
Committee on Trade and Environment

ENVIRONMENTAL DATABASE FOR 2020

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT¹

1. The WTO Environmental Database (EDB) is prepared in response to a recommendation in the 1996 Report of the Committee on Trade and Environment (WT/CTE/1) for the Secretariat to compile and update annually all environment-related notifications to the WTO.^{2 3}
2. In October 2018, a web-based EDB application was developed. The web-based EDB is available through the WTO website: <https://www.wto.org/edb> or through the URL address: <https://edb.wto.org/>.⁴
3. Information in the EDB for 2020 is drawn from the 4,955 notifications submitted by 84 WTO Members and the 7 TPRs circulated in 2020. The full data set for 2020 can be accessed at: https://edb.wto.org/search?field_year%5B%5D=2020&search_api_fulltext=&field_ics_hs_code=.
4. This note is a summary report of the underlying data contained in the EDB. It covers information on: (i) environment-related measures notified under WTO Agreements and notification obligations (Section 1); (ii) environment-related measures mentioned in Trade Policy Reviews (TPRs) (Section 2); and (iii) EDB data for topic-specific analysis (Section 3).

¹ This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

² Previous Environmental Databases have been circulated in the following documents: EDB 1996 in WT/CTE/W/46, EDB 1997 in WT/CTE/W/77, EDB 1998 in WT/CTE/W/118, EDB 1999 in WT/CTE/W/143, EDB 2000 in WT/CTE/W/195, EDB 2001 in WT/CTE/EDB/1, EDB 2002 in WT/CTE/EDB/2, EDB 2003 in WT/CTE/EDB/3, EDB 2004 in WT/CTE/EDB/4, EDB 2005 in WT/CTE/EDB/5, EDB 2006 in WT/CTE/EDB/6, EDB 2007 in WT/CTE/EDB/7, EDB 2008 in WT/CTE/EDB/8, EDB 2009 in WT/CTE/EDB/9 and Add.1, EDB 2010 in WT/CTE/EDB/10 and Add.1, EDB 2011 in WT/CTE/EDB/11 and Add.1, EDB 2012 in WT/CTE/EDB/12 and Add.1, EDB 2013 in WT/CTE/EDB/13 and Add.1, EDB 2014 in WT/CTE/EDB/14 and Add.1, EDB 2015 in WT/CTE/EDB/15 and Add.1, EDB 2016 in WT/CTE/EDB/16 and Add.1, EDB 2017 in WT/CTE/EDB/17, EDB 2018 in WT/CTE/EDB/18, and EDB 2019 in WT/CTE/EDB/19.

³ The list of key words is contained in Annex I to this document. See also the following documents containing information on search words: WT/CTE/W/46, WT/CTE/W/78 and WT/CTE/W/102.

⁴ Users are invited to access EDB directly from the web-based application which contains data from 2009 to 2020. More data will be uploaded to the database as and when ready.

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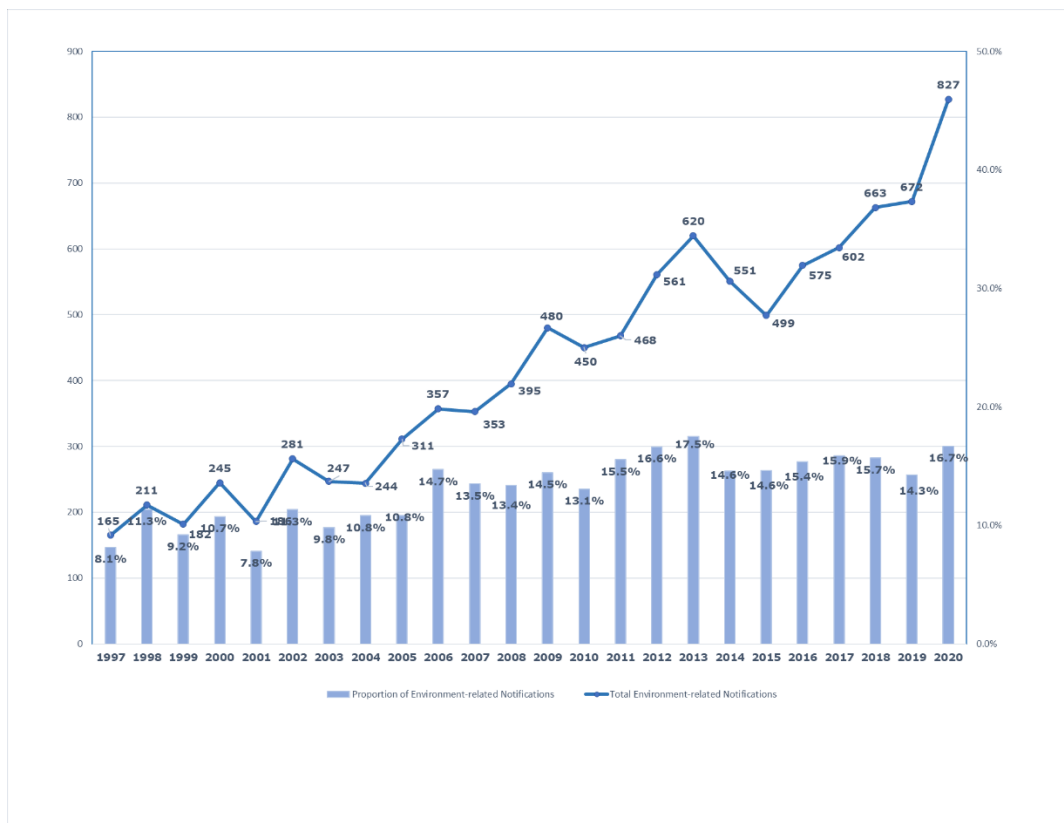
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1 WTO NOTIFICATIONS

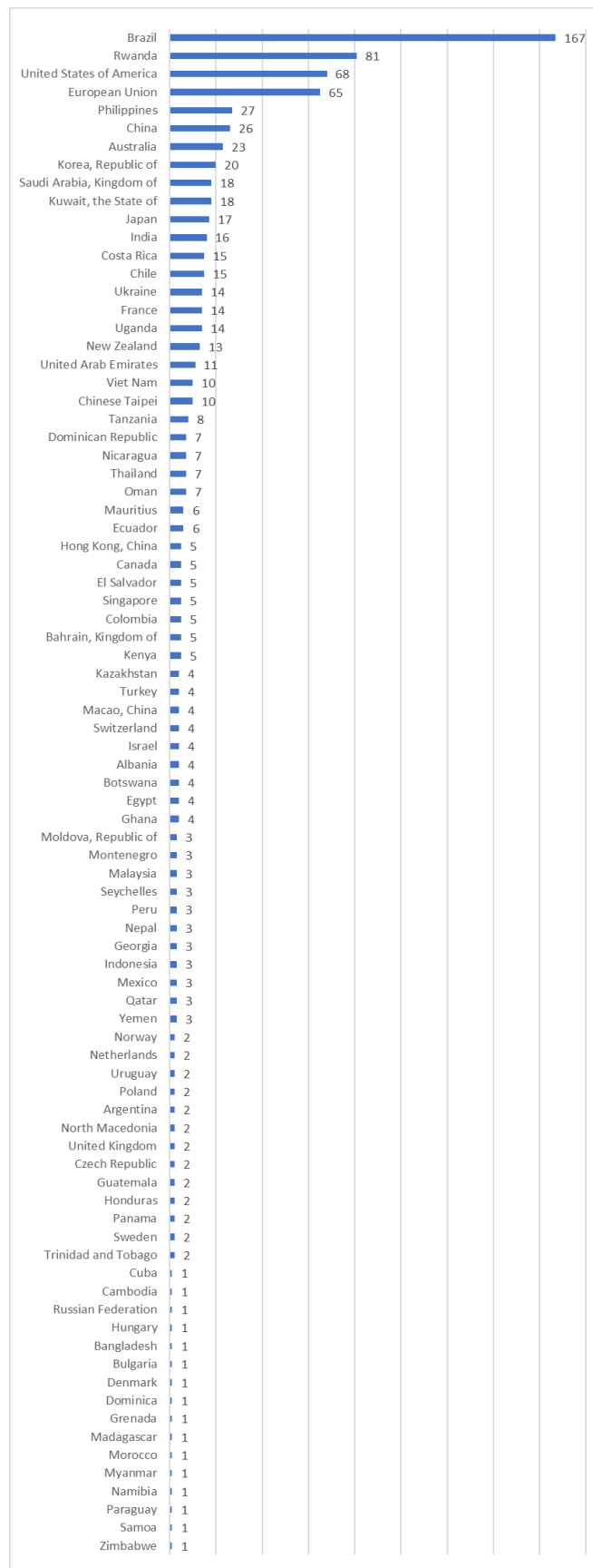
1.1. In 2020, of the 4,955 notifications submitted by WTO Members,⁵ 16.7% or 827 notifications were environment related. Since 1997, there has been a sustained increase in the number of environment-related notifications to the WTO. The share of environment-related notifications as a percentage of total notifications has also more than doubled over the same time period albeit with year-on-year fluctuations (see Chart 1.1).

Chart 1.1 – Environment-related Notifications (1997–2020)



1.2. Environment-related notifications have been submitted by WTO Members from all regions of the world and at all levels of development (Chart 1.2). Eighty-four Members submitted notifications of environment-related measures, with Brazil (167 notifications), Rwanda (81), the United States (68), the European Union (65), and Philippines (27) notifying the highest number of environment-related notifications in 2020.

