



**Committee on Trade and Development
Dedicated Session on Regional Trade Agreements
Committee on Regional Trade Agreements**

FACTUAL PRESENTATION

**FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL (GCC)
MEMBER STATES AND SINGAPORE
(GOODS AND SERVICES)**

Report by the Secretariat

This report, prepared for the consideration of the Free Trade Agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Singapore, has been drawn up by the WTO Secretariat on its own responsibility and in full consultation with the Parties.¹ The factual presentation reproduces as closely as possible the terminology used in the Agreement and in the comments provided and does not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the Secretariat of such terminology. The report has been drawn up in accordance with the rules and procedures contained in the Decision for a Transparency Mechanism for Regional Trade Agreements (WT/L/671) and thus does not imply any value judgement by the Secretariat regarding the contents of the Agreement.

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¹ Comments on the factual presentation were provided by Qatar and Singapore.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 TRADE ENVIRONMENT.....	5
1.1 Merchandise trade	5
1.2 Trade in services and investment.....	7
2 CHARACTERISTIC ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT	9
2.1 Background Information	9
3 PROVISIONS ON TRADE IN GOODS	10
3.1 Import duties and charges, and quantitative restrictions	10
3.1.1 General provisions	10
3.1.2 Liberalization of trade and tariff lines	10
3.1.3 Liberalization schedule.....	11
3.1.3.1 GCC Member States	11
3.1.3.2 Singapore	20
3.1.4 Tariff rate quotas	20
3.2 Rules of origin.....	21
3.3 Export duties and charges, and quantitative restrictions	21
3.4 Regulatory provisions on trade in goods.....	21
3.4.1 Standards.....	22
3.4.1.1 Sanitary and phytosanitary measures	22
3.4.1.2 Technical barriers to trade.....	22
3.4.2 Safeguard mechanisms.....	22
3.4.2.1 Global safeguards	22
3.4.2.2 Special safeguards	22
3.4.2.3 Measures to safeguard the balance-of-payments	22
3.4.3 Anti-dumping and countervailing measures	22
3.4.4 Subsidies and State-aid	22
3.4.5 Customs-related procedures.....	23
3.4.6 Other regulations.....	23
3.4.6.1 State trading enterprises.....	23
3.5 Sector-specific provisions on trade in goods	23
4 PROVISIONS ON TRADE IN SERVICES AND INVESTMENT	23
4.1 Scope and definitions	23
4.2 Denial of benefits	24
4.3 General provisions on trade in services	24
4.3.1 Market access	24
4.3.2 National treatment and MFN	24
4.3.3 Commercial presence	24
4.3.4 Performance requirements	24
4.3.5 Senior Managers and Boards of Directors	25

4.3.6	Movement of natural persons	25
4.4	Liberalization commitments.....	25
4.4.1	GCC Member States	26
4.4.1.1	UAE	26
4.4.1.2	Bahrain	29
4.4.1.3	Saudi Arabia.....	32
4.4.1.4	Oman.....	34
4.4.1.5	Qatar	37
4.4.1.6	Kuwait.....	40
4.4.2	Singapore.....	43
4.4.2.1	MFN and horizontal commitments.....	44
4.4.2.2	Sector specific commitments	44
4.5	Regulatory provisions.....	47
4.5.1	Domestic regulation	47
4.5.2	Recognition.....	47
4.5.3	Subsidies.....	47
4.5.4	Safeguards	47
4.5.4.1	Measures to safeguard the balance-of-payments	47
4.5.5	Other.....	47
4.5.5.1	Monopolies and exclusive service suppliers	47
4.5.5.2	Business Practices.....	48
4.5.5.3	Investment	48
4.6	Sector specific provisions on trade in services.....	48
4.6.1	Energy and natural resources	48
4.6.2	Telecommunication services	48
4.6.3	Financial services.....	48
5	GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT	49
5.1	Transparency.....	49
5.2	Current payments and capital movements.....	49
5.3	Exceptions.....	49
5.3.1	General exceptions	49
5.3.2	Security exceptions.....	49
5.3.3	Taxation.....	49
5.4	Accession and Withdrawal.....	50
5.5	Institutional framework	50
5.6	Dispute settlement	50
5.7	Relationship with other agreements concluded by the Parties.....	51
5.8	Government procurement.....	52
5.9	Intellectual property rights.....	53
5.10	Other.....	53

5.10.1	Cooperation	53
5.10.2	Electronic commerce	53
5.10.3	Competition	54
5.10.4	Environment	54
5.10.5	Labour	54
ANNEX 1	55
ANNEX 2	60
ANNEX 3	67

Key Facts

Parties to the Agreement:

The Gulf Cooperation Council (the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates) and Singapore.

Date of Signature: 15 December 2008

Date of Entry into Force: 1 September 2013

Date of Notification: 30 June 2015

Full implementation: 1 September 2018

1 TRADE ENVIRONMENT²

1.1. The Agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council³ (GCC) and Singapore (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement") is one of the GCC's⁴ 3 and Singapore's 27 Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) notified to the WTO.

1.2. In 2020, with a population of 5.7 million, Singapore's GDP was estimated at USD 340 billion, while that of the GCC Members States, with a cumulated population of 58.7 million, was USD 1,641 billion (2019 GDP figures for the GCC).⁵ Averaged over the period 2016-2018, the Parties' trade (goods and services) to GDP ratio was 314.8 for Singapore and, respectively for each GCC Member State, 144.7 for Bahrain, 101.6 for Kuwait, 99.8 for Oman, 91.0 for Qatar, 64.2 for Saudi Arabia, and 188.5 for the UAE.

1.1 Merchandise trade

1.3. In 2019 the GCC's consolidated merchandise exports amounted to USD 744,044 million (4.6% of global exports) and imports amounted to USD 518,717 million (2.7% of global imports). In the same year Singapore's merchandise exports amounted to USD 390.8 billion (2.07% of global exports) and imports USD 359 billion (1.87% of global imports). In 2018 the GCC together was the world's 4th largest exporter and 8th largest importer of merchandise, while Singapore was the 15th largest exporter and 16th largest importer. The structure of the Parties' merchandise exports and imports are different, with the GCC, as a whole, exporting mainly fuels and mining products while mainly importing manufactures and Singapore exporting and importing largely manufactured products (representing 73% of its total exports and 66% of its total imports).

1.4. Developments in global and intra-Party trade are presented in Chart 1.1 (A and B) over the period 2013-2018. While in global trade Singapore has maintained a small but constant surplus, the GCC's global trade surplus declined between 2013 and 2016 following a significant decline in exports; the surplus has been widening again since then. In their bilateral trade Singapore's trade deficit narrowed between 2013 and 2016 and exports from the GCC to Singapore declined, before widening again.

² Data used in this section are extracted from the WTO Trade Profiles (2019 data), unless otherwise indicated.

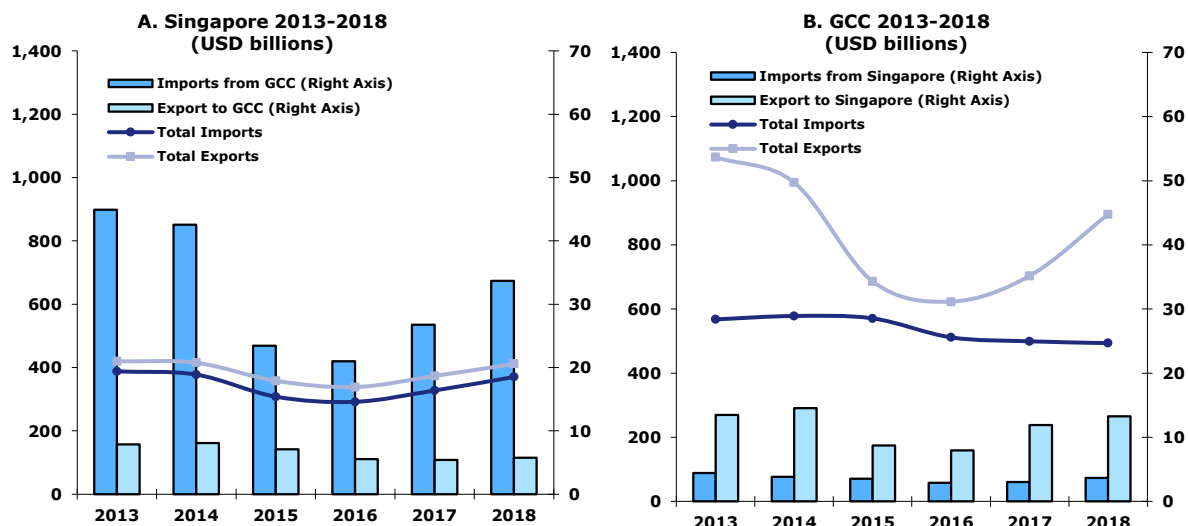
³ GCC Member States: the Kingdom of Bahrain (Bahrain), the State of Kuwait (Kuwait), the Sultanate of Oman (Oman), the State of Qatar (Qatar), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia), and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

⁴ RTAs in goods and services counted as one, only agreements in force, and notified to the WTO, and only counting the RTAs to which all GCC Member States are a Party to. Two GCC Member States have also individually concluded separate RTAs with third-parties.

⁵ World Bank, World Development Indicators (2021).

1.5. Based on 2018 trade data, the GCC was Singapore's 5th largest source of imports and 16th largest destination for exports, while Singapore was the GCC's 25th largest source of imports and 16th largest export destination.

Chart 1.1 GCC and Singapore: Merchandise bilateral trade and with world (2013-2018)



Note: Kuwait - import data for 2009; and Export and Import for 2005, 2010-2012 are mirrored data.

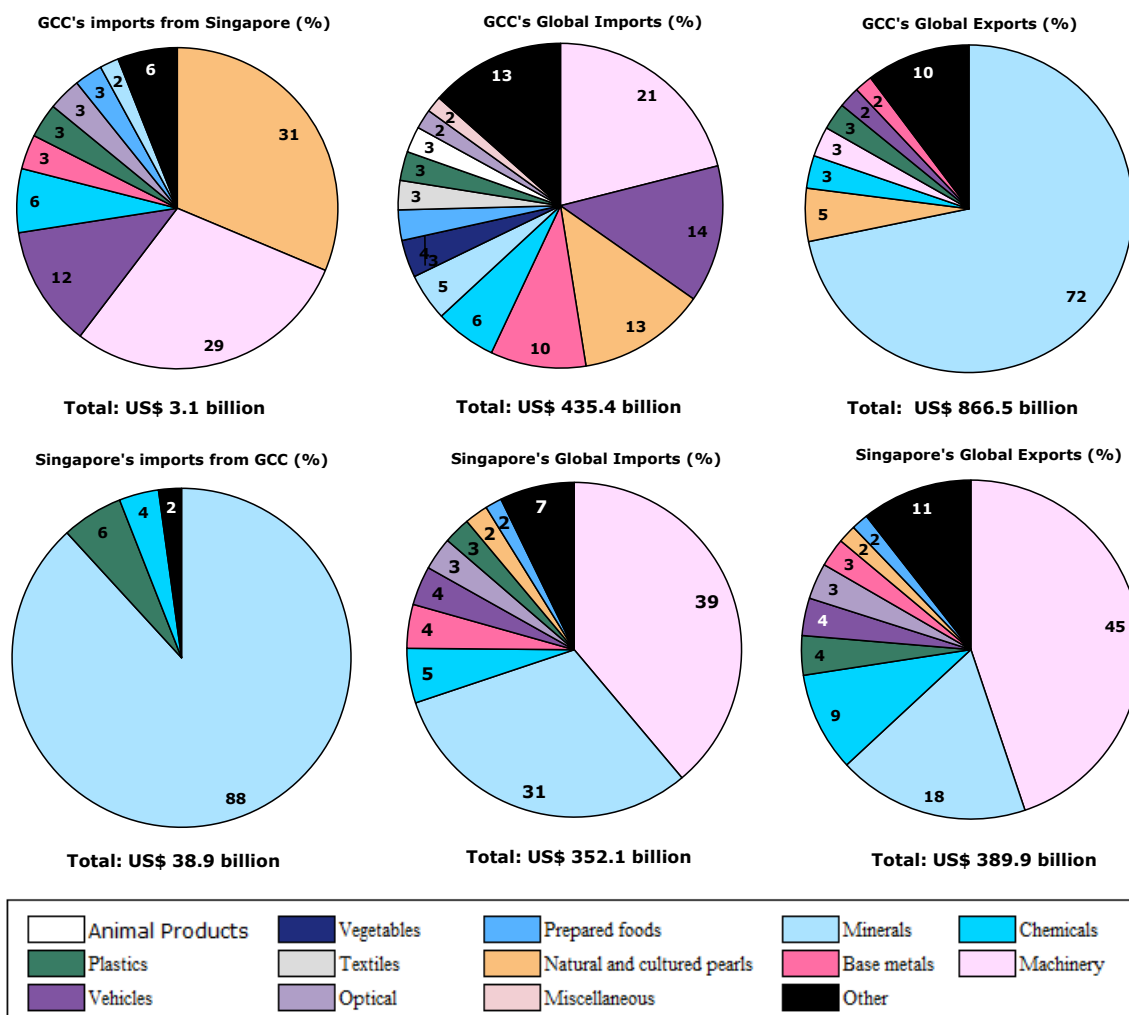
Qatar - import data for 2009 and 2011 are mirrored data.

Saudi Arabia - Export to Singapore in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 are mirrored data.

Source: UNSD Comtrade database.

1.6. The commodity structure of trade between Singapore and the GCC, and between each Party and the world, during the period 2010-2012, is shown in Chart 1.2, on the basis of Harmonized System (HS) Sections. Natural and cultured pearls and machinery together accounted for 60.3% of the GCC's imports from Singapore, while these two sectors were, respectively, the GCC's 3rd largest and largest global imports representing overall only 33.9% of the GCC's total imports from the world (representing respectively 12.8% and 21.1% of the GCC's global imports). These two categories of products corresponded respectively to Singapore's 8th largest and largest global exports (46.5% of Singapore's global exports). Singapore's imports from the GCC were largely composed of mineral products, representing 88.2% of its total imports from the GCC. Minerals also represent Singapore's 2nd largest global imports, corresponding to 31% of its total imports from the world (machinery represents 38.9% of Singapore's global imports). Mineral products were also the GCC's largest export category globally, representing 71.8% of its exports.

Chart 1.2 GCC - Singapore: Product composition of merchandise, annual average (2010-2012)



Note: Kuwait - Import/Export data for 2010-2012 are mirror data.
 Qatar - import data for 2011 are mirror data.

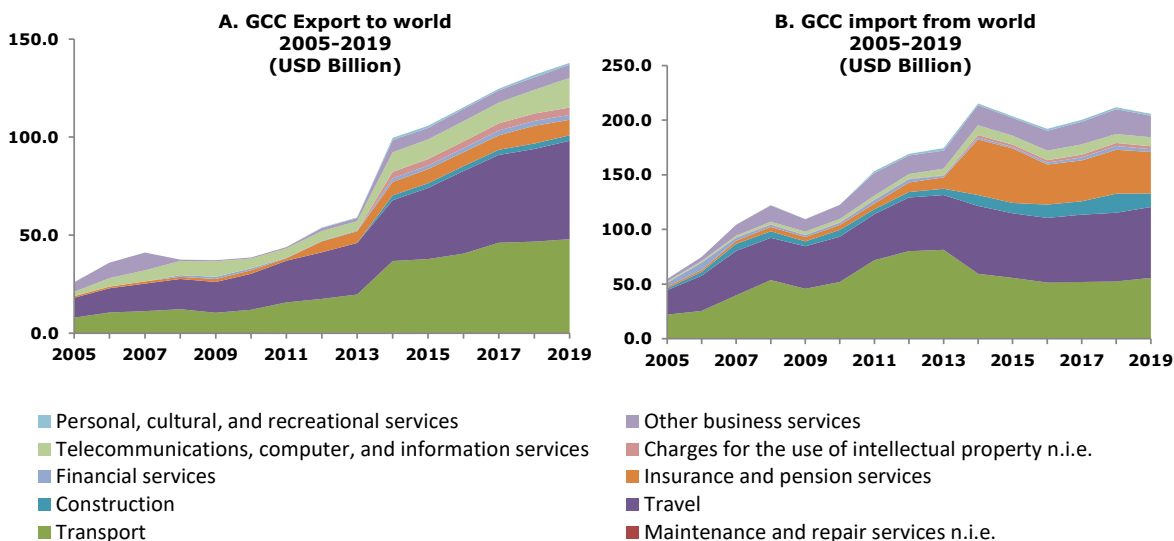
Source: UNSD, Comtrade database.

1.2 Trade in services and investment

1.7. In 2014, Singapore's shares of total commercial services exports and imports were 2.84% and 2.96% respectively, while the GCC share, as a group of countries, was 1.15% of world exports and 4.05% of world imports. With total commercial services exports of USD 140 billion, and imports of USD 141 billion, Singapore was the world's 6th largest exporter and importer of commercial services. The GCC Member States were, individually and respectively, 25th (UAE), 32nd (Qatar), 34th (Saudi Arabia), 46th (Kuwait), 61st (Oman), and 64th (Bahrain) largest exporter (USD 56.1 billion for the GCC as a whole); and 13th (UAE), 15th (Saudi Arabia), 22nd (Qatar), 25th (Kuwait), 44th (Oman), and 93rd (Bahrain) importer (USD 193 billion for the GCC as a whole).

1.8. Charts 1.3 and 1.4 below show global trade in commercial services for the GCC and Singapore (for 2005-2019). For both Parties, the available sets of data show an overall deficit in trade in commercial services with the world, with Singapore showing a positive balance in 2018 and 2019. In the case of the GCC, travel and transport represent the two main exports and import categories. In the case of Singapore, while transport is also one of the main traded services, financial services account for a large share of services traded globally (both for imports and exports).

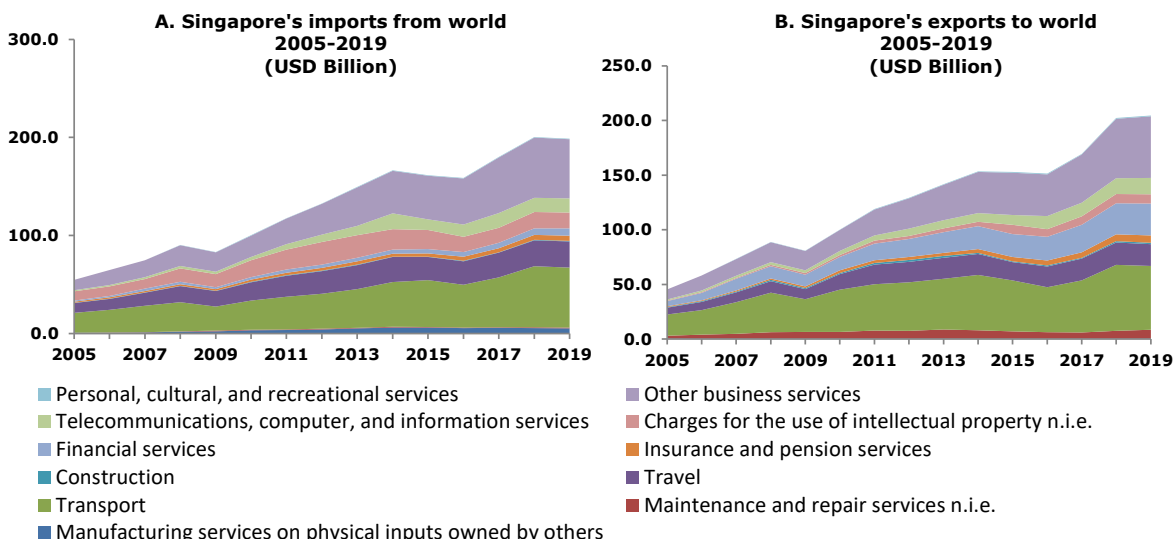
Chart 1.3 GCC: Trade in commercial services with world and Singapore, 2005-2019



Note: the data is aggregated for all GCC members only for the common services items where all of the members have trade value with world. No trade data for manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others (2005-2019); no export data for Construction (2005-2013), Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e. (2005-2013), Personal, cultural, and recreational services (2005-2011); no import data for Maintenance and repair services n.i.e. (2005-2008 and 2015).

Source: WTO Statistics database based on BMP6.

Chart 1.4 Singapore: Trade in commercial services with world, 2005-2019



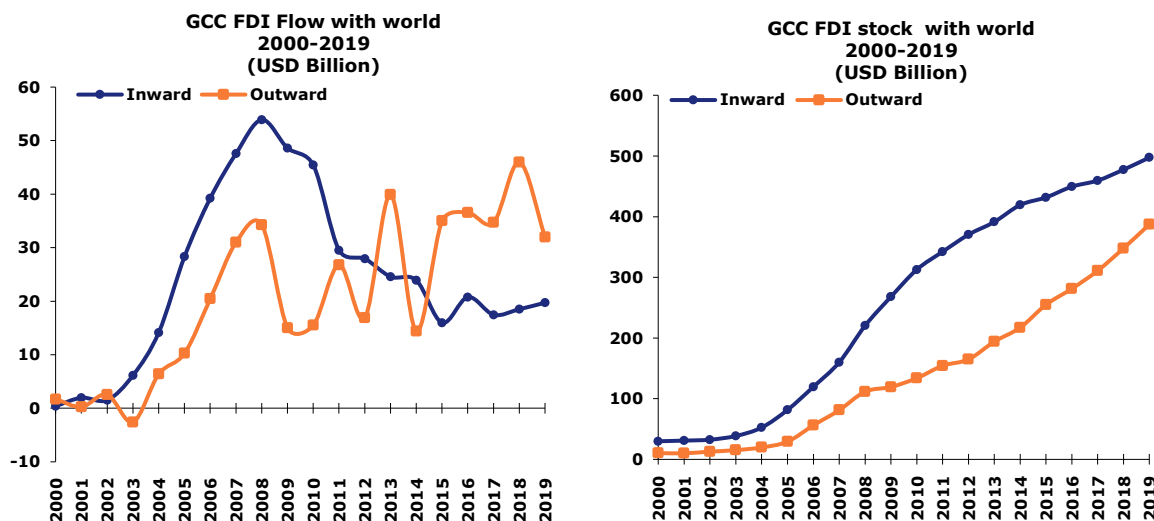
Note: There is no data recorded under "Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others".

