



REPORT (2018) OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS

In accordance with the "Procedures for an Annual Overview of WTO Activities and for Reporting under the WTO" (WT/L/105), the Council for Trade in Goods (CTG, or the Council) is to report each year to the General Council on the activities in the Council as well as those in its subsidiary bodies. The reports are to be "factual in nature, containing an indication of actions and decisions taken, with cross-references to reports of subordinate bodies and could follow the model of the GATT 1947 Council reports to the CONTRACTING PARTIES".

Since its 2017 Annual Report (G/L/1204) was issued, the CTG met three times in formal session, on the following dates: 23 and 26 March 2018 (G/C/M/131)¹; 3 and 4 July 2018 (G/C/M/132²); and 12 and 13 November 2018 (G/C/M/133³).

The subject matters raised and/or acted upon in the Council were as follows:

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¹ An informal meeting took place before the formal meeting.

² To be issued.

³ To be issued.

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1 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS

1.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council elected by acclamation HE Mr Stephen de Boer (Canada) as its chairperson for 2018.

2 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS FOR THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COUNCIL

2.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council agreed to suspend this agenda item in order for the incoming Chair to carry out consultations on the nomination of persons to chair the subsidiary bodies of the Goods Council; it also agreed to reconvene a meeting once the process had been concluded.

2.2. On 26 March, the Council reverted to this agenda item and, following an informal meeting at which the Chairperson had submitted to the Council the slate of names that had emerged as a result of his consultations, agreed on the nominations of the following persons for election as Chairpersons of its subsidiary bodies for 2018:

Chairpersons of CTG Subsidiary Bodies	
Market Access	Ms Zsofia TVARUSKO (Hungary)
Agriculture	Ms Debora CUMES MARISCAL (Guatemala)
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	Ms Noncedo VUTULA (South Africa)
Technical Barriers to Trade	Ms Kate SWAN (New Zealand)
TRIMs	Ms Carrie I-Jen WU (Chinese Taipei)
Anti-Dumping Practices	Ms Karine Mahjoubi ERIKSTEIN (Norway)
Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	Mr Pedro NEGUELOAETCHEVERRY (Argentina)
Safeguards	Mr Hyouk Woo KWON (Korea)
Import Licensing	Mrs Lorena RIVERA (Colombia)
Rules of Origin	Ms Thembekile MLANGENI (South Africa)
Customs Valuation	Mr Yuichiro OKUMURA (Japan)
Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products (ITA Committee)	Mr Muhammad Nur Hadri Bin SOPRI (Singapore)
Trade Facilitation	Ms Dalia KADIŠIENĖ (Lithuania)

2.3. At the same meeting, the Council agreed to proceed on the understanding that, as concerned the Vice-Chairpersons, it would be for the subsidiary bodies to decide if they needed a Vice-Chairperson in cases where the option existed under the respective Agreement and/or rules of procedure, and for the respective Chairperson to hold the necessary consultations. In the absence of provisions in the rules of procedure of Working Parties to elect Chairpersons, the Council also agreed to appoint the nominated Chairperson, Mr Antonius Yudi TRIANTORO (Indonesia), for the Working Party on State Trading Enterprises.

2.4. Following the departure of the designated chairperson of the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM), the CTG Chair held consultations with the Group Coordinators and these in turn held consultations with their constituencies. As a result of this consultation process, and mindful of the importance of ensuring and retaining regional balance and representation, Mr Luis Adolfo Fernández (Costa Rica) was appointed to be the new Chair of the SCM Committee.

3 MARKET ACCESS ISSUES

3.1 Collective waiver requests on the introduction of the Harmonized System 2002, 2007, 2012, and 2017

3.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council considered four collective waiver requests on the introduction of Harmonized System 2002, 2007, 2012, and 2017 changes into WTO Schedules of Concessions (see Section 4 below).

4 WAIVERS UNDER ARTICLE IX OF THE WTO AGREEMENT

4.1 Introduction of Harmonized System 2002 changes into WTO Schedules of Tariff Concessions

4.1.1 Collective request for a waiver extension (G/C/W/756)

4.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council considered a collective request for an extension of the waiver in connection with the introduction of HS2002 changes to the Schedules of Concessions. The Council approved the waiver request and recommended that the draft decision (G/C/W/756) be forwarded to the General Council for adoption.

4.2 Introduction of Harmonized System 2007 changes into WTO Schedules of Tariff Concessions

4.2.1 Collective request for a waiver extension (G/C/W/757)

4.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council considered a collective request for an extension of the waiver in connection with the introduction of HS 2007 changes to the Schedules of Concessions. The Council approved the waiver request and recommended that the draft decision (G/C/W/757) be forwarded to the General Council for adoption.

4.3 Introduction of Harmonized System 2012 changes into WTO Schedules of Tariff Concessions

4.3.1 Collective request for a waiver (G/C/W/758)

4.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council considered a collective request for a waiver in connection with the introduction of HS 2012 changes to the Schedules of Concessions. The Council approved the waiver request and recommended that the draft decision (G/C/W/758) be forwarded to the General Council for adoption.

4.4 Introduction of Harmonized System 2017 changes into WTO Schedules of Tariff Concessions

4.4.1 Collective request for a waiver (G/C/W/759/Rev.1)

4.4. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council considered a collective request for a waiver in connection with the introduction of HS 2017 changes to the Schedules of Concessions. The Council approved the waiver request and recommended that the draft decision (G/C/W/759/Rev.1) be forwarded to the General Council for adoption.