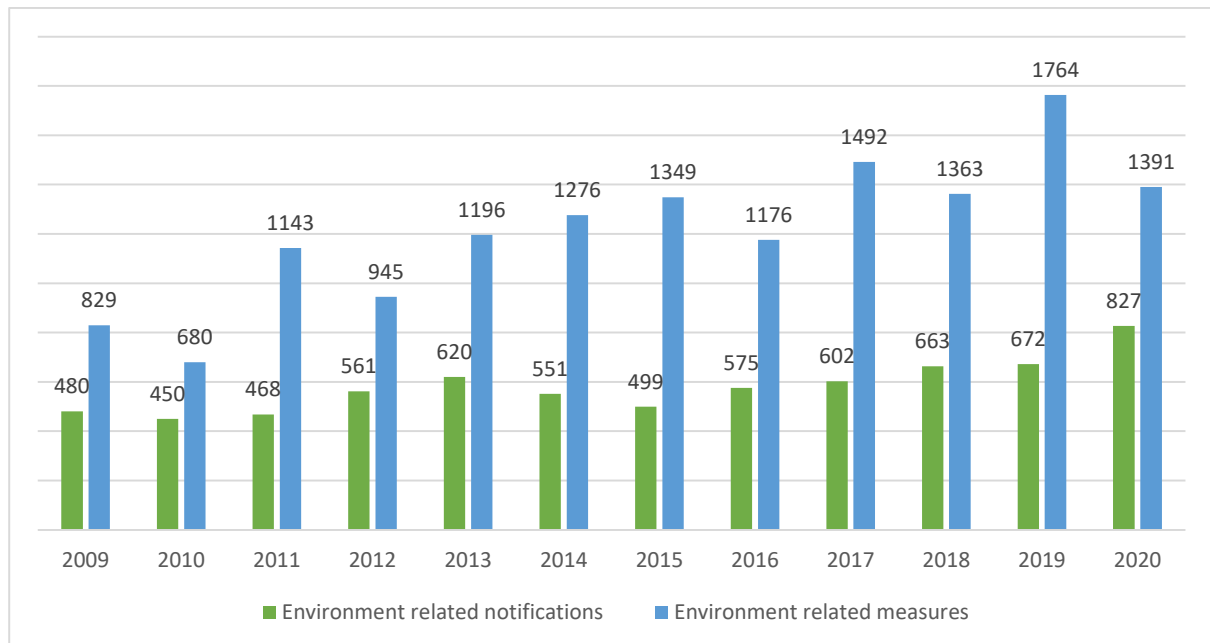
⁵ This number includes regular notifications, as well as addenda, corrigenda and revisions, except in the case of TBT and SPS notifications where addenda and corrigenda are not covered.

Chart 1.2 – Environment-related Notifications by Members (2020)

1.3. In addition to the number of notifications, it is useful to see the trends in the environment-related measures contained therein. There were 1,391 separate EDB environment-related measures included from the 827 environment-related notifications in 2020. Chart 1.3 tracks the total number of environment-related notifications submitted yearly by Members and the total number of environment-related measures contained in them. There are year-on-year fluctuations in the numbers, but the overall trend suggests a steady increase in environment-related notifications and measures over the period 2009 to 2020.

1.4. Some notifications are made separately for each and every measure (such as most notifications under the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) or the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreements) while others cover various or multiple measures in a single notification such as notifications pursuant to the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, the Agreement on Agriculture, Quantitative Restrictions, and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, among others. For these notifications, the various environment-related measures are broken down and each one is reported separately in the database.

Chart 1.3 – Environment-related Notifications and Measures (2009-2020)



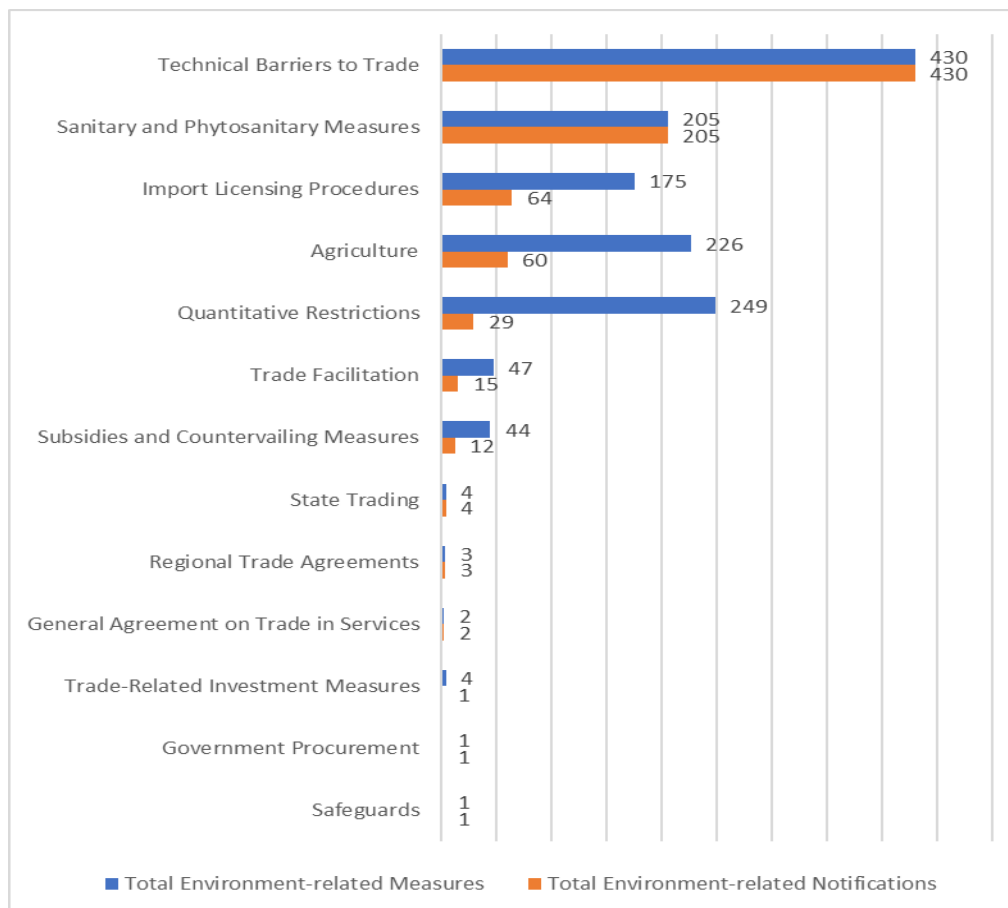
1.5. Chart 1.4 illustrates the incidence of environment-related notifications and measures across the WTO Agreements in 2020.⁶ As in previous years, the TBT Agreement has the highest number of environment-related notifications (430), accounting for 52% of all WTO environment-related notifications in 2020. A number of environment-related measures were also notified under the SPS

⁶ In 2020, environment-related notifications were identified under the following WTO Agreements: Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT); Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS); Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM); Agreement on Agriculture (AG); Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures (ILP); Agreement on Safeguards (SG); Understanding on the Interpretation of Article XVII of the GATT 1994 (State Trading Enterprises (STR)); the Understanding on the Interpretation of Article XXIV of the GATT 1994 (Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs)); the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS); Decision on Notification Procedures for Quantitative Restrictions (QRs); Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMS); Government Procurement Agreement (GPA); and the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).

Agreement (205 notifications)⁷, the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures (64), the Agreement on Agriculture (60), Quantitative Restrictions (29), and the Trade Facilitation Agreement (15).⁸

1.6. In terms of environment-related measures in 2020, the TBT Agreement reported the highest number of measures with 430 environment-related measures, followed by Quantitative Restrictions (249), the Agreement on Agriculture (226), the SPS Agreement (205), and the Import Licensing Procedures Agreement with 175 environment-related measures.⁹

Chart 1.4 - Environment-related Notifications and Measures by Agreement (2020)

