



## REPORT ON G20 TRADE MEASURES

(MID-OCTOBER 2020 TO MID-MAY 2021)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This twenty-fifth WTO Trade Monitoring Report on G20 trade measures comes as the world continues to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. The mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021 review period covered in this Report provides important insight into a number of areas as countries begin addressing the challenges of a post-pandemic economic recovery. In particular, the past several months have seen international cooperation and coordination among nations and intergovernmental organizations increase and intensify.

2. The Rome Declaration by G20 Leaders and other states, made during the Global Health Summit in May, reaffirmed that the pandemic remains an unprecedented global health and socio-economic crisis with disproportionate direct and indirect effects on the most vulnerable. It also emphasized that the pandemic would continue to be a threat until all countries are able to bring the disease under control through large-scale, global, safe, effective and equitable vaccination in combination with other appropriate public health measures.

3. Recently, the Heads of the IMF, the World Bank, the WHO and the WTO called for a new commitment for vaccine equity and defeating the pandemic and introduced a USD 50 billion health, trade and finance roadmap to end the pandemic and secure a global recovery. Coordination among manufacturers, suppliers and international organizations was a main theme at the Global COVID-19 Vaccine Supply Chain & Manufacturing Summit in March. Without a broad and inclusive international effort we will not be able to end this pandemic, nor will we be able to successfully fight the next one.

4. Cooperation on trade is important as policymakers consider preparedness, response and resilience as an interconnected package. Trade has been a force for good during the pandemic by enabling access to medical supplies. Despite the value of global merchandise trade shrinking by more than 8% in 2020, trade in medical supplies increased by 16%, and personal protective equipment (PPE) by 50%. As a platform for transparency, the WTO has a central role to play in ensuring that supply chains are kept open and restrictive trade policies are avoided. The multilateral trading system, despite the continuing challenges of the pandemic, has kept trade flowing and provided Members with a well established platform for providing information on the policies they have taken in response to the pandemic. Throughout the pandemic WTO committees have worked intensively to address COVID-19-related issues and their impact on international trade. As during the global financial crisis (GFC) more than a decade ago, the foundation of the multilateral trading system has proved solid.

5. Overall, this Report shows that trade policy restraint by G20 economies as well as WTO Members more broadly has prevented a destructive acceleration of protectionist trade measures that would have further harmed the world economy. This Report documents how many restrictive trade measures on goods imposed at the start of the pandemic have been rolled back and that new liberalizing measures have been introduced. The challenge ahead is to ensure that the trade-restrictive measures introduced in response to the pandemic are transparent, proportionate, targeted and temporary. G20 economies must show collective leadership as the world seeks to return to strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth, including through strengthened supply chains and diversified global vaccine-manufacturing capacity.

### Specific findings

6. **World trade and output grew faster than expected in the first half of 2021**, after falling sharply in the second half of 2020 during the first wave of the pandemic. The turnaround was aided by strong monetary and fiscal policy support from governments, and by the arrival of effective vaccines against COVID-19. According to the WTO's most recent trade forecast on 31 March 2021, the volume of world merchandise trade will increase by 8% in 2021 and 4% in 2022. Trade growth in the second half of 2020 was still not strong enough to return trade to its pre-pandemic trend, but such a turn-around could happen by the first quarter of 2022 if vaccine production and dissemination accelerate, thus containment measures to be relaxed sooner. Leading indicators point to a sustained expansion of merchandise trade in the first half of 2021. In contrast, commercial services trade has recovered more slowly, since it is strongly influenced by lockdowns and travel restrictions.

7. Despite these relatively positive developments, COVID-19 continues to pose a serious threat to the global economy and to public health. Production of vaccines has been slow and distribution uneven, contributing to significant disparities in access across countries. This is especially true for low-income developing economies, which are struggling to obtain enough doses to inoculate more than a small fraction of their populations. Failure of the international community to ensure wider access to vaccines, including in the poorest countries, could lead to a resurgence of the pandemic, which would set back the global economic recovery significantly.

8. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, **140 trade and trade-related measures in the area of goods have been implemented by G20 economies**, of which 101 (72%) were of a trade facilitating nature and 39 (28%) could be considered trade restrictive. Several of these measures, originally introduced in immediate response to the pandemic, have been extended during the review period. Export bans accounted for more than 90% of all restrictive measures recorded. The reduction or elimination of import tariffs and import taxes make up 60% of trade-facilitating measures taken, and several G20 economies reduced their tariffs on a variety of goods such as PPE, sanitizers, disinfectants, medical equipment and medicine/drugs. During the review period three G20 economies temporarily eliminated their import tariffs on COVID-19 vaccines, thus bringing the total of G20 members with zero rate MFN applied tariffs in this sector to ten.

9. **G20 economies continued to repeal measures implemented in response to the pandemic** and, as at mid-May 2021, around 22% of COVID-19 trade facilitating measures by G20 economies and 49% of the COVID-19 trade restrictive measures have been terminated. The trade coverage of COVID-19 related trade-facilitating measures implemented since the beginning of the pandemic was estimated at USD 215.7 billion, while that of the COVID-19-related trade-restrictive measures stood at USD 135.7 billion. According to preliminary estimates by the WTO Secretariat, the **trade coverage of the trade-restrictive measures still in force (USD 98.8 billion) is slightly higher than that of trade-facilitating (USD 96.5 billion)**, suggesting that, in terms of trade coverage, the roll-back of the trade-facilitating measures has been swifter than the roll-back of trade-restrictive measures.

10. **G20 economies continued to implement COVID-19-related support measures to mitigate the social and economic impacts induced by the pandemic.** Since the beginning of the pandemic, 618 COVID-19 support measures have been communicated by G20 economies to the Secretariat, and another 290 measures were identified from public sources and governmental websites, i.e. a total of 908 COVID-19 support measures. The unprecedented number of COVID-19 support measures put in place since the beginning of the pandemic far exceeds the activity seen in the wake of the GFC. These measures included grants, loans or stimulus packages targeting sectors of the economy heavily affected by the crisis, including agriculture, health, aviation, transport, tourism, education and culture, and also fiscal and financial measures to support businesses and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). Most of these measures appeared to be temporary in nature even if some implemented in the early stages of the pandemic have been extended in 2021. Overall, the pace of introducing new support measures decreased during the review period.

11. **Support programmes by international intergovernmental organizations, regional development banks or bilateral assistance measures**, related to the pandemic, complemented governmental measures. These programmes came in the form of grants, loans, vaccination roll-out programmes or vaccines donations, and credit and funding arrangements to reduce debt vulnerabilities in low-income countries where the pandemic has created urgent financing needs.

12. In the services sector, many of the measures affecting trade in services put in place by G20 economies in response to the pandemic were extended and several terminated during the review period. The **downward trend in introducing new COVID-19 trade in services measures by G20 economies**, already observed since the third quarter of 2020, was confirmed. Between mid-October 2020 and mid-May 2021, seven COVID-19-related services measures were introduced by G20 economies.

13. During the review period, **G20 economies implemented 35 new trade-facilitating measures and 26 new trade-restrictive measures unrelated to the pandemic.** The monthly average of trade-facilitating measures is the third lowest recorded since 2012 and that of

trade-restrictive measures the second lowest since 2012. The estimated trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures introduced during the review period (USD 438 billion) significantly exceeds the trade coverage of import-restrictive measures (USD 123.89 billion), suggesting a return to the trend identified since the beginning of the trade monitoring exercise in 2009. Deviation from this trend was the result of an escalation of bilateral trade tensions or, as reported in November 2020, a remarkable drop in the implementation of non-COVID-related trade policies generally in the second half of 2020.

**14. 66 regular measures (i.e. not related to the pandemic) affecting trade in services were introduced by G20 economies** during the review period, mainly horizontal measures pertaining to foreign investment policies, information technology and Internet- and other network-enabled services, as well as financial services. While almost half of these were trade-facilitating, most appeared to be trade-restrictive, including the adoption of revised or new procedures for foreign investment screening, digital services taxes and bans on certain connected mobile and desktop apps imposed on national security grounds.

**15. Initiations of trade remedy investigations by G20 economies reached its lowest level** after marking its highest peak in 2020. The monthly average of trade remedy initiations (15) was the lowest recorded since 2012. Initiations of anti-dumping investigations continued to account for 80% of all trade remedy initiations. The trade coverage of trade remedy initiations recorded during the review period (105) was estimated at USD 15.9 billion (down from USD 34.1 billion in the previous period) and that of terminations (122) at 14.2 USD billion (up from USD 2 billion in the previous period). The monthly average of trade remedy terminations (17) was the highest recorded since 2012. Trade remedy actions remain an important trade policy tool for G20 economies, accounting for 79% of all non-COVID-19-related trade measures on goods recorded in this Report. As at 30 April 2021, two G20 members had notified anti-dumping actions referring to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**16. G20 economies remain the most frequent users of the SPS and TBT Committees' transparency mechanisms.** SPS measures notified by G20 economies have accounted for 66% of all regular notifications and 35% of emergency notifications since 1995. Food safety was the most frequent objective identified in the 418 regular notifications submitted during the review period by G20 economies, with the majority relating to maximum residue limits (MRLs), food additives or pesticides. Of the 56 specific trade concerns (STCs) raised in the SPS Committee during the review period, 51 (91%) involved a G20 member. As at 1 May 2021, G20 economies had submitted 35 (42%) of all 84 SPS notifications and communications on measures taken in response to the pandemic. The nature of most of these measures has shifted, from initial restrictions on animal imports and/or transit from affected areas and increased certification requirements to, since April 2020, facilitating measures allowing temporary flexibility for control authorities to use electronic certificates for checks. More than half of the G20 notifications and communications could be considered trade-facilitating. G20 economies also remain the most frequent users of the TBT Committee's transparency mechanisms, having submitted 45% of all TBT notifications since 1995. Most of the 581 new regular notifications submitted by G20 economies during the review period indicated the protection of human health or safety as their main objective and 35 (80%) of the 44 new STCs discussed in the TBT Committee concerned measures maintained by G20 economies. As at 27 May 2021, G20 economies had submitted 89 (58%) of all 153 TBT notifications made to the WTO in response to the pandemic. TBT notifications in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic cover a wide range of products, including medicines, PPE, food, medical equipment and medical supplies.

**17. Most of the trade concerns raised in WTO bodies concerned G20 measures or policies.** Several of these concerns appeared to indicate persistent and unresolved issues. Some trade concerns were raised in more than one WTO body, suggesting that these concerns involve cross-cutting and technically complex issues and that WTO Members continue to use multiple platforms to address various aspects of such concerns.

**18. In the Committee on Agriculture (CoA), most questions focused on policies implemented by G20 economies.** Of the 238 questions raised in the CoA during the review period, 75% related to policies implemented by G20 economies, including questions on Specific Implementation Matters (SIMs) under Article 18.6, individual notifications and overdue notifications, with most questions related to domestic support notifications or policies. The 96<sup>th</sup> and 97<sup>th</sup> CoA meetings, which took place during the review period, included a dedicated agenda item

on COVID-19 and provided WTO Members with an opportunity to engage in a holistic discussion on the pandemic and the disruptions it has caused to food and agriculture systems globally. WTO Members also used the CoA's standard review process to request clarification on policies implemented in response to the pandemic. During the review period, there were no notifications submitted to the CoA on export restrictions or prohibitions on agricultural products attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

19. **G20 economies continued to fine-tune their intellectual property (IP) domestic frameworks** during the review period. Since the beginning of the pandemic, G20 economies have implemented substantive IP-related measures to facilitate innovation or access with respect to COVID-19-related health technologies and to ease procedural requirements or deadlines for administrative matters. During the review period, WTO Members discussed on several occasions the proposed waiver of some TRIPS provisions in relation to the prevention, containment or treatment of COVID-19.

20. The Report also covers **several other important trade-related developments and discussions** that took place during the review period. Work continued in the first months of 2021 to advance negotiations, particularly on fisheries subsidies, building on the decision taken by Members at MC11. Groups of Members also continued to pursue discussions on other issues, including electronic commerce, investment facilitation, women's economic empowerment, domestic regulation in services and MSMEs.

21. Resolving the health crisis and the fundamental challenges it brings to the world in terms of access to COVID-19 vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics will be central to a sustainable economic recovery. **A full recovery in trade cannot be attained without a rapid and more equitable vaccine rollout. The G20 must show collective leadership in this respect and act to ensure that markets remain open.**

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. This twenty-fifth WTO Trade Monitoring Report reviews trade and trade-related measures implemented by G20 economies during the period from 16 October 2020 to 15 May 2021.<sup>1</sup> The G20 Trade Monitoring Reports have been prepared since 2009 in response to the request by G20 Leaders to the WTO, together with the OECD and UNCTAD, to monitor and report on trade and investment measures implemented by G20 economies. The previous Trade Monitoring Report on G20 economies, which covered the period from mid-May to mid-October 2020, was issued on 18 November 2020.

1.2. This Report is issued under the sole responsibility of the Director-General of the WTO. The Report aims to shed light on the very latest trends in the implementation of a broad range of policy measures that restrict, or facilitate the flow of trade. It provides an update on the main indicators of the world economy and on the state of global trade. The Reports continue to evolve in terms of coverage and analysis of trade-related issues, reflecting discussions among and inputs from G20 economies.

1.3. As with the June and November 2020 Trade Monitoring Reports, this mid-year update arrives at a time when the world continues to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, the WTO Secretariat has continued to monitor and report, under the trade monitoring mandate, on the wide range of trade-related measures taken in response to the crisis. The cooperation of the G20 economies collectively in providing information on their policy actions continues to be fundamental for providing transparency on, and gaining a global understanding of, the trade-related responses to the crisis. This Report contains separate annexes on recorded trade and trade-related measures taken by G20 economies in the area of goods and services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic from 16 October to 15 May 2021. This information is provided for transparency purposes and does not question or pass judgement on the right of governments to implement any of the measures listed. A consistent feature of the trade and trade-related measures taken in response to the COVID-19 crisis has been the frequent changes, adjustments and occasional roll-back of such measures to reflect the evolving situation. The updated lists of measures implemented in the context of the current pandemic, including submitted measures on general economic support, are available on the COVID-19 page of the WTO website.<sup>2</sup> The lists presented on the website are not exhaustive. The full list of notifications received by the WTO Secretariat in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic is also available on the WTO website.<sup>3</sup>

1.4. From a practical and methodological point of view, and in accordance with the long-standing practice of the WTO trade monitoring exercise of verifying information and measures with Members, the WTO Secretariat implemented an *ad hoc* verification process of COVID-19-related measures. In recognition of the fact that some measures did not initially have official government sources, the regular update of these measures was listed only on the dedicated COVID-19 page of the WTO Members' website, pending verification by the relevant delegation. For those trade and trade-related goods, services and intellectual property measures submitted by delegations, or where official sources were found, a separate list was made available on the WTO public website. G20 economies have demonstrated active cooperation in assisting the Secretariat in this transparency exercise, including through the notification process to the relevant WTO committees. In addition, in early October 2020, the WTO Secretariat added a list of general support measures taken in response to the pandemic on the dedicated COVID-19 page of the WTO website. The list includes only measures communicated by Members and Observers and features measures only in the original language of the submission. The list is an informal situation report and an attempt to provide transparency with respect to support measures taken in the context of the COVID-19 crisis.

1.5. On 14 April 2021, the Director-General convened a virtual meeting themed: "COVID-19 and Vaccine Equity: What Can the WTO Contribute?". The event brought together speakers from the

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise indicated in the relevant Section. In addition to the trade policy measures implemented during the period under review and captured in this Report, other actions that impact trade and investment flows may have been taken by G20 economies.

<sup>2</sup> WTO, *COVID-19 and World Trade*. Viewed at: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/covid19\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid19_e.htm).

<sup>3</sup> WTO, *WTO Members' Notifications on COVID-19*. Viewed at: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/notifications\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/notifications_e.htm).

private sector, international organizations, civil society, and Members, including trade ministers and senior officials. It brought clarity as to the reasons for the inequity in global vaccine distribution and the factors impeding manufacturing upscaling and diversification. Issues touched upon during the event are also being discussed by delegations in several WTO bodies.

1.6. The structure of this G20 Trade Monitoring Report is similar to that of the November 2020 version. Each Section, except Section 2, will first cover the regular monitoring of trade and trade-related measures implemented during the review period. Subsequently, each Section will address developments in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, including specific work and activities undertaken in various WTO committees as a result of COVID-19.

1.7. Section 2 of the Report provides an overview of recent economic and trade developments in the G20 economies and includes the most recent forecasts for world trade growth, taking into account the global pandemic. Section 3 presents selected trade and trade-related policy trends for the review period. Policy developments in trade in services and trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPS) are included in Sections 4 and 5, respectively.

1.8. Annexes 1 - 4 to this Report include new non COVID-19 related measures recorded for G20 economies during the review period. Measures implemented outside of this period are not included in these Annexes. A summary table, listing all trade measures recorded since the beginning of the trade monitoring exercise in October 2008 with an indication of their status, as updated by G20 delegations, is made available separately and can be downloaded from the WTO's website.<sup>4</sup> This information is also publicly available through the Trade Monitoring Database (TMDB).<sup>5</sup> Annexes 5 and 6 provide an overview of recorded trade and trade-related measures taken by G20 economies in the area of goods and services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic from 16 October 2020 to 15 May 2021. The process of verification of measures with delegations has been very challenging as a result of the pandemic. The WTO Secretariat recognizes that some G20 economies have simply not been in a position to verify or comment on certain measures.

1.9. Information on measures included in this Report has been collated from inputs submitted by G20 economies and from other official and public sources. Initial responses to the Director-General's request for information were received from most G20 delegations. These data, as well as information collected from other public and official sources, were returned for verification. Where it has not been possible to confirm the information, this is noted in the Annexes.

1.10. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the Global Trade Alert (GTA) have kindly contributed topical boxes to this Report.

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<sup>4</sup> WTO, *Trade Monitoring*. Viewed at: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/tpr\\_e/trade\\_monitoring\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/trade_monitoring_e.htm).

<sup>5</sup> WTO, *Trade Monitoring Database*. Viewed at: <http://tmdb.wto.org>.

