



**Committee on Agriculture**

**TARIFF QUOTA ADMINISTRATION METHODS AND FILL RATES  
2014-2019**

BACKGROUND PAPER BY THE SECRETARIAT<sup>1</sup>

*Revision*

1.1. At the Ninth Session of the Ministerial Conference, Ministers adopted the Decision on "Understanding on Tariff Rate Quota Administration Provisions of Agricultural Products, as defined in Article 2 of the Agreement on Agriculture" (WT/MIN(13)/39), hereafter referred to as the "Bali TRQ Decision". Ministers instructed the Committee to review the operation of this Decision, commencing no later than 2017, taking into account experience gained up to that time.<sup>2</sup> The Review discussions commenced at the October 2017 meeting of the Committee.<sup>3</sup> After two years of detailed deliberations, the Committee adopted the report<sup>4</sup> of the Review and the associated recommendations at its 31 October 2019 meeting, for transmission to the General Council. The General Council considered the report at its December 2019 meeting and approved the recommendations contained in Annex 2 thereto.<sup>5</sup> The agreed recommendations contain several measures and processes aimed at enhancing transparency and improving TRQ notification practices.

1.2. The original background paper on "Tariff quota Administration Methods and Fill rates, 2007-2016" (document G/AG/W/183 of 31 July 2018) was prepared by the Secretariat in order to facilitate the Review discussions. This revised paper presents information on tariff quota administration methods by WTO Members and the associated fill rates for the period 2014-2019. As in the original background paper, the information has been compiled from various sources, including Members' Schedules<sup>6</sup>, Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications and responses to relevant questions raised during the Committee's review process. The revised background paper includes additional elements in light of the approved recommendations of the Review targeting enhanced transparency and improved TRQ notification practices.<sup>7</sup> The revision accordingly includes a list of all TRQs where the fill rate during the covered period remained below 65%. A separate section of the background paper presents information on Members' TRQ notification practices including in cases where a scheduled TRQ was not opened. Additionally, a tabular summary of questions raised in the Committee after the adoption of the Bali TRQ Decision concerning TRQ fill rates has been included in a separate annex to the revised paper.

1.3. The revised paper is organized as follows: section 2 describes the core data on scheduled agricultural tariff quotas. The third section defines the various tariff quota administration categories and identifies those tariff quotas that were not opened during the period under review. Section four summarizes information on tariff quota imports, administration methods as well as country-specific quota allocations and fill rates. Section five includes information on Members' notification of fill rates and their TRQ notification practices especially in cases where a scheduled tariff quota was not opened. Annex A presents the simple average fill rates by Member and by administration method

<sup>1</sup> This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility in response to the request from Members in the context of the review of the operation of the Bali Decision on TRQ administration and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 13 of WT/MIN(13)/39 refers.

<sup>3</sup> Section 2.2.1 of G/AG/R/86 refers.

<sup>4</sup> G/AG/29 refers.

<sup>5</sup> Paragraphs 3.1 to 3.7 of WT/GC/M/181 refer.

<sup>6</sup> Sourced from the Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS) database.

<sup>7</sup> Paragraph 2 of Annex 2 to G/AG/29 refers.

for the period 2014-2019. A list of questions concerning TRQ fill rates raised in Committee meetings for the period following the Bali TRQ Decision is contained in [Annex B](#). [Annex C](#) incorporates specific technical notes, organized by Member and tariff quota identifier (TQ ID). [Two Attachments](#) (available separately in Excel format as addenda to this document) provide respectively: (i) the yearly data for notified in-quota imports, administration methods and fill rates disaggregated at the tariff quota level, and (ii) a list of all tariff quotas where the fill rate is below 65%,<sup>8</sup> one of the thresholds to be satisfied in order to trigger the initiation of the underfill mechanism in Attachment A to the Bali TRQ Decision.

## 2 DATA

2.1. This paper presents data on scheduled agricultural tariff quotas over a recent six-year period, i.e. from 2014 to 2019. Each tariff quota is characterized by the scheduled commitment, the notified annual in-quota imports and the notified administration method. The tariff quotas set out in Part I, Section I-B of Members' Schedules (or, in the case of Brazil and the United States of America, Part I, Section I-A) are used as main points of reference. The paper also takes into account the rectifications and modifications of Schedules, including through GATT Article XXVIII or Article XXIV:6 negotiations.

2.2. Table 1 presents the total number of agriculture tariff quotas included in Members' Schedules organized by year and by Member, except where zero tariff quota quantity levels were scheduled.<sup>9</sup> Similarly, tariff quotas that are explicitly indicated to have been eliminated in a Schedule are not counted in the totals.<sup>10</sup> In the case of the European Union (EU), the EU-25 Schedule has been certified in WT/LET/1220. The EU's Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications for the period covered by the revised note include modified tariff quota quantities as well as additional tariff quotas pursuant to the outcome of negotiations under GATT Articles XXIV:6 and XXVIII relating to the accession of Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania to the EU. Accordingly, the revised note uses the draft EU-28 Schedule<sup>11</sup> as the point of reference. Individual EU member States with scheduled tariff quota commitments have not been included in the revision where the tariff quota administration and fill rate information is not relevant to the review period (i.e. 2014-2019).<sup>12</sup> The United Kingdom, which ceased to be a member State of the EU on 1 February 2020, has not been considered separately in the background paper as the annual TRQ notifications by the EU include information in respect of the United Kingdom for the covered period. Finally, in the paper, "Switzerland" refers to "Switzerland-Liechtenstein".

**Table 1: Total number of scheduled tariff quotas by Member, 2014-2019**

MEMBER	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1. Australia	2	2	2	2	2	2
2. Barbados	36	36	36	36	36	36
3. Brazil	2	2	2	2	2	2
4. Canada	22	22	22	22	22	22
5. Chile	1	1	1	1	1	1
6. China	7	7	7	7	7	7
7. Colombia	67	67	67	67	67	67
8. Costa Rica	27	27	27	27	27	27
9. Dominican Republic	8	8	8	8	8	8
10. Ecuador	14	14	14	14	14	14
11. El Salvador	11	11	11	11	11	11
12. European Union	124	124	124	124	124	124
13. Guatemala	22	22	22	22	22	22
14. Iceland	90	90	90	90	90	90

<sup>8</sup> There is no implication that elements of tariff quota administration are necessarily responsible for lower fill rates.

<sup>9</sup> Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of (VENQ028), Morocco (MARQ011, MARQ013 and MARQ014) and the Russian Federation (RUSQ008).

<sup>10</sup> China (CHNQ005, CHNQ006 and CHNQ007), Chinese Taipei (CHTQ001, CHTQ002, CHTQ003, CHTQ004, CHTQ019) and Panama (PANQ016).

<sup>11</sup> G/MA/TAR/RS/506. This is without prejudice to the pending certification of the draft schedule as well as the ongoing negotiations under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994.

<sup>12</sup> Earlier background papers on tariff quota administration and fill rates (e.g. TN/AG/S/26/Rev.1) include the relevant information in respect of individual EU member States and may be consulted.

MEMBER	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
15. India	4	4	4	4	4	4
16. Indonesia	2	2	2	2	2	2
17. Israel	12	12	12	12	12	12
18. Japan	20	20	20	20	20	20
19. Kazakhstan <sup>13</sup>			3	3	3	3
20. Korea, Republic of	67	67	67	67	67	67
21. Malaysia	19	19	19	19	19	19
22. Mexico	11	11	11	11	11	11
23. Moldova, Republic of	3	3	3	3	3	3
24. Morocco	16	16	16	16	16	16
25. New Zealand	3	3	3	3	3	3
26. Nicaragua	9	9	9	9	9	9
27. North Macedonia	1	1	1	1	1	1
28. Norway	232	232	232	232	232	232
29. Panama	18	18	18	18	18	18
30. Philippines	14	14	14	14	14	14
31. Russian Federation	8	8	8	8	8	8
32. South Africa	53	53	53	53	53	53
33. Switzerland <sup>14</sup>	28	28	28	28	26	26
34. Chinese Taipei	17	17	17	17	17	17
35. Thailand	23	23	23	23	23	23
36. Tunisia	13	13	13	13	13	13
37. Ukraine	1	1	1	1	1	1
38. United States of America	54	54	54	54	54	54
39. Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	61	61	61	61	61	61
40. Viet Nam	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>Total Number of Scheduled Tariff Quotas</b>	1125	1125	1128	1128	1126	1126

2.3. Data on tariff quota administration methods and in-quota imports reflect information notified by Members until 31 August 2020. Members provide details on administration methods primarily through Table MA:1 notifications. However, Table MA:2 notifications are also used by Members to report on tariff quota administration, especially in cases where a tariff quota is not opened and rather a tariff is generally applied at or below the level of bound in-quota tariff in the relevant reporting year. The information supplied by Members during the review process undertaken by the Committee on Agriculture has also been taken into account, where appropriate.