Source: WTO Statistics database based on BMP6.

1.9. Charts 1.5 and 1.6 below depict each Party's foreign direct investment (FDI) stocks and flows with the world during 2000-2014. FDI stocks of both Parties with the world have grown steadily during the period with, in both cases, the value of inward stocks surpassing those of outward stocks. In relation to FDI flows, for Singapore, there was a relatively constant growth in both inward and outward FDI flows with the world, except for the period corresponding to the global financial crisis. For the GCC however, inward FDI flows after peaking in 2008, continued to fall and

have become more stable since 2015. Outward FDI flows have also been volatile since 2008. Data on bilateral FDI are not available.

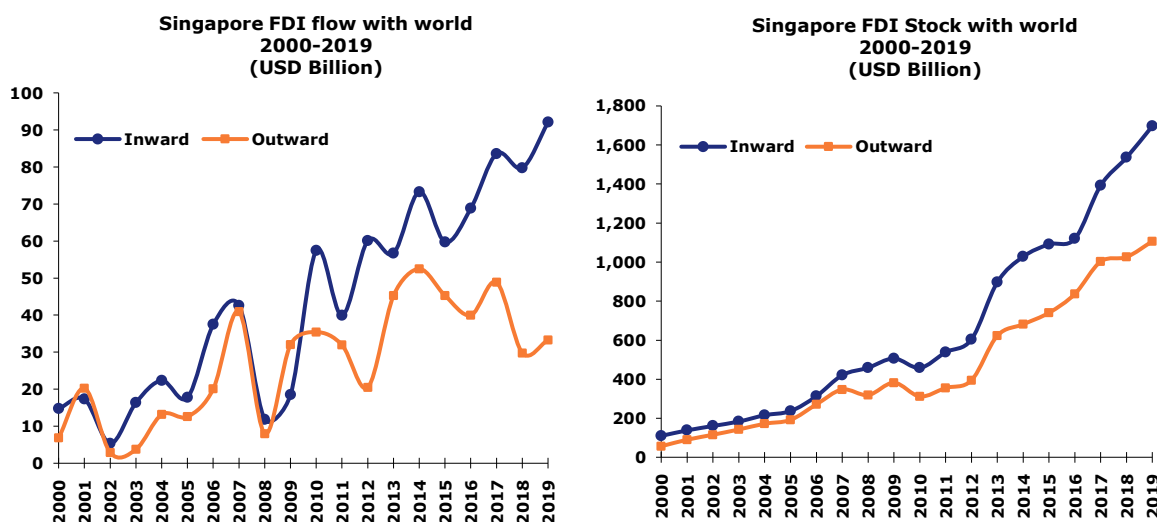
Chart 1.5 GCC: FDI stock and flow with world, 2000-2019



Note: No data for FDI flow and outward stock for Oman for 2000-2002.

Source: UNCTAD.

Chart 1.6 Singapore: FDI stock and flow with the world, 2000-2019



Source: UNCTAD; and data provided by Singapore for FDI Stock in 2010-2012.

2 CHARACTERISTIC ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT

2.1 Background Information

2.1. The Agreement was signed on 15 December 2013 and notified on 30 June 2015 under the Enabling Clause and Article V:7(a) of GATS (see document WT/COMTD/N/45/Rev.1 and S/C/N/807/Rev.1). It entered into force on 1 September 2013.

2.2. The objective of the Agreement is to achieve the liberalization of trade in goods; and services; and to achieve further liberalization of the government procurement markets of the Parties. The text of the Agreement is available on the following official website:

Singapore: http://www.fta.gov.sg/fta_C_gsfta.asp?hl=49

2.3. The Agreement is composed of 10 Chapters. Table 2.1 below summarizes the structure of the Agreement. A number of Annexes, including the Parties' tariff elimination schedules and their specific commitments on trade in services also form part of the Agreement. Side letters on specific issues complement the text of the Agreement.

Table 2.1 Structure of the Agreement

Titles, Chapters (including Annexes) and Protocols	Title/description
Preamble	
Chapter 1	General provisions
Chapter 2	Trade in goods
Chapter 3	Rules of origin
Chapter 4	Customs procedures
Chapter 5	Trade in services
Chapter 6	Government procurement
Chapter 7	Electronic commerce
Chapter 8	Cooperation
Chapter 9	Settlement of disputes
Chapter 10	Final provisions
Side Letters (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on investment; - on recognition of MUIS halal certification by Kuwait; - on recognition of MUIS halal certification by Qatar; - on recognition of MUIS halal certification by UAE; - on denial of benefits; - on UAE constitution on energy resources
Memoranda of understanding (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on investment facilitation arrangement - on a work and holiday visa arrangement

Source: WTO Secretariat based on the Agreement.

3 PROVISIONS ON TRADE IN GOODS

3.1. Chapter 2 of the Agreement specifically address trade in goods, while Chapters 3 and 4 contain disciplines on rules of origin and on customs procedures. In several other Chapters, the Agreement also contains disciplines of horizontal application that also apply to trade in goods.

3.1 Import duties and charges, and quantitative restrictions

3.1.1 General provisions

3.2. The Parties agree to apply national treatment to each other's imports in accordance with Article III of GATT 1994, which is incorporated into and made part of the Agreement, *mutatis mutandis* (Article 2.3).

3.3. Neither Party shall adopt or maintain any non-tariff measure on the import of any good of the territory of the other Party, except as provided for in the WTO Agreement (Article 2.6).

3.1.2 Liberalization of trade and tariff lines

3.4. The Parties shall eliminate customs duties on originating goods of the other Party in accordance with their Schedules, contained in Annexes 1 and 2 to the Agreement.

3.5. Through a standstill provision, neither Party shall increase any existing customs duty, or adopt any new customs duty, on an originating good of the other Party other than in accordance with the Agreement (Article 2.4).

3.6. Upon request by a Party, the Parties shall consult to consider accelerating the elimination of customs duties or expanding the coverage of the programme of tariff elimination (Article 2.14).

3.1.3 Liberalization schedule

3.7. Annex 1 to the Agreement contains the GCC Member States' customs duty elimination programme, while, in Annex 2, Singapore commits to eliminate customs duties on all goods originating from GCC Member States, as from the date of entry into force of the Agreement (1 September 2013).

3.1.3.1 GCC Member States

3.8. The Agreement establishes that the base rates of customs duty shall not be higher than the duty that was applicable to a product on the date of signature of the Agreement (15 December 2008). If the rate of a duty is reduced below the base rate after the entry into force of the Agreement but not pursuant to the tariff elimination or reduction scheme under the Agreement, the reduced rate shall be the new base rate.

3.9. Under Annex 1 to the Agreement, the following three staging categories apply to the elimination of customs duties by the GCC Member States:

- Customs duties for goods, originating in Singapore, and classified in category "A" were eliminated or were already duty free on the date of entry into force of the Agreement (1 September 2013);
- Customs duties for goods, originating in Singapore, and classified in category "B" shall remain at base rates for five years from the date of entry into force of the Agreement. Thereafter, such goods shall be allowed import into the GCC free of customs duties. The goods shall therefore all be duty-free from 1 September 2018 onwards; and
- Customs duties for goods, originating in Singapore, and classified in category "C" shall not be subject to any elimination or reduction, using the WTO bound rates of customs duties as benchmarks.

3.10. As the GCC is a customs union, a common external tariff (CET) is applicable for most of, but not all, the products. Annex 2 to this factual presentation identifies the 138 tariff lines⁶ (8-digits), representing 0.9% of the total of tariff lines, for which the tariff treatment for imported goods may differ between individual GCC member States.

3.11. The GCC Member States' applied tariff in 2013 consisted of 7,301 lines at the HS eight-digit level (HS 2012). The vast majority of the tariff rates were *ad valorem* and between 19 and 108 lines, depending on the GCC Member State, had non-*ad valorem* tariffs.⁷ Table 3.1 below compares the GCC Member States' tariff statistics. It also gives figures, for each GCC Member State, on the number of (MFN) duty free lines.⁸

⁶ Source: UNSD Comtrade database (excluding intra-EU trade). The national statistics of the Parties may slightly differ from the, also official, sources systematically used in the preparation of factual presentations.

⁶ In 2014, the five top sources of imports for Singapore were: China (12%); the EU(28) (12%); Malaysia (10.7%); the US (10.4%); and Chinese Taipei (8.2%). Source: WTO Trade Profiles (2014 data).

⁶ In 2014, the five top destinations for Singapore's exports were: China (12.6%); Malaysia (12%); Hong Kong, China (11%); Indonesia (9.4%); the EU(28) (8%). Source: WTO Trade Profiles (2014 data).

⁶ Out of a total of 7,301 tariff lines.

⁷ For Bahrain: 19 lines with mixed duties and 35 prohibited; for Kuwait: 19 lines with mixed duties, and 29 prohibited, and 53 with other types of duties; for Oman: 18 lines with mixed duties, and 37 prohibited; for Qatar: 19 lines with mixed duties; for Saudi Arabia: 20 lines with mixed duties, 28 prohibited, and 60 other types of duties; and for the UAE: 20 lines with mixed duties; 28 prohibited, and 60 other types of duties.

⁸ The methodology used by the Secretariat to compute the MFN tariffs is summarized in Appendix 1 to Annex 2 to this factual presentation.

Table 3.1 GCC Member States: MFN tariffs, 2013

	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	UAE
Total number of tariff lines	7301	7301	7301	7301	7301	7301
<i>Ad valorem</i> lines	7247	7200	7246	7282	7193	7193
in %	99.3%	98.6%	99.3%	99.7%	98.5%	98.5%
Non <i>ad valorem</i> lines	54	101	55	19	108	108
in %	0.7%	1.4%	0.8%	0.3%	1.5%	1.5%
Duty free lines	810	811	802	811	810	810
in %	11.1%	11.1%	11.0%	11.1%	11.1%	11.1%
Average rate of dutiable lines	5.9%	5.3%	6.2%	5.6%	5.3%	5.3%

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by the Parties, TPR database, and/or WTO-IDB databases. See Appendix 1 to Annex 2 to this factual presentation on the methodology used by the WTO Secretariat to reconstruct some tariff data.

3.12. Table 3.2 below summarizes each GCC Member State's liberalization commitment under the Agreement and the corresponding average trade concerned. 11.1% of each individual GCC Member States' tariff was duty free on an MFN basis in 2013 (except for Oman's, which was 11%). A further 82% of each GCC Member State's tariff became duty free for products originating in Singapore immediately as from the date of entry into force of the Agreement (except for Oman's, which eliminated 82.2% of its tariff). Most of the remaining 3% of each GCC Member State's tariff will become duty free on 1 September 2018. The number of lines remaining dutiable once the Agreement is fully implemented will range between 279 and 280 lines. This represents respectively 1.3% (for Bahrain); 2% (Kuwait); 2.3% (Oman); 3.5% (Qatar); 2.4% (Saudi Arabia); and 1.2% (UAE) of the value of imports from Singapore (2010-2012). In other words, between 96.5% and 98.8% of the value of GCC's Member States imports from Singapore will be eligible for duty free treatment from 1 September 2018 onwards under the Agreement. Charts 3.1 through 3.6 below show, for each GCC member State, in which HS Chapter the Agreement contains exclusions from the elimination programme. In all cases, the remaining dutiable "preferential" rates remain at the same level as the MFN rate for the corresponding tariff line.

Table 3.2 GCC Member States: Tariff elimination commitments under the Agreement and corresponding average trade

	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	UAE
MFN Duty free (2013)	810	811	802	811	810	810
Number of lines						
% of total lines in tariff	11.1	11.1	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.1
Value of imports from Singapore (2010-2012) USD million	15.5	24.6	25.3	37.1	330.1	410.6
% of total imports originating in Singapore	35.7	21.6	12.2	22.1	43.0	24.0
2013						
Number of lines	5,990	5,990	5,998	5,990	5,990	5,990
% of total lines in tariff	82.0	82.0	82.2	82.0	82.0	82.0
Value of imports from Singapore (2010-2012) USD million	27.0	86.6	125.0	124.7	412.3	1277.2
% of total imports originating in Singapore	62.4	75.9	60.3	74.1	53.7	74.6
2018						
Number of lines	221	221	221	221	221	221
% of total lines in tariff	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Value of imports from Singapore (2010-2012) USD million	0.2	0.6	52.2	0.5	7.1	5.0
% of total imports originating in Singapore	0.5	0.5	25.2	0.3	0.9	0.3
Remain dutiable						
Number of lines	280	279	280	279	280	280
% of total lines in tariff	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Value of imports from	0.6	2.2	4.8	5.9	18.3	20.1

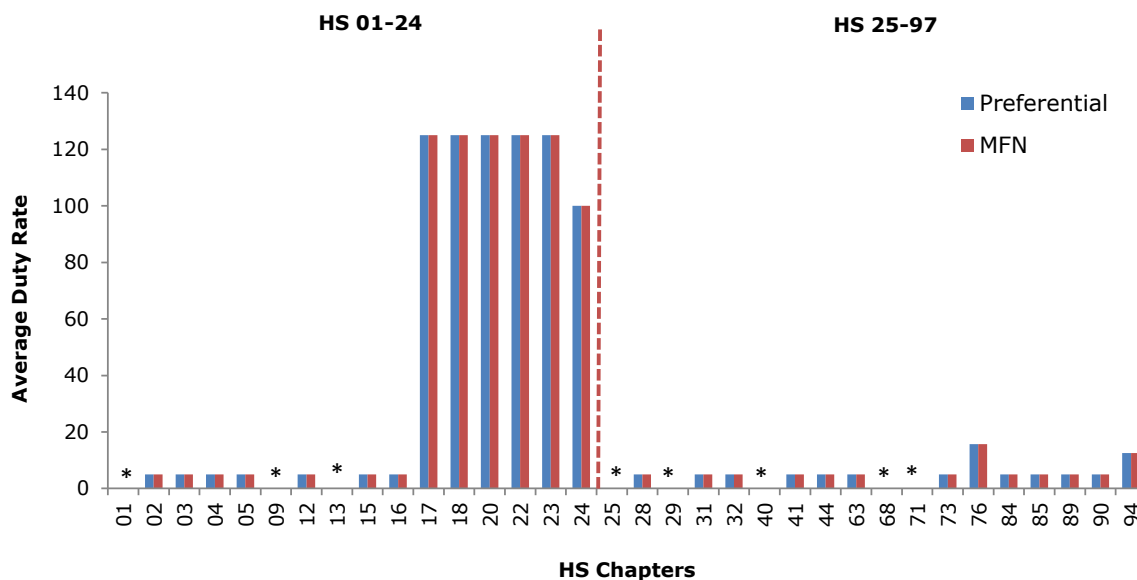
		Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	UAE
	Singapore (2010-2012) ^a USD million						
	% of total imports originating in Singapore	1.3	2.0	2.3	3.5	2.4	1.2
Total	Number of lines	7,301	7,301	7,301	7,301	7,301	7,301
	% of duty-free lines at the end of the implementation period (1 September 2018)	98.7	98.0	97.3	96.5	97.6	98.8

a Import coverage is from HS chapters 1-97.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and/or on data available in WTO-IDB and TPR database.

Chart 3.1 Bahrain: Average of dutiable rates, by HS Chapter

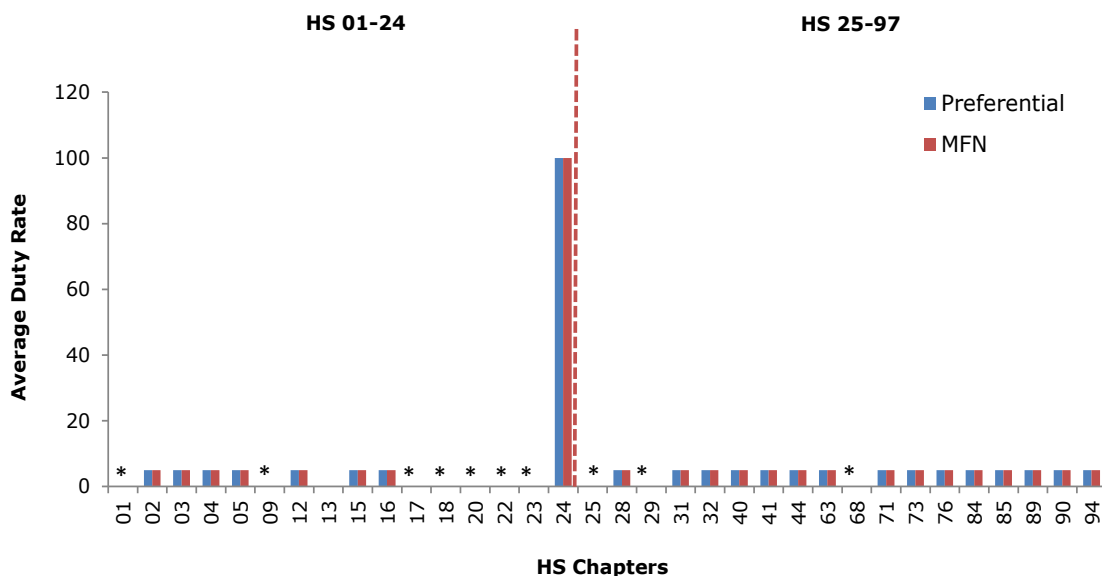


* Tariff lines subject to import prohibition only.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Bahrain and TPR database.

Chart 3.2 Kuwait: Average of dutiable rates, by HS Chapter

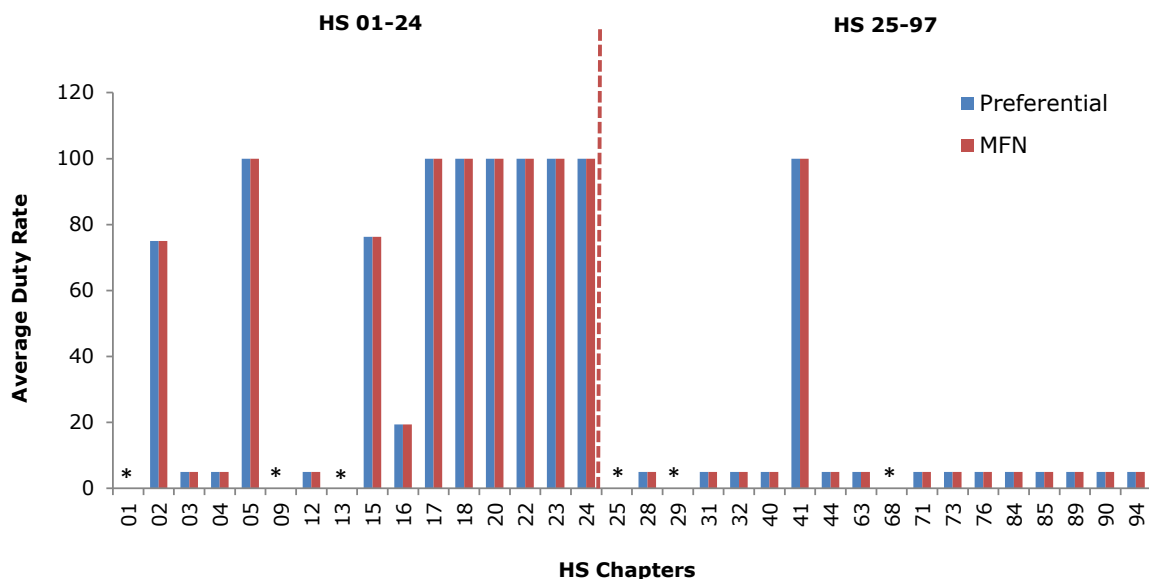


* Tariff lines subject to import prohibition OR tariff line made as 'Special products ' with no duties.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Kuwait.

Chart 3.3 Oman: Average of dutiable rates, by HS Chapter

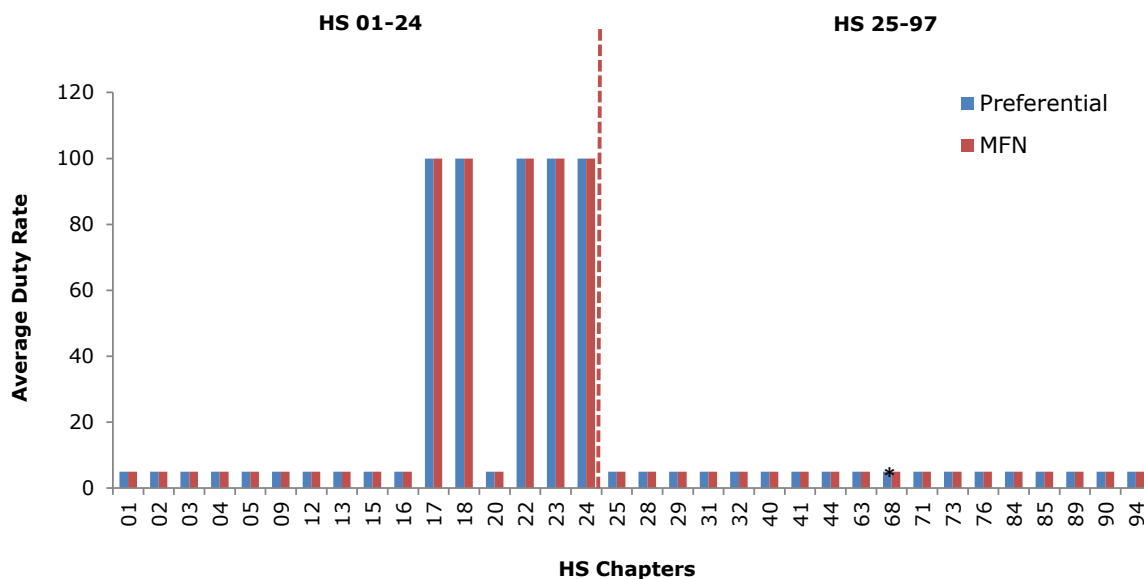


* Tariff lines subject to import prohibition only.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Oman.