## 2 RECENT ECONOMIC AND TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

### 2.1 Overview of world trade

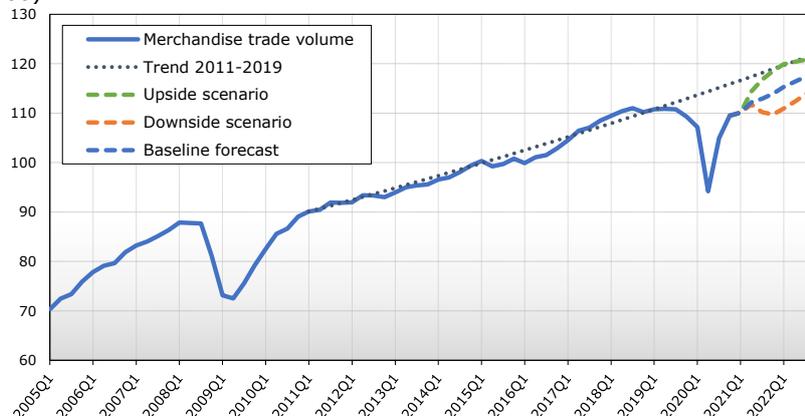
2.1. World trade and output grew faster than expected in the first half of 2021, after falling sharply in the second half of 2020 during the first wave of the pandemic. The turnaround was aided by strong monetary and fiscal policy support from governments, and by the arrival of effective vaccines against COVID-19. Leading indicators point to a sustained expansion of merchandise trade in the first half of 2021, consistent with the WTO's most recent trade forecast of 31 March 2021. In contrast to merchandise trade, commercial services trade has recovered more slowly, since it is strongly influenced by lockdowns and travel restrictions.

2.2. Despite these relatively positive developments, COVID-19 continues to pose a grave threat to the global economy and to public health. Production of vaccines has been slow and distribution uneven, contributing to significant disparities in access across countries. This is especially true for low-income developing economies, which are struggling to obtain enough doses to inoculate more than a small fraction of their populations. Failure of the international community to ensure wider access to vaccines, including in the poorest countries, could lead to a resurgence of the pandemic, which would set back the global economic recovery significantly. G20 economies need to show leadership and work together towards solutions that will save lives and prepare the ground for a sustainable recovery.

2.3. The volume of world merchandise trade jumped 11.4% (quarter-on-quarter) in Q3 2020 and 4.4% in Q4, capping a stronger-than-expected rebound from the 12.1% measured drop in Q2 (Chart 2.1). The bounce was strong enough to lift merchandise trade in Q4 back above its level in Q4 2019, before the pandemic broke out. By comparison, merchandise trade took more than two years (nine quarters) to return to its previous level after the global financial crisis of 2008-09.

**Chart 2.1 World merchandise trade volume, 2005Q1-2022Q4**

(Index, 2015 = 100)



Source: WTO Secretariat and UNCTAD for trade volume data; WTO Secretariat for forecasts.

2.4. For the whole of 2020, the volume of merchandise trade was down by 5.3%, according to WTO trade statistics. There are several possible explanations for the smaller-than-expected contraction last year. First and foremost, fiscal and monetary policies in advanced economies were more expansive and open-ended than during the financial crisis. Fiscal policy in particular boosted household incomes and propped up demand for consumer goods, including imported ones.

2.5. Lockdowns and travel restrictions prevented the consumption of many types of services, causing consumers to bias their spending towards goods. Innovation in information technology also allowed people to work and shop from home, which kept income and economic activity from falling further. Effective pandemic responses in many economies, particularly in Asia, kept manufacturing supply chains operating, allowing them to continue producing much-needed goods, including medical supplies and equipment. Finally, restraint in the implementation of restrictive trade policies prevented a protectionist spiral that would have impacted global trade very negatively.

2.6. According to the WTO's most recent trade forecast on 31 March 2021, the volume of world merchandise trade will increase by 8.0% in 2021 and 4.0% in 2022. Trade growth in the second half of 2020 was still not strong enough to return trade to its pre-pandemic trend (represented by the dotted line in in Chart 2.1), but such a reversion could happen by Q1 2022 if the more optimistic of two alternative scenarios in the trade forecast materializes. In the upside scenario, vaccine production and dissemination would accelerate, allowing containment measures to be eased sooner rather than later. This would add 1 percentage point to world gross domestic product (GDP) growth in 2021 and around 2.5 percentage points to world merchandise trade volume growth. In the downside scenario, trade recovery could stumble if vaccine production does not keep up with demand, or if vaccine-resistant strains of the virus emerge and spread. This would lower GDP growth by 1 percentage point and trade growth by around 2 percentage points in 2021.

2.7. Trade in nominal US dollar terms fell more sharply than trade in volume terms in 2020. The value of world merchandise exports was down 8% compared with the previous year, while commercial services receipts tumbled 20%. Services trade, in particular, was weighed down by travel restrictions, which prevented the delivery of services requiring physical presence or face-to-face interaction. The larger decline in merchandise trade in value terms compared to volume terms was due in part to falling oil prices, down by around one third between 2019 and 2020.

2.8. Merchandise trade flows in nominal US dollar terms also rebounded in the second half of 2020, but the recovery in services trade was weaker. The US dollar value of world merchandise trade was down 21% year-on-year in Q2 2020, but by Q4 it was up 2%. Commercial services trade declined by 28% year-on-year in Q2, and has remained down 19% year-on-year in Q4.

2.9. The policy response to the pandemic will probably be the single most important determinant of trade and output over the next two years. If a large percentage of the world's population gets vaccinated, then service industries will be able to resume, or approach the resumption of, normal activities, and people will be able to travel again. Unfortunately, progress to date has been discouraging, with huge discrepancies in vaccination rates between wealthier and poorer countries.

2.10. The European Union (32% with at least one dose as at 17 May 2020), the United States (47%) and the United Kingdom (54%) are likely to achieve herd immunity before large emerging economies such as Brazil (17%) or India (10%). Meanwhile, only 1.3% of people in African countries are estimated to have been vaccinated.<sup>1</sup> At this rate, it would take years and many lives lost for the region to catch up in the vaccination race.

## 2.2 Details on economic and trade developments

2.11. There are no readily available quarterly statistics on world GDP, but the OECD estimates for G20 economies provide a close approximation. These data show that the real GDP of the collective G20 fell 6.6% quarter-on-quarter in Q2 2020, during the first wave of the pandemic. Growth then turned positive in Q3, with a 7.8% increase, followed by a 2.1% rise in Q4. Figures for Q1 2021 are not yet available, but data for individual G20 economies suggest that growth may have slowed marginally.

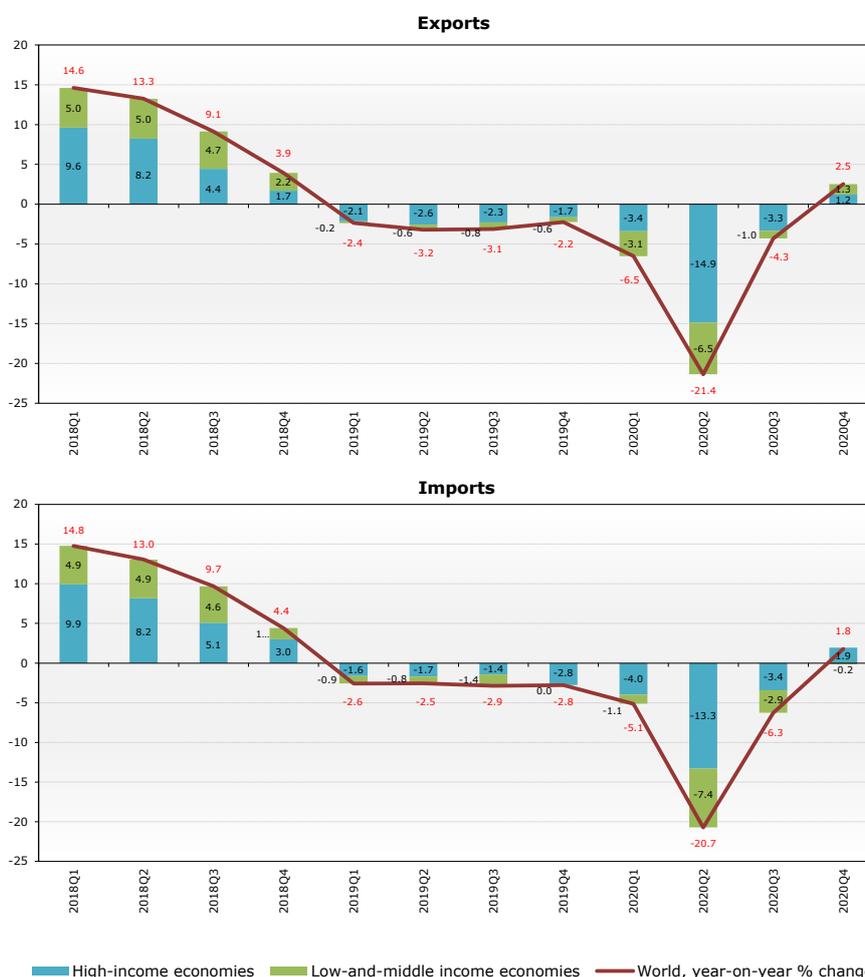
2.12. GDP declines in advanced economies early in the pandemic were larger than the G20 average. The United States recorded a 9.0% drop in real output in Q2, a 7.5% rebound in Q3, and a smaller 1.1% increase in Q4. The European Union reported a 11.6% decline in Q2, followed by a 12.5% rebound in Q3. Growth in the European Union turned negative again in Q4 (-0.7%), probably due to the resurgence of the pandemic in Europe at that time. Finally, the United Kingdom's GDP plunged 19.5% in Q2, before rebounding 16.9% in Q3. Growth subsequently moderated to 1.3% in Q4.

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<sup>1</sup> Viewed at: <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>.

**Chart 2.2 Contributions to year-on-year growth in world merchandise exports and imports, Q1 2018-Q4 2020**

(% change in USD values and percentage point contributions)



Note: Due to limited data availability, Africa and the Middle East are under-represented in world totals. Economies are categorized according to World Bank income classification.

Source: WTO Secretariat and UNCTAD.

2.13. Among emerging economies, China's pattern of GDP growth in 2020 was unique in that it recorded its largest decline in output in Q1, when the COVID-19 virus was first detected. Chinese output dropped 9.7% in Q1, and then rebounded 11.6% in Q2. Despite being hard hit by COVID-19 early in the pandemic, Brazil recorded a relatively modest 9.2% drop in GDP in Q2, followed by a 7.2% rise in Q3. By contrast, India's GDP dropped precipitously, with output falling 25.9% in Q2 before rebounding 23.7% in Q3. The large size of the Indian decline may be attributed to the importance of services in India's economy.

2.14. Chart 2.2 shows growth in the US dollar value of world merchandise trade (red line) together with contributions of income groups to that growth (stacked bars). World export and import growth normally diverge slightly due to differences in the recording of transactions across countries. High-income countries accounted for nearly 70% of the decline in exports in Q2 2020, and about 64% of the decline in imports. Nominal trade growth was negative throughout 2019 due to the elevated trade tensions outlined in previous Reports.

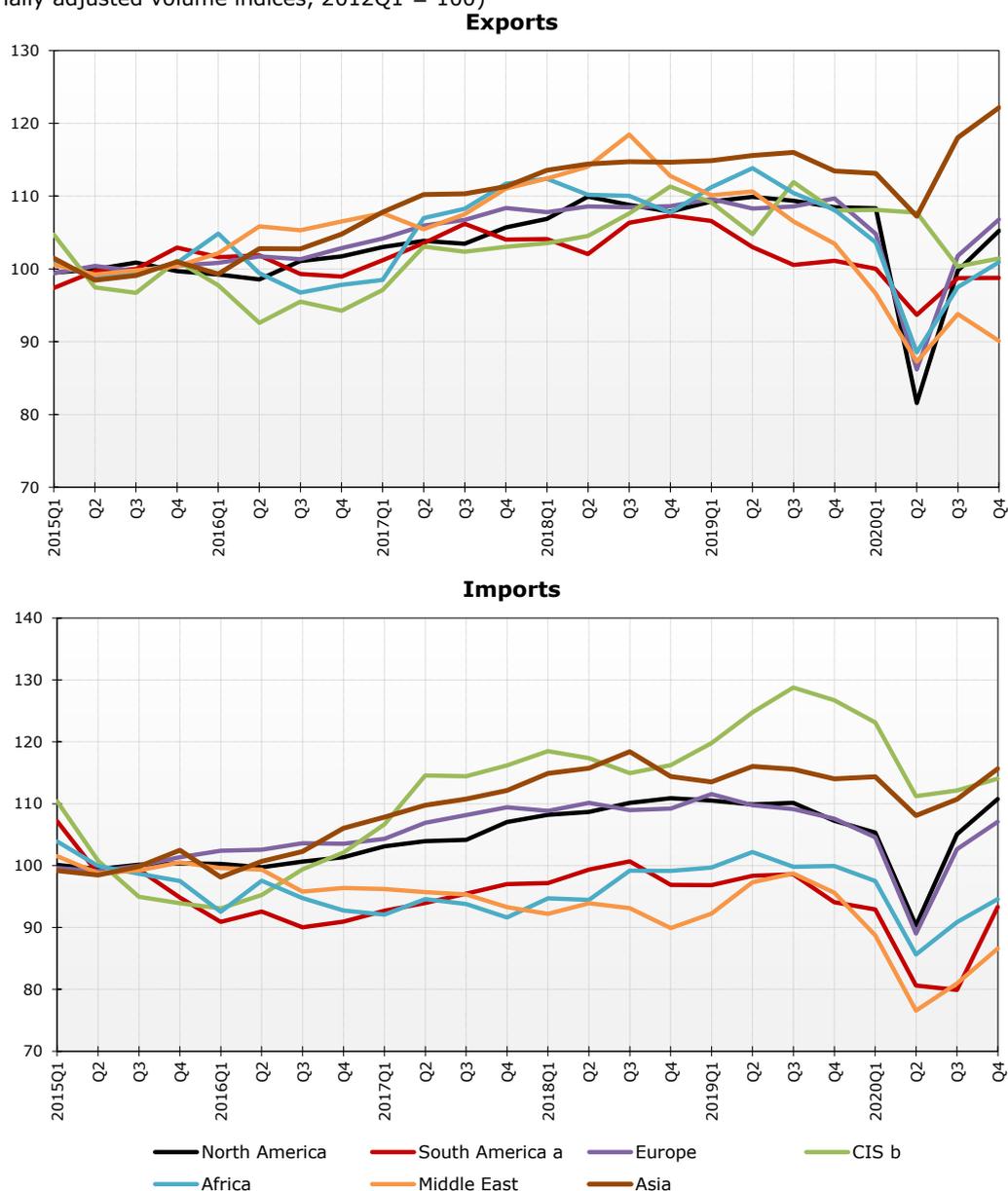
2.15. Chart 2.3 shows quarterly merchandise export and import volume indices for selected regions from Q1 2015 to Q4 2020. In Q2 2020, North America and Europe recorded sharp year-on-year declines in exports 25.8% and 20.4%, respectively. However, by Q4 they had regained most of the lost ground, with year-on-year declines of 3.0% and 2.4%, respectively. Middle

Eastern exports also fell sharply in Q2, as oil consumption slumped worldwide due to reduced demand for gasoline and aviation fuel.

2.16. Asian exports recorded a smaller drop of 7.2% in Q2, but by Q4 shipments were already up 7.7% compared with the same period in 2019. This rapid recovery can be partly explained by the fact that, so far, the pandemic has been comparatively better controlled in most Asian economies. The region has also been supplying the world with a variety of consumer goods and medical supplies since the start of the pandemic, thus driving up regional export totals.

**Chart 2.3 Volume of merchandise exports and imports by region, 2015Q1-2020Q4**

(Seasonally adjusted volume indices, 2012Q1 = 100)



a Refers to South and Central America and the Caribbean.

b Refers to Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), including certain associate and former member States.

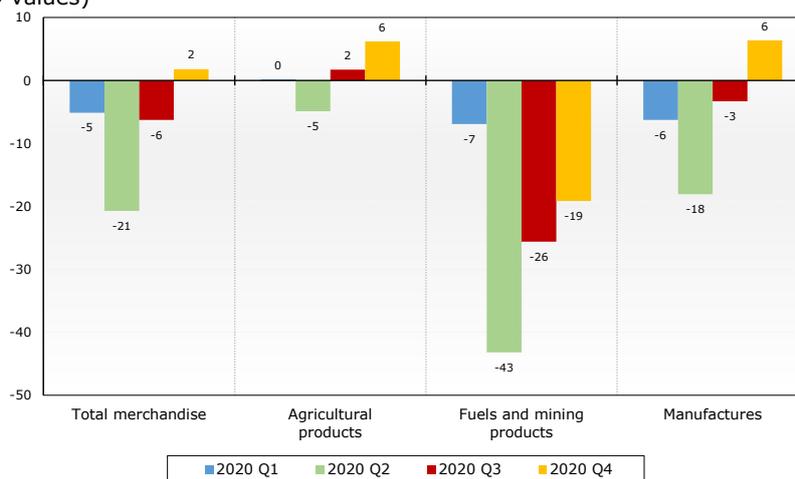
Note: Data for the United States, Japan and the European Union were obtained from national statistical sources, while figures for China and India are seasonally adjusted WTO Secretariat estimates.

Source: WTO Secretariat and UNCTAD.

2.17. Chart 2.4 illustrates the evolution of merchandise trade in current US dollar terms over the course of 2020 by sector. The value of world trade in manufactured goods was 6% higher in Q4 2020 compared with the same period in 2019. Trade in agricultural products was up by a similar amount over the same period. By contrast, the value of fuels and mining products trade was still down 19% in Q4. The value of merchandise trade overall was up slightly compared with the previous year (2%). Although not shown in the chart, most types of manufactured goods saw significant gains in the second half of 2020, including textiles, pharmaceuticals, computers and telecommunications equipment.

