement-basa.html
Rwanda	Brazil	14.08.2019	https://regionweek.com/brazil-is-our-plan-for-future-expansion-says-rwandair-ceo/
Namibia	Rwanda	19.08.2013	https://ktpress.rw/2019/08/kagame-in-namibia-for-a-three-day-state-visit/
United States	Japan	21.08.2019	https://www.atn.aero/#/article.html?id=73298
Morocco	Philippines	12.09.2019	http://northafricapost.com/33885-philippines-morocco-to-establish-direct-flights.html
Canada	French Polynesia	16.09.2019	https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/398874/air-service-agreement-between-french-polynesia-and-canada
Bahrain, Kingdom of	Spain	27.09.2019	https://aaco.org/media-center/news/aeropolitical/bahrain-and-spain-sign-agreement-to-liberalize-air-traffic
Nepal	United Arab Emirates	28.09.2019	https://myrepublica.nagariknetwork.com/news/nepal-uae-sign-revised-air-service-agreement-in-canada/

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.34. The following Box takes a close look at the future of services trade.

Box 4.1 The Future of Services Trade

The share of services in international trade has been growing steadily, and recent work by the WTO found that services trade has grown faster than trade in goods. Since 2005, services trade has increased by 5.4% per year, on average, while trade in goods has grown by 4.6%. Trade in computer services and research and development have recorded the most rapid annual growth over the past decade.

Many developing economies are becoming increasingly services-based, and their share of world services trade has grown by over 10 percentage points since 2005. However, services trade is concentrated in five developing economies – China; Hong-Kong China; India; the Republic of Korea; and Singapore – which accounted for over 50% of developing economies' services trade in 2017.

Trade in services can help countries boost economic growth, enhance domestic firms' competitiveness, and promote inclusiveness. It may help women and MSMEs play a more active role in world trade, particularly in developing economies, helping to reduce economic inequality. When MSMEs in developing countries start exporting services, they are, on average, two years younger than manufacturing firms. However, at present, they export less than 5% of total sales. Services are also the main source of employment for women, even if the service sectors that account for most of the employment of women have traditionally been among the least traded.

Despite their decline by 9% between 2000 and 2017, trade costs in services remain higher than in goods. This is largely due to the limited possibilities to supply certain services across borders, and the regulatory intensity of many service sectors.

Still, digital technologies are increasingly enabling cross-border trade of services that have traditionally needed face-to-face interaction, thus reducing the cost of trading services. Together with climate change, rising incomes and demographic changes, technology is one of the main factors expected to have an impact on trade in services in the future.

Thanks to lower trade costs and the reduced need for face-to-face interaction due to digitalization, the share of services in global trade could increase by 50% by 2040, according to the WTO Global Trade Model. Moreover, if developing countries are able to adopt digital technologies, their share in world services trade could increase by about 15% by 2040, again according to the Model. These results are also dependent on policy barriers to services trade being lowered. However, these barriers – essentially regulatory measures – are much more complex than in goods trade.

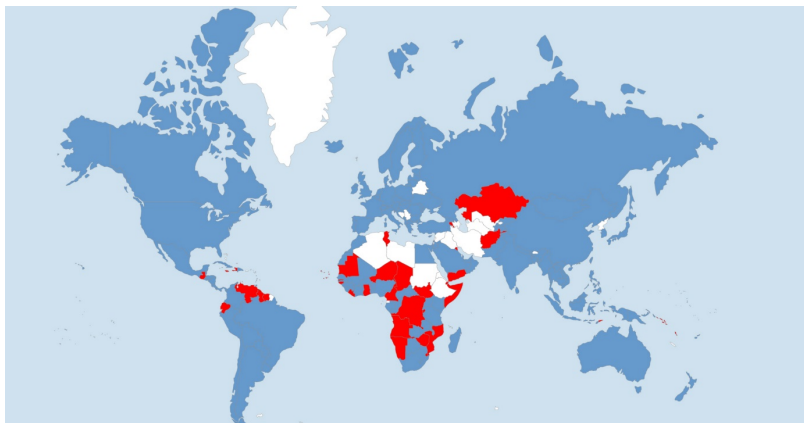
For services trade to be a powerful engine of economic growth, development and poverty reduction, international cooperation must be intensified and new pathways found to advance global trade cooperation and make services a central element of trade policy.

Source: WTO World Trade Report 2019.

4 POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

4.1. During the review period, Georgia and Cuba deposited their instruments of acceptance of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement, in November 2018 and June 2019, respectively.¹⁰⁸ This brought to 127 the total number of WTO Members having formally accepted it as legally binding. 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 the production and export of generic medicines.¹⁰⁹

Chart 5.1 Acceptance of the Amendment to the TRIPS Agreement



Note: In blue, WTO Members which have accepted the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement; in red, WTO Members yet to accept the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement; and in white, not WTO Members.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Bilateral and Regional Agreements

4.2. WTO Members continued to implement and negotiate bilateral and RTAs that contain substantive IP provisions. Currently, over 70% of the RTAs in force and notified to the WTO contain specific IP provisions. Increasingly, RTAs have further developed the interconnection between IP and trade in goods and services, trade in digital products, and the links of the IP system to other normative areas, such as investment, e-commerce, and competition policy. During the review period, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), came into force in December 2018; the domestic procedures for the ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) were underway; and significant IP issues were reportedly under consideration during the re-negotiations of the Association Agreement between Mexico and the European Union¹¹⁰, as well as in the negotiations in the framework of the Pacific Alliance¹¹¹ and between MERCOSUR and the European Union.¹¹²

4.3. WTO Members were also active signing cooperation agreements between IP offices. For instance, during the review period, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed a patent prosecution highway agreement with the Korean Intellectual Property Office and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chinese National Intellectual Property Administration.¹¹³

4.4. Domestically, WTO Members are working to streamline IP into their economies. During the period under review, China¹¹⁴, Myanmar¹¹⁵ and Turkey¹¹⁶ reported on the development of their national IP strategies. The relationship between IP and trade continued to develop and diversify, as Members continued to modernize and fine-tune their IP legislation and administration (Box 5.1).

Box 5.1 Domestic Legislation and Administrative Developments

Australia^a

Between August 2018 and February 2019, several amendments to IP legislation entered into force. These covered measures to: ensure that the safe harbour scheme procedures and requirements apply to new service providers in the academic, archiving, disability and cultural sectors; allow the judiciary to issue injunctions to block access by users in Australia to overseas online locations that facilitate large-scale infringement of copyright; extend protection for secondary uses of sound recordings in Australia to recordings from another 32 countries which provide equivalent protection to Australian sound recordings; clarify parallel importation of trademarked goods; provide time-periods for non-use of trademark actions; improve the way derived variety declarations can be made for plant breeders' rights; remove the requirement for patentees to provide certain data related to pharmaceutical patents with an extended term; and streamline the administration of the IP system. In April 2019, a report on the Review of the Code of Conduct for Copyright Collecting Societies was issued.

Chile^b

In November 2018, the directives for trademark applications were updated, specifically the chapter on prohibition to register names, pseudonyms and portraits of a natural person; and substantive requirements for commercial marks. These guidelines are available in electronic form only.

China^c

The amended Patent Agency Regulations entered into force on 1 March 2019. They improve the provisions regarding qualifications for practitioners, a code of conduct, and services supervision.

Indonesia^d

On 28 December 2018, the Regulation on Patent Applications came into force. It establishes technical and administrative procedures for obtaining patent protection, and accommodates applications for patent protection under the Patent Cooperation Treaty. The Regulation on Procedures for Granting Compulsory Licenses also entered into force on the same day.

Mauritius^e

In July 2019, the IP Law was amended to provide for simplified procedures when border measures are applied to suspected infringing goods.

Philippines^f

In August 2019, the Bureau of Patents set the maximum period for deferred publication of industrial design applications at 30 months from the filing date.

Chinese Taipei^g

The amended Copyright Act entered into force on 3 May 2019. It aims at curbing malicious online infringement. The Patent Act was also amended to streamline application, examination and invalidation procedures; and it extends the design patent term from 12 to 15 years.

Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of^h

The Regulations for Optional Registration of Copyright Works came into force in August 2019. The Saudi Authority for IP held a public hearing on the Executive Rules for Compulsory Patent Licences, and is currently updating the Regulations for the Protection of Confidential Commercial Information.

South Africaⁱ

The Act for the Protection, Promotion, Development and Management of Indigenous Knowledge Systems entered into force in August 2019. It established National Indigenous Knowledge Systems Office (NIKSO),

which will be responsible for the management of the rights of indigenous communities.

Thailand^j

The Copyright Act entered into force on 11 March 2019. On the same day, the Ministry of Commerce issued a Notification on the Use of Exceptions on Copyright Infringement for the Benefit of Persons with Disabilities who are Unable to Access Copyright Works.

Turkey^k

The application process for trademarks and patents was streamlined, as of July 2019. A database on creative works has been available since May 2019.

Ukraine^l

The amendment to the Law on the Protection of Topographies of Semiconductor Products entered into force in September 2019; and the amendments to the Law Geographical Indications were enacted in September 2019.

- a Submission by Australia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report and notifications to the TRIPS Council.
- b Submission by Chile for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- c Submission by China for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- d Submission by Indonesia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- e Submission by Mauritius for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- f Submission by the Philippines for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- g Submission by Chinese Taipei for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- h Submission by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- i Submission by South Africa for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- j Submission by Thailand for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- k Submission by Turkey for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- l Submission by Ukraine for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

TRIPS Council

4.5. During the review period, the TRIPS Council met on three occasions, i.e. on 8-9 November 2018, 13 February 2019 and 6 June 2019. At the November 2018 meeting, WTO Members agreed to grant permanent Observer status to the Cooperation Council of the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC). The February 2019 meeting was immediately preceded by the Workshop on the Implementation of Article 66.2 of the TRIPS Agreement: Incentives for Technology Transfer, during which capital-based LDC experts reviewed the reports of measures implemented by developed country Members, and set out their own national priorities in this area. This enabled a rich exchange, based on concrete recommendations, during the TRIPS Council meeting. The European Union briefed WTO Members on its initiative to strengthen the ability of regular WTO bodies to effectively address and resolve trade concerns across WTO councils and committees.¹¹⁷ Mexico observed that the Draft Revision of the Standard for Follow-up Formula discussed by the Codex Alimentarius Commission could have an impact on trademarks.¹¹⁸

4.6. At the three meetings, discussions on non-violation and situation complaints under the TRIPS Agreement showed some willingness to discuss and consider some proposals on modalities. In general, delegations maintained their established positions.¹¹⁹ Members also continued sharing their national experiences on the overarching theme of IP and Innovation, which covered specific agenda items on: IP and New Businesses¹²⁰; Public-Private Collaborations in Innovation¹²¹; Promoting Public Health through Competition Law and Policy¹²²; and Branding and the Creative Industries.¹²³ They also shared their views on IP and the Public Interest, with the item Promoting Public Health through Competition Law and Policy.¹²⁴

4.7. During the review period, 16 Members¹²⁵ notified legislative measures under TRIPS Article 63.2. Most of them introduced their new or amended laws during the Council's meetings, providing insights into developments in different areas, for instance: copyright and related rights; trademarks; geographical indications; industrial designs; patents; plant variety protection; and enforcement.

4.8. Five Members submitted information on their contact points for the exchange of information and cooperation on trade in infringing goods, under Article 69 of the TRIPS Agreement.¹²⁶

4.9. As part of the Review of the Application of the Provisions of the Section on Geographical Indications under Article 24.2 of the TRIPS Agreement, Mexico and Ukraine introduced their responses to the Checklist of Questions; and Montenegro and Norway provided updates to their respective Checklists.

4.10. In 2019, the TRIPS Council reviewed, for the first time in 15 years, inputs on the national experiences with biotech patenting and plant variety protection: the responses to the checklists of questions on the review of Article 27.3(b), submitted by Mexico¹²⁷ and Ukraine. Chile submitted its contact points for technical cooperation, as per Article 67.

TRIPS-related Discussions in Trade Policy Reviews

4.11. During the review period, the Trade Policy Mechanism reviewed 19 Members¹²⁸, including the first reviews for Vanuatu and Samoa. These reviews included discussions on a wide range of IP issues with a bearing on trade policy, including:

- implementation of the TRIPS Agreement and national IP policies;
- tax deductions for the purchase of IPRs;
- contribution of IP-intensive industries to exports and imports;
- copyright regimes, covering online and technological protection measures;
- trademark regimes, protection of well-known and unregistered trademarks and prior use requirements;
- geographical indications;
- industrial designs;
- patents and streamlining of application and examination processes;
- undisclosed information and test data;
- technology transfer policies;
- governmental expenditures on research and development;
- protection of trade secrets;
- licensing and competition policy;
- enforcement, online infringement and at the border;
- methodologies for calculating losses caused by infringements;

- procedures for settling disputes, including mediation; and
- the accession to, and implementation of, WIPO instruments.

5 TRANSPARENCY OF TRADE POLICIES

Notifications and Surveillance in WTO Councils and Committees¹²⁹

0.1. 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.

0.2. 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 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 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, and the other reasons behind the poor compliance, must be addressed collectively by the WTO membership.

Anti-Dumping

5.1. 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 anti-dumping actions taken within the preceding six months, using an agreed standard form. Members that have not established an authority competent to conduct anti-dumping 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.

.1. Fifty-five Members (counting the European Union as one) submitted semi-annual reports, either of anti-dumping actions taken, or of no actions having been taken, during the six-month period January-June 2019. Fifty Members submitted one-time nil notifications. The remaining 31 Members failed to submit semi-annual reports in respect of anti-dumping actions during this period. However, few of these non-notifiers are likely to have taken anti-dumping actions.

Subsidies and Countervailing Measures

.2. 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 1995-2019 are shown in Table 6.1. Subsidy notifications are required every two years, and the most recent notifications were due on 30 June 2019. Further notifications for this period are expected to be received. The share of Members that notified subsidies remained between 37% and 50% between 1995 and 2019. 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 did not exceed 70%, and generally hovered around 60%. Conversely, the share of Members not making any notification registered a substantial increase since 1995, from 25% to 60%, albeit with some intervening fluctuations.

Table 6.1 Status of subsidy notifications^a

New and full subsidy notification (due on 30 June of the years shown)	1995	1998	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019
	% share of total											
Members that notified subsidies	50	39	44	45	47	48	48	47	48	46	44	37
Members that made a "nil" notification	25	16	15	14	13	11	17	20	18	17	11	3
Sub-total of notifying Members	75	55	59	59	60	59	65	67	66	63	55	40
Members that did not make any notification	25	45	41	41	40	41	35	33	34	37	45	60

a As at 25 October 2019.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

.3. 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 countervailing actions taken within the preceding six months, using an agreed standard form. Members that have not established an authority competent to conduct countervailing 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.

5.2. Fifty-four Members (counting the European Union as one) submitted semi-annual reports, either of countervailing actions taken, or of no actions having been taken, during the six-month period January-June 2019. Forty-one Members submitted one-time nil notifications. The remaining (41) Members failed to submit semi-annual reports in respect of countervailing actions during this period. Few, if any, of these non-notifiers are likely to have countervailing actions.

State Trading Enterprises

5.3. 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.

5.4. 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.

Table 6.2 Status of new and full STE notifications (due on 30 June of the year shown)¹³⁰

Year	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018
Number of Members that have notified ¹³¹	65	64	71	63	62	64	64	59	58	58	40

Source: WTO Secretariat.

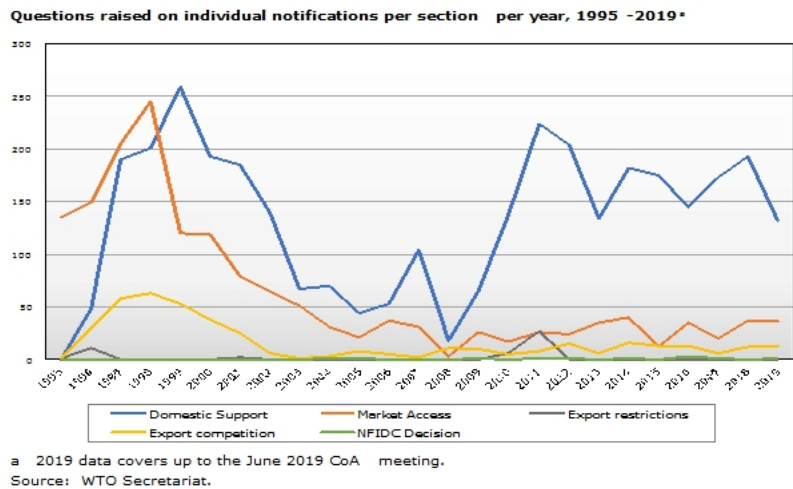
Agriculture

5.5. The CoA continued its review of the implementation of Members' commitments under the Agreement. This review is largely carried out based on the notifications submitted by Members. There are 12 distinct notification requirements 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 5 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 WTO document [G/AG/2](#).

5.6. More than 5,400 questions have been raised in connection with individual notifications under the CoA's review process from 1995-2019 (up to the June 2019 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 6.1) . Additionally, since 2010 the prevalence of questions concerning domestic support notifications has been considerably high, representing between 70% and 80% of all the questions raised in the CoA concerning individual notifications.

Chart 6.1 Questions raised on individual notifications per section per year (1995-2019^a)

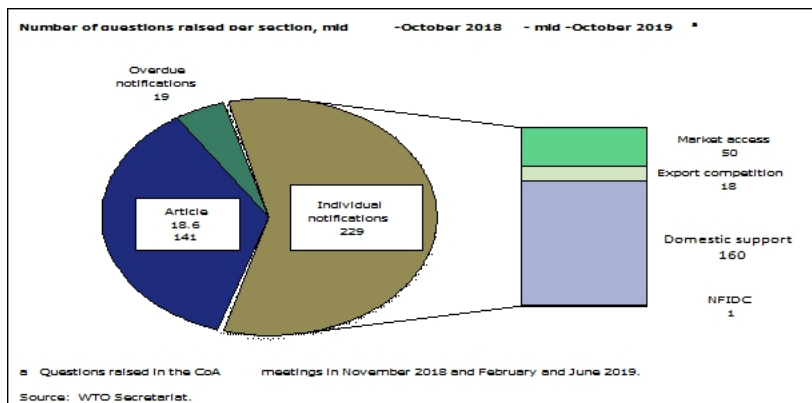


a 2019 data cover up to the June 2019 CoA meeting.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

5.7. From 15 October 2018 to 15 October 2019, Members submitted 433 notifications, (including addenda and corrigenda) . A total of 229 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 (70%) . Domestic support notifications from China and India were subject to considerable scrutiny. Additionally, 25 Members also received questions concerning their domestic support notifications. A total of 19 questions were raised concerning overdue notifications from China, Egypt, Ghana, India, Kenya, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Morocco, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, and Ukraine.

Chart 6.2 Number of questions raised per section (mid-October 2018 – mid-October 2019^a)



a Questions raised in the CoA meetings in November 2018 and February and June 2019.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

0.1. Article 18.7 of the AoA establishes that "[a]ny 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, "[c]ounternotifications under Article 18:7 of the Agreement shall be considered by the Committee at the earliest opportunity". During the review period, four counternotifications were submitted. Three pertained to market price support measures undertaken by India regarding cotton (submitted by the United States)¹³² sugarcane (submitted by Australia)¹³³ and pulses (submitted by Australia, Canada and the United States)¹³⁴; and one counternotification was submitted by Indonesia pertaining to special safeguard measures of the Philippines on instant coffee and extracts of coffee.¹³⁵ A summary of the discussions that took place in the CoA meetings can be found in WTO documents [G/AG/R/90](#) (cotton and sugarcane)¹³⁶, [G/AG/R/91](#) (pulses)¹³⁷ and [G/AG/R/92](#) (coffee and extracts of coffee) ¹³⁸

Quantitative Restrictions (QRs)

5.8. The notification of QRs to the Market Access Committee is an obligation established by the 2012 Decision on Notification Procedures for Quantitative Restrictions (WTO document [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 11 October 2019, a total of 39 Members had submitted notifications. The number of notifications for each biennial period is provided in Table 6.3.

5.9. 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 was made since the adoption of the Decision in 1995.

Table 6.3 Notification procedures for QRs

No.	Notification requirement	Total number of notifications received as of 11 October 2019, by biennial period
1	QRs in force (regular notification)	2012-14: 31 notifications from 22 Members. 2014-16: 39 notifications from 34 Members. 2016-18: 33 notifications from 31 Members.

		2018-20: 24 notifications from 21 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 notified the WTO Secretariat of any changes. 2018-20: No Member notified the WTO Secretariat of any changes.
3	QRs maintained by other Members (<i>reverse notification</i>)	No Member gave notification.
4	Non-tariff measures maintained by other Members (<i>reverse notification</i>)	No Member gave notification.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Import Licensing

5.10. 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 6.4.

Table 6.4 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 N/2
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 N/2
3	New import licensing procedures and changes to existing procedures	Articles 5.1-5.4 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.

5.11. 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.

5.12. The N/2 notification is an obligation for Members to notify new licensing laws/procedures or changes made to existing laws/procedures. It is *ad hoc* in nature, and only due when specific circumstances occur. A new notification form (for notification under Articles 5.1-5.4) was agreed at the Import Licensing Committee meeting held on 4 April 2019 for Members to use on a voluntary basis.¹³⁹ The N/3 notification requires Members to reply to a Questionnaire describing all import licensing procedures in place by 30 September every year.

5.13. As at 4 October 2019, 14 Members had not yet submitted any notification under any provision of the Agreement since joining the WTO. In addition, another ten had not yet submitted notifications regarding domestic import licensing-related laws or regulations; and another nine are yet to submit their Replies to the Annual Questionnaire under Article 7.3. During the review period, as at 4 October 2019, 89 new notifications under the Agreement on Import Licensing (excluding corrigendum) were received and circulated by the Secretariat. Of these, eight N/1 notifications from seven Members¹⁴⁰ were reviewed by the Committee. The Committee also reviewed 33 N/2 notifications relating to the institution of new import licensing procedures or changes in these procedures from 16 Members¹⁴¹ and 48 N/3 notifications from 32 Members.¹⁴² During the review period, Myanmar submitted its first notifications to the Committee under various articles of the Agreement.

Rules of Origin

5.14. The Committee on Rules of Origin reviews notification obligations with respect to three types of rules of origin as described in Table 6.5 below. Recent notifications have improved the overall compliance with notification obligations in all three areas.

Table 6.5 Notification procedures for rules of origin

No.	Legal reference	Notification requirement	Type
1	Article 5 of the Agreement on Rules of Origin (no template or format agreed by the Committee)	Non-Preferential Rules of Origin: 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.	One-off
2	Paragraph 4 of Annex II of the on Rules of Origin (no template or format agreed by the Committee)	Changes to legislation must be published promptly. Preferential Rules of Origin: Members only notify the preferential rules of origin of regional trade agreements any time a new agreement is concluded.	<i>Ad hoc</i>
3	Paragraph 4.3 of the 2015 Ministerial Decision on preferential rules of origin for LDCs (WT/L/917/Add.1) (Template agreed by the Committee: G/RO/84)	Preferential Rules of Origin for LDCs: Members granting non-reciprocal trade preferences to LDCs must notify the rules of origin which apply under those schemes. Any modifications must also be notified.	<i>Ad hoc</i>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

5.15. As at mid-October 2019, 80% of WTO Members had submitted a notification under Article 5 of the Agreement: 50 Members had notified the Committee that they implement non-preferential origin requirements, while 59 other Members had notified that they do not implement such requirements.¹⁴³ However, most of these notifications were submitted over 20 years ago, and no template was used. As a result, some of the information notified is out-of-date and incomplete. The remaining 27 Members had never submitted notifications to the Committee.¹⁴⁴

5.16. In relation to non-reciprocal preferences for LDCs, all WTO Members except two have notified their LDC-specific origin requirements. However, the Ministerial Decision also requires preference-granting Members to notify their import statistics from LDCs. Compliance with these notification obligations remains low and, despite some recent improvement, there are still several preference-granting Members who have never notified their preferential import statistics to the Secretariat.¹⁴⁵

Customs Valuation

5.17. 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 were adopted by the Committee on Customs Valuation. There are five main notification requirements (Table 6.6) .

Table 6.6 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
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.

5.18. 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 of 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 2019, covered 136 members (counting the European Union 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 6.7) .

5.19. 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 6.7 Compliance regarding customs valuation notifications

No.	Notification requirement	Compliance as at 12 October 2019
1	Submission of complete texts of national legislation (laws, regulations, etc.)	Currently, 102 Members have notified their legislation and 34 Members have still to notify. This gives a compliance rate of 75%.
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, 72 Members have notified responses to the checklist of issues and 64 Members have not yet fulfilled this requirement, giving a compliance rate of 53%.
4	Decision on interest charges – date of implementation	To date, 49 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 36%.
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, 45 Members (33%) 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

5.20. 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. Four 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 6.8) .

Table 6.8 Compliance with PSI notifications

No.	Notification requirement	Notifications received between 12 October 2018 and 12 October 2019
1	Submission of copies of laws and regulations putting the Agreement into force	Saint Lucia
2	Other laws and regulations relating to PSI	Egypt
3	Changes in laws and regulations relating to PSI	None
4	Absence of laws and regulations on PSI	Angola, Brazil

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Integrated Database (IDB)

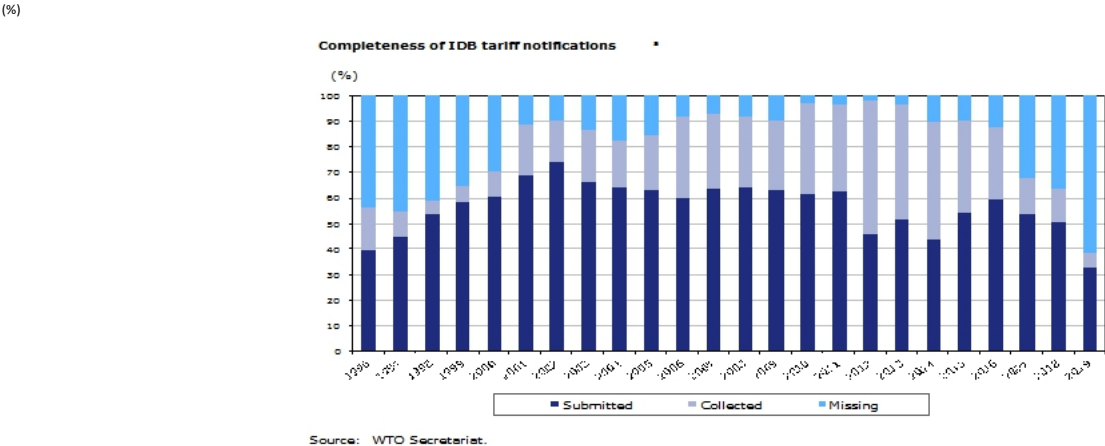
5.21. Reliable tariff information and import statistics of all trading partners are essential to enhancing transparency and formulating sound trade policies. Recognizing the importance of the Integrated Database (IDB) in collecting and disseminating tariff and trade data, WTO Members decided to improve and modernize the operation of the IDB. The Committee on Market Access (CMA) adopted, on 28 May 2019, a new Decision on the Modalities and Operation of the IDB¹⁴⁶, providing the WTO Secretariat greater flexibility in enhancing IDB data coverage, simplifying the data integration process, allowing the dissemination of previously restricted data to the public, and shortening the provisional period so users will have early access to IDB updates. In the past, the IDB relied on Members' official notifications and on data collected by the Secretariat from national and international databases, which were included in the IDB after the relevant Member's approval (framework-sourced data) . The new Decision authorized the Secretariat to estimate missing historical tariffs on the basis of applied tariffs of adjacent years. It also allowed the Secretariat to explore options of automatic data exchanges between Members' databases and the IDB. The Decision has also synchronized the deadline for submitting import statistics, which is now set for all Members as 31 October for the previous year's data.

5.22. Charts 6.3 and 6.4 present the completeness of tariff and import notifications to the IDB, by number of notifications directly submitted by Members and information collected by the Secretariat.

5.23. As at 15 September 2019, the coverage of IDB notifications was, on average, 80% for tariffs and 75% for import statistics. The highest percentage of IDB tariff data completeness was recorded in 2012, at 97% (Chart 6.3), followed by 2006 to 2013 and 2015, where the completeness rate also exceeded 90%. Around 70% of tariff data were collected through Members' notifications, and the rest by the Secretariat through framework sources. The scope of framework sources ranged from 5% in 1998 to 50% in 2012. On import statistics, with the new notification deadline of 31 October, the latest reference year for this Report remains 2017. The highest IDB import statistics' coverage was recorded in 2009, at 89%, with coverage higher than 85% for 2001, and 2005 to 2010. Import statistics collected through framework sources consistently accounted for at

least 25% of available data during the years 2004 to 2012 (Chart 6.4) . The import statistics required for the IDB are very detailed and can only be found in limited other sources. For this reason, the share of import statistics collected by the Secretariat from framework sources remained low, i.e. around 19% between 1996 and 2017. Nonetheless, it should be noted that the proactive data collection undertaken by the Secretariat has significantly improved the data coverage of the IDB.

Chart 6.3 Completeness of IDB tariff notifications^a



a 2019 cover data available from January to September.

Note: The completeness of notifications is calculated on the basis of the number of Members' schedules (i.e. European Union member States are included in the European Union schedule, and Lichtenstein in Switzerland's) .

Source: WTO Secretariat.

5.24. Data availability varies among Members. Table 6.9 below shows the distribution of the completeness of Members' IDB data since their accession to the WTO. For tariffs, there were only 35 reporting Members without any data gap. For import statistics, considering only data available up to 2017 (since 2018 imports are not yet due), the corresponding number is 54. The Table also shows that 71% of Members have at least one outstanding tariff notification, and 60% have at least one outstanding import statistics notification. These are marginal improvements compared to the previous Report, with 72% for tariffs and 64% for import statistics.

5.25. The timeliness of IDB notifications, defined as receiving the expected data within the year the data are due, is illustrated in Table 6.7 since 2000. In cases where a valid submission was received on time but was later replaced or revised, the initial submission is included in the count of timely notifications. The same applies for data collected within the deadline but later replaced by a revised notification or by data retrieved from other framework sources.¹⁴⁷ Timely availability of tariffs was highest in 2013, but data punctuality has slowed down again and, since 2014, only about half of expected data were available within the year they were due. Table 6.10 also shows that the bulk of import statistics was obtained after the due date. The highest percentage of timeliness was recorded in 2010, when 50% of import statistics was collected by the deadline. As mentioned above, the new IDB Decision pushed the imports notification deadline to one month later (31 October), to have one unified deadline for all Members. Yet, as shown in Table 6.10, timeliness has not breached the halfway mark for import statistics so far. Hopefully, the automatic data exchange proposed in the new IDB Decision between Members' own data systems and the IDB would facilitate timely data transmission, to the benefit of Members themselves and other stakeholders.

Chart 6.4 Completeness of IDB import notifications^a



a Data for 2018 are due on 31October 2019.

Note: The completeness of notifications is calculated on the number of Members' schedules (i.e. European Union member States are included in the European Union schedule, and Lichtenstein in Switzerland's) .

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Table 6.9 Completeness of notifications among Members

Number of years with outstanding data	Tariffs (up to 2019)		Imports (up to 2017)	
	No. of Members	%	No. of Members	%
None (complete data)	35	29%	54	40%
1-2 years	30	25%	16	12%
3-5 years	18	15%	21	16%
6 or more years	37	31%	44	33%
Total number of Members' schedules	135	100%	135	100%
Memo: With at least one year of outstanding data	97	71%	87	60%

Source: WTO Secretariat.

5.26. The notification of non-MFN tariff schemes to the IDB, i.e. preferential tariffs resulting from PTAs and FTAs/RTAs, has become more regular. This is partly due to the requirement under the PTA transparency mechanism whereby Members are obliged to notify non-reciprocal preferences, notably the GSP and LDC preferential trading schemes, and the amount of trade that occurs under these schemes. While notification of non-MFN tariff schemes is still on a voluntary basis, at least 60% of IDB tariff submissions since 2015 include additional duty schemes, aside from the MFN. The IDB Status of Submissions document circulated during the CMA regular meetings indicates the availability of MFN and non-MFN tariff schemes in the IDB over the latest ten years. The IDB is accessible 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>) .

Table 6.10 Percentage of IDB data available within the year of the deadline^a

(% of expected schedules)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Tariff	26	33	42	32	31	28	24	22	26	38	53	69	62	75	52	50	50	48	52	39
Imports	29	34	29	26	19	17	22	21	31	27	50	45	43	38	21	42	27	33	n.a. ^b	n.a. ^b

a The numbers might differ slightly from those reported in the past, as submissions recorded could be deemed unsuitable for inclusion in the IDB during processing.

b The deadline for 2018 imports is 31 October 2019, and for 2019 imports is 31 October 2020.

n.a. Not applicable.

Source: IDB, 15 September 2019.

5.27. The IDB data, complemented by additional data from partner institutions such as the ITC and UNCTAD, are used to calculate the applied tariffs and trade indicators published in the World Tariff Profiles (WTP), a yearly compendium of comprehensive market access indicators. A series of market access indicators generated from the IDB, including those published in the WTP, are also available from the WTO data portal (WTO DATA viewed at <http://data.wto.org>), the new online database for comprehensive trade-related indicators.

Balance-of-Payments Restrictions

5.28. Notification obligations in relation to restrictions to safeguard 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 6.11).

Table 6.11 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 BOP 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)	A Member shall notify to the General Council the introduction of, or any changes in, the application of restrictive import measures taken for BOP 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 biennial consultations
Understanding on BOP Provisions, para. 9		<i>Ad hoc</i> , followed by a yearly consolidated notification

Source: WTO Secretariat.

5.29. The last BOP consultations 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

5.30. 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 2 September 2019 and contained 79 such agreements.¹⁴⁸ 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. WTO 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 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

5.31. Under the Transparency Mechanism for Preferential Trade Arrangements (PTAs), which was established in December 2010¹⁴⁹, 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, nine 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 Chairman 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.

5.32. The Transparency Mechanism for PTAs also stipulates that an electronic database on individual PTAs is to be maintained by the Secretariat. The Database on PTAs¹⁵⁰ currently contains information on 34 PTAs. Table 6.12 provides an overview of the PTAs included in the database, which is updated primarily on the basis of information provided by the Members implementing PTAs. The CTD Chairman 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 6.12 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
Canada	2	South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement ^a Generalized System of Preferences
Chile	1	Commonwealth Caribbean Countries Tariff
China	1	Duty-free treatment for LDCs
European Union	4	Duty-free treatment for LDCs Generalized System of Preferences Trade preferences for countries of the Western Balkans Trade preferences for Pakistan ^b Trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova ^c
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 ^a
Norway	1	Generalized System of Preferences
Russian Federation	2	Generalized System of Preferences (1.1.2010-10.10.2016) ^d Generalized System of Preferences (as of 10.10.2016)
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
Turkey	1	Generalized System of Preferences
United States	6	African Growth and Opportunity Act Andean Trade Preference Act ^e Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act Former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

- 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 10 October 2016.
- e The preferences granted under this PTA expired on 31 July 2013.

Source: Database on PTAs.

Government Procurement

5.33. 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. Various notifications were made during the reporting period under these requirements.