4.5 Jordan – Request for a Waiver Relating to the Transitional Period for the Elimination of the Export Subsidy Programme for Jordan (G/C/W/705; G/C/W/705/Corr.1; G/C/W/705/Rev.1; and G/C/W/705/Rev.2)

4.5. At its meeting of 23 March, as agreed by the CTG at its meeting of 10 November 2017, the Council took note of the statement made by Jordan on the progress made towards developing a WTO-consistent replacement programme, and on the expiry date of 21 December 2018 of the current programme, as per the schedule submitted in document G/C/W/705/Rev.2. The Council also

took note of the statements made by Australia, Chinese Taipei, Japan, and the United States, and agreed to revert to this issue at its meeting of July 2018.

4.6. At its meeting of 3 July, Jordan again informed the Council about the development of its subsidy replacement programme and assured Members that the current programme would expire on 21 December 2018 as per the schedule submitted in document G/C/W/705/Rev.2. The new policy would be notified in due course to the Committee on Safeguards and Countervailing Measures (SCM). The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and the United States, and agreed to revert to this issue at its meeting in November 2018, when Jordan would inform the Council about its replacement programme.

4.7. At its meeting of 12 November, as agreed by the CTG at its meeting of 3 July, Jordan informed the Council about the development of its replacement programme. The Council took note of the statement made by Jordan, and of the statements made by New Zealand and the United States.

4.6 Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds – Request for an Extension of a WTO Waiver (G/C/W/753 and G/C/W/753/Add.1-G/C/W/753/Add.2)

4.8. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council considered a collective request submitted by the European Union and Australia, Cambodia, Canada, Guyana, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Norway, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United States, concerning the extension for another six years of the current waiver on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds. The Council approved the waiver request, including the requests made during the meeting by Brazil, India, Kazakhstan, Korea, Montenegro, Panama, Singapore, and Thailand to be included in the annex of the draft waiver decision; and agreed that the draft decision (G/C/W/753 and G/C/W/753/Add.1-G/C/W/753/Add.2) be forwarded to the General Council for adoption.

5 ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION: PROCEDURES UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII:3 OF GATT 1994

5.1 Enlargement of the European Union on 1 July 2013 (G/L/1051/Add.9)

5.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by the European Union and agreed to extend the deadline mentioned by the European Union in document G/L/1051/Add.9 until 1 October 2018. The EU also informed the Council that agreements with Brazil, China, and Uruguay, had already been implemented and notified to the WTO, and that an agreement with New Zealand had been signed in March and was in the process of being ratified by the European Parliament. The Council also took note of the statement made by the Russian Federation.

5.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the European Union informing the CTG that negotiations under GATT Article XXIV pursuant to Croatia's EU accession had been finalized. The final agreement to have been reached, with New Zealand, was in the process of being ratified by the European Parliament, after which the European Council would conclude the process. An addendum to the EU's original WTO notification would then be submitted.

5.2 Enlargement of the European Union to include Croatia: Negotiations under Article XXIV:6 of the GATT 1994 – Statement by the Russian Federation

5.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by the Russian Federation concerning the European Union negotiation process under Article XXIV:6 of the GATT, following the accession of Croatia to the EU, in particular regarding the EU's refusal of Russia's claim of interest. The Council also took note of the statement made by the European Union in response to these concerns.

6 EUROPEAN UNION – RENEGOTIATION OF TARIFF RATE QUOTA COMMITMENTS IN RESPONSE TO BREXIT: SYSTEMIC CONCERNS – REQUEST FROM ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, CANADA, CHINA, JAPAN, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, THAILAND, THE UNITED STATES, AND URUGUAY

6.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States, and Uruguay expressing their systemic, commercial and technical concerns regarding the tariff rate quota (TRQ) commitments of the European Union following the Brexit process. The Council also took note of the statements made by Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Korea, Malaysia, Paraguay, the Russian Federation, Singapore, and Switzerland. The Council also took note of the statement made by the European Union in response to these concerns.

7 ACCESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AND OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC TO THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION (EAEU): PROCEDURES UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII:3 OF GATT 1994

7.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by the European Union indicating that, following the accession of Armenia and the Kyrgyz Republic to the EAEU, and the subsequent application of the EAEU Common External Tariff (CET), it wished to negotiate global compensation with all EAEU members to bind compensation in their respective schedules of concessions, a compensation that should address the tariff lines for which trade had been most affected by the EAEU enlargement. The EU also indicated that the tariff cuts should be made by all the EAEU members concerned, including the Russian Federation, but that, regarding TRQs for agricultural products, offers should be made only by Armenia and the Kyrgyz Republic. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, Japan, and Chinese Taipei, and of the information provided by Armenia and the Kyrgyz Republic.

7.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the information provided by the Republic of Armenia and by the Kyrgyz Republic relating to their renegotiations under Article XXVIII:3 of GATT 1994, following their accession to the EAEU, and considered the extensions of the deadlines set out in documents G/L/1110/Add.4 and G/L/1137/Add.3, respectively. The Council took note of the statements made by the European Union, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, and approved the requested extensions until 2 January and 12 February 2020, respectively.

8 SWITZERLAND – LIECHTENSTEIN – NEGOTIATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII:5 OF GATT 1994

8.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by Switzerland, and also on behalf of Liechtenstein, concerning the extension of the deadline for Members to withdraw substantially equivalent concessions following the renegotiation process under Article XXVIII:5 of the GATT 1994. The Council took note of the statement made by Brazil and approved the requested extensions until 4 April 2019.