**Chart 2.4 Year-on-year growth in world merchandise trade by sector, 2020Q1-2020Q4**

(% change in USD values)

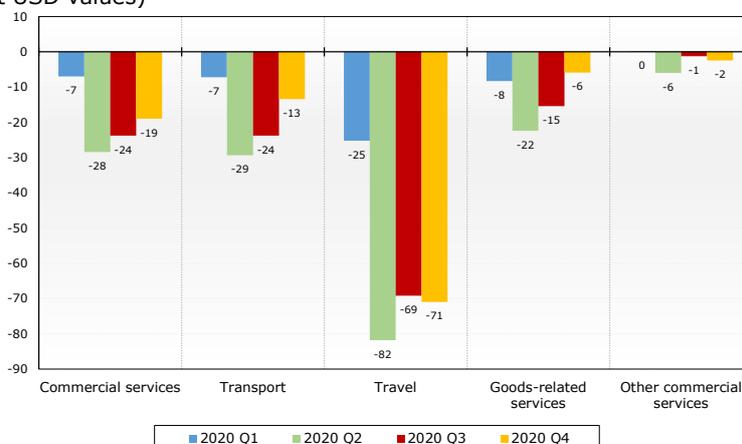


Source: WTO Secretariat estimates.

2.18. Chart 2.5 shows year-on-year changes in world commercial services trade by major category. Travel suffered the steepest decline of any services category during the pandemic, down 82% year-on-year in Q2 2020. By Q4 it remained down 71%. Transport was also severely impacted, with a 29% decline in Q2, but this was reduced to 13% by Q4. Goods-related services, which cover manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others, improved from a 22% year-on-year decline in Q2 to a 6% year-on-year decline in Q4. Finally, the Other Commercial Services category, which includes many types of business and financial services, held up well during the pandemic, with a 6% year-on-year decline in Q2 and a 2% year-on-year decline in Q4.

**Chart 2.5 Year-on-year growth in world commercial services trade by category, 2020Q1-2020Q4**

(% change in current USD values)



Source: WTO Secretariat and UNCTAD.

### 2.3 Trade forecast and economic outlook

2.19. Trade projections from the WTO's most recent forecast of 31 March 2021 are presented in Table 2.1. The WTO expects world merchandise trade volume growth of 8.0% in 2021, accompanied by real GDP growth at market exchange rates of 5.1%. For 2022, trade growth of 4.0% and GDP growth of 3.8% are anticipated.

2.20. The Middle East should see the fastest export growth of any region this year at 12.4%, explained by increased shipments of fuels for use in transport once travel restrictions are relaxed. It will be followed by Asia (8.4%), Europe (8.3%), Africa (8.1%), North America (7.7%), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) (4.4%) and South America (3.2%). The fastest growing region on the import side will be North America (11.4%), with demand fuelled by increased government spending. It will be followed by Europe (8.4%), South America (8.1%), the Middle East (7.2%), Asia (5.7%), the CIS (5.7%) and Africa (5.5%).

2.21. The implied ratios of trade volume growth to GDP growth in 2021 and 2022 would be 1.6-to-1 and 1.1-to-1, respectively. These ratios imply that trade will once again grow in lockstep with GDP once the shock of the pandemic has faded, as it did following the 2008-2009 global financial crisis.

2.22. Leading indicators for trade in 2021 can provide an indication as to whether the WTO's trade forecast is being realized. A closely watched index of container port throughput published by the Institute of Shipping Economics and Logistics (ISL) was up nearly 11% year-on-year in the first three months of 2021. This points to strong trade growth in Q1 2021, especially because the index did not decline much in 2020. International cargo-tonne kilometre (CTK) statistics from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) show an even stronger increase, up 23% year-on-year in March. These indicators and others are summarized in the WTO's Goods Barometer Index (Box 2.1).

**Table 2.1 Merchandise trade volume and real GDP, 2017-22**

(Annual % change)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 <sup>a</sup>	2022 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Volume of world merchandise trade<sup>b</sup></b>	4.9	3.2	0.2	-5.3	8.0	4.0
<b>Exports</b>						
North America	3.4	3.8	0.3	-8.5	7.7	5.1
South America <sup>c</sup>	2.3	0.0	-2.2	-4.5	3.2	2.7
Europe	4.1	1.9	0.6	-8.0	8.3	3.9
CIS <sup>d</sup>	3.9	4.1	-0.3	-3.9	4.4	1.9
Africa	4.7	2.7	-0.5	-8.1	8.1	3.0
Middle East	-2.1	4.7	-2.5	-8.2	12.4	5.0
Asia	6.7	3.8	0.8	0.3	8.4	3.5
<b>Imports</b>						
North America	4.4	5.1	-0.6	-6.1	11.4	4.9
South America <sup>c</sup>	4.5	5.4	-2.6	-9.3	8.1	3.7
Europe	3.9	1.9	0.3	-7.6	8.4	3.7
CIS <sup>d</sup>	14.0	4.1	8.5	-4.7	5.7	2.7
Africa	-1.7	5.4	2.6	-8.8	5.5	4.0
Middle East	1.1	-4.1	0.8	-11.3	7.2	4.5
Asia	8.4	5.0	-0.5	-1.3	5.7	4.4
<b>World GDP at market exchange rates</b>	3.3	3.0	2.4	-3.8	5.1	3.8
North America	2.3	2.8	1.9	-4.1	5.9	3.8
South America <sup>c</sup>	0.8	0.2	-0.7	-7.8	3.8	3.0
Europe	2.8	2.0	1.5	-7.1	3.7	3.6
CIS <sup>d</sup>	2.3	2.9	2.1	-0.5	1.0	1.2
Africa	3.1	3.1	2.9	-2.9	2.6	3.8
Middle East	0.7	0.5	0.1	-6.0	2.4	3.5
Asia	5.1	4.6	4.1	-1.1	6.1	4.1

a Figures for 2021 and 2022 are projections corresponding to the baseline scenario in Chart 2.1.

b Average of exports and imports.

- c Refers to South and Central America and the Caribbean.
- d Refers to Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), including certain associate and former member States.

Source: WTO Secretariat for trade; consensus estimates for GDP.

### Box 2.1 Goods Trade Barometer, May 2021

The WTO's latest Goods Trade Barometer of 28 May 2021 shows signs of a strong ongoing recovery in world goods trade following a steep but brief drop in the second quarter of last year as the global economy locked down as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The barometer is a composite leading indicator, providing real-time information on the trajectory of merchandise trade relative to recent trends ahead of conventional trade volume statistics. Information on several trade-related variables is combined into an overall index, with values greater than 100 indicating above trend growth and values less than 100 signalling the opposite. The current index reading of 109.7 is nearly 10 points above the baseline value of 100 for the index and up 21.6 points year-on-year, reflecting both the strength of the current recovery and the depth of the COVID-19 shock last year.

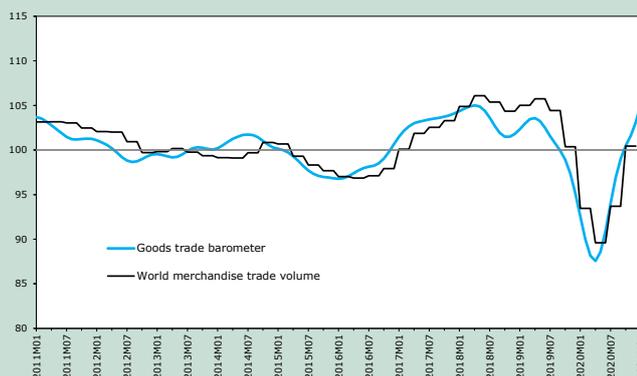
The barometer's component indices include the following:

- New Export Orders derived from Purchasing Managers' Indices (PMIs);
- Automobile production and sales in major economies;
- Container port throughput in 20 food equivalent units (TEU);
- An air freight index from the International Air Transport Association (IATA); and
- Customs data on trade in electronic components in physical units.

The biggest gains were seen in export orders (114.8), air freight (111.1) and electronics (115.2), all of which are highly predictive of near-term trade developments. The strength of automobile production and sales (105.5) may reflect improving consumer sentiment, since confidence is closely linked to sales of durable goods. The same is true for agricultural raw materials (105.4), which mostly consists of wood intended for construction. The strength of container shipping (106.7) is also impressive in light of the fact that sea shipment held up well during the pandemic and had less ground to make up as a result.

The current barometer reading is broadly in line with the WTO's most recent trade forecast of 31 March 2021, which predicted an 8% rise in the volume of world merchandise trade in 2021 from last year's 5.3% decline. Quarterly trade volume statistics for the first half of 2021 have not been released yet, but are expected to show strong year-on-year growth, partly due to the recent firming up of trade and partly as a result of the collapse last year. However, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose a severe threat to world trade, as new waves of infection could easily undermine the current recovery.

Index value, March 2021 = 109.7



Source: WTO Secretariat.

### 3 TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

#### 3.1 Overview of trends identified during the review period

3.1. This Section provides analysis of selected trade and trade-related policy developments in the area of goods during the period from mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021. It is divided into two parts. The *first* part looks at regular, i.e. non-COVID-related measures implemented during the review period, including calculations on trade coverage.<sup>1</sup> The *second* part, in Section 3.1.2, covers measures taken in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Measures in the second part are not included in the trade coverage calculations and are not counted towards the aggregate numbers in part one.

##### 3.1.1 Regular trade measures

3.2. A total of 288 trade measures were recorded for the G20 economies during the review period (Chart 3.1).<sup>2</sup> This figure includes measures facilitating trade, trade remedy measures and other trade and trade-related measures, i.e. trade-restrictive measures. It excludes measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Chart 3.2 below illustrates the trade coverage of the measures recorded for the G20 economies during the review period.

**Chart 3.1 G20 measures, mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021**

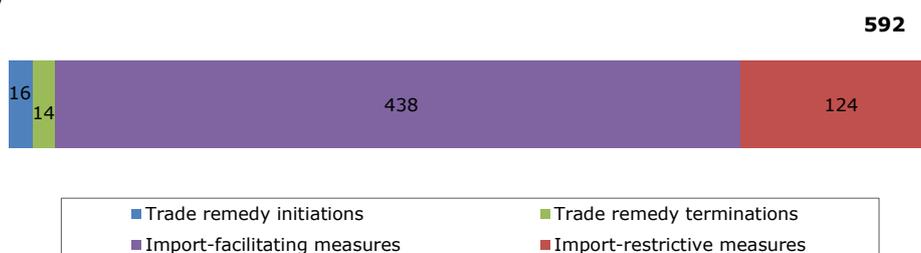
(By number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 3.2 Trade coverage of G20 measures, mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021**

(USD billion)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

#### Measures facilitating trade

3.3. Annex 1 to this Report lists measures which are clearly trade-facilitating. During the review period, 35 new trade-facilitating measures were recorded for G20 economies (Table 3.1), of which 16 were of a temporary nature. This represents 12% of the total number of measures recorded. The monthly average of five trade-facilitating measures recorded for the period is the third lowest recorded since 2012. It is, however, higher than the monthly average of trade-facilitating measures throughout 2020.

<sup>1</sup> COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures are not included. Those measures are covered in Section 3.1.2 and in Annex 5.

<sup>2</sup> See Annexes 1-3. These Annexes do not include SPS and TBT measures which are covered in Sections 3.3 and 3.4. Services measures are analysed in Section 4 and are listed in Annex 4.

**Table 3.1 Measures facilitating trade (Annex 1)**

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Mid-May 20 to mid-Oct 20 (5 months)	Mid-Oct 20 to mid-May 21 (7 months)
<b>Import</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>32</b>
- Tariff	72	50	58	55	51	48	62	51	42	15	31
- Customs procedures	8	12	9	7	6	9	4	1	2	1	0
- Tax	1	1	0	3	2	2	3	1	3	0	0
- QRs	2	0	4	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Export</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
- Duties	3	2	2	10	5	1	5	4	2	1	1
- QRs	3	2	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
- Other	1	0	2	7	6	16	3	1	1	1	0
<b>Other</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>35</b>
<i>Average per month</i>	7.8	5.7	6.4	7.3	6.1	6.4	6.5	5.0	4.3	3.8	5.0

Note: Revisions of the data reflect changes undertaken in the TMDB to fine-tune and update the available information. COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures are not included. Those measures are covered in Section 3.1.2 and Annex 5.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.4. Table 3.1 above shows that, as for the previous periods, the reduction or elimination of import tariffs make up the bulk of trade-facilitating measures. On the export side, important measures included reductions of export duties and the elimination of ban.<sup>3</sup>

3.5. The trade coverage of the import-facilitating measures introduced during the review period was estimated at USD 438 billion, i.e. 3.02% of the value of G20 merchandise imports. This share is the second-highest reported for these types of measures since November 2014 when calculations of trade coverage were initiated and also a significant increase compared to the last Report. This is mainly due by the implementation by China of interim tariffs, resulting in the reduction of import tariffs, accounting for 74% of the total amount<sup>4</sup> (Table 3.2 and Chart 3.3).

3.6. The HS Chapters within which most of the trade-facilitating measures were taken include machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 14.8%, electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS 85) 10.2%, copper and articles thereof (HS 74) 7.8%, and plastics and articles thereof (HS 39) 7%.

**Table 3.2 Share of trade covered by import-facilitating measures**

	Mid-Oct 16 to mid-May 17	Mid-May to mid-Oct 17	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-May 18	Mid-May to mid-Oct 18	Mid-Oct 18 to mid-May 19	Mid-May to mid-Oct 19	Mid-Oct 19 to mid-May 20	Mid-May 20 to mid-Oct 20	Mid-Oct 20 to mid-May 21
<b>Share in G20 imports</b>	1.29%	0.22%	0.68%	1.59%	2.92%	0.61%	4.88%	0.25%	3.02%
<b>Share in total world imports</b>	0.99%	0.17%	0.52%	1.23%	2.28%	0.48%	3.78%	0.19%	2.32%

Note: Estimates are based on calendar year data. For example, data for mid-May 2020 to mid-October 2020 are based 2019 calendar year data. For the period mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021, estimates are based on 2019 imports (data for 2020, for Indonesia, the Russia Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were not yet available at the finalization of the report).

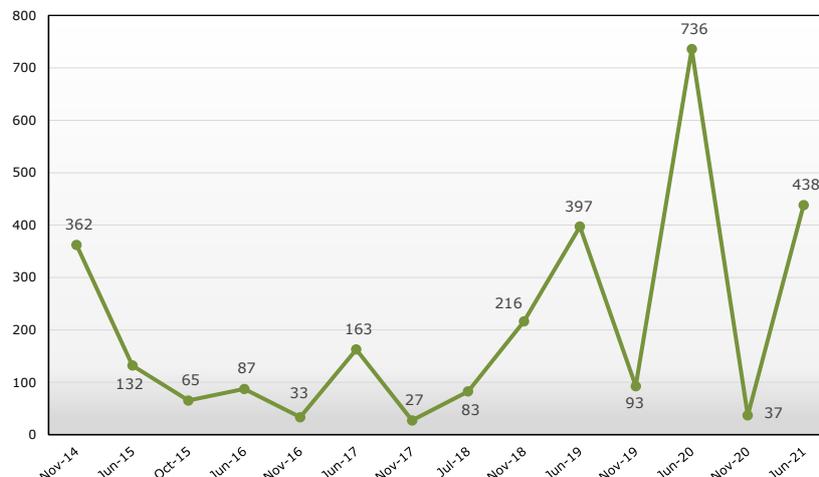
Source: WTO Secretariat and UN Comtrade database.

<sup>3</sup> For example, reduction of export duties on 4,606 tariff lines by Argentina and elimination of the export ban on onions by India.

<sup>4</sup> These figures also include three measures by Brazil (reduction of import tariffs on certain auto parts not produced in Mercosur and on capital goods), accounting for around 11.9% of the total.

**Chart 3.3 Trade coverage of new import-facilitating measures identified in each period (not cumulative)**

(USD billion)



Note: These figures are estimates and represent the trade coverage of the measures (i.e. annual imports of the products concerned from economies affected by the measures) introduced during each reporting period, and not the cumulative impact of the trade measures. COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Trade remedy actions

3.7. During the period under review, 227 trade remedy actions were recorded for G20 economies, accounting for 79% of all non-COVID-19 related trade measures recorded in this Report.<sup>5</sup> An overview of these measures can be found in Annex 2. After reaching its highest peak in 2020, the average number of trade remedy initiations during the review period was 15 per month (Table 3.3 and Chart 3.4), the lowest since 2012. The monthly average of trade remedy terminations recorded is the highest recorded since 2012. It is the first time that the monthly average of trade remedy terminations outpaces that of initiations.

**Table 3.3 Trade remedy actions (Annex 2)**

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Mid-May 20 to mid-Oct 20 (5 months)	Mid-Oct 20 to mid-May 21 (7 months)
<b>Initiations</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>105</b>
- AD	166	238	208	175	226	213	168	174	279	131	84
- CVD	22	33	37	31	30	39	47	35	54	28	19
- SG	13	7	13	4	6	6	8	12	10	6	2
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>16.8</i>	<i>23.2</i>	<i>21.5</i>	<i>17.5</i>	<i>21.8</i>	<i>21.5</i>	<i>18.6</i>	<i>18.4</i>	<i>28.6</i>	<i>33.0</i>	<i>15.0</i>
<b>Terminations</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>122</b>
- AD	130	135	144	122	120	93	163	141	158	33	114
- CVD	21	15	21	19	15	10	20	6	11	2	6
- SG <sup>a</sup>	10	3	6	10	7	10	0	5	3	0	2
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>12.8</i>	<i>14.3</i>	<i>12.6</i>	<i>11.8</i>	<i>9.4</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>12.7</i>	<i>14.3</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>17.4</i>

a The figure for a specific year is the sum of the following: (i) all ongoing investigations terminated during the course of that specific year without any measure; and (ii) all imposed measures expired during the course of that specific year.