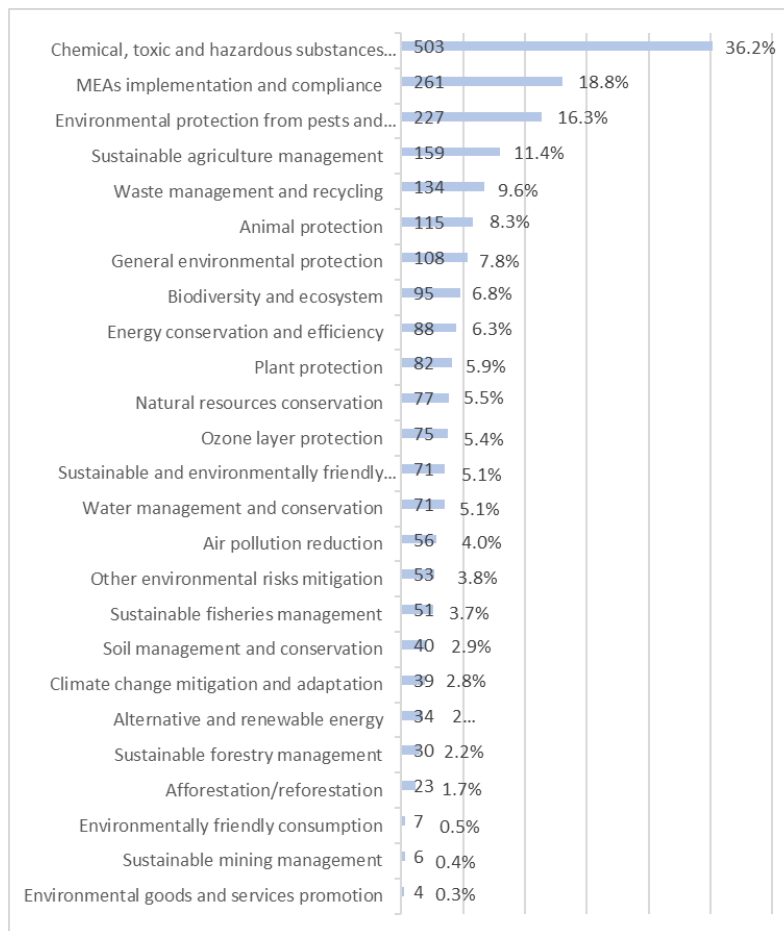


1.7. The environment-related measures mentioned in the 2020 notifications addressed a range of environmental objectives (see Chart 1.5), including chemical, toxic and hazardous substances management (36.2%), MEAs implementation and compliance (18.8%), Environmental protection from pests and diseases (16.3%), Sustainable agriculture management (11.4%), and waste management and recycling (9.6%).

⁷ In 2020, the number of environment-related notifications recorded under the SPS Agreement are significantly higher than in previous years. This is because some Members, while notifying pesticides and household chemicals, noted that their own standards may differ from Codex standards due to varying environmental factors.

⁸ In 2020, no environment-related notifications were submitted under the following WTO Agreements: Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994 (Anti-dumping (ADP)); Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the GATT 1994 (Customs Valuation (VAL)); Agreement on Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI); Agreement on Rules of Origin (RO); Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS); Information Technology Agreement (ITA); Understanding on the Balance-of-Payments (BOP) Provisions of GATT 1994; and Other notification provisions such as preferential trade agreements notified to the Committee on Trade and Development.

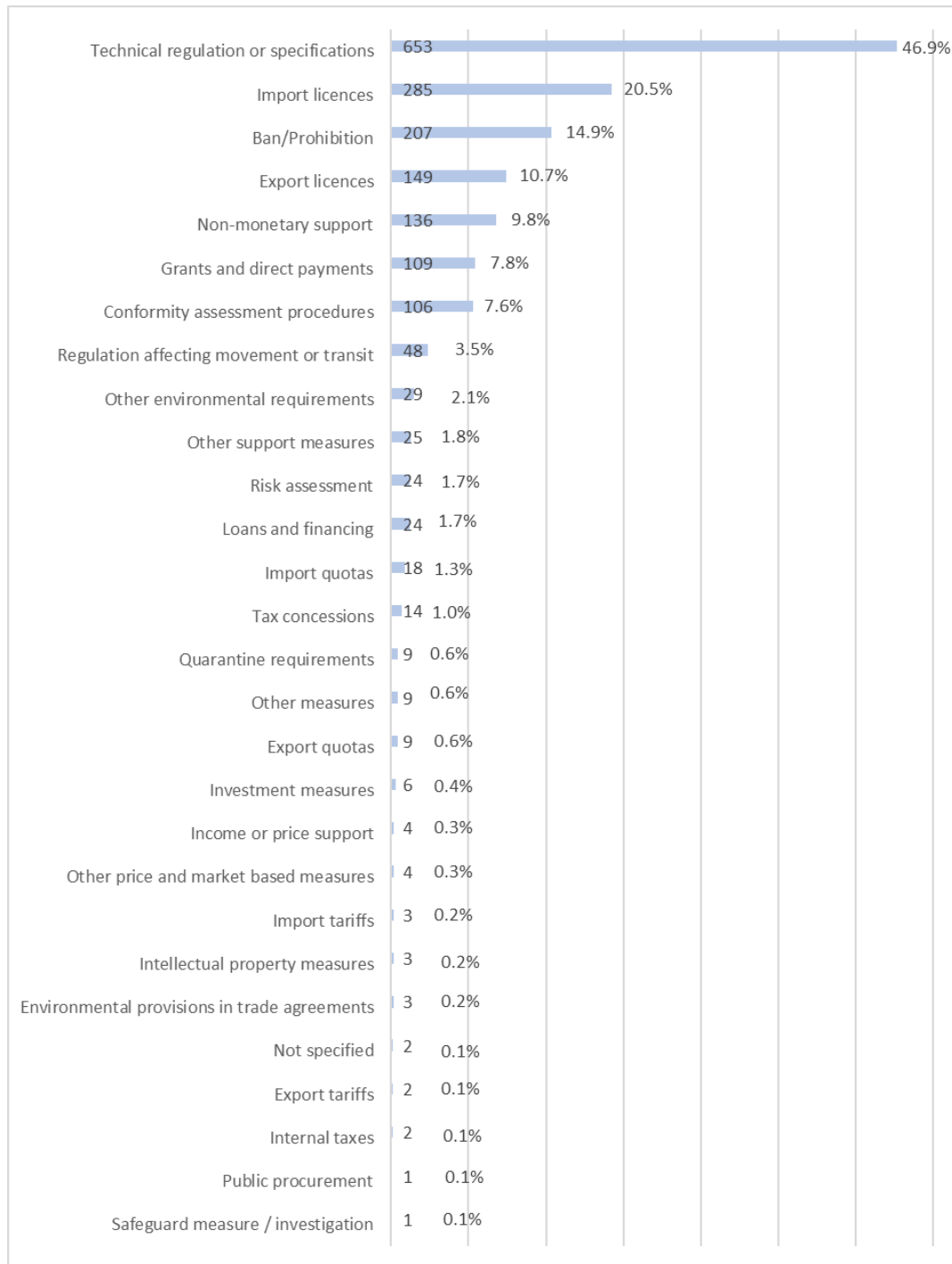
⁹ Under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, WTO Members notify once every two years, which explains the year-on-year variation in environment-related ASCM notifications and measures. See G/SCM/M/30, para. 6 and G/SCM/M/46, para. 43. In 2020, the number of notifications and measures notified under the ASCM is significantly lower than in 2019.

Chart 1.5 – Types of Environment-related Objectives¹⁰ identified in the EDB (2020)¹¹

1.8. In terms of types of measure (see Chart 1.6), technical regulation or specifications accounted for the largest share in the 2020 notifications (46.9%), followed by import licenses (20.5%), ban/prohibitions (14.9%), export licenses (10.7%), and non-monetary support (9.8%).

¹⁰ See Annex III for a list of the harmonized categories by types of measures, objectives or sectors.

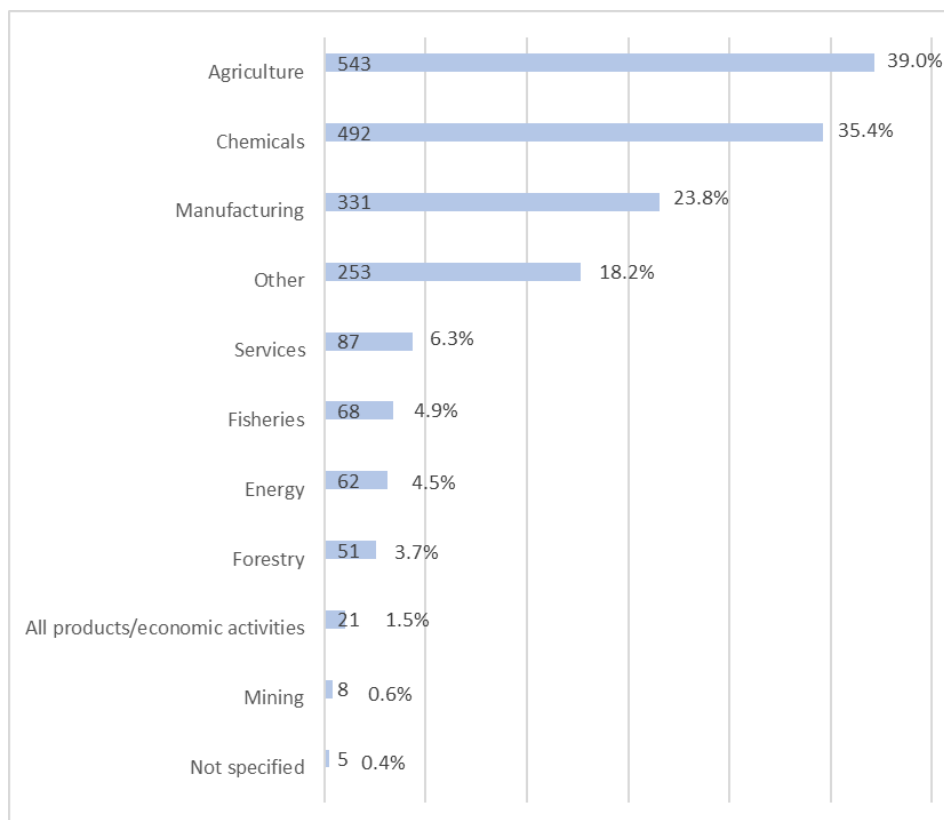
¹¹ Since more than one environmental objective/measure/sector can be mentioned in a notified measure, the total number may exceed 100%.

