

# GATT News WTO

FROM GATT TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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## **THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION IS LAUNCHED WITH 81 MEMBERS**

The new World Trade Organization (WTO) came into force on 1 January 1995 with 81 member countries and territories from all regions of the globe representing over 90 per cent of international trade in goods and services. Almost 50 other countries are in a position to join the WTO in the near future.

The 81 members comprise 53 developing or least-developed economies, 25 developed countries and 3 economies in transition. Of the 49 countries which are currently in the process of joining, 9 have accepted the WTO and are due to become members as soon as they have completed the verification of their market access commitments; 38 are completing their domestic ratification procedures for accepting the WTO; and Algeria and China whose terms of membership are still to be finalized.

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MORE

**WTO MEMBERSHIP AS AT 1 JANUARY 1995 (81)**

Antigua and Barbuda	Greece	Nigeria
Argentina	Guyana	Norway
Australia	Honduras	Pakistan
Austria	Hong Kong	Paraguay
Bahrain	Hungary	Peru
Bangladesh	Iceland	Philippines
Barbados	India	Portugal
Belgium	Indonesia	Romania
Belize	Ireland	St. Lucia
Botswana	Italy	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Brazil	Japan	Senegal
Brunei Darussalam	Kenya	Singapore
Canada	Korea	Slovak Republic
Chile	Kuwait	South Africa
Colombia	Lesotho	Spain
Costa Rica	Luxembourg	Sri Lanka
Côte d'Ivoire	Macau	Suriname
Czech Republic	Malawi	Swaziland
Denmark	Malaysia	Sweden
Dominica	Malta	Tanzania
European Communities	Mauritania	Thailand
Finland	Mauritius	Uganda
France	Mexico	United Kingdom
Gabon	Morocco	United States
Germany	Myanmar	Uruguay
Ghana	Namibia	Venezuela
	Netherlands	Zambia
	New Zealand	

**PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE ACCEPTED THE WTO AND WHOSE SCHEDULES ARE BEING VERIFIED (9)**

Central African Republic	Guinea Bissau	Mozambique
Chad	Maldives	Papua New Guinea
Grenada	Mali	Qatar

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROCESS OF DOMESTIC RATIFICATION (38)**

Angola	Fiji	Sierra Leone
Benin	Gambia	Slovenia
Bolivia	Guatemala	Solomon Islands
Burkina Faso	Guinea	St. Kitts and Nevis
Burundi	Haiti	Switzerland
Cameroon	Israel	Togo
Congo	Jamaica	Trinidad and Tobago
Cuba	Lichenstein	Tunisia
Cyprus	Madagascar	Turkey
Djibouti	Nicaragua	United Arab Emirates
Dominican Republic	Niger	Zaire
Egypt	Poland	Zimbabwe
El Salvador	Rwanda	

Algeria and China: their terms of membership are still to be finalized.

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