Transparency of TRIPS

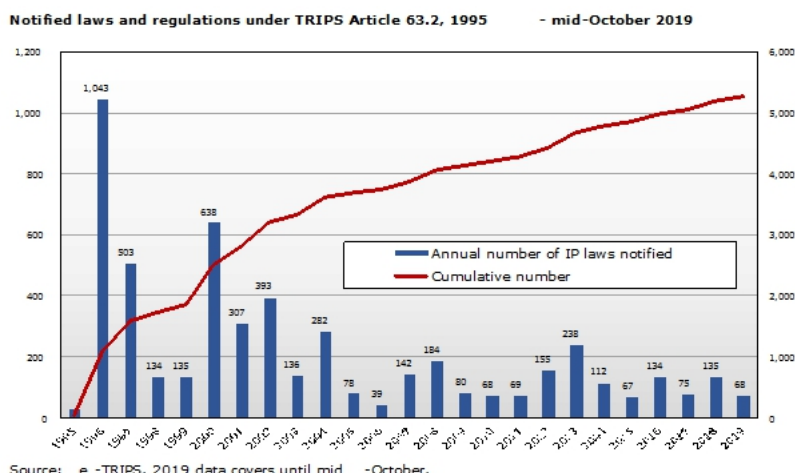
5.34. The TRIPS Agreement requires WTO Members to notify to the Council for TRIPS their IP laws and regulations; to establish and notify contact points in their administrations for the purposes of cooperation with each other, aimed at the elimination of trade in infringing goods; and to notify the Council if they wish to use certain options under the Agreement relating to substantive obligations.

5.35. The bulk of notifications are laws and regulations notified pursuant to Article 63.2. Chart 6.5 shows the laws and regulations notified from 1995 to mid-October 2019. Notifications peaked in 1996, when developed-Members notified existing laws or amendments that implemented the TRIPS Agreement. From 2000 onwards, notifications predominately came from developing Members and recently-acceded Members. The most recent rise in notifications reflects diverse approaches by Members in updating their IP legal and policy settings in response to the changing economic, technological and social dimensions of IP. The cumulative total of laws and regulations notified as at mid-October 2019 was 5,263 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 remain significant gaps in the coverage of more recent laws and legislative amendments, as several Members have not updated their initial notifications for well over a decade.

5.36. Transparency obligations also refer to final judicial decisions and administrative rulings of a 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.¹⁵¹

5.37. Following the recommendation made by the TRIPS Council in March 2010¹⁵², WTO 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, despite the conclusion of a number of such agreements.

Chart 6.5 Notified laws and regulations under TRIPS Article 63.2, from 1995 to mid-October 2019



Note: 2019 data cover until mid-October.

Source: e-TRIPS.

TRIPS Checklists

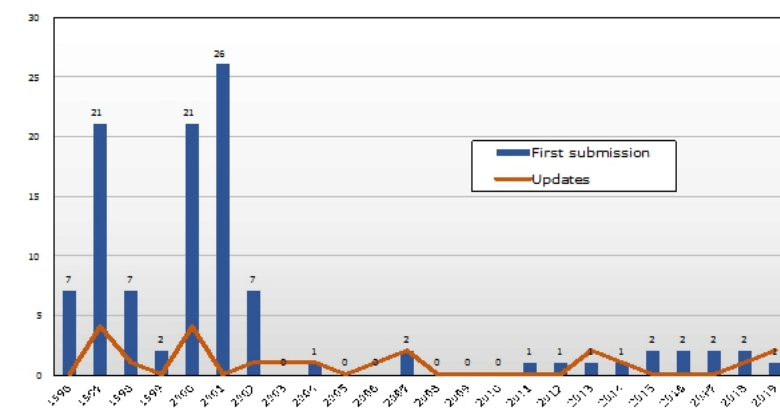
5.38. To enable transparency on Part III of the TRIPS Agreement, i.e. on enforcement of IP rights, the TRIPS Council agreed that Members should provide responses to an illustrative list of questions on their domestic systems, namely the Checklist on Enforcement.¹⁵³ Similarly, questionnaires were agreed to implement the Agreement's built-in reviews under Articles 24.2 on geographical indications¹⁵⁴ and 27.3(b) on biotech patenting and plant variety protection¹⁵⁵. The Council also agreed that developed Members will provide reports on technical cooperation and on transfer of technology incentives for the benefit of LDCs. The resulting notifications and reports 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 Checklists on enforcement, geographical indications, and biotech patenting have direct bearing on trade policy considerations, and touch on many aspects of the global economy, e.g. the Checklist on Enforcement reports in detail on border measures.

Enforcement

5.39. During the review period, the European Union¹⁵⁶ and Kazakhstan¹⁵⁷ submitted updated responses to their respective Checklists on Enforcement; and Samoa submitted its initial responses.¹⁵⁸ Since 1996, 112 Members have submitted their Checklists, and 16 of those have submitted revisions. However, many Members have not updated their reports for over 20 years. Chart 6.6 shows the Checklists on Enforcement submitted up to mid-October 2019. Submissions peaked in 1997, 2000 and 2001, when developed and developing Members deposited their respective Checklists.

Chart 6.6 Checklist on enforcement, 1996 to mid-October 2019

Checklist on enforcement, 1996 - mid-October 2019



Source: e-TRIPS, 2019 data covers until mid-October.

Note: 2019 data cover until mid-October.

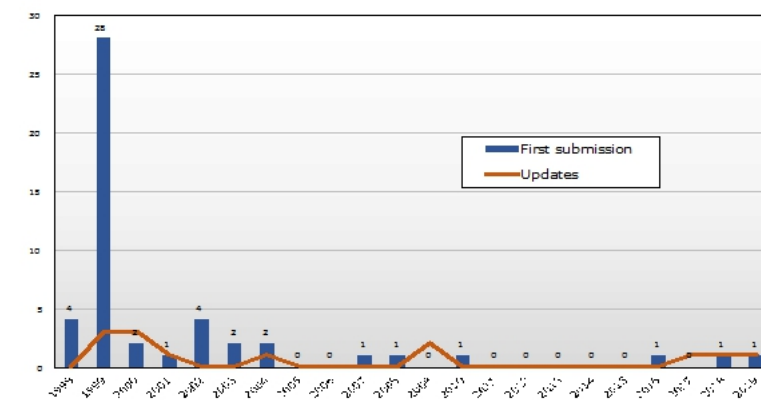
Source: e-TRIPS.

Geographical Indications

5.40. The Checklist on Geographical Indications – review under Article 24.2 – was submitted by only 36 Members¹⁵⁹, of which 6 notified updates. During the review period, Ukraine submitted its Checklist, and Mexico submitted its updates detailing the implementation of already-notified GI-related provisions.¹⁶⁰ Chart 6.7 shows the Checklists on Geographical Indications submitted until mid-October 2019. Submissions peaked in 1999 and 2001, when developed and developing Members deposited their respective Checklists.

Chart 6.7 Checklist on Geographical Indications, 1998 to mid-October 2019

Checklist on geographical indications, 1998 - mid-October 2019



Source: e-TRIPS, 2019 data covers until mid-October.

Note: 2019 data cover until mid-October.

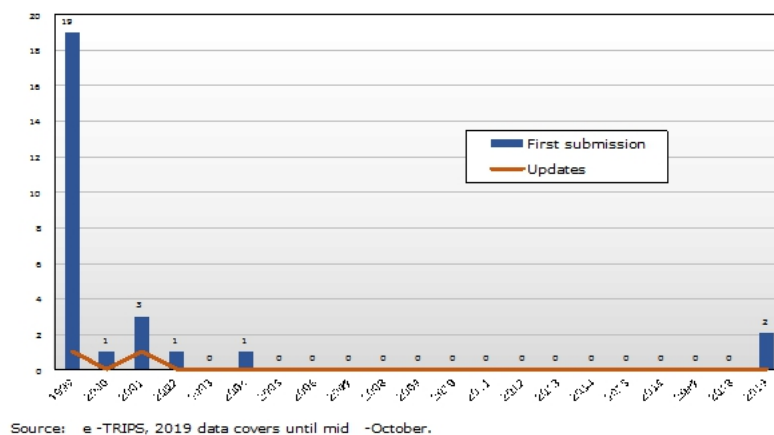
Source: e-TRIPS.

Biotech Patenting and Plant Variety Protection

5.41. The submission of Checklists on biotech patenting and plant variety protection – review under Article 27.3(b) – peaked with the start of the review of this provision in 1999. So far, 28 Members¹⁶¹ have notified their Checklists, and only one has provided an update. During the review period, Mexico and Ukraine submitted their responses to the Checklist.¹⁶² Chart 6.8 shows the Checklists on Article 27.3(b) submitted until mid-October 2019. Submissions peaked in 1999 and 2001, when developed and developing Members deposited their respective Checklists.

Chart 6.8 Checklist on biotech patenting and plant variety protection, 1999 to mid-October 2019

Checklist on the biotech patenting and plant variety protection , 1999 - mid-October 2019



Note: 2019 data cover until mid-October.

Source: e-TRIPS.

e-TRIPS

5.42. e-TRIPS is an online submission and management system, designed to facilitate the processing of, and access to, TRIPS-related information. It comprises two separate but integrated online tools:

- the e-TRIPS Submission System, which is a means for submitting TRIPS notifications, review materials and reports; and
- the e-TRIPS Gateway, which provides a wide range of opportunities for delegates to access and make use of TRIPS information.

5.43. The e-TRIPS Submission System was officially launched in February 2019. It is now available in the three WTO official languages. It enables Members to easily submit TRIPS-related information, and streamlines the Secretariat's internal processing. The Secretariat continuously provides tailor-made training and information material to Members on how to use the System.

5.44. In addition, since June 2019, WTO Members have been invited to test the pilot (Beta) version of the e-TRIPS Gateway (available at <http://tripsims.wto.org>), which is an online information portal that allows users to search and extract the full range of TRIPS-related information managed by the Secretariat (Image 6.1) .

5.45. The Secretariat provides demonstrations and regular updates to WTO Members regarding the Gateway's development. This is intended to provide a fundamental and far-reaching improvement in the accessibility, user-friendliness and effective transparency of the full range of information that Members have agreed to be gathered under the *aegis* of the TRIPS Agreement.

Image 6.1 e-TRIPS Gateway



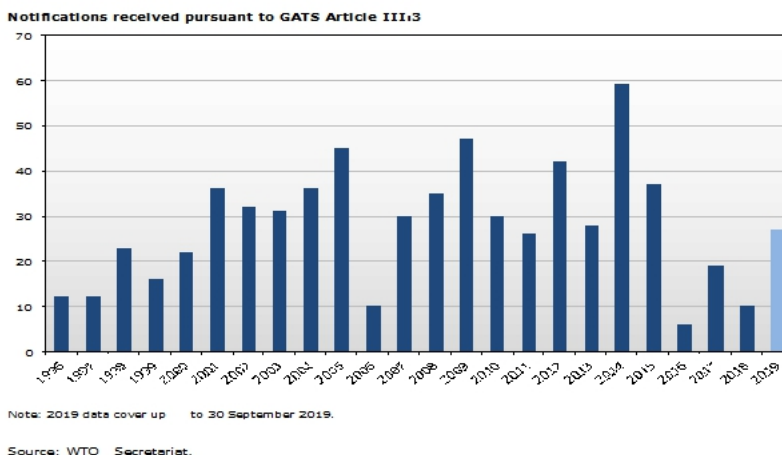
Source: WTO Secretariat.

Services

0.1. From mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019, 44 new notifications were made under various GATS provisions, and a further 4 concerned changes to previously submitted notifications.

0.2. Out of the new notifications submitted, 27 were made under GATS Article III:3, by 7 WTO Members. This Article requires each Member to notify to the Council for Trade in Services, at least annually, of any regulatory changes that significantly affect trade in services covered by its specific commitments. As Chart 6.9 shows, during the reporting period, more notifications were made pursuant to Article III:3 than in the preceding three years.

Chart 6.9 Notifications received pursuant to GATS Article III:3

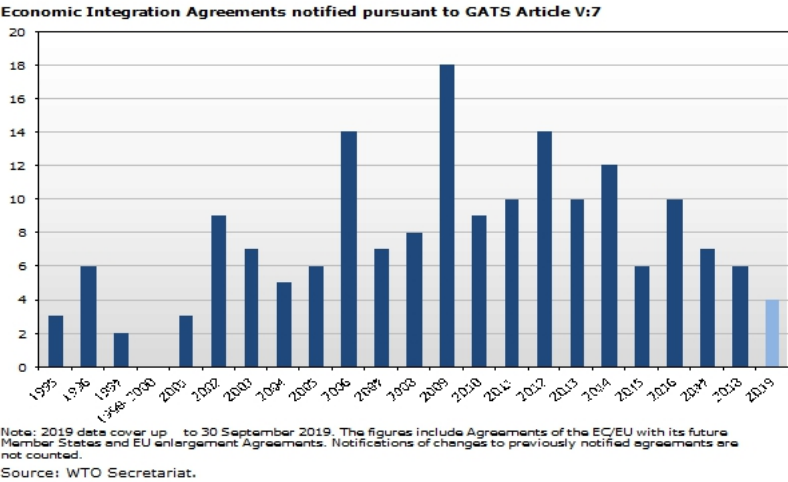


Note: 2019 data cover up to 30 September 2019.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

0.3. During the same reporting period, seven agreements concerning economic integration in services were notified under GATS Article V:7, involving 27 WTO Members. These agreements were referred to the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements for consideration. After several years, during which the number of Economic Integration Agreements notified pursuant to Article V:7 was on an upward trend, the last few years witnessed a relative slowdown (see Chart 6.10) .

Chart 6.10 Economic Integration Agreements notified pursuant to GATS Article V:7



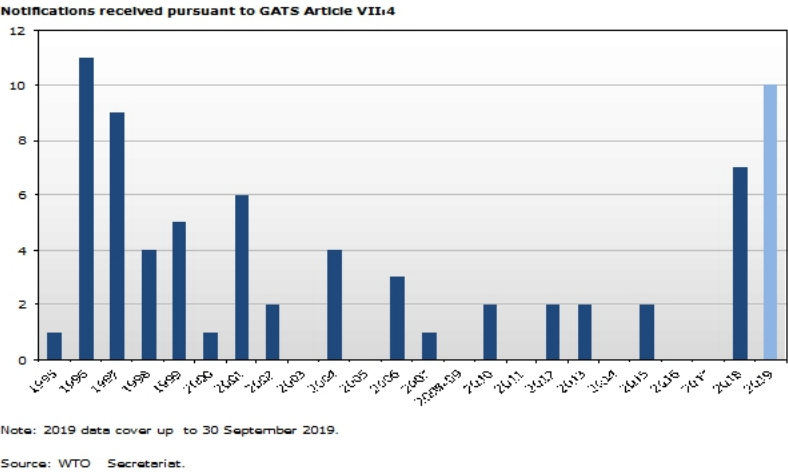
Note: 2019 data cover up to 30 September 2019.

The figures include agreements of the EC/EU with its future member States and EU enlargement agreements¹⁶³. Notifications of changes to previously notified agreements are not counted.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

0.4. Ten notifications were made under GATS Article VII:4 by four WTO Members. This Article requires Members to notify to the Council for Trade in Services any new or existing mutual recognition agreements or arrangements. As illustrated in Chart 6.11, the number of notifications submitted pursuant to Article VII:4 increased markedly over the past two years when compared to the previous two decades.

Chart 6.11 Notifications received pursuant to GATS Article VII:4



Note: 2019 data cover up to 30 September 2019.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

0.5. No notifications were received under other GATS provisions during this period.

ANNEX 1

MEASURES FACILITATING TRADE¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2018 TO MID-OCTOBER 2019)

Confirmed information²

Measure	Source/Date	Status
	Afghanistan	
Trade facilitation measures through the reduction of export compulsory documents from 10 to 5	Permanent Delegation of Afghanistan (26 April 2019)	
	Albania	
Reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (119 tariff lines at 6-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 84; 85; 88; 90)	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.1 , 28 January 2016	
	Argentina	
Amendments introduced to the list of informatics and telecommunications goods (182 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 74; 84; 85; 90), granting the elimination of import tariffs	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Decreto No. 973/2018 – Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (30 October 2018)	Effective 1 November 2018
Trade facilitation measure for importers through the implementation of the "Documento de Tránsito Sanitario Vegetal Electronico (DTV-e)"	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Resolución General Conjunta 4297, Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos y Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (24 August 2018)	Effective 25 December 2018
Trade facilitation measure for exporters through the implementation of the "Documento de Tránsito Sanitario Vegetal Electronico (DTV-e)"	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Resolución General Conjunta 4297, Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos y Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (24 August 2018)	Effective 25 December 2018
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain parts and accessories of motorcycles not locally produced in Mercosur, destined for transformation by local industries (8 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM 8703 and 8711)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Decreto No. 81/2019 – Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (24 January 2019)	Effective until 31 December 2023
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain parts and accessories of motorcycles not locally produced in Mercosur, destined for transformation by local industries (8 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM 8703 and 8711)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Decreto No. 81/2019 – Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (24 January 2019)	Effective until 31 December 2023
Simplification of administrative customs procedures (i.e. elimination of export controls, registered exporter rules and selected sea ports) on exports of raw hides and skins of bovine or equine animals (fresh, or salted, dried, limed, pickled or otherwise preserved, but not tanned, parchment-dressed or further prepared), whether or not dehaired or split (NCM 4101)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Resolución No. 4454/2019, Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos (1 April 2019)	Effective 5 April 2019
Temporary reduction of the import tariff (to 2%) on imports of poly(vinyl chloride), not mixed with any other substance (NCM 3904.10.20), under an import quota of 5,000 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and MERCOSUR/CCM/DIR. No. 35/19 (27 July 2019)	Effective 5 October 2019, for 12 months

Reduction of import tariffs (to 5% and 2%) on certain gas engines; road tractors for semi-trailers; motor vehicles for the transport of goods; and chassis fitted with engines, for the motor vehicles of headings HS 8701 to 8705, under certain import quotas (NCM 8407.34.90; 8701.20.00; 8704.31.10; 8704.31.90; 8704.32.10; 8704.32.90; 8704.90.00; 8706.00.10)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Decreto No. 440/2019, Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur – Derecho de Importación Extrazona (28 June 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Australia		
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 2019
Bangladesh		
Elimination of export duties (from 10% to zero) on tobacco and manufactured tobacco. Reduction of export duties (from 25% to 15%) on building bricks (HS 2401.10.00; 2401.20.00; 2401.30.00; 6904.10.00)	Permanent Delegation of Bangladesh to the WTO (24 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Brazil		
Temporary reduction (to 2%) of import tariffs on 6-hexanelactam (NCM 2933.71.00), under an import quota of 2,000 tonnes (effective 16 October 2018); on poly(ethylene terephthalate) (NCM 3907.61.00), under an import quota of 1,000 tonnes (effective 30 December 2018); on soda lye or liquid soda in aqueous solution (NCM 2815.12.00), under an import quota of 88,000 tonnes (effective 28 December 2018 to 27 December 2019); on certain printing inks (NCM 3215.19.00), under an import quota of 720 tonnes (effective 30 December 2018 to 29 December 2019); on jute (NCM 5303.10.10), under an import quota of 7,000 tonnes (effective 28 December 2018 to 27 December 2019); on polycarbonates (NCM 3907.40.90), under an import quota of 35,040 tonnes (effective 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019); on black printing ink (NCM 3215.11.00), under an import quota of 455 tonnes (effective 23 January 2019 to 22 January 2020); on disodium sulphate (NCM 2833.11.10), under an import quota of 910,000 tonnes (effective 31 January 2019 to 30 January 2020); on polyamide-6 (NCM 3908.10.24), under an import quota of 14,200 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019), Camex Resolution Nos. 75/2018 (15 October 2018), 87/2018 (19 November 2018), 91/2018 (5 December 2018), 98/2018 (7 December 2018) and 105/2018 (27 December 2018); Secex Portaria Nos. 67/2018, 68/2018, 69/2018, 70/2018, 71/2018 (13 December 2018), 75/2018, 76/2018, 77/2018 and 78/2018 (28 December 2018); and Secint Portaria No. 154 (6 February 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

<p>(effective 10 December 2018 to 9 December 2019); on sulphates (<i>de cromo</i>) (NCM 2833.29.60), under an import quota of 500,000 tonnes (effective 10 December 2018 to 9 December 2019); on chemical preparations for photographic uses (NCM 3707.90.21), under an import quota of 1,700 tonnes (effective 7 December 2018 to 6 December 2019); on acrylic polymers in primary forms (NCM 3906.90.49), under an import quota of 800 tonnes (effective 7 December 2018 to 6 December 2019); on p-Xylene (NCM 2902.43.00), under an import quota of 290,000 tonnes (effective 22 December 2018 to 21 December 2019); on malt, not roasted (NCM 1107.10.10), under an import quota of 400,000 tonnes (effective 22 December 2018 to 21 December 2020); on elastomeric of high tenacity yarn (NCM 5402.47.10), under an import quota of 2,200 tonnes (effective 2 January 2019 to 1 January 2020); on aluminium foil rolled but not further worked (NCM 7607.11.90), under an import quota of 2,137 tonnes (effective 1 February 2019 to 31 January 2020); on dimethylamine (NCM 2921.11.21), under an import quota of 12,000 tonnes (effective 23 January 2019 to 22 January 2020); and on sardines (NCM 0303.53.00), under an import quota of 120,000 tonnes (effective 8 February 2019 to 8 February 2020)</p> <p>Temporary elimination of import tariffs on casein (<i>paracaseína</i>), styrene-acrylonitrile (SAN) copolymers, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) copolymers, electric conductors for a voltage exceeding 1,000 V, and on certain amusement park structures (NCM 3501.10.00; 3903.20.00; 3903.30.20; 8544.60.00; 9508.90.90) (effective 10 December 2018) .</p> <p>Elimination of import tariffs on certain miscellaneous chemical products (NCM 3808.69.90) (effective 17 October 2018)</p> <p>Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain vaccines for humans (<i>hepatite B</i>), under an import quota of 24 million doses; on certain vaccines for humans (<i>raiva</i>), under an import quota of 3 million doses; on certain vaccines for</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Camex Resolution Nos. 77/2018 (17 October 2018) and 98/2018 (7 December 2018)</p> <p>Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019), Camex Resolution Nos. 75/2018 (15 October 2018) and 78/2018 (23 October 2018), and Secex Portaria Nos. 75/2018, 76/2018, 77/2018 and 78/2018 (28 December 2018)</p>	<p>Effective: see individual dates in measure</p> <p>Effective 16 October 2018</p>
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humans (<i>hepatite A</i>), under an import quota of 4.5 million doses; on certain vaccines for humans (<i>difteria, tétano e pertussis, acelular</i>), under an import quota of 5 million doses; and on certain vaccines for humans (<i>virus do papiloma humano tetravalente recombinante</i>), under an import quota of 10 million doses (NCM 3002.20.23; 3002.20.27; 3002.20.29)		
Elimination of the temporary increase of import tariffs on gypsum boards (NCM 6809.11.00)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Camex Resolution No. 101/2018 (17 December 2018)	Effective 17 December 2018
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 720 capital goods tariff lines, and 49 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 90; 94), 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 (22 May 2019), Camex Resolution Nos. 85/2018, 86/2018 (9 November 2018), 95/2018 and 96/2018 (7 December 2018)	Effective until 30 June 2020
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 506 capital goods tariff lines, and 33 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 86; 87; 89; 90; 94), through the "ex-out" regime	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Secint Portaria Nos. 219/2019 and 220/2019 (25 February 2019)	Effective until 30 December 2020
Decrease of import tariffs (from 6% to 2%) on shelled hazelnuts (NCM 0802.22.00); (from 14% to 2%) on photographic film in rolls for x-ray (NCM 3702.10.20); (from 16% to 2%) on parts and accessories for pianos (NCM 9209.91.00); and (from 12% to 2%) on esters of acrylic acid (NCM 2916.12.20); and on viscose rayon staple fibres (NCM 5504.10.00)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Camex Resolution No. 58/2018 (31 August 2018)	Effective 1 January 2019
Decrease of import tariffs (to 2%) on certain inorganic and organic chemicals (49 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 28 and 29)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Secint Portaria No. 241/2019 (20 March 2019)	Effective 29 March 2019
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate copolymers (NCM 3904.30.00), under an import quota of 6,000 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019), Secint Portaria No. 390/2019 (6 May 2019) and Secex Portaria No. 12/2019 (9 May 2019)	Effective 10 May 2019 to 9 May 2020
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on metal permanent magnets (NCM 8505.11.00), under an import quota of 360,000 tonnes; on titanium oxides (NCM 2823.00.10), under an import quota of 12,000 tonnes; on acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) copolymers (NCM 3903.31.00), under an import quota of 105,000 tonnes; on	Secint Portaria No. 421/2019 (2 May 2019) and Secex Portaria No. 15/2019 (27 May 2019)	Effective 27 May 2019 to 26 May 2020

<p>palm kernel or babassu oil and fractions thereof (NCM 1513.29.10), under an import quota of 224,785 tonnes; on mixtures of odoriferous substances, and mixtures (including alcoholic solutions) with a basis of one or more of these substances, of a kind used as raw materials in industry; other preparations based on odoriferous substances, of a kind used for the manufacture of beverages (NCM 3302.90.90), under an import quota of 1,250 tonnes; and on certain electrical apparatus for switching or protecting electrical circuits, or for making connections to or in electrical circuits, for a voltage exceeding 1,000 volts (NCM 8535.90.00), under an import quota of 500 units</p> <p>Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 308 capital goods tariff lines, and 62 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 90), through the "ex-out" regime</p> <p>Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on poly(vinyl chloride), not mixed with any other substances (NCM 3904.10.20), under an import quota of 12,000 tonnes (effective 19 July 2019); on certain polytetrafluoroethylene (NCM 3904.90.00), under an import quota of 3,794 tonnes (effective 19 July 2019); on polymers of propylene films (NCM 3920.20.19), under an import quota of 600 tonnes (effective 19 July 2019); on certain amine-function compounds (NCM 2921.19.23), under an import quota of 26,282 tonnes (effective 14 August 2019); on mono-, di- or trichloroacetic acids, and their salts and esters (NCM 2915.40.10), under an import quota of 4,500 tonnes (effective 27 June 2019); insecticides (NCM 3808.91.95), under an import quota of 1,500 tonnes (effective 27 June 2019); on yarns of polyester, partially oriented (NCM 5402.46.00), under an import quota of 127,575 tonnes (effective 27 June 2019); on high tenacity yarns of polyester, whether or not textured (NCM 5402.20.00), under an import quota of 8,000 tonnes (effective 24 July 2019); on acrylic or modacrylic filament tow (NCM 5501.30.00), under an import quota of 6,240 tonnes (effective 23 August 2019); on</p>	<p>Secint Portaria Nos. 440/2019, 441/2019 (10 June 2019) and 2023/209 (12 September 2019)</p> <p>Secint Portaria Nos. 468/2019 (27 June 2019), 504/2019 (19 July 2019) and 512/2019 (29 July 2019)</p>	<p>Effective until 31 December 2020</p> <p>Effective: see individual dates in measure</p>
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acrylic or modacrylic synthetic staple fibres (NCM 5503.30.00), under an import quota of 9,000 tonnes (effective 14 August 2019); on unwrought nickel not allowed (NCM 7502.10.10), under an import quota of 7,200 tonnes (effective 27 June 2019); on compounds containing an unfused triazine ring in the structure (<i>ametrina</i>) (NCM 2933.69.91), under an import quota of 3,750 tonnes (effective 29 July 2019); on lignin sulphonates (NCM 3804.00.20), under an import quota of 72,000 tonnes (effective 29 July 2019); and on other polyethers (<i>pape</i>) (NCM 3907.20.39), under an import quota of 2,000 tonnes (effective 29 July 2019)		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 1,106 capital goods tariff lines, and 38 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 90), through the "ex-out" regime	Secint Portaria Nos. 510/2019, 511/2019 (26 July 2019), 531/2019, 532/2019 (20 August 2019) and 2024/2019 (12 September 2019)	Effective until 31 December 2021
Reduction of import tariffs (to 4%) on aluminium electrolytic; (to 8%) on automatic circuit breakers and electric conductors for a voltage exceeding 1,000 V fitted with connectors; (to 12%) on sanitary towels and napkins for babies; (from 12% to 2%) on aluminium alloys, rectangular (including square) plates, sheets and strip, of a thickness exceeding 0.2 mm; (from 10% to 6%) on acrylic acid and its salts; (from 14% to 8%) on certain pharmaceutical products; and (from 12% to 8%) on acrylic polymers in primary forms (NCM 8532.22.00; 8536.20.00; 8544.42.00; 9619.00.00; 7606.12.90; 2916.11.10; 3004.90.99; 3906.90.44)	Secint Portaria No. 523/2019 (2 August 2019)	Effective 2 August 2019
Temporary reduction of imports tariffs (from 18% to 2%) on reciprocating piston engines (of a cylinder capacity exceeding 1,000 cc) used for the propulsion of vehicles of HS Chapter 87 (NCM 8407.34.90); and on-road wheels and parts and accessories thereof (NCM 8708.70.90)	Secint Portaria No. 523/2019 (2 August 2019)	Effective until 31 December 2019
Elimination of import tariffs (from 2%) on immunological products, put up in measured doses or in forms or packings for retail sale (NCM 3002.15.90); (from 8%) on certain pharmaceutical products consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or	Secint Portaria No. 523/2019 (2 August 2019)	Effective 2 August 2019

prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses or in forms or packings for retail sale (NCM 3004.90.69; 3004.90.79); and (from 16%) on electric scalpels (NCM 9018.90.99)		
Reduction of import tariffs (from 40% to 32% or 16%) on certain video games consoles and machines (NCM 9504.50.00)	Decreto No. 9971 – Presidência da República, Secretaria-Geral, Subchefia para Assuntos Jurídicos (14 August 2019)	Effective 15 August 2019
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (from 12% to 2%) on uncoated paper and paperboard weighing more than 150g/m ² but less than 225 g/m ² (NCM 4805.92.90), under an import quota of 15,993 tonnes; and (from 6% to 2%) on pigments and preparations containing 80% or more by weight of titanium dioxide, calculated on the dry matter (NCM 3206.11.10), under an import quota of 12,580 tonnes. Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 6%) on aluminium, not alloyed (NCM 7601.10.00), under an import quota of 141,250 tonnes	Secint Portaria No. 523/2019 (2 August 2019)	Effective until 31 December 2019
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength by volume of 80% vol. or higher; and ethyl alcohol and other spirits, denatured, of any strength, under an import quota of 750 million L (NCM 2207.10.10; 2207.20.11)	Secint Portaria No. 547/2019 (31 August 2019)	Effective 31 August 2019
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on 347 capital goods tariff lines, (NCM Chapters 84; 85; 90; 94), through the "ex-out" regime	Secint Portaria No. 531/2019 (20 August 2019)	Effective until 31 December 2021
Elimination of non-automatic licensing requirements on imports of certain papers (NCM 4802; 4810)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (12 October 2019)	Effective 6 September 2019
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on sodium sulphites (NCM 2832.10.10), under an import quota of 24,650 tonnes; nickel alloys tubes (NCM 7507.12.00), under an import quota of 2,500 tonnes; contact lenses (NCM 9001.30.00), under an import quota of 6.5 million units; and on certain blood pressure instruments and appliances (NCM 9018.90.92), under an import quota of 2.5 million units	Secint Portaria No. 1683 (11 September 2019) and Secex Portaria No. 35/2019 (17 September 2019)	Effective 18 September 2019 to 17 September 2020
Canada		
Elimination of the countermeasures imposed (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;	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (28 October 2019)	Effective 20 May 2019

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) (originally implemented on 1 July 2018) 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 2019
China		
Reduction of import tariffs on certain products (1,585 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 03; 13; 15; 20; 21; 25; 27; 28; 29; 30; 37; 40; 41; 42; 44; 45; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 58; 59; 60; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 76; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 89; 90; 92; 94; 96)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (23 April 2019) and Customs Tariff Commission Announcement No. 9/2018 on reduction of import tariffs for certain commodities. Viewed at: http://qss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201809/P020180930650864922349.pdf	Effective 1 November 2018
Imposition of interim tariffs, resulting in the temporary reduction of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. live animals; fish and crustaceans; dairy produce; products of animal origin; edible fruits and nuts; oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; vegetable saps and extracts; vegetable products; animal or vegetable fats and oils; cocoa and cocoa preparations; preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; miscellaneous edible preparations; beverages; residues and waste from food industries; tobacco and manufactured tobacco; salt, earths and stone, lime and cement; mineral fuels and oils; inorganic and organic chemicals; pharmaceutical products; fertilizers; tanning or dyeing extracts; perfumery; soap and organic surface-active agents; albuminoidal substances; photographic or cinematographic goods; miscellaneous chemical products; plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof; raw hides and skins; furskins and artificial fur; wood and articles	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Announcement No. 65/2018 of the Customs Tariff Commission	Effective 1 January 2019

of wood; cork and articles of cork; paper and paperboard; printed books; cotton; other vegetable textile fibres; wadding; articles of apparel and clothing accessories; articles of stone, plaster, and cement; ceramic products; glass and glassware; precious or semi-precious stones; iron and steel; copper and articles thereof; nickel and articles thereof; other base metals; tools of base metals; machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical machinery; vehicles; instruments, parts and accessories thereof; and miscellaneous manufactured articles (HS Chapters 01; 03; 04; 05; 08; 12; 13; 14; 15; 18; 19; 21; 22; 23; 24; 25; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 43; 44; 45; 48; 49; 52; 53; 56; 61; 62; 63; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 74; 75; 81; 82; 84; 85; 87; 90; 91; 92; 96)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (22 May 2019)	Effective from 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019. On 1 April 2019 the suspension was extended
Suspension of the imposition of additional tariffs on imports of certain vehicles, and parts and accessories thereof (211 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapter 87), from the United States		Effective 1 March 2019
Reduction of VAT (to 3%) on certain imported pharmaceutical products for rare diseases (HS 2930; 2933; 2934; 2935; 3002; 3004)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (22 May 2019)	Effective 1 November 2018
VAT rebate rates were increased on exports of certain products, e.g. (to 16%) on photographic paper and film, plastics, bamboo floor coverings, woven rattan, tempered safety glass and lamps; (to 13%) on lubricants, aircraft tyres, carbon fibre and certain metal products; and (to 10%) on certain agricultural products, bricks, tiles and glass fibre	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (22 May 2019)	Effective 1 January 2019
Reduction of export duties on certain products, e.g. bones and horn-cores, zinc ores and concentrates, tin ores and concentrates, phosphorus, benzene, iron and steel, copper and articles thereof, nickel and articles thereof, aluminium and articles thereof, zinc and articles thereof, and unwrought antimony (HS 0506; 2608; 2609; 2804; 2902; 7201; 7202; 7402; 7403; 7404; 7407; 7408; 7409; 7502; 7508; 7601; 7602; 7604; 7605; 7606; 7901; 8110)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (22 May 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.4 , 28 January 2016	

Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (265 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 49; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90)		
Certain products temporarily exempted (e.g. shrimps and prawns; lucerne (alfalfa) meal and pellets; flour, meals and pellets, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; certain petroleum oils; organic chemicals; organic surface-active agents, whether or not put up for retail sale; apparatus for medical uses; and whey) from the additional tariffs imposed on imports from the United States (imposed on 6 July and 23 August 2018)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Announcement of the Customs Tariff Commission (CTC) of the State Council on the first set of lists of U.S. products to be excluded from the first group of U.S. products subject to additional tariffs (CTC Announcement [2019] No. 6) . Viewed at: http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201909/t20190911_3384638.html	Effective 17 September 2019 to 16 September 2020
Colombia		
Trade facilitation measures through the enlargement of import operations processed through the Single Window for Foreign Trade (VUCE 2.0)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (30 April 2019)	Effective 5 December 2018
Trade facilitation measures through the enlargement of export operations processed through the Single Window for Foreign Trade (VUCE 2.0)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (30 April 2019)	Effective 5 December 2018
Extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain used agricultural machinery (HS 8432; 8433; 8434; 8436; 8437; 8438)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (16 October 2019)	Effective 15 August 2019 to 15 August 2021
Costa Rica		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on rice in the husk (paddy or rough) (HS 1006.10.90), under an import quota of 44,403 metric tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Costa Rica to the WTO (23 April 2019)	Effective January 2019 to June 2019
Creation of a new tariff line "certain strip of plastic" (HS 3920.20.15) resulting in the elimination of import tariffs	Permanent Delegation of Costa Rica to the WTO (23 April 2019)	Effective 1 April 2019
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on rice in the husk (paddy or rough) (HS 1006.10.90), under an import quota of 19,520 metric tonnes (effective August 2019 to June 2020); on kidney beans (<i>frijol rojo y negro</i>) (HS 0713.10.00; 0713.33.40), under an import quota of 2,199 metric tonnes (effective September 2019 to December 2019); and on maize (HS 1005.90.30), under an import quota of 21,247 metric tonnes (effective September 2019 to June 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Costa Rica to the WTO (29 October 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Egypt		
Elimination of export taxes on fresh, refrigerated and frozen fish (HS Chapter 03)	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (22 May 2019)	Effective 6 January 2019
European Union		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (131 tariff lines	WTO document G/MA/W/117/Add.7/Rev.1, 20 February 2017	Effective from 1 July 2019

at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90)		
The Gambia		
Trade facilitation measures through the reduction of the customs processing fees (from 1.55% to 1%) for all import operations	Permanent Delegation of the Gambia (22 May 2019)	Effective 1 January 2019
Guyana		
Trade facilitation measures through the establishment of the Single Window System for Foreign Trade (imports)	Permanent Delegation of Guyana to the WTO (14 October 2019)	Effective 12 June 2019
Trade facilitation measures through the establishment of the Single Window System for Foreign Trade (exports)	Permanent Delegation of Guyana to the WTO (14 October 2019)	Effective 12 June 2019
India		
Amendments introduced to the import policy of aviation gasoline (HS 2710.12.19), resulting in an import liberalization	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 51/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (8 January 2019)	Effective 8 January 2019
Reduction of import tariffs on electrically operated vehicles and motorcycles (HS 8702; 8703; 8704; 8711), under certain conditions	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 3/2019-Customs, Ministry of Finance – Department of Revenue (29 January 2019)	Effective 30 January 2019
Reduction of import tariffs on certain products; e.g. (from 7.5% to zero) on chemical elements for use in generation of nuclear power (effective 6 July 2019); (from 5% to 4%) on certain petroleum oils (naphtha) (effective 6 July 2019); (from 2% to zero) on ethylene dichloride (ISO) (effective 6 July 2019); (from 7.5% to 5%) methyloxirane (propylene oxide) (effective 6 July 2019); (from 5% to 2.5%) on wool fibre and wool tops; raw materials used in manufacture of cold-rolled grain oriented iron and steel; cobalt mattes and other intermediate products of cobalt metallurgy (effective 6 July 2019); (from 10% to 5%) on amorphous alloy ribbon (effective 6 July 2019) . Elimination of import tariffs on parts of telephone handsets (effective 6 July 2019); and on open cells (15.6" and above) for use in the manufacture of liquid crystal display (LCD) and light emitting diode (LED) TV panels of heading HS 8529; and on the following goods (i) chips on film; (ii) printed circuit board assemblies (PCBA); and (iii) cells (glass board/substrate), for use in the manufacture of open cells of LCD and LED TV panels of heading HS 8529 (effective 17 September 2019) (HS 2844.20.00; 2710; 2903.15.00; 2910.20.00; 5101; 5105; 7225;	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

7225.19.90; 7226.99.30; 8105.20.10; 8518.30.00; 8529) Elimination of export duties (from 15%) on tanned leather. Reduction of export duties (from 60% to 40%) on hides, skins and leathers, tanned and untanned, all sorts (HS 41) Amendments introduced to the list of imported capital goods exempted from import tariffs used in the manufacture of finished goods (e.g. populated PCBA, camera module of cellular mobile phones, charger/adapter, lithium ion cell, display module, set top box and compact camera module) (HS Chapters 82; 84; 85; 90)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification No. 27/2019-Customs, Ministry of Finance – Department of Revenue (6 July 2019)	Effective 6 July 2019
	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification No. 22/2019-Customs, Ministry of Finance – Department of Revenue (6 July 2019)	Effective 6 July 2019
Indonesia		
Elimination of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. floor coverings of plastic, new pneumatic tyres, articles of iron and steel, machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical machinery and equipment, and paper and paperboard (HS Chapters 39; 40; 44; 48; 72; 73; 76; 84; 85; 90; 94), imported for specific industrial sectors	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Regulation No. 209/PMK.010/2018 – Ministry of Finance (31 December 2018)	Effective 1 January 2019
Israel		
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 2019
Japan		
Elimination of import tariffs on naphthols and their salts (HS 2907.15); vinylene carbonate, fluoroethylene carbonate, ethyl methyl carbonate, propylene carbonate and diethyl carbonate (HS 2920.90); hexamethylenediamine and its salts (HS 2921.22); crystal violet lactone (HS 2932.20); bio-polyethylene (HS 3901.10; 3901.20; 3901.40; 3901.90); and polytrimethylene terephthalate (HS 3907.99)	Permanent Delegation of Japan to the WTO (15 May 2019)	Effective 1 April 2019
Kenya		
Decrease of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. (from 10% to zero) on fuel wood, polymers of vinyl acetate, copolymers, wood sawn or chipped lengthwise; on broken rice; flat-rolled products of silicon-electrical steel, not further worked than hot-rolled, in coils; aerosol cans; certain copper inputs used for manufacture of radiators; (from 35% to 10%) on wheat grain; (from 25% to zero) on certain hot-rolled iron or steel	Permanent Delegation of Kenya to the WTO (17 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019

bars and rods; (to zero) on inputs used in the manufacture of tiles; seat recliner mechanism; hooks, eyes and eyelets, slide fasteners (HS 4401.10.00; 3905; 1006.40.00; 3905.91.00; 4407; 7225.30.00; 7213.99; 7409.11.00; 7409.19.00; 7409.21.00; 7409.29.00; 7410.11.00; 7410.12.00; 2517.49.00; 7210.61.00; 3906.90.00; 9401.90.00; 8308.10.00; 9607.11.00)	Permanent Delegation of Kenya to the WTO (17 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Korea, Republic of		
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 2019
Malaysia		
Reduction of import tariffs (from 25% to 15%) on bicycles and other cycles (including delivery tricycles), not motorized (HS 8712.00.30)	Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 3) – Order 2018 (31 December 2018)	Effective 1 January 2019
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 2019
Mauritius		
Reduction of excise duty on certain imported products, e.g. gasoil, gasoline, certain electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles, non-fossil fuel outboard motors; and yachts and other vessels for pleasure or sport equipped with outboard motors using non-fossil fuel (HS 2710; 8703; 8407; 8408; 8903)	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 11 June 2019
Elimination of VAT on certain imported products, e.g. linseed, mustard seeds, papadum, sagoo, sesamum seeds, tookmaria, vermicelli, graduated compression garments, graduated compression hosiery, graduated compression gloves, graduated compression headgear, and cooking gas in cylinders of up to 12 kg (HS 1204; 1207; 1903; 1211; 1902; 6114; 6115; 6116; 6506; 2711)	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 11 June 2019
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 2019

Elimination of export ban on scrap metals (HS 7204:7403; 7404; 7502; 7503; 7601; 7602; 7802; 7902; 8002; 8101; 8102; 8103; 8104; 8105; 8106; 8107; 8108; 8109; 8110; 8111; 8112; 8113)	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 15 September 2019
Mexico		
Extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on meat of swine, chilled or frozen (HS 0203), under import quotas (from 28 December 2018 to 31 January 2019: 91,543 tonnes; from 1 February 2019 to 31 March 2019: 157,179 tonnes; and from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2019: 240,000 tonnes)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Diarios Oficiales de la Federación (Official Journals), 28 December 2018, 29 January 2019 and 22 March 2019	Effective 28 December 2018 to 30 June 2019
Additional quantity of 55,000 tonnes of meat of poultry, chilled or frozen (HS 0207), imported under an import quota in order to keep supply options	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 October 2019) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 24 May 2019	Effective 25 May 2019
Montenegro		
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 2019
New Zealand		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (199 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; and Permanent Delegation of New Zealand to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Panama		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 40%) on maize (effective 29 May 2019 to 31 December 2019) and (from 72%) on onions (effective 17 July 2019 to 15 September 2019) (HS 1005.90.20; 0703.10.19)	Permanent Delegation of Panama to the WTO (1 October 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (from 81% to 3%) on tomatoes prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, under an import quota of 900 metric tonnes (HS 2002.90.12)	Permanent Delegation of Panama to the WTO (1 October 2019)	Effective 6 September 2019 to 31 December 2019
Philippines		
Further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (207 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 32; 35; 37; 39; 49; 84; 85; 88; 90; 95)	Permanent Delegation of the Philippines to the WTO (21 May 2019)	Effective 1 January 2019
Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 5%) on aromatic ethers and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives; monobutyl ethers of ethylene glycol or of diethylene glycol; cyclic polymers of aldehydes; certain aromatic monoamines	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (27 May 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

and their derivatives;
organic derivatives of
hydrazine or of
hydroxylamine;
organo-sulphur
compounds; and
sulphonamides, for the
production of plant
protection chemicals
(effective 22 October
2018 to 31 December
2020); (from 3%) on
quaternary ammonium
salts and hydroxides;
and lecithins and other
phosphoaminolipids,
whether or not
chemically defined, for
the production of plant
protection chemicals
(effective 22 October
2018 to 31 December
2020); (from 8%) on
electrodes of a kind
used for furnaces
(effective 23
December 2018 to
31 December 2019);
(from 5%) on latex for
the manufacture of
carpets (effective 23
December 2018 to 31
December 2021);
(from 6.5%) on
plastics for the
manufacture of
wallpapers (effective
20 December 2018 to
31 December 2020);
(from 8%) on fertilized
fish eggs (effective 13
January 2019 to 28
February 2022); (from
5%) on new rubber
pneumatic tyres for
bicycles; and certain
parts and accessories
for bicycles (effective
27 January 2019 to 31
August 2020); (from
10%) on rubber inner
tubes of a kind used
on bicycles (effective
27 January 2019 to 31
August 2020); (from
15%) on iron or steel
roller chain for the
manufacture of
bicycles (effective 27
January 2019 to 31
August 2020); (from
10%) on certain fish
and crustaceans
(effective 28 February
2019 to 28 February
2022); (from 5%) on
certain polypropylene
yarn, multiple (folded)
or cabled for the
manufacture of carpets
(effective 23 March
2019 to 29 February
2020); on certain
electrodes (effective
24 April 2019 to 30
April 2020); and on
prepared binders for
foundry moulds or
cores; chemical
products and
preparations of the
chemical or allied
industries (including
those consisting of
mixtures of natural
products) (effective 18
November 2018 to 31
December 2020) .
Temporary reduction
(from 12.5% to 5%) of
import tariffs on
certain electrodes
(effective 24 April
2019 to 30 April 2020)
(HS 2909.30.90;
2909.43.00;
2912.50.00;
2921.49.00;
2928.00.90;
2930.90.95;
2935.90.90;
2923.90.00;
8545.11.00;
4002.11.00;
4011.50.00;

8714.93.00; 8714.94.20; 8714.96.00; 8714.96.10; 8714.99.50; 8714.99.90; 4013.20.00; 7315.11.10; 0301.91.90; 0301.99.11; 5402.63.00; 8545.19.00; 8545.90.90; 3824.99.93)		
Extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on engines of a kind used for the propulsion of certain vehicles (HS 8408.20.99) (effective 9 November 2018 to 30 September 2019), and on ground natural calcium phosphates, natural aluminium calcium phosphates and phosphatic chalk (HS 2510.20.00) (effective 13 January 2019 to 4 January 2021)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (27 May 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Extension of the temporary elimination of export duties on certain types of wheat (HS 1001.99.00)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 29 June 2019 to 1 July 2021
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. (from 5%) on high tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, whether or not textured, of aramids (effective 4 July 2019 to 31 July 2022); aniline and its salts (effective 4 July 2019 to 30 June 2022); (from 7.5%) on non-coniferous chemical wood pulp, semi-bleached or bleached (effective 14 July 2019 to 31 May 2022) (HS 5402.19.00; 2921.41.00; 4703.29.00)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Reduction of import tariffs on motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons (other than those of heading HS 8702), including station wagons and racing cars (HS 8703); and (from 11.4% to 10%; from 15.7% to 15% and from 13.6% to 12.5%) on certain aircraft (for example helicopters, aeroplanes); spacecraft (including satellites) and suborbital and spacecraft launch vehicles (HS 8802)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 1 September 2019
South Africa (for SACU – Southern African Customs Union Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa)		
Elimination of import tariffs on distributors and ignition coils for use solely or principally with motor vehicle engines (HS 8511.30.30)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (25 October 2019) and International Trade Administration Commission Notice No. R. 985 – Government Gazette No. 42577 (12 July 2019)	Effective 12 July 2019
Chinese Taipei		
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 2019
Reduction of import	Permanent Delegation of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and	Effective

tariffs on certain fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates; (from 16% to 12%) on yams; (from 30% to 15%) on satsumas; (from 20% to 10%) on evaporated or sterilized cream; (from 30% to 22.5%) on fermented soy and rice mixtures (miso); (from 12.5% to 6.3%) on mayonnaise and salad dressing; (from 15% to 7.5%) on curry sauce; (from 10% to 5%) on meat soups; and (from 40% to 20%) on fermented cereal beverages (HS 0303.89.60; 0306.14.21; 0307.21.00; 0307.22.00; 0307.29.20; 0307.43.10; 0307.52.00; 0714.30.20; 0805.21.10; 1901.90.24; 2008.99.93; 2103.90.10; 2103.90.20; 2104.10.21; 2206.00.10)	Matsu to the WTO (29 October 2019)	26 July 2019
Thailand		
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 2019
Turkey		
Elimination of import tariffs (from 4%) on sesamum seeds for sowing (effective 31 October 2018); (from 10%) on raw sesamum seeds (effective 31 October 2018); and (from 20%) on cocoa shells, husks, skins and other cocoa waste (effective 1 January 2019) . Reduction of import tariffs (from 23.4% to 10%) on hulled sesamum seeds (effective 31 October 2018); and (from 29.8% to 15%) on sunglasses (effective 7 December 2018) (HS 1207.40.10; 1207.40.90; 1802.00.00; 9003.90.00)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (24 May 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 49.5%) on onions (HS 0703.10.19) (originally effective from 15 January 2019 to 31 March 2019) . On 7 April 2019, the elimination of import tariffs was extended until 30 April 2019	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (24 May 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
United States of America		
Canada exempted from the additional 25% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain steel articles (HS Chapters 72 and 73) for national security reasons (originally implemented on 23 March 2018)	Presidential Proclamation on adjusting imports of steel into the United States (19 May 2019) . Viewed at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-2/	Effective 17 May 2019
Canada exempted from the additional 10% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain aluminium articles (e.g. unwrought	Presidential Proclamation on adjusting imports of steel into the United States (19 May 2019) . Viewed at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-2/	Effective 17 May 2019

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 (originally implemented on 23 March 2018)		
Mexico exempted from the additional 25% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain steel articles (HS Chapters 72 and 73) for national security reasons (originally implemented on 23 March 2018)	Presidential Proclamation on adjusting imports of steel into the United States (19 May 2019) . Viewed at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-2/	Effective 17 May 2019
Mexico exempted from the 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 (originally implemented on 23 March 2018)	Presidential Proclamation on adjusting imports of steel into the United States (19 May 2019) . Viewed at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-adjusting-imports-steel-united-states-2/	Effective 17 May 2019
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 2019

ANNEX 2

TRADE REMEDIES¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2018 TO MID-OCTOBER 2019)

Confirmed information²

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Argentina		
Termination on 24 October 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of poly(ethylene terephthalate) granules "PET" (NCM 3907.60.00) from Chinese Taipei and Thailand (investigation initiated on 25 April 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 25 October 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/ARG , 18 March 2019	
Initiation on 7 December 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of fibreboard of wood obtained through the wet production process, of a density of 0.8 g/cm ³ or more, but less than 1.2 g/cm ³ , not surface covered (NCM 4411.92.10; 4411.92.90; 4411.93.10; 4411.93.90) from Brazil	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/ARG/Corr.1 , 30 September 2019; Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Resolución No. 103/2019, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo, Secretaría de Comercio (23 August 2019)	Terminated on 27 August 2019 (without measure)
Initiation on 19 December 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel wheels of a kind used on buses, lorries, trailers or semi-trailers (NCM 8708.70.90; 8708.99; 8716.90.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/ARG , 18 March 2019; and Resolución No. 597/2019 Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (23 July 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 24 July 2019
Initiation on 26 February 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of mixtures containing perfluorocarbons (PFCs) or hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), but not containing chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) or hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) (NCM 3824.78.10; 3824.78.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Initiation on 26 February 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium sheets of a thickness exceeding 0.2 mm (NCM 7606.91.00; 7606.92.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019; and Resolución No. 930/2019 Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo, Secretaría de Comercio Exterior (13 September 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 16 September 2019
Initiation on 9 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain aluminium foil (NCM 7607.11.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Initiation on 18 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of mechanical appliances (whether or not hand-operated) for projecting, dispersing or spraying liquids or powders; fire extinguishers, whether or not charged; spray guns and similar appliances; and steam or sand blasting machines and similar jet projecting machines (NCM 8424.89.90; 8479.89.99) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Termination on 23 April 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of vacuum cleaners (NCM 8508.11.00; 8508.19.00) from China (initiated on 7 November 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Initiation on 24 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of poly(ethylene terephthalate) having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher (NCM 3907.61.00) from Oman	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Initiation on 27 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of machines and apparatus for arc (including plasma arc) welding of metals (NCM 8515.31.90; 8515.39.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019; and Resolución No. 1106/2019 Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (24 October 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 25 October 2019
Initiation on 8 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of tubes of aluminium (NCM 7608.10.00; 7608.20.90) from Brazil and China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Termination on 3 June 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of sections of polymers of vinyl chloride of a kind used in the manufacture of apertures or enclosures (NCM 3916.20.00) from Germany (investigation initiated on 4 December 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 3 June 2014)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Termination on 12 June 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping 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 (initiated on 14 June 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Initiation on 13 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain electric ovens (NCM 8516.60.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Initiation on 22 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain electric motors (NCM 8501.10.29; 8501.10.30; 8501.20.00; 8501.40.19) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ARG , 30 September 2019	
Initiation on 29 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of winches and capstans powered by electric motors (NCM 8425.31.10) from Turkey	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Resolución No. 90/2019, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo, Secretaría de Comercio Exterior (25 July 2019)	
Initiation on 6 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of gloves impregnated, coated or covered with plastic or rubber (NCM 6116.10.00) from Bangladesh, China, India, Malaysia and Sri Lanka	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Resolución No. 97/2019, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo, Secretaría de Comercio Exterior (5 August 2019)	
Termination on 16 August 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping 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;	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Resolución No. 661/2019, Ministerio	

5211.49.00) from Brazil and Peru (initiated on 22 February 2018) Initiation on 17 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of tricycles without electric motors (NCM 9503.00.10) from China	de Producción y Trabajo (15 August 2019) Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Resolución No. 115/2019, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo, Secretaría de Comercio Exterior (13 September 2019)	
Australia		
Initiation on 16 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel reinforcing bar (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7227.90.10; 7227.90.90; 7228.30.10; 7228.30.90; 7228.60.10) from Turkey (provisional duty imposed on 15 January 2019)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	Terminated on 20 June 2019
Initiation on 16 November 2018 of countervailing investigation on imports of steel reinforcing bar (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7227.90.10; 7227.90.90; 7228.30.10; 7228.30.90; 7228.60.10) from Turkey	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/AUS , 21 October 2019	Terminated on 20 June 2019 (without measure)
Termination on 22 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of aluminium road wheels (ARWs) for passenger motor vehicles, including wheels used for caravans and trailers, in diameters ranging from 13 to 22 inches (HS 8708.70.91; 8708.70.99; 8716.90.00) from China (investigation initiated on 7 November 2011. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 31 May and 5 July 2012, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/AUS , 15 April 2019	
Termination on 22 November 2018 of countervailing duties on imports of aluminium road wheels (ARWs) for passenger motor vehicles, including wheels used for caravans and trailers, in diameters ranging from 13 to 22 inches (HS 8708.70.91; 8708.70.99; 8716.90.00) from China (investigation initiated on 7 November 2011. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 31 May and 5 July 2012, respectively)	WTO document G/SCM/N/342/AUS , 14 March 2019	
Termination on 19 December 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of hot-rolled plate steel (HS 7208.40.00; 7208.51.00; 7208.52.00; 7225.40.00) from China; Indonesia; Japan; and Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 12 February 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 19 July and 19 December 2013, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/AUS , 15 April 2019	
Termination on 19 December 2018 of countervailing duties on imports of hot-rolled plate steel (HS 7208.40.00; 7208.51.00; 7208.52.00; 7225.40.00) from China (investigation initiated on 12 February 2013 and definitive duty imposed on 19 December 2013)	WTO document G/SCM/N/342/AUS , 14 March 2019	
Termination on 14 January 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of processed dried currants (HS 0806.20) from Greece (imposed on 14 January 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	
Termination on 24 January 2019 (without measure) of countervailing investigation on imports of railway wheels (HS 8607.19.00) from China (initiated on 18 April 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/AUS , 21 October 2019	
Initiation on 26 February 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of solid base angles (HS 7216.61.00; 7228.70.00; 7308.30.00; 7308.90.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	Terminated on 17 June 2019 (withdrawal of application)
Termination on 15 March 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of A4 copy paper (HS 4802.56.10) from Austria (initiated on 19 March 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	
Initiation on 18 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of power transformers (HS 8504.22.00; 8504.23.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	
Termination on 18 March 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping 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 (investigation initiated on 10 January 2017, terminated on 25 January 2018, and resumed on 2 May 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	
Initiation on 24 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hot dip galvanized steel angle (HS 7216.61.00; 7228.70.00; 7308.30.00; 7308.90.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	
Initiation on 24 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of high density polyethylene "HDPE" (HS 3901.20.00; 3901.90.00) from Korea, Rep. of; Singapore; Thailand and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019	
Termination on 3 October 2019 (following a revocation review) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of prepared or preserved tomato products (HS 2002.10.00) from Italy (exporter Feger di Gerardo Ferraioli S.p.A) (investigation initiated on 10 July 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 1 November 2013 and 16 April 2014, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/AUS , 27 September 2019; and Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Terminated on 16 April 2019 for all exporters other than Feger di Gerardo Ferraioli S.p.A. and La Doria S.p.A
Brazil		
Termination on 19 December 2018 of anti-dumping 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/322/BRA , 15 March 2019	
Termination on 27 December 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of reduced indigo blue (NCM 3204.15.90) from China and Singapore (investigation initiated on 30 October 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 27 December 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/BRA , 15 March 2019	
Termination on 27 December 2018 of antidumping duties on imports of reduced indigo blue (NCM	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/BRA , 15 March 2019	

3204.15.90) from Germany (imposed on 24 March 2008)	
Termination on 27 December 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of nylon yarns (NCM 5402.31.11; 5402.31.19; 5402.45.20) from Thailand (investigation initiated on 9 July 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 16 September 2013 and 27 December 2013, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/BRA , 29 October 2019
On 19 January 2019, extension of the temporary suspension of anti-dumping 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. Definitive duty imposed on 19 January 2018 but suspended for one year)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Camex Resolution No. 97/2018 (7 December 2018)
Termination on 6 February 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of milk (NCM 0402) from the European Union and New Zealand (imposed on 23 February 2001)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/BRA , 29 October 2019
Termination on 24 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of precipitated silicon dioxide (NCM 2811.22.10) from China (investigation initiated on 26 October 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 24 April 2014)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/BRA , 29 October 2019
Termination on 1 July 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of rolls for rolling mills (NCM 8455.30.10; 8455.30.90) from China (investigation initiated on 26 March 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (12 October 2019)
On 12 July 2019 temporary suspension of anti-dumping duties on imports of unrefined salt "sa/ 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 (12 October 2019)
Termination on 25 July 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of seamed tubes of austenitic stainless steel of circular section, with an outside diameter of 6 mm (1/4 inch) or more but less than 2,032 mm (80 inches), with a thickness of 0.40 mm or more and less than or equal to 12.70 mm (NCM 7306.40.00; 7306.90.20) from Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 7 March 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 29 July 2013)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (12 October 2019)
Initiation on 16 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of pencils and crayons, with leads encased in a rigid sheath (NCM 9609.10.00) from China	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (12 October 2019) and Secint Circular No. 51/2019 (15 August 2019)
Termination on 20 September 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of graphite electrodes (NCM 8545.11.00; 3801.10.00) from China (imposed on 9 April 2009. Measure temporary suspended on 20 September 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (12 October 2019) and Secint Portaria No. 2815 (19 September 2019)
Termination on 2 October 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of cold flat-rolled products of stainless steel of a width of 600 mm or more, of a thickness exceeding 0.35 mm but less than 4.75 mm (grades 304, 304L and 430) (NCM 7219.32.00; 7219.33.00; 7219.34.00; 7219.35.00; 7220.20.90) from Finland; Germany; Korea, Rep. of and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 13 April 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 4 October 2013)	Secex Circular No. 58/2019 (1 October 2019)
Canada	
Termination on 18 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of nitisinone capsules (HS 3003.90.00; 3004.90.00) from Sweden (investigation initiated on 21 September 2018 and provisional duty imposed on 20 December 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/CAN , 27 September 2019
Initiation on 30 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain sucker rods (HS 8413.91.00) from Argentina, Brazil and Mexico	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (28 October 2019) and Canada Border Services Agency – Notice of Initiation of Investigation: SR2 2019 IN (30 September 2019)
Chile	
Termination on 23 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel bars used for the production of conventional mill balls for grinding minerals, of a diameter of less than 3.5 inches (HS 7228.30.00) from China (investigation initiated on 31 January 2017 and definitive duty imposed on 22 November 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/CHL , 18 April 2019
Termination on 23 January 2019 (without measure) of safeguard investigation on imports of powdered milk and Gouda cheese (HS 0402; 0406) (initiated on 8 March 2018)	WTO document G/SG/N/9/CHL/12 , 25 January 2019
Termination on 2 May 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel concrete reinforcing bars (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7227.90.00; 7228.30.00) from Mexico (investigation initiated on 8 March 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/CHL , 10 July 2019
China	
Initiation on 16 October 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of vertical machining centres (HS 8457.10.10) from Japan and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/CHN , 12 April 2019
Termination on 1 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of solar-grade polysilicon (HS 2804.61.90) from the European Union (investigation initiated on 1 November 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 30 April 2014)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/CHN , 12 April 2019
Termination on 1 November 2018 of countervailing	WTO document G/SCM/N/342/CHN

duties on imports of solar-grade polysilicon (HS 2804.61.90) from the European Union (investigation initiated on 1 November 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 30 April 2014)	, 9 April 2019	
Initiation on 19 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of barley (HS 1003.10.00; 1003.90.00) from Australia	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/CHN , 12 April 2019	
Initiation on 26 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of 7-phenylacetamido-3-chloromethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acidpmethoxybenzyl ester (HS 2934.99.60) from India	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/CHN , 12 April 2019	
Initiation on 26 November 2018 of countervailing investigation on imports of 7-phenylacetamido-3-chloromethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acidpmethoxybenzyl ester (HS 2934.99.60) from India	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/CHN , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 21 December 2018 of countervailing investigation on imports of barley (HS 1003.10.00; 1003.90.00) from Australia	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/CHN , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 4 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of cellulose pulp native products (HS 4702.00.00; 4706.10.00; 4706.30.00) from Brazil, Canada, and the United States (investigation initiated on 6 February 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 6 November 2013 and 4 April 2014, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/CHN , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 10 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of methionine (HS 2930.40.00) from Japan, Malaysia and Singapore	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/CHN , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 30 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyphenylene sulphide "PPS" (HS 3911.90.00) from Japan; Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/CHN , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 19 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of ethylene-propylene-non-conjugated diene rubber or ethylene-propylene diene monomer "EPDM" (HS 4002.70.10; 4002.70.90) from the European Union; Korea, Rep. of and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/CHN , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 23 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of propan-1-ol (propyl alcohol) and propan-2-ol (isopropyl alcohol) (HS 2905.12.10) from the United States	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2019) and MOFCOM Announcement No. 32/2019 (23 July 2019)	
Initiation on 29 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cresols and their salts (HS 2907.12.11) from the European Union, Japan and the United States	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2019) and MOFCOM Announcement No. 33/2019 (29 July 2019)	
Initiation on 29 July 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of propan-1-ol (propyl alcohol) and propan-2-ol (isopropyl alcohol) (HS 2905.12.10) from the United States	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2019) and MOFCOM Announcement No. 35/2019 (30 July 2019)	
Termination on 29 September 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polyvinyl chloride (HS 3904.10.00) from Japan; Korea, Rep. of; Chinese Taipei and the United States (imposed on 29 September 2003)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2019)	
Colombia		
Termination on 19 October 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of hoes, digging bars and picks (HS 8201.30.00) from China (imposed on 29 July 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/COL , 12 April 2019	
Termination on 1 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of link chain, polished or galvanized (HS 7315.82.00) from China (imposed on 20 April 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/COL , 12 April 2019	
Termination on 30 November 2018 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of paper and paperboard coated, impregnated or covered with plastics "tetra brick aseptic" (HS 4811.59.20) from Brazil (initiated on 10 August 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/COL , 12 April 2019	
Initiation on 28 January 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of ethyl alcohol (<i>etanol</i>) (HS 2207.20.00) from the United States	Resolucion Nos. 6/2019 and 85/2019 – Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (3 May 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 8 May 2019
Termination on 28 February 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of citric acid (HS 2918.14.00) from China (investigation initiated on 13 March 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/COL , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 5 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties 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 (investigation initiated on 26 April 2018 and provisional duty imposed on 30 July 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/COL , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 11 April 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of sheets of paperboard and polyethylene, with an intermediate layer of aluminium foil as an oxygen barrier, used for the aseptic packaging of UHT treated foodstuffs (HS 4811.59.20)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/COL/8 , 16 April 2019	
Costa Rica		
Termination on 28 January 2019 (without measure) of safeguard 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) (initiated on 29 March 2018)	Permanent Delegation of Costa Rica to the WTO (23 April 2019)	
Initiation on 30 June 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of sugar in solid form, granulated, known as white sugar (HS 1701.99.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/CRI/5 , 9 July 2019	
Dominican Republic		
Termination on 30 July 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel rods and bars for concrete reinforcement (HS 7214.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7214.30.00; 7214.99.00) from Spain (investigation initiated on 18 November 2013. Provisional and	Permanent Delegation of the Dominican Republic to the WTO (3 October 2019)	

definitive duties imposed on 19 March and 30 July 2014, respectively)		
Egypt		
Initiation on 31 March 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel and steel rebars (bars, rods and coils) for construction purposes (HS 7207; 7213; 7214)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/EGY/14 , 2 April 2019 and G/SG/N/8/EGY/9 , 11 October 2019	Definitive duty imposed on 12 October 2019
Initiation on 24 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of sodium naphthalene sulfonate (SNF) (HS 3824.40) from China and the Russian Federation	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EGY , 27 September 2019	
El Salvador		
Termination on 17 May 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping 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 (investigation initiated on 16 November 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/SLV , 21 October 2019	
European Union		
Termination on 19 October 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of biodiesel (fatty-acid mono-alkyl esters and/or paraffinic gasoils obtained from synthesis and/or hydro-treatment, of non-fossil origin, in pure form or included in a blend) (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; 3824.90.97; 3826.00.10; 3826.00.90) from Argentina and Indonesia (investigation initiated on 29 August 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 28 May and 26 November 2013, respectively)	Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2018/1570 (18 October 2018)	
Termination on 9 November 2018 of anti-dumping 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 8 November 2013, respectively)	Commission Notice 2018/C 402/06 (8 November 2018)	
Initiation on 6 December 2018 of countervailing 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 Indonesia	WTO document G/SCM/N/342/EU , 16 April 2019; and Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2019/1344 (12 August 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 13 August 2019
Initiation on 15 February 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel road wheels (HS 8708.70.10; 8708.70.99; 8716.90.90) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019; and Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2019/1693 (9 October 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 10 October 2019
Termination on 14 February 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of solar glass (HS 7007.19.80) from Malaysia (initiated on 23 May 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019	
Initiation on 21 February 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain woven and/or stitched glass fibre fabrics (HS 7019.39.00; 7019.40.00; 7019.59.00; 7019.90.00) from China and Egypt	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019	
Termination on 1 March 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of electrolytic manganese dioxides (i.e. manganese dioxides produced through an electrolytic process) not heat-treated after the electrolytic process (HS 2820.10.00) from South Africa (imposed on 13 March 2008)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019	
Termination on 10 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of tube and pipe fittings (other than cast fittings, flanges and threaded fittings), of iron or steel (not including stainless steel), with a greatest external diameter not exceeding 609.6 mm, of a kind used for butt-welding or other purposes (HS 7307.93.11; 7307.93.19; 7307.99.30; 7307.99.90) from Turkey (investigation initiated on 1 November 2011. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 31 July 2012 and 29 January 2013, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019	
Initiation on 3 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of continuous filament glass fibre products – glass fibre reinforcements (GFR) (HS 7019.11.00; 7019.12.00; 7019.31.00) from Bahrain and Egypt	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019	
Termination on 15 May 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of bioethanol, sometimes referred to as "fuel ethanol", i.e. ethyl alcohol produced from agricultural products, denatured or undenatured, excluding products with a water content of more than 0.3% (m/m) measured according to the EN 15376 standard, as well as ethyl alcohol produced from agricultural products contained in blends with gasoline, with an ethyl alcohol content of more than 10% (v/v) (HS 2207.10.00; 2207.20.00; 2208.90.99; 2710.11.11; 2710.11.15; 2710.11.21; 2710.11.25; 2710.11.31; 2710.11.41; 2710.11.45; 2710.11.49; 2710.11.51; 2710.11.59; 2710.11.70; 2710.11.90; 3814.00.10; 3814.00.90; 3820.00.00; 3824.90.97) from the United States (investigation initiated on 25 November 2011 and definitive duty imposed on 22 February 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019	
Initiation on 16 May 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of glass fibre fabrics (HS 7019.39.00; 7019.40.00; 7019.59.00; 7019.90.00) from China and Egypt	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/EU , 16 October 2019	
Initiation on 7 June 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of continuous filament glass fibre (HS 7019.11.00; 7019.12.00; 7019.31.00) from Egypt	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/EU , 16 October 2019	
Termination on 28 June 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of welded	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/EU , 17 October 2019	

tubes, pipes and hollow profiles of square or rectangular cross-section, of iron other than cast iron or steel other than stainless (hollow sections) (HS 7306.61.92; 7306.61.99) from North Macedonia, the Russian Federation and Turkey (investigation initiated on 28 September 2018)	
Termination on 5 July 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hot-rolled steel sheet piles (HS 7301.10.00) from China (initiated on 24 May 2018)	Commission Implementing Decision No. 2019/1146 (4 July 2019)
Initiation on 30 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain polyvinyl alcohols "PVA" (HS 3905.30.00) from China	Commission Notice 2019/C 256/03 (30 July 2019)
Initiation on 12 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain hot-rolled stainless steel sheets and coils (HS 7219.11; 7219.12; 7219.13; 7219.14; 7219.22; 7219.23; 7219.24; 7220.11; 7220.12) from China, Indonesia and Chinese Taipei	Commission Notice 2019/C 269 I/01 (12 August 2019)
Initiation on 10 October 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain heavyweight thermal paper (HS 4809.90.00; 4811.59.00) from Korea, Rep. of	Commission Notice 2019/C 342/08 (10 October 2019)
Initiation on 10 October 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain hot-rolled stainless steel sheets and coils (HS 7219.11; 7219.12; 7219.13; 7219.14; 7219.22; 7219.23; 7219.24; 7220.11; 7220.12) from China and Indonesia	Commission Notice 2019/C 342/09 (10 October 2019)
Guatemala	
Initiation on 27 August 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of flat-rolled products of other alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more (HS 7225.91.00; 7225.92.00; 7225.99.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/GTM/L , 9 September 2019
India	
Termination on 20 October 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of methylene chloride (dichloromethane or methylene dichloride "MDC") (HS 2903.12.00) from Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 4 April 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 21 October 2013 and 21 May 2014, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/IND , 9 April 2019
Termination on 23 October 2018 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of di-methyl formamide "DMF" (HS 2924.19) from China, Germany and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (initiated on 22 January 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/IND , 9 April 2019
Termination on 12 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of vitamin A palmitate-II (HS 2936.21) from China and Switzerland (imposed on 28 March 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/IND , 9 April 2019
Termination on 25 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of caustic soda (HS 2815.11) from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United States (imposed on 26 December 2000)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/IND , 9 April 2019
Termination on 26 December 2018 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of coated paper (HS 4810) from China, the European Union and the United States (initiated on 23 January 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/IND , 9 April 2019
Termination on 30 December 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of phosphoric acid – technical grade and food grade (HS 2809.20) from China (imposed on 14 September 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/IND , 9 April 2019
Termination on 15 January 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping 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 (initiated on 4 April 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND , 28 October 2019
Termination on 15 January 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of nonyl phenol (HS 2907.13; 2907.11.90; 2907.29.90; 3204.17.90; 3810.90.90; 2921.45.90; 2909.50.90; 3403.19.00; 3402.13.00; 3402.19.00) from Chinese Taipei (imposed on 22 August 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND , 28 October 2019
Termination on 22 January 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of 4, 4 diamini stilbene 2, 2 disulphonic acid "DASDA" (HS 2921.42.90; 2921.59.90) from China (investigation initiated on 26 July 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 23 January 2014)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND , 28 October 2019
Termination on 22 January 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of hexamine-I (HS 2921.29) from the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (imposed on 28 June 2001)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND , 28 October 2019
Termination on 5 February 2019 (without measure) of countervailing investigation on imports of fluoroelastomers "FKM" (HS 3904.69.90) from China (initiated on 14 August 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/IND , 23 October 2019
Termination on 12 February 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of peroxosulphates (persulphates) (HS 2833.40.00) from China (imposed on 19 March 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND , 28 October 2019
Termination on 18 March 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of sodium nitrate (HS 3102.50.00) from China; the European Union; Korea, Rep. of and Ukraine (investigation initiated on 5 June 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 19 March 2014 and 10 February 2015, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND , 28 October 2019
Termination on 18 March 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of red phosphorus (HS 2804.70.20) from	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND , 28 October 2019