2.4. Throughout the paper (including in tables, annexes and attachments), a blank has been used to signify "not available", or "not applicable", i.e. (i) no notification was submitted by the cut-off date; or (ii) in-quota imports were not notified (e.g. when imports were permitted under a generally-applied MFN tariff at or below the bound in-quota rate); or (iii) the data relating to a tariff quota was aggregated with that of another tariff quota (see Technical Notes in Annex C); or (iv) the country concerned was not a Member in the relevant period.

### 3 METHOD

3.1. In order to enable comparison across various administration methods, the Secretariat coded each tariff quota by category of administration method. The categories used in this paper have been the basis of earlier background papers by the Secretariat.<sup>15</sup> The Secretariat originally derived these categories of principal administration methods and categories of additional conditions following an examination of Members' Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications and the summary reports of Committee meetings.

<sup>13</sup> WTO Membership on 30 November 2015.

<sup>14</sup> Three wine TRQs (numbering 23-25) have been merged into a single TRQ effective 24 January 2018 (WT/LET/1333 refers).

<sup>15</sup> See, for example, G/AG/NG/S/8/Rev.1, TN/AG/S/22, TN/AG/S/26/Rev.1 and G/AG/W/183.

3.2. In line with past practice, a two-step process is used to categorize administration methods. First, the information reported in Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications and the record of the discussions in the Committee were used to categorise each tariff quota according to the descriptions of principal administration methods set out in Table 2 below. As a second step, the Secretariat analysed the information to determine if the administration of the tariff quota included any of the additional conditions or elements as set out in Table 3. The assigned administration methods and additional conditions should generally be considered as indicative and may not perfectly match the description of the category concerned. In situations where Members did not provide new information on administration methods, it was assumed that their tariff quota administration methods remained unchanged.

**Table 2: Categories of Principal Tariff Quota Administration Methods**

CODE	DESCRIPTION
<b>AT</b>	<b>Applied Tariffs:</b> Tariff quota is not opened. Imports of the product concerned are allowed into the territory of the Member in unlimited quantities at the in-quota tariff rate or below. The On-line Agriculture Notification System provides for a 'not opened' box which could be clicked to identify such tariff quotas in both Tables MA:1 and MA:2 notifications.
<b>AU</b>	<b>Auctioning:</b> Importers' shares are allocated, or licences issued, largely on the basis of an auctioning or competitive bid system.
<b>FC</b>	<b>First-Come, First-Served (at the border):</b> No allocation of licences or of access to quota to importers. Imports are permitted entry at the in-quota tariff rates until such a time as the tariff quota is filled, then the higher out-of-quota tariff automatically applies. The physical importation of the good determines the order and hence the applicable tariff.
<b>HI</b>	<b>Historical Importers:</b> Importers' shares are allocated, or licences issued, principally in relation to past imports of the product concerned.
<b>LD</b>	<b>Licences on Demand:</b> Importers' shares are generally allocated, or licences issued, in relation to quantities demanded and often prior to the commencement of the period during which the physical importation is to take place. This includes methods involving licences issued on a first-come, first served basis and those systems where licence requests are reduced pro rata where they exceed available quantities.
<b>MX</b>	<b>Mixed Allocation Methods:</b> Administration methods involving a combination of the methods as set out above with no one method being dominant.
<b>NS</b>	<b>Non-Specified:</b> No administration method has been notified.
<b>OT</b>	<b>Other:</b> Administration methods that do not clearly fall within any other category.
<b>PG</b>	<b>Producer Groups or Associations:</b> Import shares are allocated entirely or mainly to a producer group or association that imports (or has direct control of imports undertaken by the relevant Member) the product concerned.
<b>ST</b>	<b>Imports Undertaken by State Trading Entities:</b> Import shares are allocated entirely or mainly to a state trading entity which imports (or has direct control of imports undertaken by intermediaries) the product concerned.

3.3. This paper uses the additional conditions categories used in previous tariff quota administration papers in order to maintain consistency. The additional conditions or elements outlined in Table 3 below relate, *inter alia*, to the eligibility requirements that must be met by importers to apply for tariff quota shares under the relevant principal allocation methods set out in Table 2. For example, the category "Past Trading Performance" refers to the situation where licences are issued on demand and only traditional importers of the products concerned are eligible to apply for licences. The paper also monitors the application of other conditions that must be met by the applicants in order to be eligible for an import licence. For example, the category "Export Certificate" refers to situations where the exporting country must submit a certificate of origin in order to be able to secure a share of the tariff quota. This list of additional conditions is not exhaustive, nor is it suggested that the additional conditions necessarily impede trade or tariff quota fill. The additional condition column in Attachment 1 has been left blank where the listed categories of additional conditions are not applicable. This includes tariff quotas where administration methods are not identified as including additional conditions, as well as tariff quotas with administration methods that are not listed in Table 3. More than one additional condition may also apply to a particular tariff quota. In this case, the code is a combination of the letter codes contained in Table 3.

**Table 3: Categories of Additional Conditions linked to the Administration of Tariff Quotas**

CODE	DESCRIPTION
<b>d</b>	<b>Domestic Purchase Requirement:</b> An additional condition requiring the purchase or absorption of domestic production of the product concerned in order to be eligible to secure a share of the tariff quota.
<b>h</b>	<b>Past Trading Performance:</b> An additional condition limiting eligibility to secure a share of the tariff quota to established importers of the product concerned although allocations are not made in proportion to past trade shares.
<b>l</b>	<b>Limits on Tariff Quota Shares per Allocation:</b> An additional condition involving the specification of a maximum share or quantity of the tariff quota for each importer or shipment.
<b>x</b>	<b>Export Certificates:</b> An additional condition requiring the submission of an export certificate, certificate of authenticity, certificate of origin, or any kind of export documentation issued by the exporting country concerned in order to be eligible to secure a share of the tariff quota.
	<b>Blank:</b> None of the additional conditions, listed above, were identified.

### 3.1 TARIFF QUOTAS SUBJECT TO "APPLIED TARIFFS" (AT)

3.4. There are a number of scheduled tariff quotas that are not opened annually. These tariff quotas are identified by the principal administration method of "applied tariffs" ("AT") as per the classification in Table 2. They invariably correspond to cases where the applied MFN tariffs on the tariff lines comprising a tariff quota are equal to or below the corresponding bound in-quota tariff.

3.5. In numerous instances, this situation arises by virtue of scheduled tariff commitment levels, i.e., where at the end of the implementation period, the bound out-of-quota tariffs specified in Section IA of the concerned Member's Schedule for the tariff lines comprising a tariff quota are equal to or below the corresponding in-quota tariff. In such cases, the bound in-quota tariff on the relevant tariff quota products may not provide any tariff advantage over the corresponding applied MFN tariff, hence generally obviating the need to open those tariff quotas. Attachment 2 to G/AG/W/183 included an extract of all such scheduled tariff quotas where the bound in-quota tariff either equals or exceeds the corresponding bound out-of-quota tariff. A Member-wise count of scheduled TRQs, where the corresponding tariff bindings mean that such TRQs no longer offer a tariff advantage, is included below.

