



7 December 2023

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Council for Trade in Goods

Original: English

FOLLOW-UP NOTE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE CTG

MEETING OF 30 NOVEMBER – 1 DECEMBER 2023

1.1. At its meeting of 30 November – 1 December 2023, the Council for Trade in Goods (hereinafter "the Council") agreed on a trial basis on "the creation of a new 'follow-up' document, under the authority of the Chairperson, concisely collating agreed next steps, deadlines, and actions to be taken by delegations in preparation for the next formal meeting."¹ This new document has been prepared under the responsibility of the Chairperson with a view to implementing this agreement as a follow-up to this formal meeting, and in preparation of the next formal meeting of the Council, which has been tentatively scheduled for 30 April – 1 May 2024.

1.2. Please take note of the following information:

SUBJECT	DETAIL
1. Remarks by the Chairperson:	The Chairperson's remarks under each item are available on eAgenda .
2. Decisions taken at the meeting:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Members adopted two <i>ad hoc</i> reports and agreed to submit them to the General Council:<ol style="list-style-type: none">Report on Improvements in the Functioning of the Council for Trade in Goods and its Subsidiary Bodies (G/L/1523);Report on the WTO Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Preparedness for Future Pandemics (G/L/1521);Members agreed to follow written procedures for the approval of an updated version of the annual report. Since no comments were received on the draft circulated to Members by the Secretariat in an email of 4 December 2023, the Annual Report was adopted on 6 December 2023 and submitted to the General Council (G/L/1524);On a trial basis, Members adopted four measures to improve the functioning of the CTG. These measures concerned the following: (i) the circulation of information regarding informal meetings; (ii) the Chairperson's follow-up note on actions following formal meetings; (iii) the CTG information hub; and (iv) the format and content of the convening notice (Airgram) (G/L/1522).
3. Upcoming meetings:	<p>The provisional dates of upcoming meetings of the Council are currently described in the tentative calendar of meetings (JOB/CTG/40). A regularly updated list of such information is available via the WTO Calendar of meetings and the Council for Trade in Goods webpages.</p> <p>The Secretariat informed Members that on 18 April 2024 it will hold an information session for delegates on the functioning of the CTG. The Secretariat is currently also exploring dates to organize the next Annual Information Session on the WTO's Digital Tools, of which the 2022 session can be accessed here.</p>

¹ [G/L/1522](#)

SUBJECT	DETAIL
4. Key dates for the upcoming meeting:	<p>Please take note of the following tentative dates concerning the CTG's next formal meeting:</p> <p><u>Date of the meeting</u>: 30 April – 1 May 2024 <u>Activation of the meeting's eAgenda</u>: 28 March 2024 <u>Circulation of the meeting's initial convening notice</u>: 28 March 2024 <u>Closure of the meeting's agenda</u>: 15 April 2024 <u>Circulation of the meeting's revised convening notice, including the meeting's tentative agenda</u>: 16 April 2024 <u>Circulation of the meeting's annotated agenda</u>: 19 April 2024</p>
5. Guidance on how to add items to the agenda of the next meeting	<p>Members can add items to the agenda in two ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Directly through the Collaborative Agenda section of the eAgenda²; or 2. By sending an email to the CTG team (Roy.Santana@wto.org, Arti.Daswani@wto.org and Craig.James@wto.org). For transparency, the Secretariat will also include any such request in the eAgenda.
6. Agreed items reverted to by the Council, and standing items	<p>At the upcoming meeting, the Council will consider the following standing agenda items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notified Regional Trade Agreements; 2. A report by the Secretariat on the status of notifications under the provisions of the agreements in Annex 1(a) of the WTO Agreement, as of 31 December 2023, which will be circulated as the next revision in the G/L/223/- document series.

² Please refer to the [Guidelines on how to use the eAgenda for the Council for Trade in Goods](#).