China (investigation initiated on 28 September 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 19 March 2014)		
Initiation on 28 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of chlorinated polyvinyl chloride "CPVC" resin, whether or not further processed into compounds (HS 3904.90.00; 3904.21.10; 3904.21.90; 3904.22.10; 3904.22.90) from China and Korea, Rep. of	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019; and Notification No. 33/2019-Customs (ADD) (26 August 2019)	
Termination on 29 March 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) sheet for solar modules (HS 3901.30; 3920.10; 3920.62; 3920.99; 3921.90) from Korea, Rep. of (initiated on 4 April 2018)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 15/2019-Customs (ADD) – Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (29 March 2019)	
Termination on 1 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of ductile iron pipes (HS 7303.00.30; 7303.00.90) from China (imposed on 14 September 2007)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification F. No. 7/18/2018-DGAD – Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (1 April 2019)	
Initiation on 2 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium and zinc coated flat products (HS 7210.61.00; 7212.50.90; 7225.99.00; 7226.99.90; 7210.12.90; 7210.30.90; 7210.49.00; 7210.69.00; 7210.70.00; 7210.90.90; 7212.10.90; 7212.20.90; 7212.30.90; 7212.40.00; 7216.99.10; 7225.50.10; 7225.91.00; 7225.92.00; 7226.99.30) from China; Korea, Rep. of and Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019; and Notification No. 40/2019-Customs (ADD) Ministry of Finance (15 October 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 15 October 2019
Termination on 16 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of paracetamol (HS 2922.29.33) from China (imposed on 6 September 2001)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 19/2019-Customs (ADD) – Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) (16 April 2019)	
Termination on 16 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of soda ash (HS 2836.20) from the Russian Federation and Turkey (investigation initiated on 10 February 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 18 April 2013)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Termination on 15 May 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of peroxosulphates (also known as persulphates) (HS 2833.40.00) from Chinese Taipei and the United States (investigation initiated on 28 September 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 16 May 2014)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Termination on 15 May 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of phenol (HS 2907.11.10) from Chinese Taipei and the United States (investigation initiated on 7 May 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 16 May and 30 September 2014, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Initiation on 16 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of digital offset printing plates (HS 8442.50; 3701.30.00; 3704.00.90; 3705.10.00; 7606.11.90; 7606.91.90; 7606.92.90) from China; Japan; Korea, Rep. of; Chinese Taipei and Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Initiation on 28 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of nylon filament yarn (multi filament) (HS 5402.31; 5402.32; 5402.39; 5402.45; 5402.49; 5402.51; 5402.59; 5402.61; 5402.69) from China; Korea, Rep. of; Chinese Taipei and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Termination on 8 June 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of presensitized positive offset aluminium plates (HS 8442.50.20; 3701.30.00; 3704.00.90; 3705.10.00; 7606.91.90; 7606.92.90) from China (imposed on 25 September 2007)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Termination on 12 June 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) suspension grade resin (HS 3904) from the European Union and Mexico (investigation initiated on 5 October 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 13 June 2014)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Termination on 12 June 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) suspension grade (HS 3904) from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and Chinese Taipei (imposed on 23 January 2008)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Initiation on 28 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of coated/plated tin mill flat-rolled steel products (HS 7210.11.10; 7210.11.90; 7210.12.10; 7210.12.90; 7210.50.00; 7210.90.10; 7212.10.10; 7212.10.90; 7212.50.20; 7212.50.90; 7225.99.00; 7210.90.90; 7210.70.00; 7210.30.90; 7225.50.10; 7212.40.00) from the European Union; Japan; Korea, Rep. of and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IND. , 28 October 2019	
Initiation on 3 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of flat-rolled products of stainless steel (HS 7219; 7220) from China; the European Union; Hong Kong, China; Japan; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia; Mexico; Singapore; South Africa; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; United Arab Emirates; the United States and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/12/2019-DGTR – (Case No. 10/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (3 July 2019)	
Initiation on 9 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of isononanol (INA) (HS 2905.19.90) from the European Union and Singapore	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (3 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 14/22/2016-DGAD, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (9 July 2019)	
Initiation on 9 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of 2-propylheptyl alcohol (2-PH) (HS 2905.16.90) from the European Union	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (3 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 14/22/2016-DGAD, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of	

Initiation on 9 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of 2-ethyl hexanol (2-EH) (2905.16.20) from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Singapore	Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (9 July 2019) Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (3 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 14/22/2016-DGAD, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (9 July 2019)
Initiation on 10 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polystyrene of all types except expandable polystyrene (HS 3903.19) from Iran, Islamic Rep. of; Malaysia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; United Arab Emirates and the United States	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/10/2019-DGTR – (Case No. (O.I.) 8/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (10 July 2019)
Initiation on 23 August 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of phenol (HS 2907.11.10)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IND/45 , 12 September 2019
Initiation on 23 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of clear float glass (HS 7005.10.90) from Malaysia	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (3 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/15/2019-DGTR (Case No. OI-11/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (23 August 2019)
Initiation on 12 September 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of textured and tempered glass, whether coated or uncoated (HS 7007.19.00; 7003.19.90; 7005.10.10; 7005.10.90; 7005.21.90; 7005.29.90; 7005.30.90; 7007.19.00) from Malaysia	Notification F. No. 6/13/2019-DGTR, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (12 September 2019)
Initiation on 18 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of flexible slabstock polyol (HS 3907.20) from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/20/2019-DGTR (Case No. OI-14/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (18 September 2019)
Initiation on 23 September 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of single mode optical fibre (HS 9001.10.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IND/46 , 30 September 2019
Initiation on 24 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of electronic calculators (HS 8470.10.00) from Malaysia	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/22/2019-DGTR (Case No. 15/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (24 September 2019)
Initiation on 24 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of acrylic fibre (HS 5501.30; 5503.30; 5506.30) from Belarus, the European Union, Peru and Ukraine	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/25/2019-DGTR (Case No. 18/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (24 September 2019)
Initiation on 24 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of faced glass wool in rolls (HS 7019.90.10; 7019.90.90; 7019.19.00; 7019.39.00; 7019.59.00) from China	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/23/2019-DGTR (Case No. (OI) 16/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (24 September 2019)
Initiation on 1 October 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of poly(ethylene terephthalate) "PET" resin (HS 3907.61.00; 3907.69.10; 3907.60.10; 3907.60.20) from China	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/24/2019-DGTR (Case No. (OI) 17/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (1 October 2019)
Initiation on 1 October 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of choline chloride in all forms (HS 2309.90.10; 2309.90.20; 2309.90.90; 2923.10.00) from China, Malaysia and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification F. No. 6/18/2019-DGTR (Case No. 12/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (1 October 2019)
Initiation on 1 October 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of clear float glass (HS 7005.10.90) from Malaysia	Notification F. No. 6/14/2019-DGTR (Case No. CVD 4/2019), Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce – Directorate General of Trade Remedies (1 October 2019)
Indonesia	
Termination on 15 February 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of Cavendish bananas (HS 0803.00.00) from the Philippines (imposed on 28 September 2006)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/IDN , 28 October 2019
Termination on 27 March 2019 of safeguard duties on imports of flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, clad, plated or coated with aluminium-zinc alloys, containing by	WTO document G/SG/N/10/IDN/16/Suppl.4 , 17 April 2019

weight less than 0.6% of carbon, with a thickness not exceeding 1.2 mm (HS 7210.61.11) (investigation initiated on 19 December 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 22 July 2014)		
Initiation on 12 June 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of evaporators (HS 8418.99.10)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IDN/30 , 14 June 2019	
Initiation on 7 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of biaxially oriented polypropylene (HS 3920.20.10; 3920.20.91; 3920.20.99) from China and Malaysia	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (14 October 2019)	
Initiation on 26 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of base metals and articles of base metals (HS 7210.61.11; 7212.50.23; 7212.50.24; 7212.50.29; 7225.99.90; 7226.99.19; 7226.99.99) from China and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (14 October 2019)	
Initiation on 18 September 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of fabrics (HS 5208; 5209; 52010; 5211; 5212; 5407; 5408; 5512; 5513; 5514; 5515; 5516; 5804; 5810; 6001; 6004; 6005; 6006)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IDN/31 , 20 September 2019	
Initiation on 18 September 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of yarn (other than sewing thread) of synthetic and artificial staple fibres (HS 5509.22.00; 5509.32.00; 5509.51.00; 5509.53.00; 5510.12.00; 5510.90.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IDN/32 , 20 September 2019	
Initiation on 18 September 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of curtains (including drapes), interior blinds, bed valances, and other furnishing articles (HS 6303.12.00; 6303.19.90; 6303.91.00; 6303.92.00; 6303.99.00; 6304.19.90; 6304.91.90; 6304.92.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IDN/33 , 20 September 2019	
Japan		
Termination on 4 March 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of electrolytic manganese dioxide (HS 2820.10) from South Africa and Spain (imposed on 1 September 2008)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/JPN , 22 October 2019	
Initiation on 26 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of tris (chloropropyl) phosphate (HS 2919.90) from China	Permanent Delegation of Japan to the WTO (7 October 2019)	
Jordan		
Initiation on 1 September 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of potato chips and potatoes prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen (HS 2005.20.90; 2106.90.99)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/JOR/19 , 4 September 2019	
Korea, Republic of		
Initiation on 16 October 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of uncoated paper (HS 4802.56; 4802.57; 4802.62; 4802.69) from Brazil, China and Indonesia	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/KOR , 22 October 2019; and Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Terminated on 18 July 2019 (without measure)
Initiation on 27 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of glassine paper (HS 4806.40) from China, Italy, Japan and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/KOR , 22 October 2019; and Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Terminated on 22 August 2019 (without measure)
Madagascar		
Initiation on 31 December 2018 of safeguard investigation on imports of detergent powder (HS 3402)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MDG/3 , 9 January 2019	
Initiation on 25 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of sweetened condensed milk (HS 0402.99.00) from Malaysia	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MDG , 24 October 2019	
Initiation on 14 August 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of soaps (HS 3401)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MDG/5 , 28 August 2019	
Initiation on 14 August 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of petroleum oils (<i>huiles lubrifiantes</i>) (HS 2710.19.33)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MDG/6 , 28 August 2019	
Initiation on 14 August 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage product, and margarines (HS 1507; 1508; 1509; 1510; 1511; 1512; 1514; 1517; 1518)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MDG/7 , 28 August 2019	
Malaysia		
Termination on 15 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of electrolytic tinplate (HS 7210.12.20) from China and Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 20 February 2013, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 20 July and 16 November 2013, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/MYS , 4 February 2019	
Termination on 30 January 2019 of anti-dumping duties on hot rolled coils (HS 7208; 7225) from China and Indonesia (investigation initiated on 18 June 2014. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 17 October 2014 and 14 February 2015, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MYS , 21 October 2019	
Initiation on 29 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cold-rolled coils of iron or non-alloy steel, of width more than 1,300 mm (HS 7209.15; 7209.16; 7209.17; 7209.18; 7225.50) from China; Japan; Korea, Rep. of and Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MYS , 21 October 2019	
Initiation on 26 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel concrete reinforcing bar (HS 7214.10; 7214.20; 7214.30; 7214.99; 7228.10; 7228.20; 7228.30; 7228.40; 7228.50; 7228.60; 7228.80) from Singapore and Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MYS , 21 October 2019	
Initiation on 26 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cellulose fibre-cement reinforced flat and pattern sheet (HS 6811.82.20; 6811.82.90) from Indonesia	Notice AD 03/19 – Federal Government Gazette P.U. (B) 352 (26 July 2019)	
Mexico		
Initiation on 20 December 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium pressure cookers (HS 7615.10.01) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MEX , 1 October 2019	Provisional duty imposed on 26 June 2019
Termination on 25 January 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MEX , 1 October 2019	

polybutadiene-styrene rubber in emulsion "SBR" (HS 4002.19.01; 4002.19.02; 4002.19.03; 4002.19.99) from Poland (initiated on 10 August 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MEX , 1 October 2019	
Initiation on 5 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of stainless steel flat products (HS 7219.34.01; 7219.35.01; 7220.20.02; 9802.00.01; 9802.00.02; 9802.00.03; 9802.00.07; 9802.00.10; 9802.00.13; 9802.00.19) from China and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/MEX , 1 October 2019	
Initiation on 16 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of wind towers (HS 8502.31.01) from China	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 October 2019) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 2 August 2019	
Initiation on 2 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of metal zip fasteners (HS 9607.11.01) from China	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 October 2019) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 9 August 2019	
Initiation on 9 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium discs (HS 7616.99.10) from China	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 October 2019) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 16 August 2019	
Termination on 16 August 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of short-fibre polyester (HS 5503.20.01; 5503.20.02; 5503.20.03; 5503.20.99) from Korea, Rep. of (imposed on 19 August 1993)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 October 2019) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 30 September 2019	
Termination on 30 September 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of blankets of synthetic fibres (HS 6301.40.01; 9404.90.99) from China (investigation initiated on 1 March 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 9 September 2013 and 26 May 2014, respectively)		
Morocco		
Initiation on 29 May 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of hot-rolled sheets (HS 7208; 7211.13; 7211.14; 7211.19; 7225.30; 7225.40; 7226.20.00; 7226.91; 7226.99)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/MAR/11 , 29 May 2019	
New Zealand		
Termination on 19 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain hollow steel sections (HS 7306.30.19; 7306.61.00; 7306.69.00) from China and Malaysia (investigation initiated on 9 April 2018 and provisional duties imposed on 26 July 2018 on imports from Malaysia)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/NZL , 11 April 2019	
Termination on 28 March 2019 (without measure) of countervailing investigation on imports of certain hollow steel sections (HS 7306.30.19; 7306.61.00; 7306.69.00) from China (initiated on 9 April 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/NZL , 16 October 2019	
Pakistan		
Initiation on 1 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium beverage cans (HS 7612.90.10; 7612.90.30) from Jordan, Sri Lanka, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/PAK , 21 October 2019	Provisional duty imposed on 3 May 2019. Terminated on 3 May 2019 on imports from Turkey
Initiation on 11 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cold-rolled coils (HS 7209; 7211) from Canada and the Russian Federation	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/PAK , 21 October 2019	
Panama		
Initiation on 3 May 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of pork (HS 0203)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/PAN/2 , 14 May 2019; and G/SG/N/9/PAN/1 , 19 November 2019	Terminated on 4 July 2019 (without measure)
Peru		
Initiation on 15 February 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain woven fabrics of synthetic filament yarn (<i>tejidos tipo popelina mezcla</i>) (HS 5407.81.00; 5407.82.00; 5512.11.00; 5512.19.00; 5513.11.00; 5513.21.00; 5514.11.00; 5514.21.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/PER , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 12 April 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of sandals and flip-flops (HS 6402.20.00; 6402.91.00; 6402.99.00; 6405.90.00) from China (imposed on 31 January 2000)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/PER , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 1 May 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain steel bars (HS 7213; 7214; 7217; 7228) from Brazil and Mexico (initiated on 2 November 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/PER , 23 October 2019	
Philippines		
Initiation on 20 December 2018 of safeguard investigation on imports of ceramic floor and wall tiles (HS 6907.21.23; 6907.21.24; 6907.21.93; 6907.21.94; 6907.22.13; 6907.22.14; 6907.22.93; 6907.22.94; 6907.23.13; 6907.23.14; 6907.23.93; 6907.23.94; 6907.40.92)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/PHL/12 , 11 January 2019; and Permanent Delegation of Philippines to the WTO (31 October 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 8 August 2019
Initiation on 19 February 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of float glass (HS 7005.29.90; 7005.21.90; 7005.10.90)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/PHL/13 , 13 March 2019	
Termination on 23 March 2019 of safeguard duties on imports of steel angle bar (HS 7216.21.00; 7216.50.10) (imposed on 10 August 2015)	Permanent Delegation of Philippines to the WTO (31 October 2019)	
Initiation on 11 September 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of rice (HS 1006.30.30; 1006.30.40; 1006.30.91; 1006.30.99)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/PHL/14 , 13 September 2019 and G/SG/N/9/PHL/3 , 18 October 2019	Terminated on 17 October 2019 (without measure)
Russian Federation (for the Eurasian Economic Union)		
Initiation on 1 March 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of microwave ovens (HS 8516.50.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/9/RUS/1 , 6 May 2019	Terminated on 18 April 2019 (without measure)
Initiation on 4 March 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of welded tubes of stainless steel (HS 7306.40.20; 7306.40.80; 7306.61.10; 7306.69.10)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/RUS/7 , 21 March 2019	
Initiation on 7 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium alloy strips (HS 7606.11;	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/RUS ,	

7606.12) from Azerbaijan and China Termination on 29 July 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of single mode optical fiber (HS 9001.10) from Japan and the United States (investigation initiated on 26 March 2018) On 25 August 2019 temporary suspension of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel railway wheels (HS 8607.19.10) from Ukraine (investigation initiated on 17 October 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 22 January 2016) Initiation on 2 September 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of springs and leaves for springs, of iron or steel (HS 7320.10.11; 7320.10.19; 7320.10.90) from China	16 September 2019 Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019) Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019) Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019)	
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of (for Gulf Cooperation Council) Termination on 1 November 2018 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of seamless pipes and tubes of iron or steel of a kind used for oil or gas pipelines and drilling, of circular cross-section, of an external diameter not exceeding 16 inches (406.4 mm) (HS 7304.19.00; 7304.29.00) from China (initiated on 25 April 2017) Initiation on 5 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of ceramic flags and paving, hearth, floor, or wall tiles, whether or not on a backing; and finishing ceramics (ceramic tiles) (HS 6907.30.00) from China, India and Spain Initiation on 14 February 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of super absorbent polymers (HS 3906.90) from Japan and Chinese Taipei Initiation on 3 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of Portland cement, aluminous cement, slag cement, supersulphate cement and similar hydraulic cements, whether or not coloured or in the form of clinkers (HS 2523) from Iran, Islamic Rep. of	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/SAU , 23 April 2019 WTO document G/ADP/N/328/SAU , 21 October 2019 WTO document G/ADP/N/328/SAU , 21 October 2019 Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the WTO (25 October 2019)	
South Africa (for SACU – Southern African Customs Union Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa) Initiation on 23 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of poly(ethylene terephthalate) (NCM 3907.61.00) from China Initiation on 1 March 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of threaded fasteners of iron or steel (HS 7318.15.41; 7318.15.42; 7318.16.30)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/ZAF , 27 September 2019; and International Trade Administration Commission Notice No. R. 1034 – Government Gazette No. 42612 (2 August 2019) WTO document G/SG/N/6/ZAF/7 , 4 March 2019; and International Trade Administration Commission Notice No. R. 1012 – Government Gazette No. 42594 (26 July 2019)	Provisional duty imposed on 2 August 2019 Duty imposed on 26 July 2019
Thailand Termination on 10 January 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of painted hot dip galvanized of cold rolled steel and painted hot dip plated or coated with aluminium zinc alloys of cold rolled steel (HS 7210.70.10; 7210.70.90) from China; Korea, Rep. of and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 8 July 2011 and definitive duty imposed on 10 January 2013) Termination on 22 February 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping 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 (initiated on 29 November 2017) Termination on 27 February 2019 of safeguard duties on imports of hot rolled steel flat products with certain amounts of alloying elements such as boron, chromium, etc., in coils and not in coils, with or without patterns in relief, of a thickness of 0.9-50 mm and a width of 100-3,048 mm (HS 7225.30.90; 7225.40.90; 7226.91.10; 7226.91.90) (investigation initiated on 30 November 2012, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 27 February and 15 September 2013, respectively) Termination on 12 April 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of melamine tableware (HS 3924.10.10) from China (initiated on 29 November 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/THA , 3 October 2019 WTO document G/ADP/N/328/THA , 3 October 2019 WTO document G/SG/N/6/THA/2/Suppl.4 , 26 February 2019 WTO document G/ADP/N/328/THA , 3 October 2019	
Turkey Termination on 16 October 2018 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polycarboxylate polymers (HS 3824.40; 3906.90.90) from Korea, Rep. of (initiated on 28 November 2017) Termination on 17 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of uncoloured float glass (HS 7005.29) from Romania (investigation initiated on 27 November 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 17 November 2013) Termination on 21 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of diesel engines (HS 8408.90.41) from China and India (investigation initiated on 3 August 2012 and definitive duty imposed on 21 November 2013) Initiation on 30 December 2018 of safeguard investigation on imports of yarn of nylon or other polyamides (HS 5402.31; 5402.32.00; 5402.45; 5402.51; 5402.61) Termination on 12 January 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of acrylic or modacrylic (HS 5501.30.00) from China; Germany;	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (24 May 2019) WTO document G/ADP/N/322/TUR , 12 April 2019 WTO document G/ADP/N/322/TUR , 12 April 2019 WTO document G/SG/N/6/TUR/25 , 4 January 2019 WTO document G/ADP/N/328/TUR , 16 October 2019	

Korea, Rep. of and Thailand (initiated on 21 March 2018)		
Termination on 12 January 2019 (without measure) of countervailing investigation on imports of acrylic or modacrylic (HS 5501.30.00) from China (initiated on 20 March 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/TUR , 22 October 2019	
Termination on 27 March 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of textured yarn of nylon or other polyamides, measuring per single yarn more than 50 tex (HS 5402.31) from China (imposed on 5 September 2008)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/TUR , 16 October 2019	
Termination on 7 May 2019 of safeguard duties 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) (investigation initiated on 27 April 2018 and provisional duty imposed on 17 October 2018)	WTO document G/SG/N/7/TUR/13/Suppl.1 , 13 May 2019	
Initiation on 6 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain man-made staple fibres (HS 5508; 5509; 5510; 5511) from Indonesia	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (22 October 2019)	(HS Codes exempted 5509.52; 5509.61; 5509.91; 5510.20)
Initiation on 4 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain articles for conveyance or packing of goods, of plastic; stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastic (HS 3923.21.00; 3923.29.10; 3923.29.90; 3923.30.10; 3924.10.00; 3924.90.00; 3926.90.97; 8414.10.81; 8414.10.89) from China and Thailand	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (22 October 2019)	
Termination on 9 August 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of pencils with leads of graphite and crayons encased in a rigid sheath (HS 9609.10) from China (imposed on 14 January 2003)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (22 October 2019)	
Ukraine		
Termination on 2 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of cement-asbestos board, corrugated (HS 6811.40.00) from Belarus (investigation initiated on 10 March 2011 and definitive duty imposed on 5 November 2012)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/UKR , 18 March 2019	
Termination on 4 December 2018 (without measure) of countervailing investigation on imports of motor cars (HS 8703.22.10) from Uzbekistan (initiated on 3 October 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/342/UKR , 9 April 2019	
Initiation on 20 December 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cylindrical roller bearings (HS 8482.50.00) from Kazakhstan	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/UKR , 18 March 2019	
Initiation on 6 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of some ropes and cables (HS 7312.10) from the Russian Federation	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/UKR , 16 October 2019	
Termination on 20 April 2019 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of syringes (HS 9018.31.10) from China, India and Turkey (initiated on 2 November 2017)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/UKR , 16 October 2019	
Initiation on 20 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aerated concrete blocks (HS 6810.11) from Belarus	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/UKR , 16 October 2019	
Initiation on 18 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hot-deformed seamless steel pipes (HS 7304.19; 7304.23; 7304.29; 7304.39; 7304.59) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/UKR , 16 October 2019	
Initiation on 19 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium wheels (HS 8708.70.50) from China and the Russian Federation	Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to the WTO (23 October 2019)	
Initiation on 19 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of matches (HS 3605.00.00) from Belarus	Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to the WTO (23 October 2019)	
Initiation on 28 August 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of complex fertilizers (HS 3105)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/UKR/13 , 4 September 2019	
Initiation on 28 August 2019 of safeguard investigation on imports of certain nitrogen fertilizers (HS 3102; 3105)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/UKR/14 , 9 September 2019	
United States of America		
Termination on 13 November 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polyethylene terephthalate "PET" resin (HS 3907.61.00; 3907.69.00) from Brazil; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of; Pakistan and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 23 October 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 4 May 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/USA , 19 March 2019	
Initiation on 19 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyester textured yarn (HS 5402.33.30; 5402.33.60) from China and India	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/USA , 19 March 2019	
Initiation on 19 November 2018 of countervailing investigation on imports of polyester textured yarn (HS 5402.33.30; 5402.33.60) from China and India	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 19 March 2019	Provisional duty imposed on 3 May 2019
Initiation on 20 November 2018 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of magnesium (HS 8104.11.00; 8104.19.00; 8104.30.00) from Israel	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/USA , 19 March 2019	
Initiation on 20 November 2018 of countervailing investigation on imports of magnesium (HS 8104.11.00; 8104.19.00; 8104.30.00) from Israel	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	Provisional duty imposed on 8 May 2019
Termination on 4 December 2018 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polytetrafluoroethylene "PTFE" resin (HS 3904.61.00; 3904.69.50) from China and India (investigation initiated on 26 October 2017 and provisional duty imposed on 7 May 2018)	WTO document G/ADP/N/322/USA , 19 March 2019	
Initiation on 4 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain fabricated structural steel (HS 7308.90.30; 7308.90.60; 7308.90.95; 7216.91.00; 7216.99.00; 7222.40.60; 7228.70.60; 7301.10.00; 7301.20.10; 7301.20.50;	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	

7308.40.00; 7308.90.95; 9406.90.00) from Canada, China and Mexico	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA	Terminated on 11 April 2019 on imports from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Initiation on 4 March 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain fabricated structural steel (HS 7308.90.30; 7308.90.60; 7308.90.95; 7216.91.00; 7216.99.00; 7222.40.60; 7228.70.60; 7301.10.00; 7301.20.10; 7301.20.50; 7308.40.00; 7308.90.95; 9406.90.00) from Canada, China and Mexico	, 23 October 2019	
Termination on 7 March 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of rubber bands (HS 4016.99.35; 4016.99.60) from Thailand (initiated on 27 February 2018)	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 19 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod (HS 7318.15.50; 7318.15.20; 7318.19.00) from China, India, Chinese Taipei and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 19 March 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of carbon alloy steel threaded rod (HS 7318.15.50; 7318.15.20; 7318.19.00) from China and India	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 15 March 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of low-enriched uranium (HS 2844.20.00) from France (imposed on 13 February 2002)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 18 March 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of acetone (HS 2914.11.10; 2914.11.50; 2902.20.00; 2902.70.00; 2905.12.00; 2914.12.00) from Belgium; Korea, Rep. of; the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Singapore; South Africa and Spain	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 2 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of wooden cabinets and vanities and components thereof (HS 9403.40.90; 9403.60.80; 9403.90.70) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 2 April 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of wooden cabinets and vanities and components thereof (HS 9403.40.90; 9403.60.80; 9403.90.70) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 24 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of sodium sulfate anhydrous (HS 2833.11.50; 2833.11.10; 2833.19.00) from Canada	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 6 May 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of large residential washers (HS 8450.11.00; 8450.20.00; 8450.90.20; 8450.90.60) from Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 26 January 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 3 August 2012 and 15 February 2013, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 6 May 2019 of countervailing duties on imports of large residential washers (HS 8450.11.00; 8450.20.00; 8450.90.20; 8450.90.60) from Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 26 January 2012. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 5 June 2012 and 15 February 2013, respectively)	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 8 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of ceramic tiles (HS 6907) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 8 May 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of ceramic tiles (HS 6907) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 10 May 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of certain new pneumatic off-the-road tyres (HS 4011) from China (imposed on 4 September 2008)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 10 May 2019 of countervailing duties on imports of certain new pneumatic off-the-road tyres (HS 4011) from China (imposed on 4 September 2008)	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 13 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of fresh tomatoes (HS 0702.00) from Mexico	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 20 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of dried tart cherries (HS 0813.40.30; 0813.40.90; 0813.50.00; 2006.00.20; 2006.00.50; 2008.60.00) from Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 20 May 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of dried tart cherries (HS 0813.40.30; 0813.40.90; 0813.50.00; 2006.00.20; 2006.00.50; 2008.60.00) from Turkey	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 24 May 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of vertical metal file cabinets (HS 9403.10.00; 9403.20.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 24 May 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of vertical metal file cabinets (HS 9403.10.00; 9403.20.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 3 June 2019 of anti-dumping 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; 7016.90.10) from India and Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 3 June 2019 of countervailing 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; 7016.90.10) from India and Turkey	WTO document G/SCM/N/349/USA , 23 October 2019	
Termination on 7 June 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of freshwater crawfish tailmeat (HS 0306.19.00; 0306.29.00; 0306.29.01; 0306.39.00;	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	

0306.99.00; 1605.40.10) from China (imposed on 15 September 1997)		
Termination on 10 June 2019 of anti-dumping duties on imports of prestressed concrete steel rail tie wire (HS 7217.10.80; 7217.10.90; 7229.90.10; 7229.90.50; 7229.90.90; 7312.10.30) from China and Mexico (investigation initiated on 20 May 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 12 December 2013 and 24 June 2014, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/USA , 23 October 2019	
Initiation on 26 June 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain collated steel staples (HS 8305.20.00) from China; Korea, Rep. of and Chinese Taipei	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-570-112, A-580-901 and A-583-866, Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 128 FR No. 31833 (3 July 2019)	
Initiation on 26 June 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain collated steel staples (HS 8305.20.00) from China	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-570-113, Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 128 FR No. 31840 (3 July 2019)	
Initiation on 29 July 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of utility scale wind towers (HS 7308.20.00; 8502.31.00) from Canada; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of and Viet Nam	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-122-867, A-560-833, A-580-902 and A-552-825, Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 150 FR No. 37992 (5 August 2019)	
Initiation on 29 July 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of utility scale wind towers (HS 7308.20.00; 8502.31.00) from Canada, Indonesia and Viet Nam	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration C-122-868, C-560-834 and C-552-826, Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 151 FR No. 38216 (6 August 2019)	
Initiation on 19 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyethylene terephthalate sheet (HS 3920.62.00) from Korea, Rep. of; Mexico and Oman	Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration A-580-903, A-201-852 and A-523-813, Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 166 FR No. 44854 (27 August 2019)	
Initiation on 15 October 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of glass containers (HS 7010.90.50) from China	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-630 and 731-TA-1462 (preliminary), Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 191 FR No. 52536 (2 October 2019)	
Initiation on 15 October 2019 of countervailing investigation on imports of glass containers (HS 7010.90.50) from China	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-630 and 731-TA-1462 (preliminary), Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 191 FR No. 52536 (2 October 2019)	
	Viet Nam	
Initiation on 10 January 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium bars, rods and profiles (HS 7604.10; 7604.21; 7604.29) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/VNM , 21 October 2019	Provisional duty imposed on 5 June 2019
Initiation on 16 April 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of fireboard of wood (HS 4411.12; 4411.13; 4411.14; 4411.92; 4411.93; 4411.94) from Malaysia and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/328/VNM , 21 October 2019	

Recorded, but not-confirmed information³

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Viet Nam		
Initiation on 5 August 2019 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of other plates, sheets, film, foil and strip of polymers of propylene, non-cellular and not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials (HS 3920.20.10; 3920.20.91) from China, Malaysia and Thailand	Press reports referring to Decision No. 2334/QĐ-BCT, Ministry of Industry and Trade (5 August 2019)	

ANNEX 3

OTHER TRADE-RELATED MEASURES¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2018 TO MID-OCTOBER 2019)

Confirmed information²

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Algeria		
Amendments introduced in the list of imported products subject to temporary surcharges (<i>droit additionnel provisoire de sauvegarde</i>) (1,095 tariff lines at 10-digit levels in Chapters HS 02; 04; 07; 08; 11; 12; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 25; 33; 34; 39; 44; 48; 57; 63; 68; 69; 70; 73; 76; 84; 85; 94; 96)	Arrêté du 19 Joumada El Oula 1440, Journal Officiel No. 6 (26 January 2019)	Effective 26 January 2019
Angola		
Temporary export ban on metal scraps (HS 7204; 7602; 7404; 7802; 7503; 7902; 8002; 8101; 8102; 8103; 8104; 8105; 8107; 8108; 8109; 8110; 8112; 8113; 8548)	Permanent Delegation of Angola (2 October 2019)	Effective 14 January 2019
Argentina		
Extension of the temporary export ban on iron and steel ferrous waste and scrap (NCM 7204; 7404; 7602)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Decreto No. 970/2018 – Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (30 October 2018)	Effective 31 October 2018, for 360 days
Reduction of export duties (<i>derechos de exportación</i>) for works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques (NCM 9701)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Decreto No. 94/2019 (DCTO-2019-94-APN-PTE-Posición arancelaria) (30 January 2019)	Effective 1 February 2019
Temporary increase of the statistical fee (<i>tasa de estadística</i>) (from 0.5% to 2.5%) for all imports up to a specific threshold. On 17 May 2019 certain imports of capital goods exempted	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Decretos Nos. 332/2019 (DECTO-2019-322-APN-PTE) – tasa estadística (3 May 2019) and 361/2019 (17 May 2019)	Effective May 2019 to 31 December 2019
Amendments introduced in the export duties legislation (<i>derechos de exportación</i>), resulting in exemptions for MSMEs under certain conditions	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Decreto Nos. 280/2019 – Derechos de exportación (17 April 2019) and 335/2019 – Desgravación del derecho de exportación (6 May 2019)	Effective 8 May 2019 to 31 December 2020
Amendments introduced to the list of products included in the Certificate of Import of Used Capital Goods (<i>Certificado de Importación de Bienes Usados "CIBU"</i>), resulting in the import prohibition of certain capital goods (1,117 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Decreto No. 406/2019 – Importación. DECTO-2019-406-APN-PTE – Certificado de Bienes Usados (6 June 2019)	Effective 7 June 2019
Temporary reimplementation of the requirement for exporters to settle their foreign currency originating from export operations (all sectors) in the financial system (eliminated on 2 November 2017)	Decreto 609/2019 – Mercado Cambiario – Deuda Pública (1 September 2019)	Effective until 31 December 2019
Australia		
Amendments introduced to the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Amendment (Collecting Tobacco Duties) Regulations 2019 and Customs (Prohibited Imports) (Importation of Tobacco Products) Approval 2019. Since 1 July 2019, most tobacco products are "prohibited import" (this includes cigarettes, molasses tobacco and loose leaf tobacco (HS Chapter 24)). To bring affected tobacco products into Australia a person or importer must have a permit issued by the Australian Border Force	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (25 October 2019) and WTO document G/LIC/N/3/AUS/12 , 12 September 2019	Effective 1 July 2019
Bangladesh		