**Table 4: Count of Scheduled Tariff Quotas with no Tariff Advantage (Derived from Attachment 2 to G/AG/W/183)**

MEMBER	NUMBER OF TARIFF QUOTAS WITH NO TARIFF ADVANTAGE
Barbados	33
Colombia	57
Costa Rica	15
El Salvador	1
European Union <sup>16</sup>	2
Iceland	14
Korea, Republic of	4
Morocco	10
Nicaragua	1
Norway	211
Philippines	9
United States of America	1
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>360</b>

3.6. These are also cases where, although bound in-quota tariff on a product is below the corresponding bound out-of-quota tariff, a Member in a given implementation year decides to apply an MFN tariff on such product that equals or falls below the corresponding bound in-quota tariff. Here as well, a two-tier tariff quota system may not be administered; the tariff quota commitment is rather fulfilled by an 'applied tariff' regime, i.e., offering market access opportunity at

<sup>16</sup> The TRQ on 'husked (brown) rice' (number 67 in the EU-25 Schedule) in Attachment 2 to G/AG/W/183 no longer forms part of the draft EU-28 Schedule; the TRQ does not contribute to the count in column 2.

an MFN applied tariff equal to or below the bound in-quota tariff without any quantitative limit on permissible imports. Unlike the tariff quotas identified in Table 4 above, these tariff quotas may not be deemed as non-operational by virtue of the Scheduled commitments (as bound in-quota tariffs for some or all of the tariff lines comprising a tariff quota remain below the corresponding bound out-of-quota tariffs). Here, the applied tariff on the concerned product may be raised to levels higher than the corresponding bound in-quota tariff which would necessitate the opening of the tariff quota in order to fulfil the tariff quota commitment.

3.7. An increasing number of scheduled tariff quotas are notified as being subject to the applied tariff ("AT") method. This signifies that these tariff quotas are not opened or administered. The remaining tariff quotas are opened annually. Table 5 includes the total number of opened tariff quotas organized by year and Member based on their Table MA:2 notifications. For each Member, these annual numbers have been derived by subtracting the number of tariff quotas that are notified as being subject to "AT" in the relevant notified year from the respectively scheduled total<sup>17</sup> number of tariff quotas. Members employ various import arrangements including licensing requirements, to administer these opened tariff quotas. Attachment 1 includes details regarding those administration methods (as well as fill rates) which are analysed further in Section 4. In the absence of Table MA:2 notifications for the relevant year(s), the table below shows the corresponding cell(s) for the concerned Member as blank.

**Table 5: Total number of opened TRQs by year and Member, 2014-2019**

MEMBER	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1. Australia	1	1	1	1	1	1
2. Barbados <sup>18</sup>						
3. Brazil	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Canada	22	22	22	22	14 <sup>19</sup>	
5. Chile	1	1	1	1	1	1
6. China	7	7	7	7	7	7
7. Colombia	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Costa Rica	8	8	8	8	8	8
9. Dominican Republic	8	8	8	8	8	8
10. Ecuador	2	2	2			
11. El Salvador	1	1				
12. European Union	120	124	124	124	124	124
13. Guatemala	2	2	2	3		
14. Iceland	12	12				
15. India	2	2	2	2	2	
16. Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	
17. Israel	10	10	10	10	10	10
18. Japan	20	20	20	20	20	
19. Kazakhstan <sup>20</sup>			3	3	3	
20. Korea, Republic of	63	63	62	62	62	
21. Malaysia	11	11	11			
22. Mexico	1	1	1	1	1	
23. Moldova, Republic of	3	3	3	3	3	3
24. Morocco	4	4	4	4		
25. New Zealand	0	0	0	0	0	0
26. Nicaragua	2	2	2	2	2	2
27. North Macedonia	1	1	1	1	1	1
28. Norway	22	22	22	22	21	21
29. Panama	18	18	18	18	17	17
30. Philippines	11	11	11	11	11	
31. Russian Federation	8	8	8	8	8	8
32. South Africa	24	24	24			

<sup>17</sup> As included in Table 1.

<sup>18</sup> No Table MA:2 notifications were received for the period under review.

<sup>19</sup> Partial Table MA:2 notification. Please see technical notes.

<sup>20</sup> WTO Membership on 30 November 2015.

MEMBER	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
33. Switzerland	28	28	28	28	26	
34. Chinese Taipei	16	16	16	16	16	16
35. Thailand	23	23	23	23	23	
36. Tunisia	13	13	10	10		
37. Ukraine	1	1	1	1	1	1
38. United States of America	43	43	43	43		
39. Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of			17	16		
40. Viet Nam	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>Total Number of open Tariff Quotas</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>226</b>

#### 4 OVERVIEW OF TARIFF QUOTA DATA (2014-2019)

4.1. The following section summarises the information supplied on tariff quota administration methods, in-quota imports, and fill rates. Attachment 1 includes consolidated information in respect of tariff quota administration, including additional conditions and country-specific quota allocations, where relevant, and fill-rates reported by Member and by tariff quota for the period 2014 to 2019.

4.2. Annual fill rates are calculated from the data provided in Table MA:2 notifications as the ratio of in-quota imports to tariff quota quantity commitment level for the year concerned. The fill rates are included only in those cases where a tariff quota is opened. In this paper, the fill rates are adjusted for cases where notified imports are greater than scheduled tariff quota quantities by setting a maximum of 100% tariff quota fill. In some cases where notified in-quota imports are aggregated for more than one tariff quota, fill rates are calculated based on the aggregated scheduled tariff quota quantities.

##### 4.1 TARIFF QUOTA ADMINISTRATION SUMMARY STATISTICS

4.3. Table 6 below provides summary information on the principal methods of tariff quota administration. Between 2014 and 2019, most tariff quotas were reported to be subject to the "applied tariffs" method. "Licences on demand" and "first-come first-served" are the second and third most widely used means of administering tariff quotas, respectively. Due to the number of outstanding Table MA:2 notifications, the table below reflects a declining number of reported administration methods towards the later years.<sup>21</sup>

**Table 6: Number of Tariff Quotas by Principal Administration Method, 2014-2019**

ADMINISTRATION METHOD	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Applied Tariffs	486	488	465	413	336	246
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>22</i>
First-Come, First-Served	95	99	99	99	62	62
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>
Licences On Demand	191	192	191	164	157	77
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>7</i>
Auctioning	64	64	51	51	53	45
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>4</i>
Historical Importers	71	71	70	61	48	16
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>
Imports Undertaken By State Trading Entities	11	11	11	11	10	0
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>
Producer Groups Or Associations	5	5	5	4	4	1
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.1</i>
Other	9	9	9	9	7	3
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.3</i>
Mixed Allocation Methods	65	64	82	81	49	20
<i>% of total scheduled tariff quotas</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>

<sup>21</sup> Table MA:2 notification for the implementation year 2019 may not necessarily be due for a Member by the cut-off date of the background document depending on the quota "year" followed by it.



ADMINISTRATION METHOD	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Non-Specified	0	0	0	1	2	2
% of total scheduled tariff quotas	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2
Total Number of Scheduled Tariff Quotas	1125	1125	1128	1128	1126	1126

4.4. Table 7 below provides details on the distribution of the additional conditions associated with tariff quota administration. Most tariff quotas do not have any of the additional conditions identified in Table 3 associated with their principal administration method. As in Table 6, a lack of Table MA:2 notifications may have impacted the figures especially towards the later years.

**Table 7: Number of Tariff Quotas with Additional Conditions in Connection with Principal Administration Methods, 2014-2019**

ADDITIONAL CONDITION	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Domestic Purchase Requirement	9	9	9	8	8	1
Limits On Tariff Quota Shares Per Allocation	37	37	37	37	36	34
Export Certificates	48	49	49	49	45	43
Past Trading Performance	64	64	64	53	50	44
Total Number of Tariff Quotas with Additional Conditions <sup>22</sup>	113	114	114	102	95	78
Number of Tariff Quotas with No Identified Additional Conditions	884	889	869	792	633	394
Tariff Quotas with Additional Conditions as a Percentage of Scheduled Tariff Quotas (%)	10	10	10	9	8	7

## 4.2 TARIFF QUOTAS SUBJECT TO COUNTRY-SPECIFIC QUANTITY (CSQ) ALLOCATIONS

4.5. From the perspective of the potential utilization of a tariff quota by exporting countries, there are two types of tariff quota allocations. Under a "global" tariff quota allocation system, the available quota quantity is not assigned to specific supplying countries. Simultaneously, some tariff quotas may entail "country-specific allocations". Under this allocation system, a specific country or a group of countries is granted access to a specified quantity within the overall tariff quota quantity. In some cases, Part I, Section I of Members' Schedules provides for such country-specific allocations under the column "*other terms and conditions*". Members are required to report information with regard to country-specific allocations or otherwise in their Table MA:1 notifications (entry "(a) *allocation of quotas to supplying countries*" in column 3) and the same has been used in the revised background paper.<sup>23</sup> Table 8 includes information on the number of tariff quotas with country-specific allocations organized by Member and by year. Attachment 1 identifies tariff quotas that are subject to country-specific allocations (using the symbol "CSQ"), broken down by Member and by year.