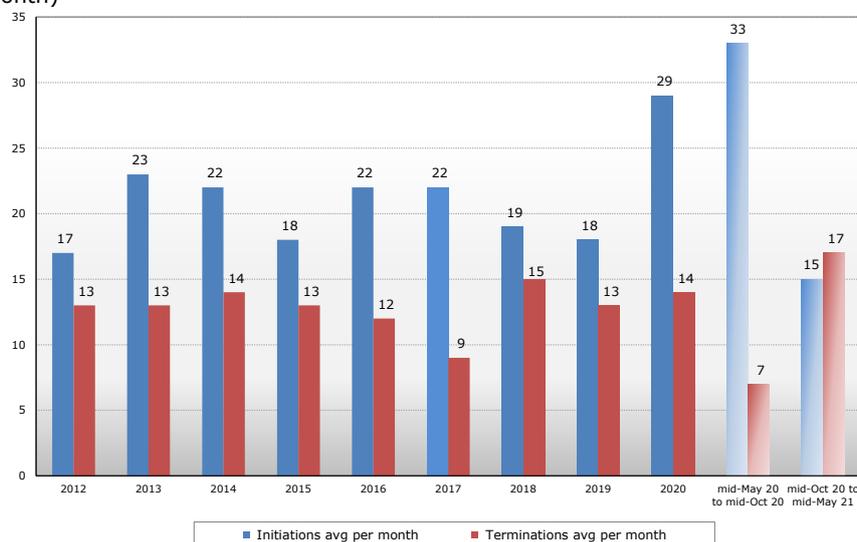
<sup>5</sup> A single methodology for the counting of AD and CVD investigations is being applied across the Report, i.e. based on the number of exporting countries or customs territories affected by an investigation or by a termination. Thus, one AD or CVD investigation involving imports from n countries/customs territories is counted as n investigations. Similarly, the termination of an AD or CVD action is counted as n terminations.

Note: The information on trade remedy actions for 2012 to 2020 is based on the semi-annual notifications. For the present review period, the information is also based on the responses and the verifications received directly from Members.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 3.4 G20 trade remedy initiations and terminations**

(Average per month)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.8. Trade remedy actions taken during the review period included initiations of investigations on electrical machinery and parts thereof (HS 85) 21.4%, plastics and articles thereof (HS 39) 17.5%, articles of iron and steel (HS 73) 12.6%, and iron and steel (HS 72) 11.4%.

3.9. The trade coverage of all trade remedy investigations initiated during the review period was USD 15.9 billion, i.e. 0.11% of the value of G20 merchandise imports (Table 3.4). For terminations, the trade coverage was valued at USD 14.2 billion (0.11% of the value of G20 merchandise imports and 0.08% of world imports).

**Table 3.4 Share of trade covered by trade remedy initiations**

	Mid-Oct 15 to mid-May 16	Mid-May to mid-Oct 16	Mid-Oct 16 to mid-May 17	Mid-May to mid-Oct 17	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-May 18	Mid-May to mid-Oct 18	Mid-Oct 18 to mid-May 19	Mid-May to mid-Oct 19	Mid-Oct 19 to mid-May 20	Mid-May 20 to mid-Oct 20	Mid-Oct 20 to mid-May 21
<b>Share in G20 imports</b>	0.47%	0.11%	0.20%	0.24%	0.43%	0.18%	0.14%	0.11%	0.16%	0.23%	0.11%
<b>Share in total world imports</b>	0.36%	0.08%	0.15%	0.19%	0.33%	0.14%	0.11%	0.09%	0.13%	0.18%	0.08%

Note: Estimates are based on calendar year data. For example, data for mid-May 2020 to mid-October 2020 are based 2019 calendar year data. For the period mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021, estimates are based on 2019 imports (data for 2020, for Indonesia, the Russia Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were not yet available at the finalization of the report).

Source: WTO Secretariat and UN Comtrade database.

## Other trade and trade-related measures<sup>6</sup>

3.10. Annex 3 to this Report lists measures which may be considered to have a trade-restrictive effect. A total of 26 new trade-restrictive measures were recorded for G20 economies, mostly stricter administrative customs procedures.<sup>7</sup> Restrictive measures on exports included the imposition of bans<sup>8</sup>, followed by duties<sup>9</sup> (Table 3.5). Two G20 economies (Indonesia and the United States) implemented government procurement legislation granting preference to locally produced goods and services. The monthly average of 3.7 trade-restrictive measures, is the second lowest since 2012.

**Table 3.5 Other trade and trade-related measures (Annex 3)**

Type of measure	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Mid-May 20 to mid-Oct 20 (5 months)	Mid-Oct 20 to mid-May 21 (7 months)
<b>Import</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>
- Tariffs	25	34	29	37	25	20	46	27	19	5	3
- Customs procedures	25	15	12	19	13	12	2	4	6	3	7
- Taxes	2	3	2	3	2	1	3	3	2	0	1
- QRs	4	7	2	3	2	2	8	9	7	3	1
- Other	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	5	2	3
<b>Export</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>
- Duties	1	1	4	5	1	3	6	1	3	1	3
- QRs	5	4	5	4	1	4	2	2	4	2	4
- Other	4	15	5	14	4	4	2	5	10	2	2
<b>Other</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
- Other <sup>a</sup>	4	0	0	0	3	2	0	1	0	0	0
- Local content	4	4	9	7	6	10	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>26</b>
<i>Average per month</i>	6.3	6.9	5.7	7.7	4.8	4.9	5.8	4.5	4.7	3.6	3.7

a Other than local content measures.

Note: Revisions of the data reflect changes undertaken in the TMDB to fine-tune and update the available information. COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures are not included. Those measures are covered in Section 3.1.2 and Annex 5.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.11. The measures recorded in Annex 3 cover a wide range of products. The main sectors affected (HS Chapters) were mineral fuels and oils (HS 27) 29.2%, copper and articles thereof (HS 74) 10.4%, iron and steel (HS 72) 10.2%, and machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) 6.1%.

3.12. The trade coverage of the trade restrictive measures affecting imports implemented during the review period was estimated at USD 123.89 billion, i.e. 0.85% of the value of G20 merchandise imports (Table 3.6 and Chart 3.5). These figures include one measure by Argentina (extension of the statistical fee for all imports), accounting for 39.7% of the total; two measures by India (amendments on import policy of coal and steel monitoring system), accounting for 32.2% of the total; and one measure by the European Union (surveillance on ethanol for fuel), accounting for 10.7% of the total.

<sup>6</sup> Annex 3 does not include SPS, TBT and services measures, which are dealt with in Sections 3.3, 3.4, and 4 and Annex 4.

<sup>7</sup> For example, import "criterion values" for several products by Argentina, stricter import requirements on melon seeds, mosquito killer racket, coal, copper and aluminium, and steel products by India.

<sup>8</sup> For example, quantitative restrictions (QRs) on maize and ferrous waste and scrap by Argentina, and on onion seeds by India.

<sup>9</sup> For example, export duties on 17 tariff lines by Argentina, leather and palm oil by Indonesia, and maize by the Russian Federation.

**Table 3.6 Share of trade covered by import-restrictive measures (Annex 3)**

	Mid-Oct 15 to mid-May 16	Mid-May to mid-Oct 16	Mid-Oct 16 to mid-May 17	Mid-May to mid-Oct 17	Mid-Oct 17 to mid-May 18	Mid-May to mid-Oct 18	Mid-Oct 18 to mid-May 19	Mid-May to mid-Oct 19	Mid-Oct 19 to mid-May 20	Mid-May 20 to mid-Oct 20	Mid-Oct 20 to mid-May 21
<b>Share in G20 imports</b>	0.51%	0.11%	0.37%	0.26%	0.61%	3.53%	2.47%	3.05%	2.77%	0.29%	0.85%
<b>Share in total world imports</b>	0.40%	0.08%	0.29%	0.2%	0.47%	2.73%	1.93%	2.36%	2.14%	0.23%	0.66%

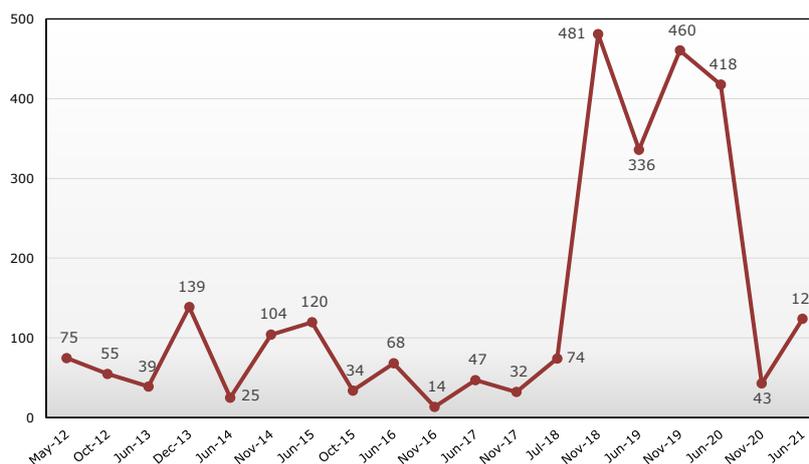
Note: Estimates are based on calendar year data. For example, data for mid-May 2020 to mid-October 2020 are based 2019 calendar year data. For the period mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021, estimates are based on 2019 imports (data for 2020, for Indonesia, the Russia Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were not yet available at the finalization of the report).

Source: WTO Secretariat and UN Comtrade database.

3.13. The above has provided detailed information on the latest trends on the implementation of trade measures by G20 economies. Several of the conclusions of previous reports have been confirmed, including the numerical importance of trade remedy measures, especially anti-dumping, in the overall number of trade measures introduced by G20 economies. It is also important to note that the estimated trade coverage of import-facilitating measures significantly exceeds the estimated trade coverage of import-restrictive measures. This, in a sense, is a return to the norm or trend identified since the beginning of the trade monitoring exercise in 2009. Deviation from this trend was the result of an escalation of bilateral trade tensions or, as reported in November 2020, a remarkable drop in the implementation of non-COVID-related trade policies generally in the second half of 2020. The current finding, and the return to trend, is contextually significant as it suggests that despite the persistent uncertainty facing the global economy as a result of the pandemic, G20 economies have continued, even if some slippage has been detected, to show restraint in adopting trade restrictions.

**Chart 3.5 Trade coverage of new import-restrictive measures identified in each period (not cumulative)**

(USD billion)



Note: These figures are estimates and represent the trade coverage of the measures (i.e. annual imports of the products concerned from economies affected by the measures) introduced during each reporting period, and not the cumulative impact of the trade measures. COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

## The stockpile of import-restrictive measures

3.14. Accurately estimating the roll-back of import-restrictive measures, and eventually the overall stockpile, is made complex by the fact that many temporary measures remain in place far beyond the envisaged termination date. Moreover, the Secretariat does not always get accurate information on changes to reported measures. As a result, the figures below are estimates based on the information recorded in the Trade Monitoring Database since 2009. These estimates are also conditioned by the availability of termination dates of the import-restrictive measures and of the HS codes of products covered.<sup>10</sup>

3.15. Table 3.7 and Chart 3.6 show that the stockpile of G20 import restrictions in force has grown steadily since 2009 – in value terms and as a percentage of world imports – and that a significant increase in both took place from 2017 to 2018. This specific jump is largely explained by measures introduced on steel and aluminium, and by tariff increases introduced as part of bilateral trade tensions. At the end of 2020 some 10.6% of G20 imports were affected by import restrictions implemented by G20 economies since 2009 and which are still in force. This, of course, comes amidst a general deterioration in terms of the overall value of G20 imports. For this Report no information was received from G20 economies about the termination of non-COVID-19 related import restrictions. This is not particularly unusual as such information is more often provided in the context of the end-of-year monitoring exercise.

3.16. Table 3.7 also shows that the trade coverage for G20 terminations of import restrictions represents 0.09% of G20 total imports, suggesting that any roll-back or phase-out of such measures remain negligible.

**Table 3.7 Cumulative trade coverage of G20 import-restrictive non-COVID-19 related measures, 2011-20**

(USD billion, unless otherwise indicated)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Total imports (world)</b>	<b>18,109</b>	<b>18,193</b>	<b>18,483</b>	<b>18,654</b>	<b>16,360</b>	<b>15,812</b>	<b>17,587</b>	<b>19,402</b>	<b>18,883</b>	<b>17,263</b>
<b>Total imports (G20)</b>	<b>14,263</b>	<b>14,143</b>	<b>14,340</b>	<b>14,451</b>	<b>12,561</b>	<b>12,228</b>	<b>13,615</b>	<b>15,064</b>	<b>14,522</b>	<b>13,463</b>
<b>Total G20 import restrictions in force</b>	<b>214.60</b>	<b>226.26</b>	<b>369.04</b>	<b>418.51</b>	<b>500.95</b>	<b>506.92</b>	<b>724.23</b>	<b>1,327.78</b>	<b>1,517.86</b>	<b>1,423.11</b>
Share in G20 imports (%)	1.50	1.60	2.57	2.90	3.99	4.15	5.32	8.81	10.45	10.57
Share in world imports (%)	1.19	1.24	2.00	2.24	3.06	3.21	4.12	6.84	8.04	8.24
<b>Total G20 import restrictions terminated</b>	<b>13.73</b>	<b>58.67</b>	<b>36.53</b>	<b>32.69</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>3.88</b>	<b>5.44</b>	<b>13.12</b>	<b>n.a.</b>
Share in G20 imports (%)	0.10	0.41	0.25	0.23	0.001	0.0001	0.03	0.04	0.09	n.a.
Share in world imports (%)	0.08	0.32	0.20	0.18	0.001	0.0001	0.02	0.03	0.07	n.a.

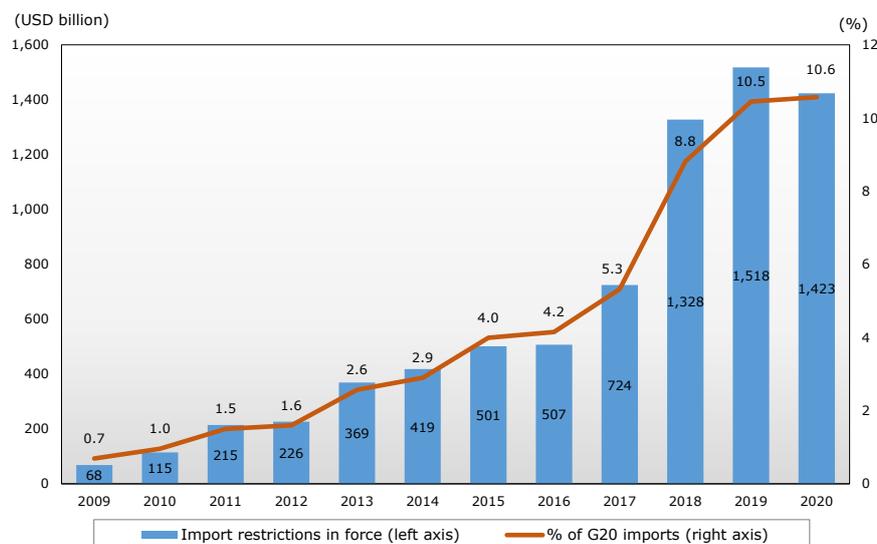
n.a. Not applicable.

a Provisional data for 2020.

Source: WTO calculations, based on UN Comtrade database and data provided by the authorities.

<sup>10</sup> Only import measures where HS codes were available are included in the calculation.

**Chart 3.6 Cumulative trade coverage of G20 import-restrictive measures on goods in force since 2009**



Note: The cumulative trade coverage estimated by the Secretariat is based on information available in the TMDB on import measures recorded since 2009 and considered to have a trade-restrictive effect. The estimates include import measures for which HS codes were available. The figures do not include trade remedy measures. COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures are not included. The import values were sourced from the UN Comtrade database.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.17. This review period has not seen an escalation of the bilateral trade tensions between the United States and China which characterized some previous reports. In fact, and on the contrary, the current review period has recorded the extension of waiver on the additional tariffs imposed by China on the United States on certain products.

### 3.1.2 COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures

3.18. Overall, since the outbreak of the pandemic 140 trade and trade-related measures in the area of goods have been implemented by G20 economies specifically in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (Table 3.8).<sup>11</sup>

3.19. Annex 5 to this Report lists the COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures implemented between mid-October 2020 and mid-May 2021.<sup>12</sup>

3.20. During the period under review, 34 new COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures were recorded for G20 economies. Some 15% of the measures were extensions of existing measures originally implemented in the early stages of the pandemic. Of the measures implemented during the review period, 22 (65%) were of a trade-facilitating nature. And 12 measures (35%) could be considered trade restrictive. Export bans accounts for 83% of all restrictive measures recorded.

3.21. Of the total 140 COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures recorded for G20 economies since the outbreak of the pandemic (Table 3.8), 101 (72%) were of a trade facilitating nature<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Details of the measures implemented in the context of the pandemic up until mid-May 2021 can be viewed at: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/covid19\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid19_e.htm).

<sup>12</sup> A dedicated webpage on the WTO website ([https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/covid19\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid19_e.htm)) provides detailed information on COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures and is updated regularly.

<sup>13</sup> According to preliminary estimates by the WTO Secretariat, the trade coverage of the COVID-19 trade-facilitating measures implemented since the outbreak amounted to USD 215.7 billion (including imports and exports and based on annual 2020 trade figures, except for Indonesia, the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

and 39 (28%) could be considered trade restrictive.<sup>14</sup> Export bans account for more than 90% of all restrictive measures recorded (Charts 3.7 and 3.8).

**Table 3.8 COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures since the outbreak**

	Facilitating	Phased out	Restrictive	Phased out	Total
<b>Import</b>	60	16	0	0	60
<b>Export</b>	29	4	36	18	65
<b>Other</b>	12	2	3	1	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>140</b>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.22. Table 3.8 shows that the reduction or elimination of import tariffs and import taxes make up 60% of trade-facilitating measures taken. Certain G20 economies reduced their tariffs on a variety of goods such as PPE, sanitizers, disinfectants, medical equipment and medicine/drugs. In many cases, tariff reductions were also accompanied by exemptions from VAT and other taxes. Certain extended the validity of measures several times and some have remained in force.

3.23. G20 economies continue their gradual lifting of export constraints targeting products such as surgical masks, gloves, medicine, disinfectant, and food products. Other trade and trade-related measures taken in the early stages of the pandemic are also being rolled back. For instance, 49% of all COVID-19 specific restrictive measures implemented by G20 economies had been repealed by mid-May.<sup>15</sup> Half of all export restrictive measures have been repealed.

3.24. On the other hand, G20 economies have also been repealing facilitating measures implemented in response to the pandemic. Around 22% of COVID-19 specific facilitating measures by G20 economies have been terminated.<sup>16</sup>

3.25. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, three G20 economies (India, Indonesia, and Mexico) have temporarily eliminated import tariffs on COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>17</sup> Together with the European Union, China<sup>18</sup>, Japan; the Republic of Korea, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States, whose MFN applied tariff rates were already zero, a total of 10 G20 economies zero-rate their tariffs on vaccines.<sup>19</sup>

3.26. Several G20 economies badly affected by successive waves of the pandemic have also been eliminating import tariffs on certain goods necessary to fight COVID-19, such as oxygen, oxygen canisters, certain drugs, and active substances.

