

**PUBLIC FORUM 2022**  
**TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE RECOVERY: AMBITION TO ACTION**  
**(As of 30 August)**

**27 September 2022**

**10:00-10:45**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Opening	Face-to-Face	World Trade Organization (WTO)	

**11:00-12:45**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Plenary debate	Towards a Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery: Ambition to Action	World Trade Organization (WTO)	The world is faced with a polycrisis, marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis, increased geopolitical tensions and threats to global food security. Leaders from international organisations, the private sector and academia will spark a conversation on how international trade is part of the solution to the challenges that humanity is facing, and what needs to be done to foster a sustainable and inclusive post-pandemic recovery. The panellists will examine how the WTO can be a catalyser for the global transition to a green economy and assist the technological transformation ensuring that all countries, businesses, and individuals can reap the benefits of the digital transformation. Drawing on the lessons learnt from the polycrisis, the panellists will also consider ways of improving preparedness for future pandemics and other shocks.

**12:45-14:00**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Meet the Author	Trade Links New Rules for a New World	World Trade Organization (WTO)	This book spells out in fascinating detail the multitude of links that are increasingly connecting the global population and brilliantly explains why sustainable development is a critical issue for the 21st century. Jim Bacchus describes how the multilateral trade rules can and must be upgraded and implemented to avoid disaster and to secure the benefits that could flow to all mankind, illustrating in captivating detail why

			today and in the future, self-interest constitutes shared interest. He explores solutions to combat future pandemics and climate change, and advance sustainable development. All while continuing to foster free trade.
<b>14:00-15:15</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Leveraging Digital Tools to Connect MSMEs with Global Markets	Misión Permanente de México ante la OMC International Trade Centre (ITC) WTO Informal Working Group on MSMEs	MSMEs are the backbone of the global economy and their engagement is pivotal for ensuring an inclusive and resilient global economy. Yet, their scarce resources often limit their capacities to engage in the global marketplace and to seek out the information and tools that are critical to harnessing new opportunities. With the emergence of digital platforms and various trade-related online tools, firms are better equipped to confront the challenges and opportunities that international trade can bring.  This session explores key digital platforms and resources designed specifically to assist MSMEs in making informed business decisions, getting access to finance, finding the right business partners, and successfully completing their export transaction. It looks at concrete tools and initiatives that focus on connecting MSMEs to regional and global markets.
Working Session	Inclusive Trade Agenda: Enabling Women Traders in the Wake of COVID-19	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)	The COVID-19 pandemic has halted or reversed decades of progress in achieving gender equality that lies at the heart of sustainable development. Evidence on the impact of COVID-19 demonstrates that the pandemic has deepened pre-existing inequalities and vulnerabilities, especially for micro-entrepreneurs and women, small-scale cross-border traders who handle a significant volume of trade in African countries. War-induced crises are also negatively impacting vulnerable segments of the population.  Inherent in the crises are opportunities to transform the trading paradigm through actions that promote women's equal and meaningful participation in trade and entrepreneurship opportunities. This session, organized by UNCTAD, TradeMark Africa and UNECA, will discuss traders' resilience and innovative strategies they have devised to survive in times of crisis. It will

			also recommend policies and interventions needed to minimize the pandemic- and war-induced economic shock, increase the role of cross-border trade for food security, and build more equitable and inclusive economies.
Working Session	Open, Sustainable, and Resilient Trade is Essential to Ensure Food Security and Livelihoods	CropLife International (CLI) World Farmers' Organization (WFO)	<p>Feeding and caring for a growing global population plagued by chronic hunger, malnutrition, structural inequalities, ongoing conflict, and economic and health crises, all while dealing with climate change and other environmental challenges requires diverse, resilient, inclusive, and sustainable food systems. Agricultural technology and digital value chain solutions - as well as open and fair trade - are indispensable elements that can change the way food is produced, traded, and consumed, by increasing efficiency, reducing transaction costs, and creating equal opportunities for all.</p> <p>This session will act as a call for immediate action to balance the demand for nutritious food within planetary boundaries and will demonstrate how the use of modern technologies in agriculture and a broader digitalization of the value chain can accelerate the transition to more sustainable food systems.</p>
Working Session	Is Nature the Trade-Off?	International Chamber of Commerce United Kingdom (ICC United Kingdom)	<p>International trade is inextricably linked to biodiversity loss directly and indirectly. To deliver a trade agenda for a sustainable future, there is an urgent need to address the importance of biodiversity preservation within the trade/environment agenda and utilise innovative solutions to preserve biodiversity as we build back better. Despite being a driver of biodiversity loss, the role of international trade in helping combat biodiversity loss along the global supply chain has never been greater.</p> <p>With the hope of COP15 ending with a global agreement on biodiversity framework, it will require countries to address the underlying economic drivers of biodiversity loss throughout the global supply chain relying on international trade. This session aims to convene business representatives, negotiators, regulators, and experts to discuss the role of trade in biodiversity conservation. It focuses on practical solutions to overcome the</p>

			barriers to trade sustainably in line with post-2020 biodiversity framework.
Working Session	With a Little Help From my WTO-Friends: Dealing with Unconventional Trade Measures in a Post-Pandemic Reality	Federation of Industries of the State of Sao Paulo (FIESP)	<p>Over the past 30 years, the multilateral trading system has fostered unprecedented times of economic growth, stability, and peace. Currently, however, the WTO faces new challenges with growing concerns related to national security, climate change, energy transition, food security, health issues, and supply chain resilience. In a post-pandemic reality, trade policy is expected to become increasingly influenced by different policy concerns.</p> <p>This working session will explore how the multilateral framework will hold up to this new reality, striking a balance between, on the one hand, the need for a more sustainable and inclusive growth and, on the other, the tensions brought about by new forces shaping trade measures as well as by unconventional policies proliferating at the global level.</p>
Workshop	Supporting Underrepresented Exporters in the Global Recovery: From Theory to Practice	Global Affairs Canada (GAC)	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every corner of the world, every country, and every industry. Businesses owned by women, indigenous peoples, and other underrepresented groups were generally hard-hit, as they are more often found in services industries, located in remote communities, compelled to care for family members, or faced other challenges. It is vital for policymakers to ensure that these entrepreneurs can thrive in the global recovery.</p> <p>This session will share best-practices in supporting women, Indigenous peoples, and other entrepreneurs to succeed internationally. Speakers will take stock of the progress that has been made in the inclusion of underrepresented entrepreneurs in international trade and share initiatives that support them in the global recovery. The role of technology will be explored, including the importance of e-commerce and innovations in helping exporters reach global markets.</p>
Working Session	The Mont Blanc Scenarios: A Journey into the Future of Trade	Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)	<p>We would like to invite you to embark on a new journey to envision the future of trade, which should be short and pleasant. The future of the international trading system will be at the heart of this journey. Any imagination, any predictability about the future is difficult, is divergent, is diverse. To build a future</p>

			resilient and robust to external and internal shocks and respondent to the needs of all countries is a huge challenge. The aim of this journey is to present and discuss scenarios on the future of the international trading architecture which have been developed by a group of experts during the first half of 2022 who had no illusions about the challenges ahead. Finding satisfactory scenarios is not easy to achieve. But find them we must. Attention though, this session will not be a classic panel discussion. Curious? Join us!
Working Session	How to Use Trade Tools to Speed Up and Scale Up the Fight Against Climate Change	Georgetown Law's Center for Inclusive Trade & Development (CITD) AIG Global Trade Series	<p>The world will not be able to achieve the speed or scale of transformation needed to fight climate change unless trade policy and climate change policy are brought together and those trade tools that can contribute to fighting climate change are fully utilized. This panel will explore three trade tools (tariffs, subsidy disciplines and technical regulations) that can be used in the fight against climate change, presenting the latest thinking on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) the use of Carbon Border Adjustments (CBAMs) and the steps necessary to ensure WTO consistency while creating strong incentives for decarbonization;</li> <li>2) the implications of increased government support for decarbonization, the potential frictions with WTO rules on subsidies and an approach for WTO-consistent "green" subsidies; and</li> <li>3) the potential to use regulations, standards and labelling to marshal the power of consumers and transparent markets to promote greater consumption of low-carbon goods and avoidance of high-carbon goods.</li> </ol>
Information session	MC12 Geneva Package: Agriculture	WTO Agriculture and Commodities Division (WTO)	WTO Members adopted during the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference a Declaration on the Emergency Response to Food Insecurity and a Decision on the Exemption of WFP Food Purchases from Export Prohibitions or Restrictions. These two outcomes demonstrated WTO's ability to deliver concrete results to address contemporary challenges facing the global community.

			This session will give participants an opportunity to enhance their understanding of and discuss the outcomes that were agreed in June and their possible follow up. It will also discuss more broadly the state of play in the WTO agriculture negotiations and current efforts to revitalize these negotiations which commenced in 2000. Participants will have the opportunity to express their views on how WTO Members could build on the renewed momentum to make substantive progress in the negotiations overcoming the myriad of challenges that have been encountered.
<b>15:45-17:00</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Food Security as a Key Element of a More Resilient, Sustainable, and Inclusive Trading System	Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) European Parliament (EP)	<p>Concerns over global food insecurity have emerged as one of the most pressing current issues, in particular in view of the ongoing war in Ukraine, one of the world's top exporters of key agricultural products. This adds to the already severe situation caused by COVID-19, which has led to soaring prices for agricultural products and their inputs. Therefore, finding solutions for improved resilience in global food supply chains remains a top priority.</p> <p>In this panel, Members will seek to address food security fears by looking at what steps can be taken, in particular by Parliamentarians, to facilitate trade's central role in ensuring that food is available to those in need, while also addressing the concerns of producers regarding the need to ensure sufficient domestic supply.</p>
Workshop	The Trade System Is Changing: Can it Deliver for the Future?	International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	The trade system is changing. Under pressure to simultaneously deliver results that help economies leverage technology for recovery and support ambitious environmental objectives, while also addressing historic inequities among countries at different levels of development, rule-making is changing shape. Plurilateral negotiations on new rules, as well as initiatives on environmental priorities are underway. Regional and national stakeholders, including business and consumers, are increasingly looking to trade policy for solutions that help advance other policy priorities, from economic growth and

			<p>development to fair trade and to environmental protection.</p> <p>The MC12 outcomes show the WTO can respond to these imperatives, but also how difficult it is to produce agreements that live up to expectations. This interactive, audience-led session will explore how the system of trade rules, and the process of their development, is changing, and will ask what these developments mean for the future of trade policy.</p>
Working Session	How trade can support the sustainable production of agricultural commodities	<p>Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva</p> <p>Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the WTO and other International Economic Organizations in Geneva</p> <p>Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra</p> <p>Misión Permanente del Ecuador ante la OMC y otros Organismos Económicos Internacionales con sede en Ginebra</p> <p>Mission permanente de la Suisse près l'OMC et l'AELE (CEE/ONU, CNUCED, CCI)</p>	<p>The FAO projects that the world needs to produce about 50% more agricultural commodities by 2050 than in 2012. This increased productivity must occur with efficient use of natural resources including land, reduced emissions, and enhanced resilience. Agriculture is both a victim – decreasing yields and shifting agroecosystem boundaries – and a cause of climate change – generating significant greenhouse gas emissions and contributing to deforestation. Transition towards more sustainability in agricultural production and food systems is essential.</p> <p>A diverse panel – representing consuming and producing countries, international organisations and NGOs operating in the area of sustainable agriculture – will examine the role of international trade in implementing this transition in a way that leaves no one behind, assures the quality of life of producers including the most vulnerable, reflects consumers’ desire for improved sustainability of the goods they buy, and meets the world’s environmental, food security and development needs.</p>
Working Session	Leveraging Technology to Enable Inclusive Finance for WSME Resilience in Global Trade	<p>Organization of Women in International Trade, United Kingdom (OWIT UK)</p> <p>2X Collaborative, Germany (2X Collaborative)</p>	<p>The Organisation of Women in International Trade, United Kingdom Chapter (OWIT UK) and the 2X Collaborative, a global industry body for gender lens financing (convening investors and capital providers) will co-host a working session for WTO Public Forum 2022. This session will examine private sector innovations in digital finance, fintech, and trade finance with the landscape of gender lens financing supported by DFIs and governments to strengthen economic growth and resilience for WSMEs.</p> <p>Expert representatives from the leading gender lens investment</p>

			partnership created by G7 DFI members, fintech experts in trade finance, UK Government, NGOs, inter-governmental organisations, and global trade experts, will share best practices leveraging digitalization for financing for the benefit of all stakeholders. Session outcomes will demonstrate gender lens investing avenues for success using digital finance solutions to enable WSME resilience and recovery from supply chain constraints and disruptions in global trade.
Working Session	How Another Expansion of the WTO's Information Technology Agreement (ITA-3) Would Drive Inclusivity, De-Carbonization, Medical Innovation, Sustainability, and Supply Chain Resilience for Both Developed and Developing Economies Alike	Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Foundation (SEIPI)	<p>The pandemic highlighted the importance of ICT in supporting essential activities in a global crisis and building a more resilient and sustainable society. Many products covered by ITA-2 in 2015 proved indispensable in helping the world develop new treatments for COVID-19, facilitated virtual work and education, and laid the groundwork for a post-pandemic economic recovery. However, not a single product has been added to the ITA agreement since 2015, even though the tech sector is bursting with innovation.</p> <p>Join the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) and the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Foundation (SEIPI) to explore the critical role of an ITA3 in bridging the digital divide, helping address climate change, promoting remote healthcare solutions, and making supply chains more resilient for both developing and developed countries. The session will also discuss the importance of expanding ITA membership.</p>
Working Session	Recent Trends in Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanisms: Technical, Legal, Trade and Economic Policy Considerations from the Perspective of Emerging Economies	Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI)	<p>The session will give the floor to trade specialists, industry representatives, and academics to provide an overview of carbon border adjustment mechanisms (CBAMs), also known as border carbon adjustments (BCAs), some of them soon-to-be published or being considered by some countries. Panellists will provide technical, legal, trade and economic policy considerations taking into account the perspective of emerging economies also fighting climate change.</p> <p>Discussions will cover operational and implementation aspects; compatibility of such measures with multilateral trading rules and possible paths for future negotiations involving WTO rules; how existing WTO bodies can help in the discussion of CBAMs</p>

			and the interface between trade and climate ensuring an inclusive trade agenda; and political considerations such as the relation between CBAMs and the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, as well as compliance of international climate commitments by affected trading partners.
Working Session	How Can Trade and Trade Policy Contribute to a More Resilient and Sustainable Fashion Apparel Supply Chain in the Post-COVID Recovery?	University of Delaware (UDEL)	<p>Apparel is a \$2.5 trillion global business, involving over 120 million workers worldwide and playing a uniquely critical role in the post-COVID economic recovery. The session intends to facilitate constructive dialogue regarding the progress, challenges, and opportunities of building a more resilient and sustainable fashion apparel supply chain in the post-COVID world, which matters significantly to all stakeholders, from fashion brands, garment workers, policymakers to ordinary consumers. The session will help you understand:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Why does building a more resilient and sustainable fashion apparel supply chain matter in the post-COVID world? What role can trade and trade policy play?</li> <li>2) What significant progress has made the apparel supply chain more resilient and sustainable? What key challenges remain and why?</li> <li>3) What needs to be done further to make the apparel supply chain more resilient and sustainable, particularly in the setting of the post-COVID world?</li> </ol>
Working Session	Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Dispute Resolution: Mediation as an Alternative to Expensive and Inconclusive Litigation	GenevaTradeLaw.com (GTL)	<p>At MC12, Ministers committed themselves “to conduct discussions with the view to having a fully and well-functioning dispute settlement system accessible to all Members by 2024.” This panel explores the importance to achieving that objective of a strengthened and independent conciliation and mediation framework that empowers Members to resolve matters of trade concern through win-win, non-adversarial, and non-judicial processes.</p> <p>The panel will address:</p>