Chart 1.6 – Type of Measures¹² identified in the EDB (2020)¹³

1.9. In the sectoral analysis (Chart 1.7), the sector that was most frequently associated with environment-related measures in 2020 was agriculture with 39.0% of all the identified measures, followed by chemicals (35.4%), manufacturing (23.8%) and services (6.3%). Sectors such as wildlife or waste are captured under the heading "Other" and accounted for 18.2% of the total measures.

¹² See Annex III for a list of the harmonized categories by types of measures, objectives or sectors.

¹³ Since more than one environmental objective/measure/sector can be mentioned in a notified measure, the total number may exceed 100%.

Chart 1.7 – Type of Sectors¹⁴ identified in the EDB (2020)¹⁵

1.10. Further infographics, charts and the full set of EDB notification data can be accessed from the EDB web-based interface available through the WTO website: <https://www.wto.org/edb>.

2 INFORMATION CONTAINED IN TRADE POLICY REVIEWS

2.1. The EDB also covers information on the environment-related policies, measures or programmes contained in the Secretariat and Government Trade Policy Review (TPR) reports. Seven TPRs were considered by the Trade Policy Review Body in 2020, namely (in alphabetical order): Australia, European Union, Indonesia, Japan, Macao China, Thailand, and Zimbabwe.

2.2. There were 756 entries with references to environment-related policies, measures or sectors in these TPRs.¹⁶ The environment-related TPR entries are reported under the headings: trade policy framework; trade policies and practices by measure; and trade policies by sector. In general, trade policy framework entries include information on government environmental policies, plans, programmes and investment policies. Environment-related trade policies and practices by measure include environmental requirements and quantitative restrictions (e.g. technical regulation or specifications, conformity assessment procedures, import/export licences, bans and prohibitions); price and market-based measures (e.g. import/export tariffs, import/export quotas, and internal taxes); and support measures (e.g. grants and direct payments, loans and financing, tax concessions, non-monetary support measures, income or price support, and public procurement). The environment-related sectors mentioned in the 2020 TPRs include agriculture, chemicals, energy, fisheries, forestry, manufacturing, mining, services, and others.

2.3. The TPR of Australia¹⁷ includes 80 environment-related entries. Examples of the trade policy framework entries in the TPR include Australia's strong support of the WTO's trade and environment agenda, including in the Committee on Trade and Environment; the active role played by Australia in the plurilateral Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA), including as Chair of the negotiations;

¹⁴ See Annex III for a list of the harmonized categories by types of measures, objectives or sectors.

¹⁵ Since more than one environmental objective/measure/sector can be mentioned in a notified measure, the total number may exceed 100%.

¹⁶ The number of environment-related TPR entries corresponds to the number of times environment-related policies, measures or programmes are mentioned in the Secretariat or Government TPR Reports.

¹⁷ WT/TPR/G/396 and WT/TPR/S/396/Rev.1.

and Australia continuing to pursue trade and environment policies through Free Trade Agreement negotiations. On environment-related measures, the TPR entries cover, inter alia: the transaction value method being used for customs valuation in nearly all cases except where no previous sale has occurred or the good is of a unique nature (e.g. endangered species); the support provided to environmental protection in the federal and sub-federal non-agricultural subsidy programmes notified to the WTO. In the sectoral analysis, examples of the TPR entries include Australia's active participation in the WTO fisheries subsidies negotiations in recognition of the potential contribution that subsidy reform could make to improve the sustainability of marine capture fisheries; the National Drought Policy that aims at farmers and rural communities adopting self-reliant approaches to managing climate variability and the maintenance and protection of the resource base during periods of climatic stress.

2.4. The TPR of the European Union¹⁸ includes 206 environment-related entries. Examples of the trade policy framework entries in the TPR include, at the multilateral level, the EU as an active player in the work of the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment and its support to efforts to liberalise trade in environmental goods and services; at the bilateral level, the EU's promotion of environmental considerations in its trade agreements through dedicated chapters on trade and sustainable development; and at the unilateral level, the EU's Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance (GSP+). On environment-related measures, the TPR entries cover, inter alia: the guide for addressing climate change adaptation in standards intended to help standard writers address the consequences and implications of climate change; and only legally-harvested timber, and products made thereof, can be exported to the EU from countries operating the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) licensing scheme. In the sectoral analysis, examples of the TPR entries include the EU regulation in 2017 on the sustainable management of external fishing fleets; and the key objectives of the EU's energy policy, namely, improving security of energy supply, completing the internal energy market, boosting energy efficiency, decarbonizing the economy, and becoming a world leader in renewable energy.

2.5. The TPR of Indonesia¹⁹ includes 117 environment-related entries. Examples of the trade policy framework entries in the TPR include that Indonesia benefitted from the G20 to project its national short-and-mid-term interests in international fora, such as blended finance for SDGs financing; and public expenditures were refocused from inefficient energy subsidies towards productive infrastructure investments. On environment-related measures, the TPR entries cover, inter alia: the regulatory framework for government procurement that was revised in 2018, with the stated objective of achieving value for money, contributing to the increased use of domestic products, increasing MSMEs' participation, and sustainable development; the continued use of export taxes as a policy tool for reducing the rate of depletion of non-renewable mining resources in Indonesia; and the many agriculture and food technology standards that were non-harmonized, due to environmental, geographical and cultural specificities. In the sectoral analysis, examples of the TPR entries include an ecosystem approach to fisheries management taken to address illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities in Indonesia; and a social forestry programme under way and the action taken to address deforestation through a moratorium prohibiting the conversion of primary natural forests and peatlands to palm oil, pulpwood and logging concessions.

2.6. The TPR of Macao, China²⁰ includes 64 environment-related entries. Examples of the trade policy framework entries in the TPR include the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR) Government's Five-Year Development Plan (2016-2020) with goals such as enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of environmental protection; and the CEPA Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement (CEPA Ecotech Agreement) that covers 14 areas of cooperation, including environmental protection. On environment-related measures, the TPR entries cover, inter alia: that Macao, China applies a zero-rated tariff on all imports, by virtue of its free-port status, and only imposes import/export prohibitions or restrictions/licences on health, safety, security or environmental protection grounds, or to comply with its international commitments such as those pursuant to CITES or the Montreal Protocol; with respect to the treatment of waste, the MSAR Government promotes the "polluter pays" principle, encourages the reduction and recycling of plastics and other wastes. In the sectoral analysis, examples of the TPR entries include the Government prioritizes environmental protection, energy conservation, and the use of clean and safe alternative energies in its energy policy; and the Macao General Policy of Land Transport 2010-20, that aims to develop a commuter- and traveller friendly city, with green transportation.

¹⁸ WT/TPR/G/395 and WT/TPR/S/395/Rev.1.

¹⁹ WT/TPR/G/401/Rev.1 and WT/TPR/S/401/Rev.1.

²⁰ WT/TPR/G/402 and WT/TPR/S/402/Rev.1.

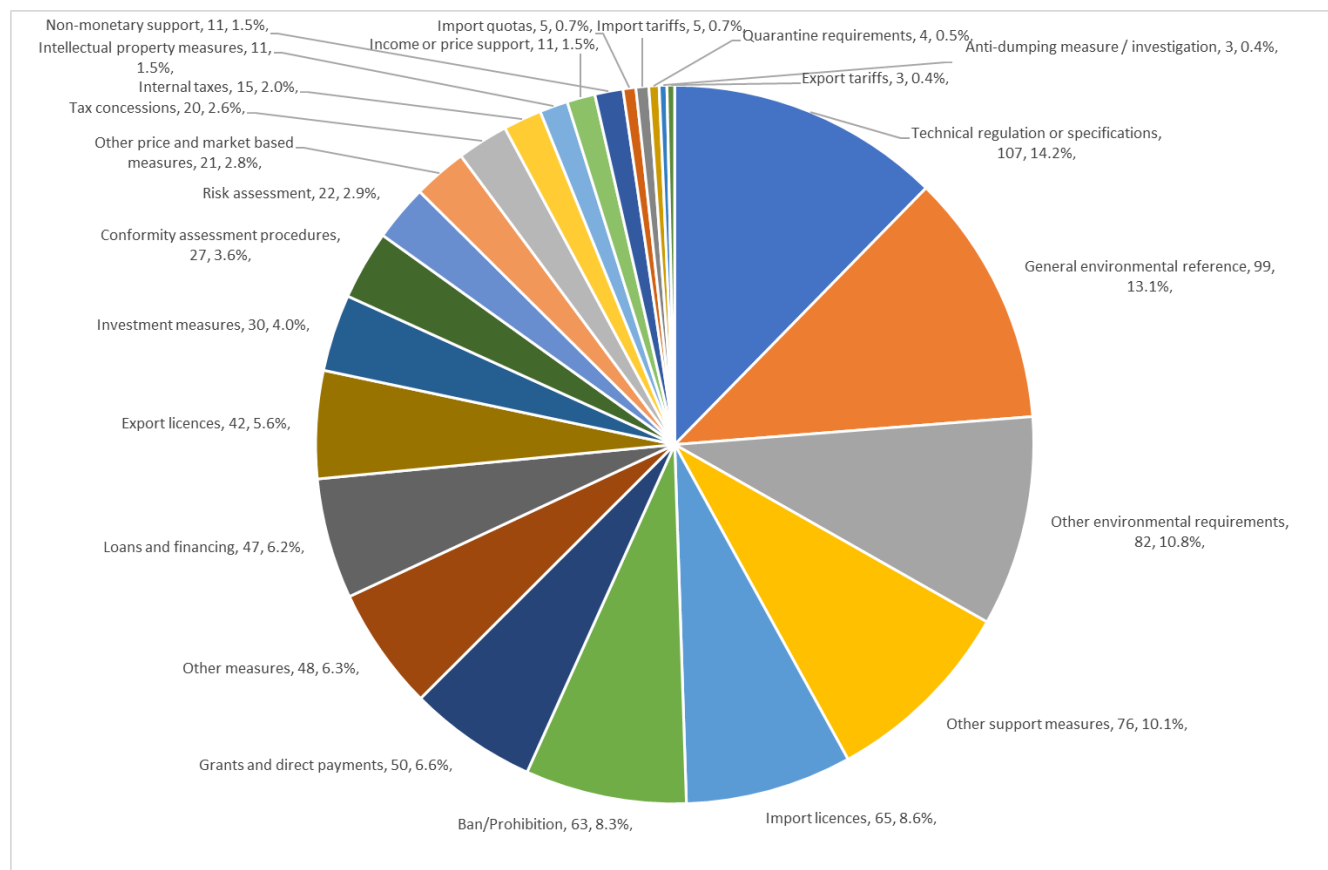
2.7. The TPR of Thailand²¹ includes 130 environment-related entries. Examples of the trade policy framework entries in the TPR include Thailand's efforts to restructure industrial production from linear to a circulating pattern that employs waste management and raw material recycling concepts; and the Government's 20-Year National Strategy (2018-37), that establishes the economic, social and environmental targets to be achieved during this period. On environment-related measures, the TPR entries cover, inter alia: Thailand's Board of Investment incentives to promote investment in targeted industries, including those related to the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) economy model; the permission needed for the import or export of CITES-listed species, and other protected, endangered or reserved species; and Thailand amending its Patent Act to address applications for patents related to genetic resources and traditional knowledge. In the sectoral analysis, the TPR entries include the Ministry of Industry's Action Plan increasing manufacturing productivity via recycling technologies and reusing industrial waste; and Thailand addressing overfishing and overcapacity problems through fishing gear control measures, fishing days and fishing licenses and a new Thai fishing vessel registration system to control and monitor the entire fishing fleet.

