



**General Council  
24-25 July 2023**

**PROPOSED AGENDA**

- 1. REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE AND REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**
- 2. THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE – ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
  - A. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
  - B. ATTENDANCE OF OBSERVERS
  - C. ATTENDANCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
- 3. FOLLOW-UP TO OUTCOMES OF MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES**
  - A. MC12 - WTO REFORM
    - (i) Report by the Chairperson<sup>1</sup>
    - (ii) Proposed Revisions to WT/L/452 "Procedures for the Circulation and Derestriction of WTO Documents" – Communication from Australia; Brazil; Canada; Colombia; Costa Rica; European Union; New Zealand; Norway; Switzerland; Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen And Matsu; and the United Kingdom (WT/GC/W/897)
    - (iii) A development Perspective on Institutional Reforms of the World Trade Organization – Communication from the African Group (WT/GC/W/895)
    - (iv) WTO Ministerial Conferences – Communication from Brazil (WT/GC/W/882)
    - (v) Maximising the Value of WTO Ministerial Conferences – Communication from Australia; Canada; China; Japan; New Zealand; Norway; and Thailand (WT/GC/W/873/Rev.1)
    - (vi) 30 for 30 Suggestions for Improving the Functioning in WTO – Request from India (WT/GC/W/874)
    - (vii) Small Steps to Make a Difference – Communication from Australia; China; and Thailand (WT/GC/W/879/Rev.2)
    - (viii) Reinforcing the Deliberative Function of the WTO to Respond to Global Trade Policy Challenges – Communication from the European Union (WT/GC/W/864)
    - (ix) Dispute Settlement Reform – Communication from the African Group (WT/GC/W/892)

---

<sup>1</sup> JOB/GC/345/Add.1 – State of Play - in WTO Councils, Committees, and Negotiating Bodies - "Reform by Doing".

- 
- B. MC12 - WORK PROGRAMME ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE
- (i) Review of Progress
  - (ii) Reinvigoration of Work Programme on Electronic Commerce and Moratorium on Imposing Customs Duties on Electronic Transmissions – Request from India and South Africa
  - (iii) Reinvigorating the Work under the 1998 Work Programme on Electronic Commerce: A Development Approach to the Work Programme on E Commerce – Communication from the African Group (WT/GC/W/875/Rev.1)
- C. MC12 - PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE MINISTERIAL DECISION ON THE TRIPS AGREEMENT – DURATION OF EXTENDED DEADLINE<sup>2</sup>
- D. MC12 - PARAGRAPH 24 OF THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON THE WTO RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND PREPAREDNESS FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS<sup>3</sup> – STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON
- E. BUENOS AIRES (MC11), NAIROBI (MC10) AND BALI (MC9)
- 4. WORK PROGRAMME ON SMALL ECONOMIES – REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE DEDICATED SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**
- 5. COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF MARCH AND MAY 2023 (WT/BFA/211, WT/BFA/212)**
- 6. TRADE RELATED CHALLENGES OF THE LEAST-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND WAY FORWARD: PROPOSAL FOR WTO SMOOTH TRANSITION MEASURES IN FAVOUR OF COUNTRIES GRADUATED FROM THE LDC CATEGORY – COMMUNICATION FROM DJIBOUTI ON BEHALF OF THE LDC GROUP (WT/GC/W/807/REV.2)**
- 7. FOOD SECURITY THROUGH AGRICULTURAL REFORM: TOWARDS AGRICULTURE OUTCOMES AT THE 13TH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE - COMMUNICATION FROM ARGENTINA; THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA; BRAZIL; CHILE; COLOMBIA; COSTA RICA; ECUADOR; EL SALVADOR; GUATEMALA; HONDURAS; PANAMA; PARAGUAY; PERU; THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC; AND URUGUAY (WT/GC/W/893)**
- 8. PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES – COMMUNICATION FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP (WT/GC/W/894)**
- 9. POLICY SPACE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT - A CASE FOR REBALANCING TRADE RULES TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIALISATION AND TO ADDRESS EMERGING CHALLENGES SUCH AS CLIMATE CHANGE, CONCENTRATION OF PRODUCTION AND DIGITAL INDUSTRIALISATION – COMMUNICATION FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP (WT/GC/W/868)**
- A. A CASE FOR REBALANCING THE AGREEMENT ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING MEASURES (ASCM) – POLICY SPACE TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIALISATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES – COMMUNICATION FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP (WT/GC/W/880)
  - B. THE ROLE OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY IN RESILIENCE BUILDING: REINVIGORATING THE DISCUSSIONS IN THE WTO ON TRADE AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY – COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP (WT/GC/W/883, WT/GC/W/884, WT/GC/W/885, WT/GC/W/886, WT/GC/W/887, WT/GC/W/888)

---

<sup>2</sup> WT/L/1141.

<sup>3</sup> WT/L/1142.

- C. A CASE FOR REBALANCING THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE-RELATED INVESTMENT MEASURES (TRIMS) – POLICY SPACE TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIALISATION AND STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (WT/GC/W/896)

**10. STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENCE AND STABILITY OF GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL AND SUPPLY CHAINS – COMMUNICATION FROM CHINA (WT/GC/W/891)**

**11. BRIEFING ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ACCESSION OF COMOROS – REQUEST FROM MOROCCO**

**12. BRIEFING ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ACCESSION OF TIMOR-LESTE – REQUEST FROM PORTUGAL**

**13. WAIVERS UNDER ARTICLE IX OF THE WTO AGREEMENT<sup>4</sup>**

- A. REVIEW OF WAIVERS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IX:4 OF THE WTO AGREEMENT
- (i) Ministerial Decision on the TRIPS Agreement (WT/MIN(22)/30 – WT/L/1141)
  - (ii) Least-Developed Country Members – Obligations under Article 70.8 and Article 70.9 of the TRIPS Agreement with respect to Pharmaceutical Products, granted on 30 November 2015 until 1 January 2033 (WT/L/971)
  - (iii) Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds, granted on 26 July 2018 through 31 December 2024 (WT/L/1039)
  - (iv) European Union – Application of Autonomous Preferential Treatment to the Western Balkans – granted on 28 July 2021 until 31 December 2026 (WT/L/1114, WT/L/1169)

**14. WTO PENSION PLAN**

- A. ELECTION OF MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES (WT/GC/W/890)
- B. ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022 (WT/BFA/W/636 - WT/L/1167)
- C. REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL AUDITOR ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION PENSION PLAN (WTOPP) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (WT/BFA/W/637 - WT/L/1168)

**OTHER BUSINESS**

---

---

<sup>4</sup> In connection with this Item, the attention of Members is drawn to the Decision-Making Procedures under Articles IX and XII of the WTO Agreement agreed by the General Council on 15 November 1995 (WT/L/93).