			<p>1) The benefits, and challenges, of the current formal dispute resolution mechanism (DRM);</p> <p>2) Members' process of "triage" to move most disputes out of the DRM;</p> <p>3) How the DRM is not an effective option for many developing and less developed countries, and indeed for some developed countries;</p> <p>4) Why alternative dispute resolution in the DSU has not had traction to date; and</p> <p>5) How would a strengthened conciliation and mediation framework, as a parallel procedure, ensure a more sustainable and accessible dispute resolution framework.</p>
<b>17:30-18:45</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Safeguarding Access to Food in Times of Crisis	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	<p>As the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated, agrifood trade plays a crucial role in facing shocks, connecting markets and people, and safeguarding access to food when disruptions occur. While the high food prices generate incentives for farmers to increase production of key commodities, such as wheat, maize and oilseeds, the rising agricultural input and energy prices and export restrictions constrain the ability of producers to scale up production and respond to import demand.</p> <p>This session will explore the extent to which major producing countries of key food commodities will be able to respond to the high food prices and compensate for the export gap created by shortfalls in supplies from Ukraine. It will also review trade policy reactions to the high food prices and compare them with the mitigation measures taken during previous crises. Finally, options for policy response and import financing needs of net food importing countries will be discussed.</p>
Working Session	MSMEs: The Key to Realising Sustainable Gains Under the AfCFTA	International Trade Centre (ITC) United Nations Economic	The AfCFTA is set to change Africa's production and trade landscape. To ensure sustainable gains from the Agreement, complementary interventions will be required to support Africa's

		Commission for Africa (UNECA)	<p>MSMEs to compete in a new green world. Firms and entrepreneurs taking advantage of AfCFTA opportunities will need to be incentivised to incorporate green production methods and adopt new green technologies. African governments will need to prioritise the production and trade of goods and services that are essential to tackling environmental challenges, and how natural resources can be utilised to develop green regional value chains under the AfCFTA.</p> <p>The session will answer the following questions: How can African policymakers set the rules of the game to ensure that implementation of the AfCFTA furthers sustainability goals? What supports are required to ensure that African MSMEs can go green? How can Africa's business support organisations be strengthened to enhance their sustainability offering to MSMEs?</p>
Working Session	Democratic Technological Development and Overcoming the Digital Divide in the post-Covid recovery	Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS) IT for Change (ITfC) Transnational Institute (TNI) transform! Europe (t!)	<p>The "Années folles" of the 21st century are marked by enormous economic shocks throughout the world on the one hand and a roaring digitalisation of the advanced economies on the other hand. The scramble for data is in full swing, as data is the new raw material on which to build the digital transformation of economies, while the level of development of digital technologies and e-commerce capacities promises a prosperous future - for some.</p> <p>The so-called "digital divide" may deepen cleavages in international trade for decades to come. In this working session, we will discuss how to shape a digital economic transformation that helps to establish a resilient, sustainable, and inclusive trading system for all.</p>
Working Session	The Overlapping Crises and Recovery: From Local Stories to WTO Agenda Setting	Permanent Mission of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO World Trade Institute (WTI)	<p>The crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic is already serious. Unfortunately, this crisis does not come in isolation. We currently face a set of overlapping crises, including, climate change, geopolitical tensions, and the war. These overlapping crises have exacerbated the economic situation in various parts of the world, and threaten the economic and sustainable recovery of many countries. The serious situation requires us to reflect on the role of the WTO and what it can do to respond to these complex crises.</p>

			<p>The aim of this session is to share local stories and narratives in terms of vulnerable economies and women empowerment, and then to discuss the roles and the functions of the WTO in light of these immediate concerns. Furthermore, the session will also examine how the multilateral agenda setting can contribute to creating sustainable economies.</p>
Working Session	The Prominent Role of Disruptive Technologies and E-Commerce for an Inclusive Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery: The Customs Perspective	<p>World Customs Organization (WCO) WCO Private Sector Consultative Group (WCO PSCG)</p>	<p>Use of disruptive technologies and a tremendous growth in e-commerce have played an important role in supporting WCO/WTO members during the COVID-19 pandemic. The role of customs in facilitating legitimate trade, including e-commerce, as well as customs' use of disruptive technologies will become even more important for an inclusive post-pandemic economic recovery.</p> <p>The panel will focus on how customs can contribute to a post-pandemic recovery through digitalization and transformation. It will also consider the role of disruptive technologies as well as facilitation of e-commerce for an inclusive recovery. The panel will discuss the importance of public-private partnerships to achieve these goals in terms of the accelerated implementation of technologies and facilitation of e-commerce for a fast recovery, from the Customs perspective. Panellists will also explore the important initiatives, programmes, and tools for supporting members in terms of the implementation of disruptive technologies and facilitation of e-commerce.</p>
Working Session	Post-MC12: What WTO Agenda for a Sustainable and Inclusive Future?	<p>Our World Is Not For Sale (OWINFS) East African Trade Union Confederation (EATUC) Rede Brasileira pela Integração dos Povos (REBRIP) Indonesia for Global Justice (IGJ)</p>	<p>In the aftermath of MC12, WTO Members must reckon with the shifting views on the role of multilateralism; global inequalities which were vastly exacerbated during the pandemic. Likewise, in many countries of all regions the old liberalization models are being complicated by an increased focus on securing domestic production in manufacturing, in medicines, and for food security. What implications does the new juncture have for ongoing mandates at the WTO, such as the Development Agenda or a Permanent Solution for Public Stockholding? How do the outcomes of MC12 portend for countries' ability to use trade to foment sustainable recovery, such as using strategies under the green new deal umbrella, including creating jobs in sustainability industries and digital industrialization? Will the increasing turn towards plurilaterals undermine the entire multilateralism of the</p>

			WTO? Is the WTO "reform" agenda headed in the right direction, and what direction should that be?
Working Session	Framing the Future: Inclusive Trade and Indigenous Peoples	National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) World Economic Forum (WEF) The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED)	<p>Indigenous peoples have been engaged in trade for millennia, but their businesses face particular challenges today. A sustainable, inclusive recovery requires trade policies that improve outcomes for indigenous peoples and involve them in their design and implementation. Some governments have started to take action, for instance through trade agreements like the Indigenous Peoples Economic and Trade Cooperation Arrangement (IPETCA).</p> <p>In this session, Indigenous leaders, businesses and advocates will discuss the relationship between trade and indigenous peoples, recent policy developments, barriers to trade faced by Indigenous businesses and ideas for how they may be overcome through indigenous-led, multistakeholder efforts and trade policy reform.</p>
Workshop	The Future of Services Trade is Sustainable	UK Professional and Business Services Council (PBSC)	<p>This session, organised by EY will bring together government officials, professional bodies, and service providers to explore the fundamental changes that environmental services trade is currently undergoing. The session will also delve into how technological developments are fundamentally changing how they are being traded. Ensuring the dissemination of knowledge and technical know-how is crucial to the development of environmental services providers in developing countries to support sustainable development. Drawing on their personal experiences of providing and developing cross-border environmental services, the panellists will discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will all services provided will have an environmental component in the future?</li> <li>• How to ensure that these the knowledge and delivery of these services are available to companies looking to build capacity in developing countries?</li> <li>• How best to harness the opportunities and challenges of digital technology to the provision of services, focusing on WTO initiatives including TESSD, e-commerce and domestic regulation?</li> </ul>

Working Session	WTO Gender Research Hub Think Up!	World Trade Organization (WTO)	The WTO Gender Research Hub discusses new findings on the link between trade and gender and proposes methodologies to improve research work on the topic. Trade and gender experts are brought together with stakeholders in the field to bring together legal and economic research and practical experience to provide a comprehensive and practical analysis of trade and gender issues.
<b>19:00</b>			
<b>Cocktail Reception Organised by the WTO Secretariat</b>			
<b>28 September 2022</b>			
<b>09:00-10:15</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Plenary debate	High-level panel: Leveraging Technology for an Inclusive Recovery	World Trade Organization (WTO)	New disruptive technologies allowed economic activity and trade to continue despite the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. While the expansion of digitisation across industries is accelerating, it is also widening the digital divide. A panel of global thought leaders will discuss how trade can bridge the existing gaps by leveraging technology to promote an inclusive economic recovery while ensuring a fair, safe and sustainable marketplace. The panellists will deliberate on how trade can support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in harnessing the power of technological change to better integrate into global economy. Drawing lessons from the current polycrisis, they will also examine how technology is essential to increase preparedness for future pandemics and other shocks.
<b>10:30-11:30</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Podcast	The Economist Asks the WTO Director-General	The Economist	
<b>11:30-12:45</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>

Working Session	WTO Agreement on Investment Facilitation for Development: Multilateral Action to Boost Resilient and Inclusive Economic Recovery	The Friends of Investment Facilitation for Development (FIFD)	<p>It is widely recognized that the upcoming Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement in the WTO will play a critical role in creating clear and consistent global benchmarks for investment facilitation, which will further support post-pandemic recovery and lay longer-term foundations for resilient and inclusive development.</p> <p>In line with the ambition to conclude the IFD text negotiations by the end of 2022, the working session will update the IFD negotiations and reflect on how WTO members could best make use of the future IFD Agreement to enhance their business climate, attract higher value-added investment, boost economic growth, and build a more resilient economy. Building on that, open discussions are encouraged to further exchange views on guiding principles for future implementation of the agreement and outline possible next steps.</p>
Working Session	Friend-shoring, concerted unilateralism and WTO reform	European University Institute (EUI)	<p>Rising geo-political tensions among major powers, amplified by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, increasing willingness by countries to link access to markets to pursuit of non-trade objectives, and inability of WTO members to resolve disagreements on a range of issues challenge the view that WTO can continue with business as usual. This panel will discuss two alternative viewpoints. One calls for WTO reforms that "fixes the machine" to better serve members in resolving disputes and supporting negotiation of new agreements. Another is that no feasible reform can address the fundamental tensions caused by differences in economic and political systems of the large powers and that what is needed is cooperation among like-minded nations ("friend-shoring") outside the WTO, including concerted (coordinated) unilateralism. The panel will consider the implications of a move towards "friend-shoring" for international business, global value chains and developing countries.</p>
Working Session	Increased Intra-African Trade to Support Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery: Devising and Applying a Gender Lens to the AfCFTA Protocol on Women	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat (AfCFTA Secretariat)	<p>The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement seeks to support sustainable and inclusive recovery through significant increases in intra-African trade. Given women's predominance as entrepreneurs and traders, these expected benefits will only be possible with women's full participation. The African Union Assembly's landmark decision to include an AfCFTA Protocol on Women and Youth in Trade presents an opportunity</p>

			<p>to further apply a gender lens in line with existing approaches to gender mainstreaming in the AfCFTA to ensure gains are widely distributed and that the AfCFTA ultimately contributes to sustainable and inclusive recovery through participation of women in trade.</p> <p>This working session will gather contributions to the approach to the AfCFTA protocol on women. Panellists will assess the effectiveness of relevant provisions in existing trade agreements, propose a public-private dialogue framework, and identify gaps leading up to the adoption of the protocol to support Africa's sustainable and inclusive recovery.</p>
Working Session	Food Security: What Trade Policies Balance Domestic Food Supply and Demand in Times of Crisis?	<p>Swiss Farmers Union (SFU)          Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA)          Norwegian Farmers Union (NFU)</p>	<p>Agriculture is prone to wild, volatile price swings due to economic and political factors. In combination with rising energy prices in 2021, global food and production prices increased to worrying levels. These high prices mean that many countries can no longer afford to buy enough food to feed their population. The international community is working towards ensuring open trade and supply of basic foodstuffs to mitigate the situation which is prone to deteriorate with climate change and further political instability.</p> <p>The current situation has led governments to rethink their strategy with respect to the importance of food security, control of domestic production entities and trade ties with accountable partners. This working session aims to address these challenges. The panellists will discuss various approaches to mitigate food insecurity and which trade policies would help balance domestic food supply and demand to improve food security in times of present and future crises.</p>
Working Session	Recovering Better: Building Viable, Sustainable and Equitable Access to Health Technologies	<p>WTO Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division (WTO IPD)</p>	<p>While COVID-19 vaccines, diagnostics and antivirals were developed and produced at unprecedented speed, access to those health technologies remains uneven across the world. What went well? What could be done better in the future? Taking a panoramic view - from financing strategies, pooled procurement mechanisms, technology transfer, regional diversification of manufacturing capacity and uptake - this working session will draw from real-life experiences of experts working in different fields.</p>