2.8. The TPR of Zimbabwe²² includes 61 environment-related entries. Examples of the trade policy framework entries in the TPR include the country's growth being weighed down by severe exogenous shocks related to climate change; and the Joint Ventures Act establishing rules for public-private procurement and for public-private partnerships to support investments in specified sectors, including solid waste management works and renewable energy. On environment-related measures, the TPR entries cover, inter alia: the movement of wildlife within Zimbabwe and across its borders being controlled by a permit system, run by the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority; and that Zimbabwe had introduced a mandatory pre-shipment conformity assessment scheme to reduce the risk of hazardous and substandard imported products entering the country, for consumer and environmental protection reasons. In the sectoral analysis, examples of the TPR entries include the Government embracing Climate Smart Agriculture to harmonize agriculture development with environment protection and reduction in vulnerabilities to climate change; Zimbabwe as a party to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Forestry relating to the development, conservation, sustainable management, and utilization of all types of forests and trees, and trade in forest products within the SADC region; and new mining projects in Zimbabwe requiring an environmental impact assessment and the mining fees and charges include an environment fee.

2.9. To illustrate the range of TPR entries, Chart 2.1 below provides a detailed breakdown of the types of environment-related measures reported in the TPRs. In 2020, other than general environmental reference, the environment-related measures most frequently mentioned in the TPRs include technical regulation and specifications (14%), other environmental requirements (11%), other support measures (10%), import licences (9%), ban/prohibition (8%), grants and direct payments (7%), other measures (6%), loans and financing (6%) and export licences (6%).

²¹ WT/TPR/G/400 and WT/TPR/S/400/Rev.1.

²² WT/TPR/G/398 and WT/TPR/S/398/Rev.1.

Chart 2.1 - Types of Environment-related Measures Mentioned in TPRs (2020)

3 EDB DATA FOR TOPIC-SPECIFIC ANALYSIS

3.1. Building on previous EDB presentations and the feedback received from Members at the CTE,²³ Section 3 in the 2020 EDB report focuses on climate change and provides an illustration of the notifications and TPR data available in the EDB for thematic or topic-specific analysis.

3.2. Data on climate change is presented in the report - using a 10 year period, i.e. from 2011 to 2020, for analysis. For climate change, the database search functionalities²⁴ can be used to filter data by environment-related objectives²⁵ or by keywords.²⁶ Climate change data in the EDB notifications have been analysed by using the environment-related objectives search filter, while the EDB climate change data in the TPRs has been analysed using the keywords search filter.²⁷

3.3. As shown in Chart 3.1, an increasing number of environment-related trade measures notified are addressing climate change. The number of climate change-related measures has fluctuated on a year-by-year basis, ranging from 269 measures in 2012 to 580 measures in 2019.²⁸ In total, WTO Members have notified 4,102 measures over the last 10 years (31% of all EDB measures).

²³ See WT/CTE/M/67 (pages 16-17), WT/CTE/M/68 (pages 28-30) and WT/CTE/M/71 (pages 32-33).

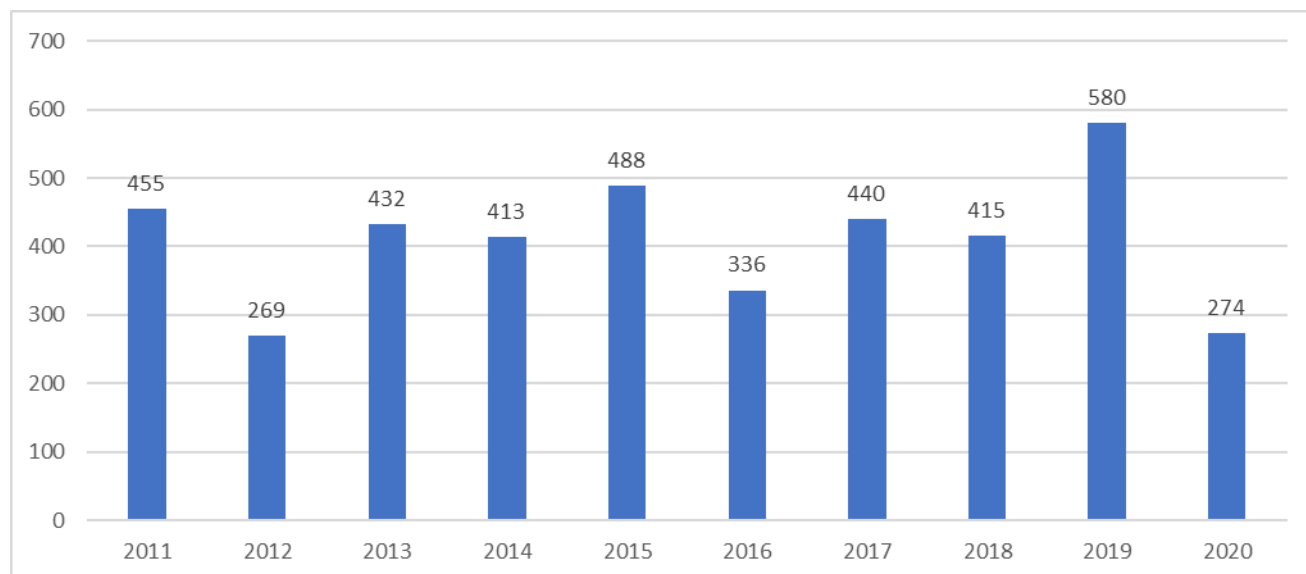
²⁴ See Annex I for the full list of Keywords and Annex III for the full list of harmonized categories used to tag EDB data by types of measures, objectives, or sectors.

²⁵ The harmonized environment-related objectives that can directly or indirectly be used to filter climate-related information in the EDB are: afforestation/reforestation; air pollution reduction; alternative and renewable energy; climate change mitigation and adaptation; energy conservation and efficiency; and ozone layer protection.

²⁶ The keywords or free text search that can be used to filter climate-related information in the EDB are: greenhouse, climate, GHG, emission, carbon, renewable.