**Table 8: Number of tariff quotas with country-specific allocation by Member, 2014-2019**

Country-specific tariff quotas based on MA:1 notifications						
MEMBER	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1. Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Barbados	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Brazil	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Canada	5	5	5	5	5	5
5. Chile	1	1	1	1	0	0
6. China	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Colombia	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Costa Rica	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Dominican Republic	1	1	1	1	1	1
10. Ecuador	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. El Salvador	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. European Union	41	41	41	41	41	41
13. Guatemala	0	0	0	0	0	0
14. Iceland	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>22</sup> In some cases, a tariff quota has been subject to more than one additional conditions.

<sup>23</sup> In some very limited cases, information with regard to country-specific allocations has been reported by Members in Table MA:2 notifications.



Country-specific tariff quotas based on MA:1 notifications						
15. India	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Israel	1	1	1	1	1	1
18. Japan	1	1	1	1	1	1
19. Kazakhstan	0	0	0	0	0	0
20. Korea, Republic of	0	0	0	0	0	0
21. Malaysia	0	0	0	0	0	0
22. Mexico	0	0	0	0	0	0
23. Moldova, Republic of	2	2	2	2	2	2
24. Morocco	0	0	0	0	0	0
25. New Zealand	0	0	0	0	0	0
26. Nicaragua	0	0	0	0	0	0
27. North Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. Norway	3	3	3	3	3	3
29. Panama	1	1	1	1	1	1
30. Philippines	1	1	1	1	1	1
31. Russian Federation	3	3	3	3	3	3
32. South Africa	2	2	2	2	2	2
33. Switzerland	1	1	1	1	1	1
34. Chinese Taipei	1	1	1	1	1	1
35. Thailand	0	0	0	0	0	0
36. Tunisia	0	0	0	0	0	0
37. Ukraine	1	1	1	1	1	0
38. United States of America	29	29	29	29	29	29
39. Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	0	0	0	0	0	0
40. Viet Nam	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>92</b>

### 4.3 TARIFF QUOTA ADMINISTRATION AND TARIFF QUOTA FILL

4.6. Table 9 summarizes simple average fill rates by administration method and by year. Unopened tariff quotas<sup>24</sup> (identified by "AT" as the administration method in Attachment 1) have not been included in the calculation of fill rates. During the period 2014-2019, tariff quotas were 53% filled, on average. As previous Secretariat papers have noted, simple average fill rates should be understood to be only a broad indicator due to some inherent shortcomings. For example, fill rates do not differentiate tariff quotas based on size or economic importance. Also, fill rates do not distinguish between low- or high-value products since their calculation is based on volume rather than value. In some cases, a particular administration method was not identified in Table MA:2 notifications for a particular year (shown as blank in the table below). In addition, simple average annual fill rates are influenced by the changing number of applicable tariff quotas each year.

**Table 9: Simple average fill rates by tariff quota administration method and year (%)**

ADMINISTRATION METHOD	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Simple Average Fill Rate 2014-2019
First-Come, First-Served	48	45	47	47	44	39	45
Licences On Demand	50	49	51	51	49	42	49
Auctioning	55	51	46	49	54	55	52
Historical Importers	63	59	63	62	65	48	60
Imports Undertaken By State Trading Entities	53	55	47	48	43		49
Producer Groups Or Associations	87	80	78	54	72	47	70
Other	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Mixed Allocation Methods	62	68	66	65	67	49	63

<sup>24</sup> Refer to Section 3.1 for additional details.

ADMINISTRATION METHOD	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Simple Average Fill Rate 2014-2019
Non-Specified				100	82	63	82
Annual Simple Average Fill Rate Over All Tariff Quotas	54	53	54	54	54	46	53

## 5 MEMBERS' TRQ NOTIFICATION PRACTICES INCLUDING THE REPORTING OF FILL RATES

5.1. The agriculture notification obligations set out in G/AG/2 provide common notification formats to be used by Members to submit notifications in various areas, as well as the timelines to be respected in furnishing those notifications. Members with scheduled TRQ commitments are required to submit two specific notifications, namely, Tables MA:1 and MA:2, dealing respectively with tariff quota administration and annual in-quota imports. The issue of tariff quota administration also figured in the General Council discussions in the context of the work programme on implementation issues. The General Council Decision in WT/L/384, *inter alia*, requires Members administering TRQs to 'ensure that the notifications they provide to the Committee on Agriculture contain all the relevant information including details on guidelines and procedures on the allotment of TRQs'. The Decision, adopted with the understanding that it should not place undue new burdens on developing countries, also required Members to submit addenda to their Table MA:1 notifications.<sup>25</sup> The Bali TRQ Decision of December 2013 added greater specificity to how several provisions of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures applied to tariff quota administration and required Members to notify tariff quota fill rates.<sup>26</sup>

5.2. During the Review discussions, Members dwelt at length on the issue of enhanced transparency of TRQ administration and fill rates. The importance of consistency in Members' TRQ notifications was underlined during the Review. It was also acknowledged that the Secretariat's on-line agriculture notification system<sup>27</sup> should lead to improved consistency and harmonization. The agreed recommendations, *inter alia*, require the Secretariat to prepare a list of the existing TRQ notification practices of Members, including in cases where a scheduled TRQ was not opened. The recommendations also emphasize transparency in respect of the reporting of TRQ fill rates. Section 5 of the background note looks at the record of Members' reporting of fill rates in their Table MA:2 notifications and considers some aspects of their TRQ notification practices especially in cases where a TRQ is not opened.

### 5.1 NOTIFICATION OF FILL RATES

5.3. Paragraph 6 of the Bali TRQ Decision provides that tariff quota fill rates shall be notified. TRQ fill rate is also a key component to trigger the initiation of the underfill mechanism in Annex A to the Bali TRQ Decision. In response to the requirement to notify fill rate, and in order to encourage consistency among Members' notification practices in so doing, the Chairperson at the November 2014 meeting of the Committee advised Members to present information on fill rate by adding an extra column in their Table MA:2 notifications.<sup>28</sup> At the request of the Chairperson, the Secretariat circulated the modified MA:2 notification format in document G/AG/W/137.

5.4. Pursuant to the requirement in the Bali TRQ Decision, Members have generally reported fill rates in their Table MA:2 notifications, especially from 2014 and onwards. Considering the discussions in the Committee and the specific suggestion by the Chairperson, the on-line AG-IMS notification system launched in October 2019 incorporated the additional column in the MA:2 notification format so as to include information on fill rates. The processing of Members' notifications through the System has accordingly ensured a consistent presentation of fill rates in the additional column in Members' MA:2 notifications. Table 10 below includes information on

<sup>25</sup> Members' Table MA:1 notifications, included addenda, are searchable on <https://agims.wto.org/>.

<sup>26</sup> Paragraph 6 of WT/MIN(13)/39 refers.

<sup>27</sup> Accessible at <https://agims.wto.org/>. Login is required for submitting notifications online and can be requested through <https://agims.wto.org/>.

<sup>28</sup> Paragraph 2.16 of G/AG/R/76 refers.