			<p>Speakers will share their perspectives on managing regional pooled procurement mechanisms; sharing technology and know-how globally; private sector R&amp;D, licensing and manufacturing; and insights and analysis from civil society. The working session will serve as platform for a practical, fact-based discussion on the lessons learned to foster sustainable and equitable access to health technologies, including nurturing ecosystems for resilient R&amp;D and manufacturing networks, as part of concrete actions towards strengthening health systems and fostering a sustainable and inclusive recovery.</p>
Working Session	Data for the Public Good: Implications for E-Commerce in the WTO	<p>Public Services International (PSI) Tricontinental Centre (CETRI) Alliance Sud</p>	<p>Cities and countries around the world are using digitalization to increase efficiency, transparency, and participation; improve and expand access to quality public services; and promote innovation and job creation; all while guaranteeing privacy and civil rights in the digital sphere. To accomplish this, many governments are using participatory models based on technological sovereignty.</p> <p>Yet, some technology corporations are seeking to enshrine their rights to control the harvesting, processing, transfer, storage, and data use for private benefit. They are seeking to accomplish this as a core aspect of new rules on digital trade under e-commerce talks currently underway at the WTO, as well as in bilateral and regional trade agreements. If governments are seeking to ensure that digitalization serve the common good for citizens, can they “trade away” their citizens’ rights to the data they produce? Is technological sovereignty and data in the public good a better path forward?</p>
Working Session	Trade x Technology x Capacity Building – Everybody Builds Back Better Together	<p>TCube Consulting LLP (TCube)</p>	<p>The only way to build back economic resilience and sustainability, stronger from COVID-19, is together. The WTO commitment to open and inclusive process to trade for sustainable growth and development was reconfirmed at MC12. Evidently, technology will have a substantial role in the rules-based, non-discriminatory, open, inclusive, equitable and transparent multilateral trading system. Technology-driven Capacity Building will have to be the cornerstone of such collaborative and inclusive action, without which, building back, with MC12 outcomes, will remain superficial.</p>

			<p>The success of technology-driven capacity building will hinge on a pivotal role for private sector, through organic, agile public-private partnerships, immersive stakeholder engagement, including vulnerable SMEs, and rethinking models of economic cooperation, to incorporate capacity building into trade agreements, for bespoke solutions to mainstream vulnerable groups and economies into global trade. This session will strategize on harnessing Trade x Technology for cooperation towards effective Capacity Building, to build back better together.</p>
Workshop	Intangibles and Their Growing Participation in the Generation of Value in International Trade	<p>Telefónica S.A.  Cámara Argentina de Comercio y Servicios (CAC)  MercadoLibre S.A.  International Chamber of Commerce Argentina (ICC Argentina)  Microsoft, Brazil (Microsoft)</p>	<p>The workshop will address the relevance of intangibles in international trade, contrasting with trade of goods. In addition, the panel will seek to highlight the dimension of intangibles, propose an adaptation of the regulatory conditions, of the statistical methodology, and finally analyse its role as a dimension mechanism of economic globalization.</p>
Information session	ePing – How to track and manage information on product requirements using ePing SPS&TBT Platform	WTO Trade and Environment Division (WTO)	<p>Early notice of changes in product requirements is essential to keep trade flowing, especially for SMEs. ePing gives users the platform to react, interact and adapt to potential changes. Users receive customised emails on a daily or weekly basis with notifications of regulatory changes. These alerts allows time to react by checking on ePing whether the measure affects them. They can then interact on ePing with other users in their country and with government officials who can help them obtain further information and convey concerns to trading partners.</p> <p>The objective of this session is to demonstrate how the recently launch ePing SPS&amp;TBT Platform allows users to react, interact and adapt to changes in market and product requirements. ePing is the one stop shop to keep up with the 6000 notifications circulated annually under the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).</p> <p>Visit the ePing SPS&amp;TBT Platform at <a href="https://eping.wto.org/">https://eping.wto.org/</a></p>
<b>12:45-14:00</b>			

Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
Meet the Author	Six Faces of Globalization Who Wins, Who Loses, and Why It Matters	World Trade Organization (WTO)	An essential guide to the intractable public debates about the virtues and vices of economic globalization, cutting through the complexity to reveal the fault lines that divide us and the points of agreement that might bring us together. Instead of picking sides, Six Faces of Globalization provides a holistic framework for understanding current debates. In doing so, the authors showcase a more integrative way of thinking about complex problems.
<b>14:00-15:15</b>			
Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
Working Session	The WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies: What happened at MC12 and What Comes Next?	World Trade Organization (WTO)	<p>The WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, adopted at the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) on 17 June 2022, marks a major step forward for ocean sustainability by prohibiting harmful fisheries subsidies, which are a key factor in the widespread depletion of the world's fish stocks. The Agreement represents a historic achievement for the membership as the first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target to be fully met, the first SDG target met through a multilateral agreement, the first WTO agreement to focus on the environment, the first broad, binding, multilateral agreement on ocean sustainability, and only the second agreement reached at the WTO since its inception.</p> <p>The objective of this session to provide an overview of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, how Members reached this ground-breaking result, and what the future agenda on fisheries subsidies at the WTO could look like.</p>
Working Session	Transformational Reforms to Build a 21st-Century Competitive Economy	National Competitiveness Center (NCC)	<p>KSA's Vision 2030 realized the global trade challenges, and transformed them into opportunities to improve inclusion and sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Globally by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Transforming Saudi into a global and regional trade hub; connecting the East with the West and facilitating global trade</li> <li>o revamping its logistics strategy for large scale trade</li> <li>o establishing economic zones and hubs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Investing in digital infrastructure</li> <li>• Locally – Implemented a collaborative model with the private sector and international organizations to develop reforms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Continuous policies consultations</li> <li>o Enhancing Government service efficiency</li> <li>o Opening up the country's e-commerce potential</li> <li>o Reducing trade overhead using digital technologies</li> <li>o Socio-economic reforms related to women inclusion and empowerment</li> <li>o Skills Development and Global Talent attraction</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>This session will bring together a panel of government and private sector representatives. Government panellists will cover the importance of agility and adaptiveness in government policies. Private sector panellists will showcase success stories and lessons learned and how to drive an impactful public-private collaboration.</p>
Working Session	From Free Trade to Fair Trade: Implications for SMEs in Developing Countries	Permanent Mission of the Republic of Ghana to the United Nations Office and Specialized Agencies in Geneva United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	<p>SMEs in developing countries often lack the capacity to participate in voluntary or sustainable standards (VSS) and are therefore excluded from sustainable GVCs. As a consequence, the demands and benefits of sustainable standards and regulation have not been fairly spread between industrialized economies and developing countries. The implications of emerging due diligence laws can thus be significant for developing countries engaged in cross-border trade, and could even present a barrier, especially for SMEs.</p> <p>Moreover, the potential duplication and fragmentation of national sustainability-related requirements calls for global partnership to align national requirements with international standards for regulatory coherence and take-up of international best practices. The emerging due diligence frameworks could also envisage technical and financial assistance to developing countries like for SPS and TBT trade agreements. This would allow for targeted initiatives to address fair trade standard compliance challenges of developing countries and build capacities among the public and the private sector.</p>

Working Session	Women at the Heart of Human-Centred Recovery for a Sustainable Future	<p>Organisation of Women in Trade, Brussels (OWIT Brussels)</p> <p>Organisation of Women in Trade, United Kingdom (OWIT UK)</p>	<p>Industry 4.0 has triggered a lot of rethinking of policies in terms of professions, independent workers and employment relationship, and work-life balance. This situation was exacerbated specially by COVID-19 that has radically changed the world, including our working lives and having women amongst those most adversely affected, consequently further widening gender inequalities. The continuing effects of both Industry 4.0 and the COVID-19 crisis presents challenges and opportunities requiring policymakers to carefully navigate them when designing gender-inclusive policies.</p> <p>This session will discuss the elements to strengthen the ecosystem for women at the heart of human-centred recovery for a sustainable future taking into account crucial links between social, trade, financial, economic and environmental policies. The panel will feature expert representatives from Canada, Belgium, Indonesia, Mexico and the United Kingdom who will share their experience on the ground and provide recommendations for WTO members to scale-up women’s role in a sustainable future.</p>
Working Session	Web 3.0 and the Metaverse: How the Next Phase of the Internet Can Support Equitable Development	XR Association (XRA)	<p>The growing role of data and technology has a palpable impact on trade and development in the real economy. In particular, much has been made of the metaverse, which has been called the successor to the mobile internet, the immersive internet, and the decentralized internet. It is driven by virtual/augmented reality devices that immerse users in digital spaces, and soon a new generation of devices that merge physical and digital experiences.</p> <p>These emerging technologies have the potential to disrupt traditional modes of commerce and economic development and offer new opportunities for individuals, businesses, and governments. How can policymakers leverage this revolution in technology development to drive inclusive growth? What standards and governance models should be in place to unlock their potential? This panel brings together global experts to define these new technologies and discuss what the metaverse will mean for the global economy, trade agreements, and the WTO.</p>

Working Session	The Agricultural-Livestock Production System and Trade as Part of the Solution to Climate Change	International Chamber of Commerce Argentina (ICC Argentina) Bolsa de Cereales de Buenos Aires (BC) European Farmers (European Agri-cooperatives) International Chamber of Commerce Italy (ICC Italy)	In this working session we will discuss about the central role and benefits of the agricultural-livestock production system and trade, in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goal 2 – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
Working Session	Services Trade, Digitalization and Post-Pandemic Recovery	S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai (SPJIMR) Örebro University School of Business (OUSB)	<p>Global services trade declined by 20 percent during 2020 with significant differences across countries, geographical regions and sectors. While the decline was positively correlated with COVID-19 mortality rates and stringency of imposed containment measures, countries with less restrictive policies on digital trade and greater ability to leverage ICT infrastructure reported relatively smaller declines in their services trade. Thus, the ability to transact services digitally (cross-border or Mode 1 trade) enabled countries to mitigate the adverse effects of the pandemic.</p> <p>Against this background, this session will present a few stylized facts and correlations on the services trade decline observed during the pandemic; present cases studies in health, education and professional services where countries moved to Mode 1 from other modes of services delivery; think ahead about digitalization and its broader role in post-pandemic recovery; and discuss how ICT and AI may transform services markets and their resilience to adverse shocks.</p>
Working Session	Are the JSIs a Way Forward for a Sustainable, Resilient and Inclusive Global Trading System?	Faculty of Law, Auckland University, New Zealand (FoLUoA)	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has helped to focus the debate on the future global trade rules and the institution that shapes them, as well as on the need to ensure a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive global trading system. There are different visions of what that should look like. The advent of the Joint Statement Initiatives following the MC11 provides a concrete focus for these discussions, including the priorities for new rules, the process for their negotiation and possible adoption, and the implications for the WTO into the future.</p> <p>This session will reflect on those different elements from diverse</p>

			perspectives and locate them within the broader WTO reform debate. The objective is to help focus the WTO reform debate through the practical examples of the JSIs.
Information session	MC12 Geneva Package: The WTO's Pandemic Response including the Decision on the TRIPS Agreement	WTO Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division (WTO)	<p>The WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference adopted two outcomes dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic: a wide-ranging Ministerial Declaration on the WTO Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Preparedness for Future Pandemics, and a specific Decision on the TRIPS Agreement. The Declaration frames a general trade policy response to the pandemic and calls on WTO bodies to work on lessons learned and challenges experienced during the pandemic, including on export restrictions, food security, intellectual property, regulatory cooperation, services, tariff classification, technology transfer, trade facilitation, and transparency. The TRIPS Decision provides a platform for members to work together to diversify vaccine production capacity, by clarifying intellectual property policy options for Members, including an array of emergency use measures, and by providing a targeted waiver that addresses specific problems identified during the pandemic, especially facilitating and streamlining vaccine exports and supplying humanitarian programs.</p> <p>This session will provide an opportunity to learn more in depth about the background to these outcomes and their significance for the wider international efforts to tackle COVID-19 and to prepare for future pandemics.</p>
<b>15:45-17:00</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Building Resilience, Circular Economy, and an Inclusive Energy Transition: How can Trade Policy Help?	Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations Office and International Organizations in Geneva Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the WTO and other International Economic Organizations in Geneva	Reaching climate objectives and building sustainable growth requires rethinking energy transition from the current fossil fuel-based energy systems to renewables and greater energy efficiency. Energy transition to a low-carbon, more sustainable and circular economy requires a structural change and a true paradigm shift. To enable this, trade and investment policies play a key role, also providing opportunities for more trade and sustainable jobs. Several countries are on this path. Uruguay, for instance, is taking forward a significant energy transition, while Finland's energy sector has its own roadmap for becoming

			<p>circular, supporting the goal of becoming carbon-neutral and the first fossil-free welfare society by 2035.</p> <p>As countries are rebuilding their economies after the pandemic, circular economy solutions can drive more sustainable growth and boost transition to sustainable energy systems. At the interactive and inclusive session, experts and audience will discuss how circular economy solutions can help drive the energy transition and the role of trade.</p>
Working Session	Tech, Ethics, Gender, Innovation & the Economy	<p>Women at the Table International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) World Benchmarking Alliance - Digital Collective Impact Coalition (WBA - Digital CIC) UN Women Action Coalition for Technology &amp; Innovation for Gender Equality (UN Women TIGE)</p>	<p>Every government around the globe is racing to digitize. This is an opportunity to reconceive systems for a 21st century impact. Our session explores different paths to technology and gender equal trade futures that will help rebalance inequality equations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private Sector leads of the World Benchmarking Alliance/Digital CIC engage institutional investors and private sector tech companies to adopt ethical AI standards.</li> <li>• GIZ Digi-Cluster projects with new Feminist International Development Policy ensure a brighter + inclusive digital future.</li> <li>• IDRC with 11 AI4D AI Hubs &amp; Labs run by Africans with African agendas to transform African AI bringing equity to those left behind.</li> <li>• UN Women Generation Equality Action Coalition: Technology &amp; Innovation for Gender Equality brings women into all levels of tech.</li> <li>• Most recently to create a Gender x Innovation Guide for Tech Innovation Challenges, conceived to solve problems exposed through the pandemic.</li> </ul> <p>Women at the Table will moderate.</p>
Workshop	Championing the Role of Smallholders in Trade: How to Make Agriculture Commodity Trade More Equitable and Sustainable	<p>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC)</p>	<p>Sustainable agricultural commodity trade that ensures fair returns to farmers while reducing impacts on forests and biodiversity is a topic that's front and centre globally. However, the necessary transition is hampered by barriers in key areas: data, traceability and standards; awareness and technical</p>