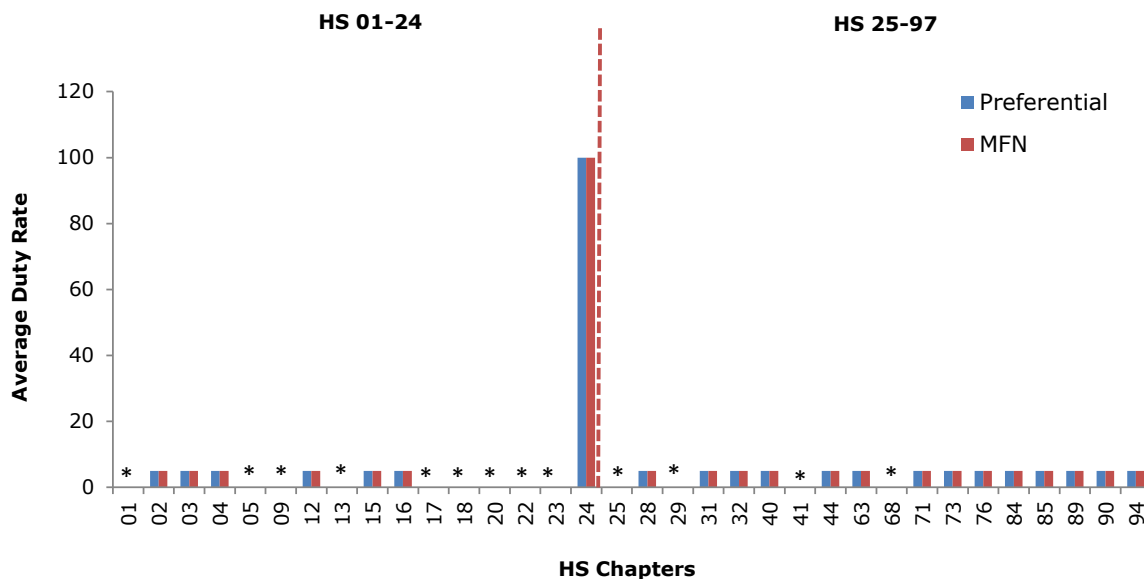
Chart 3.4 Qatar: Average of dutiable rates, by HS Chapter



Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Qatar and TPR database.

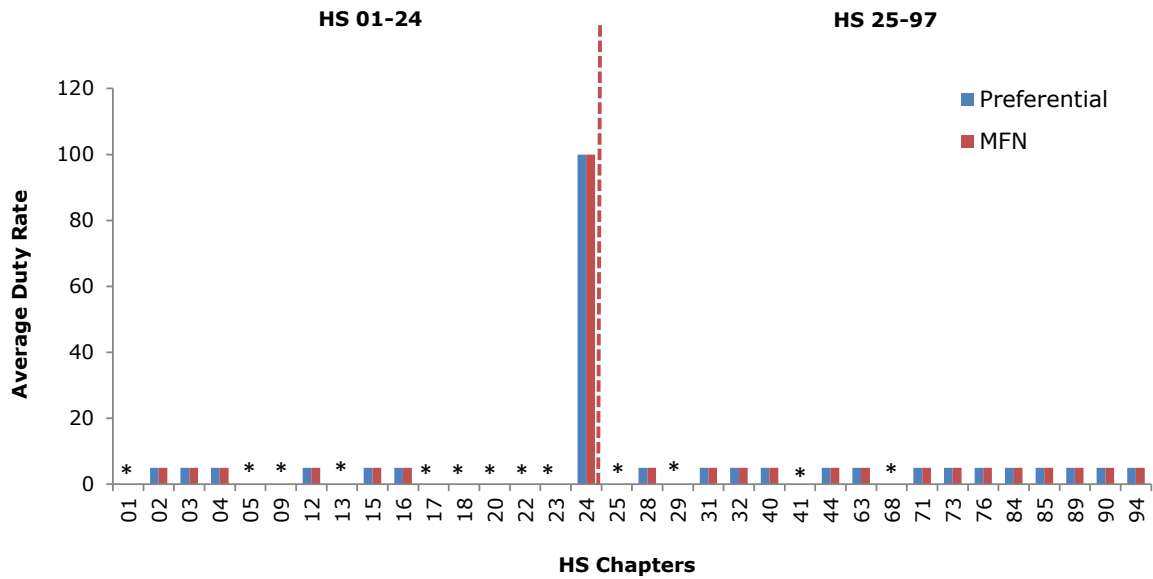
Chart 3.5 Saudi Arabia: Average of dutiable rates, by HS Chapter



* Tariff lines subject to import prohibition OR tariff line made as 'Special products' with no duties.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Saudi Arabia and WTO-IDB.

Chart 3.6 United Arab Emirates: Average of dutiable rates, by HS Chapter

* Tariff lines subject to import prohibition OR tariff line made as 'Special products' with no duties.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by UAE, WTO-IDB and TPR database.

3.13. Table 3.3 through 3.8 below show each individual GCC Member State's tariff elimination, by HS section.

3.14. The lines excluded from tariff elimination once implementation is complete, respectively, 279 lines for Kuwait, and Qatar, and 280 lines for Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, are found in a variety of HS Sections, as shown in the Tables below. In a number of cases, some or the entire tariff lines counted as remaining dutiable are prohibited for import.⁹ These lines are mainly found in HS Sections I, II, V, VI, VII, XIII, XIV and XVI. The average tariffs on these dutiable lines range from 5% to 71.3% for Bahrain, 5% to 44.6% for Kuwait, 5% to 100% for Oman, 5% to 50.8% for Qatar, 5% to 44.6% for Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.

Table 3.3 Bahrain: Tariff elimination under the Agreement, by HS Section

HS Section	MFN Average %	No. of lines	Duty-free lines under the MFN 2013	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff (Dutiable)
				2013	2018		
I	3.4	438	143	158	23	114	5.0*
II	3.0	461	183	265	1	12	5.0*
III	5.0	63		53	2	8	5.0
IV	18.1	412	19	310		83	71.3
V	5.0	211		209		2	*
VI	4.5	1,199	119	1,064	3	13	5.0*
VII	5.3	272		262	4	6	*
VIII	5.0	86		82		4	5.0
IX	4.9	190	3	186		1	5.0
X	4.3	195	37	156	2		
XI	5.0	945		944		1	5.0
XII	5.0	74		74			
XIII	4.9	229	3	221	1	4	*

⁹ See Annex 2, attached to this factual presentation for more details.

HS Section	MFN Average %	No. of lines	Duty-free lines under the MFN 2013	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff (Dutiable)
				2013	2018		
XIV	3.1	65	23	39		3	*
XV	5.1	737		545	178	14	10.4
XVI	3.8	947	215	723		9	5.0*
XVII	4.4	245	27	214	3	1	5.0
XVIII	4.4	286	38	244	3	1	5.0
XIX	5.0	23		23			
XX	5.3	212		207	1	4	12.5
XXI	5.0	11		11			
Total	5.2	7,301	810	5,990	221	280	27.5

* Some or all tariff lines counted as remaining dutiable under an HS section are prohibited for import.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition are excluded while computing the average duty rates, specific rates are excluded, and the *ad valorem* parts of alternate rates are included. 290 tariff lines under the excluded category (category 'C') reflect the MFN 2013 duties.

Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Bahrain and TPR database.

Table 3.4 Kuwait: Tariff elimination under the Agreement, by HS Section

HS Section	MFN Average %	No. of lines	Duty-free lines under the MFN 2013	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff (Dutiable)
				2013	2018		
I	3.3	438	143	158	23	114	5.0*
II	3.0	461	183	265	1	12	5.0*
III	5.0	63		53	2	8	5.0*
IV	9.8	412	19	310		83	44.6*
V	5.0	211		209		2	*
VI	4.5	1,199	119	1,064	3	13	5.0*
VII	5.0	272		262	4	6	5.0*
VIII	5.0	86		82		4	5.0
IX	4.9	190	3	186		1	5.0
X	4.1	195	37	156	2		
XI	5.0	945		944		1	5.0
XII	5.0	74		74			
XIII	4.9	229	3	221	1	4	*
XIV	3.2	65	23	39		3	5.0*
XV	5.0	737		545	178	14	5.0
XVI	3.8	947	216	723		8	5.0
XVII	4.4	245	27	214	3	1	5.0
XVIII	4.3	286	38	244	3	1	5.0
XIX	5.0	23		23			
XX	5.0	212		207	1	4	5.0
XXI	5.0	11		11			
Total	4.7	7,301	811	5,990	221	279	14.5

* Some or All tariff lines counted as remain dutiable under an HS section are prohibited for import or marked as 'Special Products' with no duties.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition and marked as 'Special Products' are excluded while computing the average duty rates; specific rates are excluded, and the *ad valorem* parts of alternate rates are included. 290 tariff lines under the excluded category (category 'C') reflect the MFN 2013 duties.

Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Kuwait.

Table 3.5 Oman: Tariff elimination under the Agreement, by HS Section

HS Section	MFN Average %	No. of lines	Duty-free lines under the MFN 2013	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff (Dutiable)
				2013	2018		
I	6.6	438	143	158	23	114	17.8*
II	3.4	461	175	273	1	12	5.0*
III	14.0	63		53	2	8	76.3
IV	17.3	412	19	310		83	67.6*
V	5.0	211		209		2	*
VI	4.5	1,199	119	1,064	3	13	5.0*
VII	5.0	272		262	4	6	5.0*
VIII	9.4	86		82		4	100.0
IX	4.9	190	3	186		1	5.0
X	4.1	195	37	156	2		
XI	5.0	945		944		1	5.0
XII	5.0	74		74			
XIII	4.9	229	3	221	1	4	*
XIV	3.2	65	23	39		3	5.0
XV	5.0	737		545	178	14	5.0
XVI	3.8	947	215	723		9	5.0*
XVII	4.4	245	27	214	3	1	5.0
XVIII	4.3	286	38	244	3	1	5.0
XIX	5.0	23		23			
XX	5.0	212		207	1	4	5.0
XXI	5.0	11		11			
Total	5.5	7,301	802	5,998	221	280	34.8

* Some or All tariff lines counted as remain dutiable under an HS section are prohibited import.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition are excluded while computing the average duty rates; specific rates are excluded, and the *ad valorem* parts of alternate rates are included. 290 tariff lines under the excluded category (category 'C') reflect the MFN 2013 duties. Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Oman.

Table 3.6 Qatar: Tariff elimination under the Agreement, by HS Section

HS Section	MFN Average %	No. of lines	Duty-free lines under the MFN 2013	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff (Dutiable)
				2013	2018		
I	3.4	438	143	158	23	114	5.0
II	3.0	461	183	265	1	12	5.0
III	5.0	63		53	2	8	5.0
IV	14.0	412	19	310		83	50.8
V	5.0	211		209		2	5.0
VI	4.5	1,199	119	1,064	3	13	5.0
VII	5.0	272		262	4	6	5.0
VIII	5.0	86		82		4	5.0
IX	4.9	190	3	186		1	5.0
X	4.1	195	37	156	2		
XI	5.0	945		944		1	5.0
XII	5.0	74		74			
XIII	4.9	229	3	221	1	4	5.0
XIV	3.2	65	23	39		3	5.0

HS Section	MFN Average	No. of lines	Duty-free lines	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff
XV	5.1	737		545	178	14	5.0
XVI	3.9	947	216	723		8	5.0
XVII	4.4	245	27	214	3	1	5.0
XVIII	4.3	286	38	244	3	1	5.0
XIX	5.0	23		23			
XX	5.0	212		207	1	4	5.0
XXI	5.0	11		11			
Total	5.0	7,301	811	5,990	221	279	18.6

Note: While computing the average duty rates, specific rates are excluded, and the *ad valorem* parts of alternate rates are included. 290 tariff lines under the excluded category (category 'C') reflect the MFN 2013 duties.

Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Qatar, WTO-IDB and TPR database.

Table 3.7 Saudi Arabia: Tariff elimination under the Agreement, by HS Section

HS Section	MFN Average %	No. of lines	Duty-free lines under the MFN 2013	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff (Dutiable)
				2013	2018		
I	3.3	438	143	158	23	114	5.0*
II	3.0	461	183	265	1	12	5.0*
III	5.0	63		53	2	8	5.0*
IV	9.8	412	19	310		83	44.6*
V	5.0	211		209		2	*
VI	4.5	1,199	119	1,064	3	13	5.0*
VII	5.0	272		262	4	6	5.0*
VIII	5.0	86		82		4	*
IX	4.9	190	3	186		1	5.0
X	4.1	195	37	156	2		
XI	5.0	945		944		1	5.0
XII	5.0	74		74			
XIII	4.9	229	3	221	1	4	*
XIV	3.2	65	23	39		3	5.0
XV	5.0	737		545	178	14	5.0
XVI	3.8	947	215	723		9	5.0*
XVII	4.4	245	27	214	3	1	5.0
XVIII	4.3	286	38	244	3	1	5.0
XIX	5.0	23		23			
XX	5.0	212		207	1	4	5.0
XXI	5.0	11		11			
Total	4.7	7,301	810	5,990	221	280	14.8

* Some or All tariff lines counted as remain dutiable under an HS section are prohibited for import or marked as 'Special Products' with no duties.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition and marked as 'Special Products' are excluded while computing the average duty rates; specific rates are excluded, and the *ad valorem* parts of alternate rates are included. 290 tariff lines under the excluded category (category 'C') reflect the MFN 2013 duties.

Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Saudi Arabia and WTO-IDB.

Table 3.8 United Arab Emirates: Tariff elimination under the Agreement, by HS Section

HS Section	MFN Average %	No. of lines	Duty-free lines under the MFN 2013	Number of duty-free lines under the Agreement		Remain dutiable	Avg. Final Tariff (Dutiable)
				2013	2018		
I	3.3	438	143	158	23	114	5.0*
II	3.0	461	183	265	1	12	5.0*
III	5.0	63		53	2	8	5.0*
IV	9.8	412	19	310		83	44.6*
V	5.0	211		209		2	*
VI	4.5	1,199	119	1,064	3	13	5.0*
VII	5.0	272		262	4	6	5.0*
VIII	5.0	86		82		4	*
IX	4.9	190	3	186		1	5.0
X	4.1	195	37	156	2		
XI	5.0	945		944		1	5.0
XII	5.0	74		74			
XIII	4.9	229	3	221	1	4	*
XIV	3.2	65	23	39		3	5.0
XV	5.0	737		545	178	14	5.0
XVI	3.8	947	215	723		9	5.0*
XVII	4.4	245	27	214	3	1	5.0
XVIII	4.3	286	38	244	3	1	5.0
XIX	5.0	23		23			
XX	5.0	212		207	1	4	5.0
XXI	5.0	11		11			
Total	4.7	7,301	810	5,990	221	280	14.8

* Some or All tariff lines counted as remain dutiable under an HS section are prohibited for import or marked as 'Special Products' with no duties.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition and marked as 'Special Products' are excluded while computing the average duty rates; specific rates are excluded, and the *ad valorem* parts of alternate rates are included. 290 tariff lines under the excluded category (category 'C') reflect the MFN 2013 duties.

Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data available in WTO-IDB and TPR database.

3.1.3.2 Singapore

3.15. Singapore's applied tariff in 2013 consisted of 9,558 lines at the HS eight-digit level (HS 2012). 99.9% of the tariff rates were *ad valorem* and 6 lines had non-*ad valorem* tariffs.¹⁰

3.16. Almost Singapore's entire tariff was duty free on an MFN basis in 2013 (99%). As foreseen in Annex 2 to the Agreement, Singapore eliminated customs duties on all goods originating from GCC Member States, immediately as from the date of entry into force of the Agreement. As a result, the 6 tariff lines that were subject to duties¹¹ (all contained in HS Section IV, corresponding to some beverages, and representing a negligible part of Singapore's imports from the GCC) were eliminated on the date of the entry into force of the Agreement.

3.1.4 Tariff rate quotas

3.17. Under the Agreement, none of the Parties commit to apply tariff rate quotas.

¹⁰ Specific duties.

¹¹ The corresponding tariff lines, for which specific duties were levied, were classified under HS 220300.10, 220300.90, 220890.10, 220890.20, 220890.30, and 220890.40.

3.2 Rules of origin

3.18. Chapter 3 contains provisions on rules of origin and is supplemented by Annex 3 (Product Specific Rules of Origin).

3.19. A good qualifies as originating in a Party if it:

- is wholly obtained or produced, as defined in Article 3.3, in a Party; or
- has undergone sufficient working or production according to Article 3.4, complemented by Annex 3.

3.20. While a change in tariff classification (Article 3.4), at the HS 2 or 4-digit levels, as indicated in Annex 3¹², constitutes the main criteria used to determine origin in cases of substantial working or production of goods, a value added of not less than 35% based on the ex-works price may also be used to determine origin. The formula for qualifying value added is explained in paragraph 3 of Article 3.4 (sufficient working or production).

3.21. Non-originating products, whose value does not exceed 10% of the value of the good, may nonetheless be considered originating (Article 3.6 on "*de minimis*").

3.22. Chapter 3 also contains disciplines on materials used in production (Article 3.5); insufficient operations (Article 3.8); accessories, spare parts, tools (Article 3.9); packaging materials and containers for retail sale (Article 3.10); packing materials and containers for shipment (Article 3.11); neutral elements (Article 3.12); and accounting segregation of materials (Article 3.13).

3.23. Accumulation of origin between the Parties is governed by the provisions of Article 3.7. Originating materials from the GCC, used in the production of a good in Singapore, shall be considered to originate in Singapore, or *vice versa*.

3.24. Section B of Chapter 3 contains disciplines on consignment criteria, while Section C covers consultation and modifications of Chapter 3, and Section D governs the application and interpretation of the Chapter.

3.3 Export duties and charges, and quantitative restrictions

3.25. Neither Party shall adopt or maintain any non-tariff measure on the export of any good of the territory of the other Party, except as provided in the WTO Agreement (Article 2.6).

3.4 Regulatory provisions on trade in goods

3.26. Articles 2.6 through 2.13 cover non-tariff measures; customs valuation; antidumping and countervailing duties, subsidies and safeguard measures; technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures; sanitary and phytosanitary measures; restrictions to safeguard the balance-of-payments; and state trading enterprises.

¹² Annex 3 contains product specific rules of origin and the conditions that need to be fulfilled for products to qualify as originating in case the goods are processed in one or both Parties. According to the Annex, a change of tariff classification, at the HS heading level, would be determining for the origin purposes in relation to tariff items HS 15131100 and 15151900 (some animal oil), while a change, at the HS subheading level, would be determining for the other tariff items identified in Annex 3 (HS tariff items 21013010; 21039030; 22029010; 22029020; 27101997; 32159030; 32159050; and 90279090, covering some miscellaneous edible preparations; some mineral waters; some petroleum oils; and some inks; some scientific instruments).

3.4.1 Standards

3.4.1.1 Sanitary and phytosanitary measures

3.27. The rights and obligations of the Parties in respect of sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS) shall be governed by the WTO Agreement on SPS (Article 2.11). Consultations are also foreseen between the Parties to find an appropriate solution, in conformity with WTO provisions, in case a Party considers that another Party has taken measures which are likely to create, or have created, an obstacle to trade. Specific contact points shall also be established to facilitate technical consultations and the exchange of information.

3.4.1.2 Technical barriers to trade

3.28. The rights and obligations of the Parties in respect of technical barriers to trade (TBT) shall be governed by the WTO Agreement on TBT (Article 2.10). Moreover, the Agreement foresees strengthened cooperation in TBT matters. Consultations are also foreseen between the Parties to find an appropriate solution, in conformity with WTO provisions, in case a Party considers that another Party has taken measures which are likely to create, or have created, an obstacle to trade. Specific contact points shall also be established to facilitate technical consultations and the exchange of information.

3.4.2 Safeguard mechanisms

3.29. According to Article 2.8 the rights and obligations of each of the GCC Member States and Singapore on safeguard measures shall be governed by the corresponding GATT Articles and by the WTO Agreements on safeguards and on agriculture. Article 2.12 contains provisions on restrictions to safeguard the balance-of-payment.

3.4.2.1 Global safeguards

3.30. Article XIX of the GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on safeguard measures shall apply.

3.4.2.2 Special safeguards

3.31. The specific provision on safeguard measures contained in the WTO Agreement on agriculture shall apply (Article 2.8).

3.4.2.3 Measures to safeguard the balance-of-payments

3.32. While the Parties shall endeavour to avoid the imposition of restrictive measures for balance-of-payments purposes, any such measure shall be taken in accordance with Article XII and the Understanding on the balance-of-payments provisions of the GATT 1994. These provisions are incorporated into and form part of the Agreement (Article 2.12).

3.4.3 Anti-dumping and countervailing measures

3.33. The Agreement establishes that the rights and obligations on anti-dumping and countervailing measures are governed by Article VI of the GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on antidumping and countervailing measures.

3.4.4 Subsidies and State-aid

3.34. The Agreement establishes that the rights and obligations on subsidies are governed by Articles VI and XVI of the GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreements on subsidies and on agriculture.