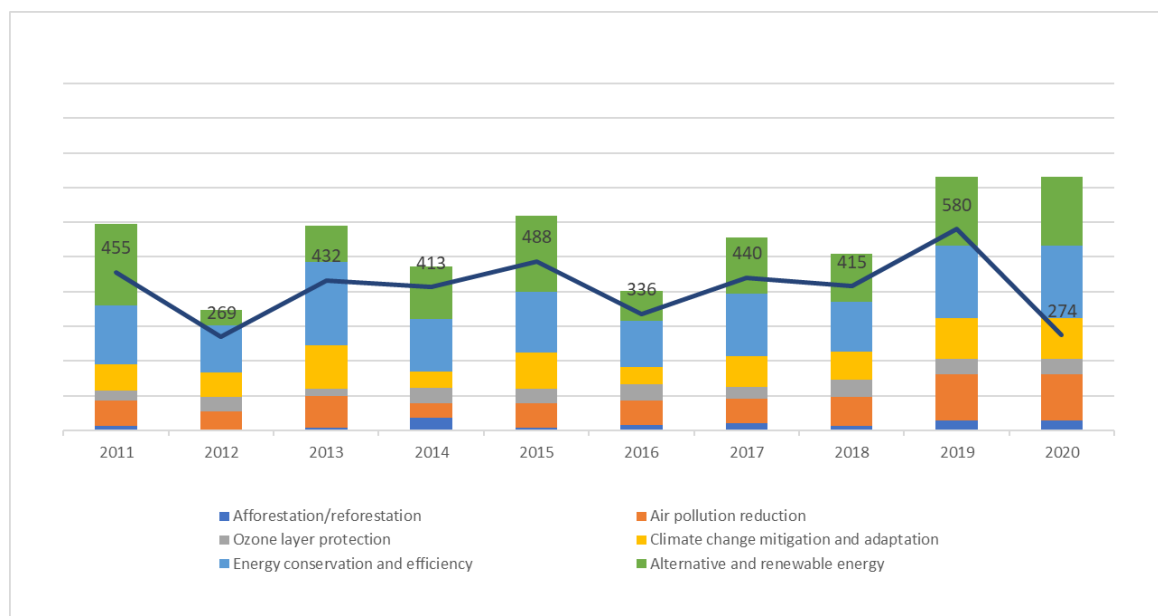
²⁷ Other topics or themes may be examined in subsequent EDB reports based on the keywords or the harmonized categories used to categorize data in the EDB.

²⁸ The drop in 2020, may be attributable to the year-on-year fluctuations, in particular pursuant to the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (see also Chart 1.4 and footnote 9).

Chart 3.1 – EDB climate-related notified measures (2011-2020)

3.1 EDB environment-related objectives addressing climate change

3.4. All the notified trade measures included in the EDB are tagged based on their environmental objectives, many of which are either directly or indirectly linked to addressing climate change, namely: afforestation/reforestation; air pollution reduction; alternative and renewable energy; climate change mitigation and adaptation; energy conservation and efficiency; and ozone layer protection. Furthermore, a single measure entered in the database may be assigned multiple or more than one harmonized objective.²⁹

Chart 3.2 – Climate-related measures by environmental objectives (2011-2020)

3.5. Chart 3.2 demonstrates the year-wise break-up of the different climate change related objectives pursued by Members through measures notified to the WTO. Over the last 10 years, the objective "climate change mitigation and adaptation" was specifically identified in 794 measures.

²⁹ For example, the 2020 subsidies measure notified by the European Union ([G/SCM/N/284/EU/ADD.16](https://www.wto.org/press/2020/20200416_eu_subsidies.htm)) to support projects that aim to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by using renewable energy, has been tagged to multiple EDB harmonized environment-related objectives, namely: air pollution reduction, alternative and renewable energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and energy conservation and efficiency.

These included, for instance, environmental programmes notified by Nepal under the Agreement on Agriculture to build resilience to climate-related hazards³⁰ or the technical regulation notified pursuant to the TBT Agreement by Colombia, establishing indicators relating to the greenhouse gas emissions inventory for biofuels.³¹

3.6. In addition, "energy conservation and efficiency" and "alternative and renewable energy" are also two important objectives pursued by Members, accounting for 73% of all climate-related measures. For instance, preferential tax and price support for individuals and organizations participating in the investment and development of wind power projects in Viet Nam³² or technical regulations and guidelines to incentivise agro-industrialization powered by clean energy in Uganda.³³

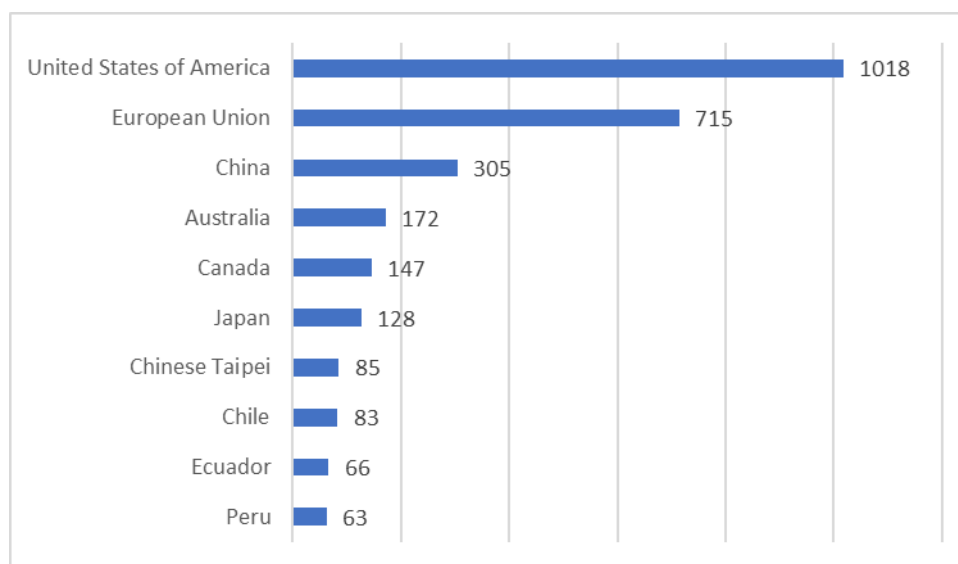
3.7. In 2020, on climate change, the top harmonized objective tagged in the database was "energy conservation and efficiency" (32%), followed by "ozone layer protection", which constituted 27% of all climate-related EDB measures. This included, for example, the import licensing requirements notified by Montenegro and also by Hong Kong, China to regulate the import and export of ozone depleting substances.³⁴

3.2 WTO Members notifying climate-related measures

3.8. Over the last 10 years, 128 WTO Members have notified at least one or more climate-related measure. These measures have been notified by Members from all regions of the world and at all levels of development. While developed Members accounted for around 58% of these notified measures, developing (1,588 measures) and least-developed Members (62 measures) also notified a significant number of climate-related measures, with a marked 45% increase over the past decade.

3.9. There is a high concentration in terms of the WTO Members that have submitted these notifications, as the top ten Members alone account for 67.8% of all notified climate-related measures recorded in the EDB. The United States (1,018), followed by the European Union (715), China (305), Australia (172), and Canada (147) are the Members who most notified climate-related measures (see Chart 3.3. for the top 10 WTO Members).

Chart 3.3 – WTO Members notifying climate-related measures (2011-2020)



3.3 WTO Agreements and types of notified climate-related measures

3.10. Climate change has been addressed using a wide variety of trade policy measures or instruments over the past decade (2011-2020). This is evident from the range of notifications across almost every WTO Agreement. However, most of these measures were notified under the Agreement

³⁰ [G/AG/N/NPL/12](#).

³¹ [G/TBT/N/COL/223](#).

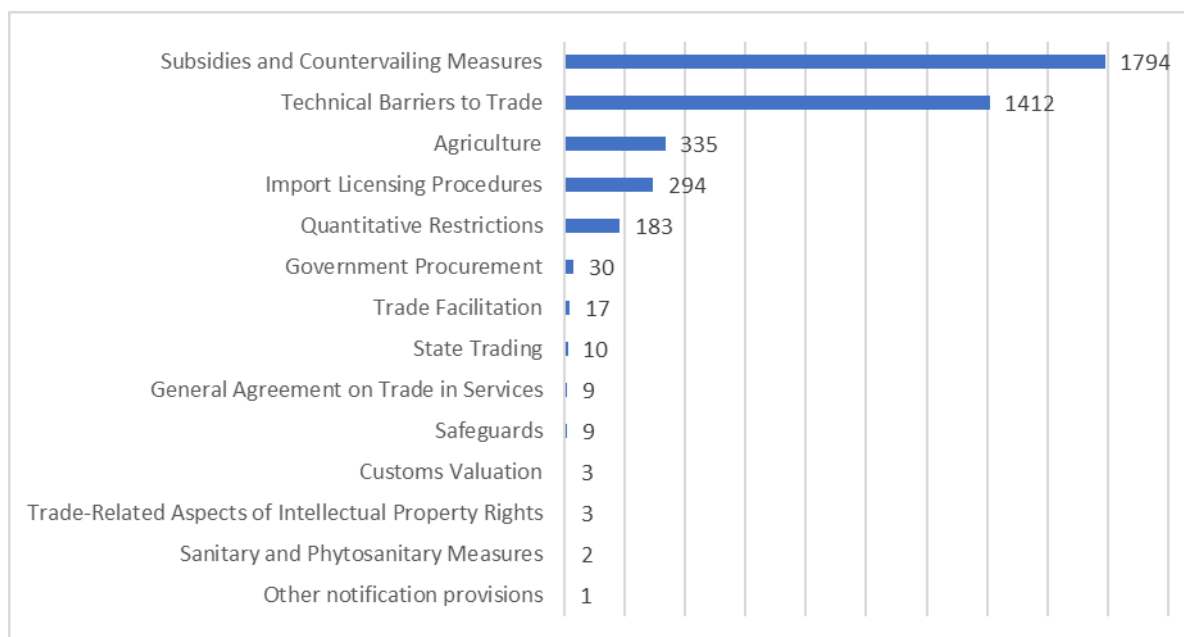
³² [G/SCM/N/343/VNM](#).

³³ [G/TBT/N/UGA/1183](#).