			<p>capacity; collaboration and participatory approaches; and policy and regulatory incentives. Join us to discuss and explore how these barriers could be overcome, including how the work on sustainable trade at the WTO could support this.</p> <p>This workshop session is organized by the Trade, Development and the Environment Hub, funded by UK Research and Innovation, which is an impact-focused collaboration that is unique in its approach of linking international trade systems to social and environmental impacts in an interdisciplinary manner. We will use an original documentary filmed by the TRADE Hub, focused on cocoa and palm oil smallholders in Cameroon, as a case study for the workshop.</p>
Working Session	How to Deal with Measures Differentiating Between Products Based on the Sustainability of Their Processes or Production Methods (PPMs)	Veblen Institute for Economic Reforms	<p>The session will discuss the treatment by the multilateral trading system of measures discriminating products based on the sustainability of their processes or production methods (PPMs), which may affect trade. In particular, how this question should be treated to support the transition towards a sustainable recovery in line with the objectives of sustainable development enshrined in the WTO Agreement. This topic will be tackled from the perspectives of developing countries, regulating States, NGOs, and businesses.</p>
Working Session	Shedding New Light on the Evolving Regulatory Framework for Digital Services Trade	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)	<p>Barriers to digital trade can affect the uptake of new technologies, inhibit competition and slow down economic growth and recovery. Understanding the nature and evolution of these barriers is therefore key in ensuring that digital trade works for all. Recent efforts to measure the regulatory environment affecting digital trade, including the OECD Digital Services Trade Restrictiveness Index, have shown that the measures that affect digital trade are on the rise and that there is a wide heterogeneity across regions.</p> <p>Drawing on the work undertaken with three UN regional commissions (UNECLAC, UNESCAP and UNECA), this session will present new insights on the nature, evolution, and drivers of digital trade restrictiveness in North America, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Latin America.</p>

Podcast	Trade Winds with Cecilia Malmström	Peterson Institute for International Economics (PIIE)	
Working Session	What Role Should Trade and Investment Play in Achieving Sustainable Development?	Trade Justice Movement (TJM) Traidcraft Exchange (TX) Bond	<p>As countries face the triple crises of COVID-19, climate change and rising inequality, there is an increasing trend to look for ways to deliver on development commitments that provide 'win-win' solutions. One increasingly popular approach is to put trade and investment at the heart of development work. While there is no doubt that we need huge investment to meet global challenges and trade and investment have a role to play, increased trade and investment do not necessarily lead to positive outcomes for the poorest communities.</p> <p>This session aims to help participants understand some of the key challenges that will need to be addressed to ensure that trade and investment bring positive development outcomes.</p>
Workshop	Framing the Future of Trade Through Increased Structured Engagement Between the WTO and Business	Confederation of Swedish Enterprise (SN) The Federation of German Industries (BDI)	<p>The WTO has an important role to play in the economic recovery from the pandemic. For maximum effect, the WTO rulebook needs to be modernized. To frame the future of trade, the subtheme to which this session relates, and modernize the trade rulebook – business and the WTO need a closer and more structured dialogue. After all, it is the businesses that conduct cross-border trade, not countries.</p> <p>A broad coalition of business associations from various countries on six continents, have recently together presented five proposals on how to increase the structured business engagement in the WTO. Please join us in discussing how the global business community can contribute more to the work of the WTO in adapting the multilateral trading rules to the 21st century trading reality.</p>
Working Session	Can we Advance Product Energy Efficiency and Sustainability While Avoiding Barriers to Trade?	Consumer Technology Association (CTA)	<p>This session will chart a possible path for advancing energy efficiency in ICT products while avoiding the non-tariff barriers to trade that result from misaligned national and regional policies and programs. Reducing such barriers to trade in ICT products helps ensure that all countries, businesses, and individuals can reap the benefits of the digital age. Key stakeholder groups – industry, policymakers, NGOs, standards development</p>

			organizations, and multilateral organizations– have roles to play in improving the current landscape in this realm of environmental sustainability.
<b>17:30-18:45</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	How Can Trade Support Pathways to Adaptation and the Transition to a Low-Carbon Future?	World Bank Group (WBG) World Trade Organization (WTO)	<p>Trading in the low carbon transition requires a critical understanding of several aspects, e.g., the “what to trade” based on changing consumer tastes and preferences; the “how to trade” based on the carbon intensity of the transportation and distribution networks; and the “who to trade with” based on the emerging trade and climate-change related policies by markets.</p> <p>This session seeks to shed light on all these aspects while placing emphasis on the soft and hard reforms needed to ensure carbon competitiveness and facilitate adaptation and resilience that is needed to weather climate change impacts. To understand the social impacts that need to be taken into consideration when designing inclusive policies, this session will also present some estimated results of the distributional impacts of the emerging trade and climate change related policies.</p>
Working Session	Leaning Into Trade in the Face of Geopolitical Challenges	National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC)	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic and Russian invasion of Ukraine have left policymakers worldwide in search of tools to drive a swift economic recovery while adopting measures to help better protect their economies in the event of future crises. In the face of rising inflation, supply chain disruptions, geopolitical tensions, and the ongoing public health crisis, some governments are pursuing measures such as higher tariffs, export restrictions, calls to onshore, domestic content requirements, and increased investment controls to protect their national economies.</p> <p>This session will explore the lessons learned in the aftermath of the COVID pandemic to argue that bold trade policies are fundamental to a sustainable and inclusive economic recovery and that the rules-based multilateral trading system can help “future-proof” against the next crisis.</p>

Working Session	Climate & Trade Negotiators: Joining Hands Towards a Resilient & Sustainable Agriculture	Permanent Mission of the Republic of Fiji to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva Consumer Unity & Trust Society International, Geneva (CUTS International, Geneva)	<p>The agriculture sector has been facing tremendous crises of several forms, from the COVID-19 pandemic to the Ukraine war, worsened by the well-known effects of climate change on the agro-value chains worldwide. The agriculture sector is in need of better resilience, to ensure food is produced accessed and distributed in a fair and sustainable manner, especially for developing and least-developed countries.</p> <p>Both the trade and climate change policymakers and negotiators have agriculture on their agenda. It is critical for them to not act in silos, and to remain aware of the efforts undertaken by each other; in order to avoid duplication and contradiction with each other, at the WTO and the UNFCCC respectively.</p> <p>This working session will aim to inform about the ongoing status of both fora as well as to propose ways for climate and trade spheres to join hands towards a more resilient, development-oriented and sustainable agriculture.</p>
Working Session	Supporting the internationalization of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) after COVID-19: countries' contribution through trade facilitation	Conseil National des Chargeurs du Cameroun (CNCC)	<p>In least-developed and developing countries, micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are considered to be drivers of growth, innovation and job creation.</p> <p>Despite their important role in the economy, they face challenges that limit their potential in developing economies. Their vulnerability and demands relating to environmental and sustainable development issues mean that internationalization as demonstrated by the ITC's "SheTrades" project remains a significant challenge for MSMEs.</p> <p>The aim of this working session is to show how the use of technology may contribute to the performance of SMEs.</p> <p>Participants will have the opportunity to examine how MSMEs can make the most of innovative technologies to increase their participation in global value chains and bridge development gaps.</p>
Working Session	Fisheries Subsidies and Sustainable Development: Meeting the Mandate	Pacific Network on Globalisation (PANG) Handelskampanjen	Sustainable Development Goal 14.6 has given a clear mandate to the WTO to take action on the issue of fisheries subsidies while respecting the mandate of special and differential treatment so

			<p>that the interests of small-scale fishers in developing and least developed countries are protected. Any collective action on sustainable trade relating to fisheries subsidies must get the balance right for Developing Countries, Least Developed Countries and Small Island States to be able to develop and support their domestic industries with the need to reduce levels of unsustainable fisheries subsidies.</p> <p>This session will discuss a fisheries subsidies outcome and providing insights from affected coastal communities, civil society and trade officials examine whether or not the mandate for fisheries subsidies action is being upheld.</p>
Working Session	Shaping the Future of Digital Trade Policy for Inclusive Growth	techUK	<p>In the span of a few years, digital technologies have transformed the way we trade. With cross-border data flows, the use of digital technologies for payments or the delivery of services through the platform economy, trade has been profoundly transformed.</p> <p>At the same time, digital trade barriers continue to exist and in some areas are growing. Several countries have sought to address those in bilateral or regional digital economy agreements that cover regulatory cooperation in areas like online safety, competition, and data privacy. The widening gap between the frontrunners in digital trade policy and the rest of the world risks derailing the promise of technology to deliver inclusive growth for all.</p> <p>This session will explore the links between trade and development policy with a focus on technology and what are the policy initiatives that need to be put in place to make sure no one is left behind.</p>
Working Session	Trade and Health after COVID-19: The Services Dimension	WTI Advisors (WTIA)	<p>This session aims to discuss how trade and investment in health services could be improved to better address the current pandemic or future ones. Until now, the health services sector has been the least open of all services sectors at the WTO, with many Members having no commitment in that regard. Yet, a lot could be done to allow a better access to medical attention during a pandemic, such as teleconsultations, temporary movement of health-related professionals, liberalization of insurance services, digitalization of healthcare systems.</p>

			The panellists will take a closer look at different kinds of restrictions as well as relevant measures that can be adopted on a temporary basis in the short term or on a permanent basis to build the resilience of the health system at the national, regional, and global levels.
Working Session	Negotiations of Multilateral Rules on Investment Facilitation: Could it Contribute to a Sustainable Future?	Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)	<p>A number of WTO Members are engaged in a plurilateral initiative to negotiate new rules on investment facilitation. The initiative is presented as aiming to enhance investment for sustainable development.</p> <p>This session will analyse a number of disciplines negotiated under this initiative, including those that address transparency and notification requirements, administering authorisations and measures pertaining to investments, investment-related fees systems, special and differential treatment, dispute settlement and the interactions of the proposed rules with existing international investment agreements.</p> <p>Panellists from a variety of perspectives will engage in this discussion, including representatives of governments, academics, and civil society. They will consider how the proposed rules approach issues of sustainable development and sustainability of investments and how they interact with government policy and regulatory space including in relation to pandemic and crisis preparedness.</p>
<b>29 September 2022</b>			
<b>09:00-10:15</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Plenary debate	High-level panel: Delivering a Trade Agenda for a Sustainable Future	World Trade Organization (WTO)	Addressing the climate crisis should be at the core of any economic recovery plan. The debate will bring together leading representatives from international organisations, the private sector and academia, to discuss how trade can accelerate the transition to a net-zero future. The panel will discuss how trade rules can be strengthened to address the environmental challenges the world is facing. The panellists will also deliberate on the need for a coordinated approach amongst governments,

			businesses and civil society to promote a green recovery, and how the WTO can be a convenor for these efforts.
<b>10:30-11:30</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Plenary debate	High-level panel: Breaking into male-dominated sectors	International Trade Centre (ITC)	
<b>11:30-12:45</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Industry 4.0 Technologies and Value-Added Services: Opportunities and challenges for LDCs	Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the WTO and other International Organizations Consumer Unity & Trust Society International, Geneva (CUTS International)	<p>Services inputs play an increasingly important role in global manufacturing by contributing to the value-added of all sectors. The COVID-19 pandemic underlined the critical role that information and communication technology and computer services play in facilitating global trade. It also revealed that the integration of technologies and innovation in financial, transport and logistical services will be key to the recovery and to enhanced production capacity. Hence, the integration of new technologies in LDCs' value-added services can be conducive to production and export growth, as their value-added services represented 44.62% of the groups' GDP in 2020, according to the World Bank, and contributed 39% of the total added value in their exports.</p> <p>This working session will inform about the challenges and opportunities of integrating industry 4.0 technologies in LDCs' value-added services and discuss ways to support them reap the fruits of the digital age for increased integration in global value chains.</p>
Working Session	Enabling Sustainable and Inclusive Trade: Data Science Solutions for Public-Private Partnership and Innovative Transparency Mechanisms	ETH Zurich United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) The Yield Lab Institute (YLI)	To turn ambition for a sustainable and inclusive recovery into concrete action, decision-makers must obtain and process data beyond their usual domains in a systematic manner. With transparency over the connection between supply chains and environmental impacts, governments can know which goods, services and knowledge are needed for the recovery, or how to facilitate access to them. Similarly, for businesses to adapt to a low-carbon future, they must understand the risks associated with the three planetary crises and trade trends for green action.