9 TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO – REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XXVIII:4 OF GATT 1994 (G/SECRET/43)

9.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by Trinidad and Tobago, requesting the CTG's authorization, in accordance with paragraph 1 of the 1980 Guidelines on Procedures for Negotiations under Article XXVIII of the GATT (the Guidelines)⁴, to enter into negotiations under Article XXVIII:4 of the GATT 1994. The Council also took note of the statements made by the Dominican Republic and Turkey. The Council suspended this agenda item and agreed that, unless a Member objected to this request in writing by 30 November 2018, it would be considered that Trinidad and Tobago had been authorized to enter into negotiations, beginning 1 December 2018.

⁴ BISD 27S/26-28.

10 NOTIFICATION OF REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS

10.1. At its meetings of 23 March, 3 July, and 12 November, the Council was informed of the following notifications of regional trade agreements:

- Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Southern African Development Community EPA States;
- Closer Economic Partnership between Hong Kong, China and Macao, China;
- Treaty on a Free Trade Area between members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS);
- Free Trade Agreement between the EFTA states and Georgia;
- Free Trade Agreement between China and Georgia;
- ASEAN – Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement – Entry into Force for Indonesia
- Free Trade Agreement between Turkey and Singapore;
- Free Trade Agreement between Peru and Honduras; and
- Free Trade Agreement Between the EFTA States and the Philippines

10.2. The Council took note of the statement made by the United States, thanking the parties to these agreements for their notifications.

11 NOTIFICATIONS

11.1 Status of notifications under the provisions of the Agreements in Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement (G/L/223/Rev.25)

11.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the latest revision of the status of notifications contained in document G/L/223/Rev.25, and of the request from Brazil, New Zealand, and Switzerland to update the information contained therein with their latest notifications.⁵

11.2. Under this agenda item the Secretariat indicated that the notifications under the Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA) should also be reflected in the Annual Report of Notifications. The Council will revert to this issue in due course.

11.3. The Council also took note of the statements made by Canada, the European Union, and the United States on the importance of transparency in the work of the WTO.

12 PROPOSAL BY THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS TO THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS, THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN SERVICES, AND THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS ON A TEMPLATE FOR NOTIFYING CHANGES TO AN EXISTING REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT (WT/REG/28)

12.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council considered document WT/REG/28, containing a proposal by the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements to the Goods and Services Councils and to the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements on a template for notifying changes to an existing regional trade agreement. The Council also took note of the statement made by Brazil indicating that Brazil did not oppose the proposed template, but did require further time for its full consideration.

12.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council again considered and adopted the proposed template for notifying changes to an existing regional trade agreement.

13 FACTUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SAFEGUARDS COMMITTEE (SC) REGARDING ARTICLE 13.1(E) OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS (G/L/1276 AND G/L/1276/ADD.1)

13.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the factual report submitted by the Chairperson of the Safeguards Committee to the Goods Council (documents G/L/1276 and G/L/1276/Add.1) regarding the request of Thailand made in accordance with Article 13.1(e) of the

⁵ All the information on notifications will be included in the Annual Report on Notifications that will be submitted to the CTG at its first meeting of 2019.

Agreement on Safeguards and relating to certain actions taken by Turkey. The Council also took note of the statements made by Thailand and Turkey.

14 MEASURES TO ALLOW GRADUATED LDCs, WITH GNP BELOW US\$1,000, BENEFITS PURSUANT TO ANNEX VII(B) OF THE AGREEMENT ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING MEASURES (WT/GC/W/742 AND G/C/W/752)

14.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the Central African Republic on behalf of the LDC Group, introducing a request and a draft decision to be adopted by the General Council concerning the possibility for graduated LDC Members to benefit from the exception provided under Article 27.2(a) of the SCM Agreement to developing countries listed in Annex VII(b). The Council also took note of the statements made by Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chad, Cuba, India, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in support of this request, and of the statements made by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, the Russian Federation, and the United States requesting further clarification and discussion of this issue. The Council agreed to revert to this issue at its next meeting.

14.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by the Central African Republic on behalf of the LDC Group. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, India, Nepal, Nigeria, and Venezuela in support of the request, while Canada, the EU, Japan, Thailand, Turkey, and the United States indicated that further discussion and clarification of the issue was necessary. The Council agreed to revert to this issue when requested to do so by the LDC Group.

15 PROCEDURES TO ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY AND STRENGTHEN NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER WTO AGREEMENTS

15.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by the United States introducing document JOB/GC/148/Rev.1–JOB/CTG/10/Rev.1 concerning a draft decision for the General Council's consideration on procedures to enhance transparency and strengthen notification requirements under WTO Agreements.⁶ The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia; Brazil; China; Cuba; Egypt; the European Union; Hong Kong, China; India; Korea; Mexico; New Zealand; Norway; Pakistan; Senegal; Singapore; South Africa; Switzerland; Chinese Taipei; Turkey; Ukraine; and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; and of the responses to these statements given by the United States.

15.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica, the European Union, Japan, Chinese Taipei, and the United States, introducing document JOB/GC/204–JOB/CTG/14 and JOB/GC/204/Add.1–JOB/CTG/14/Add.1, containing an initiative to enhance transparency and strengthen notification requirements to be adopted by the General Council. The Council also took note of the statements made by Bolivia; Brazil; Canada; Chile; China; Colombia; Cuba; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Ghana; Guatemala; Hong Kong, China; India; Israel; Jamaica; Korea; Mexico; Nepal; New Zealand; Nigeria; Norway; Pakistan; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; the Russian Federation; Senegal; Singapore; South Africa; St Lucia; Switzerland; Thailand; Turkey; Ukraine; Uruguay; and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

16 INDONESIA'S IMPORT AND EXPORT RESTRICTING POLICIES AND PRACTICES – REQUEST FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION, JAPAN, AND THE UNITED STATES

16.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union, Japan, and the United States, reiterating their concerns over Indonesia's local content requirements, requirements for meat and dairy products, horticulture, wood and forestry products, cosmetics, QRs for meat, alcohol products, steel and tyres, export restrictions for raw materials, increased technical regulations and burdensome CAPs, and the Halal law. The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, and Thailand; and of the statement made by Indonesia in response to these concerns.