3.35. There are no specific provisions on State-aid.

3.4.5 Customs-related procedures

3.36. Chapter 4 covers customs procedures. It applies to customs procedures required for clearance of goods traded between the Parties and contains general provisions (Article 4.2), including on periodic review; transparency (Article 4.3); risk management (Article 4.4); paperless communications (Article 4.5); certification of origin¹³ (Article 4.6), also governing self-certification; claims for preferential treatment (Article 4.7); waiver of certification of origin (Article 4.8); record keeping requirement (Article 4.9); cooperation in origin verification (Article 4.10); advance rulings (Article 4.11); penalties (Article 4.12); review and appeal (Article 4.13); sharing of best practices (Article 4.14); and confidentiality (Article 4.15).

3.37. In addition to provisions in Chapter 4, Article 2.5 provides for temporary admission of certain goods (*inter alia*, professional and scientific equipment, goods intended for display or use at exhibitions). Article 2.7 also provides that the WTO provisions on customs valuation apply.

3.4.6 Other regulations

3.4.6.1 State trading enterprises

3.38. Nothing in the Agreement shall be construed to present a Party from maintaining or establishing a State trading enterprise in accordance with Article XVII of the GATT 1994 (Article 2.13).

3.5 Sector-specific provisions on trade in goods

3.39. The Agreement does not contain any separate Chapter or section on a specific sector.

4 PROVISIONS ON TRADE IN SERVICES AND INVESTMENT

4.1. Chapter 5 contains disciplines on trade in services.

4.2. "New services", including new financial services, shall be considered for possible incorporation in Chapter 5 either by the joint Committee at future reviews, or, at the request of any Party, by all the Parties through consultations.

4.3. A review clause is contained in Article 5.18. In particular, if a Party enters into any agreement on trade in services with a third-Party, it shall give sympathetic consideration to a request by another Party for the incorporation herein of treatment no less favourable than that provided under that agreement. The balance of commitments by a Party under the Agreement should be maintained.

4.1 Scope and definitions

4.4. Chapter 5 applies to measures affecting trade in services, which, under the Agreement, covers the four modes of supply defined under the GATS, including commercial presence.¹⁴ The Parties' Schedules of specific commitments in Annexes 5 and 6 to the Agreement form an integral part of Chapter 5. Also forming part of Chapter 5, Annex 7 to the Agreement contains separate disciplines applying to financial services. Moreover, the Annex on Telecommunications of the GATS is also incorporated into and forms an integral part of Chapter 5.

4.5. Chapter 5 does not apply to subsidies; services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority; government procurement; or measures affecting air traffic rights, or some measures directly related to the exercise of air traffic rights. The following air-transport related measures are however covered by Chapter 8: aircraft repair and maintenance services; the selling and marketing of air transport services; computer reservation system services; airport operation services; and also: ground handling services; specialty air services; as well as rental services of

¹³ A model for certification of origin is contained in Annex 4.

¹⁴ "commercial presence" means any type of business or professional establishment, including through the constitution, acquisition or maintenance of a juridical person; or the creation or maintenance of a branch or a representative office, within the territory of a Party for the purpose of supplying a service.

aircraft with crew; and air transport management services. Similarly, Chapter 5 does not apply to measures affecting natural persons seeking access to the employment market of a Party, nor does it apply to measures regarding citizenship, residence or employment on a permanent basis.

4.2 Denial of benefits

4.6. Article 5.16 allows a Party to deny the benefits of Chapter 5 to a service supplier of another Party if the service supplier is a juridical person owned or controlled by persons of a third-party and the denying Party: (i) does not maintain diplomatic relations with the third-party; or (ii) adopts or maintains measures with respect to the third-party or a person of the third-party that prohibit transactions with the juridical person or that would be violated or circumvented if the benefits of Chapter 5 were accorded to the juridical person. A denial of benefits may take place subject to prior notification and consultation. Benefits may also be denied in relation to the supply of a service, if it is established that the service is supplied from or in the territory of a third-party. In relation to maritime transport services, a denial of benefit may take place if it is established that a service is supplied by a vessel registered under the laws of a third-party, and by a person which operated and/or uses the vessel in whole or in part, but which is of a third-party. Denial of benefits provisions are also available when a service supplier is owned or controlled by persons of a third-party and it is established that the service supplier had no substantive business operations in the territory of a Party.

4.7. Through an exchange of letters, the GCC Member States confirm that any trade and/or economic sanctions imposed by the GCC States, or a GCC State, against any foreign country or countries, does not impinge on Singapore's sovereign right to conduct its foreign policy, nor does it prohibit companies of foreign countries that are subject to such sanctions imposed by the GCC States, or a GCC State, from establishing in Singapore. The GCC Government agencies administering the trade and economic sanctions are identified in the exchange of letters. Moreover, it is confirmed that consultations between the Parties may be requested, including on how the trade and economic sanctions of one Party might affect the operation of the Agreement. Through the exchange of letters, the GCC seeks to provide the assurances that Singapore has sought with regard to the Agreement's denial of benefits provision.

4.3 General provisions on trade in services

4.3.1 Market access

4.8. In relation to trade in services, and according to Article 5.3, the Parties shall accord each other's services and service suppliers treatment no less favourable than that provided for under the terms, limitations and conditions specified and for the sectors or sub-sectors listed in the Parties' Schedules of specific commitment in Annexes 5 and 6. The approach taken follows the GATS practice.

4.3.2 National treatment and MFN

4.9. In relation to trade in services, Article 5.4 contains national treatment rules similar to corresponding GATS disciplines binding each Party with respect to measures applicable to services and service providers of the other Parties.

4.10. The Agreement does not contain any specific reference to MFN treatment.

4.3.3 Commercial presence

4.11. The Agreement does not have specific provisions concerning commercial presence other than what is covered implicitly by commitments related to the supply of services through mode 3.

4.3.4 Performance requirements

4.12. The Agreement does not have specific provisions on performance requirements.

4.3.5 Senior Managers and Boards of Directors

4.13. The Agreement does not have specific provisions on senior managers and boards of directors.

4.3.6 Movement of natural persons

4.14. The Agreement does not have specific provisions on movement or temporary stay of natural persons. The individual Parties' Schedules of specific commitments however contain commitments, with limitations and conditions, related to the movement of natural persons from one Party to the other. These commitments largely build on existing commitments under the GATS.

4.15. As under the GATS, Singapore makes commitments for temporary movement of intra-corporate transferees at the level of managers, executives and specialists. The definitions of these three categories are the same for commitments made under the GATS and under the Agreement. The duration of the temporary stay is however different under the Agreement. While, under the GATS, entry for intra-corporate transferees is limited to a 3 year period that may be extended for up to 2 additional years for a total term not to exceed 5 years, under the Agreement, Singapore limits the initial period to 2 years that may be extended for up to 3 additional years each time for a total term not exceeding 8 years, thus allowing for two successive extensions.

4.16. In the case of GCC Member States, under the GATS, commitments on mode 4 were made for business visitors and for intra-corporate transferees (managers, executives and specialists). Under the Agreement, the GCC makes commitments in relation to measures concerning the entry and temporary stay of natural persons in five categories: (i) business visitors; (ii) intra-corporate transferees; (iii) contractual service suppliers; (iv) independent professionals; and (v) installers and maintainers. The presence of foreign natural persons as self-employers is not allowed. Different modalities, including on duration of the authorized stay; limitations of the number of natural persons; qualifications; etc., may vary from one GCC Member State to another. The GCC Schedule specifies the commitments, conditions and limitations applicable to each GCC Member State.

4.4 Liberalization commitments

4.17. Under the Agreement, the Parties have chosen to list their specific commitments following a positive list approach, like under the GATS. The Parties' Schedules are contained in Annexes 5 (for the GCC) and 6 (for Singapore).

4.18. The sections below compare the Parties' liberalization commitments under the Agreement and their GATS commitments. After recalling GATS MFN exemptions and identifying horizontal limitations in the GATS and in the Agreement, Tables 4.1 through 4.7 summarize specific commitments under the Agreement, by main sectors and sub-sectors and compare them with GATS commitments. Improvements over existing GATS commitments may take the form of a reduction of the limitations to market access and/or national treatment, a relaxation of the form of establishment under mode 3, and/or additional commitments and increased coverage. However, horizontal limitations in the GATS Schedule of Specific Commitments and reservations covering all sectors are not included. Moreover, mode 4 commitments and limitations are, to a large extent, excluded. The following sections are to be read in conjunction with the Parties' schedules of commitments under the Agreement.

4.19. The Parties' Schedules of specific commitments may be modified, or commitments withdrawn at any time after three years have elapsed from the date on which that commitment entered in to force provided notification is made and consultations conducted to reach agreement on the appropriate compensatory adjustment (Article 5.7 on modification of Schedules). Negotiations on compensatory adjustments are also foreseen. However, if agreement is not reached between any affected Party and the modifying Party before of the period provided for negotiations, the affected Party may invoke the process in Chapter 9 (settlement of disputes). The modifying Party may not modify or withdraw its commitment until it has made compensatory adjustment in conformity with the findings of the arbitration panel that may have been established. Under certain conditions, an affected Party may modify or withdraw substantially equivalent benefits in conformity with a panel's findings.

4.20. The Agreement foresees, in Article 5.5, that the Parties may negotiate commitments with respect to measures affecting trade in services not subject to scheduling under the market access or national treatment provisions, including those regarding qualification, standards or licensing matters.¹⁵ Such commitments are inscribed in a Party's Schedule of specific commitments.

4.21. During the negotiation of the Agreement, the Parties agreed that a Chapter on market access/liberalization may be negotiated at future reviews held by the Joint Committee. The results of the negotiations of the Chapter on market access/liberalization, if any, shall be incorporated into the Agreement. Against this background, the Parties have, through an exchange of letters, found an understanding in relation to investment issues.

4.4.1 GCC Member States

4.22. Annex 5 lists GCC Member States' specific commitments using a, GATS like, positive list approach. One single Schedule of specific commitment is presented by the GCC Member States with country specific entries related to separate national regulations and legislation. This makes the reading of the GCC common Schedule rather complex, and thus the comparison with individual GCC Member States' Schedules of specific commitments under the GATS¹⁶ rather challenging.

4.4.1.1 UAE

4.23. In the GATS, the UAE took commitments in 46 out of 155 services sectors. It did not make commitments, *inter alia*, on some professional services; most communication services, except courier services; distribution services; education services; health related and social services; recreational and cultural and sporting services; and transport services. Moreover, only limited commitments are made in financial services (excluding insurance services), and tourism. Under the Agreement, the coverage of the UAE's commitments is expanded, as the GCC's Schedule covers most of the services, though with a number of limitations and subject to national specificities introduced by each GCC Member State, including by the UAE. In a number of cases, where the UAE makes commitments, most of them with partial coverage and subject to some conditions, specific limitations are introduced in relation to foreign equity ownership in connection with the provision of services through commercial presence (mode 3).

4.4.1.1.1 MFN and horizontal commitments

4.24. Under the GATS, the UAE scheduled MFN exemptions in relation to entry, establishment, and operation of foreign financial services suppliers. Preferential treatment for service providers of the GCC Member States was also reserved.

4.25. The UAE's horizontal GATS commitments section contains some limitations in relation to the legal form required for service providers to establish commercial presence; the restricted acquisition of land and real estate; possible discrimination in relation to direct taxation on income; and access to government subsidized services. Limited and conditional horizontal commitments on temporary stay of natural persons are also made under the GATS. Under the Agreement, the UAE's horizontal commitments largely its GATS commitments while clarifying, for each sector included in the Schedule the maximum foreign equity permitted for incorporation as a company and/or for foreign ownership permitted within free zones. The commitments on mode 4 are also specified for each GCC Member State, under the GCC's horizontal commitments.

4.4.1.1.2 Sector specific commitments

4.26. The following section identifies some of the main differences, by sector, between UAE's GATS schedule and its sector-specific commitments under the Agreement. Table 4.1 summarizes the UEA's commitments under the GATS and the Agreement. It does not incorporate specific commitments under mode 4 and does not fully integrate horizontal commitments / limitations. It should also be read in conjunction with Annex 5 of the Agreement.

¹⁵ To date, no substantive negotiations have taken place, according to the Parties.

¹⁶ Under the GATS, each GCC Member States has made separate commitments at a national level, which are reflected in separate Schedules of specific commitments.

Table 4.1 UAE: comparison between the GATS and Agreement specific commitments

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
1. Business services			
A. Professional Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Computer and Related Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Research and Development Services	Full	Limited	Partial
D. Real Estate Services	---	Similar	---
E. Rental/Leasing Services without Operators	---	New	Partial
F. Other Business Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
2. Communication services			
A. Postal services	---	New	Partial
B. Courier services	Full	Limited	Partial
C. Telecommunication services	---	New	Partial
D. Audiovisual services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
3. Construction and related engineering services			
A. General construction work for buildings	Full	Limited	Partial
B. General construction work for civil Engineering	Full	Limited	Partial
C. Installation and assembly work	Full	Limited	Partial
D. Building completion and finishing work	Full	Limited	Partial
E. Other	Full	Limited	Partial
4. Distribution services			
A. Commission agents' services	---	Similar	---
B. Wholesale trade services	---	New	Partial
C. Retailing services	---	New	Partial
D. Franchising	---	New	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
5. Education services			
A. Primary education services	---	New	Partial
B. Secondary education services	---	New	Partial
C. Higher education services	---	New	Partial
D. Adult education	---	New	Partial
E. Other education services	---	New	Partial
6. Environmental services			
A. Sewage services	Full	Limited	Partial
B. Refuse disposal services	Full	Limited	Partial
C. Sanitation and similar services	Full	Limited	Partial
D. Other	Full	Limited	Partial
7. Financial services			
A. All insurance and insurance-related services	---	New	Partial
B. Banking and other financial services	Partial	Improved	Partial
8. Health related and social services			
A. Hospital services	---	New	Partial
B. Other Human Health Services	---	New	Partial
C. Social Services	---	Similar	---
D. Other	---	Similar	---
9. Tourism and travel related services			
A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering)	Full	Limited	Partial
B. Travel agencies and tour operators services	---	New	Partial
C. Tourist guides services	Full	Limited	Partial
D. Other	---	Similar	---
10. Recreational and cultural and sporting services			
A. Entertainment services	---	Similar	---
B. News agency services	---	Similar	---
C. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services	---	Similar	---
D. Sporting and other recreational services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
11. Transport services			
A. Maritime Transport Services	---	New	Partial
B. Internal Waterways Transport	---	Similar	---
C. Air Transport Services	---	Similar	---
D. Space Transport	---	Similar	---
E. Rail Transport Services	---	New	Partial
F. Road Transport Services	---	Similar	---
G. Pipeline Transport	---	Similar	---
H. Services auxiliary to all modes of transport	---	Similar	---

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
I. Other Transport Services	---	Similar	---
12. Other services	---	Similar	---

General Note: MFN and Horizontal limitations, as well as Mode 4 commitments/limitations not considered.

Partial: Specific commitments subject to some limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

Full: Specific commitments not subject to limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

---: No specific commitment.

New: New commitments under the Agreement (full or partial, with or without limitations) which can, in most but not all cases, be seen as "improved". In some cases, a broad carve-out may diminish, or even nullify, the possible improvement represented by a "new" commitment.

Improved: Overall improved commitments made under the Agreement compared to those under the GATS.

Similar: Similar commitments though possibly, in individual cases, with limited improvements and/or limited additional reservations.

Source: UAE's Schedule of specific GATS commitments (GATS/SC/121) and UAE's Final List of Article II (MFN) Exemptions (GATS/EL/121, and the GCC Schedule annexed to the Agreement).

4.4.1.1.1 Business services

4.27. Under the GATS, the UAE has partial commitments for some professional services as well as for a selection of other business services. For most computer services and all research and development services, the UAE has full GATS commitments. Under the Agreement, the UAE builds on its GATS Schedule and expands the coverage for professional services, including for instance some legal services. Some limitations are nevertheless introduced, for instance for the maximum foreign equity permitted (for architectural and engineering services for example). For computer services and research and development services, the UAE's commitments under the Agreement almost match its GATS commitments, while foreign equity limitation is registered for some specific services. Under the Agreement, partial commitments, with some limitations, in particular for foreign ownership, are made for rental and leasing services (unbound under the GATS), though rental and leasing services for cars is not covered. The coverage of other business services is expanded under the Agreement, as compared to under the GATS, for instance for some services incidental to fishing, mining, or manufacturing, as well as some consulting services. Real estate services remain unbound (as under the GATS).

4.4.1.1.2 Communication services

4.28. While under the GATS the UAE only made commitments, with some limitations, for some courier services, under the Agreement, the UAE's extends commitments to some postal services (handling of documents, letter posts, and parcels), with some limitations, and for some telecommunications, as in the GATS telecommunications reference paper, with some limitations (including for foreign equity ownership). As under the GATS, audiovisual remains unbound under the Agreement.

4.4.1.1.3 Constructions and related engineering services

4.29. The whole sector is bound under the GATS, without any limitations. Under the Agreement, construction and related engineering services provided through mode 1 are unbound, foreign equity ownership limitations, while the rest of the sector is bound without limitations (as under the GATS).

4.4.1.1.4 Distribution services

4.30. The whole sector is unbound under the GATS. Under the Agreement, the UAE makes partial commitments, for wholesale trade services, retailing services, and franchising through mode 3, particularly with some limitations on foreign equity ownership.

4.4.1.1.5 Educational services

4.31. The whole sector is unbound under the GATS. Under the Agreement, the UAE makes partial commitments, particularly with some limitations on foreign equity ownership.

4.4.1.1.6 Environmental services

4.32. The whole sector is bound under the GATS without any limitations. Under the Agreement, the UAE introduces an equity ownership limitation (for mode 3). Some specific other environmental services are also left unbound by the UAE, while the rest of the sector is bound without limitations (as under the GATS).

4.4.1.1.7 Financial services

4.33. While insurance services are not bound under the GATS, under the Agreement the UAE makes partial commitments for some sub-sectors. Moreover, the Agreement also has a number of conditions, such as a commercial presence requirement to provide such services through mode 1. For banking services, the UAE builds on its GATS commitments, *inter alia* by expanding coverage (for example, expansion of activities of existing financial entities is unbound under the GATS), while also registering some limitations, such as for foreign equity under mode 3.

4.4.1.1.8 Health related and social services

4.34. Under the GATS, the UAE has no commitments. Under the Agreement, some commitments are made, with limitations for hospital services and for some other human health services.

4.4.1.1.9 Tourism and travel related services

4.35. Hotel and restaurants services as well as tourist guide services are bound under the GATS, without any limitation. Under the Agreement, these two sub-sectors as well as travel agencies and tour operator services are partly bound, with some limitations such as on foreign equity ownership.

4.4.1.1.10 Recreational, cultural and sporting services

4.36. As under the GATS, the UAE make no commitment in the whole sector.

4.4.1.1.11 Transport services

4.37. Under the GATS, the UAE has no commitment on transport services. Under the Agreement, the UAE makes some commitments, in particular for international maritime transport (freight and passengers less cabotage transport services) and for storage and warehousing services, though with some limitations on foreign equity ownership in relation to commercial presence. It also makes some commitments for certain rail transport services, also with limitations on foreign equity ownership. The other sub-sectors remain unbound, as under the GATS.

4.4.1.2 Bahrain

4.38. In the GATS, Bahrain has commitments in 22 out of 155 services sectors. It only made partial commitments on financial services. Under the Agreement, the coverage of its commitments is expanded, as the GCC's Schedule covers most of the services, though with a number of limitations and subject to national specificities introduced by each GCC Member State, including by Bahrain.

4.4.1.2.1 MFN and horizontal commitments

4.39. Under the GATS, Bahrain has no MFN exemptions.

4.40. Bahrain's horizontal GATS commitments limit market access through commercial presence to Joint Stock Companies. Moreover, the acquisition of land or property is not allowed. Under the

Agreement, horizontal commitments applicable to Bahrain are also limited to mode 3. Commercial presence is possible either through a branch office or through a company established in Bahrain with up to 100% foreign equity. A reservation is also made for the acquisition of real estate, but modified as compared to its GATS Schedule. The commitments on mode 4 are specified for each GCC Member State, in the GCC's horizontal commitments. No mode 4 commitments were made by Bahrain under the GATS.

4.4.1.2.2 Sector specific commitments

4.41. The following section identifies some of the main differences, by sector, between Bahrain's GATS schedule and its sector-specific commitments under the Agreement. Table 4.2 summarizes its commitments under the GATS and the Agreement. It does not incorporate specific commitments under mode 4 and does not fully integrate horizontal commitments/limitations. It should also be read in conjunction with Annex 5 of the Agreement.

Table 4.2 Bahrain: comparison between the GATS and Agreement specific commitments

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
1. Business services			
A. Professional Services	---	New	Partial
B. Computer and Related Services	---	New	Partial
C. Research and Development Services	---	New	Partial
D. Real Estate Services	---	Similar	---
E. Rental/Leasing Services without Operators	---	New	Partial
F. Other Business Services	---	New	Partial
2. Communication services			
A. Postal services	---	Similar	---
B. Courier services	---	New	Partial
C. Telecommunication services	---	New	Partial
D. Audiovisual services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
3. Construction and related engineering services			
A. General construction work for buildings	---	New	Partial
B. General construction work for civil Engineering	---	New	Partial
C. Installation and assembly work	---	New	Partial
D. Building completion and finishing work	---	New	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
4. Distribution services			
A. Commission agents' services	---	New	Partial
B. Wholesale trade services	---	New	Partial
C. Retailing services	---	New	Partial
D. Franchising	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
5. Education services			
A. Primary education services	---	New	Partial
B. Secondary education services	---	New	Partial
C. Higher education services	---	New	Partial
D. Adult education	---	New	Partial
E. Other education services	---	New	Partial
6. Environmental services			
A. Sewage services	---	New	Partial
B. Refuse disposal services	---	New	Partial
C. Sanitation and similar services	---	New	Partial
D. Other	---	New	Partial
7. Financial services			
A. All insurance and insurance-related services	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Banking and other financial services	Partial	Limited	Partial
8. Health related and social services			
A. Hospital services	---	New	Partial
B. Other Human Health Services	---	New	Partial
C. Social Services	---	Similar	---
D. Other	---	Similar	---
9. Tourism and travel related services			
A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering)	---	Similar	---
B. Travel agencies and tour operators services	---	Similar	---
C. Tourist guides services	---	Similar	---
D. Other	---	Similar	---

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
10. Recreational and cultural and sporting services			
A. Entertainment services	---	Similar	---
B. News agency services	---	Similar	---
C. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services	---	Similar	---
D. Sporting and other recreational services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
11. Transport services			
A. Maritime Transport Services	---	New	Partial
B. Internal Waterways Transport	---	Similar	---
C. Air Transport Services	---	New	Partial
D. Space Transport	---	Similar	---
E. Rail Transport Services	---	Similar	---
F. Road Transport Services	---	Similar	---
G. Pipeline Transport	---	Similar	---
H. Services auxiliary to all modes of transport	---	Similar	---
I. Other Transport Services	---	Similar	---
12. Other services	---	Similar	---

General Note: MFN and Horizontal limitations, as well as Mode 4 commitments/limitations not considered.