³⁴ [G/LIC/N/3/MNE/3](#), [G/LIC/N/3/HKG/23](#).

on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (44%) and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (34%) (Chart 3.4).

Chart 3.4 – Climate-related measures notified by WTO Agreement (2011-2020)



3.11. In 2020, a deeper look at these measures provides examples on the use of different trade policies, often to pursue the same or similar environmental policy objectives. For example, the technical regulation notified by United Arab Emirates regarding energy efficiency labels for electrical appliances³⁵ or the prohibition and import licenses established by Australia to phase-out inefficient incandescent lighting, highlight both TBT or licensing mechanisms for energy conservation and efficiency purposes with the resultant climate benefits.³⁶ Table 3.1, drawn from EDB data over the last 10 years shows that technical regulation or specifications (33%), followed by grants and direct payments (26%) and conformity assessment procedures (13%) were the most common types of trade policy measures or instruments to address climate change.³⁷

Table 3.1 - Top 10 types of climate-related measures notified by Members (2011-2020)

Harmonized types of measures	Number of measures	Share
Technical regulation or specifications	1344	32.8%
Grants and direct payments	1084	26.4%
Conformity assessment procedures	533	13.0%
Tax concessions	522	12.7%
Import licences	339	8.3%
Loans and financing	252	6.1%
Ban/Prohibition	203	4.9%
Countervailing measure / investigation	201	4.9%
Non-monetary support	150	3.7%
Export licences	104	2.5%

3.4 Climate change coverage in the TPR entries

3.12. Over the last 10 years (2011-2020), there have been a total of 162 TPRs published and these reports, since 2016, have included at least one or more references to climate change (Chart 3.5).

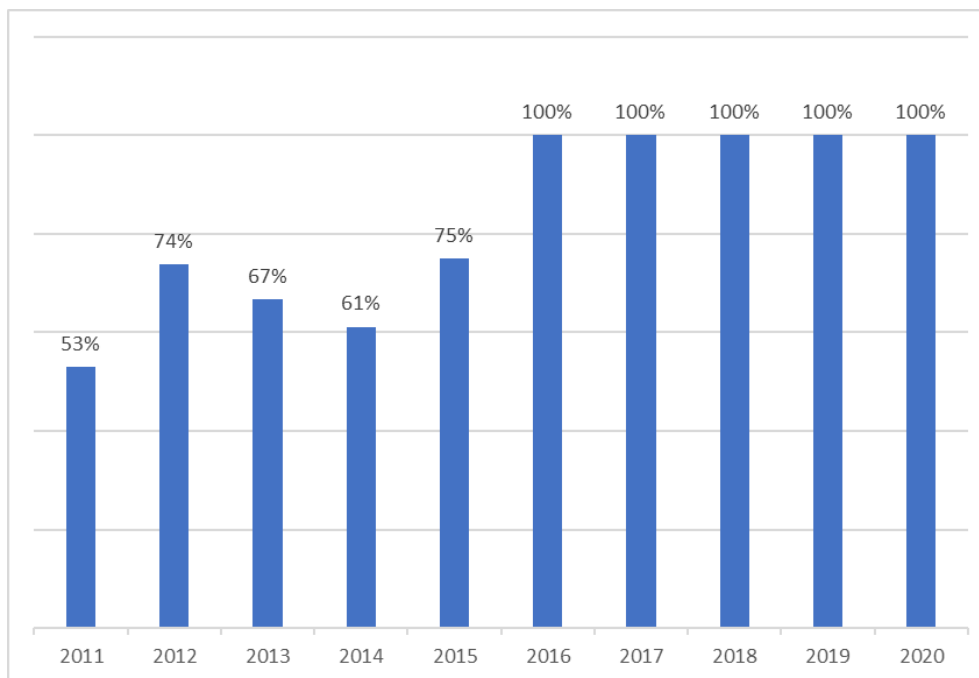
³⁵ [G/TBT/N/ARE/480](#).

³⁶ [G/LIC/N/3/AUS/13](#).

³⁷ See Annex III for the full list of harmonized categories used to tag EDB data by types of measures.

Based on a keyword-based search analysis, on average, 83% of these TPRs included climate change related trade policies, measures, or sectoral references.³⁸

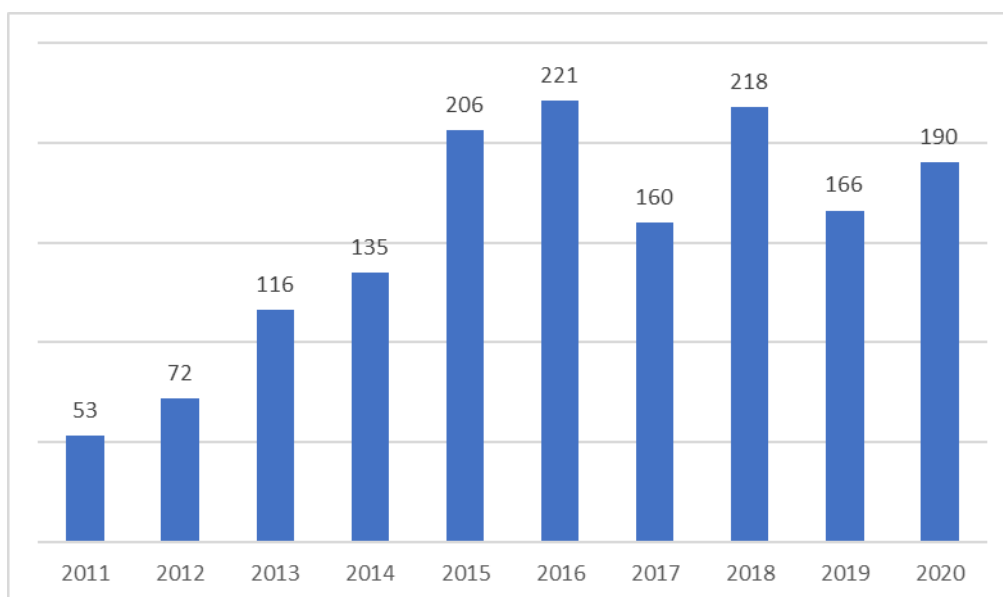
Chart 3.5 – Percentage share of TPRs with climate change related entries (2011–2020)



3.13. Overall, between 2011 and 2020, climate change related trade measures, instruments or sectoral policies were referenced to in TPRs and accounted for around 1,500 TPR entries recorded in the EDB. This works out to an average of more than 150 TPR entries per year (Chart 3.6).

3.14. A breakdown of the data shows that the top 10 WTO Members with information in the TPRs are: the European Union which had the highest number of climate change related TPR entries (123), followed by Australia (65), United States (63), China (60), Switzerland and Liechtenstein (47), Thailand (44), Indonesia (44), Norway (41), Canada (37) and Chinese Taipei (36).

Chart 3.6 - Number of climate change-related TPR entries by year (2011-2020)



³⁸ The keywords or free text search words used to filter climate change-related TPR entries are: carbon, climate, emission, GHG, greenhouse, renewable.

3.15. The TPRs in 2020 alone, included 190 climate change related TPR entries. In addition to the information provided in Section 2 of this document, other examples of TPR entries include: Australia's seeking to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in primary industries by 63% over a 20 year period; the European Union's vertical regulations for industrial emissions and ambient air quality; Indonesia's climate mitigation and adaptation strategies for the marine fisheries sector; Japan's public procurement legislation for the State and other Entities, with due consideration given for reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases; China Macao's goal to source at least 40% of clean electricity from mainland China; Thailand's focus on promoting renewable energy through incentives in the form of corporate income tax and tariff exemptions; and Zimbabwe's new and recently introduced carbon tax.

3.16. To conclude, the EDB data extracted from the TPRs illustrate the wide array of trade policy instruments being increasingly used by WTO Members to support climate action. The measures extracted from notifications also highlight the mutual supportiveness of trade and environmental or climate policies. The WTO's EDB, as a transparency tool, remains available for further thematic or topic-specific research.

4 ANNEXES

Annex I – EDB Keywords¹

Keywords		
Bio	Fish	Organic
Clean	Forest	Ozone
Climate	Genetic	Plastic
Conservation	Green	Pollution
Desertification	Hazardous	Recycle
Eco	Indigenous	Renewable
Emissions	Labelling	Soil
Endangered	MEAs	Sustainable
Energy	Natural disaster	Waste
Environment	Natural resources	Wildlife

¹ See also the following documents containing information on search words: WT/CTE/W/46, WT/CTE/W/78 and WT/CTE/W/102.