3.27. Certain G20 economies appear to have implemented – either in the current review period or slightly before – policies which have the effect of restricting exports. Despite wide coverage in the media it has either not been possible for the Secretariat to obtain official confirmation of these policies or specific requests to omit such measures have been communicated.

3.28. The WTO Secretariat acknowledges the considerable challenges that delegations of all G20 economies have encountered in responding to, and participating in, this Trade Monitoring Report. Their collaboration and efforts to respect deadlines have contributed to the timely finalization of this Report.

<sup>14</sup> According to preliminary estimates by the WTO Secretariat, the trade coverage of the COVID-19 trade restrictive measures implemented since the outbreak amounted to USD 135.7 billion (including imports and exports and based on annual 2020 trade figures, except for Indonesia, the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

<sup>15</sup> According to preliminary estimates by the WTO Secretariat, the trade coverage amounted to USD 36.9 billion (including imports and exports and based on annual 2020 trade figures, except for Indonesia, the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

<sup>16</sup> According to preliminary estimates by the WTO Secretariat, the trade coverage amounted to USD 119.2 billion (including imports and exports and based on annual 2020 trade figures, except for Indonesia, the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

<sup>17</sup> Only vaccines classified under HS Code 3002.20.

<sup>18</sup> China applies an Interim duty rate at zero.

<sup>19</sup> Integrated Database (IDB) submissions including updates from TPRD.

### Chart 3.7 G20 COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures, by mid-May 2021

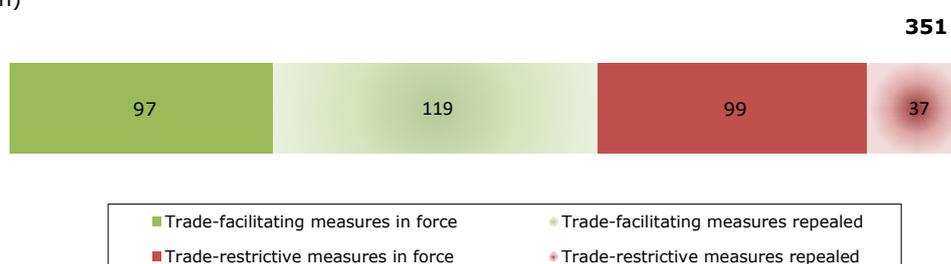
(By number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Chart 3.8 Trade coverage of G20 COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures, by mid-May 2021

(USD billion)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.29. On an overall note, it is worthwhile noting that several G20 economies have extended and continue to extend many trade-facilitating measures originally introduced in immediate response to the pandemic. At the same time, a host of other facilitating measures have been rolled back to pre-pandemic higher tariff levels. In general, the roll back of these facilitating measures has been swifter than the roll-back of trade restrictive measures and the latter are now at a slightly higher level than facilitating measures. This is significant and something which the WTO will continue to monitor closely. The G20 collectively needs to demonstrate leadership in ensuring that trade restrictions implemented in response to the pandemic are targeted, transparent, proportionate and temporary. A G20 commitment to this will send a strong signal as the world embarks on a sustainable recovery from the pandemic.

## 3.2 Trade remedies<sup>20</sup>

3.30. This Section provides an assessment of trends in the use of trade remedies by G20 economies during the following periods: January-June 2019, July-December 2019, January-June 2020 and July-December 2020.<sup>21</sup> It also includes an assessment of these periods on a 6-month and 12-month basis, in order to show trends over time.

### Anti-dumping measures<sup>22</sup>

3.31. The most recent data (July-December 2020) show a decrease of 22% in the number of anti-dumping investigations initiated by G20 economies compared with the previous six-month period (January-June 2020). For 2020 as a whole, the number of anti-dumping investigations initiated by G20 members showed an increase of 60% over the level in 2019. Table 3.9 provides further details on the actions of individual G20 economies.

<sup>20</sup> This Section is without prejudice to the right of Members to take trade remedy actions.

<sup>21</sup> These periods coincide with the semi-annual reporting periods of the Committee.

<sup>22</sup> Anti-dumping and countervailing investigations are counted on the basis of the number ( $n$ ) of exporting countries or customs territories affected by an investigation. Thus, one anti-dumping or countervailing investigation involving imports from  $n$  countries or customs territories is counted as  $n$  investigations.

**Table 3.9 Initiations of anti-dumping investigations by G20 member, 2019-20**

(Number)

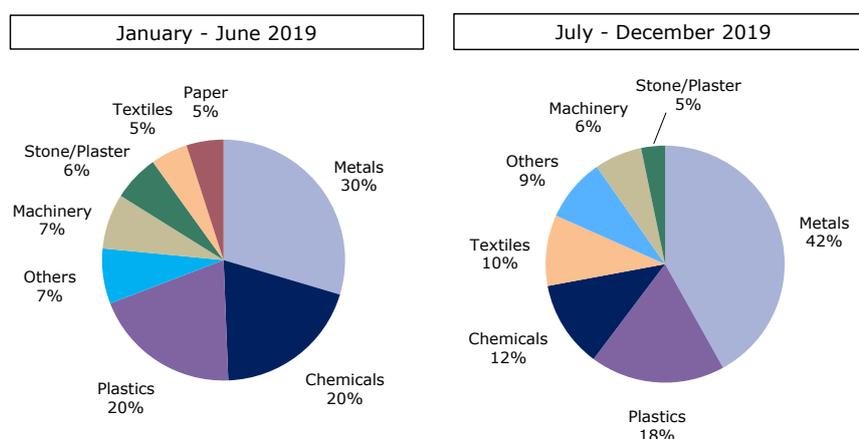
G20 member	Jan-June 2019	July-Dec 2019	Jan-June 2020	July-Dec 2020	2019	2020
Argentina	10	7	4	2	17	6
Australia	7	0	15	3	7	18
Brazil	0	1	3	6	1	9
Canada	0	6	6	18	6	24
China	10	4	0	4	14	4
European Union	5	6	2	10	11	12
India	18	41	57	35	59	92
Indonesia	0	6	2	0	6	2
Japan	0	1	1	0	1	1
Korea, Republic of	4	1	0	3	5	3
Mexico	3	3	4	3	6	7
Russian Federation <sup>a</sup>	2	2	2	2	4	4
Saudi Arabia <sup>b</sup> , Kingdom of	2		1	0	2	1
South Africa <sup>c</sup>	0		0	4	0	4
Turkey	0	2	2	1	2	3
United States	20	13	58	31	33	89
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>279</b>

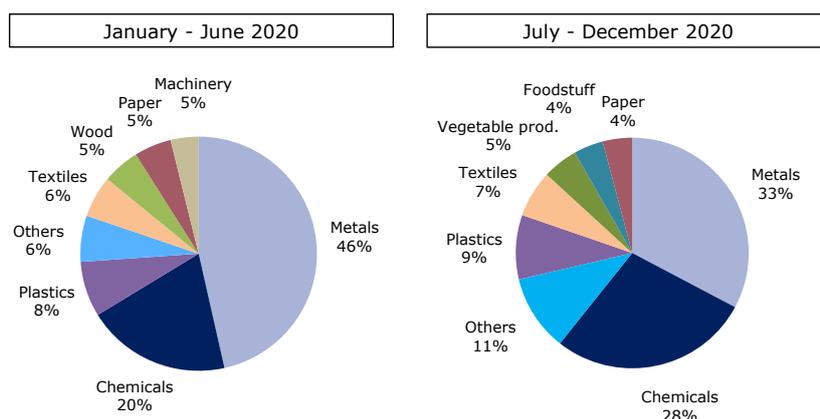
- a Notified by the Russian Federation, but investigations are initiated by the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) on behalf of all of its member States collectively.
- b Notified by all Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member States collectively, as investigations are initiated by the GCC regional investigating authority on behalf of all GCC member States.
- c Notified by South Africa, but investigations are initiated at the level of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) on behalf of its member States.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.32. In terms of product breakdown, metal products accounted for the largest share of initiations over the different reporting periods (Chart 3.9). Steel products (goods classified under Chapters 72 and 73 of the HS Classification) accounted for 118 of 176 of these investigations. In many instances, a single importing Member initiated investigations on the same steel product from a number of different sources simultaneously – seven steel products account for 75% of the investigations over these periods. China continues to be the most frequent subject of investigations on metal products, with 21 investigations on its products during 2020, followed by Malaysia (8); Viet Nam (7); Indonesia (6); and Turkey, the Republic of Korea, India and Chinese Taipei (5 each). The United States initiated 52 investigations in this sector during 2020, followed by Australia (16) and Canada (15).

**Chart 3.9 Shares of G20 initiations of anti-dumping investigations, by product, 2019-20**





Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.33. Chemical products accounted for the second largest share of initiations during the review periods, except for the second half of 2019. The number of initiations into chemical products significantly increased from 27 during 2019 to 65 during 2020. Chinese products were the most affected, accounting for 26% of the 92 new investigations of products in this sector between January 2019 and December 2020. China and the United States were the most affected Members by initiations in this sector during 2020 (20 and 9, respectively, out of 65), with the remainder targeting a wide range of exporting Members.

3.34. Plastics and rubber ranked third during the review periods, except for the second half of 2019.

3.35. While anti-dumping investigations do not necessarily lead to the imposition of measures, an increase or decrease in the number of investigations initiated is an early indicator suggesting a likely increase or decrease in the number of measures imposed. Over the 24 months of the review period, 200 anti-dumping measures were imposed by G20 economies (Table 3.10). However, as it can take up to 18 months for an anti-dumping investigation to be concluded once initiated, these measures may not necessarily be the result of initiations in the same period.

**Table 3.10 Anti-dumping measures imposed by G20 member, 2019-20**

(Number)

G20 member	Jan-June 2019	July-Dec 2019	Jan-June 2020	July-Dec 2020	2019	2020
Argentina	5	8	4	7	13	11
Australia	10	2	0	0	12	0
Brazil	0	6	0	0	6	0
Canada	8	0	3	2	8	5
China	3	9	1	8	12	9
European Union	1	3	3	5	4	8
India	10	3	6	6	13	12
Indonesia	0	1	0	0	1	0
Japan	0	0	0	1	0	1
Korea, Republic of	2	0	0	1	2	1
Mexico	5	3	0	4	8	4
Russian Federation <sup>a</sup>	1	1	3	2	2	5
Saudi Arabia <sup>b</sup> , Kingdom of	2	0	2	0	2	2
South Africa <sup>c</sup>	0	0	3	0	0	3
Turkey	0	0	0	2	0	2
United States	16	17	12	9	33	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>84</b>

a Notified by the Russian Federation, but investigations are conducted by the EAEU on behalf of all of its member States collectively.

b Notified by all GCC member States collectively, as investigations are conducted by the GCC regional investigating authority on behalf of all GCC member States.

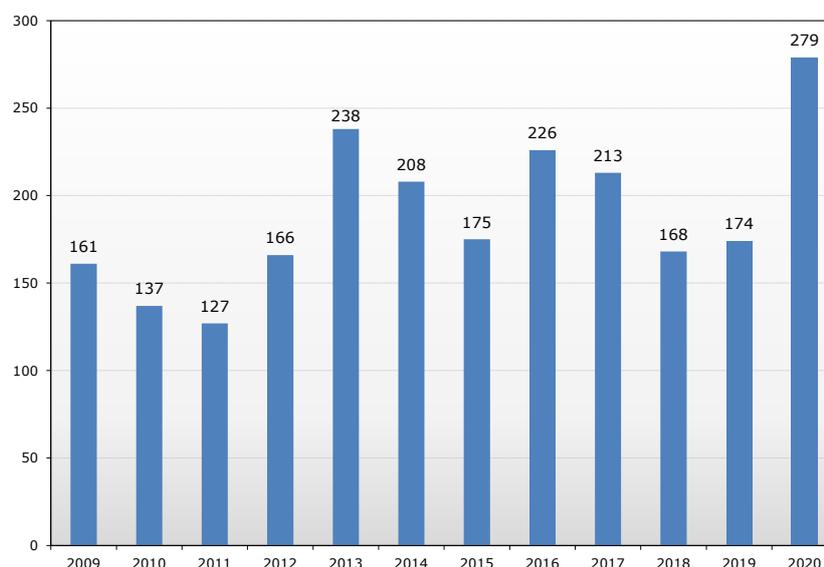
c Notified by South Africa, but the investigations are conducted at the level of the SACU on behalf of its member States.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.36. Chart 3.10 provides an overview of anti-dumping activities of G20 economies since the first monitoring report was circulated in September 2009.

**Chart 3.10 G20 initiations of anti-dumping investigations, 2009-20**

(Number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.37. As at 30 April 2021, only two G20 economies had notified anti-dumping actions referring to the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2020, Brazil suspended anti-dumping duties on syringes and vacuum plastic tubes for blood collection, and Argentina suspended anti-dumping duties on syringes and parenteral solutions.

### Countervailing measures

3.38. While the most recent data (July-December 2020) show that there was no increase in the number of countervailing duty investigations compared with the previous six-month period, on an annual basis the number of initiations increased significantly, by 54%, in 2020 (Table 3.11).

**Table 3.11 Initiations of countervailing duty investigations by G20 members, 2019-20**

(Number)

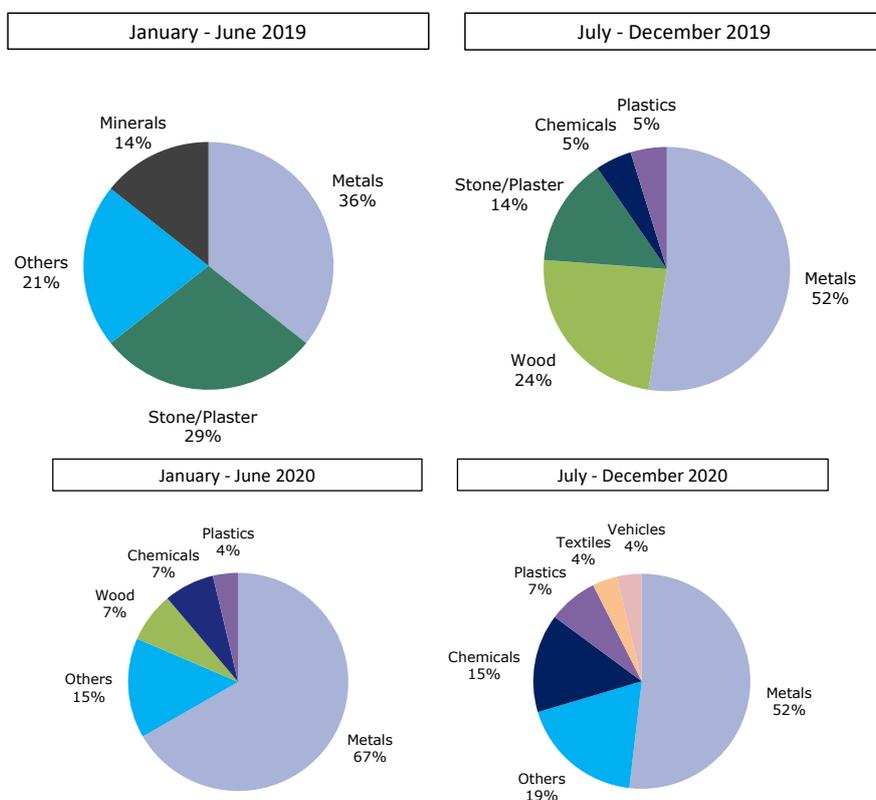
G20 member	Jan-June 2019	July-Dec 2019	Jan-June 2020	July-Dec 2020	2019	2020
Australia	0	0	6	1	0	7
Canada	0	3	1	3	3	4
China	0	1	0	4	1	4
European Union	3	2	1	2	5	3
India	0	9	2	4	9	6
United States	11	6	17	13	17	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>54</b>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.39. Various sectors were targeted by countervailing investigations over the 24 months examined, with metal products accounting for 48 of the 89 initiations by G20 economies. Thirty-two of these investigations involving the metals sector concerned steel products. Almost all of the investigations involving the metals sector were conducted concurrently with an anti-dumping investigation on the same product.

3.40. Over the 24 months examined, the chemicals and wood sectors accounted for the second largest numbers of investigations, with 7 each. The remaining investigations covered a range of goods, including plastics, machinery, miscellaneous manufactured articles, minerals, vehicles and textile products (Chart 3.11).

**Chart 3.11 G20 initiations of countervailing duty investigations, by product, 2019-20**



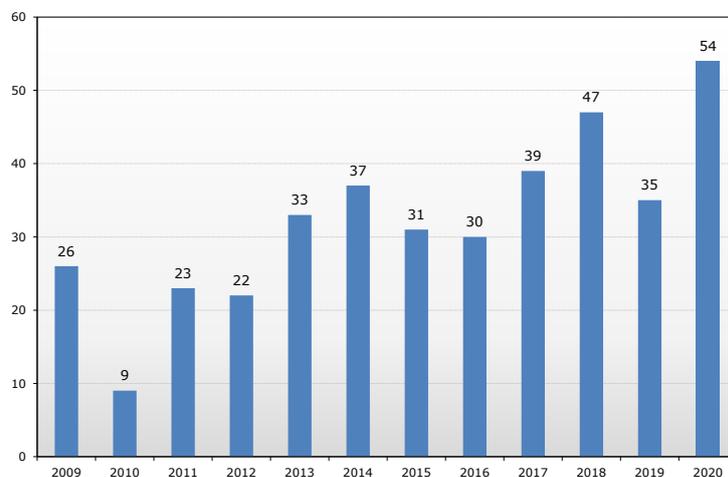
Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.41. Since the first Trade Monitoring Report in 2009, the number of countervailing investigations has fluctuated with an increasing trend and reached its peak in 2020 (Chart 3.12).

**Chart 3.12 Countervailing investigations initiated by G20 members, 2009-20**

(Number)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.42. Over the 24 months of the review period, 53 countervailing measures were imposed by G20 economies (Table 3.12). However, as it can take up to 18 months for a countervailing investigation to be concluded, these measures may not necessarily be the result of initiations in the same period. This lag may account for the decrease in the number of measures applied in 2020 compared with 2019, despite the significant increase recorded in the number of investigations initiated.