16.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of statements made by the European Union, Japan, and the United States, relating to their continued concerns over various aspects of Indonesia's

⁶ This issue had already been raised by the United States at the CTG's meeting of 10 November 2017.

trade and investment regime, including local content requirements, requirements for meat and dairy products, horticulture, wood and forestry products, cosmetics, QRs for meat, alcohol products, steel and tyres, export restrictions for raw materials, increased technical regulations and burdensome CAPs, human and veterinarian pharmaceutical products, and the Halal law. Additional concerns were raised regarding new requirements for soybeans, a recent regulation establishing tariff lines for electronically transmitted software and digital goods, and an announcement to raise import duties on these tariff lines. The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Korea, New Zealand, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, and Thailand; and of the statement made by Indonesia in response to these concerns.

16.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union, Japan, and Norway relating to their continued concerns over various aspects of Indonesia's trade and investment regime, including in relation to import licensing requirements, unique technical regulations, pre-shipment inspection requirements, export restrictions, local content requirements, domestic manufacturing requirements, sales restrictions on 4G mobile phones, and a general lack of transparency, among others. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, China, New Zealand, Korea, Chinese Taipei, and Thailand; and of the statement made by Indonesia in response to these concerns.

17 INDIA – CUSTOMS DUTIES ON ICT PRODUCTS

17.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, Chinese Taipei, and the United States, regarding the imposition of customs duties on ICT products covered by ITA-1, about recently announced Indian duties on cars and car parts, and about the "Social Welfare Surcharge" on imported goods. The Council also took note of the statements made by Korea, Singapore, Switzerland, and Thailand; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

17.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, and the United States, regarding the imposition of customs duties on additional ICT products covered by ITA-1 in the context of India's budget proposal for 2018-2019. The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Korea, Singapore, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, and Thailand; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

17.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Norway, Chinese Taipei, and the United States, on the imposition of customs duties on additional ICT products covered by ITA-1 in the context of India's budget proposal for 2018-2019. The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland, and Thailand; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

18 EGYPT – MANUFACTURER REGISTRATION SYSTEM

18.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union and the United States reiterating their concerns over Egypt's Ministerial Decree No. 43 of 2016 requiring that imports of listed products in 25 HS categories, including apparel, toys, chocolate, cosmetics, milk and dairy products, motorcycles, and washing machines, only be allowed into Egypt if they were produced by manufacturing facilities, or imported from companies owning trademarks, that were registered with the Ministry of Trade's General Organization for Export and Import Control (GOEIC). The Council also took note of the statements made by Switzerland and Ukraine; and of the statement made by Egypt in response to these concerns.

18.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the European Union reiterating its concerns raised already at the CTG and the TBT Committee, regarding Decree No. 43 of 2016. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil and Switzerland; and of the statement made by Egypt in response to these concerns.

18.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by the European Union on Egypt's manufacturers' registration system. The Council also took note of the statements made by the Russian Federation and Switzerland; and of the statement made by Egypt in response to these concerns.

19 IMPORT LEVY BY WTO MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN UNION – REQUEST FROM THE UNITED STATES

19.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by the United States regarding the implementation by African WTO Members of the African Union's (AU's) Kigali Decision of July 2016 in a manner consistent with their MFN obligations. The Council also took note of the statements made by Canada, the European Union, Japan, and Norway; and of the statement made by the African Group Coordinator (South Africa).

19.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the United States regarding the implementation by African Members of the AU's Kigali Decision. The Council also took note of the statements made by Canada, the European Union, and Japan; and of the statement made by the African Group Coordinator (South Africa).

20 UNITED STATES – MEASURES RELATED TO IMPORTS OF FISH AND SEAFOOD PRODUCTS – REQUEST FROM CHINA AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

20.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by China and the Russian Federation concerning the "Seafood Import Monitoring Program" (SIMP) of the United States, which aimed at combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and seafood fraud, and requesting clarification of the criteria and justification for electing certain fish species to be subject to IUU fishing, while others not. The Council also took note of the response provided by the United States.

20.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by China, and the Russian Federation, echoed by Norway, on the United States' SIMP, and in particular regarding the coverage of species to be exported to the United States, and the rationale behind the imposition of additional requirements only on certain species originating in certain countries. The Council also took note of the response provided by the United States.

20.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by China, supported by the Russian Federation, on the SIMP of the United States. The Council also took note of the statement made by the United States in response to these concerns.

21 CROATIA – REGULATION OF IMPORT AND SALE OF CERTAIN OIL PRODUCTS – REQUEST FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

21.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the Russian Federation reiterating its concerns in relation to Croatia's requirements for imports and sale of certain oil products, which established a minimum volume of containers and some requirements for wholesale trade in certain oil products.⁷ The Council also took note of the statement made by the European Union in response to this concern.