Increase of export duties (from 10% to 25%) on rice bran (HS 2302.40.10)	Permanent Delegation of Bangladesh to the WTO (24 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Brazil		
Temporary increase of import tariffs on certain rubber apparel (NCM 4015.19.00), and on certain x-ray machines (NCM 9022.19.99)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Camex Resolution Nos. 98/2018 (7 December 2018) and 106/2018 (27 December 2018)	Effective 10 December 2018
Increase of import tariffs (from zero to 4%) on other aromatic hydrocarbon mixtures, of which 65% or more by volume (including losses), distilled at 250°C by the ISO 3405 method (equivalent to the ASTM D 86 method) (NCM 2707.50.10); (from zero to 8%) on certain pharmaceutical products (<i>ácido retinoico</i>) (NCM 3003.90.17; 3004.50.60); (from 2% to 12%) on cetyl alcohol (NCM 2905.17.20); (from 2% to 14%) on industrial fatty alcohols (NCM 3823.70.10; 3823.70.40); and (from 2% to 18%) on safety airbags with inflator system, and parts thereof (NCM 8708.95.21)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (22 May 2019) and Camex Resolution No. 58/2018 (31 August 2018)	Effective 1 January 2019
Increase of import tariffs (from 2% to 6%) on acrylic acid (NCM 2916.11.10); (from zero to 8%) on certain pharmaceutical products (NCM 3004.90.99); and (from 2% to 8%) on sodium polyacrylate (NCM 3906.90.44)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (12 October 2019)	Effective 4 August 2019
Canada		
Addition of a reporting and record keeping requirement to the steel general import permits for carbon steel (item 80) and speciality steel products (item 81) (effective 23 August 2019) . Addition of certain aluminium products (item 83) to the "import control list", and issuance of the general import permit No. 83 (aluminium products), which has a reporting and record keeping requirement (effective 1 September 2019) (HS Chapters 72; 73; 76)	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (28 October 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
China		
Elimination of VAT rebate rates on oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soyabean oil (HS 2304)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (22 May 2019)	Effective 1 November 2018
Release of the 2019 catalogue of goods subject to import licensing (in HS Chapters 29; 38; 84; 85; 89; 90)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO, MOFCOM and China Customs Joint Announcement (2018) 107 on Publishing the Catalogue of Goods Subject to Import Licensing Requirements for 2019. Viewed at: http://images.mofcom.gov.cn/wms/201812/20181231170911182.pdf	Effective 1 January 2019
Release of the 2019 catalogue of goods subject to export licensing (in HS Chapters 01; 02; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 38; 44; 71; 72; 80; 81; 87)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO, MOFCOM and China Customs Joint Announcement (2018) 108 on Publishing the Catalogue of Goods Subject to Export Licensing Requirements for 2019. Viewed at: http://images.mofcom.gov.cn/wms/201812/20181231170446474.pdf	Effective 1 January 2019
Further increase of import tariffs (to 25%) on 2,493 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,	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Tariff Commission Circular release No. 3/2019. Viewed at: http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201905/t20190513_3256788.html	Effective 1 June 2019

<p>89; 90; 91; 92; 94; 95; 96; 97); (to 20%) on 1,078 tariffs lines (in HS Chapters 05; 06; 07; 08; 11; 12; 13; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 25; 26; 28; 29; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 45; 46; 47; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 54; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97); (to 10%) on 974 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; 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; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97); and (to 5%) on 595 tariffs lines (in HS Chapters 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 43; 44; 47; 48; 49; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90; 94) on imports from the United States</p> <p>Imposition of additional 10% <i>ad valorem</i> rate of duty on certain products (916 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 01; 02; 03; 04; 05; 06; 07; 08; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 28; 29; 32; 33; 35; 37; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 57; 58; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 67; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85); and 5% <i>ad valorem</i> rate on certain products (801 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 01; 04; 05; 06; 07; 09; 11; 13; 15; 16; 19; 20; 21; 22; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40) from the United States (third batch)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (25 October 2019) and State Council Tariff Commission Announcement on Applying Additional Tariffs to Certain Imported Goods Originated from the United States (Batch No. 3) . Viewed at: http://gss.mof.gov.cn/zhengwuxinxi/zhengcefabu/201908/t20190823_3372928.html</p>	<p>Effective 1 September 2019</p>
Colombia		
<p>Two tariff lines eliminated from the list of products subject to temporary elimination of import tariffs on raw materials and capital goods not produced locally, resulting in an increase of import tariffs on certain winding wire (to 10%) (HS 8544.49.10.10; 8544.49.10.90)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (30 April 2019) and Decreto No. 228/2019 – Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (19 February 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 6 March 2019</p>
<p>Temporary increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 18.5%) on iron or non-alloy steel bars and rods, hot-rolled, in irregularly wound coils (HS 7213.10.00); and on 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 (HS 7214.20.00)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (30 April 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 13 March 2019 to 13 March 2021</p>
<p>Creation of 2 new tariff lines at 10-digit level "certain electric conductors, for a voltage exceeding 1,000 V" (8544.49.90.20; 8544.49.90.90), resulting in the reintroduction of an import tariff of 5%. Item not included in the list of products negotiated during</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (16 October 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 15 September 2019</p>

the Information Technology Agreement (ITA)		
	Egypt	
Further extension of the temporary export taxes (EGP 20,000/tonne) on certain copper and articles thereof (effective 24 December 2018 to 24 December 2019); (EGP 6,000/tonne) on lead and articles thereof (effective 24 December 2018 to 24 December 2019); (EGP 1,300/tonne) on ferrous waste and scrap; remelting scrap ingots of iron or steel (effective 24 December 2018 to 24 December 2019); (EGP 7,000/tonne) on aluminium waste and scrap (effective 24 December 2018 to 24 December 2019); (EGP 2,600/tonne) on slag, ash and residues (other than from the manufacture of iron or steel) containing metals, arsenic or their compounds; unwrought zinc (effective 24 December 2018 to 24 December 2019); (EGP 3,600/tonne) on certain paper (effective 24 December 2018 to 24 December 2019); (EGP 7,000/tonne) on scrap and waste of cotton fabrics and mixed cotton (effective 25 December 2018 to 24 December 2019); (EGP 300/tonne) on corn silage (effective 6 January 2019 to 31 December 2019); (EGP 600/tonne) on cereal straw and husks, unprepared whether or not chopped (except rice straw) (effective 6 January 2019 to 31 December 2019); (EGP 700/tonne) on lucern (alfalfa) (effective 6 January 2019 to 31 December 2019); (EGP 1,200/tonne) on crushed talc (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 500/tonne) on talc powder (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 300/tonne) on ultra soft talc powder (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 150/tonne) on quartz ore (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 300/tonne) on feldspar ore (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 200/tonne) on crushed or powdered feldspar ore (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 400/tonne) on marble and granite blocks crude or roughly trimmed (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 100/tonne) on sand (effective 10 February 2019 to 10 February 2020); (EGP 250/unit) on crust leather of cow or buffalo skin (effective 2 May 2019 to 2 May 2020); (EGP 150/unit) on crust leather of calf skin (effective 2 May 2019 to 2 May 2020); (EGP 15/unit) on crust leather of sheep skin (effective 2 May 2019 to 2 May 2020); (EGP 7.5/unit) on crust leather of goat skin (effective 2 May 2019 to 2 May 2020); and (EGP 150/unit) on	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (22 May 2019)	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (22 May 2019)

<p>crust leather of camel skin (effective 2 May 2019 to 2 May 2020) (HS 7401; 7402; 7403; 7404; 7419.91; 7407; 7801; 7802.00; 7804.19; 7806; 7204.10; 7204.21; 7204.29; 7204.30; 7204.41; 7204.49; 7204.50; 7602.00.; 2620.11; 2620.19; 7901; 7902.00; 7903; 6310; 1213; 1214; 2308; 2526; 2506; 2529; 2515.11; 2516.11; 2505; 4104; 4105; 4106)</p> <p>New Decree regulating the method of determining the percentages of local component in the automotive industry. The threshold of domestic manufacturing should not be less than 46%, and that the contribution of the assembly line in the local manufacturing rate of the car should be 28%</p> <p>Further extension of the temporary export taxes (EGP 500/tonne) on azotic fertilizers (excluding pure ammonium nitrate with a concentration higher than 34.2% nitrogen) (HS 3102)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (28 October 2019)</p> <p>Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (28 October 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 17 September 2019, for 1 year</p>
European Union		
<p>Reintroduction of the Common Customs Tariff duties (EUR 175/tonne) on imports of Indica rice (HS 1006) from Cambodia and Myanmar (based on EU procedures for the temporary withdrawal of tariff preferences under the GSP Regulations)</p>	<p>Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2019/67 (16 January 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 17 January 2019, for 3 years. Tariff duties set at EUR 150/tonne for the second year and EUR 125/tonne for the third year</p>
The Gambia		
<p>Increase of the excise import tax on certain products, e.g. (from 20% to 25%) on new cars; (from GMD 175 to GMD 280) on spirits; (from GMD 100 to GMD 175) on beer; and (from GMD 150 to GMD 240) on wine (HS 8703.10.00; 2208.20.10; 2203.00.10)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of the Gambia (22 May 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 1 January 2019</p>
Guyana		
<p>Increase of import tariffs (from 5% to 15%) on other hydraulic cements (HS 2523.90.00)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of Guyana to the WTO (14 October 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 22 June 2019</p>
India		
<p>Amendments introduced to the export policy of gold, resulting in an export authorization on gold idols (only gods and goddess) of 8 carats and above (up to 24 carats), subject to certain conditions</p>	<p>Notification No. 44/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (30 November 2018)</p>	<p>Effective 30 November 2018</p>
<p>Amendments introduced to the import policy of gold (HS 7108.12.00), resulting in an import restriction on gold Dore</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 45/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (30 November 2018)</p>	
<p>In January 2019, extension of the temporary import ban on pulses (e.g. peas) (HS 0713) (originally implemented on 1 April 2018 and extended until 30 September 2018)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Trade Notice No. 01/2019-20 Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce) (1 April 2019)</p>	<p>Effective until 31 March 2020</p>
<p>Addition of Krishnapatnam port to the list of 10 existing ports through which imports of sawn timber are permitted</p>	<p>Notification No. 47/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (31 December 2018)</p>	<p>Effective 1 January 2019</p>
<p>Addition of Krishnapatnam port to the list of 10 existing ports through which exports of sawn timber are permitted</p>	<p>Notification No. 47/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (31 December 2018)</p>	<p>Effective 1 January 2019</p>
<p>Amendments introduced to the export policy of fertilizers (HS 3102; 3103; 3104; 3105), resulting in an export liberalization.</p>	<p>Notification No. 49/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (7 January 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 7 January 2019</p>

Certain fertilizers under the "restricted" category moved to the "free" category, subject to certain conditions: (i) prior permission (no objection certificate) by the Department of Fertilizers; and (ii) production of a declaration certificate to customs at the time of export		
Increase of import tariffs (from zero to 5%) on lithium ion cells for use in the manufacture of lithium ion accumulators; and (from 10% to 20%) on lithium ion cells for use in the manufacture of power banks of lithium ion (HS 8507.60.00)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 2/2019-Customs, Ministry of Finance – Department of Revenue (29 January 2019)	Effective 30 January 2019
Temporary increase on import tariffs (to 200%) on all imports from Pakistan (all HS Chapters)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 5/2019-Customs Ministry of Finance – Department of Revenue (16 February 2019)	Effective 16 February 2019
Extension of the temporary import prohibition of milk and milk products (including chocolates and chocolate products and candies/confectionary/food preparations with milk or milk solids as ingredients) from China (originally implemented on 22 June 2018 until 23 December 2018) . The extension is in force until the capacity of all laboratories at ports of entry are suitably upgraded for testing melamine	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 1/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (23 April 2019)	Extended on 23 April 2019
Increase of import tariffs (from 30% to 40%) on wheat (HS 1001)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Notification No. 13/2019-Customs, Ministry of Finance (26 April 2019)	Effective 26 April 2019
Amendments introduced to the import policy for electronics and IT goods, resulting in an import restriction. Imports authorized if they are registered with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and comply to the "labelling requirements"	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 7 May 2019
Suspension of substantially equivalent concessions and other obligations under GATT 1994 on trade with the United States in the form of an increase in tariffs on selected products (e.g. artemia, chickpeas, lentils, almonds, walnuts, apples, phosphoric acid, boric acid, other diagnostic reagents, binders for foundry moulds, flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, hot-rolled products in coils, grain-oriented flat-rolled products of silicon-electrical steel, stainless steel fittings, iron and steel structures and parts, iron or steel screws and bolts, threaded nuts, other cast articles of iron or steel, forged articles of iron or steel, and motorcycles) (HS 0511; 0713; 0802; 2809; 2810; 3822; 3824; 7210; 7219; 7225; 7307; 7308; 7310; 7318; 7320; 7325; 7326; 8711)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019); WTO document G/SG/N/12/IND/1/Rev.1 , 14 June 2018; and Notification No. 17/2019-Customs Ministry of Finance – Department of Revenue (15 June 2019)	Effective 16 June 2019
Increase of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. (from 10% to 15%) on floor covering of plastics, wall or ceiling coverings of plastics; roofing tiles, ceramic flags and pavings, hearth or wall tiles; base metal fittings, mountings and similar articles suitable for certain furniture; friction materials and articles thereof, not	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (3 October 2019) and Finance (No. 2) Bill 2019-20	Effective 5 July 2019

<p>mounted, for brakes, for clutches or the like, with a basis of asbestos, of other mineral substances or of cellulose, whether or not combined with textile or other materials; glass mirrors, whether or not framed, including rear-view mirrors; locks of a kind used for motor vehicles; lighting or visual signalling equipment of a kind used on bicycles; horns for motor vehicles; windscreen wipers, defrosters and demisters; chassis fitted with engines, for the motor vehicles of heading HS 8701 to 8705; bodies (including cabs), for the motor vehicles of heading HS 8701 to 8705; loudspeakers, whether or not mounted in their enclosures; optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (from 10% to 12.5%) silver (including silver plated with gold or platinum), unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form; base metals clad with silver, not further worked than semi-manufactured; gold (including gold plated with platinum) unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form; base metals or silver, clad with gold, not further worked than semi-manufactured; platinum, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form; base metals, silver or gold, clad with platinum, not further worked than semi-manufactured; waste and scrap of precious metals; (from 7.5% to 10%) on oil or petrol filters for internal combustion engines; intake air filters for internal combustion engines; air purifiers or cleaners and other filtering or purifying machinery and apparatus for gases other than catalytic converters; sound signalling equipment of a kind used for motor vehicles; parts of visual or sound signalling equipment for bicycles or motor vehicles; (from 10% to 20%) on outdoor unit of split air conditioner; (from 15% to 20%) on digital video recorder (DVR) and network video recorder (NVR); CCCTV camera and IP camera (HS 3918; 6905; 6907; 8302; 7106; 7107.00.00; 7108; 7109.00.00; 7110; 7111.00.00; 7112; 6813; 7009; 8301.20.00; 8421.23.00; 8421.31.00; 8421.39.20; 8421.39.90; 8512.10.00; 8512.20.10; 8512.20.20; 8512.20.90; 8512.30.90; 8512.30.10; 8512.90.00; 8512.40.00; 8539.10.00; 8539.21.20; 8539.29.40; 8706; 8707; 8415.90.00; 8518.21.00; 8518.22.00; 8521.90.90; 8525.80; 9001.10.00)</p> <p>Increase of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. (from zero to 7.5%) on palm stearin, having free fatty acid of 20% or more (PFAD) and other similar items used for the manufacture of oleochemicals and soaps; crushing or grinding machines (effective 6 July 2019); (from 7.5% to 10%) on poly(vinyl</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)</p>	<p>Effective: see individual dates in measure</p>
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chloride) (effective 6 July 2019); (from 10% to 15%) on certain articles of plastic (effective 6 July 2019); (from 5% to 10%) on butyl rubber and halo butyl rubber; certain catalytic convertors (effective 6 July 2019); (from zero to 10%) on newsprint and certain uncoated paper used for printing (effective 6 July 2019); (from zero to 5%) on printed books (effective 6 July 2019); (from 20% to 40%) on marble slabs (effective 6 July 2019); (from 8.5% to 11%) on silver dore bar, having silver content not exceeding 95% (effective 6 July 2019); (from 9.35% to 11.85%) on gold dore bar, having gold content not exceeding 95% (effective 6 July 2019); (from 5% to 7.5%) on stainless steel in ingots or other primary forms; semi-finished products of stainless steel; other alloy steel in ingots or other primary forms; semi-finished products of other alloy steel; wire of other alloy steel (effective 6 July 2019); (from zero to 15%) on certain charger/power adapter; and (from 25% to 30%) on completely built unit of commercial motor vehicles (effective 6 July 2019); (from Rs 60/kg or 45%; whichever is higher) to 70% on cashew kernel broken, and (from Rs 75/kg or 45%; whichever is higher) to 70% on cashew kernel and shelled cashew nuts (effective 6 July 2019); (from zero to INR 1/tonne) on petroleum crude (HS 2709.00.00) (effective 6 July 2019); (to 50%) on lentils (effective 15 June 2019); (to 27.5%) on oxides of boron, boric acids (effective 15 June 2019); (to 30%) on diagnostic or laboratory reagents (effective 15 June 2019) (HS 2915.70; 3823.11; 3823.12; 3823.13; 3823.19; 3904; 3926.90.91; 3926.90.99; 4002.31.00; 4002.39.00; 48; 4901.10.10; 4901.91.00; 4901.99.00; 2515.12.20; 6802.10.00; 6802.21.10; 6802.21.20; 6802.21.90; 6802.91.00; 6802.92.00; 7106; 7108; 7218; 7224; 7229; 8474.20.10; 8504.40; 8421.39.20; 8421.39.90; 8702; 8704; 0713.40.00; 2810.00.20; 3822.00; 0801.32.10; 0801.32.20; 0801.32.90; 2709.00.00) Increase of the road and infrastructure cess (to INR 9/L) on imports of petrol and high-speed diesel oil (HS 2710) Initiation on 14 August 2019 of bilateral safeguard investigation on imports of refined bleached deodorized palmolein and refined bleached deodorized palm oil (HS 1511.90.10; 1511.90.20) from Malaysia	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019) and Notification No. 18/2019-Customs, Ministry of Finance – Department of Revenue (6 July 2019)	Effective 6 July 2019
Amendments introduced to the import policy of biofuels (HS 2207.20.00; 2710.20.00; 3826.00.00), resulting in an import restriction	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 24 May 2019
Amendment to the Import Policy of seed of peas (HS 1209.91.40), changing	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 25 June 2019

from restricted to free, but subject to phytosanitary import conditions as per Plant Quarantine (Regulation of imports into India) Order 2003		
Amendments introduced to the import policy of polymethyl methacrylate (HS 3916.90.32), resulting in an import restriction	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 28 August 2019
Amendments introduced to the import policy of "agarbatti" and other odoriferous preparations which operate by burning (HS 3307.41.00; 3307.49.00), resulting in an import restriction	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 31 August 2019
Amendment to the Import Policy of chlorotrifluoroethylene "CTFE" (HS 2903.77.90), changing from restricted to free for imports of "other derivatives perhalogenated only with fluorine and chlorine"	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 5 September 2019
Amendments introduced to the export policy of electronic cigarettes (HS 8543), resulting in an export restriction	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 30 September 2019
Amendments introduced to the export policy of onions (HS 0703.10), resulting in an export restriction	Notification No. 21/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry – Department of Commerce (29 September 2019)	Effective 29 September 2019
Indonesia		
New requirement for exports of coffee (HS 0901; 2101) introducing stricter export licensing requirements	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Regulation No. 109/2018 – Ministry of Trade (January 2019)	Effective 12 January 2019
Iraq		
Imposition of a 0.5% <i>ad valorem</i> custom fee on imports of pharmaceutical and medical appliances	Permanent Delegation of Iraq (1 October 2019)	Effective 9 October 2019
Kenya		
Increase of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. (from 10% to 25%) on uncoated paper and paper board; certain uncoated paper and paperboard, in rolls or sheets; folding cartons, boxes and cases, of non-corrugated paper or paperboard; other bars and rods of stainless steel, angles, shapes and section of stainless steel; wire of iron or non-alloy steel not plated or coated, whether or not polished; flat-rolled products of other alloy steel plated or coated with zinc; certain stoves, ranges, grates, cookers and barbecues; road tractors for semi-trailers; (from 25% to 35%) on certain garments, women's or girls'; nails, tacks, drawing pins, corrugated nails, staples and similar articles, of iron or steel, whether or not with heads of other material, but excluding such articles with heads of copper; iron or steel screws and bolts; wooden furniture; prefabricated buildings; (from zero to 25%) on angles, shapes and sections of iron or non-alloy steel; liquid gas cylinders; and (from 10% to 35) on certain non-threaded articles of iron or steel (HS 4802.10.00; 4802.20.00; 4805.19.00; 4805.91.00; 4805.92.00; 4819.20.10; 6211.42.10; 6211.43.10; 6211.49.10; 7216.31.10; 7216.32.10; 7216.33.10; 7216.40.10; 7222; 7217.10.00; 7225.91.00; 7225.92.00; 7225.99.00; 7317.00.00; 7318.11.00; 7318.12.00; 7318.13.00; 7318.16.00;	Permanent Delegation of Kenya to the WTO (17 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019

7318.19.00; 7318.23.00; 7318.29.00; 7321.89.00; 9403.30.00; 9403.40.00; 9403.50.00; 9403.60.00; 9406.90.90)		
Increase of the import declaration fees (from 2% to 3.5%) on imports of certain finished goods	Permanent Delegation of Kenya to the WTO (17 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Imposition of a export levy (10%) on wet blue and crust. Exports to Eastern African Community (EAC) members exempted	Permanent Delegation of Kenya to the WTO (17 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019
Mexico		
Temporary increase of import tariffs (to 15%) on iron and steel and articles of iron or steel (186 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 72 and 73)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (24 May 2019) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 25 March 2019	Effective 26 March 2019, for 180 days
Increase of import tariffs (from 20% to 25%-30%) on certain footwear (6 tariff lines at 8-digit level in Chapter 64) and (from 20% to 25%) on 2 apparel and clothing accessories tariff lines (HS 6111.20.04; 6209.20.04)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (24 April 2019)	Effective 6 May 2019
Temporary increase of import tariffs (from 20% to 25%-30%) on certain footwear (28 tariff lines at 8-digit level in Chapter 64), and (from 20% to 25%) on certain articles of apparel and clothing accessories (64 tariff lines at 8-digit level in Chapters 61; 62; 63)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (24 April 2019)	Effective 6 May 2019, for 180 days
Temporary increase of import tariffs (from zero to 15%) on iron and steel (22 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapter 72) (tariffs subject to a gradual phase out: 10% effective 22 September 2021; 5% effective 22 September 2023; and zero effective 22 August 2024)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 October 2019)	Effective 22 September 2019
Temporary increase of import tariffs (to 15%) on iron and steel and articles of iron or steel (206 tariff lines at 8-digit level in HS Chapters 72 and 73) (tariffs subject to a gradual phase out: 10% effective 22 September 2021; 5% effective 22 September 2023; and zero effective 22 August 2024)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 October 2019)	Effective 22 September 2019
Temporary increase of import tariffs (to 15%) on certain products of iron or non-alloy steel (<i>planchón de acero</i>) (HS 7207.12.01; 7207.12.99; 7224.90.02)	Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 15 October 2019	Effective 15 October 2019
New Zealand		
Further 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 Chapters 39; 84; 87; 88; 89)	New Zealand – Climate Change (Emissions Trading Scheme) Amendment Regulations 2018	Effective 1 January 2019
Panama		
Amendment introduced to the list of products (e.g. rice; potatoes; onions; meat; new and used automobiles; new and used boats and planes; new and used heavy duty equipment; machinery for the mining industry and new and used self-propelled machinery) subject to mandatory prior consultation regarding their value by the National Customs Authority	Permanent Delegation of Panama to the WTO (1 October 2019)	Effective 26 August 2019
Philippines		
Withdrawal of tariff concessions on rice and	Permanent Delegation of the Philippines to the WTO (1 June 2019)	Effective 5 March 2019

<p>certain agricultural products relating to the special treatment for rice (WTO Waiver) (HS 1006.10; 1006.20; 1006.30; 1006.40; 0207.14; 0207.25; 0207.27; 0403.90; 0405.10; 0406.20; 1602.31; 2004.10; 2306.41; 2306.49; 0206.41; 0209.10; 0209.90; 0713.10; 0802.31; 0802.32; 0806.10; 1208.90; 1514.11; 1514.19; 1514.99)</p> <p>On 2 April 2019, the Republic Act 11203 took effect, and officially replaced the quantitative restrictions on rice (HS 1006) with tariffs. Subsequently, the law's Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRRs) were signed by the Secretaries of the Department of Agriculture (DA), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and were uploaded by the NEDA to the Official Gazette website on 8 April 2019. The IRRs took effect on 23 April 2019</p> <p>Modification of import tariff rates on certain agricultural products, e.g. meat and edible offal of the poultry of heading HS 0105, fresh, chilled or frozen</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of the Philippines to the WTO (31 October 2019)</p> <p>Permanent Delegation of the Philippines to the WTO (31 October 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 23 April 2019</p> <p>Effective 17 June 2019</p>
Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)		
<p>Increase of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. paints and varnishes; plastic and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof; safety glass, rear-view mirrors for vehicles; iron and steel; articles of iron and steel; aluminium and articles thereof; miscellaneous articles of base metal; machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical machinery and equipment; parts and accessories of motor vehicles; thermometers; instrument panel clocks and clocks of a similar type for vehicles and aircraft; and seats (HS Chapters 32; 39; 40; 70; 72; 73; 76; 83; 84; 85; 87; 90; 91; 94; 96)</p> <p>Temporary increase of import tariffs (from zero to 5%) on mixing or kneading machines (concrete or mortar mixers) (HS 8474.31.00)</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019)</p> <p>Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (25 October 2019)</p>	<p>Effective 9 November 2018</p> <p>Effective 21 August 2019 to 31 August 2021</p>
South Africa (for SACU – Southern African Customs Union Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa)		
<p>Increase of import tariffs on certain tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, seamless, of iron (other than cast iron) or steel (effective 12 July 2019) (HS 7304.19.10; 7304.19.90; 7304.23.10; 7304.23.90; 7304.29.90); (from zero to 10%) on flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, clad, plated or coated (HS 7210.11; 7210.12.10; 7210.12.90; 7212.10) (effective 16 August 2019); and (from zero to 40%) on disposable underwear of fabrics (HS 6210.10.50) (effective 24 May 2019) . Imports from the</p>	<p>Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (25 October 2019), and International Trade Administration Commission Notice Nos. R.751 – Government Gazette No. 42475 (24 May 2019), R. 984 – Government Gazette No. 42577 (12 July 2019) and R.1075 – Government Gazette No. 42640 (16 August 2019)</p>	<p>Effective: see individual dates in measure</p>

European Union, EFTA and Southern African Development Community (SADC) members exempted		
Extension of the Price Preference System (export licensing requirement) on the exports of ferrous and non-ferrous waste and scrap. System requiring exporters to first make it available to local consumers at a preference price, before exporting. When there are not valid offers by local consumers, export permits are issued freely (HS 7204; 7404; 7503; 7602; 7802; 7902; 8002; 8101; 8102; 8103; 8104; 8107; 8110; 8111; 8112)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (25 October 2019)	Effective 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020
Switzerland		
Temporary imposition of a fee (<i>émolument</i>) (CHF 7/100 kg) on imports of sugar (HS 1701.99.99)	Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the WTO (30 September 2019)	Effective 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2021
Temporary increase of the import quota (by 3,500 tonnes) on potatoes for consumption (HS 0701.90.10)	Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the WTO (17 October 2019)	Effective 1 May 2019 to 15 June 2019
Chinese Taipei		
Special safeguard measure (volume-based) on imports of garlic (HS 0703.20.10; 0703.20.90; 0712.90.40)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/168 , 4 January 2019	Effective 14 December 2018 to 31 December 2018
Special safeguard (volume-based) measure on imports of dried shiitake (HS 0712.39.20)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/169 , 18 January 2019	Effective 21 December 2018 to 31 December 2018
Special safeguard (volume-based) measure on imports of red beans (HS 0710.29.10; 0713.32.00; 1106.10.10; 2004.90.10; 2005.51.10; 2005.59.10; 2006.00.11; 2006.00.25)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/172 , 24 January 2019	Effective 21 December 2018 to 31 December 2018
Special safeguard (volume-based) measure on imports of other chicken cuts (HS 0207.11.00; 0207.12.00; 0207.13.19; 0207.14.19; 0210.99.19; 1602.32.20)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/176 , 26 February 2019	Effective 21 December 2018 to 31 December 2018
Special safeguard (volume-based) measure on imports of peanuts (HS 1202.30.10; 1202.30.20; 1202.41.00; 1202.42.00; 1208.90.11; 1208.90.21; 1508.10.00; 1508.90.00; 2008.11.11; 2008.11.12; 2008.11.91; 2008.11.92; 2008.19.42)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/171 , 23 January 2019	Effective 25 December 2018 to 31 December 2018
Special safeguard measure (volume-based) on imports of poultry offal (HS 0207; 0210; 0504; 1602)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/180 , 11 September 2019	Effective 23 August 2019 to 31 December 2019
Special safeguard 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/182 , 27 September 2019	Effective 10 September 2019 to 31 December 2019
Turkey		
Increase of import tariffs on certain products (by 15%) on producer gas or water gas generators; (to 7%) on aluminium cylinder heads; (by 5%-10%) on centrifugal pumps; (by 20%) on table, floor, wall, window, ceiling or roof fans, with a self-contained electric motor of an output not exceeding 125 W; (by 20%) on portable sprayers; (by 10%-20%) on machines for cleaning, sorting or grading seed, grain or dried leguminous vegetables, other machinery and its parts;	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (24 May 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

(by 11%) on machines which can carry out different types of machining operations without tool changes between such operations: with the automatic transfer of the workpiece between each operation, sawing machines (circular saws and others) and drilling or morticing machines; (by 20%) on automatic beverage-vending machines, incorporating heating or refrigerating devices; (by 20%) on mine detectors; (by 13%) on ozone therapy, oxygen therapy, aerosol therapy, artificial respiration or other therapeutic respiration apparatus (nebulizers); (by 25%) on alarm clocks and electrically operated wall clocks; (by 30%) on snorkels; (by 10%) on tubes, pipes and hoses, and fittings thereof (for example, joints, elbows, flanges), of plastics; baths, shower-baths, wash-basins, bidets, lavatory pans, seats and covers, flushing cisterns and similar sanitary ware of plastic; builders' wares of plastic; other uncoated paper and paperboard, in rolls or sheets; worked monumental or building stone (except slate) and articles thereof; articles of cement, of concrete or of artificial stone, whether or not reinforced; glass fibres (including glass wool) and articles thereof (for example, yarn, woven fabrics); structures (excluding prefabricated buildings of heading 9406) and parts of structures; cloth (including endless bands), grill, netting and fencing, of iron or steel wire; expanded metal of iron or steel; chain and parts thereof, of iron or steel; stoves, ranges, grates, cookers (including those with subsidiary boilers for central heating), barbecues, braziers, gas-rings, plate warmers and similar non-electric domestic appliances, and parts thereof, of iron or steel; monitors and projectors, not incorporating television reception apparatus; reception apparatus for televisions, whether or not incorporating radio-broadcast receivers or sound or video recording or reproducing apparatus; electrical apparatus for switching or protecting electrical circuits, or for making connections to or in electrical circuits; (by 15%) on insulated (including enamelled or anodized) wire, cable (including co-axial cable) and other insulated electric conductors, whether or not cable and other fitted with connectors; optical fibre cables, made up of individually sheathed fibres, whether or not assembled with electric conductors or fitted with connectors; (by 18%) on imitation jewellery of base metal, whether or not plated with precious metal; (by 15%-25%-30%) on

tricycles, scooters, pedal cars and similar wheeled toys; dolls' carriages; dolls; other toys; reduced-size "scale" models and similar recreational models, working or not; and puzzles of all kinds (effective December 2018); (from zero to 5%) on dates (effective 1 January 2019); and (by 5%-8%) on certain cotton yarns and synthetic yarns (effective 16 January 2019) (HS Chapters 08; 39; 48; 52; 54; 55; 68; 70; 71; 73; 84; 85; 90; 91; 95)		
Exports of copper waste and scrap subject to registration (HS 7404)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (9 October 2019)	Effective 18 April 2019
Support and Price Stabilization Fund deductions applied to exports of certain items, e.g. (TL 0.5/kg) on all kinds of animal skins and hides, including processed leather, and pickled leather, as well as chrome hides (excluding split leathers); (20% of the FOB export price) on chromium tanned leathers (HS 4101; 4102; 4103; 4104.11; 4104.19; 4105.10; 4106.21)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (22 October 2019)	Effective 10 May 2019
Increase of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. (from 13% to 27%) on sunflower seeds (effective 25 July 2019 to 1 February 2020); and (by 5%-8%) on certain cotton yarns (single yarn of uncombed fibres) (effective 22 August 2019) (HS 1206.00.91; 1206.00.99; 5205.31.00; 5205.32.00; 5205.33.00; 5205.34.00; 5205.35.00; 5205.41.00; 5205.42.00; 5205.43.00; 5205.44.00; 5205.46.00; 5205.47.00; 5205.48.00; 5206.31.00; 5206.32.00; 5206.33.00; 5206.34.00; 5206.35.00; 5206.41.00; 5206.42.00; 5206.43.00; 5206.44.00; 5206.45.00)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (22 October 2019)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Reduction of import tariffs on certain 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) (originally implemented on 21 June 2018, based on the suspension of substantially equivalent concessions and other obligations under GATT 1994 to the trade with the United States)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (22 October 2019)	Effective 21 May 2019

