



23 November 2021

(21-8853)

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**Ministerial Conference
Twelfth Session
Geneva, 30 November-3 December 2021**

Original: English

WORK PROGRAMME ON SMALL ECONOMIES

DRAFT MINISTERIAL DECISION

At its meeting on 22-23 November 2021, the General Council agreed to forward the following draft Decision¹ to the Ministerial Conference for adoption.

The Ministerial Conference decides as follows:

We reaffirm our commitment to the Work Programme on Small Economies and take note of all the work conducted to date. In particular, we note that document WT/COMTD/SE/W/22/Rev.10 and its previous revisions reflect the work of the Dedicated Session up to the Twelfth Ministerial Conference. We take note of the work carried out since 2018, including that on challenges small economies experience in their efforts to reduce trade costs, particularly in the area of trade facilitation; opportunities and challenges for small economies in attracting investments; economic and trade impact of natural disasters on small economies; and instruct the CTD to continue its work in the Dedicated Session on Small Economies under the overall responsibility of the General Council.

Furthermore, we instruct the Dedicated Session on Small Economies to consider in further detail the various submissions that have been received to date, examine any additional proposals that Members might wish to submit and, where possible, and within its mandate, make recommendations to the General Council on any of these proposals. The General Council shall direct relevant subsidiary bodies to frame responses to the trade-related issues identified by the CTD with a view to making recommendations for action. We instruct the WTO Secretariat to provide relevant information and factual analysis for discussion among Members in the CTD's Dedicated Session on Small Economies, *inter alia*, in the areas identified in item k of paragraph 2 of the Work Programme on Small Economies and, in particular, to work on integrating small economies into the post COVID-19 economy: effects of the pandemic, challenges and opportunities.

The CTD in Dedicated Session shall continue monitoring the progress of the small economy proposals in WTO bodies and in negotiating groups with the aim of providing responses, as soon as possible, to the trade-related issues identified for the fuller integration of SVEs in the multilateral trading system.

¹ As contained in WT/COMTD/SE/W/42.