**Table 3.12 Countervailing measures imposed by G20 members, 2019-20**

(Number)

G20 member	Jan-June 2019	July-Dec 2019	Jan-June 2020	July-Dec 2020	2019	2020
Australia	1	0	0	0	1	0
Brazil	1	0	0	0	1	0
Canada	0	0	0	1	0	1
China	0	0	1	1	0	2
European Union	2	1	3	0	3	3
India	1	4	4	0	5	4
United States	13	7	8	5	20	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.43. As at 30 April 2021, no countervailing duty action that referred to the COVID-19 pandemic had been notified by G20 economies.

#### Anti-dumping and countervailing measures by trading partner

3.44. Between January 2008 and December 2020, the share of G20 initiations involving products from other G20 economies accounted for approximately 70% of total initiations. Initiations on products from other G20 members accounted for between 53% and 100% of each individual G20 member's total initiations. China remained the most targeted exporter by initiations reported during this period, accounting for 28% of all initiations. The second most targeted exporter during this period, the Republic of Korea, accounted for 6% of total initiations.

#### Safeguard measures

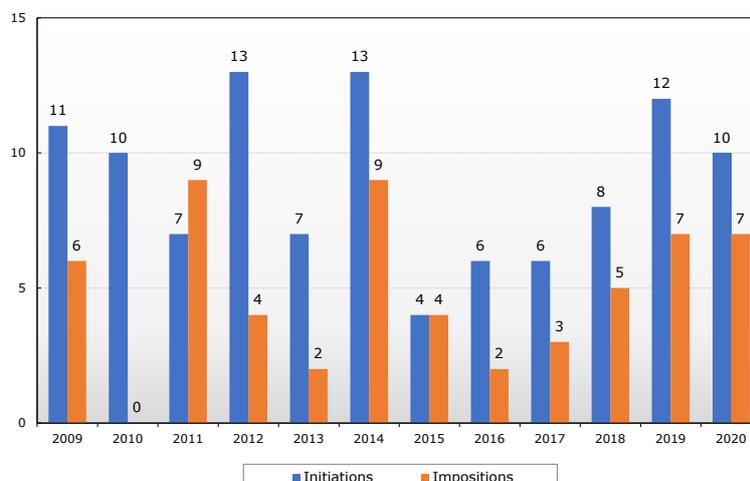
3.45. Safeguard measures are temporary measures imposed in response to increased imports of goods that are causing serious injury, and are imposed on products from all sources (i.e. all exporting countries or customs territories).<sup>23</sup> Thus, safeguards are subject to different rules and timelines than anti-dumping and countervailing measures, and therefore are not directly comparable to those measures.

3.46. Chart 3.13 shows the number of G20 initiations of safeguard investigations and the G20 impositions of measures, on a calendar-year basis.

<sup>23</sup> With the exception of special and differential treatment provided for developing countries in Article 9.1 of the Agreement on Safeguards.

**Chart 3.13 G20 initiations of safeguard investigations and impositions of safeguard measures, 2009-20**

(Number)



Note: Some notifications are ambiguous about timing. For those notifications, Members sometimes subsequently file an additional notification clarifying, *ex post*, the date that the measure takes effect. For this reason, the number of impositions indicated in past reports can differ from the figures indicated in the most recent report.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.47. In the period covered by Chart 3.13, the number of initiations by G20 economies peaked in 2012 and 2014. From this high level, the number of initiations fell in 2015, but since then the general trend is increasing. As for the actual imposition of safeguard measures, a trend of increasing impositions since 2016 is identifiable.

3.48. Table 3.13 shows the G20 economies that initiated safeguard investigations, and Table 3.14 shows the number of impositions of safeguard measures by G20 economies.

**Table 3.13 Initiations of safeguard investigations by G20 economies, 2019-20**

(Number)

G20 Member	Jan-June 2019	July-Dec 2019	Jan-June 2020	July-Dec 2020	2019	2020
Canada	0	0	0	0	0	0
European Union	0	0	0	0	0	0
India	0	3	0	0	3	0
Indonesia	1	4	1	3	5	4
Russian Federation <sup>a</sup>	2	0	0	0	2	0
Saudi Arabia <sup>b</sup> , Kingdom of	0	1	0	0	1	0
South Africa <sup>c</sup>	1	0	2		1	2
Turkey	0	0	2	0	0	2
United Kingdom <sup>d</sup>	0	0	0	1	0	1
United States	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>

a Notified by the Russian Federation, but investigations are initiated by the EAEU on behalf of all of its members collectively.

b Notified by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, but investigations are initiated at the level of the GCC.

c Notified by South Africa, but investigations are initiated by the SACU on behalf of all of its member States collectively.

d On 8 October 2020, the United Kingdom submitted a notification explaining as follows: "The transition review was initiated [...]. The review will conclude whether the safeguard measure applied by the European Union, which is also applied by the United Kingdom, and which will be transitioned when the transition period under the Withdrawal Agreement pursuant to Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union ends at 23.00 GMT on 31 December 2020, should be varied, extended or revoked.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Table 3.14 Safeguard measures imposed by G20 economies, 2019-20**

(Number)

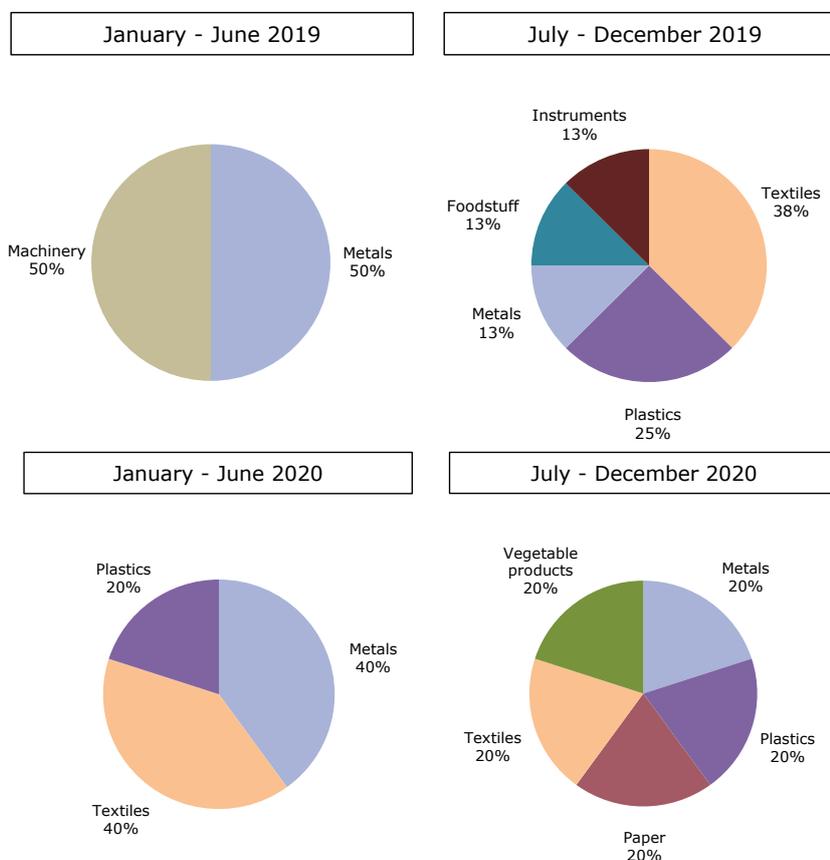
G20 Member	Jan-June 2019	July-Dec 2019	Jan-June 2020	July-Dec 2020	2019	2020
Canada	1	0	0	0	1	0
European Union	1	0	0	0	1	0
India	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indonesia	0	1	4	1	1	5
Russian Federation <sup>a</sup>	0	1	0	0	1	0
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia <sup>b</sup>	1	0	0	0	1	0
South Africa <sup>c</sup>	1	0	1	0	1	1
Turkey	0	1	0	1	1	1
United States	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

- a Notified by the Russian Federation, but investigations are initiated by the EAEU on behalf of all of its members collectively.
- b Notified by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, but investigations are initiated at the level of the GCC.
- c Notified by South Africa, but investigations are initiated by the SACU on behalf of all of its member States collectively.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.49. Chart 3.14 shows the products covered by the initiated safeguard investigations on a six-month basis.

**Chart 3.14 G20 initiations of safeguard investigations, by product, 2019-20**



Note: Values are rounded.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.50. As at 30 April 2021, no safeguard action with reference to COVID-19 had been notified to the WTO.

### **3.3 Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures<sup>24</sup>**

3.51. This Section covers SPS transparency-related matters, including specific trade concerns (STCs) discussed in SPS Committee meetings, for the period from 1 October 2020 to 31 March 2021. In addition and separately, new SPS measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic are reported covering the period from 1 February 2020 to 31 March 2021.

#### **SPS notifications**

3.52. Under the SPS Agreement, WTO Members are obliged to provide an advance notice of intention to introduce new or modified SPS measures<sup>25</sup>, or to notify immediately when emergency measures are imposed. The main objective of complying with SPS notification obligations is to inform other Members about new or modified regulations that may significantly affect trade. Therefore, an increase in the number of notifications does not automatically imply greater protectionism, but rather enhanced transparency and/or a greater number of legitimate health-protection measures.

3.53. G20 economies rank amongst the main "notifiers" of SPS measures, accounting for 66% of total regular notifications (including addenda), and 35% of emergency notifications, submitted to the WTO from 1 January 1995 until 31 March 2021. For the current review period, Brazil, Japan, Canada, the European Union and the United States submitted the most notifications to the WTO, accounting for 77% of all notifications submitted by G20 economies.

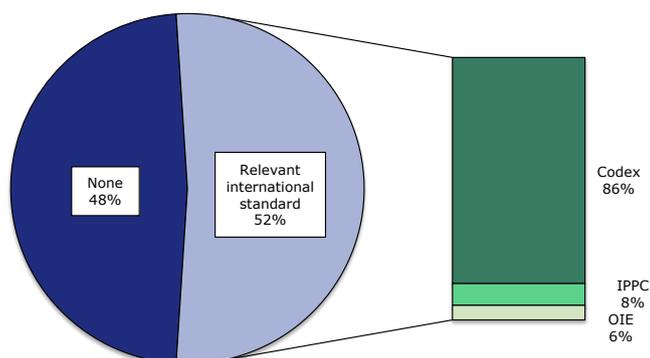
3.54. Many G20 economies follow the recommendation to notify SPS measures even when they are based on a relevant international standard, thereby substantially increasing their transparency. Of the 418 regular notifications (excluding addenda) submitted by G20 economies during the current review period, 52% indicated that an international standard, guideline or recommendation was relevant to the notified measure, of which 86% referred to the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), 8% to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and 6% to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) (Chart 3.15). Of the regular notifications that identified a relevant international standard, 41% indicated that the measure was in conformity with, or substantially the same as, the existing international standard, guideline or recommendation. In this context, Codex was the relevant international standard-setting body identified in all but one of the remaining 59% of notifications, which indicated that the measure was not in conformity with the existing international standard. Regarding emergency notifications for the current period, 93% of the emergency measures notified by G20 economies indicated that an international standard was relevant to the notified measure, and 100% of these notifications indicated conformity with such standard, mostly with an OIE animal health standard (Chart 3.16).

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<sup>24</sup> Information presented in this Section was retrieved from the SPS Information Management System (SPS IMS: <http://spsims.wto.org>). For more information see also annual reports [G/SPS/GEN/804/Rev.12](#) and [G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.20](#).

<sup>25</sup> Transparency obligations are contained in Article 7 and Annex B of the SPS Agreement. Annex B requires that Members notify measures whose content is not substantially the same as that of an international standard, guideline or recommendation, and when the measure may have a significant effect on trade. However, the Recommended Procedures for Implementing the Transparency Provisions of the SPS Agreement, last updated in 2018 (WTO document G/SPS/7/Rev.4, 4 June 2018), recommend that Members also notify measures that are based on the relevant international standards, and that they apply a broad interpretation of effects on trade.

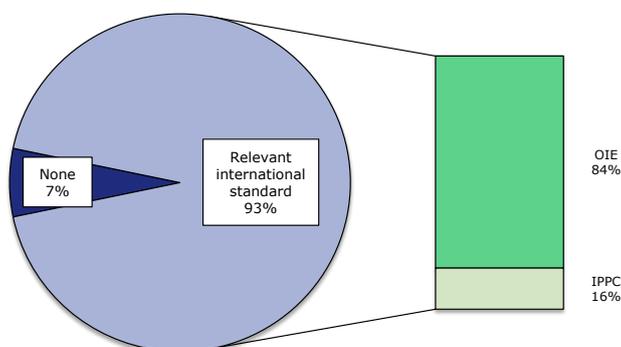
**Chart 3.15 Regular SPS notifications (excluding addenda) and international standards**



Note: Codex Alimentarius (Codex), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Chart 3.16 Emergency SPS notifications (excluding addenda) and international standards**



Note: Codex Alimentarius (Codex), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.55. The most frequently identified objective in the SPS measures notified by G20 economies during the review period was food safety, accounting for 72% of the notifications.<sup>26</sup> Food safety is a particularly important objective in the G20 economies' notifications, as the majority of notified measures are related to maximum residue limits (MRLs), food additives or pesticides, and in many notifications several of these keywords were identified.

### Specific trade concerns (STCs)

3.56. Measures maintained by G20 economies are often discussed in the SPS Committee. The STCs raised in the SPS Committee on measures maintained by G20 economies account for 73% of all STCs raised to date. Moreover, all of the top 10 WTO Members most frequently responding to an STC are G20 economies.

3.57. Of the 56 STCs raised or discussed in the SPS Committee meetings of 5-6 and 13 November 2020 and/or 25-26 March 2021<sup>27</sup> 51 involved a G20 economy (Table 3.15).

<sup>26</sup> The objective of an SPS measure falls under one or more of the following categories: (i) food safety; (ii) animal health; (iii) plant protection; (iv) protection of humans from animal/plant pests or diseases; and (v) protection of territory from other damage from pests. Members are required to identify the purpose of the measure in their notifications. It is not uncommon for more than one objective to be identified for a measure.

<sup>27</sup> See summary reports of the November 2020 and March 2021 meetings in WTO documents G/SPS/R/100, 21 December 2020, and its corrigenda; and G/SPS/R/101 (forthcoming) respectively.

3.58. Of the 51 STCs involving a G20 economy, 42 related to measures maintained by G20 members. Twenty-one of the 42 were raised for the first time either in November 2020 or in March 2021, and the remaining 21 had been discussed in previous Committee meetings (10 of the STCs raised for the first time in November 2020 were raised again in March 2021<sup>28</sup>). Additionally, 14 of the previously raised STCs on measures maintained by G20 economies were raised in both meetings.<sup>29</sup> Among these, five addressed persistent problems that have been discussed 10 times or more (Table 3.16).

**Table 3.15 STCs involving G20 economies raised in the November 2020 and/or March 2021 SPS Committee meetings**

Meeting	Total STCs raised with participation of G20 economies		G-20 economies raising		G-20 economies supporting		G-20 economies responding	
	New	Previously raised	New	Previously raised	New	Previously raised	New	Previously raised
November 2020	16	20	8	6	8	7	6	8
March 2021	9	33	5	9	2	9	5	9
Total (different STCs and Members)	25	37	10	9	9	10	8	10

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Table 3.16 Previously raised SPS STCs in relation to measures maintained by G20 economies discussed in the November 2020 and/or March 2021 meetings, raised 10 times or more<sup>a</sup>**

STC	Document title	Member(s) responding	Member(s) raising the concern (total number of Members supporting)	First date raised (times subsequently raised)	Primary objective
193	General import restrictions due to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)	Several Members, including China, Colombia, Chinese Taipei and the United States	European Union, United States (3 Members)	01/06/2004 (40 times)	Animal health
382	European Union legislation on endocrine disruptors	European Union	Argentina, China, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, India, Panama, Paraguay, United States (39 Members)	25/03/2014 (18 times)	Food safety
406	China's import restrictions due to highly pathogenic avian influenza	China	European Union, United States	16/03/2016 (12 times)	Animal health
392	China's import restrictions due to African swine fever	China	European Union	15/07/2015 (10 times)	Animal health
393	Republic of Korea's import restrictions due to African swine fever	Korea, Republic of	European Union (1 Member)	15/07/2015 (10 times)	Animal health

a Further information on the previously raised STCs discussed again during the review period on measures maintained by G20 economies is available in the SPS IMS. Viewed at: <http://spsims.wto.org>.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.59. Of the 42 STCs related to measures maintained by G20 economies discussed in the review period, 16 related to measures implemented by G20 economies on food safety, 10 on animal health, 5 on plant health and 11 related to other types of concerns. Discussions among Members in the SPS Committee continue to be multifaceted and dynamic.

<sup>28</sup> These 10 STCs were 487, 489, 490, 493, 497, 500, 501, 502, 503 and 504.

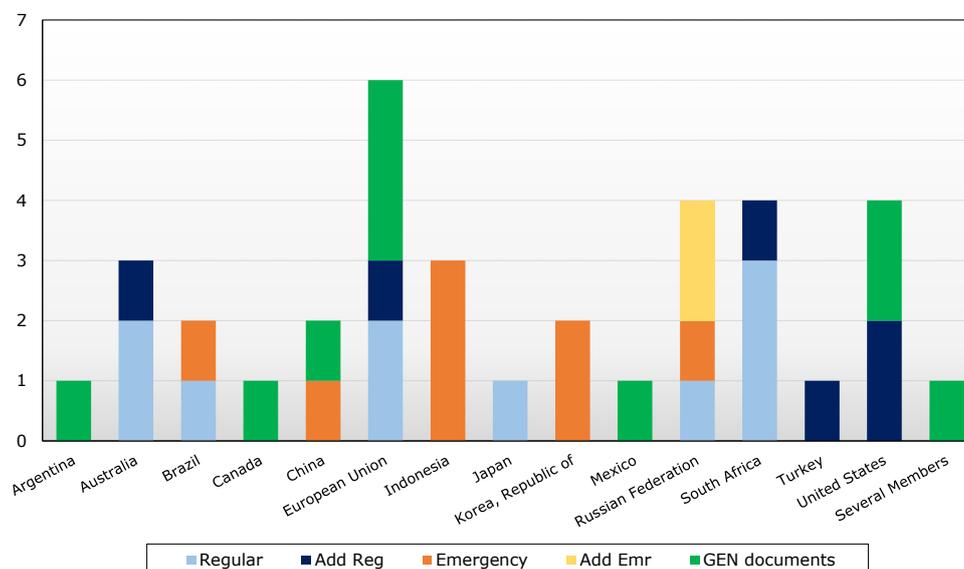
<sup>29</sup> The 14 previously raised STCs maintained by G20 economies that were raised in both meetings are 193, 382, 392, 393, 406, 431, 439, 441, 448, 456, 471, 479, 485 and 486.