Members' reporting of fill rates in their MA:2 notifications as well their compliance<sup>29</sup> with MA:2 notification obligations for the period 2014-2019.<sup>30</sup>

**Table 10: Members with TRQ commitments - Notification of fill rates and outstanding Table MA:2 notifications**

Member	Whether MA:2 Notifications include fill rates <sup>31</sup> ?	Implementation years with outstanding MA:2 notification (2014-19)	Comments
Australia	Yes		
Barbados	No	2014,2015,2016,2017,2018,2019	Latest MA:2 is for 2000.
Brazil	No	2019	None of the scheduled TRQs are opened.
Canada	Yes	2018,2019	2018 MA:2 notification is partial; notification in respect of 8 Scheduled TRQs implemented on a marketing year basis is outstanding
Chile	Yes		
China	Yes	2019	
Colombia	No	2019	None of the scheduled TRQs are opened.
Costa Rica	Yes		
Dominican Republic	Yes		
Ecuador	Yes	2017,2018,2019	2017 and 2018 MA:2 notifications are being processed for distribution.
El Salvador	Yes	2016,2017,2018,2019	
European Union	Yes		
Guatemala	Yes	2018,2019	
Iceland	Yes	2016,2017,2018,2019	
India	Yes	2019	
Indonesia	No	2019	None of the scheduled TRQs are opened.
Israel	Yes		
Japan	Yes	2019	
Kazakhstan	Yes		
Korea, Republic of	Yes	2019	
Malaysia	Yes	2017,2018,2019	
Mexico	Yes	2019	
Moldova	Yes		
Morocco	Yes	2018,2019	
New Zealand	No		None of the scheduled TRQs are opened.
Nicaragua	Yes		
North Macedonia	Yes		
Norway	Yes		
Panama	Yes		
Philippines	Yes	2019	
Russian Federation	Yes		
South Africa	Yes	2017,2018,2019	2017 and 2018 MA:2 notifications are being processed for distribution.
Switzerland	Yes	2019	
Chinese Taipei	Yes		
Thailand	Yes	2019	
Tunisia	Yes	2018,2019	2018 MA:2 notification is being processed for distribution.
Ukraine	Yes		
United States	Yes	2018,2019	

<sup>29</sup> The Secretariat regularly produces a document (in the G/AG/GEN/86/ series) that summarizes the compliance by Members with their agriculture notification obligations. The document includes details of the notification record of individual WTO Members with respect to Table MA:1 and Table MA:2 notifications.

<sup>30</sup> The 2019 implementation year is included for information only and does not necessarily indicate that the notification was already due.

<sup>31</sup> "Yes" includes cases where a Table MA:2 notification does not include fill rates for some of the scheduled TRQs that are not opened for the relevant implementation year. Also, in some cases, two or more scheduled TRQs are managed together and the corresponding in-quota imports and fill rates are reported collectively.

Member	Whether MA:2 Notifications include fill rates <sup>31?</sup>	Implementation years with outstanding MA:2 notification (2014-19)	Comments
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	Yes	2014,2015,2018,2019	
Viet Nam	Yes		

5.5. The information in Table 10 confirms that all Members with TRQ commitments include fill rates in their Table MA:2 notifications except in a few cases where the concerned Members do not open any of the scheduled TRQs as they are able to provide equivalent or better market access conditions by way of a single 'applied tariff' regime. In one case where the fill rate is not reported in Table 10 above, the concerned Member has not submitted Table MA:2 notifications after the adoption of the Bali TRQ Decision. The Table also shows Members' outstanding Table MA:2 notifications for the period 2014-2019 (see footnote 29). The underfill mechanism of the Bali TRQ Decision may be triggered when either the fill rate is below 65% or the importing Member subject to TRQ commitments does not notify the fill rate.

5.6. The matters related to TRQ fill rates have been regularly raised under the Committee's review process. Pursuant to the agreed recommendations of the Review, a list of such matters raised in the Committee after the adoption of the Bali TRQ Decision is included in Annex B to the paper.

## 5.2 MEMBERS' TABLES MA:1 AND MA:2 NOTIFICATIONS AND ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

5.7. WTO Members are required to notify their tariff quota administration methods using Table MA:1 notifications at the time of the first opening of the scheduled tariff quotas. According to the agreed notification requirements and formats (G/AG/2), Members should notify subsequent changes to the notified administration method in an *ad hoc* manner when those changes are implemented. In situations where Members did not provide new information on administration methods, it was assumed that their tariff quota administration methods did not change. In addition to the requirement to report tariff quota administration arrangements in Table MA:1 notifications, Members are also required to annually report in-quota imports in respect of scheduled tariff quota products in the form of a Table MA:2 notification.

5.8. A comparison of the count of scheduled and annually opened tariff quotas respectively in Tables 1 and 5 above shows that more than half of the tariff quotas in Members' schedules remain unopened. These include cases where MFN applied tariff on a tariff quota product already provides equivalent or better access conditions compared to the bound in-quota tariff, hence obviating the need to administer a two-tier tariff quota regime. Section 3.1 provides a detailed explanation of unopened tariff quotas (i.e. subject to an 'applied tariff' regime), including when the scheduled tariff commitments are such that the concerned tariff quotas do not provide any tariff advantage.<sup>32</sup>

### 5.2.1 ON-LINE AGRICULTURE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (AG-IMS)

5.9. The On-line Agriculture Notification System was launched in October 2019 for use by all Members. The System, conceived in response to the 2009 work programme of the Committee on Agriculture to improve timeliness and completeness of notifications, replicates the notification formats in G/AG/2 and simultaneously provides for the possibility to accommodate the voluntary transparency practices and additional information that Members have been providing in their notifications.<sup>33</sup> The System also seeks to facilitate consistency and comparability of Members' notifications by way of an enhanced harmonization of their notification practices.

5.10. Tables MA:1 and MA:2 notifications require Members to respectively present information on import arrangements and in-quota imports in respect of tariff and other quota commitments recorded in Section I-B (or Section I-A) of their Schedules. The System provides an automatic access to Members' scheduled commitments sourced from the Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS)

<sup>32</sup> Please refer to Table 4.

<sup>33</sup> Paragraphs 2.48-2.49 of G/AG/R/93 refer.

database. This enables Members to consult and suitably reproduce their tariff quota commitments while submitting their Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications.

5.11. A significant number of scheduled tariff quotas are not opened annually. Members have had disparate reporting practices to identify and deal with those unopened tariff quotas in their Tables MA:1 and MA:2 notifications. In order to assist Members to easily identify such unopened tariff quotas, the System includes a feature where a notifying Member may simply tick a box that says, "*not opened*". This feature has greatly facilitated consistency in the identification of unopened tariff quotas in Members' Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications.

## 5.2.2 TABLES MA:1 AND MA:2 NOTIFICATIONS AND UNOPENED TARIFF QUOTAS

5.12. The notification practices of Members regarding unopened tariff quotas (i.e. subject to "applied tariffs" (AT) regime) have been different. This has been the case for the notification of import arrangements as well as of annual in-quota imports. The On-line Notification System has facilitated the identification of these quotas through the use of the 'not opened' box in Members' Tables MA:1 and MA:2 notifications. To demonstrate that a concerned tariff quota is not opened and is rather subject to an 'applied tariff' system, Members in most cases have relied on Table MA:2 (rather than Table MA:1)<sup>34</sup> notifications. However, in cases where a tariff quota is not opened in a particular year due to a lower applied tariff, the obligation to open that tariff quota in subsequent years may arise as soon as the tariff is raised beyond the relevant bound in-quota tariff level. Concerning the administration method once the tariff quota is reactivated, it is assumed that the tariff quota administration method notified prior to the reactivation of tariff quota remains valid, unless a change in respect of tariff quota administration is notified through a new Table MA:1 notification.

5.13. While a Table MA:2 notification may bear the burden of reporting or identifying unopened tariff quotas (by clicking 'not opened' box), cases also exist when a Table MA:2 notification has been used to report new or modified import arrangements. The MA:2 format may not however be equipped to accommodate complete details of import arrangement employed. Reliance on a Table MA:2 notification to report import arrangements might also pose some additional challenges especially in determining the temporal validity of the information contained therein: the information contained in a Table MA:2 notification for a particular reporting year is generally considered applicable for that reporting year only; whereas an import arrangement system notified in a Table MA:1 notification is deemed valid until it is subsequently modified by way of another Table MA:1 notification.<sup>35</sup>

5.14. The difference in Members' notification practices for unopened tariff quotas has been most noticeable in Table MA:2 notifications for the reporting of annual in-quota imports. In the past, some Members had included such tariff quotas in their Table MA:2 notifications and reported total quantity of imports for the relevant product.<sup>36</sup> A number of Members in those cases capped the reported quantity of imports for such "AT" tariff quotas at the level of tariff quota commitment quantity. Simultaneously, there were cases where a notifying Member simply omitted the unopened tariff quotas from their Table MA:2 notifications.

5.15. With the launch of the On-line Notification System, there has been increased consistency in Members' Table MA:2 notifications in dealing with unopened tariff quotas. In most cases, unopened tariff quotas are listed in the tabular section of the Table MA:2 notification with columns on in-quota imports and fill rate left empty. In some cases, the notifying Members have additionally chosen to report total imports of the relevant quota products in their Table MA:2 notifications; this information is generally included in the form of specific notes or footnotes.<sup>37</sup> There are also examples where

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<sup>34</sup> In some cases Members did submit a Table MA:1 notification to notify that a particular tariff quota had been eliminated and the relevant import arrangement was based on a single MFN applied tariff. This is often the case when the decision to lower the applied tariff on the tariff quota product at a level equal to or below the bound in-quota tariff is more definitive or long-term.