Ukraine		
Further extension of the temporary increase of export duties on waste and scrap of ferrous metals (HS 7204.10.00; 7204.30.00; 7204.41.10; 7204.41.91; 7204.41.99; 7204.49.10; 7204.49.30; 7204.49.90; 7204.50.00) (originally implemented on 15 September 2016, for one year)	Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to the WTO (16 May 2019)	Effective 5 April 2019
United States of America		
Extension and increase from 10% to 25% of <i>ad valorem</i> additional duty (originally implemented on 24 September 2018) on products of China (5,733 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)	Office of the United States Trade Representative – Notice of Modification of Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation. Federal Register / Vol. 84 No. 90 (20459) (9 May 2019) . Viewed at: https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/enforcement/301Investigations/84_FR_20459.pdf and https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-09-21/pdf/2018-20610.pdf	Effective 10 May 2019
Modification to the list of beneficiary developing countries under the Trade Act of 1974, resulting in the termination of Turkey's designation as a beneficiary developing country	Presidential Document, Proclamation 9887 of 16 May 2019, Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 98 (No. 23425) (21 May 2019) . Viewed at: https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/Proc_9887_Turkey_GSP_Termination.pdf	Effective 17 May 2019
Modification to the list of beneficiary developing countries under the Trade Act of 1974, resulting in the termination of India's designation as a beneficiary developing country	The White House – Presidential Proclamations. Viewed at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-modify-list-beneficiary-developing-countries-trade-act-1974-2/	Effective 5 June 2019
Imposition of an additional duty of 25% on certain products from China (3,229 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 01; 02; 04; 05; 06; 07; 08; 09; 10; 12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 24; 26; 27; 28; 29; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 38; 39; 40; 41; 43; 44; 48; 49; 52; 53; 54; 55; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 76; 82; 83; 84; 85; 87; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97)	Permanent Delegation of the United States to the WTO (28 October 2019), and USTR Press Releases (13 August 2019) . Viewed at: https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2019/august/ustr-announces-next-steps-proposed . USTR Statement on Section 301 Tariff Action regarding China (23 August 2019) . Viewed at: https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2019/august/ustr-announces-next-steps-proposed	Effective 1 September 2019

Recorded, but non-confirmed information³

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Algeria New import requirements for semi-knocked down (SKD) and completely knocked down (CKD) spare parts (HS 8708) for the local vehicle assembly lines. Imports limited to a certain threshold, with a view to restoring balance-of-payments	Press reports referring to Actualité – Ministère de l'Industrie et des Mines (May 2019)	Effective June 2019
Angola Imposition on non-automatic import licensing requirements on imports of "selected national products"	Press reports referring to Décret Présidentiel No. 23/19 (14 January 2019)	
Burkina Faso Import ban on certain food products	All Africa (11 September 2019)	
Iraq Temporary import ban on certain locally produced products, e.g. garlic, pepper, eggplants, carrots, cauliflower, lettuces, oranges, eggs, dates, meat and edible offal, ice creams, and certain beverages (HS 0703.20; 0709.60; 0207.11; 0207.12; 0207.13; 0207.14; 0407; 2105.00; 0804.10)	Press reports referring to Ministry of Agriculture Announcements (April 2019)	
Niger Import ban on certain food products	All Africa (11 September 2019)	
Nigeria Import ban on certain food products from Benin	All Africa (11 September 2019)	
Tunisia Imposition of non-automatic import licensing requirements on certain products	Press reports referring to Ministry of Trade Communication (November 2018)	
Imposition of quantitative restrictions on imports of	Press reports referring to Ministry of	

certain products	Trade Communication (November 2018)	
United States of America		
Termination of suspension of Title III of the Cuba Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (Libertad) Act of 1996 "Helms-Burton Act". Title III allows parties whose property was confiscated by the Cuban Government in 1959 to sue in U.S. courts companies and individuals who "traffic" in the property in question. The Act prevented individuals and companies from engaging in international trade with Cuba by subjecting foreign nationals to travel restrictions and financial liabilities in the United States	US Department of State, Press Releases (17 April 2019) . Viewed at: https://www.state.gov/remarks-to-the-press-11	Effective 2 May 2019
Viet Nam		
Increase of import taxes (from 2% to 3%) on unwrought aluminium alloys (HS 7601.20.00)	Press reports referring to Import Tariff Book	

ANNEX 4

MEASURES AFFECTING TRADE IN SERVICES¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2018 TO MID-OCTOBER 2019)

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source
MEASURES AFFECTING VARIOUS SECTORS			
Algeria (Observer)			
The government abolished the rule that limited maximum foreign capital ownership in non-strategic sectors to 49%.	Mode 3	All sectors	Viewed at: https://www.lesoirdalgerie.com/actualites/fin-de-la-regle-51-49-pour-les-investisseurs-etrangers-en-algerie-30125
Belgium			
Flemish legislation on safeguarding the strategic interests of the Flemish Community and Flemish Region ("Bestuursdecreet") of 7 December 2018: If a legal act by a government body results in foreign natural or legal persons gaining power of control or decision-making power in that government body, and if the strategic interests of the Flemish Community or the Flemish Region are threatened as a result, viz. if the continuity of vital processes is jeopardised, if certain strategic or sensitive knowledge is in danger of falling into foreign hands or if the strategic independence of the Flemish Community or the Flemish Region is compromised, the Government of Flanders may annul this legal act or declare it inapplicable. The Government of Flanders may only apply this measure if it can demonstrate that it has attempted to achieve the safeguarding of strategic interests with the consent of the government body concerned.	Mode 3	All sectors	Official Publication ("Belgisch Staatsblad") number: 2018032457 page: 100723 Viewed at: http://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/cgi_loi/change_le.pl?language=nl&la=N&cn=2018120705&table_name=wet
Brazil			
Brazil adopted a new legal framework for the use of private data. The law aims to protect personal data, whether obtained by electronic or physical means, or by the public or private sector. The law applies to any data processing operation occurring in Brazil, regardless of the location of the entity conducting the operation or holding the data. The law provides that the collection, use or processing of personal data can be conditioned on first obtaining the explicit consent of the data subject. Data subjects have the right to access, rectify, cancel or exclude their data. Under the law, companies must ensure that personal data receives adequate protection when transferred abroad. Data transfers are allowed under a number of circumstances, including when transfers are made to countries offering	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	General Law on the Protection of Private Data (Federal Law 13709/2018) Viewed at: https://www.idsupra.com/legalnews/gdpr-inspired-data-protection-heads-to-35738

adequate protection, when the regulator specifically approves the transfer, or after the data subject has consented. Further details are to be further specified by the regulator. The law also establishes a national data protection authority, an independent federal agency that will be responsible for regulation of data protection, including monitoring and enforcement.			
Burkina Faso			
The government adopted a new law on investment, which aims to improve conditions for domestic and foreign investors. Among other things, the new law seeks to promote investment in strategic sectors, including green and renewable energies and handicrafts, by relaxing the criteria relating to the investment threshold and the number of jobs created.	Mode 3	All sectors	Investment Code Viewed at: https://www.assembleenationale.bf/sqjp.nhq?article855
Cambodia			
The National Assembly adopted a new e-commerce law, which aims to facilitate and regulate online business operations, domestically and cross-border.	Multiple modes	Internet and other network-enabled services	E-commerce Law Viewed at: https://www.phnompenhpost.com/business/na-approves-e-commerce-draft-law
China			
The government reduced the number of sectors where foreign investment is either prohibited or restricted ('negative list'). The 2019 National Negative List now contains 40 restricted and prohibited activities, 8 less than in 2018. Modifications include: - elimination of the limit on foreign shareholding in domestic shipping agencies; - removal of the 50% foreign shareholding limit on domestic multi-party communication, store-and-forward and call center businesses; - Removal of the foreign shareholding restriction on the construction and operation of cinemas and on performance brokerage institutions (This limit had previously been liberalized in free trade zones); - Removal of the requirement that the Chinese party hold controlling shares in gas and heat-supply pipe network companies of cities with population of more than 500,000.	Mode 3	Selected sectors	Special Administrative Measures on Access of Foreign Investments (Negative List) (2019) Viewed at: http://wzs.mofcom.gov.cn/article/n/201906/20190602876999.shtml
In the Industrial Guidance Catalogue for Encouragement of Foreign Investment (2019), China expanded or	Mode 3	Selected sectors	Industrial Guidance Catalogue for Encouragement of Foreign Investment (2019 Encouraged Catalogue) Viewed at: http://wzs.mofcom.gov.cn/article/n/201906/20190602877005.shtml

revised 'encouraged' activities in service sectors, including cold-chain logistics, e-commerce, artificial intelligence, clean production and recycling economy. China also expanded 'encouraged' activities, including medical institutions and tourism information service.			
On 15 March 2019, China adopted its new Foreign Investment Law, aiming to provide a better business environment for foreign investments. The law will replace the three existing laws on Chinese-foreign equity joint ventures, wholly foreign-owned enterprises and Chinese-foreign contractual joint ventures. The new law aims to further encourage foreign investment in China and to strengthen the protection of the legal rights and interests of foreign investors and foreign invested-enterprises. Pre-establishment national treatment shall be applied to foreign investments under a negative list, with the objective of promoting a level playing field that is stable, transparent and predictable, and ensuring that foreign-invested enterprises participate in market competition on an equal basis.	Mode 3	All sectors	Order of the President of the PRC No. 26: Foreign Investment Law
Côte d'Ivoire			
The government adopted a new Investment Code, which provides various fiscal incentives to foreign investors, including in relation to the use of local content. Certain benefits are only available to companies that open at least 15% of their capital to nationals. The new measure also provides for the creation of a specific agency to promote investment and act as principal link between investors and the government.	Mode 3	All sectors	Decrees of 18 December 2018 pursuant to Ordinance No. 2018-646 of 1 August 2018 on the Investment Code. Viewed at: https://afrimage.net/nouveau-code-des-investissements-en-cote-divoire-focus-sur-les-principales-innovations
Egypt			
New measures have been adopted in relation to the management of enterprises in Egypt. A first measure removes the requirement that limited liability companies in Egypt appoint at least one manager of Egyptian nationality. A second measure requires	Modes 3-4	All sectors	Decree No. 256 amending Article 281 of the executive resolution of the Companies' Law No. 159 Decree No 60 of Egypt's General Authority for Investment and Free Zones Viewed at: https://www.gafi.gov.eg/english/MediaCenter/News/Pages/default.aspx

non-resident companies with a representative office in Egypt to decide, three years from the date the office was registered, to establish either a company or a branch. The new requirement does not apply to representative offices of banks.			
European Union			
<p>The European Parliament and the Council adopted, on 20 June 2019, the Regulation on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services. The regulation applies to online platforms and search engines, irrespective of where they are established, that service businesses in the EU that offer goods or services to consumers in the EU. The Regulation contains new information and redress rights for businesses, while platforms will benefit from a single, EU-wide regime. It includes:</p> <p>(i) harmonised transparency obligations to provide predictability for business users as well as for platforms on issues such as ranking and access to personal or other data received or generated by the platform; platforms are also required to give proportionate notice of at least 15 days for changes to the terms and conditions applying to the platform; platforms also have to provide business users with a reasonably detailed explanation for any decision to suspend or terminate that user's account;</p> <p>(ii) a prohibition of specific unfair practices to provide contractual stability by harmonising at EU level existing national private law concepts such as termination rights and bans on retro-active changes;</p> <p>(iii) bilateral redress mechanisms to immediately reduce 'friction' in commercial relations by introducing procedural obligations on internal dispute settlement and mediation;</p> <p>(iv) representative standing of business associations in court to overcome any enforcement challenges that may result from the</p>	Modes 1-3	Internet and network-based services.	<p>Regulation (EU) 2019/1150 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services</p> <p>Viewed at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/1150/oj</p>

application of private international law; (v) additional public enforcement by Member States, including measures to address infringements; (vi) short review cycles (18 months) .			
The European Parliament and the Council adopted, on 20 June 2019, a new Directive on open data and the re-use of public sector information. The new Directive replaces the public sector information (PSI) Directive of 2003 (amended 2013), and will stimulate the publishing of dynamic data and the uptake of Application Programme Interfaces (APIs), limit the exceptions which currently allow public bodies to charge more than the marginal costs of dissemination for re-use, enlarge the scope to data held by public undertakings and to research data from public funding, and facilitate the re-usability of research data contained in open repositories. The Directive will also make high-value datasets (to be identified by the European Commission in an implementing act) available free of charge for re-use.	Multiple modes	All sectors	Directive (EU) 2019/1024 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on open data and the re-use of public sector information Viewed at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/1024/oj
The European Union adopted a framework for the screening of foreign direct investments into the EU. The new regulation does not require EU member states to implement an FDI screening mechanism. However, existing or future mechanisms at the member state level are required to meet certain basic screening requirements, such as judicial review of decisions, non-discrimination between different third countries, and transparency. The regulation sets out a non-exhaustive list of factors that may be taken into account to determine whether foreign investments pose a risk to security or public order, including the impact on critical infrastructure, critical technologies, the supply of critical inputs, access to, and ability to control, sensitive information, and freedom and	Mode 3	All sectors	Regulation 2019/452 of 19 March 2019 Viewed at: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2008

<p>pluralism of the media.</p> <p>The regulation also establishes a cooperation mechanism whereby Member States and the Commission will be able to exchange information and raise concerns related to specific investments. The Commission will also be allowed to issue opinions when an investment poses a threat to the security or public order of more than one Member State, or when an investment could undermine a project or programme of interest to the whole EU.</p>			
France			
<p>A law adopted in July 2019 subjects enterprises that conduct significant digital activities (€750 million of digital services taxable worldwide and €25 million of digital services taxable in France) to a 3% tax on digital revenues accruing in France. Digital services concerned are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the provision of digital interfaces allowing users to interact online; - the provision of services to advertisers aimed at putting on digital interfaces targeted advertising messages using users' data. <p>The tax applies for revenues generated from 2019, with the first interim payment due in November 2019.</p>	Mode 1	Digital services	<p>Law No. 2019-759 of 24 July 2019</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jo_pdf.do?id=JORFTEXT000038811588 </p>
<p>A law adopted on 22 May 2019 modified the review mechanism for foreign investments. The new measure reinforces both injunction and sanction powers of the Minister of the Economy in case an investment has been made without prior authorization or in case of breach of the conditions attached to an authorization. For example, if the protection of public order, public security or national defence is likely to be jeopardized, the Minister of the Economy can take, among other things, interim measures, including suspending the investor's voting rights in the company, prohibiting or limiting the distribution of dividends, and limiting the free</p>	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>Law No. 2019-486 of 22 May 2019</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jo_pdf.do?id=JORFTEXT000038496102 </p>

disposal of the investor's assets. Furthermore, the new measure strengthens the transparency of the French screening mechanism by introducing a parliamentary control and an obligation for the French Government to publish an annual report including aggregated statistics about the implementation of this policy.			
On 29 November 2018, the government amended its foreign investment regime by extending the requirement of a prior authorisation to investments in activities related to new strategic sectors. These include: space operations; R&D activities in cybersecurity; artificial intelligence; robotics, additive manufacturing and semiconductors; data storage in connection with public security; IT systems participating in guaranteeing the security of operators of vital importance.	Mode 3	Various sectors	Decree No. 2018-1057 Viewed at: https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=f65e10a4-5298-41db-8ffc-38980c0253c1
Germany			
The government amended the foreign investment regime. It lowered, from 25% to 10% of voting rights, the threshold for screening acquisitions by non-EU/EFTA investors in certain sectors: specific operators of critical infrastructure; developers of software in relation to the operation of critical infrastructure in specific sectors; companies monitoring telecommunications; providers of cloud computing services; providers of telematics in the health sector; media companies critical for the formation of public opinion.	Mode 3	Various sectors	Amendment to the Foreign Trade Regulation Viewed at: https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3337/germany-germany-expands-the-scope-of-its-fdi-screening-regime
Hungary			
The government adopted a new law providing for the national security review of foreign investment by non-EU/EFTA investors in sensitive activities. 'Sensitive activities' include defence, dual use products, cryptography and wire-tapping products, financial services, energy, government registries and the electronic communications sector. The screening will apply	Mode 3	All sectors	Act LVII of 2018 on the screening of foreign investments harming Hungary's security interests; Implementing Government Decree No. 246/2018 Viewed at: https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=0d91687c-0809-46c0-86c2-1142e878e84a

to: acquisition of over 25% of ownership (10% for public company limited by shares) in a Hungarian entity; establishment of a branch in Hungary; obtention of the right to operate or use infrastructure or other assets essential for national security.			
India			
India allowed foreign companies in the defence, telecom, information and broadcasting, and private security sectors to open branch offices, liaison offices, project offices or any other place of business in India, provided an approval has been obtained from the regulator and the ministry concerned. Approval of the Reserve Bank of India is no longer required.	Mode 3	Selected sectors	Foreign Exchange Management (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 Viewed at: https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3363/india-india-eases-requirements-for-foreign-investment-in-certain-sectors
India announced new conditions in relation to its FDI policy on e-commerce. The new measure provides that e-commerce marketplaces cannot sell on their platform the products of companies in which they have equity interests or in which they control the inventory. E-commerce marketplaces are information technology platforms that connect buyers and sellers. In addition, e-commerce marketplace entities cannot mandate any seller to sell any product exclusively on its platform.	Mode 3	E-commerce	Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Press Note 2, 2018 Viewed at: http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1562493
Indonesia			
The government decided to revoke a regulation on e-commerce taxes that was intended to be enforced from 1 April 2019. Finance Ministerial Regulation (PMK) No. 210/2018, which was signed on Dec. 31, required online marketplace operators to report details of each seller's turnover, mandated online sellers to register for a tax payer number, and set out taxes to be paid by online sellers.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	Revocation of Finance Ministerial Regulation (PMK) No. 210/2018 Viewed at: https://www.thejakartapost.com/academia/2019/04/01/welcoming-the-revocation-of-e-commerce-tax-regulation.html
Japan			
On 27 May 2019, the government added businesses subject to the requirement of submitting prior notification concerning inward direct investment under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act. Investors in the types of businesses covered by the provisions are required to submit the transaction with Japanese authorities before investing. Activities newly added to the coverage of the provisions include wired broadcasting and telephony, software development, information processing, mobile and other telecommunication	Mode 3	Selected sectors	Public Notice Specifying Business Types Pursuant to the Provisions of Article 3, Paragraph (4) of the Order on Inward Direct Investment (Public Notice of the Cabinet Office No 1 of 2014, as amended by public notice dated 27 May 2019) . Viewed at: https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/japan-is-tightening-regulations-32820

services, and Internet support services.			
Korea, Rep. of			
The government now requires certain offshore IT providers to designate a domestic representative in Korea in order to comply with personal data protection rules.	Modes 1-2	Internet and other network-enabled services	Amendments to the Act on the Promotion of IT Network Use and Information Protection Viewed at: https://news.bloomberglaw.com/privacy-and-data-security/south-korea-privacy-law-changes-may-help-eu-data-transfer-talks
Nepal			
The government adopted a new law that reforms the legal framework for foreign investment in Nepal. In the context of this new law, the government raised the minimum threshold for foreign investment from Rs 5 million to Rs 50 million. Among modifications, the new law introduces a single point of service for foreign investors. The measure replaces the previous law of 1992. As in the previous law, foreign investment is only permissible in sectors appearing in a 'positive' list, while foreign investment in sectors figuring in a 'negative list' is explicitly prohibited. The new law provides for an 'automatic route' in relation to foreign investment approval, but this would only be given effect after additional regulations.	Mode 3	All sectors	Foreign Investment and Technology Transfer Act 2019 Viewed at: https://www.neupanelegal.com/news-detail/new-foreign-investment-act-nepal-2019.html https://kathmandupost.com/money/2019/06/04/rs-50-million-minimum-threshold-for-foreign-investment-invites-criticism-from-private-sector
Nigeria			
The Nigeria Information Technology Department Agency (NITDA) issued the Data Protection Regulation. The new regulation extends to all organisations processing the personal data of natural persons in Nigeria and natural persons of Nigerian descent residing in foreign countries. For the processing of data to be considered lawful, at least one of the following must apply: the data subject has provided consent; processing is for the performance of a contract, is required for compliance with a legal obligation, is required for the protection of the vital interest of a data subject or another natural person, or it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. The regulation provides for transfer	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	Data Protection Regulation Viewed at: http://www.mondag.com/Nigeria/x/781658/Data+Protection+Privacy/The+NITDA+Data+Protection+Regulation+A+Watershed+In+The+Protection+Of+Personal+Data+In+Nigeria

of data abroad, but gives the Attorney General the power to determine which third countries provide adequate data protection laws. If the Attorney General has not issued decisions on adequacy, data may only be transferred to another country under certain conditions, including if the data subject has consented.			
Oman			
On 1 July 2019, Oman published in the official gazette a new law that aims to streamline procedures and remove obstacles to foreign investment. The new framework no longer requires foreign investors to have local Omani partners, in activities to be specified in future regulations. The law does not specify an upper foreign investment limit. An economic viability study, approved by the Ministry, may be required before investment. Once established, companies receiving foreign investment will be treated the same as locally-owned companies.	Mode 3	All sectors	Foreign Capital Investment Law (Royal Decree 50/2019) Viewed at: https://timesofoman.com/article/1781564/Oman/New-investment-law-from-January-2020
Panama			
The government adopted a new law on personal data protection. For the processing of personal data to be lawful, the prior, informed, and unequivocal consent of the data subject must be obtained. The law also establishes other data subject rights, including the right to access personal data that is stored or subject to processing; the right to request the rectification or cancellation of personal data that is incorrect, irrelevant, incomplete, outdated, inaccurate, false, or impertinent; the right to refuse to provide personal data or have it subject to certain treatment, as well as to revoke consent; and the right to data portability.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	Law No. 81 on Personal Data Protection Viewed at: https://www.panamacara.com/lev-81-de-2019
Philippines			
The government relaxed limitations on foreign investment in selected sectors. Changes to the 'negative list', which set out sectors where foreign investors face restrictions, are as follows: - permit up to 100% foreign ownership of: Internet businesses; teaching at higher education levels (provided the subject being taught is not a	Mode 3	All sectors	Executive Order no. 65 – Revision of Foreign Investment Negative List of the Foreign Investment Act if 1991 Viewed at: https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2018/10/29/executive-order-no-65-s-2018

<p>professional); training centres for short term high-level skills development that do not form part of the formal education system; adjustment companies; lending and financing companies; investment houses; and wellness centers;</p> <p>- increasing from 25% to 40% the limit on foreign equity in contracts for the construction and repair of certain locally-funded public works;</p> <p>- increasing from 20% to 40% the foreign ownership limit in private radio communications networks.</p>			
Qatar			
<p>A new law allows wholly-owned foreign investments in most economic sectors. It abolishes the previous requirement to have a local partner holding at least 51% of the shares in any limited liability company or acting as sponsor.</p> <p>The sectors excluded from this new legal framework for foreign investment are: banking, insurance, commercial agency activities, security and defence, and other sectors as decided by the Council of Ministers.</p> <p>The new law also increases to 49% the maximum foreign ownership in listed companies on Qatar Exchange, subject to approval by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Executive regulations to detail application are to be issued at a later stage.</p>	Mode 3	Various sectors	<p>Law No. 1 of 2019 regulating the investment of non-Qatari capital in economic activity</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.gulf-times.com/story/618609/Law-regulating-investment-of-non-Qatari-capital-to</p>
Russian Federation			
<p>A new Federal Law envisages a number of measures aimed to ensure the safe and stable operation of the Internet on the territory of the Russian Federation. The law, in particular, defines the necessary rules for routing telecommunication messages and provides for the monitoring of compliance with them.</p>	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	<p>Law on ensuring safe and stable operation of the Internet in Russia</p> <p>Viewed at: http://en.kremlin.ru/acts/news/60430</p>
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of			
<p>The Council of Ministers decided to allow foreign investment in four new sectors: road transport; real estate brokerage; audiovisual services; recruitment and related services.</p>	Mode 3	Selected sectors	<p>Viewed at: http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/546329</p>

Previously, these sectors were on the Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority's (SAGIA) 'negative list', where foreign investment was prohibited.			
<p>Saudi Arabia published, on 24 July 2019, a new e-commerce law. The law aims to protect consumers by regulating e-commerce suppliers located in Saudi Arabia and those located outside of Saudi Arabia who offer goods and services to customers in the Kingdom.</p> <p>The law allows persons with no commercial registration to undertake e-commerce activities, subject to regulations requiring them to identify their place of business, ensure the protection of consumer data and the privacy of business transactions, and address product delivery delays. The law provides that digital advertising by e-commerce service suppliers constitutes supplementary contractual terms. Implementing regulations will later be issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Investment.</p>	Modes 1-3	Multiple sectors	<p>E-commerce Law 2019 (Royal Decree No. M/126) of 7.11.1440H (10 July 2019)</p> <p>Viewed at: http://saudi Gazette.com.sa/article/571438</p>
<p>The Capital Market Authority issued new rules in June 2019 that removed the 49% foreign ownership limit for investment in listed securities by 'foreign strategic investors'. To qualify as 'foreign strategic investors', foreign legal entities must, among other things, own a 'strategic shareholding' in companies listed on the Saudi stock exchange. Such foreign investors must hold the shares for two years before they can sell.</p>	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>Instructions for the Foreign Strategic Investors Ownership in Listed Companies (FSI Instructions) .</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-investment/saudi-arabia-relaxes-ownership-limits-for-foreign-investors-idUSKCN1TR1SS https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Instructions-FSI-Ownership-Listed-Companies-en.pdf</p>
South Africa			
<p>Changes to Competition Act give the President the power to establish a list of national security interests and to establish a committee to review inward foreign investment to safeguard South Africa's essential security interests.</p>	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>Competition Amendment Act 18 of 2018</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2019/03/widespread-amendments-to-south-africa</p>
Thailand			
<p>The Ministry of Commerce issued a new regulation on minimal</p>	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>Ministerial Regulation Prescribing the Minimum Capital and Period for Bringing or Remitting the Minimum Capital into Thailand (No.4) B.E. 2019</p> <p>Viewed at:</p>

<p>capital investment rules for foreign investors. Among other things, it provides that a foreign investor operating a business in Thailand that is covered by certain agreements to which the country is party (agreements with the United States, Australia, Japan and the ASEAN) must bring or remit the minimum capital by no later than 29 August 2019.</p> <p>For foreign-owned companies not covered under one of these agreements, the minimum capital requirements and payment schedules remain unchanged. For foreign-owned companies not subject to a foreign business licence, the requirement is of THB 2 million. For companies subject to a foreign business licence, the necessary minimum capital requirement is 25% of the average estimated expenses over three years of operation or THB 3 million, whichever is higher.</p>			<p>https://www.tilleke.com/resources/updated-minimum-capital-provisions-foreign-companies-thailand</p> <p>https://silklegal.com/minimum-capital-requirements-for-foreign-companies-in-thailand-updated</p>
<p>The Ministry of Commerce issued a new regulation that exempts certain services activities from the 49% foreign ownership limit under the Foreign Business Act. As a result, foreign investors can operate the following businesses without having to obtain a foreign business licence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - domestic lending of money to affiliates or intra-group entities; - rental of office space provided along with public utilities to affiliated or intra-group entities; - consulting services in management, marketing, human resources, and information technology to affiliated or intra-group entities. 	Mode 3	Selected sectors	<p>Ministerial Regulation Prescribing Service Businesses Which Do Not Require a Foreign Business License (No.4) B.E. 2019</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.tilleke.com/resources/thailand-clarifies-service-business-activities-exempted-foreign-business-restrictions </p>
<p>Thailand's Board of Investment took a series of measures aimed at promoting investment in the country (see 'source') .</p>	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>Announcement of the Board of Investment No.3/B.E. 2562 (2019): Designation of Science and technology parks; Announcement of the Office of the Board of Investment No. Por. 7/B.E. 2562 (2019): Right and benefit of corporate income tax exemption or reduction; Announcement of the Office of the Board of Investment No. Por. 7/B.E. 2562 (2019): Right and benefit of corporate income tax exemption or reduction</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.boi.go.th/index.php?page=press_releases </p>
<p>On 28 February 2019, the National Legislative Assembly approved the Personal Data Protection Act and the Cybersecurity Act.</p> <p>The new data protection law 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.</p> <p>Data controllers must inform the data subject of the purpose for the collection of personal data, and obtain the data subject's consent.</p>	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	<p>Personal Data Protection Act Cybersecurity Act</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.mdes.go.th https://silklegal.com/thailands-personal-data-protection-act-approved-as-law </p>

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, except in certain cases such as for the performance of actions prescribed by law or when consent has been obtained from the data subject. The Cybersecurity Act aims to ensure that computer systems and networks from the country's Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) are safe from cyber incidents and can operate efficiently. The law will force a CII operation to comply with international standards. Under the law, the National Cyber Security Agency will be established. This Agency will support the CII to set up standards and fight cyber-attacks.			
Thailand's Board of Investment took a series of measures aimed at promoting investment in the country (see 'source') .	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>Announcement of the Board of Investment No. 10/ B.E. 2561 (2018): Special Measure to Accelerate Investments in Thailand Investment Year;</p> <p>Announcement of the Board of Investment No. Sor 6/B.E. 2561 (2018): Promotion of International Business Center;</p> <p>Announcement of the Board of Investment No. Ngor 1/B.E. 2561 (2018): Cancellation of investment promotion for activity 7.5 and activity 7.6;</p> <p>Announcement of the Office of the Board of Investment No. Por. 12/B.E. 2561 (2018): Qualifications, Criteria, and Conditions for Smart Visa;</p> <p>Announcement of the Board of Investment No. Sor. 8/B.E. 2561 (2018): Amendment of the list of activities eligible for investment promotion under the Announcement of the Board of Investment No. 2/ B.E. 2557 (2014) .</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.boi.go.th/index.php?page=press_releases </p>
Uganda			
The new Data Protection and Privacy Act aims to protect individual privacy and personal data by regulating the collection and processing of personal data, as well as imposing obligations on data controllers and processors. The Act introduces principles on lawful and adequate processing, accuracy of data records, the consent of data subjects, and establishes a personal data protection office under the National Information Technology Authority of Uganda. Moreover, the Act provides that unlawfully obtaining, disclosing or selling personal data is subject to penalties whereby corporations may be fined up to 2% of their annual gross turnover.	Modes 1-3	Internet and other network-enabled services	<p>Data Protection and Privacy Act</p> <p>Viewed at: https://ulii.org/ug/legislation/act/2019/1 </p>
United Arab Emirates			
The Federal Cabinet approved 122 economic activities across 13 sectors that are eligible for 100% foreign ownership. This decision follows the adoption of a new	Mode 3	Selected sectors	<p>Viewed at: https://bsabh.com/100-foreign-ownership-for-13-sectors-in-the-uae </p>

<p>law on foreign direct investment in 2018 that had allowed for full foreign ownership, but had not detailed the sectors in the 'positive list'.</p> <p>Sectors on the positive list include: renewable energy; transport and storage; hospitality and food services; information and communications; professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support services; educational activities; healthcare; art and entertainment; and construction services.</p>			
 <p>Image A new FDI Law allows up to 100% foreign ownership in certain sectors. Under the previous law, foreign ownership in 'onshore' UAE companies was limited to 49%, unless decided otherwise by Cabinet.</p> <p>The new law establishes a negative list setting out the sectors where foreign investment is not allowed, and a positive list of sectors where it is allowed. Sectors on the negative list include insurance and banking; water and electricity; air and land transport services; post, audiovisual and telecommunication services; and retail trade of medical products, including pharmacies. The FDI Law does not yet detail the sectors in the positive list. Sectors to be listed will indicate the percentage of foreign ownership allowed (between 49% and 100%) and whether restrictions on the type of legal entity, minimum capital requirements, or requirements of the employment of nationals are imposed.</p>	Mode 3	Various sectors	Federal Decree-Law no. 19 of 2018 on Foreign Direct Investment ("FDI Law")
United States			
<p>The government announced that it ceased the suspension of Title III of the Cuba Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (Libertad) Act of 1996 "Helms-Burton Act". Title III allows parties whose property was confiscated by the Cuban Government in 1959 to sue in U.S. courts companies and individuals who "traffic" in the property in question. The Act prevented individuals and companies from engaging in international trade with Cuba by subjecting foreign nationals to travel</p>	All modes	All sectors	<p>US Department of State, Press Releases (17 April 2019) .</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.state.gov/remarks-to-the-press-11</p>

restrictions and financial liabilities in the United States.			
Viet Nam			
<p>The National Assembly adopted, on 13 June 2019, the Law on Tax Administration, which introduces a new taxation regime for foreign service suppliers, including in relation to e-commerce activities.</p> <p>Among modifications brought by the new law, banks and foreign suppliers not established in Viet Nam have to file and pay taxes in Viet Nam for e-commerce activities that generate income in Viet Nam. The State Bank of Viet Nam is required to develop a nation-wide e-payment system for e-commerce platforms, and banks have to identify transactions subject to the law, impose a withholding tax on the transactions and remit the proceeds to tax authorities.</p>	Mode 1	Internet and other network-enabled services	<p>Law on Tax Administration</p> <p>Viewed at: https://home.kpmg/us/en/home/insights/2019/07/tmf-vietnam-taxation-e-commerce-transactions-implications-banks.html</p>
TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ICT/AUDIOVISUAL SERVICES			
Afghanistan			
<p>The President approved regulations for the creation of the Afghanistan High Council of Telecommunications and Information Technology (AHCTIT), which will guide national telecommunications projects. The council is tasked with promoting the sustainable development of ICT applications at the national level.</p>	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	<p>Presidential Decree No. 460</p> <p>Viewed at: https://mcit.gov.af/node/7405</p>
Australia			
<p>A new law was adopted to create a modern framework for Australian law enforcement and national security agencies to work with the communications industry to overcome technological obstacles to the use of data in the investigation of serious crimes. The law applies to <i>designated communications providers</i> (DCP), which includes Australian and foreign companies operating in the communications supply chain with at least one Australian end-user. The framework includes powers to request or compel assistance that is within a DCP's existing capability. DCPs may also be compelled to build a new capability if assistance required is beyond their</p>	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	<p>Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Act 2018. Viewed at: https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2018A00148</p>

existing capability. Use of the powers cannot require providers to implement a systemic weakness or vulnerability, build a decryption capability or prevent providers from patching vulnerabilities. When using the powers, the decision-maker must be satisfied that the assistance sought is "reasonable and proportionate" and whether compliance is "practicable and technically feasible." The law does not create standing obligations on DCPs.			
Brazil			
Brazil's President signed a law aiming to modernize the country's regulatory regime for telecommunication services. It lifts restrictions on asset sales, and seeks to encourage investment in broadband in remote areas of Brazil by allowing companies to own outright telecom assets, such as cell towers and real estate.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	PLC no. 79/2016 Viewed at: https://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-telecoms/brazils-bolsonaro-signs-telecoms-law-to-boost-sector-idUSL2N26P1MK
The National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel) approved a plan to help expand broadband access in Brazil by coordinating investment from the public and private sectors. The Structural Plan for Telecommunications Networks (PERT) would become Anatel's formal instrument for implementing policies and serve as a reference for adjusting concessions and rebalancing obligations by operators.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Judgement nº 309/2019 Viewed at: https://www.anatel.gov.br/setorregulado/index.php/component/content/article?id=131
Chile			
Parliament adopted a bill requiring companies to offer roaming access to their networks to other operators that do not have coverage in certain areas of the country. The National Automatic Roaming (RAN) Bill aims to improve connectivity for remote communities. The legislation would allow users in these areas to connect to any network with coverage of the area, regardless of their service provider.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	National Automatic Mobile Roaming Bill (RAN Bill) Viewed at: https://pisapapeles.net/el-roaming-automatico-nacional-es-aprobado-por-el-senado
Colombia			
The President signed, on 25 July 2019, a new law	Multiple modes	Telecommunication and audiovisual services	Law 1978 of 2019, on the Modernization of the Information and Communications Technologies Sector Viewed at:


<p>aiming to simplify and modernise the regulatory framework for the information and communication technologies (ICT) sector.</p> <p>Before this measure, telecom services and television broadcasting services were regulated under two different laws. The new law consolidates the regulation of telecommunications and broadcast television under a single regulator. Among changes introduced, the ICT Ministry extends its oversight of quality of service obligations to television services, the term of licences for the use of radio spectrum is extended from 10 to 20 years, and licensing requirements for television services are harmonized.</p>			https://www.funcionpublica.gov.co/eva/gestornormativo/norma.php?i=98210
Egypt			
<p>Egypt's National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA) reached settlement agreements with three of the country's mobile network operators, ending 10 years of legal disputes with the mobile operators over interconnection rates.</p>	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	<p>Viewed at:</p> <p>http://www.tra.gov.eg/en/media-center/press-releases/Pages/ICT%20Minister%20Witnesses%20Signing%20Settlement%20Agreements%20between%20NTRA,%20Mobile%20Operators.aspx</p>
Ethiopia (Observer)			
<p>The Parliament adopted a new law to liberalize the telecommunication sector. It establishes the legal framework for a newly-created telecom regulatory authority that will issue new licences to private operators, without limits on foreign ownership. Currently, a state-owned company is the monopoly supplier.</p>	Multiple modes	Telecommunication services	<p>Communication Regulatory Proclamation</p> <p>Viewed at:</p> <p>https://www.theafricareport.com/14199/ethiopia-liberalised-telecom-sector-offers-opportunity-with-glitches</p>
<p>The Council of Ministers has issued a proclamation calling for the establishment of an independent federal government body to oversee the communications sector. Powers and duties to be assigned to the new body include: the issuing, modification and renewal of licences; the regulation of interconnection between providers; the supervision of radio spectrum and the authorisation of frequencies for commercial use;</p> <p>the regulation of tariffs; and the regulation of the types of telecoms</p>	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	<p>Proclamation for the regulation of communication service</p> <p>Viewed at:</p> <p>http://addisstandard.com/exclusive-ethiopia-to-establish-new-authority-to-regulate-telecommunication-service-see-copy-of-the-new-proclamation</p>

equipment that can be used.			
European Union			
The European Electronic Communications Code recasts four Directives into one single Directive (2018/1972) . The main provisions are on access, radio spectrum and end-users. On access, the Code maintains the designation of significant market power (SMP) as the basis for imposing <i>ex ante</i> regulation, puts emphasis on access to civil infrastructure and provides incentives for SMP operators which employ a wholesale-only model or engage in co-investments with rival operators. The Code ensures the availability of pioneer 5G radio spectrum by the end of 2020 in the EU and provides operators with predictability for at least 20 years in terms of spectrum licensing. The Code also harmonises end-user protection, for example for bundled services and for switching of providers and updates the universal service and emergency communications rules.	Modes 1-3	Communication services	<p>Directive (EU) 2018/1972 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.europeansources.info/record/directive-eu-2018-1972-establishing-the-european-electronic-communications-code</p>
Fiji			
The Parliament adopted the Online Safety Act 2018. The objectives of the new law are to promote responsible online behavior and online safety, and to encourage a safe online culture and environment that addresses cyberbullying, cyber stalking, Internet trolling and exposure to offensive or harmful content particularly in respect of children. Under the new measure, someone who "posts an electronic communication where posting the electronic communication causes harm to the individual" could be liable to a fine of FJD 9,400 and up to five years in prison.	Modes 1-3	Communication services	<p>Online Safety Act 2018</p> <p>Viewed at: http://www.fiji.gov.fj/getattachment/2b2f6f07-1016-48b5-9922-dc489cba1dd8/Act-8---Online-Safety-Act.aspx</p>
India			
On 28 August 2019, the government announced that up to 26% FDI was allowed for the uploading/streaming of news and current affairs through digital media.	Mode 3	Digital media services	<p>Press Note no. 4 of 2019, notifying amendments to the Consolidated Foreign Direct Investment Policy</p> <p>Viewed at: https://nib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=193277</p>
Italy			
The government adopted new rules in March 2019 that	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	<p>Law Decree No. 22/2019 of 25 March 2019, passed into law on 13 May 2019.</p> <p>Law Decree No. 64/2019 amending the Law Decree No. 21 of March 15 ("Golden Power Legislation") .</p>

added 5G-based communications services to the list of strategic assets for the purpose of the national security review process.			<p>Viewed at:</p> <p>https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=ef072174-4897-4f52-8506-64fac69187ff</p> <p>https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/italian-government-acts-to-strengthen-95951</p>
On 11 July, the government issued a decree spelling out its powers in infrastructure projects that involve the rollout of 5G telecoms network. An entity that enters in 5G-related goods or service contracts or acquires components for 5G networks from non-EU providers now needs to notify the contract in order to allow the government to assess national security risks.			
Japan			
Japan's Diet approved an amendment to the Telecommunications Business Act to facilitate fair competition in the mobile communication sector. The amendment prohibits mobile operators from offering discount for retail communication charges at the time of sale of mobile handsets. It also prohibits conditions which unduly constrain subscribers from cancelling contracts.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	<p>Amendment to the Telecommunications Business Law</p> <p>Viewed at:</p> <p>https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/05/business/bill-lower-mobile-phone-fees-japan-moves-forward/#.XML_z-Q7Z9A</p>
Kenya			
<p>The government introduced an excise duty tax of 15% on voice, SMS and Internet data services. Previously, a 10% tax on telephone services was imposed.</p> <p>The new measure also introduced a 20% excise duty rate on money transfer services by banks and other fees charged by financial institutions. Further, the excise duty on money transfer services by mobile phone providers was increased from 10% to 12%.</p>	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication and financial services	<p>Finance Bill 2018</p> <p>Viewed at:</p> <p>http://www.itwebafrica.com/ict-and-governance/256-kenya/244877-kenya-uhuru-slaps-tax-on-internet-and-money-transfer-charges</p>
Korea, Rep. of			
The government amended the telecommunications law in order to relax and simplify the regulatory framework. Among other things, it moves from a licensing regime to a registration system.	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	<p>Amendments to the Telecommunications Business Act.</p> <p>Viewed at:</p> <p>https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=0c776f48-6c3f-4067-a998-2cf62329c8f5</p>
Morocco			
A law was enacted that amends and supplements the Post and Telecommunications Act. It gives more power to the	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	<p>Law No. 121-12 amending Post and Telecommunications Act No. 24-96. Viewed at: http://www.leseco.ma/maroc/74772-telecoms-les-details-de-la-nouvelle-loi.html</p>

National Agency of Telecommunications Regulation (ANRT) and will allow the ANRT to impose penalties on operators of up to 2% of their turnover before tax in cases of infringement. The bill also addresses consumer protection, infrastructure sharing, and the integration of optical fibre infrastructure in buildings. It provides for the creation of a national roaming system.			
Niger			
The Council of Ministers adopted three decrees of the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and the Digital Economy. The first decree outlines the guidelines, priorities and funding for universal access. The second concerns the establishment and control of tariffs, including the terms and conditions operators may use to set rates for services provided to the public. The third decree contains general conditions for interconnection and access, including local loop unbundling.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: https://www.presidente.ne/conseils-des-ministres/2018/10/19/communiqué-du-conseil-des-ministres-du-vendredi-19-octobre-2018
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of			
The Communications and Information Technology Commission decided to remove restrictions relating to the single host provider and to introduce modifications and enhancements to the current system for issuing mobile virtual network operator licences.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Decision No. 1440/399 of the Communications and Information Technology Commission approving the 'Rules and Conditions for MVNO Services and IoT-VNO Services Provision'
Senegal			
The government adopted a new law on electronic communications, which replaced the 2011 law on telecommunications. The new measure aims to enhance the security and regulation necessary for the emergence of ICT, to foster higher quality service at reasonable prices, and to protect rights of services users. Among other things, the law expands the powers of the telecom regulator with respect to anticompetitive practices, and contains new requirements on the protection of privacy and personal data.	Multiple modes	Telecommunication services	Law No. 2018-28 of 12 December 2018 on Electronic Communications Viewed at: http://www.osiris.sn/Nouveau-code-des-communications.html
South Africa			
The government amended the Film	Modes 1 and 3	Internet and other network-enabled	Film and Publications Amendment Act 11 of 2019

and Publications Act, which extends the compliance and monitoring functions of the Film and Publication Board to online distributors, with a view to protecting children from disturbing and harmful content. The new measure provides for the establishment of an Enforcement Committee that will, among other things, regulate online distribution of films and games.		services	Viewed at: https://www.gov.za/documents/films-and-publications-amendment-act-11-2019-3-oct-2019-0000
Tanzania			
The Parliament adopted a new law giving the Tanzania Film Board the right to vet raw footage of foreign companies filming in the country. Foreign filmmakers are also required to submit a finished copy to get clearance before exiting the country and must allow the government to use the content to promote the country. <i>Failure to comply will leave the entity responsible for a fine of 5% of the production budget. The bill will be effective after approval by the President.</i>	Mode 3	Audiovisual services	Amendment Bill to the Tanzania Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments (No.3) Act 2019) Viewed at: https://www.africanews.com/2019/07/05/tanzania-passes-new-tough-law-on-foreign-films/
Turkey			
<p>The government adopted a new regulation that broadens the scope of broadcasting legislation to media services provided as over-the-top (OTT) services.</p> <p>The regulation establishes a new licensing regime for different types of online broadcasting services. It applies to foreign entities not established in Turkey if the broadcast is in Turkish and targets Turkey, if it includes commercial communications towards Turkey, or if the regulator determines the broadcasting law or international treaties are violated. Suppliers operating without a license may face penalties, including Internet access bans.</p> <p>Foreign entities would be required to establish a company in Turkey. Media service suppliers and Internet broadcast platforms operating subscription-based services must pay 0.5% of their annual net sales to the Turkish Radio and Television Supreme Council. Online suppliers must comply with the broadcast content rules of the</p>	Modes 1-3	Audiovisual services	Official Gazette No. 30849

broadcasting law (Law no. 6112) .			
The government introduced a tax on online advertising services. A 15% tax is applied to payments made to providers of online advertising services, or intermediaries of such services.	Modes 1-2	Online advertising services	Presidential Decree No. 476
United Kingdom			
The United Kingdom's regulator for communication services, Ofcom, issued a regulatory decision that will provide all telecoms providers access to the physical infrastructure owned by BT and operated by Openreach. This follows a review of both the physical infrastructure market and connections that are used by business broadband networks.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-1/review-physical-infrastructure-and-business-connectivity-markets
United States			
The Federal Communications Commission voted to modernise the regulatory framework for the 2.5GHz band to make the spectrum available for advanced wireless services, including 5G. The new order gives incumbent entities more flexibility in how they use this spectrum and provides opportunities for other entities, including Tribal Nations, to access unused spectrum in this band. Also, the order eliminates restrictions on the types of entities that can hold licenses. Further, the order removes limitations on leases entered into on a going-forward basis under the FCC's secondary markets rules, which will create incentives to roll out in rural areas.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Report and Order FCC-19-62 Viewed at: https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-transforms-25-ghz-band-5g-services-0
The President signed an executive order prohibiting the purchase or use of information and communication technologies or services that pose a national security risk. The order declares a national emergency with respect to threats against information and communications technology and services in the United States and delegates authority to the Secretary of Commerce to prohibit transactions posing an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States or the security and safety of United States persons.	Multiple modes	Information and communication services	Executive Order on Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain Viewed at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-securing-information-communications-technology-services-supply-chain
 The FCC voted to adopt new	Modes 1-3	Telecommunication services	FCC, Spectrum Horizons First Report and Order

rules related to the spectrum above 95 GHz that encourage the development of new technologies. To enable innovators and entrepreneurs to most readily access this spectrum, the FCC's Spectrum Horizons First Report and Order creates a new category of experimental licenses for use of frequencies between 95 GHz and 3 THz. These licenses will give innovators the flexibility to conduct experiments lasting up to 10 years, and to more easily market equipment during the experimental period.			Viewed at: https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-opens-spectrum-horizons-new-services-technologies
Zimbabwe			
The Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ) approved a rise in tariffs for mobile telephony services. Voice tariffs are increased from 17 cents (Zimbabwe dollar) per minute to 48 cents. The aim is to help mobile network operators facing cost increases due to the declining value of the local currency as the operators must pay for international bandwidth and network equipment in foreign currency.	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Viewed at: http://www.potraz.gov.zw https://www.fin24.com/Economy/Africa/zimbaweans-face-182-hike-in-mobile-call-tariffs-20190808
Zimbabwe's Cabinet approved the Broadcasting Services Amendment Bill which aims to merge the country's media and telecoms regulators. The Broadcasting Authority of Zimbabwe (BAZ) and the Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ) are to be combined as the Broadcasting and Communications Authority.	Mode 3	Telecommunication and audiovisual services	Viewed at: https://www.newzimbabwe.com/new-broadcasting-law-seeks-to-end-alleged-zbc-bias-towards-zanu-pf
FINANCIAL SERVICES			
Albania			
New measures were adopted to strengthen supervision relating to the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing, including the obligation for reporting entities to carry out risk self-assessment and data filing on an annual basis to authorities.	Multiple modes	Financial services	Decision No. 214 of 31 October 2018 "On some amendments to Regulation no. 58 of 2015 ("On enhanced due diligence measures by legal subjects on the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing")". Guidebook "On Identifying Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Risks".
Brazil			
A new measure provides that the Central Bank is authorized to recognize as being in the interest of the Brazilian government the increase in foreign capital participation in domestic financial institutions and the licensing of new branches of foreign financial institutions in the National Financial System. Therefore, a	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Presidential Decree Nº 10.029 Viewed at: https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/pressdetail/2290/nota http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_ato2019-2022/2019/decreto/D10029.htm

Presidential Decree issued for each case is no longer required.			
A new law adopted by the Brazilian government eliminates the reciprocity requirement from Decree-Law 73/1966, which had regulated insurance and reinsurance operations within the country to date. The reciprocity requirement conditioned the capacity of foreign firms to carry out insurance transactions and establish in Brazil on equal treatment of Brazilian insurers in the foreign country.	All modes	Insurance services	Law 13.874/2019 Viewed at: http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_ato2019-2022/2019/lei/L13874.htm
The establishment of branches by foreign insurance companies is no longer subject to the granting of a Presidential Decree, whose power was delegated to the Director of the National Department of Business Registration and Integration within the Ministry of Economy.	Mode 3	Insurance services	Decree 9.787/2019 Viewed at: http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_ato2019-2022/2019/Decreto/D9787.htm https://www.casione.com.br/president-jair-bolsonaro-delegates-decision-making-to-the-ministry-of-economy-concerning-foreign-companies
China			
On 20 July 2019, the Office of the Financial Stability and Development Committee under the State Council announced 11 measures aimed at accelerating the opening-up of the country's financial sector: - 1) Foreign-funded institutions will be permitted to conduct credit rating business on all types of bonds in China's inter-bank and exchange bond markets; - 2) Overseas financial institutions will be encouraged to participate in the establishment of, and equity investment in, asset and wealth management subsidiaries of commercial banks; - 3) Overseas asset management institutions will be permitted to co-establish foreign-controlled asset management companies together with subsidiaries of Chinese banks or insurers; - 4) Overseas financial institutions will be permitted to invest in the establishment of or make equity investment in pension management companies; - 5) Foreign capital will be supported in wholly-owned currency brokerage	Mode 3	Financial services	Measures to further open up the financial sector Viewed at: http://www.pbc.gov.cn/en/3688110/3688172/3863256/index.html

<p>establishment and equity participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6) The transitional period for raising the foreign ownership cap on life insurers from 51% to 100% will be brought forward to 2020 from 2021. - 7) The requirement that the total share of an insurance asset management company held by domestic insurers be no less than 75% will be removed, and foreign ownership will be permitted to exceed 25%; - 8) Entry conditions of foreign insurers will be eased by removing the requirement of over-30-year operation; - 9) The removal of foreign ownership limits on securities, fund management and futures companies will be advanced by one year to 2020; - 10) Foreign institutions will be permitted to obtain Type-A lead underwriting licenses in the inter-bank bond market; - 11) China will further facilitate the investments of overseas institutions in the inter-bank bond market. 			
Egypt			
The Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Egypt issued a new set of prudential regulations, including on the protection of the rights of bank customers.	Mode 3	Financial services	<p>Circulars of the Central Bank of Egypt, dated 19 and 26 February 2019.</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.cbe.org.eg/en/BankingSupervision/Pages/Circulars.aspx</p>
Ethiopia (Observer)			
The parliament adopted a measure allowing members of the Ethiopian diaspora, who have taken up nationalities in other countries, to invest and buy shares in banks, and to set up lending businesses in the country. Ethiopia's banking sector is otherwise closed to foreign investment.	Mode 3	Banking services	<p>Viewed at: https://qz.com/africa/1684528/ethiopia-opens-financial-sector-investments-to-diaspora/</p>
Georgia			
<p>Georgia adopted a series of new measures in relation to financial services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amendments to the Order 'On the Approval of the rule for registration, cancellation of registration and regulation of the activities of the Loan Issuing Entity in the National Bank of Georgia; - Amendments to the Order on the 'Procedures and Terms for Registration of Microfinance Organizations in the National Bank of Georgia; - Amendments to the Order on 'Rules for 	Mode 3	Financial services	<p>Viewed at: https://www.nbg.gov.ge/index.php?m=2&lng=eng</p>

Registration and Regulation of Currency Exchange Bureaus; - Rules for regulating the specialized depository of accumulated pension scheme.			
Hong Kong, China			
The Hong Kong Monetary Authority has, by early May 2019, granted eight virtual banking licences under which virtual banks can deliver retail banking services through the Internet or other forms of electronic channels instead of physical branches. These newly licensed virtual banks intend to launch their services in around 6 to 9 months.	Mode 3	Banking services	Press release issued by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority Viewed at: https://www.hkma.gov.hk/eng/key-information/press-releases/2019/20190509-3.shtm
India			
As part of the Union Budget 2019-20, India announced, on 5 July 2019, that 100% foreign direct investment will be permitted for insurance intermediaries, up from the previous 49% limit. Further, the net owned fund requirement for foreign reinsurers wishing to open branches in the International Financial Services Centre will be reduced from 5,000 crore (roughly USD 709.2 million) to 1,000 crore (roughly USD 141.8 million) . The latter was implemented through an amendment to the Insurance Act 1938, the notification of Finance (No. 2) Act, 2019.	Mode 3	Insurance services	Union Budget 2019-2020 Viewed at: https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/keytoBudDoc.php https://www.reinsurancene.ws/indian-qov-lowers-capital-requirements-for-foreign-reinsurers
The Reserve Bank of India announced that all system providers shall ensure that, within a period of six months, the entire data relating to payment systems operated by them are stored in a system only in India. This data should include the full end-to-end transaction details, information collected, carried and processed as part of the message and payment instruction. For the foreign leg of the transaction, if any, the data can also be stored in the foreign country, if required. There is no bar on processing of payment transactions outside India if so desired by the Payment System Operators authorised by the Reserve Bank of India. In case the processing is done abroad, the data	Modes 1-3	Financial services	Viewed at: https://m.rbi.org.in/Scripts/FAQView.aspx?id=130

should be deleted from the systems abroad and brought back to India not later than one business day or 24 hours from payment processing, whichever is earlier. The same should be stored only in India. However, any subsequent activity such as settlement processing after payment processing, if done outside India, shall also be undertaken and performed on a near real time basis. In case of any other related processing activity, such as chargeback, the data can be accessed, at any time, from India where it is stored.			
The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India issued new regulations on reinsurance. The measure provides that reinsurance can be taken with foreign reinsurers after placement of obligatory cessions with the Indian reinsurer and utilization of domestic capacity by the cedants by following order of preference.	Multiple modes	Reinsurance services	Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Re-insurance) Regulations Viewed at: http://www.mondag.com/india/x/768474/Reinsurance/IRDAI+unveils+New+Reinsurance+Regulations+in+India
Kuwait			
The government issued a decree allowing foreign investors to own up to 5% of a Kuwaiti bank's capital. Foreign ownership beyond this level would require the approval of the Central Bank.	Mode 3	Banking services	Decree No. 694/2018 Viewed at: https://www.thenational.ae/business/banking/kuwait-lifts-restrictions-on-foreign-ownership-of-local-lenders-1.803010
Macao, China			
To foster the development of the financial leasing industry, the government adopted the Legal Regime of Financial Leasing Companies, with the aim of providing better development potential for the sector and ensuring financial stability as the prerequisite. Under the revised regime, financial leasing companies, which are not allowed to engage in deposit taking activities, will be authorized as financial institutions rather than credit institutions. Certain existing supervisory requirements, such as capital adequacy ratio and exposure limits, will not be applicable to financial leasing companies.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Legal Regime of Financial Leasing Companies – Law No. 6/2019 Viewed at: WTO document S/C/N/946 https://images.io.gov.mo/bo/i/2019/14/lei-6-2019.pdf
Myanmar			
On 29 January 2019, the Central Bank of Myanmar issued a notice confirming that foreign banks and foreign financial institutions may	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Viewed at: http://www.shiegal.com/news/cbm-letter-confirms-foreign-banks-may-hold-35-equity-in-myanmar-banks https://asia.nikkei.com/Economy/Myanmar-lets-foreign-banks-buy-into-local-peers

hold up to 35% of equity investment in local private banks.			
Branches of foreign banks are allowed to provide commercial services, such as financing and other banking services, to local businesses. The new measure comes after the Central Bank of Myanmar allowed foreign banks to provide export financing. Before the recent announcement, foreign banks were limited to lending only to foreign entities in foreign currencies.	Mode 3	Banking services	Viewed at: http://www.thaibizmyanmar.com/en/news/detail.php?ID=1689
In January, the Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF) issued Announcement 1/2019 allowing the establishment of foreign insurance companies. Prior to that, foreign insurers were restricted to establishing a representative office in Myanmar and had been largely barred from conducting any insurance businesses within the country, with limited exceptions in a special economic zone. With the new measure, up to three licences will be granted to foreign life insurers as 100% wholly-owned subsidiaries. In addition, foreign life and non-life insurers having a representative office in Myanmar (as of 31 December 2018) may form a joint venture with a local insurer, with maximum foreign equity of 35%.	Mode 3	Insurance	Ministry of Planning and Finance announcement No. 1/2019 Viewed at: https://www.mayerbrown.com/-/media/files/perspectives-events/publications/2019/02/190218-myanmar-cornsec.pdf http://learn.asialawnetwork.com/2019/02/06/myanmar-legal-alert-rfp-egis-foreign-insurance-issued-frd
Norway			
In accordance with the EEA Agreement, Norway has implemented the following EU directives: - Bank recovery and resolution directive (1 January 2019); - Deposit Guarantee Scheme directive (1 January 2019); - Payment Services Directive (PSD2) (1 April 2019); - 4th Anti Money Laundering Directive (15 October 2018); - Markets in financial instruments directive (MiFID II) and Markets in financial instruments regulation (MIFIR) (1 January 2019) .	Multiple modes	Financial services	Directive 2014/59/EU establishing a framework for the recovery and resolution of credit institutions and investment firms; Directive 2014/49/EU on deposit guarantee schemes; Directive (EU) 2015/2366 on payment services in the internal market; Directive (EU) 2015/849 on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purposes of money laundering or terrorist financing; Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments; Regulation (EU) No 600/2014 on markets in financial instruments Viewed at: https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/fin/id216
Philippines			
The <i>Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas</i> (Central Bank of the Philippines) adopted a series of new measures affecting banking and other	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Circulars Nos. 1014, 1015, 1017-1025, 1027, 1029-35, 1037 Viewed at: http://www.bsp.gov.ph

financial services. These relate, for example, to liberalized foreign exchange rules on inward and outward investments, hedging instruments for foreign exchange, regulatory relief to institutions affected by calamities, qualification requirements for marketing personnel in unit investment trust funds (UITF), standards in Other Fiduciary Accounts (TOFA) and Investment Management Accounts (IMA), mark to market of financial instruments, reporting requirements for supervised entities, combating terrorism financing, computation of required capital for domestic and foreign banks, implementing BASEL III and reporting requirements with respect to cyber-security incidents and technology risks.			
The Central Bank of the Philippines (<i>Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas</i> (BSP)) adopted a series of new measures affecting banking and other financial services. Among changes, a new measure allows foreigners to become members of the board of directors of BSP-supervised financial institutions (BSFI) . Other measures relate, for example, to the process for selection of external auditors for BSFIs, modifications to regulations for reserve requirements, guidelines for managing interest rate risk, amendments to regulations on financial consumer protection, and rules for the registration of operators of payment systems.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Circulars Nos. 1038-1044, 1048, 1049 Viewed at: http://www.bsp.gov.ph
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of			
The Board of the Capital Market Authority of Saudi Arabia adopted a series of resolutions amending the following measures: - the Rules for Qualified Foreign Financial Institutions Investment in Listed Securities resolution regarding the procedures; - the Guidance Note for the investment of Non-Resident Foreigners in the Parallel Market; - the Corporate Governance Regulation;	Mode 3	Financial services	Viewed at: https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/QFI_18_en.pdf https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/QFI_PM_en.pdf https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/CGRegulations_en.pdf https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/LJSCRulesEn.pdf https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Guidance%20LJSC%20En.pdf

- the Regulatory Rules and Procedures issued pursuant to the Companies Law relating to Listed Joint Stock Companies; - the Guidance Note to the Regulatory Rules and Procedures issued pursuant to the Companies Law relating to Listed Joint Stock Companies.			
The Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) promulgated new rules allowing the establishment of foreign insurance and reinsurance companies as branches. The new rules clarify application of the Cooperative Insurance Control Law and its implementing regulations to foreign branches. Foreign insurance entities can now operate in the kingdom through branches or in the form of a locally incorporated public joint-stock company.	Mode 3	Insurance and reinsurance	Viewed at: http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/Laws/Pages/InsuranceRulesAndRegulation.aspx
Saudi Arabia's Capital Market Authority Board of Commissioners (CMABC) adopted a series of new measures in relation to financial services: - a resolution regarding the procedures and requirements relating to the issuer whose securities are listed on the Exchange when applying for court for commencing a financial restructuring procedure in accordance with the Bankruptcy Law; - rules for Registering the Auditors of Entities Subject to the Authority's Supervision; - amendments to the Investment Account Instructions; - amendments to the Real Estate Investment Traded Funds Instructions; - the Closed-Ended Investment Traded Funds Instructions.	Mode 3	Financial services	Viewed at: https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/News/pages/CMA_N_2554.aspx https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Rules-Registering-Auditors-of-Entities-EN.pdf https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/InvestmentAccountsInstructionsEN.pdf https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/REITF%20Instructions%20en.pdf https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Closed-Ended-Traded-Investment-Funds-Instructions-English.pdf
Singapore			
On 29 August, the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) started accepting applications for new digital bank licences. Interested parties have until 31 December 2019 to submit their applications. This follows the announcement in June 2019 that the MAS will issue up to two digital full bank licences and three	Mode 3	Banking services	Viewed at: https://www.mas.gov.sg/news/media-releases/2019/mas-invites-applications-for-new-digital-bank-licences https://www.mas.gov.sg/news/media-releases/2019/mas-to-issue-up-to-five-digital-bank-licences

digital wholesale bank licences. The application for digital full bank licences is open to companies that are anchored in Singapore, headquartered in Singapore and controlled by Singaporeans. Foreign companies are eligible for these full bank licences if they form a joint venture with a Singapore company, and the joint venture meets the preceding requirements. Application for digital wholesale bank licences is open to all companies.			
Switzerland			
The new measures seek to promote innovation in the financial sector and to eliminate obstacles that prevent enterprises – in particular those active in the area of financial technology (fintech) – from entering the market. Enterprises that apply a fintech-related business model and that operate outside the main field of activity of banks may accept, on a professional basis, deposits from the public of up to CHF 100 million (new authorization category) .	Mode 3	Banking services	Amendment to the Banking Law of 8 November 1934 (RS 952.0) Amendment to the Banking Ordinance of 30 April 2014 (RS 952.02) Viewed at: WTO document S/C/N/922 https://www.admin.ch/ggc/fr/classified-compilation/19340083/index.html https://www.admin.ch/ggc/fr/classified-compilation/20131795/index.html
Chinese Taipei			
Foreign futures brokerage merchants (FCM) may directly provide trade, clearing and settlement services of futures to domestic FCMs, and are no longer required to establish a branch or subsidiary in Chinese Taipei.	Mode 1	Financial services	Article 38.1.4 of the Regulations Governing Futures Commission Merchants
Tanzania			
On 21 June 2019, Tanzania introduced new regulations on foreign exchange bureaux. It allows foreign exchange bureaux to obtain a licence, but they must meet the new minimum capital requirement of TSh 1 billion (compared to the previous TSh 300 million) . The bureaux are also required to maintain a minimum working capital that is equivalent to 75% of paid-up capital. Further, bureaux must submit a detailed feasibility study in the location where they plan to set up shop in order to show potential demand.	Mode 3	Money broking, trading in foreign exchange	Foreign Exchange (Bureau de Change) Regulations, 2019 Viewed at: https://www.bot.go.tz/BankingSupervision/BDC%20REGULATIONS%202019.pdf https://www.bot.go.tz/Adverts/PressRelease/NOTICE%20TO%20THE%20PUBLIC-REVISED%20-%20BDC.pdf

Ukraine			
A new measure was adopted to liberalize the currency regulation system, simplify the currency control system, and gradually eliminate existing currency restrictions.	Multiple modes	Banking and other financial services	Law No. 2473-VIII of 21 June 2018
BUSINESS SERVICES			
China			
The <i>Regulations on Administration of Foreign-invested Construction and Engineering Design Enterprises</i> and related implementing rules have been annulled. Applications from foreign-invested enterprises for engineering design qualifications shall be accepted and examined in accordance with the principle of equal treatment for domestic and foreign-invested enterprises.	Mode 3	Construction designing services; Engineering services	Information provided by the government Viewed at: http://www.mohurd.gov.cn/fqjgs/jzbqz/201811/t20181122_238493.html http://www.mohurd.gov.cn/wjfb/201812/t20181221_238955.html
Ghana			
As part of regulations requiring local content and participation, companies in the mining sector are required, as of 1 January 2019, to procure security services from companies located in Ghana and fully owned by nationals.	Mode 3	Security services	Viewed at: https://allafrica.com/stories/201812060268.html
India			
On 28 August 2019, the government clarified that 100% FDI was allowed for contract manufacturing under the automatic route.	Mode 3	Services incidental to manufacturing	Press Note no. 4 of 2019, notifying amendments to the Consolidated Foreign Direct Investment Policy Viewed at: https://nib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=193277
Indonesia			
The Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) enacted a new regulation that modifies the minimum amount of investment for foreign investors in certain real estate companies. The previous minimum amount of IDR 10 billion remains, but no longer includes the value of land and building.	Mode 3	Real estate services	BKPM Regulation No. 5/2019 Viewed at: https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2019/08/bkpm-amends-business-lines-regulation
DISTRIBUTION SERVICES / POSTAL AND COURIER SERVICES			
Argentina			
The government established a new regime for 'door-to-door' deliveries through the postal system of products purchased online from abroad. A maximum of 12 orders per year of 50 dollars or less will be exempt from customs duties. Previously, only yearly purchases below 25 dollars were exempted.	Modes 1-3	Postal and distribution services	Decree No. 221/2019 General Resolution No. 4447/2019 Viewed at: https://www.liviasoc.com/es/novedades/comercio-exterior-regimen-de-envios-postales-sin-finalidad-comercial
Chile			
A new measure establishes a maximum amount	Mode 1	Postal and courier services	Decreto Supremo No. 9 of the Ministry of Finance Viewed at:

of 3000 USD (free on board) for the import and export of merchandise that can be processed by express delivery service suppliers, without the need to go through customs agents. The previous maximum amount was of 1000 USD for imports and 2000 USD for exports.			http://www.diarioestrategia.cl/texto-diario/mostrar/1355296/hacienda-aumenta-us-3000-monto-maximo-despachos-empresas-envio-rapido
India			
The government relaxed the local sourcing rules applying to foreign-invested suppliers of single brand retail trade services. Foreign invested companies are now allowed to conduct online retail trade prior to the opening of physical stores, subject to the condition that the latter are established no later than two years after the start of online operations. The new measure also modifies the 30% local sourcing rule for companies with more than 51% foreign ownership. For instance, all procurement made from India by single brand retailers will now be counted towards local sourcing, irrespective whether the goods are sold in India or exported.	Mode 3	Retailing services	Press Note no. 4 of 2019, notifying amendments to the Consolidated Foreign Direct Investment Policy Viewed at: https://nib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=193277
EDUCATION SERVICES			
Viet Nam			
On 1 February 2019, the Vietnamese Government introduced regulations specifying conditions on the establishment of foreign-invested vocational training institutions in Viet Nam. The new measure follows up on a 2014 law had allowed foreign investment in the sector. Conditions include minimum establishment size, minimum capital requirements, and training curriculum. To set up a branch or new campus of a foreign-invested secondary vocational school and college, the investor would be required to provide a detailed development plan explaining the need for such an establishment.	Mode 3	Education services	Decree No.15/2019/ND-CP Viewed at: http://vietnamlawmagazine.vn/new-decree-specifies-foreign-investment-in-vocational-education-16673.html
ENERGY-RELATED SERVICES			
Singapore			
Singapore's Energy Market Authority (EMA) opened up more segments of the retail electricity market for	Mode 3	Electricity services	Implementation of the Open Electricity Market (OEM) Viewed at: https://www.ema.gov.sg/Electricity_Market_Liberalisation.aspx

competition from both foreign and domestic retailers, thereby providing consumers with a wider choice of a price plans.			
HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES			
China			
The National Health Commission (NHC) released a circular on standards and security of Big Data in the healthcare industry, which requires that such data be stored in China. Where such data must be transferred abroad for business reasons, a security assessment must be carried out in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations.	Modes 1-3	Health-related services	<p>Circular regarding Issuing National Health Medical Big Data Standards, Safety and Service Management Measures (For Trial Implementation)</p> <p>Viewed at: http://www.cms-lawnow.com/ea/alerts/2018/09/china-monthly-tmt-update-september-2018?cc_lang=en </p>
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of			
The government adopted new measures enabling 100% foreign ownership, operation and management of private healthcare institutions (PHI), with the exception of clinics. PHIs cover general and specialised health centres, radiology, medical laboratories, outpatient surgical facilities and supporting medial services facilities. Prior to this amendment, foreign ownership of PHIs was limited to hospitals with a minimum number of beds, and depending on the area served.	Mode 3	Health-related services	<p>Royal Decree amending the Private Healthcare Institutions Law</p> <p>Viewed at: http://www.elexica.com/en/legal-topics/corporate-governance-and-compliance/280119-foreign-investment-relaxation-in-the-saudi-healthcare-sector </p>
Serbia (Observer)			
On 3 April 2019, the Serbian Parliament adopted the Law on Healthcare. The new measure aims to improve the legal framework and facilitate better functioning of the healthcare system in Serbia, aligning it more closely to EU standards in this field. Healthcare institutions can now be founded as public-private partnership projects. The new law also relaxes rules on advertising, allowing public and private institutions to advertise healthcare services, expert-medical procedures, and methods of healthcare protection.	Modes 3	Health-related services	<p>Law on Healthcare</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.karanovicpartners.com/news/the-new-law-on-healthcare-protection-in-serbia </p>
United Arab Emirates			
A new law regulates the use of information technology and communications (ITC) in the healthcare sector. It notably prohibits the storage of health data outside of the UAE, as well as the	Modes 1-3	Health-related services	<p>Federal Law No. 2 of 2019 on Information and Communication Technology in the Health Field_</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.dha.gov.ae/en/HealthRegulation/Pages/FederalLaws.aspx </p>

creation of health data outside of the UAE which relates to health services provided inside the UAE. The Law foresees certain exceptions to data localization requirements, but further information is to be set out in subsequent ministerial resolutions or in implementing regulations.			
RECREATIONAL SERVICES			
Australia			
Commonwealth, state and territory governments have formally agreed to a National Consumer Protection Framework for online wagering in Australia, comprising of 10 consumer protection measures which aim to reduce the harm of online wagering to consumers. This includes: - a prohibition on online wagering service providers providing lines of credit; - a prohibition of links between online wagering service providers payday lenders; - a restriction on online wagering service providers offering specified inducements; - other consumer protection measures such as a National Self-Exclusion Register and pre commitment (limit setting) .	Modes 1-3	Gambling services	National Consumer Protection Framework for Online Wagering in Australia – National Policy Statement (comprising various legislation at the Commonwealth and state and territory levels) .
Myanmar			
The government adopted a new law allowing casinos to operate for foreigners in selected hotels. Previously, casinos were not permitted under Myanmar law. Nationals will not be able to gamble under the new rules.	Mode 3	Gambling services	2018 Gambling Law Viewed at: https://www.casino.org/news/after-years-of-isolation-myanmar-will-legalize-casinos-next-month-in-bid-reinvent-itself-as-tourist-hotspot
Switzerland			
A new measure permits licensed casinos established in the country to offer online gaming services. Unlicensed operators, including foreign-based suppliers, will be blocked by Internet access providers. The Act also establishes licensing requirements, including that owners have 'good reputation' and have not actively targeted the Swiss market from abroad in the five previous years. Unlicensed sites will be blocked as of 1 July 2019.	Modes 1-3	Gambling services	Federal Gambling Act Viewed at: https://www.mme.ch/en/magazine/magazine-detail/url_magazine/swiss_voters_approve_new_money_gaming_act
TOURISM AND TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES			
Bangladesh			
The Central Bank of Bangladesh adopted	Mode 2	Tourism services	S.P.A. Circular No 1 of 19 June 2019

a number of measures easing foreign exchange limits in relation to the tourism services sector. Among the changes, the private travel entitlement in foreign exchange for an adult Bangladeshi national residing in Bangladesh was increased to USD 12,000 per calendar year. Previously, the entitlement was of USD 5,000 for travel to SAARC member countries and Myanmar and USD 7,000 for travel to other countries.			<p>FE Circular Letter No. 15 of 26 June 2019</p> <p>FE Circular Letter No. 30 of 25 July 2019</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.bb.org.bd/index.php</p>
Seychelles			
On 22 August 2019, the President signed the Tourism Development Act, which sets out a new legal framework for tourism activities. Among other things, the aims to establish a code of practice and standards for tourism enterprises and to oversee the quality of services provided by suppliers.	Mode 3	Tourism services	<p>Tourism Development Act 2019</p> <p>Viewed at: http://www.nation.sc/articles/1293/president-faure-signs-tourism-development-act-2019--a-major-milestone-for-effective-development-of-this-important-industry-says-minister-dogley</p>
TRANSPORT SERVICES			
Argentina			
<p>Argentina simplified the regime for obtaining the coastal traffic waivers which allow foreign vessels to carry out commercial activities in the Argentine sea in the event that no Argentine vessels are available to perform such activities.</p> <p>The new issuance regime consists of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - applicants must submit their applications forms by means of the Federal Revenue Agency on-line portal; - all requests shall be published (for a 48-hour term) on the public website "argentina.gob.ar". A notice will be sent to interested parties from the e-mail account of the enforcement agency; - if within 48 hours there are no reasonable oppositions from local ship owners having Argentine vessels in conditions of rendering the same service, a waiver will be issued within the term of five days; - waivers will be valid for a 6-month term. A 15-day extension may be granted should there be valid reasons to do so; - waivers may be unlimitedly reissued upon expiration. 	Modes 1 and 3	Maritime transport	<p>Resolution No. 870/2018 of the Federal Ministry of Transportation</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/nacional/resoluci%C3%B3n-870-2018-314849/texto</p>
Brazil			
The President signed a temporary decree lifting the 20% limit on foreign investment in Brazilian airlines and allowing full foreign capital participation.	Mode 3	Air transport services	<p>Temporary Decree</p> <p>Viewed at: https://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-airlines/brazil-allows-100-pct-foreign-investment-in-domestic-airlines-decree-idUSS0N1XG00Y</p>
China			
Foreign investors can now invest in and	Mode 3	Maritime transport services	Regulations on International Maritime Transportation (Amended for the third time according to the State Council Order No. 709 of 2 March 2019 by the Decision of the State Council on Amending Certain Administrative Regulations) .