			<p>This session will translate the needs of stakeholders into data science questions for digitally-enabled business ecosystems and transparency mechanism design. This will elaborate user needs for connecting environmental monitoring, value chain traceability and economic policy transparency in information flows for climate, nature and trade governance, to be followed by practical solutions in the form of use case demonstrations of data systems, business feasibility analysis and policy recommendations.</p>
Working Session	Narrowing gender gaps: the role of digital technologies and trade policy	Subsecretaria de Relaciones Económicas Internacionales de Chile (SUBREI)	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated gender gaps globally. Countries have therefore sought to step up efforts for a sustainable and resilient economic recovery. This panel will aim to:</p> <p>(1) Analyse the impact of digital technologies on an inclusive and resilient recovery;</p> <p>(2) Analyse the gender- and trade-related challenges in reducing the digital divide, particularly with regard to promoting international trade and developing programmes that support the digitization of companies headed by women;</p> <p>(3) Share experiences in the design and prioritization of tools and policies that support the revival of companies led by women, which contribute to mitigating the adverse impact of the pandemic on these companies and to increasing potential positive effects through a more inclusive and resilient trade agenda.</p>
Working Session	Facilitating Investment as a Driver for Green Growth	Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK)	<p>Foreign direct investment (FDI) fell by 35% globally in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic but has since rebounded by 77%, with the majority of this rebound going to developed markets. While capital is available, it is not flowing to where it is most needed, risking a two-speed recovery, with the poorest left behind. Green FDI is especially needed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in developing countries where homegrown resources may be fewer. There is a strong desire among both the public and private sectors to grow green FDI, but better understanding is needed on the right policy enablers</p>

			and partnerships, including specific, targeted investment facilitation measures. The Public Forum Session will aim to identify the most impactful government measures that can facilitate green FDI. These measures can be supported by a future WTO Agreement on Investment Facilitation for Development, especially in the way the agreement will be implemented.
Working Session	U.S. Trade Policy, the WTO and Reframing Trade Priorities	Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)	<p>Does the international trade regime need a complete rethink? WTO members are grappling with several pressing issues at the forefront of modern trade challenges—climate change, the digital divide, and making the trading system more inclusive to benefit all. But efforts have largely come to a standstill as the United States has struggled to define its trade policy and the role the WTO has to play within it.</p> <p>What are U.S. trade priorities, and how will this affect efforts at WTO reform? Can U.S. trade policy post-Trump address both past challenges and emerging trade concerns? What do worker-centric trade rules look like, and how can we best incorporate labour issues into the trade regime? Join us for a lively discussion of these and other questions.</p>
Working Session	Regional Agreements, AfCFTA and the Vulnerable: Which WTO Reforms?	Africa Trade Network (ATN) Southern and Eastern Trade Information and Negotiation Institute (SEATINI-Uganda)	<p>Regional trade agreements like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) must be compatible with the WTO. The relevant provision usually relied upon is Article XXIV of the GATT which requires liberalisation of substantially all trade. Under the AfCFTA this has been interpreted to mean liberalisation of 90 percent of trade in goods.</p> <p>For LDCs of Africa, this has posed two problems. Not only are they required to liberalise more than their obligations under the WTO, but such liberalisation faces them with economic loss to their developing country neighbours. The ability of the LDC members to benefit from the ACFTA is thus under question.</p> <p>Attempts to rectify this by applying alternative WTO provisions have also not proved popular due to in-built limitations. As more protocols are negotiated this tension between sustainable liberalisation which retains the rights of the LDCs and</p>

			compatibility with the WTO is bound to become more pronounced.
Working Session	Promoting Food security Through Trade Rules as an Important Pillar to Sustainable Development	Brazilian Rice Industry Association (Abiarroz)	<p>Food insecurity is one of the main challenges of developing countries' sustainable development and, due to recent cumulative crises, it's gaining even more importance worldwide, which strengthens the need for being considered as a central element of the international trade agenda. According to the UN, nearly 193 million people faced acute food insecurity in 2021, an increase of 40 million from 2020. Food insecurity is the result of the interplay of a series of factors operating at different levels, only one of which is trade.</p> <p>The working session will discuss how international trade can contribute to the food security promotion. The central message is that the WTO can and must be an ally for improving food security by promoting lower tariff barriers; reinforcing the adoption of evidence-based international standards, such as those from CODEX Alimentarius; and reforming rules on domestic support to assure less distortion and fair competition between countries.</p>
Working Session	Cloud Seeding Sustainable Agriculture Trade: Harnessing Advanced Technology for Digital Transformation	Asia Cloud Computing Association (ACCA)	<p>Technology has the potential to transform the agriculture sector, and how communities participate in global trade and value chains. The use of data and cloud-based technologies in particular have provided new insights that can improve decision-making and promote greater sustainability in agriculture. For example, data on soil type, irrigation, weather, yields, transportation, logistics, animal health, among others, can be analysed and processed to provide actionable insights for optimizing operations and greening cross-border supply-chains.</p> <p>Using technologies such as Machine Learning, Robotics, and Internet of Things (IoT) – powered by cloud computing – businesses, big and small have been able to harness data to drive more sustainable outcomes. As governments around the world advance national digital transformation strategies, forward-looking and open digital trade policies that incentivize the use of data-driven technologies in agriculture can drive more inclusive, productive, and sustainable economic outcomes.</p>

Working Session	The Future of the TRIPS Agreement Post COVID-19 (Part 2)	The South Centre	<p>Sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic requires availability of medical technologies in all countries. To date, inequity in access continues. The interface of intellectual property and promotion of public health is central to this question. This session is a follow-up to the South Centre's 2021 WTO Public Forum working session, which kick-started a discussion on the future of the TRIPS Agreement after the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>This session will bring together various stakeholders to discuss whether a reform of the TRIPS Agreement and/or authoritative interpretations of some its key provisions are needed, having in view the proposals made in response to a request for a waiver for the Covid-19 pandemic and other possible public-health oriented solutions. What are the existing limitations and opportunities within the current framework? What further actions could be taken under the WTO rules in order to promote access to medical technologies for a sustainable and equitable future?</p>
<b>12:45-14:00</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Meet the Author	Meet the Author	World Trade Organization (WTO)	
<b>14:00-15:15</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Sustainable Trade for Supply Chain Resilience: An Inclusive WTO Governance Addressing Labour and Climate Challenges	European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)	<p>The pandemic exposed and enhanced supply chain vulnerabilities and the urgency for underpinning sustainability. The accent moved from supply chains efficiency to resilience: however, no supply chain can be truly resilient unless it is sustainable.</p> <p>This session will advocate strengthening main sustainability pillars in the WTO: an inclusive trade governance with decent labour rights and effective environmental standards, and broadened and sustained stakeholder involvement, all paramount for sustaining trust in the multilateral trading system and achieving the SDGs.</p>

			<p>It will showcase how and why they should be integrated, drawing experience from the US proposal addressing for the first-time forced labour in WTO trade negotiations on fisheries subsidies, and exploring relevant approaches for their integration. Panellists will consider possible systemic solutions and actions by the WTO.</p> <p>A more structured partnership with the ILO would be a fitting start; new leadership in both organizations is an opportunity for new impetus.</p>
Working Session	How Can the WTO Promote Sustainable and Inclusive Solutions in the Area of Digital Trade? A Particular Focus on the E-Commerce Joint Statement Initiative	BusinessEurope (BE)	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of digital trade beyond doubt. It has allowed a significant number of enterprises, many among those SMEs, to maintain their business and access the same cutting-edge technologies and solutions as major multinational companies. It has also enabled less developed countries to engage in global trade and join global value chains. Our session will discuss how the WTO can promote sustainable and inclusive digital trade, contributing to the global recovery.</p> <p>High-level panellists will focus on multilateral solutions, such as a permanent moratorium on customs duties on electronic transactions, or the expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA), as well as plurilateral solutions, most prominently how WTO members can advance a comprehensive outcome under the e-commerce Joint Statement Initiative (JSI). We will also discuss how businesses and other stakeholders can contribute to achieving an ambitious and sustainable outcome for the benefit of all.</p>
Working Session	National and Global Instruments Supporting Sustainable and Responsible Fish Trade	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	<p>Fish is currently the most traded animal protein in value, with a diverse range of product types, resulting in a global and complex value chain. The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) addresses fisheries and aquaculture production and post-harvest activities in the three dimensions of sustainability. Although voluntary, the CCRF provides the basis of other international instruments and national legislations. More recent instruments and national policies, using the CCRF as a parameter, set import rules assessing if the origin of fish is</p>

			<p>compliant with applicable national, regional, and international conservation and management measures throughout the supply chain.</p> <p>This Working Session will provide a forum to discuss how international instruments and national programs can help to promote more sustainable trade in fisheries and aquaculture products. It will also give national examples on how the implementation of traceability programs and international instruments could contribute to more sustainable fish trade.</p>
Working Session	Using Better Trade Rules and More International Standards to Improve the Resiliency of International Agri-Food Value Chains	International Agri-Food Network's Coalition for an Enhanced Codex (IAFN Coalition for an Enhanced Codex)	<p>The agricultural sector is a complex system given its impact on food security, public health, and climate. This complexity increases when the international trade of agricultural products is included, and when barriers to trade stand in the way of inclusive economic recovery. There are more agri-food products crossing international borders than ever before, and the efficiency of global supply chains is improving. New export supply chains of specialty crops are emerging and being grown and traded by small farmers in least developed countries – aided by access to improved technology, including digitisation and precision agriculture, seeds and crop protection, and research and extension. But regional disparities continue because of divergence in trade rules and growth in non-tariff barriers. Among the key opportunities is more use of international standards for trade, including Codex, enabling all countries, businesses and individuals to benefit from the multilateral trading system and contribute to its resilience.</p>
Working Session	Indigenous Perspectives on a Sustainable Trade Agenda	New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (NZ MFAT)	<p>This session is an opportunity to bring Indigenous perspectives and voices to the WTO, helping to deliver a trade agenda for a sustainable future. Indigenous Peoples have been traders and entrepreneurs since time immemorial. We know that firms engaged in the tradable and export-focused sectors are more innovative, more competitive and pay higher wages.</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples are increasingly active in these export-focused sectors, but growing inequality, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and continued social and economic challenges, is a constraint to Indigenous Peoples taking full advantage of the opportunities presented by trade. Ensuring that</p>

			all of our people are better able to participate in and share the benefits of trade increases the potential of Indigenous societies to flourish, with empowering social and economic outcomes.
Working Session	Exploring Trade Rules for Long Term Food Security and Resilience in the Context of Multiple Crises: How to Move Forward After MC12	Third World Network Trust India (TWN India) Madhyam Trust India (Madhyam) Society for International Development Italy (SID)	<p>This event will discuss the current and recurring challenges posed by the pandemic, political conflicts, and natural disasters to long-term food security with a special focus on developing countries, especially NFIDCs, and LDCs. Given the additional challenges global agriculture is facing and the concentration and volatility in global agricultural markets, the objective is to examine how the WTO can offer robust enough solutions for redress including through a stock-taking of the Agreement on Agriculture and building a constructive agenda as we move on from MC12.</p> <p>The workshop will undertake a methodical assessment of the current needs vis a vis the MC12 outcomes, map the range of Members' positions and explore how to plug the gaps going forward, in order to design a responsive architecture for ensuring a robust and resilient global agricultural production and trading system that is able to deal with future crises.</p>
Working Session	Trade and environment: convergence of bilateral and regional agreements with the WTO	Trade Tank Mx Consultoría TTMx (TradeTankMx)	<p>Environmental obligations have taken on increased importance in recent regional, bilateral and multilateral agreements, with the aim being to ensure that trade contributes to protecting the environment and countering the climatic effects seen worldwide. The adoption of environment-related measures has an impact on trade in goods and services, since these measures may help to achieve environmental and climatic objectives. However, such measures have not been fully reflected in the multilateral trading system. This session will analyse and consider the potential implications that environmental measures have for the multilateral trading system.</p>
Workshop	Alliances With the Youth for the Future of Agribusiness. Unsung Heroes, the Next Generation	African Caribbean and Pacific Young Professionals Network (ACP YPN)	<p>Young agribusiness professionals are drivers of change to solve environmental, economic and social challenges. The future of trade is being shaped by them with solutions that have a strong focus on strategic local development, international networks while incorporating technology. ITC Alliances for Action and the ACP Young Professional Network, under the publication "Unsung Heroes: The Next Generation", present a workshop to explore</p>

			collectively the challenges, ambitions and ways to understand and facilitate the engagement of youth in the agribusiness sector. This session will share the findings of the publication and further explore how to create partnerships with the youth across value chains, from farmers, agritech and agro-processors to chefs, commercial sales outlets, and consumers.
<b>15:45-17:00</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Connected Services, Competitive Business: Linking Small Business to Technology and Value Chains	International Trade Centre (ITC) Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth (MCIG)	<p>Four sectors are key to a services-led transformation – we call them “connected services”.</p> <p>ICT, transport and logistics, financial and business and professional services directly contribute to economic growth with an increasing share of output, trade and jobs. They also contribute indirectly by making other firms more competitive and connecting them to global value chains and digital innovations.</p> <p>Small firms’ success depends partly on access to good quality connected services. And when they are more competitive, small businesses grow faster, trade more, and create better, higher-paying jobs.</p> <p>Unfortunately, most small firms in developing countries do not have easy access to connected services. This session explores how large companies, policymakers and business support organizations can change this reality, invest more in services, and lay the foundations for an inclusive, services-led transformation.</p>
Working Session	The Blue Economy for a Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) World Trade Organization (WTO)	<p>This session will provide a platform from an academic and operational points of view for engagement on what Blue Economy (BE) means for the future. The UNECA and WTO Chairs will provide complementary perspectives on how these emerging concepts will affect trade and the multilateral trading system, and how we can ensure that trade in 2030 will continue to help us address the major sustainability issues facing our economies and societies.</p> <p>The session will put a particular emphasis on the analysis of: The</p>

			<p>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the BE and inclusive growth and trade policy; Regional trade and Blue regional value chains; The impact of technology on the and international trade, in an inclusive trading system; Policy and regulatory recommendations for such issues etc. Targeted case studies from WCP Chairs will help to propose relevant analyses and present these perspectives to the policy makers and others relevant stakeholders.</p>
Working Session	Digital Trade and Services Standards	Coalition of Services Industries (CSI)	<p>Across the globe, services suppliers are expected to abide by a growing number of standards and certifications in areas such as privacy, cybersecurity, and AI. Unfortunately, standards-setting in these areas may fall short in terms of transparency and due process. That's because while the TBT Agreement governs the use of standards applied to goods, and the GATS applies to the overall trade in services, there are currently no corresponding rules that govern standards on digitally enabled services. As a result, some standards applied to digital services may have a trade-distorting or discriminatory impact, serving as non-tariff barriers.</p> <p>In short, standards have begun to emerge as one of the biggest obstacles to the cross-border delivery of services. The issue matters to a broad, horizontal swath of industries that have come to rely on digitally-enabled services. There's growing private sector interest in developing trade disciplines in this area.</p>
Working Session	Enhancing Integration of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) Into Global Trade for Sustainable COVID-19 Recovery: The Role of Digital Technology	<p>Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs)</p> <p>The United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UNOHRLLS)</p> <p>The International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries (ITLLDC)</p>	<p>LLDCs lack direct territorial access to the sea and are isolated from world markets. Complicated administrative transit procedures, multiple border crossings and inadequate infrastructure all substantially increase LLDCs trade costs. About 80% of LLDCS are commodities dependent and consequently vulnerable to shocks. Structural transformation is therefore fundamental to achieve sustainable recovery in LLDCs. LLDCs trade costs are estimates to be about 1.4 times higher than their coastal counterparts. The key prerequisites for technological advancement also lag behind. About 65% of LLDC population are still offline and only 58% had access to electricity in 2019. Digital technology and its effective use can help LLDCs achieve structural transformation and reduce their trade costs and therefore enhance their trade performance and sustainable</p>