<sup>35</sup> This may be the case, for example, when a Table MA:2 notification specifies that a particular tariff quota was implemented with country-specific quota (CSQ) allocations. There have been cases when Table MA:2 notifications did include information on CSQ allocations.

<sup>36</sup> As there is no distinction between in-quota and out-of-quota imports for unopened tariff quotas.

<sup>37</sup> Some Members also chose to report total imports in the column on "in-quota imports".

notifying Members decided not to specifically include unopened tariff quotas in the tabular section of the notification and rather referred to them in the cover note of the notification.<sup>38</sup>

5.16. In very limited cases, tariff quotas with no tariff advantage (i.e. where the applied MFN tariff is already equal to or below the bound in-quota tariff) have been reported to be opened in Table MA:2 notifications with information on in-quota imports and fill rate contained therein.<sup>39</sup> Notifications covering such tariff quotas seem to broadly correspond to the following situations:

- i. Application of the Special Safeguard provision (Article 5 of the Agreement on Agriculture-SSG) on a product subject to tariff quota: In such cases, while there may not be a general tariff advantage in availing tariff quota access (as the applied MFN tariff does not exceed the in-quota tariff), exemption of in-quota imports from the application of additional duties under the SSG provides value and incentive to importers to apply for access to such tariff quotas with otherwise no tariff advantage.
  - ii. Decision to open an autonomous tariff quota on a scheduled product: This may be for assuring domestic supply of the concerned product or for other reasons (e.g. establishing a parity of import conditions with another product whose importation is subject to a tariff quota).
  - iii. Despite the absence of a tariff advantage, a Member does not wish to declare or identify a tariff quota as being 'not opened' and reports the corresponding in-quota imports and fill rates in its Table MA:2 notifications.
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<sup>38</sup> This approach is also resorted to for practical reasons when the count of unopened tariff quotas is very high.

<sup>39</sup> In some cases, the applied tariff on a product subject to tariff quota commitment depends on import prices making it difficult to assess the 'tariff advantage' (i.e. the difference between the applied tariff level and the corresponding bound in-quota tariff).

## ANNEX A

**Table A.1: Principal Administration Methods – Simple Average Fill Rates<sup>1</sup> by Member, 2014-2019 (%)**

MEMBER	AU	FC	HI	LD	MX	NS	OT	PG	ST	AVERAGE
<b>Australia</b>										
2014			100							100
2015			100							100
2016			100							100
2017			100							100
2018			100							100
2019			100							100
<b>Barbados</b>										
2014										
2015										
2016										
2017										
2018										
2019										
<b>Brazil</b>										
2014										
2015										
2016										
2017										
2018										
2019										
<b>Canada</b>										
2014		62	59	68	70		100		99	74
2015		66	61	68	70		100		100	70
2016		68	63	68	69		100		100	70
2017		70	65	67	68		100		100	67
2018				67	71		100			72
2019										
<b>Chile</b>										
2014				0						0
2015				0						0
2016				0						0
2017				0						0
2018										
2019										
<b>China</b>										
2014				100	63					69
2015				100	72					77
2016				100	69					74
2017				100	72					77
2018				100	66					72
2019										

<sup>1</sup> Fill rates have been rounded. In some cases, '0' may have resulted from rounding. The "average" fill rate figures in the last column represent the simple average of the yearly fill rates in respect of all open tariff quotas for the Member concerned.







MEMBER	AU	FC	HI	LD	MX	NS	OT	PG	ST	AVERAGE
<b>Mexico</b>										
2014			100							100
2015			100							100
2016			100							100
2017			100							100
2018			100							100
2019										
<b>Moldova, Republic of</b>										
2014				92						92
2015				100						100
2016				100						100
2017				100						100
2018				100						100
2019				100						100
<b>Morocco</b>										
2014		40								40
2015		44								44
2016		47								47
2017		41								41
2018										
2019										
<b>New Zealand</b>										
2014										
2015										
2016										
2017										
2018										
2019										
<b>Nicaragua</b>										
2014					71					71
2015					73					73
2016					76					76
2017					78					78
2018					79					79
2019					81					81
<b>North Macedonia</b>										
2014		30								30
2015		28								28
2016		17								17
2017		28								28
2018		10								10
2019		22								22
<b>Norway</b>										
2014	58		90	100	100	82		96		65
2015	58		90	20	100	48		98		58
2016	58		90	23	100	43		91		63
2017	57		90	26	100			14		58
2018	57		84	26	100	64		89		53
2019	57		84	26	100	27		47		59



MEMBER	AU	FC	HI	LD	MX	NS	OT	PG	ST	AVERAGE
<b>Tunisia</b>										
2014			61							61
2015			59							59
2016			48							48
2017			50							50
2018										
2019										
<b>Ukraine</b>										
2014				0						0
2015				0						0
2016				0						0
2017				0						0
2018				0						0
2019				0						0
<b>United States of America</b>										
2014		49			55					51
2015		51			64					55
2016		52			66					57
2017		50			60					53
2018										
2019										
<b>Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of</b>										
2014										
2015										
2016					54					54
2017					51					51
2018										
2019										
<b>Viet Nam</b>										
2014				100						100
2015				100						100
2016				33						33
2017				56						56
2018				42						42
2019				31						31

**ANNEX B****QUESTIONS RAISED IN COA MEETINGS CONCERNING TRQ FILL RATES  
(JANUARY 2014 – JULY 2020)<sup>1</sup>**

ID #	CoA Meeting Number	COA Meeting Date	Question raised by	Question answered by	Broad Products	Products
<a href="#">93046</a>	93	28/07/2020	New Zealand	Canada		
<a href="#">93061</a>	93	28/07/2020	Paraguay	European Union		
<a href="#">93062</a>	93	28/07/2020	Paraguay	Switzerland		
<a href="#">93088</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Brazil	Cereals	Wheat
<a href="#">93090</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">93092</a>	93	28/07/2020	Russian Federation	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">93093</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	European Union		
<a href="#">93095</a>	93	28/07/2020	New Zealand	European Union		
<a href="#">93096</a>	93	28/07/2020	Russian Federation	European Union		
<a href="#">93097</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Korea, Republic of		
<a href="#">93098</a>	93	28/07/2020	Brazil	Korea, Republic of	Fruit and Vegetables	Fresh vegetables
<a href="#">93099</a>	93	28/07/2020	Russian Federation	Korea, Republic of		
<a href="#">93100</a>	93	28/07/2020	Russian Federation	Morocco	Live animals	Sheep and goat
<a href="#">93103</a>	93	28/07/2020	Thailand	Ukraine	Sugar	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other
<a href="#">93105</a>	93	28/07/2020	Russian Federation	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of		
<a href="#">93181</a>	93	28/07/2020	New Zealand	Norway		
<a href="#">93189</a>	93	28/07/2020	European Union	Kazakhstan	Meat	Bovine
<a href="#">93204</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Japan		
<a href="#">93205</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Kazakhstan		
<a href="#">93206</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Nicaragua		
<a href="#">93207</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Norway		
<a href="#">93208</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Panama		
<a href="#">93209</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Russian Federation		
<a href="#">93214</a>	93	28/07/2020	Australia	Chinese Taipei		
<a href="#">93237</a>	93	28/07/2020	Paraguay	European Union		
<a href="#">93304</a>	93	28/07/2020	United States of America	Canada	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other
<a href="#">93312</a>	93	28/07/2020	New Zealand	Canada		
<a href="#">92110</a>	92	30/10/2019	Russian Federation	Thailand		
<a href="#">92111</a>	92	30/10/2019	Ukraine	Thailand		
<a href="#">92112</a>	92	30/10/2019	Australia	Thailand		
<a href="#">91017</a>	91	25/06/2019	New Zealand	Canada		
<a href="#">91030</a>	91	25/06/2019	European Union	Canada	Dairy	Butter
<a href="#">91031</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Canada	Meat	Bovine, Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Wheat

<sup>1</sup> The complete questions and answers can be accessed by clicking on the ID number. One may also go to the Agriculture Information Management System at <http://agims.wto.org> and enter the ID numbers in the function "Search Q&A Submitted Since 1995" to access the relevant record of discussions. Alternatively, to obtain all records, users may do a search using the keyword "Tariff quota fill" in the available search criteria of the function "Search Q&A Submitted Since 1995".