operate international shipping transportation, international shipping agency, international shipping management, international shipping cargo handling, international shipping cargo warehousing, international shipping container station and yard business in accordance with relevant laws, administrative regulations and other relevant regulations.			
Ethiopia (Observer)			
Ethiopia's Investment Board decided to permit foreign investment up to 49% in the logistics industry through joint ventures. Prior to the decision, the sector was exclusively reserved to nationals.	Mode 3	Logistics services	Decision of the Investment Board, lifting restrictions imposed under Article 3.1(b) of Investment Regulation No. 270/2012 Viewed at: http://addisstandard.com/breaking-ethiopian-investment-board-lifts-restrictions-on-logistics-industry-reserved-exclusively-for-ethiopians-opens-sector-for-joint-venture
European Union			
From 24 March 2019, the European Union Regulation 2017/352 is being implemented in each Member State. It establishes a framework for the provision of port services and common rules on the financial transparency of port services and port infrastructure charges. The Regulation contains disciplines on: - transparency, objectiveness, non-discrimination, proportionality for access to the market for the provision of port services in maritime ports, which may be subject to minimum requirements for the provision of port services; - limitations on the number of providers; - public service obligations; and - restrictions related to internal operators. The terms of access to the facilities, installations and equipment of the port are also required to be fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory. Similar disciplines are imposed on port charges.	Mode 3	Port services	Regulation 2017/352 Viewed at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0352
The European Union adopted a harmonised European Maritime Single Window environment that brings together all reporting obligations associated with a port call, including customs procedures for entry and exit of goods. The new measure aims to facilitate trade by cutting the time spent by the shipping sector for reporting and to enhance safety by	Modes 1 and 3	Maritime transport services	Regulation (EU) 2019/1239 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 establishing a European Maritime Single Window environment and repealing Directive 2010/65/EU Viewed at: https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/PE-38-2019-INIT/en/pdf

relieving crews of burdensome tasks during critical operations.			
Tanzania			
<p>On 27 June 2019, the Tanzania Parliament adopted a new measure that expands the exclusivity of the mandate of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation ("TASAC"). TASAC was established in 2017 as a maritime authority to regulate ports, shipping services, maritime environment, safety and security and maritime transport services at sea ports in Tanzania.</p> <p>Through the new measure, TASAC's exclusive rights to mandate to implement clearing and forwarding functions was extended to cover the import and export of fertilizers, industrial sugar, domestic sugar, edible cooking oil, wheat, oil products, gas, liquified gas and chemicals or any other liquid related products.</p> <p>Exclusivity also expands to cover an array of shipping agency functions in relation to a broad collection of goods, including tanker ships and pure car carrier vessels, minerals, mineral concentrates and any equipment related to minerals and petroleum. The Act also reserves the right for the Minister of Maritime Transport to add further goods to the list.</p> <p>In addition, the measure provides that licences for shipping agencies cannot be issued if the applicant or its shareholder is ship owner, ship operator, ship charterer, dry port operator or clearing and forwarding agent.</p>	Mode 3	Customs clearing and freight forwarding services	<p>Amendments to the 2017 Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act (2017 Act)</p> <p>Viewed at: http://www.mcdog.go.tz/data/THE_WRITTEN_LAWS_MISCELLANEOUS_NO.3_ACT_OF_2019_.pdf</p>
SERVICES SUPPLIED THROUGH THE MOVEMENT OF NATURAL PERSONS			
Angola			
The immigration authority in Angola replaced the Ordinary Visa with the Tourism Visa for business visitors. The Tourism Visa is issued for 120 days, allows multiple entries and may be extended twice for 30 days, whereas the Ordinary Visa was issued for 90 days. An online portal for foreign nationals to submit Tourism Visa applications has also been opened, removing the need to apply at an Angolan consular post prior to travel.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: http://www.mondag.com/x/841690/work+visas/Online+Portal+For+Tourism+Visa+Applications+Now+Open
Canada			
Canada announced that the Global Talent Stream will	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: https://www.immigration.ca/canada-to-make-global-talent-stream-permanent

become a permanent program. The program provides for a streamlined Labour Market Impact Assessment and expedited work permit processing for highly-skilled foreign workers in STEM-related professions (science, technology, engineering, math) . It had originally been introduced in 2017 as a two-year pilot as part of the Global Skills Strategy.			
France			
New application requirements under the EU Intra-Corporate Transferee (ICT) Permit require that foreign nationals be employed by their home employer for at least six months prior to the transfer to France, up from three months previously, and that they remain outside the European Union for at least six months before they can fill a new EU ICT application in France.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: https://bluemarblepayroll.com/new-immigration-law-france-eases-visa-requirements
Guatemala			
The "Business Visa" category has been eliminated, and business travellers can now enter Guatemala only to perform consulting and advisory activities under the category of "Tourist or Traveller". Their permitted duration of stay has been reduced to 90 days, with the possibility of extension for an additional 90 days, down from the current 180 days with the possibility of a 180-day extension. The validity of temporary residence permits has been extended to five years, up from the previous two years.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: https://www.fragomen.com/insights/alerts/immigration-reforms-forthcoming
India			
The government decided to increase the permitted duration of stay under the electronic Business Visa to 180 days, up from the previous 60 days. Multiple visits will be allowed in a calendar year (up from 3 times per calendar year) . In addition, foreign nationals holding an employment visa will now be able to extend it for up to ten years, up from the previous five.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/easier-e-visa-for-business-trip-to-india-year-long-validity-longer-stay-and-more-all-about-new-norms/1499169
Japan			
The Japanese government expanded the range of fields in which foreign students	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/05/28/national/japan-open-job-fields-foreign-graduates-universities/#.XY45TQ07bVg http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri07_00210.html

who have graduated from a Japanese university or graduate school are able to find employment under the status of residence of "Designated Activities". Foreign students are granted the status of residence of "Designated Activities" under certain conditions, such as acquiring a high level of Japanese language skills, being a full-time employee, and receiving remuneration equivalent or superior to the remuneration that a Japanese national would receive for the same work.			
The Immigration Services Agency has introduced the following two new status of residence for acceptance of work-ready foreigners who possess certain expertise and skills in fields where labour shortages exist in Japan: - Status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker (i) – Based on the Basic Policy, this status of residence is applicable to foreigners who have successfully completed "Technical Intern Training (ii)" or who pass a qualifying test in 14 fields, many of which are service fields. The period of stay will be initially one year, six or four months and can be renewed for a maximum of five years in total. - Status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker (ii) – This status of residence is applicable to foreigners who pass a higher-level qualifying test in two fields at the moment, including construction services. The period of stay will be initially three years, one year or six months and can be renewed without limitation.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page3e_001006.html
Oman			
Oman's Ministry of Manpower has extended the temporary ban on the recruitment of foreign nationals in a number of sectors. The ban was originally introduced early in 2018 and has now been extended twice.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/the-oman-update-official-gazette-1269-79650
Oman's Ministry of Manpower introduced a ban on the recruitment of foreign nationals to senior management positions in the private sector. It has also extended the suspension of the recruitment of foreign workers in 87 professions	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: https://www.arabnews.com/node/1496436/business-economy http://bhodubai.org/news/news-details?id=1293

across various industries for another six months, starting 5 August 2019.			
Panama			
In Panama, several Executive Decrees were enacted that introduce the following changes: - The period of validity for work permits within the 10% or 15% quotas has been extended to two years (previously one year), renewable for two years each time (previously one year); - A formal requirement now provides that to apply for a work permit under the Marrakech Agreement, a company must employ a minimum of three Panamanian employees (previously, companies formally had to employ only one Panamanian employee) . Marrakech Agreement work permits are for companies with fewer than ten employees; - The Work Permit for Foreign Professionals will now be issued initially for two years (previously one year), renewable for three years (previously one year) . In addition, the application may now be submitted before the applicant's residence is approved.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: https://blog.newlandchase.com/panama-changes-to-residence-and-work-permit-rules
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of			
Labour Market Tests are no longer required before a block visa request is submitted by employers seeking to hire foreign nationals.	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=ec3265e1-7860-428e-af30-988aab56d81b
United Arab Emirates			
The UAE Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization (MOHRE) expanded the labour market testing requirement to companies of all sizes. Additionally, the MOHRE introduced an alternate labour market test that requires employers to schedule an Open Day appointment with the Emiratization Department where the employer interviews Emirati candidates for the open position. If the company cannot find a suitable Emirati candidate, it can extend a job offer to a foreign candidate, but must	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at: http://bbqdubai.org/news/news-details?id=1293

provide a justification for any rejected candidates.			
In February 2019, the UAE implemented a new system for long-term residence visas. The system enables persons with "specialised talents" and researchers in the fields of science and knowledge, such as doctors, specialists, scientists, inventors, as well as creative individuals in the field of culture and art, to apply for a 10-year visa to live and work in the UEA. The visa advantage extends to the spouse and children. All categories are required to have a valid employment contract in a specialized field of priority in the UAE.	Mode 4	Various sectors	Viewed at: https://government.ae/en/information-and-services/visa-and-emirates-id/residence-visa/long-term-residence-visas-in-the-uae
Viet Nam			
A new decree provides that the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs will process all work permit applications within five business days of submission, down from the previous two- to three-week processing time. Moreover, the decree stipulates that foreign nationals responsible for establishing a commercial presence in Viet Nam are now exempt from obtaining a work permit.	Mode 4	All sectors	Decree No. 140/2018/ND-CP Viewed at: https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2018/10/vietnams-official-guidance-on-compulsory
Zambia			
Under a new law, foreign nationals seeking to work in Zambia may only apply for positions appearing in an official critical skills list. Employers are additionally required to designate a local worker to be trained by each foreign worker over a two-year period.	Mode 4	All sectors	Employment Code Act No. 3 of 2019 Viewed at: https://www.fragomen.com/insights/alerts/new-occupational-limitations-and-local-worker-succession-plan-requirements-introduced-work-authorization-applications

APPENDIX 1 PARTICIPATION

Member/ Observer	Replies to DG email (OV/W/13) (√ = replies received)	Replies to DG email (OV/22) (√ = replies received)	Annual overview (OV/22) – Replies to request for verification (√ = replies received)	New measures (√ = information sent)	Services (√ = information sent)	Summary and status (√ = information sent)
1. Afghanistan	√	√				
2. Albania	√		√	√		
3. Algeria ^a				√	√	
4. Angola		√		√	√	
5. Argentina	√	√	√	√		√
6. Armenia (EAEU)				√		
7. Australia	√	√	√	√		√
8. Azerbaijan		√				
9. Bahrain, Kingdom of (GCC)				√		
10. Bangladesh		√				
11. Belarus (EAEU)				√		
12. Botswana (SACU)				√		
13. Brazil	√	√	√	√	√	√
14. Burkina Faso				√		
15. Cambodia					√	
16. Canada	√	√	√	√		√
17. Chile	√	√			√	
18. China	√	√	√	√	√	√
19. Colombia	√	√	√	√	√	
20. Costa Rica	√	√	√	√		
21. Cuba		√				
22. Dominican Republic	√	√		√		
23. Egypt		√	√	√	√	
24. El Salvador		√	√	√		
25. Eswatini (SACU)				√		
26. Ethiopia					√	
27. European Union	√	√	√	√	√	√
28. The Gambia	√					
29. Guatemala	√			√		
30. Guyana		√	√	√		
31. Hong Kong, China	√	√				
32. India	√	√	√	√	√	√
33. Indonesia	√	√		√	√	√
34. Iraq ^a	√	√		√		
35. Israel				√		
36. Japan	√	√	√	√	√	√
37. Jordan		√		√		
38. Kazakhstan (EAEU)		√		√		
39. Kenya		√				
40. Korea, Republic of	√	√	√	√		√
41. Kuwait, the State of (GCC)				√		
42. Kyrgyz Republic (EAEU)				√		
43. Lesotho (SACU)				√		
44. Macao, China		√	√		√	
45. Madagascar				√		
46. Malaysia				√		
47. Mauritius	√	√	√	√		
48. Mexico	√	√	√	√		√
49. Montenegro	√	√	√	√		
50. Morocco			√	√		
51. Myanmar	√					
52. Namibia (SACU)				√		
53. Nepal			√		√	
54. New Zealand	√	√	√	√		
55. Niger				√		
56. Nigeria				√		
57. Norway	√	√				
58. Oman (GCC)				√	√	
59. Panama		√		√	√	
60. Peru	√					
61. Philippines	√	√	√	√	√	
62. Qatar (GCC)				√		
63. Russian	√	√	√	√		√

	Federation (EAEU)						
64.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		✓				
65.	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of (GCC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66.	Senegal					✓	
67.	Serbia ^a		✓	✓		✓	
68.	Seychelles	✓	✓			✓	
69.	Singapore	✓		✓		✓	
70.	South Africa (SACU)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
71.	Sri Lanka		✓				
72.	Switzerland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
73.	Chinese Taipei	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
74.	Tajikistan		✓				
75.	Tanzania					✓	
76.	Thailand	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
77.	Tunisia				✓		
78.	Turkey	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
79.	Ukraine	✓	✓	✓	✓		
80.	United Arab Emirates (GCC)				✓	✓	
81.	United States of America	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
82.	Viet Nam			✓	✓	✓	
83.	Zambia					✓	
84.	Zimbabwe					✓	

a Observer.

Fuente: WTO Secretariat.

¹ This Report covers the period mid-October 2018 to mid-October 2019. 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.

² Unless otherwise indicated in the relevant Section.

³ WTO document [WT/TPR/QV/W/13](#), 8 July 2019.

⁴ 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.

⁵ WTO document [WT/L/848](#), 19 December 2011.

⁶ The inclusion of any measure in this Report or in its Annexes implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether a measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in this Report implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure with the provisions of any WTO Agreement.

⁷ 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.

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

⁹ The European Union and its member States counted separately.

¹⁰ This figure includes intra-EU trade.

¹¹ 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.

¹² WTO documents [WT/TPR/QV/W/13](#), 8 July 2019 and [WT/TPR/QV/21](#), 27 November 2018, respectively.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Figures are based on 2018 trade. For some countries, 2018 import data were not yet available. The data for the previous full calendar year were used for those countries.

¹⁵ Measures implemented in the context of the ITA Expansion Agreement are also included in these numbers.

¹⁶ For example, on imported pharmaceutical products, customs processing fees, import declarations fees on raw materials and intermediate goods, excise duty on oil and certain vehicles, and statistical fee on capital goods.

¹⁷ For example, elimination of non-automatic licensing requirements on imports of certain paper, electronic processing applications for sanitary goods in transit, and the enlargement of operations covered by the single window system for foreign trade.

¹⁸ For example, reduction of export duties on leather, skins; wheat, bones; ores, slag and ash; organic and inorganic chemicals; and base metals and articles of base metals.

¹⁹ For example, simplification of administrative customs procedures on exports of raw hides, electronic processing application for sanitary goods in transit, and the enlargement of operations covered by the single window system for foreign trade.

²⁰ These figures include two measures by China (reduction of import tariffs), amounting for 74.5% of the total; and five measures by Brazil (tariff reduction on capital goods, informatic and telecommunication goods), amounting for 4.9% of the total.

- ²¹ 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.
- ²² A single methodology for the counting of anti-dumping and countervailing investigations is being applied across the Report, i.e. based on the number of exporting countries or customs territories affected by an investigation or by a termination. Thus, one anti-dumping or countervailing investigation involving imports from *n* countries/customs territories is counted as *n* investigations. Similarly, the termination of an anti-dumping or countervailing action is counted as *n* terminations.
- ²³ For example, QRs on biofuels, article of plastic, odoriferous preparations, food products, gold and pulses.
- ²⁴ For example, special safeguard measures (volume based) on certain food products.
- ²⁵ For example, import certificate for used capital goods, import permit for tobacco, steel general import permits, and imposition of non-automatic licensing.
- ²⁶ For example, statistical fee and road and infrastructure fees on petrol imports, excise on vehicles and spirits, synthetic greenhouse gas levies.
- ²⁷ For example, duties on rice bran, oil-cake, waste and scrap of ferrous metals, fertilizers, and wet blue and crust.
- ²⁸ For example, requirement to settle foreign currency in the financial system, and licensing requirement on of ferrous and non-ferrous waste and scrap exports.
- ²⁹ For example, QRs on onions and electronic cigarettes.
- ³⁰ These figures include two measure by the United States (imposition of additional duties on products from China), accounting for 46.7% of the total; two measures by India (increases of import tariffs), accounting for 21.9.% of the total; and two measures by China (tariffs on imported goods from the United States), accounting for 11.4% of the total.
- ³¹ Highly-traded goods may significantly influence the trade coverage estimates.
- ³² Only import measures where HS codes were available are included in the calculation.
- ³³ Anti-dumping and countervailing investigations are counted on the basis of the number of exporting countries or customs territories affected by an investigation. Thus, one anti-dumping or countervailing investigation involving imports from *n* countries is counted as *n* investigations.
- ³⁴ These periods coincide with the Member's semi-annual reporting periods.
- ³⁵ With the exception of special and differential treatment provide for developing countries in Article 9.1 of the Safeguards Agreement.
- ³⁶ Information presented in this Section was 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 2018 to 30 September 2019. Specific trade concerns (STCs) are raised at SPS Committee meetings. The information in this Section summarizes the STCs raised at the 11-12 November 2018, 21-22 March 2019 and 18-19 July 2019 SPS Committee meetings.
- ³⁷ 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 (WTO document [G/SPS/7/Rev.4](#)), recommend that Members also notify measures which are based on the relevant international standards, and provide a broad interpretation of effects on trade.
- ³⁸ For the SPS Section, the review period covers 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019.
- ³⁹ For this Report, submission refers to the date of circulation.
- ⁴⁰ 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.
- ⁴¹ This was STC 411.
- ⁴² The six STCs that were raised at the three meetings are marked with an asterisk (*) beside their number in Table 3.16.
- ⁴³ These were STCs 448, 449, and 450.
- ⁴⁴ STC 454.
- ⁴⁵ Such as control, inspection and approval procedures, and transparency.
- ⁴⁶ For the TBT Section, the review period covers 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019.
- ⁴⁷ 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 guidelines 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". This recommendation was reiterated by the TBT Committee in its Eighth, and latest, Triennial Review (November 2018) .
- ⁴⁸ 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.
- ⁴⁹ Viewed at: <http://tbims.wto.org>.
- ⁵⁰ From 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018, the overall number of new regular notifications was 2,092.
- ⁵¹ Eighty-two EU-wide regular notifications plus 43 notifications from certain individual EU member States: France (5); Finland (22); Germany (2); Hungary (1); Italy (2); Lithuania (2); Slovenia (7); Spain (1) and the United Kingdom (1) .
- ⁵² The GSO-GCC has *ad hoc* observer status at the TBT Committee.
- ⁵³ 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.
- ⁵⁴ 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 WTO document [G/TBT/35](#), for further information on different types of TBT notifications.

55 In 2018, Members reviewed a total of 184 STCs, a record number. The number of new concerns, however, dropped to 22, 5 less than in 2017. This continues the declining trend in the number of new concerns raised in the Committee since 2014 (47), 2015 (37), 2016 (31), 2017 (27) and 2018 (22) . Source: *Twenty-Fourth Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement*, WTO document [G/TBT/42](#) (25 February 2019), para. 4.2.

56 See *Twenty-Fourth Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement*, WTO document [G/TBT/42](#) (25 February 2019), para. 4.17. Although data for 2019 is still incomplete, we expect the correlation between the final numbers of all notification and the number of STCs to be consistent with the historical trend of the last few years, as indicated in Chart 3.17.

57 This Section does not include the SPS and TBT Committees (covered separately) . Issues raised in this Section may subsequently have become the subject of a dispute. The numerous questions and concerns raised in the Committee on Agriculture are briefly presented in this Section and in detail in Section 3.6 of this Report.

58 Members and Observers are encouraged to communicate to the Trade Monitoring Section of the WTO's Trade Policy Review Division trade issues which they have raised in WTO bodies and which they believe are relevant to the monitoring exercise.

59 WTO document [WT/GC/M/177](#).

60 WTO document [WT/GC/M/179](#).

61 WTO document [G/C/M/133](#).

62 WTO document [G/C/M/134](#).

63 WTO document [G/C/M/135](#).

64 WTO document [G/MA/M/70](#).

65 WTO document [G/IT/M/70](#).

66 In April 2019, the European Union requested DS consultations with India on its continued tariff increases for certain ICT products. Subsequently, Japan and Chinese Taipei also requested DS consultations with India.

67 WTO document [G/LIC/M/48](#).

68 WTO document [G/LIC/M/49](#).

69 WTO document [G/LIC/M/50](#) (forthcoming) .

70 WTO document [G/VAL/M/67](#).

71 WTO document [G/VAL/M/68](#).

72 Questions and responses to the issues raised under the review process in the CoA meetings on 26-27 November 2018, 26-27 February and 25-26 June 2019 are available in [G/AG/W/191](#), issued on 18 December 2018, [G/AG/W/196](#), issued on 12 April 2019, and [G/AG/W/199](#), (questions only) issued on 14 June 2019.

73 WTO documents [G/ADP/M/55](#) and [G/ADP/M/56](#).

74 WTO documents [G/SCM/M/107](#) and [G/SCM/M/109](#), respectively.

75 WTO document [G/TRIMS/M/45](#).

76 WTO document [G/TRIMS/M/46](#).

77 WTO documents [G/SG/M/54](#), 29 March 2019; and [G/SG/M/55](#).

78 WTO document [G/STR/M/34](#).

79 WTO document [G/STR/M/35](#).

80 WTO document [WT/CTE/M/67](#).

81 The United States also circulated a communication under that item, entitled "Measures adopted and under development by China relating to its Cybersecurity Law – Questions to China" (WTO document [S/C/W/378](#), 5 October 2018) .

82 WTO document [S/C/M/137](#).

83 WTO document [S/C/M/137](#).

84 WTO document [S/C/M/138](#).

85 WTO document [S/C/M/138](#).

86 WTO document [S/C/M/138](#).

87 WTO document [S/C/M/139](#).

88 WTO document [S/C/M/139](#).

89 WTO documents [WT/COMTD/M/107](#); [WT/COMTD/M/108](#); and [WT/COMTD/M/109](#).

90 WTO documents [WT/COMTD/SE/M/37](#); and [WT/COMTD/SE/M/38](#).

91 26-27 November 2018, 26-27 February and 25-26 June 2019 CoA meetings.

- ⁹² The complete list of questions and answers can be accessed through the Agriculture Information Management System (AG IMS) . 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.
- ⁹³ The complete set of questions and answers can be accessed through the AG IMS (<http://agims.wto.org>) by selecting the function "Search Q&A Submitted Since 1995" and inputting the ID number of the question concerned.
- ⁹⁴ The complete set of questions and answers can be accessed through the AG IMS (<http://agims.wto.org>) by selecting the function "Search Q&A Submitted Since 1995" and inputting the ID number of the question concerned.
- ⁹⁵ The summaries provided in this Section draw on the Chair's concluding remarks for each of the TPRs.
- ⁹⁶ In addition, the CRTA received a notification from ECOWAS modifying the legal cover of the agreement from the Enabling Clause to Article XXIV of GATT 1994, and a notification from Jordan and Turkey terminating their FTA.
- ⁹⁷ This figure does not take into account notifications of RTAs made in 2017 that are not yet in force.
- ⁹⁸ WTO document [WT/REG/W/141](#), 2 September 2019.
- ⁹⁹ Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/aid4trade19_e.htm.
- ¹⁰⁰ Counting the European Union and its 28 member States, all of which are covered by the Agreement, as one party.
- ¹⁰¹ Viewed at <https://e-gpa.wto.org>.
- ¹⁰² Annual Report 2018, WTO document [WT/CTE/25](#), and minutes of the May 2019 CTE meeting, WTO document [WT/CTE/M/67](#).
- ¹⁰³ Annual Report 2018, WTO document [WT/CTE/25](#), paras. 2.1-2.3.
- ¹⁰⁴ Minutes of the November 2018 CTE meeting, WTO document [WT/CTE/M/66](#).
- ¹⁰⁵ On 8 November 2019, the Negotiations Group on Rules elected a new chair.
- ¹⁰⁶ The inclusion of any measure in the Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether a 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 with the provisions of any WTO agreement.
- ¹⁰⁷ The term "air services agreements" is used here to refer to Air Services Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding, Exchange of Notes, and other such relevant instruments.
- ¹⁰⁸ 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 (WTO documents [WT/L/540](#), 2 September 2003 and [WT/L/540/Corr.1](#), 29 July 2005), continues to apply to those Members that are yet to accept the Protocol. An up-to-date list of the Members that have accepted the Protocol is available here: https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/trips_e/amendment_e.htm.
- ¹⁰⁹ WTO document [WT/L/641](#), 8 December 2005.
- ¹¹⁰ European Commission, *EU-Mexico Trade Agreement*. Viewed at: <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/eu-mexico-trade-agreement>.
- ¹¹¹ Viewed at: <https://alianzapacifico.net/inicio-en-chile-la-tercera-ronda-de-negociaciones-con-los-candidatos-a-estado-asociado>.
- ¹¹² Viewed at: <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/es/actualidad/noticias/ronda-de-negociaciones-mercosur-ue>.
- ¹¹³ Submission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- ¹¹⁴ Submission of China to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- ¹¹⁵ Submission of Myanmar to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- ¹¹⁶ Submission of Turkey to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.
- ¹¹⁷ WTO document [WT/GC/W/777/Rev.1](#), 19 July 2019.
- ¹¹⁸ WTO document [IP/C/M/92](#), 13 June 2019.
- ¹¹⁹ WTO documents [JP/C/M/90](#), 19 November 2018; [JP/C/M/91](#), 21 February 2019; and [JP/C/M/92](#), 13 June 2019.
- ¹²⁰ WTO documents [JP/C/W/648](#), 19 October 2018; and [JP/C/W/648/Add.1](#), 2 November 2018.
- ¹²¹ WTO documents [JP/C/W/652](#), 8 February 2019; and [JP/C/W/652/Add.1](#), 12 February 2019.
- ¹²² WTO documents [JP/C/W/649](#), 29 October 2018; [JP/C/W/649/Add.1](#), 2 November 2018; [JP/C/W/649/Add.2](#), 7 November 2018; [JP/C/W/649/Add.3](#), 20 November 2018; and [JP/C/W/651](#), 1 February 2019.
- ¹²³ WTO documents [JP/C/W/653](#), 23 May 2019; [JP/C/W/653/Add.1](#), 24 May 2019; and [JP/C/W/653/Add.2](#), 13 June 2019.
- ¹²⁴ WTO documents [JP/C/W/649](#), 29 October 2018; [JP/C/W/649/Add.1](#), 2 November 2018; [JP/C/W/649/Add.2](#), 7 November 2018; [JP/C/W/649/Add.3](#), 20 November 2018; and [JP/C/W/651](#), 2 February 2019.
- ¹²⁵ Source: e-TRIPS: Australia; Canada; Colombia; Croatia; Cuba; European Union; Finland; Hungary; Japan; Kyrgyz Republic; Moldova, Republic of; Norway; Samoa; Chinese Taipei; Ukraine; and United States.
- ¹²⁶ Angola, Myanmar, Samoa, Ukraine and Tonga.
- ¹²⁷ WTO document [JP/C/W/125/Add.25](#), 21 May 2019.
- ¹²⁸ Vanuatu; Armenia; Hong Kong, China; Nepal; United States; Ecuador; the East African Community (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda); Bangladesh; Samoa; Papua New Guinea; Trinidad and Tobago; Canada; North Macedonia; Suriname; and Costa Rica.

- 129 Notifications in the SPS and TBT Committees are dealt with in Sections 3.3 and 3.4 of this Report.
- 130 As at 15 October 2019.
- 131 The European Union and its member States provide a single notification and are counted as one in this Table.
- 132 WTO document [G/AG/W/188](#), dated 9 November 2018.
- 133 WTO document [G/AG/W/189](#), dated 16 November 2018.
- 134 WTO document [G/AG/W/193](#), dated 12 February 2019.
- 135 WTO document [G/AG/W/200](#), dated 14 June 2019.
- 136 Paras. 1.15-1.33.
- 137 Paras. 1.15-1.21.
- 138 Paras. 2.15-2.18.
- 139 WTO document [G/LIC/28](#).
- 140 Ecuador; European Union; India; Israel; Macao, China; Myanmar and Tajikistan.
- 141 Angola; Argentina; Canada; Costa Rica; European Union; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Israel; Japan; Morocco; Myanmar; Russian Federation; Singapore; Switzerland; Chinese Taipei and Ukraine.
- 142 Argentina; Australia; Burundi; Canada; Colombia; Costa Rica; Cuba; El Salvador; European Union; Georgia; Hong Kong, China; India; Israel; Japan; Kazakhstan; Macao, China; Mali; Mauritius; Mexico; Montenegro; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Panama; Peru; Russian Federation; Singapore; South Africa; Switzerland; Chinese Taipei; Ukraine; United States and Uruguay.
- 143 The European Union and its member States are counted as one.
- 144 Three tables in the Annex of WTO document [G/RO/W/189](#) describe the latest status of notifications.
- 145 WTO document [G/RO/W/163/Rev.6](#) contains a detailed report summarizing the preferential (LDC) import statistics currently available with the Secretariat.
- 146 WTO document [G/MA/367](#).
- 147 The percentage of timely notifications is also based on the number of schedules.
- 148 WTO document [WT/REG/W/141](#), 2 September 2019.
- 149 WTO document [WT/L/806](#).
- 150 Viewed at: <http://ptadb.wto.org>.
- 151 See, for example: WTO documents [IP/N/1/PHL/2](#); [IP/N/1/GBR/1](#); and [IP/N/1/HKG/3](#).
- 152 Paras. 73 and 74 of WTO document [IP/C/M/62](#).
- 153 WTO document [IP/C/5](#); and responses circulated in the IP/N/6/* series of documents.
- 154 WTO document [IP/C/13](#) and its Addendum; and responses circulated in the [IP/C/W/117](#)/* series of documents.
- 155 See Checklist in WTO documents [IP/C/W/122](#), and [IP/C/W/273](#) and its Rev.1; and responses circulated in the [IP/C/W/125](#)/* series of documents.
- 156 WTO document [IP/N/6/EU/1](#) updates responses to questions 1 to 25 contained in WTO document [IP/N/6/EEC/1](#).
- 157 WTO document [IP/N/6/KAZ/2](#) updates responses to questions in WTO document [IP/N/6/KAZ/1](#).
- 158 WTO document [IP/N/6/WSM/1](#).
- 159 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; Ukraine; Uruguay; and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
- 160 WTO documents [IP/C/W/117/Add.35](#) and [IP/C/W/117/Add.14/Rev.1](#), respectively.
- 161 Australia; Bulgaria; Canada; China; Czech Republic; Estonia; European Union; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; Japan; Republic of Korea; Lithuania; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Morocco; New Zealand; Norway; Poland; Romania; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; South Africa; Switzerland; Thailand; Ukraine; United States; and Zambia.
- 162 WTO documents [IP/C/W/125/Add.25](#) for Mexico; and [IP/C/W/125/Add.26](#) for Ukraine.
- 163 On 1 December 2009, the Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community (done at Lisbon, 13 December 2007) entered into force. On 29 November 2009, the WTO received a Verbal Note (WTO document [WT/L/779](#)) from the Council of the European Union and the Commission of the European Communities stating that, by virtue of the Treaty of Lisbon, as of 1 December 2009, the European Union replaced and succeeded the European Community.

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² This Section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

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