Annex II – Number of Environment-related Notifications¹ (1997 – 2020)

WTO Agreements	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
TBT	89 (795)	98 (648)	83 (671)	97 (610)	67 (539)	114 (582)	100 (794)	107 (638)	121 (771)	155 (874)	168 (1032)	238 (1265)
SPS	8 (286)	21 (296)	12 (402)	26 (402)	25 (621)	47 (610)	50 (687)	57 (612)	105 (1298)	140 (901)	98 (849)	84 (889)
SCM	16 (136)	32 (133)	27 (126)	38 (160)	24 (159)	31 (177)	34 (171)	13 (122)	27 (168)	8 (97)	33 (164)	5 (99)
Agriculture	20 (237)	22 (216)	27 (195)	40 (228)	40 (242)	32 (197)	34 (173)	29 (157)	25 (148)	24 (126)	32 (119)	24 (137)
Anti-Dumping	4 (109)	1 (133)	3 (133)	0 (127)	0 (134)	1 (166)	2 (155)	3 (134)	0 (127)	0 (112)	0 (118)	0 (134)
ILP	13 (51)	20 (63)	10 (68)	21 (77)	7 (55)	13 (96)	16 (57)	12 (40)	20 (45)	19 (62)	13 (65)	20 (51)
Safeguards	0 (42)	1 (47)	0 (99)	1 (110)	1 (137)	1 (170)	1 (147)	3 (75)	1 (80)	0 (86)	0 (59)	0 (73)
Customs Valuation	0 (9)	1 (14)	1 (15)	3 (36)	1 (41)	1 (41)	0 (11)	0 (17)	1 (13)	0 (1)	0 (9)	0 (12)
State Trading	0 (37)	2 (36)	0 (50)	0 (50)	1 (56)	5 (58)	3 (38)	0 (43)	1 (12)	1 (37)	0 (20)	1 (24)
RTAs	6 (55)	8 (74)	14 (75)	8 (56)	10 (64)	0 (41)	0 (56)	0 (70)	0 (63)	0 (30)	0 (25)	4 (37)
TRIPS	0 (172)	1 (106)	3 (69)	5 (333)	6 (236)	16 (225)	5 (147)	7 (251)	2 (59)	2 (38)	3 (72)	7 (139)
GATS	0 (24)	1 (25)	0 (21)	0 (25)	0 (46)	7 (43)	0 (41)	4 (52)	1 (53)	1 (29)	0 (41)	0 (49)
QRs	5 (15)	3 (11)	2 (13)	5 (18)	2 (10)	4 (14)	2 (8)	7 (10)	1 (6)	2 (8)	3 (6)	4 (12)
TRIMs	0 (18)	0 (22)	0 (12)	0 (10)	0 (2)	0 (29)	0 (13)	0 (12)	0 (14)	0 (14)	0 (13)	0 (9)
BoP Provisions	1 (23)	0 (11)	0 (7)	0 (9)	0 (7)	0 (4)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)
Preshipment Inspection	0 (2)	0 (1)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (1)
Rules of Origin	0 (4)	0 (6)	0 (3)	0 (4)	0 (6)	0 (4)	0 (4)	0 (3)	0 (2)	0 (1)	0 (7)	0 (4)
GPA	2 (7)	0 (14)	0 (9)	0 (19)	2 (14)	9 (21)	0 (8)	1 (11)	5 (11)	4 (10)	3 (8)	8 (14)
ITA	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Trade Facilitation	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Other notifications	1 (5)	0 (5)	0 (3)	1 (8)	0 (6)	0 (4)	0 (3)	1 (7)	1 (3)	1 (2)	0 (5)	0 (8)
Total environment-related notifications	165 (2027)	211 (1861)	182 (1972)	245 (2282)	186 (2376)	281 (2482)	247 (2513)	244 (2256)	311 (2874)	357 (2428)	353 (2613)	395 (2957)
Share of environment-related notifications	8.14%	11.3%	9.2%	10.7%	7.8%	11.3%	9.8%	10.8%	10.8%	14.7%	13.5%	13.4%

¹ Figures in parenthesis represent the total number of notifications submitted by Members under each relevant WTO Agreement. This number includes regular notifications as well as addenda, corrigenda and revisions, except in the case of TBT and SPS notifications, where addenda, corrigenda and revisions are not covered.

WTO Agreements	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TBT	274 (1490)	270 (1413)	268 (1216)	353 (1551)	384 (1605)	358 (1558)	305 (1305)	377 (1686)	390 (1827)	483 (1881)	439 (2110)	430 (1987)
SPS	81 (737)	83 (1051)	76 (1007)	91 (856)	107 (929)	44 (1169)	47 (1283)	62 (1037)	51 (1110)	40 (1255)	29 (1175)	205 (1462)
SCM	40 (181)	8 (117)	42 (140)	15 (108)	48 (158)	29 (110)	52 (130)	31 (127)	61 (132)	18 (107)	66 (152)	12 (110)
Agriculture	36 (210)	49 (195)	44 (182)	42 (203)	34 (135)	42 (210)	32 (148)	43 (208)	44 (202)	49 (280)	49 (439)	60 (351)
Anti-Dumping	0 (157)	0 (164)	0 (127)	0 (133)	0 (122)	2 (120)	0 (114)	0 (143)	0 (107)	2 (125)	0 (125)	0 (132)
ILP	23 (82)	20 (72)	23 (78)	30 (85)	23 (96)	38 (99)	33 (74)	39 (96)	24 (54)	30 (79)	48 (99)	64 (236)
Safeguards	0 (171)	0 (106)	1 (64)	1 (89)	2 (112)	2 (110)	4 (79)	0 (89)	0 (61)	2 (80)	0 (150)	1 (149)
Customs Valuation	0 (6)	0 (4)	0 (4)	3 (13)	2 (13)	2 (23)	2 (9)	0 (4)	0 (6)	0 (3)	3 (23)	0 (9)
State Trading	0 (29)	3 (77)	0 (8)	3 (39)	0 (17)	2 (51)	1 (14)	2 (41)	8 (30)	4 (42)	1 (12)	4 (37)
RTAs	4 (30)	4 (26)	3 (33)	2 (37)	2 (40)	4 (19)	3 (12)	3 (18)	3 (16)	5 (10)	6 (12)	3 (9)
TRIPS	2 (84)	7 (97)	9 (66)	4 (139)	9 (209)	5 (96)	1 (67)	1 (142)	0 (80)	0 (144)	0 (109)	0 (146)
GATS	0 (68)	2 (45)	1 (38)	3 (66)	1 (48)	3 (75)	7 (64)	1 (21)	1 (25)	1 (17)	4 (71)	2 (45)
QRs	1 (8)	1 (6)	1 (8)	13 (14)	5 (10)	15 (22)	8 (11)	12 (16)	7 (10)	18 (24)	17 (20)	29 (78)
TRIMs	0 (21)	0 (18)	0 (4)	0 (4)	0 (6)	0 (6)	0 (5)	1 (4)	0 (2)	2 (4)	0 (4)	1(3)
BoP Provisions	0 (9)	0 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (5)	1 (4)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Preshipment Inspection	0 (0)	0 (2)	0 (2)	0 (4)	0 (3)	0 (2)	0 (2)	0 (1)	0 (2)	0 (2)	0 (4)	0 (4)
Rules of Origin	0 (5)	0 (4)	0 (8)	0 (14)	0 (22)	0 (17)	0 (13)	0 (17)	0 (13)	0 (16)	0 (11)	0 (18)
GPA	18 (29)	3 (32)	2 (16)	1 (13)	2 (15)	5 (27)	4 (40)	2 (66)	3 (46)	3 (46)	2 (25)	1 (50)
ITA	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Trade Facilitation	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (55)	0 (26)	0 (17)	9 (57)	6 (108)	7 (162)	15 (126)
Other notifications	1 (4)	0 (6)	0 (9)	0 (6)	1 (5)	0 (4)	0 (7)	0 (7)	1 (5)	0 (2)	1 (3)	0 (3)
Total environment-related notifications	480 (3321)	450 (3441)	470 (3010)	561 (3374)	620 (3545)	551 (3773)	499 (3408)	575 (3744)	602 (3786)	663 (4225)	672 (4706)	827 (4955)
Share of environment-related notifications	14.5%	13.1%	15.5%	16.6%	17.5%	14.6%	14.6%	15.4%	15.9%	15.69%	14.28%	16.69%

Annex III – EDB Harmonized Categories**Table 4.1 – Category of environment-related objectives (25)**

Afforestation/reforestation
Air pollution reduction
Alternative and renewable energy
Animal protection
Biodiversity and ecosystem
Chemical, toxic and hazardous substances management
Climate change mitigation and adaptation
Energy conservation and efficiency
Environmental goods and services promotion
Environmental protection from pests and diseases
Environmentally-friendly consumption
General environmental protection
MEAs implementation and compliance
Natural resources conservation
Other environmental risks mitigation
Ozone layer protection
Plant protection
Soil management and conservation
Sustainable agriculture management
Sustainable and environmentally-friendly production
Sustainable fisheries management
Sustainable forestry management
Sustainable mining management
Waste management and recycling
Water management and conservation

Table 4.2 – Category of type of measures (31)

Anti-dumping measure / investigation
Ban/Prohibition
Conformity assessment procedures
Countervailing measure / investigation
Environmental provisions in trade agreements
Export licences
Export quotas
Export tariffs

General environmental reference ¹
Grants and direct payments
Import licences
Import quotas
Import tariffs
Income or price support
Intellectual property measures
Internal taxes
Investment measures
Loans and financing
Non-monetary support
Not specified
Other environmental requirements
Other measures
Other price and market-based measures
Other support measures
Public procurement
Quarantine requirements
Regulation affecting movement or transit
Risk assessment
Safeguard measure / investigation
Tax concessions
Technical regulation or specifications

Table 4.3 – Category of sectors subject to the measure (11)

Agriculture
All products/economic activities
Chemicals
Energy
Fisheries
Forestry
Manufacturing
Mining
Not specified
Other
Services

¹ "General environmental reference" is a harmonized category that was introduced for EDB TPR entries from 2016 onwards.