### COVID-19-related SPS measures (1 February 2020-31 March 2021)

3.60. The SPS Agreement requires Members to base SPS-related trade measures on international standards, guidelines and recommendations, specifically those developed by Codex for food safety, the OIE for animal health and zoonoses and the IPPC for plant health. The three standard-setting bodies and the WHO are monitoring the COVID-19 situation, and, so far, have not recommended any trade restrictions. In the absence of relevant international standards, SPS measures must be based on a risk assessment. However, it may take some time before sufficient scientific evidence becomes available. In the wake of the pandemic, Members believed they had to act quickly to ensure health protection. Under the SPS Agreement, WTO Members have the right to adopt provisional measures based on the available information. As more scientific evidence emerges and risk assessments can be carried out, these measures must be reviewed within a reasonable period of time.

3.61. Between 1 February 2020 and 31 March 2021, 29 WTO Members submitted 84 notifications and communications (including 7 revisions to original documents) related to measures taken in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, 40 WTO Members, including G20 economies, submitted 1 communication (GEN document) requesting the suspension of the processes and entry into force of reductions of MRLs for plant protection products in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the 84 notifications and communications, 35 were submitted by 14 G20 economies. Ten measures were notified as regular notifications; additionally, six addenda to regular measures were notified, mainly extending the implementation of the comment period of previously notified measures. Eight measures<sup>30</sup> were notified as emergency measures, and four measures were submitted through a GEN document.<sup>31</sup> Submitted documents are displayed by G20 economy in Chart 3.17 below, and by month in Chart 3.18. The last document submitted during the reporting period was received on 3 March 2021.

**Chart 3.17 Number of SPS notifications (regular, emergency and addenda) and GEN documents (without revisions) related to COVID-19, by G20 economy**

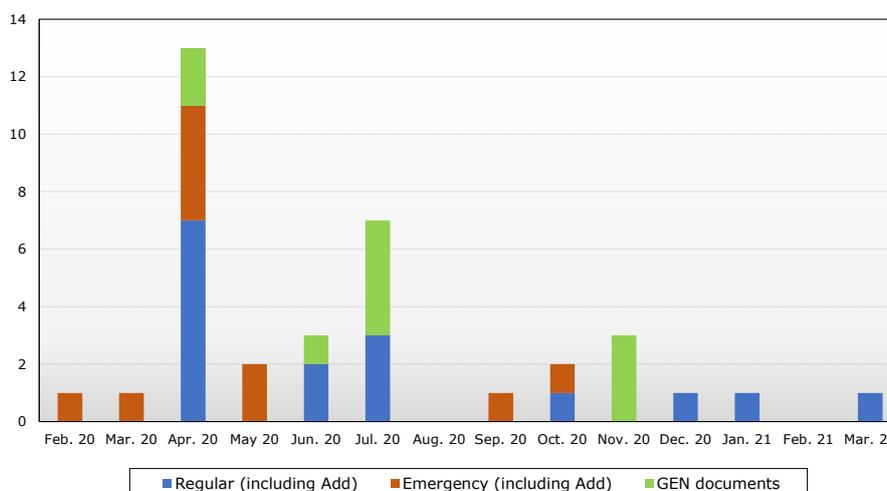


Source: WTO Secretariat.

<sup>30</sup> Subsequent addenda were notified to withdraw the restrictions imposed in some of the emergency measures.

<sup>31</sup> The remaining communications submitted refer to COVID-19 documents relevant to the SPS Committee meetings.

**Chart 3.18 Number of SPS notifications (regular, emergency and addenda) and GEN documents related to COVID-19, by month**



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.62. Initially, these measures mainly related to restrictions on animal imports and/or transit from affected areas (some of these measures have already been lifted) and increased certification requirements. Since the beginning of April 2020, most notifications and communications submitted relate to measures taken to facilitate trade by allowing temporary flexibility for control authorities to use electronic certificates for checks, in view of the COVID-19 situation. Of the notifications and communications submitted by G20 economies, more than half referred to measures considered to be trade-facilitating.

### Box 3.1 Enhancing monitoring and transparency in SPS and TBT measures

Accessing relevant information on SPS or TBT product requirements in export markets can represent a significant challenge, in particular for SMEs. WTO Members are required to notify SPS and TBT measures, still in draft form, that may have a significant effect on trade and that are not in accordance with existing international standards. Each year, the WTO receives around 5,000 SPS and TBT notifications.

The WTO facilitates the fulfilment of the transparency provisions contained in the SPS and TBT Agreements and provides easy access to information. Timely access to notifications is crucial, given the 60-day period that should normally be provided for submitting comments on proposed regulations. The following publicly available online tools assist stakeholders in finding notifications of relevance to their trade interests and thus contribute to avoiding and addressing potential trade barriers:

- SPS Information Management System (SPS IMS): <http://spsims.wto.org/>
- TBT Information Management System (TBT IMS): <http://tbtims.wto.org/>
- ePing alert system: <http://epingalert.org/>

The SPS and TBT IMSs are search platforms that, *inter alia*, help identify SPS or TBT notifications (or any trade concerns raised by Members) using parameters such as product, notifying Member and objective. ePing is an online alert system allowing users (governments, economic operators and civil society) to receive daily or weekly email alerts about SPS and TBT notifications covering products and markets of interest to them. ePing also facilitates dialogue among the public and private sectors to discuss and share information on notifications of concern, allowing stakeholders to address potential trade problems at an early stage of the regulatory lifecycle.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### 3.4 Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

#### Notifications submitted to the TBT Committee

3.63. The G20 economies remain the most frequent users of the TBT Committee's transparency mechanisms, having submitted just under half (45%) of all TBT notifications since 1995.<sup>32</sup> Under the TBT Agreement, WTO Members are required to notify their intention to introduce new or modified TBT measures, or to notify adopted emergency measures immediately. The principal objective of complying with the TBT notification obligations is to inform other Members about new or changed regulations that may significantly affect trade.

3.64. From 15 October 2020 to 15 May 2021 (review period) G20 economies submitted 581 new regular notifications of TBT measures<sup>33</sup> out of 1,372 by all WTO Members (42%). The top five notifying G20 economies – covering 63% of all G20 notifications – were China (113), Brazil (87), the United States (76), the European Union (48) and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (43).

3.65. Of these 581 new regular notifications, the majority indicated as their main objective the protection of human health or safety, including, as further explained below, various measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Various other notifications related to quality requirements, consumer information, labelling, prevention of deceptive practices, consumer protection and protection of the environment.

3.66. G20 economies sent 343 (almost 40%) of the 871 follow-up notifications (i.e. addenda, corrigenda or supplements) submitted by all WTO Members during the review period. The continuing and frequent use of follow-up notifications is a positive development as it increases transparency and predictability across the measures' regulatory lifecycle.

#### COVID-19-related TBT notifications between (15 October 2020 to 1 May 2021)

3.67. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, G20 economies submitted 89 (58%) of all 153 COVID-19 related TBT notifications to the WTO.<sup>34</sup> Between 15 October 2020 and 1 May 2021, WTO Members submitted 48 TBT notifications/communications on standards and regulations in response to the pandemic.<sup>35</sup> All of the notifications were submitted under the emergency/urgent notification provisions of the TBT Agreement.<sup>36</sup> Under these provisions, WTO Members can adopt measures directly, and immediately notify them to the WTO, without providing the usual 60-day comment period (or 6-month transition period prior to entry into force). As at 1 May 2021, G20 economies had submitted 75% (36 of 48) of all COVID-19-related TBT notifications submitted by WTO Members (Chart 3.19).

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<sup>32</sup> Since 1995, 30,729 new (regular) notifications of TBT measures have been submitted by WTO Members, 12,885 (42%) of which were by G20 economies. Overall, 41,652 new (regular) and follow-up (revisions, addenda, etc.) notifications of TBT measures have been submitted, 18,851 (45%) of which were notified by G20 economies.

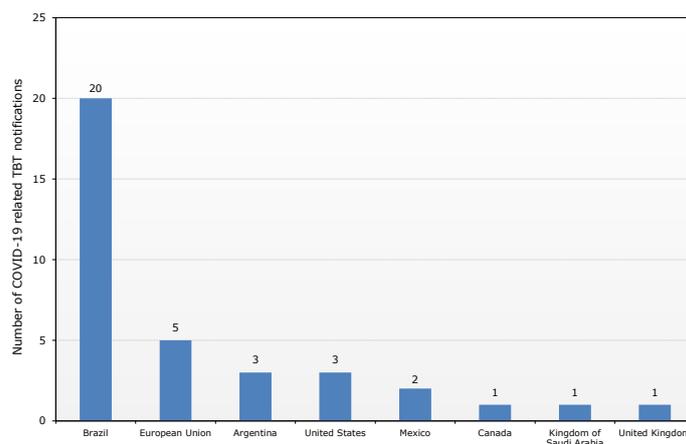
<sup>33</sup> WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Information Management System. Viewed at: <http://tbtims.wto.org>.

<sup>34</sup> As at 27 May 2021.

<sup>35</sup> TBT notifications are classified as COVID-19-related if they contain the terms "coronavirus", "COVID", "SARS-COV-2" or "nCoV". These COVID-19-related notifications include not only regular notifications but also eight follow-up notifications (revisions or addenda to previous regular notifications).

<sup>36</sup> TBT Agreement, Articles 2.10, 2.12, 5.7 and 5.9.

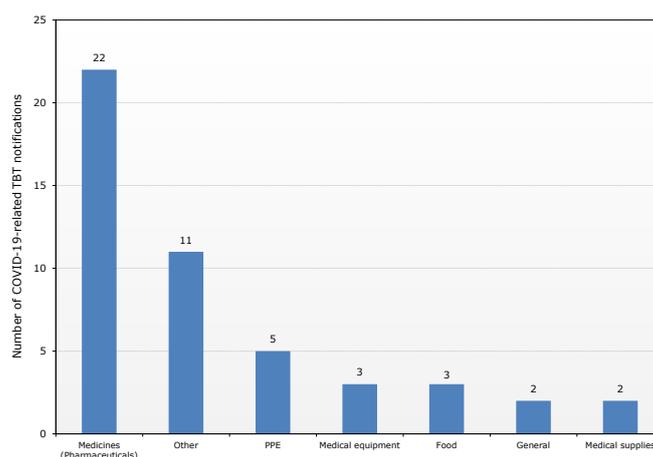
**Chart 3.19 COVID-19-related TBT notifications, by G20 economies as at 1 May 2021**



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.68. TBT notifications by WTO Members in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic cover a wide range of products, including medicines, personal protective equipment (PPE), food, medical equipment, medical supplies and other products (Chart 3.20).<sup>37</sup>

**Chart 3.20 Product coverage of COVID-19-related TBT notifications by WTO Members**



Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Measures discussed in the TBT Committee (STCs)<sup>38</sup>

3.69. The TBT Committee is used as a forum for discussing trade issues related to specific TBT measures (technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment procedures) maintained by other Members. These specific trade concerns (STCs) normally relate to proposed draft measures notified to the TBT Committee or to the implementation of existing measures. Issues can range from requests for additional information and clarification to questions on the consistency of measures with TBT Agreement disciplines.

3.70. A total of 159 (44 new and 115 previously raised) STCs were discussed during the two Committee meetings that fell within the review period: 78 (24 new and 54 previously raised) at the October 2020 meeting, and 81 (20 new and 61 previously raised) at the February 2021 meeting. Almost 80% (35 of 44) of the new STCs discussed in the review period concerned measures maintained by G20 economies (Table 3.17).

<sup>37</sup> The "General" category includes notifications without a specific product scope. The "Other" category includes, for example, furniture, textiles, office machines and cosmetics.

<sup>38</sup> With respect to specific trade concerns (STCs), this Section takes account of the STCs raised in the TBT Committee meetings of 28-29 October 2020 and 24-26 February 2021.

3.71. Overall, the number of new and previously raised STCs has been increasing every year. This trend suggests an increasing use of the TBT Committee as a forum to raise and resolve trade concerns non-litigiously. In 2020, for example, WTO Members reviewed 214 STCs, including 57 new concerns, which was the highest number on record since 1995.<sup>39</sup> With two TBT Committee meetings scheduled to take place later this year, this trend will likely continue in 2021.

3.72. Finally, during the two Committee meetings covered by the review period, seven persistent STCs, raised more than 16 times in Committee meetings, were discussed (Table 3.18). All of these persistent STCs concerned measures by G20 economies.

**Table 3.17 New STCs concerning G20 measures raised in the October 2020 and February 2021 TBT Committee meetings**

New STCs – G20 measures
<b>Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Yemen, United Arab Emirates:</b> Halal Feedstuff (ID 643) (raised by United States and European Union)
<b>China:</b> Commercial Cryptography Administrative Regulations (ID 644) (raised by United States and European Union)
<b>India:</b> Phase II of the Mandatory Testing and Certification of Telecommunications Equipment (MTCTE), implementing the Indian Telegraph Amendment (ID 646) (raised by United States)
<b>Mexico:</b> Various State Measures Restricting Sale of Food and Drink Products to Minors (ID 648) (raised by United States)
<b>India:</b> Indian standards and import restrictions in the automotive sector (Quality Control Orders): wheel rims, safety glass, helmets (ID 649) (raised by European Union)
<b>Russian Federation:</b> Federal Law No. 468 on wine making and wine growing in the Russian Federation (ID 650) (raised by Australia, European Union and United States)
<b>India:</b> Order related to requirement of Non-GM-cum-GM-free certificate accompanied with imported food consignment (ID 651) (raised by Brazil, United States and European Union)
<b>Republic of Korea:</b> Revision of Safety Conformation Criteria for Textile Products for Infants (ID 652) (raised by European Union)
<b>France:</b> New legislative requirements about index of repairability of electrical and electronic equipment (ID 657) (raised by China)
<b>European Union:</b> Waste Framework Directive (ID 658) (raised by India)
<b>European Union:</b> Wine labelling requirements – listing of importers for multiple destinations (ID 659) (raised by Australia)
<b>United Kingdom:</b> Wine labelling and documentation requirements at the end of the Brexit transition period (ID 663) (raised by Australia)
<b>China:</b> CSAR – Draft Specifications for Cosmetic Registration and Filings; Draft Specifications for Registration and Filing of New Cosmetics Ingredients; Draft Specifications for Cosmetic Efficacy Claim Evaluation, Provisions for the Supervision and Administration of Toothpaste (ID 665) (raised by Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea and United States)
<b>Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:</b> Technical Regulation for limiting and restricting hazardous materials in electrical and electronic equipment (ID 666) (raised by China, Japan and United Kingdom)
<b>India:</b> Draft Food Safety and Standards (Import) Amendment Regulation, 2020 (ID 667) (raised by Mexico and United States)
<b>Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:</b> Air Conditioners – Minimum Energy Performance, Labelling and Testing Requirements for Low Capacity Window Type and Single-Split (ID 668) (raised by Republic of Korea)
<b>India:</b> Flat Transparent Sheet Glass and Safety Glass (Quality Control) Order (ID 669) (raised by Republic of Korea)
<b>United States:</b> Energy Conservation Program: Energy conservation standards for residential dishwashers (ID 670) (raised by China)
<b>India:</b> Refrigerating Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 2020 (ID 671) (raised by Republic of Korea)
<b>India:</b> Caustic Soda Quality Control Order, 2017 (ID 674) (raised by Chinese Taipei)
<b>European Union:</b> Non-recognition of test certificates (raised by Italy and the Netherlands) issued to electrical equipment by Central Power Research Institute (CPRI) (ID 675) (raised by India)
<b>Canada:</b> Medical Device Single Audit Program (MDSAP) (ID 676) (raised by China)
<b>China:</b> Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances Produced or Imported in China (IECSC) requiring mandatory registration of certain chemicals for import and not notified at WTO (ID 677) (raised by India)
<b>Mexico:</b> Conformity Assessment Procedure under Mexican Official Standard NOM-223-SCFI/SAGARPA- 2018, "Cheese Names, Specifications, Commercial Information, and Test Methods", published on 31 January 2019 (ID 678) (raised by United States)

<sup>39</sup> For more details on TBT notifications, STCs and trends from 2020, see *Twenty-Sixth Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement* (WTO document G/TBT/45, 18 February 2021); and WTO (2021), *Technical Barriers to Trade: 10 Key Results from 2020*. Viewed at: [https://www.wto.org/english/res\\_e/publications\\_e/tbt10keys2021\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/tbt10keys2021_e.htm).

New STCs – G20 measures
<b>European Union:</b> Testing methods for prohibited chemicals of regulation on cosmetic products (ID 680) (raised by China)
<b>India:</b> Plain Copier Paper (Quality Order) 2020 (ID 681) (raised by Indonesia)
<b>Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:</b> Concerns on conformity assessment practices of Saudi Arabia against Turkish products (ID 683) (raised by Turkey)
<b>Turkey:</b> Eco-design regulation (ID 684) (raised by Republic of Korea)
<b>China:</b> Provisions for Cosmetics Registration (Draft for Comments) (ID 641) (raised by Japan, Republic of Korea and United States)
<b>China:</b> Administrative Measures on Cosmetic Labelling (ID 642) (raised by Japan and Republic of Korea)
<b>Mexico:</b> Decree amending, supplementing and repealing various provisions of the Regulations on Sanitary Control of Products and Services and the Implementing Regulations to the General Law on Health with Respect to Advertising (ID 645) (raised by United States)
<b>United States:</b> Appliance Efficiency for Sprinkler Bodies (ID 653) (raised by China)
<b>European Union:</b> Information requirements in SCIP database (ID 655) (raised by China)
<b>India:</b> Phthalic Anhydride (Quality Control) Order, 2019 (ID 660) (raised by Chinese Taipei)
<b>United States:</b> Revised Origin Marking Requirement for Goods Produced in Hong Kong, China (ID 664) (raised by Hong Kong, China)

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**Table 3.18 Persistent STCs raised between 15 October 2020 and 15 May 2021**

Persistent STCs
<b>China:</b> Requirements for information security products, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the Office of State Commercial Cryptography Administration (OSCCA) 1999 Regulation on commercial encryption products and its ongoing revision and the Multi-Level Protection Scheme (MLPS) (ID 294) raised <u>30 times</u> since 2011
<b>Russian Federation:</b> Draft Technical Regulation on Alcohol Drinks Safety (published on 24 October 2011) (ID 332) raised <u>27 times</u> since 2012
<b>European Union:</b> Draft Implementing Regulations amending Regulation (EC) No. 607/2009 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No. 479/2008 as regards protected designations of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine sector products (ID 345) raised <u>25 times</u> since 2012
<b>India:</b> Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012 (ID 367) raised <u>24 times</u> since 2013
<b>European Union:</b> Hazard-based approach to plant protection products and setting of import tolerances (ID 393) raised <u>23 times</u> since 2013
<b>China:</b> Regulations for the Supervision and Administration of Medical Devices (Order No. 650 of the State Council) (ID 428) raised <u>20 times</u> since 2014
<b>China:</b> Registration Fees for Drugs and Medical Device Products (ID 466) raised <u>17 times</u> since 2015

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### TBT Committee discussions during the COVID-19 pandemic

3.73. During the review period, WTO Members made substantive references to the COVID-19 pandemic in 39 STCs. In most cases, it was considered that COVID-19 was impeding implementation and compliance with new regulations, and extensions to transition periods were requested.