			<p>recovery.</p> <p>The session will discuss policy options for addressing LLDCs challenges and how LLDCs can leverage new technologies to enhance structural transformation and their integration into trade and for inclusive recovery.</p>
Workshop	Trustworthy Data Spaces: A Dialogue Between North and South	Diplo Foundation Swiss Federal Office of Communications, OFCOM, Switzerland (OFCOM, Switzerland) Geneva Internet Platform (GIP)	<p>Although data is non-rivalrous, data controllers have the capacity to restrict access to data for a myriad of reasons, such as protecting privacy, intellectual property, or to maintain a competitive edge. At present, there are insufficient incentives for data to be shared by data controllers, and insufficient obligations for them to fulfil the social value of data.</p> <p>This session will address data sharing and data flows from national and international perspectives. It aims to establish a bridge between proposals advanced by actors in the Global North and in the Global South, such as Switzerland's proposal of trustworthy data spaces, Japan's proposal of data free flows with trust and India's notion of community data. The discussion will discuss how these different proposals could contribute to promoting a more equal distribution of benefits in the data economy and to shed light on current negotiations on data flows taking place at the WTO.</p>
Working Session	How Digital Transformations Empowers Small Businesses' Resilience in the Asia Pacific	Global Innovation Forum (GIF)	<p>Digital technologies and global markets can be key ingredients for the resilience and prosperity of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Enabled by digital tools, platforms, and services, MSMEs are reaching and selling to new customers across their borders more efficiently than ever before.</p> <p>The session will explore themes presented in a recent Global Innovation Forum report, "New Faces of US-Asia Digital Trade." The report presents small business case studies to demonstrate how small businesses from the United States and Asia Pacific region are relying on digital tools and trade to grow innovative, resilient, and global businesses.</p> <p>It also outlines the findings of a small business survey, demonstrating the potential impact of a digital trade agreement,</p>

			the provisions that MSMEs believe are most important to their success, and how entrepreneurs are leveraging technology to tackle the traditional challenges of exporting.
Working Session	Will the WTO's Plurilateral Environment Initiatives Effectively Address Climate Change and Other Environmental Challenges?	Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM)	<p>The world is facing big challenges including environmental degradation and climate change. Governments are trying to address the climate crisis by transitioning to a low-carbon future and deal with other environmental issues such as plastic pollution and fossil fuel subsidies. A number of WTO Members are currently participating in: structured discussions on trade and environmental sustainability (TESSD), discussions on fossil fuel subsidies and an informal dialogue on plastics pollution and environmentally sustainable plastics trade, among other environment initiatives at the WTO.</p> <p>This session aims to examine whether these environmental initiatives at the WTO will effectively address the climate change and other environmental challenges facing WTO Members. It will bring together climate change, environment and trade experts from government, academia, an intergovernmental organisation and civil society to offer diverse perspectives on these issues and offer recommendations for what kind of trade rules would help address these environmental issues.</p>
Workshop	How Trade Can Drive Inclusive and Sustainable Food systems in Africa: Diversifying Production and Markets for More Resilience?	Positive Agenda Advisory (P2A)	<p>This workshop will discuss the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Market diversification: Since the beginning of the Ukrainian crisis, Africa's food crisis looms especially in some countries that depend heavily on export commodities and that will suffer from a deterioration in those products' terms of trade.</li> <li>• The role of continental value chains: According to many experts, to achieve the transition to more productive and differentiated agriculture, and improve access to food domestically, the structural adjustments on the supply side, and opportunities on the demand side in domestic and foreign markets should be exploited. Strengthening regional trade relations with equally developed neighbouring countries is a way to leverage trade to make the transition to a more diversified economy.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How the AfCFTA could contribute to enhancing the regional trade of food: The recently established Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) may stimulate intra-Africa trade, accelerate export diversification, and diversify export destinations and types of goods produced in the region.</li> </ul>
Information session	MC12 Geneva Package: The Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies	WTO Rules Division (WTO)	<p>The Historic Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies was adopted at the 12th Ministerial Conference on 17 June 2022. This agreement is a win for the ocean, for fish and the people who depend on them. Importantly, it is also a win for multilateralism. Come and hear why.</p> <p>Here is your chance to take a deep dive into the disciplines - what the prohibitions are and how they operate.</p> <p>Come discuss with the WTO Secretariat Fish Team.</p>
<b>17:30-18:45</b>			
Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
Working Session	Building Back Better with Gender-Responsive Public Procurement	<p>Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration, and Employment of the Republic of The Gambia</p> <p>Women 20 (W20)</p> <p>International Trade Centre (ITC)</p> <p>Women Entrepreneurs Act Initiative (WE Act Initiative)</p>	<p>The international community faces a long path to recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic. With the common goal of "building back better" in mind, we must work together to mitigate the effects of the crisis and leverage the opportunity to create a more resilient future.</p> <p>Placing women at the heart of our efforts can help ensure a sustainable and inclusive recovery. Public procurement has become increasingly important in light of the pandemic and presents an opportunity for women to get involved.</p> <p>Governments spend \$9 trillion USD on public procurement every year; however, women account for only 1% of public procurement opportunities worldwide. Boosting women's participation in public procurement opportunities is simply smart economics.</p> <p>This event will focus on supporting increased women's participation in public procurement globally. Panellists will share the experiences of their countries and discuss lessons learned to</p>

			facilitate knowledge sharing and inspire countries interested in creating new programmes.
Working Session	International Trade Co-operation to Address Plastic Pollution: Options and Pathways to Enhance Environmental Outcomes	The Pew Charitable Trusts Forum on Trade Environment and the SDGs (TESS) International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	The session will explore and identify concrete ways in which international co-operation on trade could support efforts to reduce plastic pollution. Panelists will address the relevance of trade and trade-policy in the fight against plastic pollution, address specific ways in which co-operation around trade can make a difference in reducing plastic pollution and identify concrete options and pathways for pursuing such co-operation, including in the context of ongoing work within the WTO's Informal Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (IDP). This also includes possible synergies between the work underway at the IDP, negotiations for a new internationally binding global instrument to address plastic pollution, and the implementation of the Basel Convention's Plastic Waste Amendments.
Working Session	Tropical Agriculture: A Sustainable Alternative for World Supply Chain	Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (ApexBrasil) Permanent Mission of Brazil to the WTO and other International Organizations in Geneva Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply (MAPA)	Global trade was rebounding from the COVID-19 pandemic when agricultural trade was faced with an unexpected supply crisis in 2022. Geography suggests that only tropical countries might have the fundamentals to increase production to meet the demands of an increasing population by boosting productivity at current agricultural frontiers. This enables higher sustainability levels in comparison to increasing production in temperate and lower yields' areas. Since production and consumption are, mostly, separated by borders and oceans, to secure a rules-based trade system is essential to guarantee food availability within a supply crisis scenario, or to feed 10 billion people in 2050.  Brazil has evolved from being a net importer of food to be the second biggest exporter by investing in research and technology to produce food in between the tropics, creating the basis of today's vigorous tropical agriculture. Join this session to share experiences on how agriculture can help solving sustainability challenges.
Working Session	A Climate Peace Clause: Aligning Trade Rules with Action on Climate Change	Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch (PCGTW)	To avoid the worst outcomes from climate change, humanity has less than a decade to make substantial progress towards

		Trade Justice Education Fund (TJEF) Sierra Club (SC)	eliminating greenhouse gas emissions. But trade rules found within the World Trade Organization's agreements and other trade and investment agreements were written before governments committed to take measures to address climate change. Today, those trade rules are being used to undermine common sense climate and green jobs policies. A Climate Peace Clause — a commitment to refrain from using trade and investment agreements to challenge other countries' climate policies — would create the much-needed space for governments to adopt and maintain the climate policies needed to create green jobs and meet their commitments under the Paris Climate Agreement. In this session, experts from around the world will discuss this concrete proposal that WTO member states could immediately adopt in order to stop trade challenges which chill necessary bold climate policies.
Working Session	Future of Trade through People's Lenses	Asia Pacific Research Network Foundation Inc. (APRN)	<p>The top 10% of the world economies have registered 12% growth in their trade, while the bottom 40% have registered almost no growth, with the smallest economies even shrinking by 26%. With continued growth in rich economies, we are to expect the rich to become richer and the poor economies to continue lagging behind, placing more of the global population in the realm of misery.</p> <p>How should the WTO take on the challenge of working on a pro-people economy and trade? Peoples organizations and civil society groups will discuss their aspirations on how LDCs and marginalized sectors achieve resilient and inclusive recovery, in consideration of their economic, socio-cultural, and political rights. This working session will share initiatives, struggles, and peoples solutions. It will also come up with recommendations on how the future of trade can be consistent in promoting the peoples economic agenda, and trade equality among nations and peoples.</p>
Working Session	Rethinking Trade Rules on Subsidies to Enhance Sustainable Development	TradeExperettes (TE)	WTO members are looking for innovative ways to achieve climate change mitigation and carbon-neutrality goals through international and domestic efforts. On the latter, some are concerned that their actions might run afoul of WTO disciplines on subsidies as they ramp up green investments for domestic industries. Do current rules provide adequate policy space to

			<p>promote climate responsive measures and aid in the energy transformation, or are they in need of an overhaul? If reform is needed, how do we strike a balance between providing more space for environmentally-focused subsidies and ensuring that such measures are not just disguised protectionism? And how can we ensure that developing countries can reap the benefits of a green transition if they face financial constraints in providing their own subsidies?</p> <p>Join us for a conversation on what reform of multilateral rules on subsidies could look like, and how this can support a sustainable economic recovery.</p>
Workshop	Export of Grains During the War: International Trade Regulation	Ukrainian Catholic University, School of Law (UCU)	<p>WTO 12th Ministerial Conference has highlighted the importance of short and long-term solutions to food insecurity. Global food markets are in unprecedented crisis. This is the result of a perfect storm of longstanding environmental issues such as climate change, a pandemic in its third year, and barriers to Ukrainian exports of grains, including seaports blockade, destruction of infrastructure and other logistics problems arising from Russia's military aggression, and protective Member measures such as food export restrictions. The world community needs to coordinate efforts to secure major agricultural supply chains, enhance the diversification of supplies and facilitate access to food for those in need.</p> <p>In this session experts will discuss the role of the WTO (including, among others, rules regarding national security exceptions), as well as possible solutions such as trade and investment facilitation measures and international aid. What are the lessons which can be learned? The event is organized with the support of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine in Geneva.</p>
Working Session	New Generation Coffee and Boosting African Robusta: For an Inclusive, Climate-Smart and Sustainable Coffee Sector	Agence des Cafés Robusta d'Afrique et de Madagascar (ACRAM)	<p>Sustainable coffee farming means revenue incentives, competitive market opportunities and climate-smart solutions. Young coffee leaders who remain engaged in the coffee sector and offer climate-smart solutions will play a key role in creating a more resilient, sustainable and inclusive trading system.</p> <p>While Arabica remains the most popular species for coffee drinkers, with climate change advancing and decreasing arable</p>

			land, it is at risk. Robusta offers a more resilient, climate-smart alternative and with recent efforts in research for higher quality, fine Robustas, it could be a competitive choice. In Africa, many countries are turning to coffee production – and Robusta production in West Africa – as a way to tap into this opportunity and diversify their income and production. This could offer new opportunities to the new generation, while offering a global solution to the coffee sector - if done with the right approach, strategy, actions and partnerships.
<b>30 September 2022</b>			
<b>09:00-10:15</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Trade and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation: Regional Perspectives	Forum on Trade, Environment and the SDGs (TESS) Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh (CPD) Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services, Barbados (SRC)	<p>This session will present different developing country perspectives on how international cooperation on trade and trade-related policies can support regional efforts on climate change mitigation and adaptation. While a lot of discussion is already taking place on the trade and climate change interface, the debate remains largely driven by concerns of more advanced economies with only limited attention paid to priorities in developing countries. In an effort to reframe the debate, this session will identify key priorities for action at the multilateral level from the perspective of least developed countries (LDCs), the Caribbean, South America and Sub-Saharan Africa. Questions to be addressed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the key climate change adaptation and mitigation priorities in developing countries?</li> <li>• How can trade and trade-related policy measures support adaptation and mitigation efforts?</li> <li>• What are the implications for international cooperation on trade in general and for the WTO in particular?</li> </ul>
Working Session	Improving Lives and Livelihoods Through Trade in Medical Technologies	Global Medical Technology Alliance (GMTA)	Medical devices and diagnostics are essential for long and healthy lives, and an inclusive post-pandemic recovery. Trade allows people around the world to access these latest lifesaving technologies.