22 RUSSIAN FEDERATION – TRADE RESTRICTING PRACTICES

22.1. At its meetings of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union and the United States on the GOST standard on cement certification; the "good manufacturing practice" certificates for pharmaceutical products; the ban on exports of skins and hides; the updated list of goods that could be subject to export bans, including fishery products from Estonia and Latvia; and the wine taxation regime.⁸ The Council also took note of the statement made by Ukraine; and of the statement made by the Russian Federation in response to these concerns.

22.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the European Union on the GOST standard on cement certification; the "good manufacturing practice" certificates for pharmaceutical products; the ban on exports of skins and hides; and the termination of the regime applied to the automotive sector allowing Russia to import car parts free of duties on condition of

⁷ This issue had already been raised by the Russian Federation at the CTG meetings of 17 November 2016 and 6 April 2017.

⁸ This issue had already been raised by the European Union at the CTG meeting of 17 November 2016 under agenda item "Other Business".

conformity with local content requirements. The Council also took note of the statement made by the United States; and of the statement made by the Russian Federation in response to these concerns.

22.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by the European Union with regard to the above-mentioned concerns. The Council also took note of the statement made by Ukraine; and of the statement made by the Russian Federation in response to these concerns.

23 BRAZIL – MEASURES RESTRICTING SHRIMP IMPORTS – REQUEST FROM ECUADOR

23.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council again took note of the statement made by Ecuador on the measures adopted by Brazil almost two decades ago, which restrict shrimp imports from Ecuador.⁹ The Council also took note of the statement made by Brazil in response to these concerns.

24 MEXICO – CUSTOMS PROCESSING FEE IMPOSED BY MEXICO ON CERTAIN IMPORTS ENTERING ITS TERRITORY – REQUEST FROM ECUADOR

24.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by Ecuador concerning Mexico's customs processing fees applied only to goods originating in countries with which Mexico had not signed commercial agreements or that were not beneficiaries of preferential agreements with Mexico. The Council also took note of the statement made by Canada; and of the statement made by Mexico in response to this concern.

25 UNITED STATES – SECTION 232 INVESTIGATIONS AND MEASURES ON IMPORTS OF STEEL AND ALUMINIUM

25.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by China and the Russian Federation on the consistency with WTO principles of the United States' measures on steel and aluminium, adopted under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, and which entered into effect as from 23 March 2018.¹⁰ The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia; Brazil; El Salvador; Guatemala; Hong Kong, China; India; Japan; Kazakhstan; Korea; New Zealand; Norway; Pakistan; Paraguay; Singapore; Switzerland; Thailand; Turkey; and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; and of the statement made by the United States in response to these concerns.

25.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by Japan and the Russian Federation on the consistency of the measures adopted by the United States under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, and on the potential measures following an investigation initiated on 23 May 2018, also under Section 232, but on imports of automobiles, including cars, vans, trucks, and automotive parts. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil; Canada; China; Costa Rica; the European Union; Hong Kong, China; India; Korea; Mexico; Norway; Singapore; Switzerland; Thailand; Turkey; and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; and of the statement made by the United States in response to these concerns.

26 KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN, AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES – SELECTIVE TAX ON CERTAIN IMPORTED PRODUCTS – REQUEST FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION, SWITZERLAND, AND THE UNITED STATES

26.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union, Switzerland, and the United States concerning the GCC Council of Ministers' "Treaty on Excise Tax", adopted in December 2016, relating to a 100% *ad valorem* excise duty on energy drinks and a 50% *ad valorem* duty on other carbonated drinks.¹¹ The Council also took note of the statement made by the Kingdom of Bahrain, on its own behalf and on behalf of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, in response to these concerns.

⁹ This issue had already been raised by Ecuador at the CTG meetings of 6 April and 30 June 2017, respectively.

¹⁰ This issue had already been raised by the Russian Federation at the CTG meetings of 30 June and 10 November 2017, respectively.

¹¹ This issue had also been raised at the Committee on Market Access.

26.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union, Switzerland, and the United States, supported by Japan, reiterating their concerns over the GCC Council of Ministers' "Treaty on Excise Tax" adopted in December 2016. The Council also took note of the statement made by the Kingdom of Bahrain, on its own behalf and on behalf of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, in response to these concerns.

27 CHINA – NEW EXPORT CONTROL LAW

27.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by Japan concerning the compliance with international security standards and conformity with WTO rules of a Chinese draft export control law intended to consolidate various existing export control provisions in a single draft. The Council also took note of the statements made by the European Union and the United States; and of the statement made by China in response to these concerns.

27.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union and Japan reiterating their concerns over the Chinese draft export control law, and in particular with regard to the scope of products subject to restrictions, the disclosure of technical information at export, and the measures adopted by other countries in response to China's export control measures. The Council also took note of the statement made by Korea; and of the statement made by China in response to these concerns.

27.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by Japan reiterating its concerns over the Chinese export control law, including with regard to the scope of products subject to restrictions, the disclosure of technical information at export, and the responsive measures against control measures by other countries. The Council also took note of the statements made by the European Union and Korea, and of the responses provided by China.

28 VIET NAM – DECREE ON THE REGULATION ON CONDITIONS FOR AUTOMOBILES MANUFACTURING, ASSEMBLING, IMPORTING, AND AUTOMOTIVE WARRANTY AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES – REQUEST FROM JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES

28.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by Japan and the United States concerning Viet Nam's Decree 116/2018, which established the submission of a quality certificate issued by foreign authorities for the importation of automobiles into Viet Nam. The Council also took note of the statements made by Canada, the European Union, and Thailand; and of the statement made by Viet Nam in response to these concerns.

