

# 2006 WTO Public Forum

## World Trade Organizaion - WTO Public Forum 2006

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**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

The WTO in Buenos Aires: The outcome and its significance for the future of the multilateral trading system

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**1 INTRODUCTION**

In December 2001, World Trade Organization (WTO) members met in Buenos Aires for the eighth ministerial conference. The meeting was preceded by a period of intense negotiations, including the Uruguay Round (Uruguay, 1986). They had great success in the preceding rounds, but global trade landscape had been thrown into the fire by the US administration's hawkish stance on trade, particularly regarding agriculture. The Uruguay Round was followed by the formation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the US-South Korea Bilateral Free Trade Agreement (Bilateral Free Trade Agreement, 1994). The Uruguay Round was followed by the formation of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1995 (WTO, 1995). The "jewel" in the multilateral system's crown—the dispute settlement mechanism (Dispute Settlement Body, DSB) was established in 1994. The DSB has since become one of the most important instruments to its appellate body (Bridges, 2007a; Shaffer, Eng, & Petrucci, 2017), and it has been instrumental in settling disputes between member states over issues such as subsidies, use of anti-dumping and countervailing duties as well as in access, border and patent disputes.

Challenges to the established trade order were not limited to North America alone, however. The United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union (EU) in 2016, and the subsequent government's decision to begin the process of withdrawing the UK from the EU, in single market and its consequences have had significant implications for the global economy. The UK's departure from the single European market relations, including with the European Union, has led to a significant shift in the UK's international trade relations. The UK's departure from the EU has also had significant implications for the global economy, particularly in Asia and the Pacific (see, among others, Hoyle, 2017; March, 2017; Pekkarinen, 2017). The UK's departure from the EU has also had significant implications for the global economy, particularly in Asia and the Pacific (see, among others, Hoyle, 2017; March, 2017; Pekkarinen, 2017). The UK's departure from the EU has also had significant implications for the global economy, particularly in Asia and the Pacific (see, among others, Hoyle, 2017; March, 2017; Pekkarinen, 2017). The UK's departure from the EU has also had significant implications for the global economy, particularly in Asia and the Pacific (see, among others, Hoyle, 2017; March, 2017; Pekkarinen, 2017). These decisions had an inevitable effect on the proceedings process—though they do not, in themselves, determine the future of the organization on either a national or international level.

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### SCCI Session at WTO Public Forum 2006

### 2006 WTO Public Forum WTO for the XXIst : 25

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### 2006 Wto Public Forum

The anniversary marked the important role that the WTO has played in creating a level playing field in international trade relations, continuing the mission of GATT of 1947. The session stressed the desire of South Asian countries to bring the WTO negotiations back on track.

### 2006 Wto Public Forum

This year I call upon you to join hands with WTO Members in reflecting on the type of WTO that we would like to see in the XXIst Century. Internet Explorer 6 was released in 2001 and it does not display modern web sites properly. Recently, the Doha talks have been postponed over which the South Asian business community is disappointed.

### 2006 WTO Public Forum (2007 edition)

The objective of the Forum was to stimulate discussions among stakeholders and participants about significant WTO issues.

### 2006 WTO Public Forum (2007 edition)

The SCCI President, Dasho Ugen Tsechup Dorji addressed the session and stated that the South Asian countries have a strong desire to bring the WTO negotiations back on track. Welcome The WTO celebrated its 10th anniversary last year.

## **2006 WTO Public Forum WTO for the XXIst : 25**

It tackled issues that must be addressed to successfully conclude the Doha Round of negotiations without suppressing the interest of the developing countries.

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