			<p>Since production of medical devices involves inputs and components from many different countries, regulatory divergences hinder the smooth functioning of supply chains and create barriers for access to medical goods, driving up costs and denying people the best care possible. Trade and the multilateral trading system can help improve access to medical technology and ensure that people in all WTO members – regardless of their level of development – can benefit from these new technologies through a more harmonized regulatory environment.</p> <p>This session will bring together public and private stakeholders to explore how enhanced trade cooperation at the WTO can help deliver more sustainable and resilient medical technology supply chains, and thereby improve lives and livelihoods worldwide as part of an inclusive economic recovery.</p>
Working Session	AI in the Post-COVID Economic Recovery: Is it Worth the Incentives of Intellectual Property Rights?	Association Internationale pour la Protection de la Propriété Intellectuelle (AIPPI)	<p>AI has been widely employed to fight COVID-19. In the post-COVID-19 phase, AI is likely to keep playing a relevant role because, especially in advanced economies, its manifold applications make it an attractive driver of economic growth. This session will discuss whether AI is worth being incentivized by IP as a driver of an inclusive and sustainable post-Covid recovery. Indeed, intellectual property law may contribute to the further development of AI, in particular by recognizing AI-generated content as protectable subject matter.</p> <p>By opening up discussion, this session aims to find a balance between different interests: on the one side, the potentialities of AI which, with its speediness and efficiency, may be crucial to leave the Covid crisis behind; on the other side, the possible negative consequences of its further spread in the post-pandemic phase, which may increase unemployment and widen the dichotomy between national economies already running at different speeds.</p>
Working Session	Engendering Gender Equality in International Trade: A Discussion on Inclusive Trade Policies and Initiatives	Institute of Export & International Trade (IOE&IT) Enterprise for Management, Economic Reform & Gender Equality (EMERGE)	Gender disparity has long been a challenge in international trade. Female entrepreneurs have less access to opportunities, skills, and financial services, and are less well-represented in international business networks. Awareness of trade and gender is increasing globally, with many inclusive policies and initiatives

			<p>being discussed at national and international levels, but more is needed to mainstream gender within trade policy dialogue. Additionally, policymakers need a feedback mechanism for female entrepreneurs who are affected by gender disparity in trade to understand the impact of their policies and initiatives.</p> <p>This panel is intended to develop a dialogue between policymakers, those that support and advise policymakers, and businesswomen in international trade. It is our hope that the questions raised in the course of this panel spurn further discussions that will inform future policy initiatives and assist in bridging the divide between policymakers and practitioners, particularly for women entrepreneurs in developing and least-developed countries.</p>
Workshop	No MSME Left Behind: Empowering Communities by Bridging the Digital Divide	Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)	<p>The digital economy has created an environment in which the smallest businesses can go global from day one, and lockdown restrictions and disruption to global supply chains caused by the coronavirus pandemic accelerated the digital transition as businesses pivoted to offer new services and boost their online presence to remain competitive.</p> <p>As global value chains continue to face disruption and amidst growing economic divergence, we should look at how digital technologies can boost resilience, empowering communities, and businesses across the globe. Building on the work of the Informal Working Group on MSMEs and the e-commerce joint initiative negotiations, this session will bring together policymakers and the business community to identify the barriers to small business participation in digital trade and to explore what measures can be taken to bridge the digital divide and create an inclusive recovery in which no MSME is left behind.</p>
Working Session	Ensuring Inclusive Trade and Environment Measures	USC Gould School of Law Center for Transnational Law & Business (CTLB)	<p>Developing and least developed countries have often expressed concerns that environment-related trade measures are discriminatory and thus hinder their economic development and growth and/or, become trade barriers to markets of developed countries.</p> <p>The objective of this working session is to explore and discuss what trade policies, tools, collaborative actions and best</p>

			<p>practices could be incorporated in environment-related trade measures that address the concerns of developing and least developed countries and that would encourage their participation in developing and implementing environment-related trade measures. Specifically, we will explore how to make measures such as border carbon taxes, eliminating subsidies that contribute to environmental degradation, facilitating greater access to goods, services and knowledge needed for the global transition to a low-carbon future, and the use of plurilateral as well as regional and bilateral trade agreements more inclusive and ensure participation of all WTO members at all levels of development.</p>
Workshop	Cable Spaghetti? Regulatory Heterogeneity and the Inclusiveness of the Digital Economy	St Gallen Endowment for Prosperity Through Trade (SGEPT)	<p>The digital transformation is a key driver of the post-pandemic recovery. Designing policies that nurture inclusive growth is a key priority. This session explores the risks and benefits of regulatory differences between jurisdictions (“regulatory heterogeneity”) bringing together the perspectives of small and large technology companies.</p> <p>Based on a description of the international regulatory landscape using data from the Digital Policy Alert, representatives from a large digital MNE and a technology startup explain how regulatory heterogeneity impacts the expansion of their businesses. Panellists and participants explore the tensions between safeguarding local economies and the desirability of an open internet. The objective is to provide a neutral discussion on the role of policy and regulation for inclusively nurturing the digital economy.</p>
Working Session	Framing Change: Labor & Technology in Trade’s Future	TradeTankMx (TTMx)	<p>Trade is changing. Or at least, many appear to assume this is happening. Several events have fuelled the narrative that for global value chains to be secure, they should become more regional. Under that framing, it is often envisioned that trade of the future would run on highly integrated trading blocs –USMCA, CPTPP, RCEP– decoupled from each other. However, that framing prevents the public from reflecting on the actual transformations shaping the fabric of trade.</p> <p>To build a frame that helps to preview future disruptions in the everyday of trade, this working session will discuss how it will be</p>

			impacted by changes in two fronts: labour and technology. Some of the questions to address are: How the population decline in main economies will modify global trade and trade rules? If data is the commodity of the future, how the WTO can help to minimize barriers to cross-border data flows?
<b>11:30-12:45</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Circular Opportunities in the Global Textiles Value Chain: Leveraging Trade Rules to Support an Inclusive Transition	Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA Finland) Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra (Sitra) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	<p>Just transitions to circular economy have the potential to address the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, while providing new sustainable jobs and livelihoods and increasing resilience in the pandemic aftermath. The way the world produces, consumes and manages natural resources will fundamentally change, with a focus on smarter design and resource efficiency. Trade is a key connector and enabler. Through the lens of one key global value chain, textiles, the session explores how to facilitate a just transition to circularity across jurisdictions, leveraging internationally agreed trade rules. Key questions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are companies across GVCs transitioning towards circularity?</li> <li>• How can trade rules and arrangements provide support?</li> <li>• How are regulations and standards for circularity being developed and how can international cooperation be strengthened?</li> <li>• What scope is there for deeper discussions at the WTO?</li> <li>• What technical and financial assistance is needed?</li> </ul>
Workshop	Towards Multipurpose Trade Policy: How Competing Narratives about Globalization are Reshaping International Trade Cooperation	Queen's University, Faculty of Law/School of Policy Studies	After years of upheaval in international economic relations, a new approach to trade policy is taking shape: multipurpose trade policy. Inspired by competing narratives about globalization that bring different values to the fore, this approach no longer just tries to achieve an efficient international division of labour through trade liberalization, but tasks trade policy with achieving other substantive policy objectives as well, including lifting up

			<p>workers, addressing inequality, building resilient supply chains, safeguarding national security, and advancing climate objectives.</p> <p>What are the implications of the shift towards multipurpose trade policy for international trade cooperation? The shift poses challenges for cooperation, since governments are using a broad range of tools, including unilateral measures and mini-lateral agreements, to achieve these objectives. However, the shift also presents opportunities for cooperation on subjects that are outside the traditional remit of the trade regime, as governments are broadening the tasks of trade policy.</p>
Working Session	The Missing Peace: Improving Youth Participation in Shaping an Inclusive Trade Future	Geneva Graduate Institute, Geneva Trade Platform (IHEID, GTP) World Trade Organization (WTO)	<p>Building a more inclusive and sustainable future must include the active involvement of the youth who will live in it, and especially those from fragile and conflict-affected states (FCS) who are largely left out of the conversation.</p> <p>The world currently has the largest youth population in history, a disproportionate amount of which live in FCS. Existing challenges faced by the youth are exacerbated and compounded in FCS, and youth are often the most affected by conflicts but least involved in the peacebuilding process. Trade has the power to help.</p> <p>To this end, this session will bring together young people from FCS with senior government and IGO officials to discuss:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) How to best involve youth in trade and peacebuilding for a more sustainable future;</li> <li>2) Mobilization strategies to reach youth in fragile contexts; and</li> <li>3) Approaches to improving youth involvement at the policymaking level.</li> </ol>
Working Session	The Future of Trade in Central America: Technological Tools for Trade Facilitation	Secretaría de Integración Económica Centroamericana (SIECA)	Trade-related information and communication technologies are key for the digital transition of economies, promoting trade facilitation measures and the inclusive recovery of trade. This working session will analyse a range of perspectives from the public sector, private sector and international organizations in

			<p>relation to cases where information and communication technologies have been implemented in Central America. Specifically, it will examine the case study of the Central American Digital Trade Platform (PDCC), which is a tool that will ensure the interoperability of national systems and the SIECA in order to streamline trade processes. The session will also analyse the benefits and impact of other experiences relating to the interoperability of foreign trade single windows, as is the case of the Pacific Alliance.</p>
Working Session	Creation and Protection of Global Public Goods for Health (the Experience of COVID-19)	<p>Medicines Law &amp; Policy (ML&amp;P)  Knowledge Ecology International (KEI)  Pharmaceutical Accountability Foundation (PAF)  Wemos, Innovarte  Health Action International (HAI)</p>	<p>One of the great failures of the international community and multilateral institutions' response to COVID-19 was repeating the same mistakes made during earlier pandemics: not sharing knowledge, technology and know-how that could have ensured faster and more equitable access to COVID countermeasures.</p> <p>This session will examine what international systems, institutions, and norms must be in place to safeguard the world against the next global public health threat/emergency, and what the role of the WTO could be in helping create and operationalise them.</p>
Working Session	Mainstreaming Development in the WTO	The South Centre	<p>The Global South has a fundamental interest in the WTO. In framing the future of trade, reforming and strengthening the organisation requires mainstreaming development in the WTO. The primary question is how to ensure that the broader development dimension of the multilateral trading system is advanced?</p> <p>This session explores ways in which the multilateral trading system can meaningfully address the needs of developing countries, including LDCs. These include assessing different approaches to build greater equity in the trading regime, consider ways to improve the capacity for developing countries to benefit from trade, establishing a deeper role and voice for developing countries including LDCs in developing balanced trade rules, and examining how they can exercise their right to fully participate in the consensus-based decision-making processes of the WTO.</p>

Workshop	A Sustainable and Inclusive WTO: Course Correction or Course Continuation?	Friends of Multilateralism Group (FMG)	<p>This workshop will seek to discuss the current global challenges and the role of international trade and the WTO in assisting to respond to such challenges. The panel will reflect upon the history and the purpose of the trading system, its weakness and strengths, and through what reforms can help the system achieve sustainable, meaningful economic growth and inclusive job creation for all, particularly the vulnerable ones.</p> <p>The panel seeks to address questions including, but not limited to:</p> <p>1) What are the objectives of the multilateral trading system? Are they still relevant in the new global context?</p> <p>2) How should the WTO be reformed in both short and long term? In what sequence and through what kind of process?</p> <p>3) When we say "fit for purpose", is there one or more purposes, and how to test "fitness"?</p>
<b>12:45-14:00</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Meet the Author	Meet the Author	World Trade Organization (WTO)	
<b>14:00-15:15</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Transatlantic Trade and the Green Transition: A Model for Global Solutions?	American Chamber of Commerce to the EU (AEU)	<p>The gradual restoration of global trade after the measures introduced during the pandemic provides a valuable opportunity to use trade as a tool to guide our economic recovery inclusively and facilitate access to the capabilities needed for the transition to a low-carbon future.</p> <p>The "comprehensive transatlantic green agenda" that was announced by the EU and the US in late 2020 is underpinned by ambitious projects such as the Green Technology Alliance and the Trade and Technology Council as well as the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism. Building a trading system that works to ensure sustainable trade brings poses a unique</p>

			<p>challenge for governments, businesses, and consumers.</p> <p>That is why this session will bring together a panel of experts to discuss the progress made in bringing about the transatlantic sustainable trade agenda, where there is still work to be done and how the EU and US's trade relationship affects the global trading system.</p>
Working Session	Trade Policy and a Circular Economy for Plastics: Insights from Developing Countries	Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP)	<p>This working session will examine ways in which trade and investment policy can expedite the transition to a circular economy for plastics in developing countries. Especially for developing countries, these interventions can ensure that circularity in plastics is not at the cost of income and employment growth, but is rather something that creates new economic opportunities, beyond addressing plastic's environmental concerns.</p> <p>Focusing on GPAP's stakeholder-driven work in Ghana and South Africa, and ongoing activities in Latin America and Southeast Asia, the discussion will centre upon the challenges on the path to plastics circularity that are endemic to developing countries, and how deliberate trade policy interventions can transform these challenges into opportunities for sustainable economic development and positive environmental outcomes.</p> <p>In addition, the working session will assess if learnings from these countries are transversal, and to what extent they can be scaled up and replicated in other developing countries.</p>
Working Session	Superheroes of Trade: The Role of Technical Regulations and Standards in Boosting a Sustainable Recovery through Regulatory Cooperation	National Board of Trade Sweden (NBT) Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (SweMFA) Permanent Mission of Sweden to the WTO (SweMFA)	<p>Technical regulations and Standards are implemented to achieve legitimate policy objectives, such as the protection of human health and safety, or protection of the environment. Thereby contributing directly to sustainability objectives relating to environmental and economic sustainability.</p> <p>When trading partners join forces and commit to international regulatory cooperation on these types of regulations, they can help avoid fragmentation and reduce barriers to trade in the goods and services necessary for sustainability objectives. International regulatory cooperation can thereby help facilitate the post-pandemic recovery and boost the green transition.</p>

			Regulatory cooperation is also a mechanism that is relevant for all WTO countries, as commitment levels are set based on each country's context. Regardless of the ambition level chosen, the development to a more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive trading system can be made. In this sense, Technical Regulations and Standards can become superheroes.
Working Session	New Digital Tools and Standards in Custom Procedures: Key Innovations to Improve the Functioning of Supply Chains Both in Developed Countries and in Developing Countries	Association of large French companies (AFEP) French committee of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC France)	<p>In order to better include developing countries and especially LDCs in global supply chains, a significant effort in terms of trade/custom facilitation is required, largely based on digital tools as promoted in the Trade Facilitation Agreement, using new and affordable technologies emerged since 2013.</p> <p>This working session gathers experts from the private sector and public authorities, to highlight, based on concrete business examples or custom projects, the positive contribution of digital technologies such as IOT, blockchains or on-line custom declarations on the roll-out of modernised custom, procedures.</p> <p>The panel will also discuss the various challenges to overcome to deliver such digital-based modernisation and positive outcomes for local producers in terms of a safer, more efficient, and more sustainable access to GVS.</p>
Working Session	Leveraging International Organisations for Sustainable and Inclusive Trade: From Theory to Practice	Trade Policy Hub, London School of Economics and Political Science (TPH, LSE) Trade Implementation and Enforcement Research Network (TIER)	<p>The session will reflect on the findings of TPH's report, comparing recent developments and innovative practices in trade and sustainable provisions.</p> <p>International organisations have been at the forefront and initiators of sustainable development issues. The different conventions and agreements have laid the general frameworks for sustainability objectives across the globe. With more and more trade agreements incorporating references to international conventions or multilateral environmental agreements, trade partner countries who have not implemented them are incentivised to come on board, but the responsibility of implementation poses a challenge for many developing countries. International organisations are often called upon to assist when trade agreements incorporate environmental and labour provisions.</p>