28.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council again took note of the statements made by Japan and the United States concerning Viet Nam's Decree 116/2018; and of the statements made by Canada, the European Union, the Russian Federation, and Thailand on this issue. The Council also took note of the statement made by Viet Nam in response to these concerns.

28.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council again took note of the statements made by Japan and the United States concerning Viet Nam's Decree 116/2018; and of the statements made by Canada, the European Union, Mexico, the Russian Federation, and Thailand. The Council also took note of Viet Nam's response to these concerns.

29 MONGOLIA – QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS AND PROHIBITIONS ON IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS – REQUEST FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

29.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by the Russian Federation concerning Mongolia's quantitative restrictions and prohibitions on the importation of certain agricultural products, including flour and milk, and their subsequent import prohibition. The Council also took note of the statement made by Mongolia in response to these concerns.

29.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council again took note of the statement made by the Russian Federation on the quantitative restrictions and prohibitions on the importation of certain agricultural products, particularly with regard to their compliance with GATT Article IX and Article 4.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture. The Council also took note of the statement made by Mongolia in response to these concerns.

29.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council again took note of the statement made by the Russian Federation, echoed by Australia, Canada, and Kazakhstan, concerning the quantitative restrictions and prohibitions on the importation of certain agricultural products applied by Mongolia. The Council also took note of the response provided by Mongolia.

30 INDIA – QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTION ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN PULSES

30.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by Australia reiterating its concerns over India's lack of notification of a 300,000 tonne quantitative restriction (QR) on imports of beans of the species *Vigna Mungo Hepper* or *Vigna Radiata Wilzceck*.¹² The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, the European Union, Japan, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, and the United States; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

30.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by Australia, Canada and the United States on India's restrictions on imports of pulses, the lack of clarification concerning India's notification of its QR to the Committee on Market Access, the announced additional quantitative restrictions on peas, and the application of a 7% export incentive to exports of chickpeas. The Council also took note of the statements made by the European Union, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, Singapore, and Ukraine; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

30.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by Australia, Canada, the European Union, the Russian Federation, and the United States on the quantitative restrictions imposed by India on the import of beans, yellow peas, chickpeas, and other pulses. The Council also took note of the statements made by New Zealand and Ukraine; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

31 CHINA – CUSTOMS DUTIES ON CERTAIN INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

31.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union, Japan, Chinese Taipei, and the United States concerning a change in China's applied duty rates for semiconductor products and the calculation it had used for the transposition of tariffs of CMOs.¹³ The Council also took note of the statements made by Korea, Singapore, and Switzerland; and of the statement made by China in response to these concerns.

31.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union and Japan, and the United States reiterating concerns about a change in China's applied duty rates for semiconductor products and the calculation it had used for the transposition of tariffs of CMOs. The Council also took note of the statements made by Korea, Singapore, Switzerland, and Chinese Taipei; and of the statement made by China in response to these concerns.

31.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by the European Union, Japan, and Chinese Taipei relating to the customs duties imposed by China on certain integrated circuits. The Council also took note of the statements made by Korea, Switzerland, and the United States; and of the statement made by China in response to these concerns.

32 PAKISTAN – MEASURES RELATING TO SUGAR EXPORTS

32.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by Australia and Thailand reiterating concerns already raised at the CoA over Pakistan's use of subsidies to support sugar exports and about their potential dampening effect on sugar prices. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, the European Union, and Guatemala; and of the statement made by Pakistan in response to these concerns.

¹² Australia had already raised this issue at the CTG meeting of 10 November 2017, under the title "India – Quantitative Restrictions on Imports of Beans of the Species *Vigna Mungo Hepper* or *Vigna Radiata Wilzceck*". The issue had also been raised at the Committee on Agriculture.

¹³ This concern had already been raised by the European Union, Chinese Taipei, and the United States at the CTG's meeting of 10 November 2017.

32.2. At its meeting of 12 November, under the title "Pakistan – Measures Relating to Sugar Subsidies", the Council took note of the statements made by Australia and the European Union regarding Pakistan's export subsidies to sugar exports. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, El Salvador, the Russian Federation, and Thailand; and of the statement made by Pakistan in response to these concerns.

33 INDIA – MEASURES RELATING TO SUGAR EXPORTS

33.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by Australia and Thailand reiterating concerns already raised at the CoA over India's overproduction of sugar, including substantial new financial support. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, the European Union, and Guatemala; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

33.2. At its meeting of 12 November, under the title "India – Measures Relating to Sugar Subsidies", the Council took note of the statements made by Australia and the European Union regarding India's subsidies applied to sugar. The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, and Thailand; and of the statement made by India in response to these concerns.

34 CHINA – MEASURES RESTRICTING THE IMPORT OF SCRAP MATERIALS – REQUEST FROM THE UNITED STATES

34.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by the United States concerning China's measures, notified to the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), banning or limiting the import of scrap materials, including paper, plastics, and ferrous and non-ferrous scrap and wires. The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Canada, the European Union, and New Zealand; and of the statement made by China in response to this concern.

34.2. At its meeting on 3 July, the Council again took note of the statement made by the United States reiterating its concerns over China's measures notified to the TBT Committee, banning or limiting the import of scrap material, as well as setting new border inspection and identification rules for materials considered by China as "waste". The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Canada, the European Union, and Korea; and of the statement made by China in response to this concern.

34.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by the United States reiterating its concerns over China's ban on imports of scrap materials and the border inspections and identification rules for materials considered as waste. The Council also took note of the statements made by Australia, Canada, the European Union, and New Zealand; and of the statement made by China in response to these concerns.