Partial: Specific commitments subject to some limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

Full: Specific commitments not subject to limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

---: No specific commitment.

New: New commitments under the Agreement (full or partial, with or without limitations) which can, in most but not all cases, be seen as "improved". In some cases, a broad carve-out may diminish, or even nullify, the possible improvement represented by a "new" commitment.

Improved: Overall improved commitments made under the Agreement compared to those under the GATS.

Similar: Similar commitments (Agreement vs GATS); though possibly, in individual cases, with limited improvements and/or limited additional reservations.

Source: Draft Consolidated GATS Schedule of Specific Commitments (S/DCS/W/BHR), prepared by the Secretariat (in 2003) and Bahrain's Schedule annexed to the Agreement.

4.4.1.2.2.2 Business services

4.42. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Under the Agreement, while covering a relatively smaller number of sub-sectors than most of the other GCC Member States, Bahrain binds, with limitations most of the time, some selected services under most categories. Real estate services are not bound (as under the GATS).

4.4.1.2.2.3 Communication services

4.43. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Postal and audiovisual services remain unbound under the Agreement and for courier services, limitations are added on mode 3. For telecommunications services, Bahrain undertakes commitments as under the WTO telecommunications reference paper. Most commitments made for mode 1 are subject to licensing in Bahrain. Commercial presence must be either through a branch or a company established in Bahrain with up to 100% foreign equity.

4.4.1.2.2.4 Constructions and related engineering services

4.44. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Under the Agreement, commitments are made essentially for modes 2 and 3, while under modes 1 and 4 Bahrain undertakes no commitments (as under the GATS). Commercial presence is conditional, *inter alia*, on foreign equity ownership limitations.

4.4.1.2.2.5 Distribution services

4.45. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Partial commitments, with limitations, *inter alia* in terms of coverage are made under the Agreement for commission agents' services, wholesale trade services and retailing services.

4.4.1.2.2.6 Educational services

4.46. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Under the Agreement, Bahrain undertakes commitments only for services provided through mode 2.

4.4.1.2.2.7 Environmental services

4.47. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Under the Agreement, Bahrain makes a commitment on some services, across the whole sector, but essentially through commercial presence. The provision of services through modes 1, 2 and 4 remains unbound.

4.4.1.2.2.8 Financial services

4.48. Under the GATS, financial services is the only sector in which Bahrain has commitments. All insurance and insurance-related services (offshore only), as well as reinsurance and retrocession are fully bound, though entry is only permitted in the form of a joint stock company and acquisition of land or property is not allowed. Banking and other financial services (excluding insurance) are also partly covered by Bahrain's GATS commitments, subject to the relevant national legislation and regulations and standard condition and licensing criteria. Under the Agreement, Bahrain expands the coverage for insurance services, while, for banking services, it makes no commitment for services provided through mode 1 (bound with some limitations under the GATS). Bahrain's commitments in the banking sector for modes 2 and 3 are subject to detailed conditions under the Agreement.

4.4.1.2.2.9 Health related and social services

4.49. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Under the Agreement, some commitments are made, with limitations for hospital services (essentially provided through commercial presence) and for some other human health services, with limitations. The other sub-sectors remain unbound (as under the GATS).

4.4.1.2.2.10 Tourism and travel related services

4.50. Under the Agreement, as it is the case under the GATS, the sector remains unbound.

4.4.1.2.2.11 Recreational, cultural and sporting services

4.51. As under the GATS, the whole sector remains unbound under the Agreement.

4.4.1.2.2.12 Transport services

4.52. Under the GATS, the whole sector is unbound. Under the Agreement, Bahrain undertakes some commitments, in particular for international maritime transport (freight and passengers less cabotage transport services) and for maritime auxiliary services, though with some limitations. Bahrain also makes some commitments for air transport services (repair of aircraft). The other sub-sectors remain unbound, as under the GATS.

4.4.1.3 Saudi Arabia

4.53. In the GATS, Saudi Arabia took commitments in 120 out of 155 services sectors. It did not make commitments, *inter alia*, in some business services (real estate services); postal services and other communication services; commission agents' services; some health related and social services; some recreational and cultural and sporting services; and some transport services (in particular: internal waterways transport, space transport, road transport services). Saudi Arabia's

commitments under the Agreement mirror to a large extent its GATS commitments, negotiated in the context of its accession to the WTO in 2005.

4.4.1.3.1 MFN and horizontal commitments

4.54. Under the GATS, Saudi Arabia scheduled MFN exemptions in relation to road transport services, maritime shipping and road transport services.

4.55. Saudi Arabia's horizontal GATS commitments contain some limitations on the legal form required for service providers to establish commercial presence; the restricted acquisition of land and real estate; discrimination in relation to income tax; and access to subsidies available in the country. Limited and conditional horizontal commitments on temporary stay of natural persons are also made under the GATS. Under the Agreement, horizontal commitments applicable to Saudi Arabia mirror its GATS commitments. The commitments on mode 4 are also specified for each GCC Member State, in the Schedule containing the GCC's horizontal commitments.

4.4.1.3.2 Sector specific commitments

4.56. The following section identifies some of the main differences, by sector, between Saudi Arabia's GATS schedule and its sector-specific commitments under the Agreement. Table 4.3 summarizes its commitments under the GATS and the Agreement. It does not incorporate specific commitments made under mode 4 and does not fully integrate horizontal commitments/limitations. It should also be read in conjunction with Annex 5 of the Agreement.

Table 4.3 Saudi Arabia: comparison between the GATS and Agreement specific commitments

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
1. Business services			
A. Professional Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Computer and Related Services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Research and Development Services	Full	Similar	Full
D. Real Estate Services	---	Similar	---
E. Rental/Leasing Services without Operators	Full	Similar	Full
F. Other Business Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
2. Communication services			
A. Postal services	---	Similar	---
B. Courier services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Telecommunication services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Audiovisual services	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
3. Construction and related engineering services			
A. General construction work for buildings	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. General construction work for civil Engineering	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Installation and assembly work	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Building completion and finishing work	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	Partial	Similar	Partial
4. Distribution services			
A. Commission agents' services	---	Similar	---
B. Wholesale trade services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Retailing services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Franchising	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
5. Education services			
A. Primary education services	Full	Similar	Full
B. Secondary education services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Higher education services	Full	Similar	Full
D. Adult education	Full	Similar	Full
E. Other education services	Partial	Similar	Partial
6. Environmental services			
A. Sewage services	Full	Similar	Full
B. Refuse disposal services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Sanitation and similar services	Full	Similar	Full
D. Other	Partial	Similar	Partial
7. Financial services			
A. All insurance and insurance-related services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Banking and other financial services	Partial	Similar	Partial

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
8. Health related and social services			
A. Hospital services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Other Human Health Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Social Services	---	Similar	---
D. Other	---	Similar	---
9. Tourism and travel related services			
A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering)	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Travel agencies and tour operators services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Tourist guides services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Other	---	Similar	---
10. Recreational and cultural and sporting services			
A. Entertainment services	---	Similar	---
B. News agency services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services	---	Similar	---
D. Sporting and other recreational services	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
11. Transport services			
A. Maritime Transport Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Internal Waterways Transport	---	Similar	---
C. Air Transport Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Space Transport	---	Similar	---
E. Rail Transport Services	Full	Similar	Full
F. Road Transport Services	---	Similar	---
G. Pipeline Transport	Full	Similar	Full
H. Services auxiliary to all modes of transport	Partial	Similar	Partial
I. Other Transport Services	---	Similar	---
12. Other services	---	Similar	---

General Note: MFN and Horizontal limitations, as well as Mode 4 commitments/limitations not considered.

Partial: Specific commitments subject to some limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

Full: Specific commitments not subject to limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

---: No specific commitment.

New: New commitments under the Agreement (full or partial, with or without limitations) which can, in most but not all cases, be seen as "improved". In some cases, a broad carve-out may diminish, or even nullify, the possible improvement represented by a "new" commitment.

Improved: Overall improved commitments made under the Agreement compared to those under the GATS.

Similar: Similar commitments (Agreement vs GATS); though possibly, in individual cases, with limited improvements and/or limited additional reservations.

Source: Saudi Arabia's Schedule of specific commitments (GATS/SC/141), and Final List of Article II (MFN) exemptions (GATS/EL/141), and GCC's Schedule annexed to the Agreement (Annex 5 to the Agreement).

4.4.1.3.2.1 Business services

4.57. Saudi Arabia's commitments under the GATS are replicated under the Agreement. In addition, Saudi Arabia undertakes commitments on some other business services that are not covered under its specific GATS commitments. In particular, full commitments are made for services incidental to mining and for building-cleaning services.

4.4.1.4 Oman

4.58. In the GATS, Oman took commitments in 97 out of 155 services sectors. It did not make commitments, *inter alia*, on some business services (real estate services); postal services and other communication services; primary education services; some health related and social services; some recreational and cultural and sporting services; and some transport services. Oman's commitments under the Agreement essentially mirror its GATS commitments, thus keeping the coverage practically unchanged.

4.4.1.4.1 MFN and horizontal commitments

4.59. Under the GATS, Oman did not schedule MFN exemptions.

4.60. Oman's horizontal GATS commitments contain some limitations on the legal form required for service providers to establish commercial presence; the restricted acquisition of land and real estate; and possible discrimination in relation to direct taxation on income. Limited and conditional horizontal commitments on the temporary stay of natural persons are also made under the GATS and these are largely mirrored in the Agreement with the exception of the reservation on possible income tax discrimination, which is dropped. The commitments on mode 4 are specified for each GCC Member State, in the Schedule containing the GCC's horizontal commitments.

4.4.1.4.2 Sector specific commitments

4.61. The following section identifies some of the main differences, by sector, between Oman's GATS schedule and its sector-specific commitments under the Agreement. Table 4.4 summarizes its commitments under the GATS and the Agreement. It does not incorporate specific commitments made under mode 4 and does not fully integrate horizontal commitments/limitations. It should also be read in conjunction with Annex 5 of the Agreement.

Table 4.4 Oman: comparison between the GATS and Agreement specific commitments

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
1. Business services			
A. Professional Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Computer and Related Services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Research and Development Services	Full	Similar	Full
D. Real Estate Services	---	Similar	---
E. Rental/Leasing Services without Operators	---	Similar	Full
F. Other Business Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
2. Communication services			
A. Postal services	---	Similar	---
B. Courier services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Telecommunication services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Audiovisual services	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
3. Construction and related engineering services			
A. General construction work for buildings	Full	Similar	Full
B. General construction work for civil Engineering	Full	Similar	Full
C. Installation and assembly work	Full	Similar	Full
D. Building completion and finishing work	Full	Similar	Full
E. Other	Full	Similar	Full
4. Distribution services			
A. Commission agents' services	Full	Similar	Full
B. Wholesale trade services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Retailing services	Full	Similar	Full
D. Franchising	Full	Similar	Full
E. Other	---	Similar	---
5. Education services			
A. Primary education services	---	Similar	---
B. Secondary education services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Higher education services	Full	Similar	Full
D. Adult education	Full	Similar	Full
E. Other education services	Full	Similar	Full
6. Environmental services			
A. Sewage services	Full	Similar	Full
B. Refuse disposal services	Full	Similar	Full
C. Sanitation and similar services	Full	Similar	Full
D. Other	Full	Similar	Partial
7. Financial services			
A. All insurance and insurance-related services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Banking and other financial services	Partial	improved	Partial
8. Health related and social services			
A. Hospital services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Other Human Health Services	---	Similar	---
C. Social Services	---	Similar	---
D. Other	---	Similar	---

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
9. Tourism and travel related services			
A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering)	Partial	improved	Partial
B. Travel agencies and tour operators services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Tourist guides services	---	Similar	---
D. Other	---	Similar	---
10. Recreational and cultural and sporting services			
A. Entertainment services	---	Similar	---
B. News agency services	---	Improved	Full
C. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services	---	Similar	---
D. Sporting and other recreational services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
11. Transport services			
A. Maritime Transport Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Internal Waterways Transport	---	Similar	---
C. Air Transport Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
D. Space Transport	---	Similar	---
E. Rail Transport Services	---	Similar	---
F. Road Transport Services	---	Similar	---
G. Pipeline Transport	---	Similar	---
H. Services auxiliary to all modes of transport	Partial	Limited	Partial
I. Other Transport Services	---	Similar	---
12. Other services	---	Similar	---

General Note: MFN and Horizontal limitations, as well as Mode 4 commitments/limitations not considered.

Partial: Specific commitments subject to some limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

Full: Specific commitments not subject to limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

---: No specific commitment.

New: New commitments under the Agreement (full or partial, with or without limitations) which can, in most but not all cases, be seen as "improved". In some cases, a broad carve-out may diminish, or even nullify, the possible improvement represented by a "new" commitment.

Improved: Overall improved commitments made under the Agreement compared to those under the GATS.

Similar: Similar commitments (Agreement vs GATS); though possibly, in individual cases, with limited improvements and/or limited additional reservations.

Source: Oman's Schedule of specific commitments (GATS/SC/132) and GCC's Schedule annexed to the Agreement (Annex 5 to the Agreement). There is no List of MFN exemption under the GATS for Oman.

4.4.1.4.2.1 Financial services

4.62. Oman's commitments under the GATS are replicated under the Agreement in full. The coverage of its commitments is nevertheless expanded to include certain financial services related activities such as, *inter alia*, trading of exchange rate and interest rate instruments, transferable securities, or other negotiable instruments and financial assets in an over-the-counter market; participation in issues of all kinds of securities; or money broking.

4.4.1.4.2.2 Tourism and related services

4.63. Oman's commitments under the Agreement build on its GATS commitments. Market access conditions are improved by dropping the limitation on foreign equity for restaurants.

4.4.1.4.2.3 Recreational, cultural and sporting services

4.64. Oman has no GATS commitments for the sector. Under the Agreement, it undertakes full commitments, without any limitation with respect to news agency services. The other sub-sectors remain unbound (as under the GATS).

4.4.1.4.2.4 Transport services

4.65. Oman's commitments under the Agreement build on its GATS commitments. Improvements are nevertheless made with respect to selling and marketing of air transport services and computer reservation system services by dropping the foreign equity limitation in its GATS Schedule. Under the Agreement, Oman introduces a foreign equity limitation (70%) in connection with commercial presence for freight transport agency services (services auxiliary to all modes of transport).

4.4.1.4.2.5 All other services sectors

4.66. Oman's commitments under the GATS are replicated in full under the Agreement for all other sectors. No additional or other commitments are made under the Agreement.

4.4.1.5 Qatar

4.67. In the GATS, Qatar took commitments in 46 out of 155 services sectors. Commitments were made for some business services, courier services, construction and related engineering services, environmental services, financial services and hotels and restaurants services. In all other sectors and sub-sectors, no commitments were made. Qatar's commitments under the Agreement build on its GATS commitments, while also expanding the coverage (distribution services, education services, some tourism and travel related services and part of the maritime transport services subsector).

4.4.1.5.1 MFN and horizontal commitments

4.68. Under the GATS, Qatar did not schedule MFN exemptions.

4.69. Qatar's horizontal commitments under the GATS contain some limitations with respect to commercial presence for Government procurement, commercial presence requirements, certain legal forms required for service providers to provide services; acquisition of Qatari shares; the restricted acquisition of land and real estate; possible discrimination in relation to direct taxation on income; and access to government subsidized services. There are also limited and conditional horizontal commitments on the temporary stay of natural persons. Under the Agreement, Qatar relaxes some of these limitations. A requirement to establish partnerships with a minimum of 51% Qatari ownership as a condition for supplying services in Qatar is introduced. Qatari shares can be bought, sold or dealt by foreigners up to 25% in listed companies. Foreigners can also acquire land for economic activities on long lease particularly for industrial use. The commitments on mode 4 are specified for each GCC Member State, in the Schedule containing the GCC's horizontal commitments.

4.4.1.5.2 Sector specific commitments

4.70. The following section identifies some of the main differences, by sector, between Qatar's GATS schedule and its sector-specific commitments under the Agreement. Table 4.5 summarizes its commitments under the GATS and under the Agreement. It does not incorporate specific commitments made under mode 4 and does not fully integrate horizontal commitments/limitations. It should also be read in conjunction with Annex 5 of the Agreement.

Table 4.5 Qatar: comparison between the GATS and Agreement specific commitments

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
1. Business services			
A. Professional Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Computer and Related Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
C. Research and Development Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
D. Real Estate Services	---	New	Partial
E. Rental/Leasing Services without Operators	---	New	Partial
F. Other Business Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
2. Communication services			
A. Postal services	---	Similar	---

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
B. Courier services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Telecommunication services	---	Similar	---
D. Audiovisual services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
3. Construction and related engineering services			
A. General construction work for buildings	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. General construction work for civil Engineering	Partial	Improved	Partial
C. Installation and assembly work	Partial	Improved	Partial
D. Building completion and finishing work	Partial	Improved	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
4. Distribution services			
A. Commission agents' services	---	Similar	---
B. Wholesale trade services	---	New	Partial
C. Retailing services	---	New	Partial
D. Franchising	---	New	partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
5. Education services			
A. Primary education services	---	Similar	---
B. Secondary education services	---	New	Partial
C. Higher education services	---	New	Partial
D. Adult education	---	New	Partial
E. Other education services	---	New	Partial
6. Environmental services			
A. Sewage services	Partial	Improved	Full
B. Refuse disposal services	Partial	Improved	Full
C. Sanitation and similar services	Partial	Improved	Full
D. Other	Partial	Improved	Partial
7. Financial services			
A. All insurance and insurance-related services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Banking and other financial services	Partial	Similar	Partial
8. Health related and social services			
A. Hospital services	---	Similar	---
B. Other Human Health Services	---	Similar	---
C. Social Services	---	Similar	---
D. Other	---	Similar	---
9. Tourism and travel related services			
A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering)	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Travel agencies and tour operators services	---	New	Partial
C. Tourist guides services	---	New	Full
D. Other	---	Similar	---
10. Recreational and cultural and sporting services			
A. Entertainment services	---	Similar	---
B. News agency services	---	Similar	---
C. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services	---	Similar	---
D. Sporting and other recreational services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
11. Transport services			
A. Maritime Transport Services	---	New	Partial
B. Internal Waterways Transport	---	Similar	---
C. Air Transport Services	---	Similar	---
D. Space Transport	---	Similar	---
E. Rail Transport Services	---	Similar	---
F. Road Transport Services	---	Similar	---
G. Pipeline Transport	---	Similar	---
H. Services auxiliary to all modes of transport	---	Similar	---
I. Other Transport Services	---	Similar	---
12. Other services	---	Similar	---

General Note: MFN and Horizontal limitations, as well as Mode 4 commitments/limitations not considered.

Partial: Specific commitments subject to some limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

Full: Specific commitments not subject to limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

---: No specific commitment.

New: New commitments under the Agreement (full or partial, with or without limitations) which can, in most but not all cases, be seen as "improved". In some cases, a broad carve-out may diminish, or even nullify, the possible improvement represented by a "new" commitment.

Improved: Overall improved commitments made under the Agreement compared to those under the GATS.

Similar: Similar commitments (Agreement vs GATS); though possibly, in individual cases, with limited improvements and/or limited additional reservations.

Source: Draft Consolidated GATS Schedule of Specific Commitments (S/DCS/W/QAT), prepared by the Secretariat (in 2003) and GCC's Schedule annexed to the Agreement (Annex 5 to the Agreement). There is no List of MFN exemption under the GATS for Qatar.

4.4.1.5.3 Business services

4.71. Under the GATS, Qatar bound a number of business services, with some limitations and except for real estate services and rental and leasing services without operators. Under the Agreement, these commitments are improved, both in terms of coverage and through the withdrawal of certain limitations. Moreover, Qatar also undertakes commitments, with some limitations, *inter alia* for foreign equity ownership under mode 3, for real estate services as well as for rental and leasing services.

4.4.1.5.4 Communication services

4.72. Under the Agreement, Qatar replicates the partial commitments made (only in relation to courier services) under the GATS.

4.4.1.5.5 Constructions and related engineering services

4.73. The Agreement builds on Qatar's commitments under the GATS. Conditions applicable for the establishment of commercial presence are relaxed. Qatari partnership of no less than 51% is required for projects valued at under SDR 30 million or the equivalent amount in other currencies, an improvement compared to the conditions in Qatar's Schedule under the GATS.

4.4.1.5.6 Distribution services

4.74. The whole sector is unbound under the GATS. Under the Agreement, Qatar makes partial commitments, for wholesale trade services, retailing services, and franchising, and only with respect to mode 3, especially with some limitations on foreign equity ownership.