			<p>There are multiple channels for them to bring tangible results: by enhancing civil society participation, combining cooperation and incentives, as well as defining clear roadmaps. This session brings together experts from academia, policy making, and international organisations.</p>
Working Session	Digital Trade Innovations for a Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery Through Increased Intra-African Trade	<p>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)  African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank)  African e-Trade Group (AeTrade)</p>	<p>The implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement creating a single market of 1.3 billion people across 54 countries is expected to contribute to the continent's economic recovery through trade. Existing innovations in digital trade have been successful in supporting Africa's COVID-19 response and show promise in stimulating economic growth.</p> <p>In this session, ECA, Afreximbank, AeTrade, and Senegal's Minister of Digital Economy will unpack how innovations in digital trade, including in e-commerce, finance, trade facilitation, and the wider ecosystem can accelerate economic recovery through increased intra-African trade. Panellists will investigate how these digital innovations are addressing issues of entrepreneurship, youth and women empowerment, job creation, trade barriers, and access to affordable finance, and how these tools can be further leveraged to support economic recovery.</p> <p>The session will conclude with recommendations for their widespread development and use for Africa's sustainable and inclusive recovery.</p>
Working Session	Digital economy, trade and development	<p>Universidad de La Habana (UH)  Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores (MIREX)</p>	<p>This working session will address the current situation concerning the digital economy in international trade and the differences between countries such as those of the Caribbean where it is virtually non-existent, and China and Viet Nam where just modest technological advances have been seen in their foreign trade despite major technological strides in the economy and society. In addition, it will outline the opportunities and changes to be embraced by foreign trade systems and the transformations required in certain public policies. The session will also provide an overview of the advantages and disadvantages of the digital economy in international trade. Lastly, it will propose concrete actions to be taken for the</p>

			implementation of the digital economy in the foreign trade of Caribbean countries.
Working Session	Sustainable Policies for the Global Food Supply	BMJ Associated Consultants (BMJ)	<p>Sustainable food production and consumption are essential in improving and transforming lives worldwide. Understanding how to adjust food global trade to environmental measures is a step towards guaranteeing food security.</p> <p>This working session will analyse the relevance and challenges of creating international trade measures that foster a competitive scenario for sustainable policies regarding agricultural inputs. It will also address the increase in protectionist measures on food security due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the conflict between Ukraine and Russia.</p> <p>The panel will bring together prominent specialists from international organizations, the private sector, and government authorities to address the main challenges and opportunities presented by food global trade and supply chains towards a sustainable future.</p>
<b>15:45-17:00</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Trade and Biodiversity: Taking Stock after COP 15	Délégation permanente de la France auprès de l'OMC Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva	<p>At a time when biodiversity loss is experiencing an unprecedented crisis in terms of its scope and speed, several international, national, public and private initiatives aim to better articulate international trade and biodiversity conservation. Although somewhat complex, the interactions between trade and biodiversity are numerous and well documented. What is the state of science on trade and biodiversity? How can international discussions at the UN, the CBD or the WTO help to reduce the negative impacts of trade on biodiversity while strengthening its positive contributions?</p> <p>This working session, co-organised by the French and Dutch delegations to the WTO, aims to take stock of this crucial issue for a sustainable trade agenda, following the MC12 and the CBD COP 15.</p>

Working Session	Working Together to Make Global Trade More Sustainable	Confederation of British Industry (CBI)	<p>The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) leads an exciting business panel to explore how to make global trade more sustainable and achieve shared climate goals. Ahead of COP27, the session will focus on promoting trade in green goods and services globally, in order to drive a sustainable and inclusive recovery. Environmental sustainability is at the heart of enterprise competitiveness, and there are real opportunities to be won from trade in climate friendly technologies.</p> <p>The session will bring business from the UK, India and developing nations to specifically look at regulatory harmonisation to promote international standards of environmental goods, as well as exploring how to tackle market access barriers to trade in environmental services. It will also look at opportunities and challenges for sustainable trade for developing countries and LDCs.</p>
Working Session	Greening Global Value Chain	Centre for Strategic and International Studies Indonesia (CSIS Indonesia)	<p>This year, the G20 TIIWG emphasizes a collective call for aligning trade, investment, and industry agendas to accelerate SDG' progress. The global value chain should be crucial in shaping a resilient and sustainable economic recovery path. However, achieving a sustainable and inclusive global value chain is still a daunting challenge. Small &amp; Medium Enterprises , especially in developing countries, are hindered by their lack of awareness, capacity, and expensive costs to meet the environmental standards in participating in the global value chain. In addition, there is a need to strengthen the collaboration with private sectors/multinational companies and encourage them to make the necessary shift to decarbonize the supply chain.</p> <p>The session highlights some key findings from the T20 process this year regarding the green and sustainable global value chain. This session is hosted by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia, as a co-host of T20 Indonesia.</p>
Working Session	The Power of Connectivity: The Role of Accession to the WTO in Shaping the Future of Central Asia and Global Trade	QazTrade Center for Trade Policy Development JSC (QazTrade)	<p>Regional cooperation, digitalization, and infrastructure development in Central Asia play an important role in international trade flows and global supply chains. The ongoing WTO accessions strengthen the modernization and reform process, furthering integration of the region in the multilateral trading system.</p>

			<p>The session will focus on Central Asia's contribution to international trade and will bring at the forefront the process of WTO accession for shaping the nearest future of trade agenda, as well as the importance of leveraging technologies for structural modernization reforms. The session will also focus on digitization for procedural simplification, building upon the recommendation developed in the framework of the EU Funded Ready4Trade Central Asia initiative and trade facilitation reforms for boosting intra-regional and international trade.</p>
Working Session	What are the Implications of the Goods and Services Liberalisation Proposals in the WTO's Joint Initiative on E-Commerce?	World Labor Institute (WLI/IMT)	<p>The WTO's Joint Initiative (JI) on E-commerce being negotiated by a number of WTO Members includes goods and services market access proposals such as joining the WTO's Information Technology Agreement (ITA) and its expansion and liberalising computer and telecommunications services.</p> <p>This session will examine the implications of these JI E-commerce goods and services liberalisation proposals for women and small businesses, as well as a variety of policies in developed, developing and least developed countries. It will also analyse whether joining the ITA and liberalising the proposed services in the JI E-commerce would accelerate the digital transformation enabling an inclusive and resilient recovery while addressing the needs of the modern economy.</p>
Working Session	Green public procurement, a step towards an inclusive and sustainable recovery	Réseau québécois pour une mondialisation inclusive (RQMI)	<p>As the pandemic has served as a reminder of the need to promote local public procurement, the United States has adapted to this new reality through "Buy American". "Buy American", which is at the heart of the priorities of the "Made in All of America" recovery plan, establishes public procurement as one of the main drivers of the post pandemic recovery.</p> <p>However, instead of resorting to new protectionist policies, there is a need to overhaul public procurement, not just in line with local considerations, but also with green considerations.</p> <p>Through a bottom-up approach centred on human rights, this workshop seeks to think outside the box in order to reshape the social and environmental measures to be incorporated into public procurement agreements, with a view to fostering an</p>

			inclusive and sustainable recovery that combines economic, social and ecological justice.
Working Session	If We Knew Then What We Know Now: A Fresh Look at the Origins and Premises of the Rules-Based Multilateral Trading System	U.S. Chamber of Commerce (USCC)	<p>The importance of diversity, redundancy, resiliency, and sustainability in supply chains has become apparent during the COVID crisis, and along with this realization a desire for worldwide local production capacity for essential products. Did the Uruguay Round Agreements creating the WTO do enough to enable such outcomes? If so, were those agreements fully and effectively implemented? Did the world see the WTO premise realized of a level playing field in a global marketplace characterized by open competition? The future of the rules-based multilateral trading system hinges on its ability to adapt to new global social and economic realities.</p> <p>The “If we Knew Then What We Know Now” working session provides expert insights on the origin stories of the WTO, inviting stakeholders to share and discuss lessons learned through a forward-looking lens. Key discussion topics will include: supply chains; intellectual property; dispute settlement; and, equity and inclusion in global trade.</p>
<b>17:30-18:45</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Abstract</b>
Working Session	Circular Economy and Trade: Opportunities and Challenges for Transition Economies	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uzbekistan to UN Office and other international organizations in Geneva	<p>This session will discuss how trade can contribute to shifting towards the circular economy in transition economies. These economies, especially those acceding to the WTO, face particular challenges given their limited integration into the global economy. At the same time, the reforms these economies undergo, including as part of WTO accession, represent an important opportunity for the circular economy transition. The panellists will discuss the trade-circular economy nexus, share successful experiences and address challenges vis-à-vis the circular economy shift.</p> <p>The session will also look at circular supply chains as a specific entry point for the circular transition. The panel will discuss experiences and digital tools, including those related to traceability of supply chains, and suggest policies that can facilitate this process. The panellists will also reflect on the way</p>

			forward, including through the discussions within international initiatives, such as WTO TESSD, which established a separate working group on circular economy
Working Session	Governing Data for Global Data Flows and Exchanges for Digital Trade	IT for Change (ITfC) The South Centre Transnational Institute, Amsterdam (TNI)	Data being a digital society's key resource, there is no gainsaying the importance of its effective governance. However, beyond privacy issues, data governance remains poorly developed. Allocating appropriate rights and responsibilities for economic value and use of data can ensure its most productive as well as fair use. The consent and participation in data use of people and communities who are the subjects of data would ensure the best use of our often finite resources. Governing data as an economic resource has to take place in conjunction with data's other social, cultural and political roles in the society. UNCTAD's 2021 Digital Economy Report called for a holistic Global Data Governance Framework. Such a framework should then inform global digital trade, ensuring a digital economy that is most productive and fair, globally, and within nations. This workshop would discuss the why, what, and how of a global data governance framework.
Working Session	The Implications of WTO e-commerce Proposals on the Need for a Coherent Tax Policy for a Sustainable Digital Economy	Tax and Fiscal Justice Asia (TAFJA) Tax Justice Network - Africa (TJN-Africa) Indian Social Action Forum (ISAF)	Digital trade must benefit all, especially those in developing countries and LDCs. A proposed ban on customs duties on electronic transmission would supposedly facilitate more e-commerce and thus arguably benefit these countries. But any agreement to eliminate such duties translates to foregone revenues. It is a tax justice issue as digital companies from rich countries earn revenues in market jurisdictions without physical presence, thus not liable to pay income tax. Meanwhile, their local competitors there need to pay income tax, thus making it a competition policy issue, too. Issues surrounding these duties should then be discussed within a larger context of a sustainable and fair tax system and must include discussions on other digital tax matters such as the OECD/G20 BEPS, the UN Model Tax Treaty (Art 12B), and digital services tax.
Working Session	TRIPS Flexibilities for Sustainable Access: Challenges & Opportunities	Consumers Association of Penang (CAP) Campaign for Access to Medicines, Diagnostics and Devices-India (CAMD-India)	Inequitable access to COVID-19 medical products during the pandemic has highlighted the importance of exceptions within the TRIPS Agreement to facilitate production and access. There are many flexibilities within the TRIPS Agreement that provide opportunities to achieve equitable access. At the same time,

		Peoples Health Movement (PHM)	developing countries and least developed countries may face challenges in using these flexibilities. These issues were brought to the fore as concerns over persisting inequities emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic and were discussed in the WTO. There is a need to unpack these concerns, to better understand the challenges and to explore the available possibilities towards sustainable access that offers developing countries and least developed countries greater resilience and preparedness for future pandemics.
Working Session	Access to Health Technologies: Towards a Public Health-Centred Approach in Law and Policy Response	Health Action International (HAI) Brazilian Interdisciplinary AIDS Association (ABIA)	The working session brings together leading experts and practitioners from international organizations, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations, and intends to critically review and discuss law and policy options to facilitate access to and transfer of health technologies in developing countries. These would include discussions on technology transfer issues under the TRIPS regime, other laws and policy options such as competition law, access and benefit-sharing mechanism and regulations on foreign investment, among others. It intends to conclude with a discussion on how these options and experiences of using them should inform a further development towards a public health-centred approach to ensure access to health technologies for all. It aims to offer specific recommendations on what steps may be taken by different stakeholders.
Working Session	Steps Towards an Ambitious Climate Agenda at the WTO	Third Generation Environmentalism (E3G)	<p>The intersection of trade and climate policy is an increasingly topical, but still underdeveloped area. Around the WTO, a range of initiatives has begun to explore this emerging area, including the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD), the Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform agenda, or the Informal Dialogue on Plastics. Most recently, in the margins of MC12, an inclusive group of countries came together to form the Trade Ministers' Coalition for Climate, for the first time creating a Ministerial-level forum for discussing trade and climate change.</p> <p>This event will bring together active participants in these recent initiatives to discuss how we continue to build momentum towards an ambitious trade and climate agenda at the WTO and beyond. What are the immediate next steps to align the global</p>

			trading system with global climate goals? How can we scale-up efforts to meet the scope and the urgency of the climate crisis?
Working Session	Harnessing Technology and Digital Innovation to Advance Africa's Trade and Sustainable Development Agenda	Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF) Africa Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC) Dynamics Impact Advisory (DIA)	<p>Despite the challenges that come with the impact of COVID-19, a notable outcome is the accelerated growth in technology in Africa. The Africa region has witnessed how young people globally and especially on the continent are rising and setting new trends in healthcare, sports, fashion, science, agriculture and many more. They are leading initiatives to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on our economic and social lives. They are inventing and creating opportunities to build the future we want with the use of technology and digital innovation.</p> <p>The working session will discuss the and highlights how the potentials of digital innovation and technology could be harnessed to promote trade in the Africa regions, to accelerate sustainable economic recovery, and build back better on the continent. The role of the youth led initiatives and innovations in accelerating this progress would be particularly spotlighted for action.</p>