



11 December 2023

(23-8426)

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**General Council
13-15 December 2023**

PROPOSED AGENDA

- 1. REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE AND REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**
- 2. THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**
 - A. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
 - (i) Election of Officers
 - (ii) Request for Observer Status by Palestine ([WT/L/1171](#))
- 3. FOLLOW-UP TO OUTCOMES OF MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES**
 - A. MC12
 - (i) WTO Reform – "Reform by Doing" - Statement by Chairperson ([JOB/GC/359/Rev.2](#); [G/L/1523](#))
 - (ii) Paragraph 24 of the Ministerial Declaration on the WTO Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Preparedness for Future Pandemics – Statement by the Chairperson ([G/L/1521](#))
 - (iii) Paragraph 8 of the Ministerial Decision on the TRIPS Agreement – Duration of extended deadline¹
 - Decision text on extension of the 17 June 2022 Ministerial Decision to COVID-19 Therapeutics and Diagnostics – Communication from South Africa ([WT/GC/W/913 - IP/C/W/694/Rev.1](#))
 - (iv) Work Programme on Electronic Commerce
 - Report by the Facilitator
 - Challenges for digital industrialization in developing countries – Communication from South Africa ([WT/GC/W/910](#))
 - Draft Ministerial Decision on the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce - Communication from Australia; Canada; Chile; Costa Rica; Georgia; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Israel; Korea, Republic of; Liechtenstein; Moldova, Republic of; Montenegro; Norway; New Zealand; Paraguay; Peru; Singapore; Switzerland; Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen And Matsu; Ukraine and The United Kingdom ([WT/GC/W/909](#))
 - Draft Ministerial Decision on the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce – Communication from South Africa ([WT/GC/W/911](#))
 - B. BUENOS AIRES (MC11), NAIROBI (MC10) AND BALI (MC9) ([G/RO/99](#))

¹ [WT/L/1141](#)

4. WORK PROGRAMME ON SMALL ECONOMIES – REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEDICATED SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ([WT/COMTD/SE/12](#))
5. THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ASPECTS OF COTTON - PERIODIC REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ([WT/GC/260](#) – [WT/CFMC/DG/10](#) – [WT/MIN\(24\)/1](#))
6. TRIPS COUNCIL MATTERS
 - A. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SPECIAL COMPULSORY LICENSING SYSTEM - PARAGRAPH 7 OF THE ANNEX TO THE AMENDED TRIPS AGREEMENT AND PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PARAGRAPH 6 OF THE DOHA DECLARATION ON THE TRIPS AGREEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH ([WT/L/540](#) AND [WT/L/540/CORR.1](#)) – REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRIPS ([IP/C/97](#))
 - B. PROPOSAL FOR A DECISION ON AN EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD FOR THE ACCEPTANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PROTOCOL AMENDING THE TRIPS AGREEMENT ([IP/C/96](#))
7. COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF 17 OCTOBER ([WT/BFA/216](#)) AND 22 NOVEMBER 2023 ([WT/BFA/217](#))²
8. WTO PENSION PLAN – AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS ([WT/GC/W/906](#))³
9. LDC GRADUATION (ANNEX 2 OF [WT/GC/W/807/REV.2](#)) – REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL ([WT/COMTD/LDC/30](#))
10. 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; THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES ([WT/GC/W/897/REV.1](#))
11. MC13 – IMMEDIATE STEPS TO RESPOND TO FOOD INSECURITY – COMMUNICATION FROM SINGAPORE ([WT/GC/W/908](#))
12. PROPOSED MINISTERIAL DECLARATION FOR THE THIRTEENTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE: STRENGTHENING REGULATORY COOPERATION TO REDUCE TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE – COMMUNICATION FROM CAMEROON; CHINA; JORDAN; MACAO, CHINA; MYANMAR AND SEYCHELLES
13. DRAFT MINISTERIAL DECISION ON PROMOTING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND TRADE IN NFIDCS AND LDCS - REQUEST FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP
14. DRAFT MINISTERIAL DECISION ON SPS MEASURES - REQUEST FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP
15. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE – REQUEST FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP
16. THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM TO SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS – STATEMENT BY THE CAIRNS GROUP ([WT/GC/261](#))

² To be issued.