ID #	CoA Meeting Number	COA Meeting Date	Question raised by	Question answered by	Broad Products	Products
<a href="#">91032</a>	91	25/06/2019	Russian Federation	Canada	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Coarse grains
<a href="#">91033</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Costa Rica		
<a href="#">91034</a>	91	25/06/2019	Russian Federation	Costa Rica		
<a href="#">91035</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	European Union		
<a href="#">91037</a>	91	25/06/2019	Russian Federation	European Union		
<a href="#">91038</a>	91	25/06/2019	European Union	India	Dairy	Milk powders, Vegetable oils and fats
<a href="#">91039</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Japan		
<a href="#">91040</a>	91	25/06/2019	European Union	Japan	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other
<a href="#">91041</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Kazakhstan	Meat	Bovine, Poultry
<a href="#">91042</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Norway		
<a href="#">91045</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Panama	Meat	Poultry, Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Fresh vegetables
<a href="#">91046</a>	91	25/06/2019	European Union	Philippines	Live animals	Live animals, Bovine, Swine, Sheep and goat, Poultry, Horses, Other, Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other
<a href="#">91047</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Philippines	Live animals	Live animals, Bovine, Swine, Sheep and goat, Poultry, Horses, Other, Bovine, Sheep and goat
<a href="#">91048</a>	91	25/06/2019	Australia	Russian Federation	Meat	Bovine, Swine, Poultry, Other
<a href="#">91049</a>	91	25/06/2019	European Union	Russian Federation	Meat	Swine
<a href="#">91050</a>	91	25/06/2019	European Union	United States of America	Dairy	Cheese, Fresh vegetables
<a href="#">91081</a>	91	25/06/2019	Canada	European Union	Meat	Swine, Wheat
<a href="#">91082</a>	91	25/06/2019	Canada	Japan	Fruit and Vegetables	Processed vegetables, Coarse grains
<a href="#">91083</a>	91	25/06/2019	Canada	Kazakhstan	Meat	Bovine
<a href="#">91085</a>	91	25/06/2019	Canada	Russian Federation	Meat	Bovine, Swine
<a href="#">91128</a>	91	25/06/2019	Indonesia	Thailand	Fruit and Vegetables	Fruit, Coffee
<a href="#">90048</a>	90	26/02/2019	Russian Federation	North Macedonia		
<a href="#">90072</a>	90	26/02/2019	Australia	India	Cereals	Corn
<a href="#">90073</a>	90	26/02/2019	Australia	North Macedonia		
<a href="#">90074</a>	90	26/02/2019	Australia	Ukraine	Sugar	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other
<a href="#">90090</a>	90	26/02/2019	Canada	North Macedonia		
<a href="#">89052</a>	89	26/11/2018	Australia	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">89068</a>	89	26/11/2018	Australia	European Union		



ID #	CoA Meeting Number	COA Meeting Date	Question raised by	Question answered by	Broad Products	Products
<a href="#">89069</a>	89	26/11/2018	Russian Federation	European Union	Meat	Poultry, Milk powders, Butter, Eggs
<a href="#">89070</a>	89	26/11/2018	Thailand	European Union		
<a href="#">89071</a>	89	26/11/2018	Russian Federation	Panama	Meat	Poultry
<a href="#">88024</a>	88	25/09/2018	Australia	South Africa	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Eggs, Processed fruit or nuts
<a href="#">88025</a>	88	25/09/2018	Australia	Malaysia		
<a href="#">88057</a>	88	25/09/2018	New Zealand	Norway	Meat	Sheep and goat, Butter
<a href="#">87083</a>	87	11/6/2018	Australia	Canada	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Wheat
<a href="#">87084</a>	87	11/6/2018	Australia	Chinese Taipei	Fruit and Vegetables	Fruit
<a href="#">87085</a>	87	11/6/2018	Australia	Russian Federation	Meat	Bovine, Other
<a href="#">87086</a>	87	11/6/2018	Australia	United States of America	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Cotton
<a href="#">87111</a>	87	11/6/2018	Australia	Japan	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other
<a href="#">86043</a>	86	21/02/2018	Switzerland	Costa Rica	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other
<a href="#">86072</a>	86	21/02/2018	European Union	El Salvador	Dairy	Cheese
<a href="#">85014</a>	85	17/10/2017	United States of America	Norway	Live animals	Swine, Poultry, Eggs, Fresh vegetables
<a href="#">85040</a>	85	17/10/2017	European Union	Kazakhstan	Meat	Bovine, Poultry
<a href="#">85080</a>	85	17/10/2017	Australia	Kazakhstan	Meat	Bovine
<a href="#">85082</a>	85	17/10/2017	Thailand	Malaysia	Live animals	Poultry, Swine, Eggs
<a href="#">84053</a>	84	7/6/2017	Canada	European Union		
<a href="#">84100</a>	84	7/6/2017	Guatemala	United States of America	Sugar	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other
<a href="#">84101</a>	84	7/6/2017	Guatemala	European Union		
<a href="#">83015</a>	83	28/03/2017	European Union	Moldova, Republic of		
<a href="#">82063</a>	82	9/11/2016	Switzerland	Thailand	Dairy	Milk
<a href="#">81026</a>	81	14/09/2016	United States of America	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">81034</a>	81	14/09/2016	European Union	Canada		
<a href="#">81036</a>	81	14/09/2016	European Union	Korea, Republic of	Fruit and Vegetables	Fruit
<a href="#">81037</a>	81	14/09/2016	European Union	Tunisia	Meat	Meat, Bovine, Swine, Sheep and goat, Poultry, Horses, Other, Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Fresh vegetables
<a href="#">81072</a>	81	14/09/2016	Australia	Tunisia	Dairy	Milk powders, Butter
<a href="#">81073</a>	81	14/09/2016	Canada	Tunisia	Meat	Bovine, Fresh vegetables

ID #	CoA Meeting Number	COA Meeting Date	Question raised by	Question answered by	Broad Products	Products
<a href="#">81099</a>	81	14/09/2016	Switzerland	South Africa	Dairy	Butter, Cheese
<a href="#">81100</a>	81	14/09/2016	Switzerland	Tunisia	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other
<a href="#">80018</a>	80	7/6/2016	Australia	Japan	Dairy	Milk powders
<a href="#">80058</a>	80	7/6/2016	European Union	Japan	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other
<a href="#">80060</a>	80	7/6/2016	European Union	Norway	Meat	Poultry
<a href="#">80070</a>	80	7/6/2016	Canada	China	Cereals	Wheat
<a href="#">80093</a>	80	7/6/2016	United States of America	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">80099</a>	80	7/6/2016	Thailand	Chinese Taipei	Fruit and Vegetables	Fruit
<a href="#">80100</a>	80	7/6/2016	Thailand	Russian Federation	Meat	Poultry
<a href="#">79006</a>	79	9/3/2016	United States of America	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">79048</a>	79	9/3/2016	Australia	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn
<a href="#">79049</a>	79	9/3/2016	Australia	Ukraine	Sugar	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other
<a href="#">79068</a>	79	9/3/2016	Canada	China	Cereals	Wheat
<a href="#">79078</a>	79	9/3/2016	Switzerland	Costa Rica	Dairy	Cheese, Other
<a href="#">78004</a>	78	25/09/2015	United States of America	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">78043</a>	78	25/09/2015	South Africa	European Union	Fruit and Vegetables	Fruit, Other
<a href="#">77036</a>	77	4/6/2015	Switzerland	Canada	Dairy	Milk
<a href="#">77049</a>	77	4/6/2015	European Union	Japan	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other, Processed vegetables, Nuts
<a href="#">77068</a>	77	4/6/2015	United States of America	China	Cereals	Wheat, Corn, Rice
<a href="#">76022</a>	76	4/3/2015	Australia	Korea, Republic of		
<a href="#">75003</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Chile		
<a href="#">75005</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Iceland		
<a href="#">75006</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Japan		
<a href="#">75007</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Mexico		
<a href="#">75008</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Panama		
<a href="#">75009</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Moldova, Republic of		
<a href="#">75010</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Philippines		
<a href="#">75012</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Thailand	Cereals	Rice, Animal feed
<a href="#">75014</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	South Africa		
<a href="#">75015</a>	75	13/11/2014	Australia	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of		
<a href="#">75034</a>	75	13/11/2014	Canada	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	Sugar	Sugar, Cane or beet sugar, Other
<a href="#">75081</a>	75	13/11/2014	Peru	Iceland	Cereals	Cereals, Wheat, Corn, Rice, Malt, Coarse grains
<a href="#">74002</a>	74	5/6/2014	Canada	China		
<a href="#">74003</a>	74	5/6/2014	New Zealand	Costa Rica	Dairy	Milk powders
<a href="#">74004</a>	74	5/6/2014	Canada	Russian Federation	Meat	Bovine
<a href="#">74026</a>	74	5/6/2014	European Union	Dominican Republic	Meat	Poultry, Rice