4.4.1.5.7 Educational services

4.75. The whole sector is unbound under the GATS. Under the Agreement, Qatar makes partial commitments, especially with some limitations on foreign equity ownership. Primary education services remain, as under the GATS, unbound.

4.4.1.5.8 Environmental services

4.76. The whole sector is bound under the GATS with some limitations (particularly for modes 1 and 2). Under the Agreement, Qatar builds on its GATS Schedule and fully binds most of the sector, without limitations.

4.4.1.5.9 Financial services

4.77. Most of the sector is bound by Qatar under the GATS, for modes 1, 2 and 3, though with limitations for mode 3. Under the Agreement, the coverage of insurance services is expanded, with the inclusion of life insurance. The limitations on mode 3 are maintained and a licence requirement is introduced. The same applies to banking services.

4.4.1.5.10 Health related and social services

4.78. As under the GATS, the whole sector remains unbound.

4.4.1.5.11 Tourism and travel related services

4.79. Hotel and restaurants services as well as tourist guide services are bound under the GATS, without any limitations. Under the Agreement, these two sub-sectors as well as travel agencies and tour operators services are bound, though partly and with some limitations. Tourist guide services are fully bound without limitations.

4.4.1.5.12 Recreational, cultural and sporting services

4.80. As under the GATS, Qatar makes no commitment in the whole sector.

4.4.1.5.13 Transport services

4.81. Under the GATS, Qatar has no commitments on transport services. Under the Agreement, it undertakes some commitments, in particular for international maritime transport (freight and passengers less cabotage transport services) and for international towage services, though with the condition that such services be supplied through partnerships with a minimum of 51% Qatari ownership. For the other sub-sectors, Qatar makes no commitment, as under the GATS.

4.4.1.6 Kuwait

4.82. In the GATS, Kuwait took commitments in 61 out of 155 services sectors. It did not make commitments, *inter alia*, on some professional services; communication services; some distribution services; education services; some recreational and cultural and sporting services; and transport services. Under the Agreement, Kuwait essentially builds on existing commitments. It also undertakes commitments to bind communication services and maritime transport services, *inter alia*.

4.4.1.6.1 MFN and horizontal commitments

4.83. Under the GATS, Kuwait has MFN exemptions for air transport services (aircraft repair and maintenance, selling and marketing and computer reservations services). It also reserves the possibility to take measures to promote and protect investment, in conformity with bilateral, multilateral agreement and undertakings, to which it is a party.

4.84. Kuwait's horizontal GATS commitments contains some limitations for foreign service providers to establish commercial presence in Kuwait (market access through tendering; national preference for government procurement; commercial presence through a Kuwaiti agent or through a partnership with the capital of Kuwaiti company with foreign ownership limited to 49%; economic value added necessary; and required authorization to establish commercial presence.) National treatment limitations for commercial presence also include restricted acquisition of land and real estate; limitations on access to Kuwaiti shares; and prohibited access to government subsidized services. Under the Agreement, some of these conditions are relaxed (tender procedures for instance). Moreover, Singaporean investors may establish a company in Kuwait with 100% foreign equity in selected sectors for which the Kuwaiti authorities may grant authorization to establish commercial presence (construction; banks, investment corporations and foreign exchange companies; insurance companies; information technology and software development; hospital and other health services; tourism hotels and entertainment; and culture, information and marketing). Foreigners who are resident in Kuwait are allowed to possess shares in Kuwaiti share holding companies. Access to governmental subsidies and acquisition of land or real estate (except for economic activities on long lease particularly for industrial use) remain reserved. The possibility of discrimination in relation to income direct taxes is also registered as a limitation.

4.85. Limited and conditional horizontal commitments on temporary stay of natural persons are also made under the GATS. Under the Agreement, the commitments on mode 4 are also specified for each GCC Member State, in the Schedule containing the GCC's horizontal commitments.

4.4.1.6.2 Sector specific commitments

4.86. The following section identifies some of the main differences, by sector, between Kuwait's GATS schedule and its sector-specific commitments under the Agreement. Table 4.6 summarizes its commitments under the GATS and under the Agreement. It does not incorporate specific commitments made under mode 4 and does not fully integrate horizontal commitments/limitations. It should also be read in conjunction with Annex 5 of the Agreement.

Table 4.6 Kuwait: comparison between the GATS and Agreement specific commitments

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
1. Business services			
A. Professional Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Computer and Related Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
C. Research and Development Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
D. Real Estate Services	---	Similar	---
E. Rental/Leasing Services without Operators	---	New	Partial
F. Other Business Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
2. Communication services			
A. Postal services	---	Similar	---*
B. Courier services	---	Similar	---*
C. Telecommunication services	---	Similar	---*
D. Audiovisual services	---	Similar	---*
E. Other	---	Similar	---*
3. Construction and related engineering services			
A. General construction work for buildings	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. General construction work for civil Engineering	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Installation and assembly work	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Building completion and finishing work	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	---	New	Partial
4. Distribution services			
A. Commission agents' services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Wholesale trade services	Partial	Limited	---
C. Retailing services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Franchising	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
5. Education services			
A. Primary education services	---	Similar	---
B. Secondary education services	---	Similar	---
C. Higher education services	---	Similar	---
D. Adult education	---	Similar	---
E. Other education services	---	Similar	---
6. Environmental services			
A. Sewage services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Refuse disposal services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Sanitation and similar services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Other	---	New	Partial
7. Financial services			
A. All insurance and insurance-related services	---	New	Partial
B. Banking and other financial services	Partial	Improved	Partial
8. Health related and social services			
A. Hospital services	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Other Human Health Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
C. Social Services	Partial	Improved	Full
D. Other	---	Similar	---
9. Tourism and travel related services			
A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering)	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Travel agencies and tour operators services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Tourist guides services	Partial	Improved	Partial
D. Other	---	Similar	---
10. Recreational and cultural and sporting services			
A. Entertainment services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. News agency services	---	Similar	---
C. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services	---	Similar	---
D. Sporting and other recreational services	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
11. Transport services			
A. Maritime Transport Services	---	Similar	---*
B. Internal Waterways Transport	---	Similar	---
C. Air Transport Services	---	New	full

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
D. Space Transport	---	Similar	---
E. Rail Transport Services	---	Similar	---
F. Road Transport Services	---	Similar	---
G. Pipeline Transport	---	Similar	---
H. Services auxiliary to all modes of transport	---	Similar	---
I. Other Transport Services	---	Similar	---
12. Other services	---	Similar	---

General Note: MFN and Horizontal limitations, as well as Mode 4 commitments/limitations not considered.

Partial: Specific commitments subject to some limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

Full: Specific commitments not subject to limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

---: No specific commitment.

---*: No specific commitment despite a commitment to submit an offer by December 2012, under Annex 5 to the Agreement.

New: New commitments under the Agreement (full or partial, with or without limitations) which can, in most but not all cases, be seen as "improved". In some cases, a broad carve-out may diminish, or even nullify, the possible improvement represented by a "new" commitment.

Improved: Overall improved commitments made under the Agreement compared to those under the GATS.

Similar: Similar commitments (Agreement vs GATS); though possibly, in individual cases, with limited improvements and/or limited additional reservations.

Source: Draft Consolidated GATS Schedule of Specific Commitments (S/DCS/W/KWT), prepared by the Secretariat (in 2003) and GCC's Schedule annexed to the Agreement (Annex 5 to the Agreement).

4.4.1.6.3 Business services

4.87. Under the GATS Kuwait's commitments are limited to some services provided through mode 3 (taking into account horizontal limitations). While the coverage for professional services remains limited (as under the GATS), commitments are also made for modes 1 and 2. While real estate services remain unbound under the Agreement (as under the GATS), some commitments, limited to mode 3 (though subject to horizontal limitations), are made for rental and leasing services (unbound under the GATS). The coverage of the commitments for other business services is expanded and commitments are also made for modes 1 and 2.

4.4.1.6.4 Communication services

4.88. Under the GATS, Kuwait makes no commitment on communication services. Nevertheless, under Annex 5 to the Agreement, Kuwait was to submit an offer on postal, courier, telecommunication services by December 2012. This offer was to be in conformity with international rules and standards pertaining to transparency. The conditions under which foreign providers operate in this sector (and in particular services providers from Singapore) were not to be made more restrictive than at the date of the entry into force of the Agreement. No information is available at present as to the situation currently prevailing.

4.4.1.6.5 Constructions and related engineering services

4.89. Under the Agreement, Kuwait replicates its commitments made under the GATS. It expands slightly the coverage of its commitments to also cover services classified under other constructions services.

4.4.1.6.6 Distribution services

4.90. Under the Agreement, as under the GATS, Kuwait only binds mode 3 for commission agents' services and certain retail services. However, it does not undertake any commitments for wholesale trade services which are partly bound under the GATS.

4.4.1.6.7 Educational services

4.91. The whole sector remains unbound under the Agreement, as it is the case under the GATS.

4.4.1.6.8 Environmental services

4.92. Sewage services refuse disposal services, and sanitation and similar services are bound under the GATS only when provided through commercial presence. The same situation prevails under the Agreement. Kuwait expands slightly its commitments to also apply them, in relation to mode 3, to remediation and clean-up of soil and water.

4.4.1.6.9 Financial services

4.93. Under the GATS, Kuwait has bound some banking services, essentially when provided through mode 2 and only partly through mode 3, with some conditions. Under the Agreement, it undertakes some commitments for insurance services and banking services. In relation to mode 3, market access is granted provided that it is done through the appointment of a Kuwaiti agent or through a joint venture, with a ceiling set higher than in Kuwait's GATS commitments for maximum participation in the capital.

4.4.1.6.10 Health related and social services

4.94. Under the Agreement, Kuwait builds on its commitments under the GATS. In particular, it has full commitments, without limitations, for social services.

4.4.1.6.11 Tourism and travel related services

4.95. Kuwait's commitments under the Agreement build on those under the GATS for hotels and restaurants and for tourist guides services, while for travel agencies and tour operators services, mode 1 is bound, and mode 3 (bound under the GATS) is unbound under the Agreement.

4.4.1.6.12 Recreational, cultural and sporting services

4.96. Under the Agreement, Kuwait replicates its commitments as under the GATS.

4.4.1.6.13 Transport services

4.97. Under the GATS, Kuwait makes no commitment on transport services. Nevertheless, under Annex 5 to the Agreement, Kuwait was to submit an offer on maritime transport services by December 2012. This offer was to be in conformity with international rules and standards pertaining to transparency. The conditions under which foreign providers operate in this sector (and in particular services providers from Singapore) were not to be made more restrictive than at the date of the entry into force of the Agreement. No information is available at present as to the situation currently prevailing.

4.98. Kuwait fully commits, without limitations, some air transport sub-sectors (maintenance and repair of aircraft and parts thereof; selling and marketing; and computer reservation systems).

4.4.2 Singapore

4.99. As in the case of the GCC, Singapore lists its specific commitments using a positive list approach, as has been done under the GATS. Under the Agreement, Singapore's services schedule replicates most of its commitments under GATS. In some areas, it builds on its GATS Schedule.

4.100. In the GATS, Singapore took commitments in 67 out of 155 services sectors. It did not make commitments, *inter alia*, on some professional services; postal services; distribution, education, environmental, and health related and social services; some recreational and cultural and sporting services as well as most transport sub-sectors. Under the Agreement, the coverage of Singapore's commitments is expanded, in particular in areas such as distribution, education, environmental, and health related and social services. Coverage is also expanded for some transport services.

4.101. With respect to sectors or sub-sectors for which Singapore has commitments under the GATS, it registers, under the Agreement, improvements in relation to some business services (some professional services; research and development services; and some other business services) that are covered more extensively. Improvements are also made in some telecommunication services; and some insurance services, which are already partially bound under the GATS.

4.102. In a number of other sectors, partial specific commitments are made for services for which there are no GATS commitments. This is in particular the case for some business services (real estate and rental/leasing services); all distribution services; most education services; some environmental services (sanitation and similar services and some other environment services); some human health services as well as some social services; some entertainment services; and some transport services (some air transport services, space transport, and some rail and road services).

4.103. Other services not covered elsewhere, such as washing, cleaning and dyeing services; some beauty services; and some funeral services are also covered, with some limitations.

4.4.2.1 MFN and horizontal commitments

4.104. Under the GATS, Singapore scheduled MFN exemptions in connection with the provision of services through mode 4. It also has reservations in connection with the conclusion of investment guarantee agreements (IGAs) and preferential tax treatment granted to the Commonwealth countries. Special MFN reservations have also been registered with respect to some services sectors or sub-sectors, such as some legal services; broadcasting; some transport-related activities (computer reservation systems; some auxiliary maritime transport services; and some insurance and banking services). No references to these GATS reservations are made under the Agreement.

4.105. Under the Agreement Singapore replicates its horizontal GATS reservations for commercial presence, right of establishment and movement of juridical persons (under mode 3) and the limited horizontal commitments on temporary movement of some personnel. Singapore makes a horizontal reservation in the Agreement for subsidies or grants offered exclusively to domestic services, service consumers or services suppliers.

4.4.2.2 Sector specific commitments

4.106. The following section identifies some of the main differences, by sector, between Singapore's GATS schedule and its sector-specific commitments under the Agreement. Table 4.7 summarizes its commitments under the GATS and the Agreement. It does not incorporate specific commitments under mode 4 and does not fully integrate horizontal commitments/limitations. It should also be read in conjunction with Annex 6 of the Agreement.

Table 4.7 Singapore: comparison between the GATS and Agreement specific commitments

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
1. Business services			
A. Professional Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Computer and Related Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Research and Development Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
D. Real Estate Services	---	New	Partial
E. Rental/Leasing Services without Operators	---	New	Partial

Sectors / Sub-sectors	GATS	Compared to the GATS	Specific commitments under the Agreement
F. Other Business Services	Partial	Improved	Partial
2. Communication services			
A. Postal services	---	Similar	---
B. Courier services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Telecommunication services	Partial	Improved	Partial
D. Audiovisual services	Partial	Similar	Partial
E. Other	---	Similar	---
3. Construction and related engineering services			
A. General construction work for buildings	Full	Similar	Full
B. General construction work for civil Engineering	Full	Similar	Full
C. Installation and assembly work	Full	Similar	Full
D. Building completion and finishing work	Full	Similar	Full
E. Other	Full	Similar	Full
4. Distribution services			
A. Commission agents' services	---	New	Partial
B. Wholesale trade services	---	New	Partial
C. Retailing services	---	New	Partial
D. Franchising	---	New	Partial
E. Other	---	New	Partial
5. Education services			
A. Primary education services	---	Similar	---
B. Secondary education services	---	New	Full
C. Higher education services	---	New	Full
D. Adult education	---	New	Full
E. Other education services	---	New	Full
6. Environmental services			
A. Sewage services	---	Similar	---
B. Refuse disposal services	---	Similar	---
C. Sanitation and similar services	---	New	Partial
D. Other	---	New	Partial
7. Financial services			
A. All insurance and insurance-related services	Partial	Improved	Partial
B. Banking and other financial services	Partial	Similar	Partial
8. Health related and social services			
A. Hospital services	---	New	Partial
B. Other Human Health Services	---	New	Partial
C. Social Services	---	New	Partial
D. Other	---	Similar	---
9. Tourism and travel related services			
A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering)	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Travel agencies and tour operators services	Partial	Similar	Partial
C. Tourist guides services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Other	---	Similar	---
10. Recreational and cultural and sporting services			
A. Entertainment services	---	New	Partial
B. News agency services	---	Similar	---
C. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services	Partial	Similar	Partial
D. Sporting and other recreational services	---	Similar	---
E. Other	---	Similar	---
11. Transport services			
A. Maritime Transport Services	Partial	Similar	Partial
B. Internal Waterways Transport	---	Similar	---
C. Air Transport Services	---	New	Partial
D. Space Transport	---	Similar	---
E. Rail Transport Services	---	New	Partial
F. Road Transport Services	---	New	Partial
G. Pipeline Transport	---	New	Partial
H. Services auxiliary to all modes of transport	---	Similar	---
I. Other Transport Services	---	Similar	---
12. Other services	---	New	Partial

General Note: MFN and Horizontal limitations, as well as Mode 4 commitments/limitations not considered.

Partial: Specific commitments subject to some limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

Full: Specific commitments not subject to limitation(s) under market access or national treatment, under any of the three modes.

---: No specific commitment.

- New: New commitments under the Agreement (full or partial, with or without limitations) which can, in most but not all cases, be seen as "improved". In some cases, a broad carve-out may diminish, or even nullify, the possible improvement represented by a "new" commitment.
- Improved: Overall improved commitments made under the Agreement compared to those under the GATS.
- Similar: Similar commitments (Agreement vs GATS); though possibly, in individual cases, with limited improvements and/or limited additional reservations.
- Source: Draft Consolidated GATS Schedule of Specific Commitments (S/DCS/W/SGP), prepared by the Secretariat (in 2003) and Singapore's Schedule annexed to the Agreement.

4.4.2.2.2 Business services

4.107. Singapore expands the coverage of its commitments under the Agreement to encompass in particular some real estate services and rental and leasing services without operators (relating to ship, aircraft and motor vehicles), with a residency requirement for the latter. A number of other business services, as well as some legal advisory services are also covered, with some limitations, under the Agreement. That also constitutes an improvement over its GATS commitments.

4.4.2.2.3 Communication services

4.108. Most of the sub-sectors are bound, with some limitations, under the GATS, except postal services (unbound under the GATS). Under the Agreement, Singapore essentially replicates its GATS commitments. It, nevertheless, abandons the public tender requirement in connection with the delivery of some telecommunication services and relaxes partly the licensing condition for value-added network services.

4.4.2.2.4 Constructions and related engineering services

4.109. This sector is bound, under the Agreement as under the GATS, without limitations.

4.4.2.2.5 Distribution services

4.110. This sector, unbound under the GATS, is covered by Singapore's Schedule of specific commitments under the Agreement, with some reservations on the provision of some retailing services through mode 1. Singapore, however, introduces a general reservation excluding distribution services from the scope of its commitments when distribution applies to any product subject to import prohibition or non-automatic import licensing.

4.4.2.2.6 Educational services

4.111. Singapore makes full commitments for all educational services (all unbound under the GATS) under the Agreement, except for primary education services that remain unbound as under the GATS. Under the Agreement, Singapore however indicates that specific commitments on market access and national treatment through any mode of supply shall not be construed to apply to the recognition of university degrees for the purposes of admission, registration and qualification for professional practice in Singapore.

4.4.2.2.7 Environmental services

4.112. This sector is unbound under the GATS. Under the Agreement, Singapore makes a commitment, with some limitations, for, *inter alia*, sanitation and similar services.

4.4.2.2.8 Financial services

4.113. Financial services (partially bound under the GATS, with some limitations) are covered under the Agreement in a similar way as under the GATS. Some conditions are however relaxed for commercial presence connected to life insurance services. Specific commitments related to banking services are essentially replicated from Singapore's GATS commitments.

4.4.2.2.9 Health related and social services

4.114. Under the GATS, Singapore did not take any commitments in this sector. Under the Agreement, most sub-sectors are bound, except for mode 1 and with limitations.

4.4.2.2.10 Tourism and travel related services

4.115. The partial commitments made under the GATS, with some limitations, are left unchanged and replicated by the Agreement.

4.4.2.2.11 Recreational, cultural and sporting services

4.116. The coverage of this sector, largely unbound under the GATS with the exception of some cultural services (libraries and museum in particular), is left unchanged under the Agreement.

4.4.2.2.12 Transport services

4.117. Singapore has bound a limited part of maritime transport services under the GATS, though qualifying it with some restrictions. Under the Agreement, Singapore replicates its commitments for maritime transport but also registers some new partial commitments, with limitations, in air transport services, rail and road transport services, and pipeline transport.

4.5 Regulatory provisions

4.5.1 Domestic regulation

4.118. Article 5.8 replicates the disciplines on qualification requirements, and procedures, technical standards and licensing requirements contained in Articles VI.1-VI.5 of the GATS.

4.5.2 Recognition

4.119. Under Article 5.9, the Agreement mirrors some of the provisions in paragraph 1 of Article VII of the GATS. It also encourages the relevant bodies in their respective territories to, where possible, enter into negotiations on the recognition of professional qualifications, licences, or registration procedures with a view to the achievement of early outcomes.

4.5.3 Subsidies

4.120. Subsidies or grants provided by a Party, including government-supported loans, guarantees, and insurance are specifically excluded from the coverage of Chapter 5.

4.5.4 Safeguards

4.5.4.1 Measures to safeguard the balance-of-payments

4.121. In the case of trade in services, restrictive import measures to safeguard the balance-of-payments, as well as those taken in serious external financial difficulties, are permitted in respect of which a Party has undertaken specific commitments, including on payments or transfers for transactions related to such commitments. The modalities applicable to such restrictive measures are contained in Article 5.13 and contemplate notification and consultation, *inter alia*, to determine the incidence of such restrictions.

4.5.5 Other

4.5.5.1 Monopolies and exclusive service suppliers

4.122. In Article 5.10, on monopolies and exclusive service suppliers, the Agreement replicates Article VIII of the GATS.

4.5.5.2 Business Practices

4.123. In Article 5.11, the Agreement foresees that, at the request of another Party, a Party shall enter into consultations with a view to eliminating business practices of service suppliers that may restrain competition and thereby restrict trade in services.¹⁷

4.5.5.3 Investment

4.124. Through an exchange of letters, the Parties share their understanding that investment issues will be dealt with through Investment Guarantee Agreements¹⁸ (IGAs). Singapore had, before the Agreement entered into force, already entered into bilateral ICAs with Bahrain, Oman and Saudi Arabia. It stands ready to commence negotiations with the rest of the GCC Member States, including with any State that may become a GCC Member State in the future.¹⁹

4.6 Sector specific provisions on trade in services

4.125. Side letters have been exchanged between the Parties in parallel to and as part of the adoption of the Agreement. Some of them contain sector specific provisions. Moreover, specific Articles or Annexes contain sector-specific disciplines complementing the general provisions applicable to trade in services. They are summarized below.