35 EUROPEAN UNION – AMENDMENTS TO THE DIRECTIVE 2009/28/EC, RENEWABLE ENERGY DIRECTIVE (RED) – REQUEST FROM MALAYSIA

35.1. At its meeting of 23 March, under agenda item "Other Business", the Council took note of the statement made by Malaysia about the discriminatory treatment provided to biofuels and bio-liquids from palm oil in the amendments proposed to RED, which would not be counted towards the EU renewable energy targets from 2021. The Council also took note of the statements made by Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Thailand; and of the statement made by the European Union in response to these concerns.

35.2. At its meeting of 3 July, under agenda item "Other Business", the Council took note of the statement made by Malaysia reiterating its concerns over the discriminatory treatment provided to biofuels and bio-liquids from palm oil in the amendments proposed to RED being discussed in Brussels. The Council also took note of the statements made by Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, and Thailand; and of the statement made by the European Union in response to these concerns.

36 UNITED STATES – PROHIBITIVE PROPOSAL ON COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES RELEASED BY THE FCC – REQUEST FROM CHINA

36.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by China on an announcement made by the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) prohibiting the use of the Universal Service Fund to purchase equipment or services from any communications equipment or service providers identified as posing a national security risk to the United States communications networks or the US communications supply chain. The Council also took note of the statement made by the United States in response to this concern.

36.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council again took note of the statement made by China on this issue; and of the statement made by the United States in response to this concern.

37 UNITED STATES – MEASURES ON AVIATION SECURITY EQUIPMENT – REQUEST FROM CHINA

37.1. At its meeting of 23 March, under agenda item "Other Business", the Council took note of the statement made by China about the conformity assessment procedures (CAPs) conducted by the Transportation Security Administration of the United States (TAS), which were not in compliance with the national treatment principle as CAPs to aviation security equipment of Chinese origin were not accepted or delayed. The Council also took note of the statement made by the United States in response to this concern.

37.2. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by China about the CAPs conducted by the TAS, reiterating that the US authority responsible for TSA applications did not explain the reasons for rejection of the applications that had been submitted by Chinese companies. The Council also took note of the statement made by the US in response to this concern.

37.3. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council again took note of the statement made by China about the CAPs conducted by the TAS. The Council also took note of the statement made by the US in response to this concern.

38 UNITED STATES – SAFEGUARD MEASURES AGAINST IMPORTED SILICON PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS – REQUEST FROM CHINA

38.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Council took note of the statement made by China on the United States measures affecting silicon photovoltaic cells, and on what China considered was a flawed determination on surge of imports, serious injury, unforeseen developments, causal link, and lack of transparency. The Council also took note of the statements made by the European Union, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, and Switzerland; and of the statement made by the United States in response to these concerns.

39 EUROPEAN UNION – QUALITY SCHEMES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND FOODSTUFFS – THE REGISTRATION OF THE TERM "DANBO" AS GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (GI) – REQUEST FROM THE UNITED STATES AND URUGUAY

39.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statements made by the United States and Uruguay expressing their concerns over the registration by the European Union, without notification, of the term "Danbo" as a GI, ignoring the existence of Codex Stan – 264 of 1996; and of the use of the term "Havarti", on which there also existed a Codex Stan, which had been adopted in 2007 and reconfirmed in 2008 and 2010. The Council also took note of the statements made by Argentina and New Zealand; and of the statement made by the European Union in response to these concerns.

39.2. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council again took note of the statements made by the United States and Uruguay reiterating their concerns over the registration by the European Union of the term "Danbo" as a GI. The Council also took note of the statements made by Argentina and New Zealand; and of the statement made by the European Union in response to these concerns.

40 EUROPEAN UNION – DRAFT IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS REGARDING PROTECTED DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS, TRADITIONAL TERMS, LABELLING AND PRESENTATION OF CERTAIN WINE SECTOR PRODUCTS – REQUEST FROM ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED STATES

40.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statements made by Argentina and the United States in relation to concerns already expressed at the TBT Committee over the EU's revision to the draft implementing regulations regarding protected designation of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine sector products. The Council also took note of the statement made by Australia; and of the response provided by the European Union.

41 UNITED STATES - SECTION 301 – REQUEST FROM CHINA

41.1. At its meeting of 23 March, under agenda item "Other Business", the Council took note of the statement made by China on the final conclusions of the United States' investigation under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, released on 22 March 2018, and which contradicted the panel's report on DS152 (*United States – Sections 301 – 310 of the Trade Act 1974*). The Council also took note of the statements made by the European Union, and Japan; and of the statement made by the United States in response to China's concerns.

42 HAITI'S MODIFICATION OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS AND APPLICATION OF TARIFFS HIGHER THAN THE LEVEL BOUND IN HAITI'S SCHEDULE XXVI – REQUEST FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

42.1. At its meeting of 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the Dominican Republic on Haiti's renegotiations under GATT Articles XXIV and XXVIII following its accession to the Caribbean Community (CARIBCOM). The Council also took note of the statements made by Brazil, Canada, Japan, and the United States; and of the statement made by Haiti in response to these concerns.

43 HAITI – BAN ON THE OVERLAND EXPORT OF 23 PRODUCTS FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TO HAITI – REQUEST FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

43.1. At its meeting on 3 July, the Council took note of the statement made by the Dominican Republic concerning Haiti's ban, since 2015, on the overland exportation of 23 products, representing almost 60 tariff lines, for 37% of which Haiti was the major importer.¹⁴ The Council also took note of the statement made by Haiti in response to this concern.