³ To be issued.

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- 17. EUROPEAN UNION REGULATION ON SUPPLY CHAINS FREE FROM DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION – COMMUNICATION FROM ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, AND PERU ([WT/GC/W/912](#))**
- 18. INFORMATION ON INVESTMENT FACILITATION FOR DEVELOPMENT – REQUEST FROM CHILE AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ([JOB/GC/373](#))**
- 19. ENHANCING MULTILATERAL DELIBERATIVE FUNCTION ON ENVIRONMENT-RELATED TRADE MEASURES AND FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – REQUEST FROM CHINA AND COLOMBIA**
- 20. REVIEW OF THE EXEMPTION PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH 3 OF GATT 1994 ([WT/L/1165](#), [WT/L/1178](#))**
- 21. WAIVERS UNDER ARTICLE IX OF THE WTO AGREEMENT⁴**
- A. INTRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED SYSTEM 2002 CHANGES INTO WTO SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS – DRAFT DECISION ([G/C/W/831](#))
 - B. INTRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED SYSTEM 2007 CHANGES INTO WTO SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS – DRAFT DECISION ([G/C/W/832](#))
 - C. INTRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED SYSTEM 2012 CHANGES INTO WTO SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS – DRAFT DECISION ([G/C/W/833](#))
 - D. INTRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED SYSTEM 2017 CHANGES INTO WTO SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS – DRAFT DECISION ([G/C/W/834](#))
 - E. INTRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED SYSTEM 2022 CHANGES INTO WTO SCHEDULES OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS – DRAFT DECISION ([G/C/W/835/Rev.1](#))
 - F. REVIEW OF WAIVERS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IX:4 OF THE WTO AGREEMENT
 - (i) Preferential treatment in favour of services and service suppliers of least developed countries, granted on 17 December 2011 until 31 December 2030 ([WT/L/847](#), [WT/L/982](#))
 - (ii) Preferential tariff treatment for least-developed countries, granted on 16 October 2019 until 30 June 2029 ([WT/L/1069](#))
 - (iii) Cuba – Article XV:6 – Extension of waiver, granted on 23 November 2021 until 31 December 2026 ([WT/L/1128](#), [WT/L/1179](#))
 - (iv) United States – African Growth and Opportunity Act, granted on 30 November 2015 until 30 September 2025 ([WT/L/970](#), [WT/L/1173](#))
 - (v) United States – Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, granted on 16 October 2019 until 30 September 2025 ([WT/L/1070](#), [WT/L/1174](#))
 - (vi) United States – Former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, granted on 7 December 2016 until 31 December 2026 ([WT/L/1000](#), [WT/L/1175](#))
 - (vii) United States – Trade Preferences granted to Nepal, granted on 7 December 2016 until 31 December 2025 ([WT/L/1001](#), [WT/L/1176](#))
- 22. INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE UNCTAD/WTO – REPORT OF THE JOINT ADVISORY GROUP ON ITS 57th SESSION (ITC/AG(LVII)/292)**

⁴ 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](#)).

23. REVIEW OF WTO ACTIVITIES

REPORTS OF:

- (i) General Council ([WT/GC/W/907](#)), Dispute Settlement Body ([WT/DSB/85](#)) and Trade Policy Review Body ([WT/TPR/509](#))
- (ii) Sectoral Councils ([G/L/1524](#), [S/C/64](#), and [IP/C/98](#))
- (iii) Committees on Trade and Development ([WT/COMTD/103](#)), Trade and Environment ([WT/CTE/30](#))⁵, Balance-Of-Payments Restrictions ([WT/BOP/R/123](#)), Budget, Finance and Administration ([WT/BFA/218](#))⁶ and Regional Trade Agreements ([WT/REG/34](#))
- (iv) Working Groups on Trade, Debt and Finance ([WT/WGTDF/22](#)), and Trade and Transfer of Technology ([WT/WGTTT/25](#))
- (v) Committees under the Plurilateral Trade Agreements ([GPA/AR/6](#), [WT/L/1177](#) – [TCA/21](#))

24. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS TO WTO BODIES – ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 7.1(A) OF THE GUIDELINES ([WT/L/510](#))

OTHER BUSINESS

⁵ To be issued.

⁶ To be issued.