4.6.1 Energy and natural resources

4.126. Singapore and the UAE exchanged side letters on their shared understanding that "the UAE is an independent, sovereign, federal state, with seven sovereign Member Emirates, and pursuant to its Constitution, each Member Emirate retains full sovereignty, sovereign rights and exclusive jurisdiction over its natural resources and wealth of which the Energy Resources Sector²⁰ is the subject of the side letters". In the event of a difference in the interpretation or application of the agreed scope of the exchanged letter, the UAE and Singapore commit to have recourse to consultations and mediation. If such consultations fail, Singapore's only recourse shall be that it may suspend benefits under the Agreement proportionate to the trade effects which the measure in question causes or threatens to cause. In case of inconsistency between the Agreement and the exchanged letter, the letter shall prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.

4.6.2 Telecommunication services

4.127. Article 5.18 contains the Parties' commitments to consider negotiations on mutual liberalization of telecommunications services at future reviews by the Joint Committee.²¹ The results of these negotiations, if any, shall be incorporated into Chapter 5 in accordance with Article 10.2.

4.6.3 Financial services

4.128. Annex 7 provides for disciplines additional to those in Chapter 5 for financial services. It builds upon the GATS Annex on financial services and *inter alia*, confirms the Parties' rights to adopt or maintain reasonable measures for prudential reasons.

4.129. Each Party shall permit a financial service supplier of another Party established in its territory to supply any new financial services of a type similar to those services that it would permit its own financial services suppliers, in like circumstances, to supply under its domestic law (Paragraph 4 of Annex 7).

¹⁷ Measures covered by Article 5.10 on monopolies and exclusive service suppliers are reserved.

¹⁸ IGAs are also known as Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs).

¹⁹ To date, no substantive negotiations have taken place, according to the Parties.

²⁰ The term "Energy Resources Sectors" means all hydrocarbons such as oil, gas, and condensates, derivatives and primary by-products thereof with respect to ownership, management, exploration, development and production, exploitation (including reservoir management), transportation storage, refining and processing, and distribution up to an including retail distribution.

²¹ To date, no substantive negotiations have taken place, according to the Parties.

4.130. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of Annex 7 also contain transparency obligations and specific conditions applicable in case of use of the dispute settlement mechanism established under Chapter 9.

4.131. Paragraph 8 of Annex 7 specifically addresses "Shariah-compliant financial services". The Parties note that the term "financial service" includes Shariah-compliant financial services compatible with the definition of financial services used under the Agreement. Each Party will therefore consider proposals by financial institutions of the other Party to offer such services in its territories on the same basis as any other proposal to offer similar financial services consistent with its laws, including any regulatory or supervisory requirements.

5 GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT

5.1 Transparency

5.1. Each Party shall publish, or make publicly available, its laws, regulations, administrative rulings and judicial decisions of general application as well as international agreements to which the Party is a party, that may affect the operation of the Agreement (Article 1.7). Each Party shall nevertheless maintain the confidentiality of information designated as confidential by another Party. Disclosure of confidential information is also regulated by Article 1.8.

5.2. Throughout the Agreement, provisions on specific matters also provide for transparency disciplines.²²

5.2 Current payments and capital movements

5.3. Article 5.12 foresees that each Party shall not apply restrictions on international transfers and payments for current transactions relating to its specific commitments. Nothing in Chapter 5 affects the Parties' rights and obligations under the International Monetary Fund's regulations, provided that a Party shall not impose restrictions on any capital transactions inconsistently with its specific commitments regarding such transactions, except under provisions allowing for restrictions to safeguard the balance-of-payments or at the request of the IMF.

5.3 Exceptions

5.4. Exceptions are contained in Articles 1.9 and 1.10. Moreover, Article 6.24 extends general and security exceptions to Government procurement covered by Chapter 6.

5.3.1 General exceptions

5.5. With respect to trade in goods²³, Article XX of GATT 1994 is incorporated into and made part of the Agreement, *mutatis mutandis*. With respect to trade in services, Article XIV of GATS is incorporated into and made part of the Agreement, *mutatis mutandis*.

5.3.2 Security exceptions

5.6. A provision that is similar to that in Articles XXI of GATT 1994 and XIV *bis* of GATS is reproduced in Article 1.10 and is applicable to all matters covered by the Agreement.

5.3.3 Taxation

5.7. The Agreement does not apply to taxation measures (Article 1.4). Nothing in the Agreement shall affect the rights and obligations of any Party under any tax convention. In case of inconsistency between the Agreement and tax conventions, that convention shall prevail.

²² Article 2.7 on non-tariff measures; Article 2.9 on trade in goods incorporating Article X of the GATT 1994 into the Agreement; Articles 4.3 and 4.15 on customs procedures; Articles 6.9 and 6.26 on government procurement; and Articles 5.14 and 5.15 (trade in services).

²³ For the purposes of Chapters 2 (trade in goods) and 3 (rules of origin).

5.4 Accession and Withdrawal

5.8. Article 10.3 governs accession to the Agreement. Any State which becomes a GCC member may accede to the Agreement, subject to the Joint Committee's approval of terms and conditions.

5.9. Termination is governed by Article 10.4. Any State which withdraws from the Charter of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf shall ipso facto cease to be a Party to the Agreement six months after the date the withdrawal takes effect. Termination of a Party's participation in the Agreement shall take effect six months after all the GCC Member States have received the notification of Singapore's termination. In the case of a GCC Member terminating its participation, such termination shall take effect six months after the receipt of the notification by Singapore.

5.5 Institutional framework

5.10. A (FTA) Joint Commission is established, *inter alia*, to consider matters relating to the implementation of the Agreement (Article 1.11). The Joint Committee may establish standing or ad hoc sub-committees or working groups and assign any of its powers thereto.

5.11. Each Party shall designate a contact point or points to facilitate communications between the Parties on matters covered by the Agreement (except on TBT and SPS for which specific contact points shall be used).

5.6 Dispute settlement

5.12. Chapter 9 governs dispute settlement for matters covered by the Agreement, with the exception of Chapter 8 (cooperation).

5.13. Recourse to the dispute settlement mechanism established by Chapter 9 is without prejudice to the rights of the Parties to have recourse to WTO dispute settlement procedures. The Agreement therefore provides for forum shopping. However, when a dispute settlement forum has been elected, the forum selected shall be used to the exclusion of the other (Article 9.1).

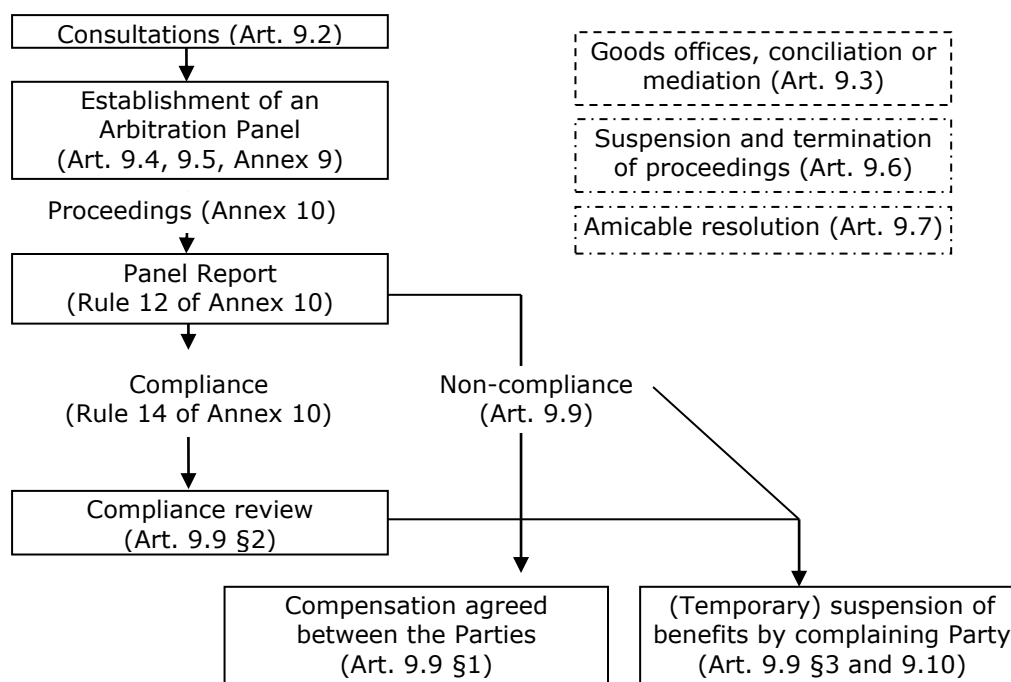
5.14. The Parties endeavour to agree on the interpretation and application of the Agreement and/or resolve any dispute arising from the Agreement through consultation, with the aim of reaching a mutually agreed solution (Article 9.2). A Party may at any time agree to good offices, conciliation, or mediation (Article 9.3).

5.15. In case the consultations fail to resolve a dispute, recourse to an ad hoc arbitral panel is possible and the applicable procedures and disciplines are described in Articles 9.4 through 9.11. The disciplines and procedural steps established under the Agreement, mainly modelled on the WTO dispute settlement modalities, cover the establishment and composition of an arbitral tribunal²⁴; the suspension and termination of proceedings; amicable resolution between the Parties before the arbitration panel issues its draft award; compliance with the panel's award; non-compliance, compensation and suspension of benefits; and temporary remedies for non-compliance. The rules of procedure²⁵ set out at Annex 10 shall apply to the procedures established in Chapter 9.

5.16. Chart 5.1 below summarizes the main steps of the dispute settlement mechanism established by the Agreement.

²⁴ The arbitrators composing the arbitral panel shall comply with the Code of Conduct for Members of Arbitration Panels set out in Annex 9. In relation to financial services, persons appointed to panels for disputes on obligations in financial services matters shall have the necessary expertise relevant to the specific financial service under dispute (Paragraph 6 of Annex 7).

²⁵ Annex 10 contain governs the calculation of deadlines ; consultations; mediation, the commencing of the arbitration; the operation of arbitration panels; initial submissions; hearings; questions in writing; confidentiality; ex-parte contacts; role of experts; award of arbitration panel; specific disciplines for perishable goods; compliance with award; administrative arrangements; notifications; translation and interpretation; and official languages.

Chart 5.1 Specific Dispute Settlement Mechanism established by the Agreement

Source: WTO Secretariat based on the Agreement.

5.7 Relationship with other agreements concluded by the Parties

5.17. Article 1.1 states that the Agreement's objectives to achieve the liberalization of trade in goods and to achieve the liberalization of trade in services, shall be attained in conformity with Article XXIV of the GATT 1994²⁶ and, respectively, with Article V of the GATS.

5.18. Each Party reaffirms its rights and obligations with respect to the other under existing agreements to which both are a party, including the WTO Agreement (Article 1.5). The Agreement shall not apply to the trade relations among the GCC Member States. The Agreement also shall not grant to Singapore rights and privileges that a GCC Member State grants exclusively to other GCC Member States.

5.19. Table 5.1 below shows the Parties' RTAs, notified and non-notified, other than the Agreement.

Table 5.1 GCC Member States and Singapore: Participation in other RTAs (notified and non-notified in force), as of 14 December 2021

RTA Name	Date of entry into force	Coverage	GATT/WTO Notification	
			Year	WTO Provision
GCC Member States - Collectively				
Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)	01-Jan-03	Goods	2007 2009	Enabling Clause GATT Art. XXIV
EFTA – GCC	01-Jul-14	Goods & Services	Not notified	
Individual GCC Member States				
United States - Oman	01-Jan-09	Goods & Services	2009	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
United States - Bahrain	01-Aug-06	Goods & Services	2006	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Morocco – United Arab Emirates	09-Jul-03	Goods	2019	Enabling Clause
Pan-Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA) ^a	01-Jan-98	Goods	2006	GATT Art. XXIV
• PAFTA – Accession of Algeria	01-Jan-09	Goods	Not notified	
• PAFTA – Accession of Palestine	01-Jan-98	Goods	Not notified	

²⁶ The Agreement has nevertheless, for its trade in goods part, been notified under the Enabling Clause.

RTA Name	Date of entry into force	Coverage	GATT/WTO Notification	
			Year	WTO Provision
Singapore				
United Kingdom – Singapore	01-Jan-21	Goods & Services	2020	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
European Union – Singapore	21-Nov-19	Goods & Services	2020	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
ASEAN – Hong Kong, China	11-Jun-19	Goods & Services	2021	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)	30-Dec-18	Goods & Services	2018	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Turkey – Singapore	01-Oct-17	Goods & Services	2018	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Singapore - Chinese Taipei	19-Apr-14	Goods & Services	2014	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Costa Rica - Singapore	01-Jul-13	Goods & Services	2013	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA/ATIGA)	17-May-10	Goods	2021	GATT Art. XXIV
ASEAN - Australia - New Zealand	01-Jan-10	Goods & Services	2010	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
ASEAN - Republic of Korea	01-Jan-10 14-Oct-10	Goods Services	2010	Enabling Clause, GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
ASEAN - India	01-Jan-10 01-Jul-15	Goods Services	2010 2015	Enabling Clause GATS Art. V
Peru - Singapore	01-Aug-09	Goods & Services	2009	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
China - Singapore	01-Jan-09	Goods & Services	2009	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
ASEAN - Japan	01-Dec-08	Goods	2009	GATT Art. XXIV
Panama - Singapore	24-Jul-06	Goods & Services	2007	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership	28-May-06	Goods & Services	2007	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Republic of Korea - Singapore	02-Mar-06	Goods & Services	2006	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Jordan - Singapore	22-Aug-05	Goods & Services	2006	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
India - Singapore	01-Aug-05	Goods & Services	2007	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
ASEAN - China	01-Jan-05 01-Jul-07	Goods Services	2005 2008	Enabling Clause GATS Art. V
United States - Singapore	01-Jan-04	Goods & Services	2003	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Singapore - Australia	28-Jul-03	Goods & Services	2003	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
EFTA - Singapore	01-Jan-03	Goods & Services	2003	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Japan - Singapore	30-Nov-02	Goods & Services	2002	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
New Zealand - Singapore	01-Jan-01	Goods & Services	2001	GATT Art. XXIV & GATS Art. V
Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP)	19-Apr-89	Goods	1989	Enabling Clause
ASEAN – Japan	01-Aug-20	Services	Not notified	
Singapore – Sri Lanka	01-May-18	Goods & Services	Not notified	
ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS)	12-Aug-98	Services	Not notified	

- a The notification made in 2006 (WT/REG223/N/1) indicated that the Parties to the PAFTA were as follows: Bahrain; Egypt; Iraq; Jordan; Kuwait; Lebanon; Libya; Morocco; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia; Sudan; Syria; Tunisia; the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The Treaties of Accessions of Algeria and Palestine are yet to be notified.

Source: WTO Secretariat. Further information on these Agreements and on specific dates of entry into force/provisional applications may be found in the WTO Database on RTAs: <http://rtais.wto.org>.

5.8 Government procurement

5.20. Chapter 6 governs the Parties' commitments in relation to Government procurement.

5.21. While Singapore is a party to the revised WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) since 2014, none of the GCC countries are a party to it, though Bahrain, Oman, and Saudi Arabia have observer status. In the Agreement, the Parties set as their objective the effective, reciprocal and gradual opening of their Government procurement markets (Article 6.1).

5.22. Annex 8A to the Agreement contains, for each Party, the relevant contract values thresholds and the entities, goods and services covered by Chapter 6. Moreover, a number of areas and/or

types of contracts are not covered by the Agreement.²⁷ The provisions of Chapter 6 do not affect the rights and obligations provided for in Chapter 2 (trade in goods) and Chapter 5 (trade in services). The Parties agree, in Article 6.25, to review their commitments under Chapter 6 with the view to progressively improving them.²⁸

5.23. The Agreement identifies the Parties' commitments to grant each-others national treatment and non-discrimination for matters covered by Chapter 6 (Article 6.4). It also contains, under Articles 6.5-6.27, disciplines on valuation of intended procurement; rules of origin; transitional period for price preferences (10 years); small and medium sized enterprises (10% price preference); transparency; tendering procedures; selective and limited tendering²⁹; negotiations; publication of notice of intended procurement³⁰; time limits for the tendering process; tendering documentation; technical specifications; registration and qualification of suppliers; evaluation of contracts; information on awards; modifications and rectifications to coverage; electronic procurement; challenge procedures; non-disclosure of information; and language. General and security exceptions also cover commitments on government procurement (Article 6.24).

5.9 Intellectual property rights

5.24. The Agreement does not contain any specific rules on intellectual property rights.

5.10 Other

5.10.1 Cooperation

5.25. Chapter 8 establishes a framework for cooperation between one or more of the GCC Member States and Singapore as a means to expand and enhance the benefits of the Agreement. The Parties affirm the importance of all forms of cooperation, with particular attention is given to (i) information and communications technology; (ii) media; (iii) energy; (iv) electronic commerce; (v) Halal certification standards and Halal mark³¹; (vi) air services³²; and (vii) business visits³³ in contributing towards the implementation of the objectives and principles of the Agreement.

5.26. The specific disciplines on dispute settlement (Chapter 9) do not apply to Chapter 8.

5.10.2 Electronic commerce

5.27. Chapter 12 contains disciplines on electronic commerce. The Parties agree that delivery by electronic means is to be considered as the supply of services using electronic means³⁴, within the meaning of Chapter 5 on trade in services (Article 7.3). The Parties also agree not to apply customs duties or other duties, fees, or charges on, or in connection with, the import or export of digital products³⁵ by electronic transmission (Article 7.4). Disciplines on the determination of the

²⁷ Article 6.3 exclude from the application of Chapter 6, *inter alia*: (i) the acquisition or rental of land; (ii) non-contractual agreements or any form of assistance provided by a Party; (iii) procurement or acquisition of fiscal agency or depository services, liquidation and management services for regulated financial institutions, etc.; (iv) public employment contracts; (v) procurement conducted for international assistance or aid, under particular procedures of agreements relating to stationing of troops, or under conditions of international organization or internationally funded; and some contracts executed in or for the benefits of the Holy Cities of Makkah and Medina in Saudi Arabia.

²⁸ To date, no review such as the one foreseen in Article 6.25 has taken place, according to the Parties.

²⁹ The minimum time limit for the receipt of tenders is not less than 30 days. The actual time-limit of Bahrain, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia is set in Annex 8C.

³⁰ Annex 8B lists the appropriate publications in connection with the disciplines contained in Article 6.14.

³¹ The Parties agree to negotiate and make arrangements, within one year of the entry into force of the Agreement, to provide for recognition by the GCC Member States of Singapore's Halal Certification Standards and Halal mark. Kuwait, Qatar, and the UAE have done so through exchanges of letters with Singapore that are attached to the Agreement.

³² Article 8.6 identifies some areas of cooperation on air transport services, which may include, *inter alia*, concluding or enhancing in a mutually beneficial manner air services agreement between one or more of the GCC Member States and Singapore.

³³ Article 8.7 contains the Parties' agreement to promote business visits and exchanges, including pre-establishment visits, between the Parties.

³⁴ "Using electronic means" means employing computer processing.

³⁵ "Digital products" means computer programmes, text, video, images, sound recordings and other products that are digitally encoded, regardless of whether they are fixed on a carrier medium or transmitted

customs value of an imported carrier medium bearing a digital product, as well as the non-discriminatory treatment of such products are also governed by the Agreement. Co-operative activities to promote electronic commerce is also encouraged (Article 8.4).

5.10.3 Competition

5.28. The Agreement does not contain any specific rules on competition.

5.10.4 Environment

5.29. The Agreement does not contain any specific rules on environment.

5.10.5 Labour

5.30. The Agreement does not contain any specific rules on labour rights.

electronically. Article 7.4 does not preclude a Party from imposing internal taxes or other internal charges provided that these are imposed in a manner consistent with the Agreement.

ANNEX 1

INDICATORS OF TRADE LIBERALIZATION UNDER THE AGREEMENT

The GCC Market

1. Tables A1.1 through A1.6 show tariff liberalization by each individual GCC Member State in relation to imports from Singapore (by total, agricultural and non-agricultural products). While a common external tariff is applied by all GCC Member States for most tariff lines, the tariff treatment applied by each GCC Member States for several lines differs. This is reflected in the following Tables. In 2015, the GCC's Member States applied average MFN rates between 4.7% and 5.55 overall¹ (4.6% for non-agricultural products, and between 7.1% and 10.2% for agricultural products²).

2. 11.1% of their tariff (except for Oman's, which was 11%) was duty free on an MFN basis; 8.9% of non-agricultural products and 22.3% of agricultural products (with the exception of Oman's, which was 21.7%) were duty free. At the time of entry into force of the Agreement (1 September 2013), Singapore's exporters enjoyed an absolute margin of preference of 4.1% *vis-à-vis* the prevailing MFN tariff; 4.3% for non-agricultural goods (except for Oman's, which was 4.2%) and between 3.4% and 3.7% for agricultural products.³ The share of duty-free lines applicable to imports from Singapore immediately at the entry into force of the Agreement was between 93.1% (for Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE) and 93.2% (for Kuwait, and Qatar). The share of duty-free lines, at that time, for agricultural products was 90.6%, and 93.6% for non-agricultural products. This share of duty-free tariff lines will further increase to reach 96.2% in 2018 (97.2% for non-agricultural products and 90.9% for agricultural products), by which time the GCC States will have fully implemented their tariff elimination programme.