<b>ID #</b>	<b>CoA Meeting Number</b>	<b>COA Meeting Date</b>	<b>Question raised by</b>	<b>Question answered by</b>	<b>Broad Products</b>	<b>Products</b>
<a href="#">74060</a>	74	5/6/2014	Indonesia	Chinese Taipei	Fruit and Vegetables	Fresh vegetables, Cut flowers
<a href="#">73057</a>	73	21/03/2014	European Union	Tunisia	Dairy	Cheese
<a href="#">72013</a>	72	29/01/2014	Australia	European Union	Cereals	Rice
<a href="#">72014</a>	72	29/01/2014	Australia	Panama	Fruit and Vegetables	Processed vegetables
<a href="#">72060</a>	72	29/01/2014	Switzerland	Panama	Dairy	Dairy, Milk, Milk powders, Butter, Cheese, Other

**ANNEX C**

## TECHNICAL NOTES

<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>TQID</b>	<b>NOTE</b>
Brazil	BRAQ002	Tariff quota not opened until 2018. Tariff quota administration arrangement notified for the quota year 2019-20 in G/AG/N/BRA/55.
Canada	CANQ005	Imports of fluid milk by consumers are not counted. By virtue of General Import Permit #1, which regulates the importation of dairy products for personal use, any resident of Canada may import fluid milk. The General Import Permit may be invoked an unlimited number of times
	CANQ022	Introduced in accordance with WT/LET/819 – New schedule effective as of 6 July 2011
		Table MA:2 notification for 2018 is partial. 2018 MA:2 notifications covers only tariff quotas implemented on a calendar year basis
China	CHNQ003, CHNQ004	Import data for CHNQ003 is reported under CHNQ004
	CHNQ005, 006, 007	Tariff quotas were eliminated in accordance with the Schedule CLII on 1 January 2006
European Union	All	For a number of tariff quotas, the in-quota import data reflect authorized imports rather than effective imports. Please see the MA:2 notifications for further details.  EU's consolidated Table MA:1 notification in G/AG/N/EU/31 (and Corr.1) has been used to assign the principal administration method as well as additional conditions in Attachment 1.
	EU-Q001-124	TQIDs based on the draft EU-28 Schedule in G/MA/TAR/RS/506
	EU-Q085-86	Two tariff quotas on manioc starch are managed together
Iceland	ISLQ057, 083	Import data for ISLQ057 is reported under ISLQ083
	ISLQ085,086	Import data for ISL Q086 is reported under ISLQ085
Japan	JPNQ002, 004, 008	The tariff quota quantities opened (2012 onwards) and actual in-quota imports do not include quantities available in the Hozei area (area where collection of customs duties on imports is temporarily reserved), as described in the Notes to Section I-B of Part I of the Schedule
	JPNQ003, 005	The tariff quota system is not applied, as these products can be imported in the Hozei area (where the collection of customs duties is temporarily reserved), provided they are used for consumption in the cruise of international maritime vessels and international airlines as described in the Notes to Section I-B of Part I of Japan's Schedule. Import statistics for products subject to the Hozei area system are not available
Malaysia	MYSQ008, 009, 010	Import data of MYSQ008 and MYSQ009 are reported together under MYSQ010
Morocco	MARQ011, 013, 014	Scheduled tariff quota quantities are zero
Norway	NORQ091, 092, 093	During 2014-2015, import data of NORQ091 and NORQ092 are reported together under NORQ093.
Panama	PANQ016	Tariff quota was eliminated through GATT Art XXVIII process in 2013 (refer to WT/LET/891).

<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>TQID</b>	<b>NOTE</b>
Russian Federation	RUSQ003, 004	Import data of RUSQ004 is reported under RUSQ003. Tariff quotas shall be eliminated on 1 January 2020. Upon elimination of TRQs, a flat bound rate of 25% shall apply
	RUSQ005, 006,007	In the case of elimination of the TRQs, a flat bound rate of 37.5% shall apply
	RUSQ008	Scheduled quota quantity is zero. In the case of elimination of the tariff rate quota, a flat bound rate of 37.5% shall apply
Switzerland	CHEQ023, 024, 025	Import data of CHEQ023, CHEQ024 and CHEQ025 is reported together. The three wine TRQs have been merged into a single TRQ in the Schedule effective 24 January 2018 (refer to WT/LET/1333)
Chinese Taipei	CHTQ001, 002, 003, 004	Tariff quotas were phased out in accordance with the Schedule CLIII on 1 January 2005
	CHTQ019	Tariff quota was phased out in accordance with the Schedule CLIII from 2008
	CHTQ021	Quota has been phased out since 7 February 2005 (G/AG/N/TPKM/22 refers)
United States of America	USAQ003, 005, 007, 011, 015, 027, 029, 031-032, 048	Tariff quotas reserved for Mexico under NAFTA; Table MA:2 notifications for the period covered by the paper (2014-2019) do not include these tariff quotas.
Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep. of	VENQ028	Scheduled tariff quota quantity is zero

**ATTACHMENTS 1 and 2****ADMINISTRATION METHODS, FILL RATES, NOTIFIED QUANTITIES  
AND IMPORTS (2014-2019), AND TARIFF QUOTAS WITH FILL RATES BELOW 65%**

**Attachment 1** includes data on in-quota imports, administration methods, including country-specific allocations where relevant, and fill rates disaggregated at the tariff quota level by Member and by year. The information has been sourced principally from Members' Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications. Tariff quotas where the fill rate during the covered period is below 65% have been listed out separately in **Attachment 2**. The data elements contained in the two Attachments are as follows:

<b>COLUMN HEADING</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF DATA ELEMENT</b>
Member	Member having a tariff quota commitment specified in its WTO Schedule.
Implementation Year	Implementation year/Reporting year as notified by the Member concerned.
TQ ID	Seven-character tariff quota identifier code is comprised of the three-letter WTO Member code, followed by "Q" for "quota", followed by the three-digit number representing the sequential order in which the tariff quota is listed in the relevant schedule.
Description of products (CTS)	Description of the tariff quota, as specified in the Member's WTO Schedule.
Admin method	A code indicating the principal administration method in the relevant implementation year (for the code descriptions see <b>Table 2</b> of this paper).
ADC	A code indicating any additional condition in the relevant implementation year (for the code descriptions see <b>Table 3</b> of this paper). Blank means no additional condition listed in Table 3 applies.
CSQ allocation	This column indicates whether the tariff quota concerned has country-specific allocation arrangements for the relevant implementation year (information sourced from Members' Table MA:1 and MA:2 notifications).
Fill rate	Tariff quota fill rates (in %) are listed for each of the implementation years, 2014-2019. The fill rates are adjusted for cases where notified imports are greater than tariff quota quantities by setting a maximum of 100% tariff quota fill. The fill rate column is kept empty for tariff quotas subject to 'applied tariff' (AT) administration method; such tariff quotas have also been excluded from Attachment 2.
Unit	Units for each tariff quota as notified by relevant WTO Member.
Final Quantity	The scheduled tariff quota quantity for the relevant implementation year. (In the case of the European Union, the tariff quota quantities are based on the draft EU-28 Schedule in G/MA/TAR/RS/506 as used by the EU in its Table MA:2 notifications).
In-quota imports during period	In-quota imports as notified by relevant WTO Members for the relevant implementation years.

Two Excel files\* in Attachments 1 and 2 are available in electronic format (Microsoft Excel) from *Documents On-line*.

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\* In original language only.