44 UNITED STATES – EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN ENTERPRISE OF CHINA – REQUEST FROM CHINA

44.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by China regarding the inclusion of a Chinese enterprise to the Entity List of Export Controls, which prohibits US companies from exporting products, software and technology necessary to the operation of the Chinese company in question, based on national security considerations. The Council also took note of the statement made by the United States in response to this concern.

45 AUSTRALIA – DISCRIMINATORY MARKET ACCESS PROHIBITION ON 5G EQUIPMENT – REQUEST FROM CHINA

45.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the statement made by China concerning the prohibition to participate in 5G projects imposed by Australia on two Chinese companies. The Council also took note of the statement made by Australia in response to this concern.

¹⁴ This issue had already been raised at the meeting of the Committee on Market Access.

46 WORK PROGRAMME ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE

46.1. At its meeting of 23 March, the Chairperson recalled that Ministers in Buenos Aires had adopted the decision contained in document WT/MIN(17)/65¹⁵ on the "Work Programme on Electronic Commerce" (Work Programme, or WPEC). In that Decision, Ministers had agreed to continue the work under the existing Work Programme since their last session, based on the existing mandate as set out in document WT/L/274, adopted on 25 September 1998, and endeavour to reinvigorate the work of the WTO on electronic commerce (E-Commerce). To this end, the Decision had also instructed the General Council to hold periodic reviews in its sessions of July and December 2018, and July 2019, based on the reports submitted by the relevant bodies, among them the Goods Council; and to maintain the current practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions. To fulfil the renewed mandate, the E-Commerce issue had been included as a stand-alone agenda item and, in this vein, the Chairperson invited delegations to continue to express their opinions and to make suggestions as to how to work on this issue in the future.

46.2. The Chairperson also informed Members of two non-papers that had been tabled by Chinese Taipei as JOB documents under the General Council, the Goods, Services, and TRIPs Councils, and the Committee on Trade and Development¹⁶; and the Council took note of the statements made by Chinese Taipei introducing its submissions, and of the statements made by China, Cuba, Japan, Norway, Panama, and South Africa, commenting on these submissions.

46.3. The Council also took note of the statement made by China reiterating its proposal that a workshop on electronic commerce and trade in goods be organized¹⁷ in 2018 under the aegis of the CTG; and of the statements made by Argentina, Costa Rica, the European Union, Mexico, Nigeria, and Pakistan, with regard to this initiative.

46.4. At its meeting of 3 July, the Chairperson recalled the mandate contained in document WT/MIN(17)/65¹⁸, adopted by Ministers in Buenos Aires in December 2017; and, with a view to fulfilling the mandate given to this Council to report to the General Council at its July 2018 meeting about the discussions that had taken place on E-Commerce in the CTG, invited delegations to make their statements and suggestions on this matter.

46.5. The Council took note of the statements made by China and Pakistan on a "Workshop on E-Commerce for Development under the Multilateral Trading System", and on a follow-up activity held in Beijing and Geneva, respectively; and the statement made by Australia welcoming discussions in the CTG under the 1998 WPEC.

46.6. The Council took note of the information provided by the Chairperson on the informal consultations that he had held in May and June 2018 on a possible workshop on cross-border E-Commerce and Trade in Goods. The Council also took note of the statements made by China, the European Union, Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei, and the United States on this issue, and of the conclusion by the Chairperson that he would continue the consultations on this issue with interested delegations in open-ended mode.

46.7. The Council agreed that, in order to fulfil the Buenos Aires mandate, the Chairperson would make, on his own responsibility, a purely factual report to the General Council in July 2018, based on the discussions that had been held in this Council in April and July 2018.¹⁹

46.8. At its meeting of 12 November, the Chairperson recalled the mandate contained in document WT/L/1032, adopted by Ministers at the Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires, in December 2017; and informed delegations about the open-ended informal consultations that had taken place on 2 November 2018 on a possible workshop on Cross-Border E-Commerce and Trade in Goods. The Council took note of the statements made by Brazil, China, and Nigeria.

¹⁵ See document WT/L/1032.

¹⁶ Communications from Chinese Taipei (JOB/GC/170, JOB/CTG/12 -JOB/SERV/277 - JOB/IP/29 - JOB/DEV/53, and JOB/GC/171 - JOB/CTG/13 - JOB/SERV/278 - JOB/IP/30 - JOB/DEV/54).

¹⁷ See document G/C/M/127, paragraph 19.9.

¹⁸ See document WT/L/1032

¹⁹ See document G/C/W/60.

46.9. The Council also agreed that, in order to fulfil the Buenos Aires mandate, the Chairperson would make, on his own responsibility, a purely factual report to the General Council, in December 2018, based on the discussions held in this Council in November 2018.

47 CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS

47.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council took note of the annual reports of its subsidiary bodies.²⁰ The Annual Reports of the Committees on Agriculture, Customs Valuation, and Technical Barriers to Trade would be submitted directly to the General Council at its December 2018 meeting.

48 ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL

48.1. At its meeting of 12 November, the Council adopted its Annual Report (2018) to the General Council.

²⁰ TRIMs (G/L/1273 and G/TRIMS/8); Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (G/L/1272 and G/SCM/152); Anti-dumping (G/L/1270 and G/ADP/25); Safeguards (G/L/1275 and G/SG/190); Market Access (G/L/1271); Import Licensing (G/L/1269); Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (G/L/1280); ITA (G/L/1278); Pre-shipment Inspection and Independent Entity (G/L/1274); Rules of Origin (G/L/1266); Trade Facilitation (G/L/1267); and Working Party on State Trading Enterprises (G/L/1268 and G/STR/21).