Table A1.1 Bahrain: Indicators of MFN tariff rates and preferential rates for imports from Singapore

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
MFN	2013	5.2	5.9	11.1	8.5	11.0	22.3	4.6	5.1	8.9
Singapore	2013	1.1	17.1	93.1	5.1	61.1	90.6	0.3	5.5	93.6
	2014	1.1	17.1	93.1	5.1	61.1	90.6	0.3	5.5	93.6
	2015	1.1	17.1	93.1	5.1	61.1	90.6	0.3	5.5	93.6
	2016	1.1	17.1	93.1	5.1	61.1	90.6	0.3	5.5	93.6
	2017	1.1	17.1	93.1	5.1	61.1	90.6	0.3	5.5	93.6
	2018	0.9	27.5	96.2	5.1	62.9	90.9	0.1	5.7	97.2

a WTO Definition.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition are excluded while computing the average duty rates. Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Bahrain and the TPR database.

¹ 4.7% for Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE; 5% for Qatar; and 5.5% for Bahrain and for Oman.

² 7.1% for Qatar; 8.5% for Bahrain; 5.5% for Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE; and 10.2% for Oman.

³ 3.4% for Bahrain; 3.5% for Qatar; 3.6% for Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE; and 3.7% for Oman.

Table A1.2 Kuwait: Indicators of MFN tariff rates and preferential rates for imports from Singapore

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
MFN	2013	4.7	5.3	11.1	5.5	7.2	22.3	4.6	5.0	8.9
Singapore	2013	0.6	9.5	93.2	1.9	47.2	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2014	0.6	9.5	93.2	1.9	47.2	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2015	0.6	9.5	93.2	1.9	47.2	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2016	0.6	9.5	93.2	1.9	47.2	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2017	0.6	9.5	93.2	1.9	47.2	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2018	0.4	14.5	96.2	1.9	50.2	90.9	0.1	5.0	97.2

a WTO Definition.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition and marked as 'Special Products' are excluded while computing the average duty rates.
Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Kuwait

Table A1.3 Oman: Indicators of MFN tariff rates and preferential rates for imports from Singapore

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
MFN	2013	5.5	6.2	11.0	10.2	13.1	21.7	4.6	5.0	8.9
Singapore	2013	1.4	20.9	93.1	6.5	79.4	90.6	0.4	5.8	93.6
	2014	1.4	20.9	93.1	6.5	79.4	90.6	0.4	5.8	93.6
	2015	1.4	20.9	93.1	6.5	79.4	90.6	0.4	5.8	93.6
	2016	1.4	20.9	93.1	6.5	79.4	90.6	0.4	5.8	93.6
	2017	1.4	20.9	93.1	6.5	79.4	90.6	0.4	5.8	93.6
	2018	1.2	34.8	96.2	6.5	81.8	90.9	0.2	6.8	97.2

a WTO Definition.

Note: Tariff lines subject to import prohibition are excluded while computing the average duty rates.
Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Oman.

Table A1.4 Qatar: Indicators of MFN tariff rates and preferential rates for imports from Singapore

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
MFN	2013	5.0	5.6	11.1	7.1	9.1	22.3	4.6	5.0	8.9
Singapore	2013	0.9	12.8	93.2	3.6	38.9	90.6	0.3	5.2	93.6

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
	2014	0.9	12.8	93.2	3.6	38.9	90.6	0.3	5.2	93.6
	2015	0.9	12.8	93.2	3.6	38.9	90.6	0.3	5.2	93.6
	2016	0.9	12.8	93.2	3.6	38.9	90.6	0.3	5.2	93.6
	2017	0.9	12.8	93.2	3.6	38.9	90.6	0.3	5.2	93.6
	2018	0.7	18.6	96.2	3.6	39.9	90.9	0.1	5.0	97.2

a WTO Definition.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Qatar, WTO-IDB and the TPR database.

Table A1.5 Saudi Arabia: Indicators of MFN tariff rates and preferential rates for imports from Singapore

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
MFN	2013	4.7	5.3	11.1	5.5	7.2	22.3	4.6	5.0	8.9
Singapore	2013	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2014	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2015	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2016	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2017	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2018	0.4	14.8	96.2	1.9	55.0	90.9	0.1	5.0	97.2

a WTO Definition.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by Saudi Arabia and WTO-IDB.

Table A1.6 United Arab Emirates: Indicators of MFN tariff rates and preferential rates for imports from Singapore

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
MFN	2013	4.7	5.3	11.1	5.5	7.2	22.3	4.6	5.0	8.9
Singapore	2013	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2014	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2015	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2016	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6
	2017	0.6	9.6	93.1	1.9	51.3	90.6	0.3	5.0	93.6

Origin of goods	Year	ALL PRODUCTS			Agricultural products ^a			Non-agricultural products		
		Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)	Average applied tariff		Share of duty-free tariff lines (%)
		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)		Overall (%)	On dutiable (%)	
	2018	0.4	14.8	96.2	1.9	55.0	90.9	0.1	5.0	97.2

a WTO Definition.

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.⁷

Source: WTO estimates based on data available in WTO-IDB and TPR database.

3. Table A1.7 gives an indication of additional market access in the territory of the GCC Member States (GCC considered as one single territory), resulting from the entry into force of the Agreement for Singapore's top 25 global exports, which accounted for 53.3% of its global exports in 2010-2012; these corresponded to 67 lines in the GCC's tariff at the six-digit level (using the HS 2012). In 2013, prior to the entry into force of the Agreement, 27 of these tariff lines already had (MFN) duty free access to the GCC's market. With the entry into force of the Agreement, on 1 September 2013, the 40 lines, which were dutiable, became duty free for imports from Singapore.

Table A1.7 GCC⁴: Market access opportunities under the agreement for Singapore's top 25 exports to the world

Singapore's top export products in 2010 - 2012		Access Conditions to GCC's import markets					Remain Dutiable
HS number and description of the product		Share in global exports (%)	MFN 2013			No. of duty free lines under the agreement	
			Average MFN applied rate (%)	No. of dutiable lines	No. of duty free lines	2013	
854239	Electronic integrated circuits	9.2	0.0		1		
271019	Medium oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals, not containing biodiesel	8.1	5.0	15		15	
854231	Electronic integrated circuits as processors and controllers, whether or not combined with memories, converters, logic circuits, amplifiers, clock and timing circuits, or other circuits	6.8	0.0		1		
271020	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals	5.7	5.0	1		1	
271012	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals	3.9	5.0	16		16	
847330	Parts and accessories of automatic data-processing machines or for other machines of heading 8471	2.6	0.0		1		
844399	Parts and accessories of printers, copying machines and facsimile machines	1.7	0.0		5		
854232	Electronic integrated circuits as memories	1.7	0.0		1		
854290	Parts of electronic integrated circuits	1.6	0.0		1		
880330	Parts of aeroplanes or helicopters	1.3	5.0	1		1	
847170	Storage units for automatic data-processing machines	1.1	0.0		1		

⁴ Since the MFN and Preferential rates for those 25 subheadings are identical in individual GCC member's schedule, the information has been presented in one table.

Singapore's top export products in 2010 - 2012		Access Conditions to GCC's import markets					
HS number and description of the product		Share in global exports (%)	MFN 2013			No. of duty free lines under the agreement	Remain Dutiable
			Average MFN applied rate (%)	No. of dutiable lines	No. of duty free lines	2013	
300490	Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes, put up in measured doses "incl. those in the form of transdermal administration" or in forms or packings for retail sale	1.1	0.0		2		
851712	Telephones for cellular networks "mobile telephones" or for other wireless networks	1.1	0.0		1		
843143	Parts for boring or sinking machinery of subheading 8430.41 or 8430.49	1.0	5.0	2		2	
890520	Floating or submersible drilling or production platforms	0.8	0.0		1		
292249	Amino-acids and their esters; salts thereof	0.7	5.0	1		1	
711319	Articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of precious metal other than silver, whether or not plated or clad with precious metal	0.7	5.0	2		2	
854390	Parts of electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions, n.e.s. in chapter 85	0.7	0.0		2		
851762	Machines for the reception, conversion and transmission or regeneration of voice, images or other data, incl. switching and routing apparatus	0.7	0.0		3		
854190	Parts of diodes, transistors and similar semiconductor devices; photosensitive semiconductor devices, light emitting diodes and mounted piezoelectric crystals	0.6	0.0		1		
852329	Magnetic media for the recording of sound or of other phenomena	0.6	0.0		2		
293500	Sulphonamides	0.5	5.0	1		1	
854129	Transistors with a dissipation rate ≥ 1 w	0.5	0.0		1		
853690	Electrical apparatus for switching electrical circuits, or for making connections to or in electrical circuits, for a voltage ≤ 1.000 v	0.5	0.0		3		
390230	Propylene copolymers, in primary forms	0.4	5.0	1		1	
TOTAL		53.3	1.8	40	27	40	-

Note: Based on the HS 2012 nomenclature.

Source: WTO estimates based on data provided by authorities, available in WTO-IDB, the TPR database and UNSD-Comtrade.

Singapore

4. In 2013, all Singapore's tariff, except 6 tariff lines⁵ were duty free on an MFN basis. Under the Agreement Singapore eliminates all remaining tariffs upon entry into force of the Agreement.

⁵ HS 220300.10, 220300.90, 220890.10, 220890.20, 220890.30, and 220890.40.

ANNEX 2

LIST OF TARIFF LINES FOR WHICH DIFFERENT MFN RATES (OR TREATMENT) IS APPLIED BY INDIVIDUAL GCC MEMBER STATES¹

1. While the GCC members apply a Common External Tariff (CET) for most tariff lines, corresponding to 7,163 tariff lines out of a total of 7,301 tariff lines (HS 2012 at eight digits) and representing 98.1% of the tariff, 138 tariff lines, corresponding to 1.9% of the GCC tariff are subject to different tariffs across the GCC. Such different treatment is provided for a variety of reasons, including because imports are "prohibited", products are considered as "Special Products" or "Special Goods", or because they are subject to customs duty rates of 5%, 20%, 25% 100% or 125% depending on the product. In addition, for some tariff lines, tariff treatment takes the form of an ad valorem customs duty of 100% to which a minimum additional surcharge (in the form of a specific duty) is added. The 138 tariff lines for which different MFN rates (or treatment) can be applied by individual GCC Member States, is provided in Table A2.1 below.

Table A2.1 GCC: Tariff lines subject to different MFN rates/treatment (%)

TL	Description	BHR	KWT	OMN	QAT	SAU	UAE
01031000	- Pure-bred breeding animals	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
01039100	- - Weighing less than 50 kg	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
01039200	- - Weighing 50 kg or more	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
02031100	- - carcasses and half-carcasses	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02031200	- - Hams, shoulders and cuts thereof, with bone in	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02031900	- - Other	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02032100	- - carcasses and half-carcasses	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02032200	- - Hams, shoulders and cuts thereof, with bone in	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02032900	- - Other	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02050090	- - - Other	5	5	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02063000	- Of swine, fresh or chilled	5	5	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02064100	- - Livers	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02064900	- - Other	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02091000	- Pig fat	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02101100	- - Hams, shoulders and cuts thereof, with bone in	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods

¹ Annex 3 describes the methodology applied by the WTO Secretariat to compute the MFN rates of the GCC Member States, based on the data provided by and available for the individual GCC Member States.

TL	Description	BHR	KWT	OMN	QAT	SAU	UAE
02101200	- - Bellies (streaky) and cuts thereof	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
02101900	- - Other	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
05021000	- Pigs', hogs' or boars' bristles and hair and waste thereof	5	5	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
05071000	- Ivory; ivory powder and waste	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
06022010	- - - Palm tree seedling	0	0	Prohibited	0	0	0
06022020	- - - Coconut seedling	0	0	Prohibited	0	0	0
08031000	- plantains	0	0	25	0	0	0
08039000	- Other	0	0	25	0	0	0
08041010	- - - Fresh	0	0	20	0	0	0
08041021	- - - - Pressed	0	0	20	0	0	0
08041029	- - - - Other	0	0	20	0	0	0
08055020	- - - Dried	0	0	100	0	0	0
09082100	- - Neither crushed nor ground.	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
09082200	- - Crushed or ground	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
12079100	- - Poppy seeds	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
12079910	- - - Poppy	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
12079920	- - - Hemp seeds	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
12113000	- Coca leaf	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
12114000	- Poppy straw	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
12119020	- - - Black poppy	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
12119060	- - - Cannabis sativa	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
13019060	- - - Olibanum	5	5	Prohibited	5	5	5
13019070	- - - Frankincense	5	5	Prohibited	5	5	5
13019080	- - - Storax	5	5	Prohibited	5	5	5
13021100	- - Opium	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
13021910	- - - Hashish	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
15011000	- Lard	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
15012000	- Other pig fat	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods

TL	Description	BHR	KWT	OMN	QAT	SAU	UAE
15030011	- - - - Of pig	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
15030021	- - - - Of pig	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
15030091	- - - - Of pig	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
15180011	- - - - Of pig	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
16010010	- - - Of swine or animal blood	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
16024100	- - Hams and cuts thereof	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
16024200	- - Shoulders and cuts thereof	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
16024900	- - Other, including mixtures	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
16029030	- - - Preparations of animal blood	5	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
17049080	- - - White Chocolate containing alcohol	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
18063110	- - - Containing alcohol	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
18063210	- - - Containing alcohol	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
20082010	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20083010	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20084010	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20085010	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20086010	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20087010	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20088010	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20089310	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20089710	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
20089910	- - - Added alcohol	125	Special Products	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
22030000	Beer made from malt.	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22041000	- Sparkling wine	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22042100	- - In containers holding 2 L or less	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22042900	- - Other	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22043000	- Other grape must	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22051000	- In containers holding 2 L or less	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods

TL	Description	BHR	KWT	OMN	QAT	SAU	UAE
22059000	- Other	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22060000	Other fermented beverages (for example, cider, sherry, mead); mixtures of fermented beverages and mixtures of fermented beverages and non-alcoholic beverages, not elsewhere specified or included.	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22072090	- - - Other	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22082000	- Spirits obtained by distilling grape wine or grape marc	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22083000	- Whiskies	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22084000	- Rum and other spirits obtained by distilling fermented sugar-cane products	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22085000	- Gin and Geneva	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22086000	- Vodka	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22087000	- Liqueurs and cordials	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
22089090	- - - Other	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
23070010	- - - Wine lees	125	Special Products	100	100	Special Goods	Special Goods
24039920	- - - Chopped or pressed tobacco for chewing	100% with minimum charge of BD. 4 per kg gross	100% plus minimum charge of KD. 4 per Kg gross	Prohibited	100% with minimum charge of QR 40 per Kg net	100% with minimum charge of: SR 40 per Kg net	100%with minimum charge of: DH 40 per Kg net
24039950	- - - Tobacco extracts and essences	100	100	100	100	100% ad-valorem with minimum charge of: 100 SR	100%with minimum charge of: 100 DH
24039990	- - - Other	100% with minimum charge of BD. 4 per kg net	100% plus minimum charge of KD. 4 per g net.	100% with minimum charge of RO. 4 per kg net.	100% with minimum charge of QR 40 per kg net	100% with minimum charge of: SR 40 per Kg net	100%with minimum charge of: DH 40 per Kg net
25241000	- Crocidolite	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
25249000	- Other	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited

TL	Description	BHR	KWT	OMN	QAT	SAU	UAE
27109100	- - containing polychlorinated biphenyls(PCBs), polychlorinated terphenyls (PCTs) or polybrominated biphenyls(PBBs)	5	5	Prohibited	5	5	5
27109900	- - Other	5	5	Prohibited	5	5	5
28070010	- - - Sulphuric acid	20	5	5	5	5	5
28530010	- - - Distilled water, conductivity water and water of similar purity	20	5	5	5	5	5
29399110	- - - Cocaine	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
39173210	- - - Drinking straws	20	5	5	5	5	5
39204910	- - - Tablecloths	20	5	5	5	5	5
39232110	- - - Of polymers of ethylene	20	5	5	5	5	5
39269031	- - - - Containers for urine and stool specimens	20	5	5	5	5	5
39269032	- - - - Pustular plates for medical culture	20	5	5	5	5	5
40121100	- - Of kind used on motor cars (including station wagons and racing cars)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
40121200	- - Of a kind used on buses or lorries	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
40121300	- - Of a kind used on buses aircraft	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
40121900	- - Other	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
40122000	- Used pneumatic tyres	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
40129000	- Other	Prohibited	5	5	5	5	5
41033000	- Of swine.	5	5	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
41063100	- - In the wet state (including wet-blue)	5	5	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
41063200	- - In the dry state (crust)	5	5	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
41132000	- Of swine	5	5	100	5	Special Goods	Special Goods
48181000	- Toilet paper	20	5	5	5	5	5
48182000	- Handkerchiefs, cleansing or facial tissues and towels	20	5	5	5	5	5
48194000	- Other Sacks and bags, including cones	20	5	5	5	5	5
56012110	- - - Cotton buds	20	5	5	5	5	5

TL	Description	BHR	KWT	OMN	QAT	SAU	UAE
68114000	- Containing asbestos	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
68128000	- OF crocidolite	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
68129300	- - Compressed asbestos fibre jointing, in sheets or rolls	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
68132000	- Containing asbestos	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	Prohibited	Prohibited
71012100	- - Unworked	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	5	5	5
71012200	- - Worked	Prohibited	Prohibited	5	5	5	5
71161010	- - - Articles of personal ornamentation	Prohibited	5	5	5	5	5
71161090	- - - Other	Prohibited	5	5	5	5	5
72141020	- - - Of circular cross-section measuring 10-32 mm in diameter	5	5	5	20	5	5
72142020	- - - Of circular cross-section measuring 10-32 mm in diameter	5	5	5	20	5	5
72143020	- - - Of circular cross-section measuring 10-32 mm in diameter	5	5	5	20	5	5
72151020	- - - Of circular cross-section measuring 10-32 mm in diameter	5	5	5	20	5	5
72155020	- - - Of circular cross-section measuring 10-32 mm in diameter	5	5	5	20	5	5
72159020	- - - Of circular cross-section measuring 10-32 mm in diameter	5	5	5	20	5	5
76041000	- Of aluminium, not alloyed	20	5	5	5	5	5
76042100	- - Hollow profiles	20	5	5	5	5	5
76071110	- - - In rolls put up for retail sale	20	5	5	5	5	5
76072010	- - - In rolls put up for retail sale	20	5	5	5	5	5
76169100	- - Cloth, grill, netting and fencing, of aluminium wire	20	5	5	5	5	5
76169921	- - - - Cloth, grill and netting of expanded aluminium wire	20	5	5	5	5	5
85437030	- - - Electronic cigarettes:	Prohibited	0	Prohibited	0	Prohibited	Prohibited
90183190	- - - Other	20	5	5	5	5	5
90189080	- - - Surgery set consisting of gauze, cotton, scissors, tongs, etc.	20	5	5	5	5	5
94042110	- - - Mattresses with springs	20	5	5	5	5	5
94042190	- - - Other	20	5	5	5	5	5

TL	Description	BHR	KWT	OMN	QAT	SAU	UAE
96190020	- - - Feminine pads	20	5	5	5	5	5
96190050	- - - Delivery set consisting of one or more articles of subheadings 48 18 40 10 to 48 18 40 90 and heading 48 18 50 00	20	5	5	5	5	5

Source: WTO Secretariat, based on data submitted by the Parties.

ANNEX 3

METHODOLOGY APPLIED BY THE WTO SECRETARIAT TO COMPUTE THE MFN RATES OF THE GCC MEMBER STATES

1. As a full set of tariff data was not available for each GCC Member State, the WTO Secretariat developed, in consultation with the individual GCC Member States, a methodology to construct a full set of MFN and preferential rates applicable to the GCC.
2. Oman provided its applied MFN tariff rates for 2013 and 2016, in the HS2012 nomenclature. Preferential tariffs for the Agreement were also provided for each tariff line, for 2016 and in the same nomenclature. On the basis of the data provided the WTO Secretariat was able to determine both the applied MFN tariff rate and the preferential treatment granted to Singapore in 2013.
3. The above was used as a benchmark. The WTO Secretariat proceeded then to assign an applied MFN rate to each tariff line for each GCC Member State, using different sources such as submissions made in the context of the Transparency Mechanism for RTAs, a past Trade Policy Review, or to the Integrated Data Base (IDB)) as indicated in Table A3.1 below. The nomenclatures used by different GCC Member States were consistent with each other to a large extent. The number of split/merged tariff lines with the same duties that had to be harmonized was kept to a strict minimum.
4. With respect to import data (for 2010 to 2012), two GCC Member States (Oman and Kuwait) provided a correlation table from HS2007 to HS2012 at the 8-digit level, which was used to transpose import data in HS2007 nomenclature into HS2012 because the tariff was available in HS2012 nomenclature. The applied MFN rates and the individual GCC Member States' import data were extracted from different sources (See Table A3.1 below).

Table A3.1 Sources for MFN and import data:

Parties	MFN 2013	Pref. Rates for SGP (2013-2018)	IMPORT DATA		
			2010	2011	2012
Bahrain	TPR	Generated by WTO Secretariat based on tariff liberalization Schedules	IDB	IDB	IDB
Kuwait	Sub	"	Sub	Sub	Sub
Oman	Sub	"	Sub	Sub	Sub
Qatar	TPR	"	IDB	Sub	IDB
Saudi Arabia	IDB	"	Sub	Sub	Sub
United Arab Emirates	IDB	"	IDB	IDB	TPR*

TPR = Trade Policy Review submissions; Sub = Submission in the context of the RTA Transparency Mechanism; IDB = Submissions to the Integrated Data Base.

* HS 6 Digits.

5. While preparing the MFN tariffs, as indicated in Oman's schedule, tariff line suffixes (TLS) were created to apply duty free treatment provided under the Information Technology Agreement (ITA). This applies to tariff lines HS8473.10.00, 8473.40.00, 8504.90.00, 8518.90.90, 8522.90.00, 8538.90.00, and 9013.90.90. The same approach was applied for all GCC Member States that are a party to the ITA (except Qatar which is not).