3.74. At the TBT Committee informal meeting held on 8 December 2020, Members shared experiences on TBT measures that they had adopted, or were planning to adopt, in response to the pandemic. Members implemented measures, such as shifting from on-site inspections to remote office assessments; developing capacity-building programmes to address the lack of national alignment to international standards, to facilitate access to medical devices during the pandemic; facilitating trade through the extension of validity periods of certificates; postponing implementation of planned regulatory changes; and simplifying surveillance and monitoring of notified bodies. The Secretariat also provided an overview of two Secretariat documents relevant to TBT-related COVID-19 measures.

3.75. Box 3.2 takes a closer look at aerospace products that are subject to various non-tariff measures.

### Box 3.2 TBT and aerospace products

In 2019, world exports of aerospace products<sup>a</sup> were worth around USD 337 billion and accounted for 2.0% of total world merchandise exports. The United States and the European Union are by far the world's largest exporters of these products: in 2019, they accounted for almost 80% of global exports (USD 136 billion and USD 123 billion, respectively). The United States and the European Union were also the world's largest importers in 2019, accounting for more than half of global imports (USD 35 billion and USD 85 billion, respectively).<sup>b</sup>

Aerospace products are subject to various non-tariff measures, including a wide variety of regulations falling under the TBT Agreement. From January 1995 to October 2020, WTO Members notified 114 regulations related to these products. The largest share of these measures was notified by WTO Members from North America, followed by those from Asia. Almost half of these aerospace-related TBT notifications were submitted by the United States (40%<sup>c</sup>) and China (9%<sup>d</sup>).

Aerospace-related measures notified to the TBT Committee covered and addressed a wide variety of products and issues. In terms of coverage, products affected included: different types of aircraft (e.g. civilian/military, unmanned aircraft systems, passenger-carrying category planes, transport category planes, supersonic planes, turbine-powered planes); aerospace components (e.g. interior compartments, propellers, tyres, safe brakes, safety shear valves); emissions (e.g. ozone-depleting substances, halocarbon); space vehicles (e.g. drones, helicopters, gliders, rotorcraft, tiltrotors); satellites (e.g. earth stations in motion, satellite technology and systems, non-geostationary satellites); aerospace electric equipment and systems (e.g. data transmission equipment, remote sensing space systems, automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast equipment, flight-guidance systems, optical signalling devices); air transport (e.g. cargo); aerospace engines (e.g. aircraft engines, hydraulic fluid, turbine lubricating oils, aviation gasoline); and on-board equipment (e.g. telecommunication installations, radio equipment, mobile communication services, oxygen concentrators, water).

Around 60%<sup>e</sup> of aerospace-related TBT measures were adopted with the objective of addressing the protection of human health or safety. Other frequently stated objectives included protection of the environment, prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection, and quality requirements. Among these, the most prominent specific objective was the protection against risks of physical injuries, followed by the protection against risks arising from greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to air pollution.

To date, WTO Members have discussed at least five STCs regarding TBT measures regulating aerospace products. These measures were maintained by the European Union (2), China (2) and the United States (1), and covered the following: (i) unmanned aircraft systems; (ii) ICT products in civil aviation; (iii) information security products; (iv) transportation of lithium batteries; and (v) hush-kitted and reengineed aircraft. The policy objectives indicated in such measures were the protection of human health or safety, national security requirements and the protection of the environment. Additionally, the issues mentioned by WTO Members raising such aerospace-related concerns included the creation of unnecessary barriers to trade, transparency (e.g. measure not notified to the Committee) and the use (or non-use) of international standards (Table 1).

Table 1 TBT STCs: aerospace products	
<b>European Union:</b>	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/945 on Unmanned Aircraft Systems and on Third-country Operators of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (ID 585) (raised for the first time on 20 June 2019 by China).
<b>China:</b>	Civil Aviation Network Information Security Management Rules (ID 538) (raised for the first time on 14 June 2017 by Canada, European Union and United States).
<b>China:</b>	Requirements for information security products, including, <i>inter alia</i> , the Office of State Commercial Cryptography Administration (OSCCA) 1999 Regulation on commercial encryption products and its ongoing revision and the Multi-Level Protection Scheme (MLPS) (ID 294) (raised for the first time on 24 March 2011 by Australia, Brazil, Canada, European Union, Japan, Republic of Korea and United States).
<b>United States:</b>	Hazardous Materials: Transportation of Lithium Batteries (ID 262) (raised for the first time on 24 March 2010 by China, European Union, Israel, Japan and Republic of Korea).
<b>European Union:</b>	Regulation on Aircrafts (ID 32) (raised for the first time on 20 November 1998 by United States and Japan).

- a Aerospace products are listed in Chapter 88, and at the 6-digit level (840710, 840910) of the Harmonized System.
- b WTO Secretariat, based on UN Comtrade database (sum of available reporters, including intra trade of the European Union, excluding re-exports of Hong Kong, China).
- c 45 of 114 notifications.
- d 10 of 114 notifications.
- e 67 of 114 notifications.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### 3.5 Trade concerns raised in other WTO bodies<sup>40</sup>

3.76. During the review period, a number of trade issues and concerns raised by Members in formal meetings of various WTO bodies involved G20 economies. This Section provides a factual overview of such concerns raised between mid-October 2020 and mid-May 2021. The trade concerns covered in this Section have neither the status nor the procedural framework of the STCs raised in the SPS and TBT Committees. Nevertheless, they provide an up-to-date insight into which trade issues are being discussed by Members across the WTO and, as such, add important transparency. This Section does not reproduce the full substantive description of the trade concerns outlined by WTO Members regarding measures implemented by G20 economies, but rather provides a reference to the formal meeting(s) where a particular issue featured. A full account and context of the concerns can be found in the formal meeting records of the respective WTO bodies. The list of concerns and issues mentioned in this Section is not exhaustive and is limited to measures implemented by G20 economies.<sup>41</sup>

3.77. During the review period, the *Council for Trade in Goods* (CTG) held two meetings. At the CTG meeting on 25-26 November 2020<sup>42</sup> new trade concerns were raised as per Table 3.19.

**Table 3.19 New trade concerns raised at the 25-26 November 2020 CTG meeting**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
China – Implementation of Trade Disruptive and Restrictive Measures	Australia
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – Trade Restrictive Policies and Practices Concerning Turkey	Turkey
United States – Revised Origin Marking Requirement for Goods Produced in Hong Kong	Hong Kong, China

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.78. At the same meeting, previously raised concerns were revisited by the Council as per Table 3.20.

**Table 3.20 Previously raised concerns repeated at the 25-26 November 2020 CTG meeting**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Australia – Discriminatory Market Access Prohibition on 5G Equipment	China
China – Customs Duties on Certain Integrated Circuits	European Union, Japan
China – Export Control Law	European Union, Japan
China – Measures Restricting the Import of Scrap Materials	United States
European Union – Amendments to the Directive 2009/28/EC, Renewable Energy Directive	Colombia
European Union – Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (the European Green Deal of December 2019)	Armenia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Russian Federation
European Union – Draft Implementing Regulations regarding Protected Designations of Origin and Geographical Indications, Traditional Terms, Labelling and Presentation of Certain Wine Sector Products	United States
European Union – Enlargement of the EU to include Croatia: Negotiations under Article XXIV:6 of the GATT 1994	Russian Federation
European Union – Implementation of Non-Tariff Barriers on Agricultural Products	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, United States, and Uruguay
European Union – Proposed Modification of TRQ Commitments: Systemic Concerns	Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, New Zealand, Russian Federation, United States, Uruguay
European Union – Quality Schemes for Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs – the Registration of Certain Terms of Cheese as Geographical Indications	United States, Uruguay

<sup>40</sup> This Section does not include the SPS and TBT Committees (covered separately). Issues raised in this Section may subsequently have become the subject of a dispute.

<sup>41</sup> G20 economies are encouraged to communicate to the Trade Monitoring Section of the WTO trade issues which they have raised in WTO bodies and which they believe are relevant to the monitoring exercise.

<sup>42</sup> WTO document G/C/M/138.

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
European Union – Regulation (EU) No. 2017/2321 and Regulation (EU) No. 2018/825	China, Russian Federation
EU – Regulation EC No. 1272/2008 (CLP Regulation)	Russian Federation
India – Restrictions on Imports of Certain Pulses	Australia, Canada, European Union, Russian Federation, Ukraine, United States
Indonesia – Import and Export Restricting Policies and Practices	European Union, Japan, New Zealand
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman, and Qatar – Selective Tax on Certain Imported Products	European Union, Japan, Switzerland, United States
Mexico – Front of Pack Nutrition Labelling (Nom-51)	United States
Russian Federation – Trade Restricting Practices	European Union
United Kingdom – Draft Goods Schedule and Proposed UK TRQ Commitments: Systemic Concerns	Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, New Zealand, Russian Federation, United States, Uruguay
United States – Executive Order on Securing the Bulk-Power System	China
United States – Export Control Measures for ICT Products	China
United States – Import Restrictions on Apples and Pears	European Union
United States – Measures regarding Market Access Prohibition for ICT Products	China

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.79. At the 25-26 November 2020 CTG meeting, the delegations of Canada; Colombia; Costa Rica; Hong Kong, China; New Zealand; Norway; Singapore; Switzerland; and Uruguay circulated a communication on "COVID-19: Measures related to trade in goods"<sup>43</sup>, calling on Members to continue providing to the WTO timely information and notifications on COVID-19 related measures and initiatives.

3.80. At the CTG meeting on 31 March and 1 April 2021<sup>44</sup> new trade concerns were raised as per Table 3.21.

**Table 3.21 New trade concerns raised at the CTG 31 March and 1 April 2021 meetings**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
European Union - COVID-19 Vaccine Export Transparency and Authorization Measure	Australia
India – Mandatory Certification for Steel Products	Japan
India – Import Restrictions on Air Conditioners	Japan
Mexico – Conformity Assessment Procedure for Cheese under Mexican Official Standard NOM-223-SCFI/SAGARPA-2018	United States
European Union – Sweden's Discriminatory Market Access Prohibition on 5G Equipment	China

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.81. At the same meeting, previously raised concerns were revisited by the Council as per Table 3.22.

**Table 3.22 Previously raised trade concerns repeated at the CTG 31 March and 1 April 2021 meetings**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Australia – Discriminatory Market Access Prohibition on 5G Equipment	China
China – Customs Duties on Certain Integrated Circuits	European Union, Japan
China – Export Control Law	European Union, Japan
China – Implementation of Trade Disruptive and Restrictive Measures	Australia
China – Measures Restricting the Import of Scrap Materials	United States
European Union – Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (the European Green Deal of December 2019)	Armenia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Russian Federation
European Union – Draft Implementing Regulations regarding Protected Designations of Origin and Geographical Indications,	United States

<sup>43</sup> WTO document G/C/W/780.

<sup>44</sup> WTO document G/C/M/139 (forthcoming).

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Traditional Terms, Labelling and Presentation of Certain Wine Sector Products	
European Union – Implementation of Non-Tariff Barriers on Agricultural Products	Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States, Uruguay
European Union – Proposed Modification of TRQ Commitments: Systemic Concerns	Australia, Brazil, China, New Zealand, Uruguay
European Union – Quality Schemes for Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs – the Registration of Certain Terms of Cheese as Geographical Indications	Uruguay
European Union – Regulation (EU) No. 2017/2321 and Regulation (EU) No. 2018/825	China, Russian Federation
European Union – Regulation EC No. 1272/2008 (CLP Regulation)	Russian Federation
India – Restrictions on Imports of Certain Pulses	Australia, Canada, European Union, Russian Federation, Ukraine, United States
Indonesia – Import and Export Restricting Policies and Practices	Australia, European Union, Japan, New Zealand, United States
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – Trade Restrictive Policies and Practices Concerning Turkey	Turkey
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, State of Kuwait, Oman, and Qatar – Selective Tax on Certain Imported Products	European Union, Japan, Switzerland, United States
Russian Federation – Trade Restricting Practices	European Union, United States
United Kingdom – Draft Goods Schedule and Proposed UK TRQ Commitments: Systemic Concerns	Australia, Brazil, China, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Uruguay
United States – Executive Order on Securing the Bulk-Power System	China
United States – Export Control Measures for ICT Products	China
United States – Import Restrictions on Apples and Pears	European Union
United States – Measures regarding Market Access Prohibition for ICT Products	China

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.82. At the 12 November 2020 meeting of the *Committee on Market Access (CMA)*<sup>45</sup>, new trade concerns were raised on: (i) the Russian Federation's draft decree restricting imports by certain entities (raised by European Union); (ii) the Russian Federation's track and trace Regime (raised by United States); and (iii) India's import policies on tyres, television sets, and air conditioners (raised by European Union and Thailand).

3.83. Persistent trade concerns were also raised on: (i) China's custom duties on certain integrated circuits (raised by European Union, Japan, and Chinese Taipei); (ii) the European Union's carbon border adjustment mechanism (the European Green Deal of December 2019) (raised by Russian Federation); (iii) the EU enlargement negotiations under Article XXIV:6 of the GATT 1994 to include Croatia (raised by Russian Federation); (iv) the EU renegotiations of tariff rate quotas under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 (raised by Russian Federation); (v) the rectifications and modifications of the United Kingdom's Schedule XIX (raised by Russian Federation); (vi) India's customs duties on telecommunication and other products (raised by China); (vii) India's quantitative restrictions on imports of certain pulses (raised by Australia, Canada, European Union, Russian Federation and United States); (viii) Indonesia's customs duties on telecommunication products (raised by United States); and (ix) the selective tax on certain imported products by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar (raised by European Union, Switzerland and United States).

3.84. At the 29-30 April 2021 meeting of the CMA<sup>46</sup>, new and persistent trade concerns were raised as per Table 3.23.

<sup>45</sup> WTO document G/MA/M/73.

<sup>46</sup> WTO document G/MA/M/74 to be issued.

**Table 3.23 Trade concerns raised at the Committee on Market Access**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising/interested in the concern
China - Customs Duties on Certain Integrated Circuits	European Union, Japan, Chinese Taipei
China – Trade Disruptive and Restrictive Measures (new)	Australia
European Union - Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (The European Green Deal of December 2019)	Armenia, Kingdom of Bahrain, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Qatar, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
European Union – Vaccine Export Transparency Mechanism (new)	Australia
India – Customs Duties on Telecommunication and Other Products	China
India – Import Policies on Tyres	European Union
India – Import Restriction on Air Conditioners	Japan
India – Quantitative Restrictions on Imports of Certain Pulses	Australia, Canada, European Union, Russian Federation, United States
Indonesia - Customs Duties on Certain Telecommunication Products	United States
Indonesia - Import Restriction on Air Conditioners (new)	Japan
Mexico – Import Quota on Glyphosate (new)	United States
Russian Federation – Export Prohibition on Timber Products (new)	European Union
Russian Federation – Track and Trace Regime	United States
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, State of Kuwait, Oman, and Qatar - Selective Tax on Certain Imported Products	European Union, Japan, Switzerland, United States
United Kingdom - Rectifications and Modifications of Schedule XIX	Russian Federation
United Kingdom - Renegotiation of Tariff Rate Quotas under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994	Russian Federation

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.85. At the same meeting, Members also raised concerns in the context of the review of notifications under the 2012 Decision on notification procedures for quantitative restrictions.<sup>47</sup>

3.86. At the 21 April 2021 meeting of the *Committee on Import Licensing* (CIL)<sup>48</sup>, new and persistent trade concerns were raised (Table 3.24).

**Table 3.24 Trade concerns raised at the Committee on Import Licensing**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Argentina – Import Licensing system	United States
China - Changes to Import Licensing for Certain Recoverable Materials	United States
India - Import Licensing Requirements for Boric Acid	United States
India - Quantitative Restrictions on Certain Pulses	Canada, Australia, European Union
India - Importation of Pneumatic Tyres	European Union
Indonesia – Import Licensing System	European Union
Indonesia – Import Licensing Regime for Cell phones, Handheld Computers and Tablets	United States
Indonesia - Import Licensing Restricting Policies and Practices	Australia
Indonesia - Import Restrictions: Compulsory Registration by Importers of Steel Products	Japan
Indonesia - Import Licensing Regime for Certain Textile Products	European Union, Japan
Indonesia - Import Restrictions on Air Conditioners	European Union, Japan

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.87. At the meeting of the *Committee on Rules of Origin* on 30 October 2020<sup>49</sup>, trade concerns were raised on the United States' country of origin marking (raised by Hong Kong, China).

3.88. At the 30 November-1 December 2020 and 29-30 March 2021 meetings of the *Committee on Agriculture* (CoA)<sup>50</sup>, several questions and concerns were raised with respect to G20 economies

<sup>47</sup> WTO document G/L/59/Rev.1.

<sup>48</sup> WTO document G/LIC/M/52.

<sup>49</sup> WTO document G/RO/M/75.

<sup>50</sup> Questions raised under the review process at CoA meetings on 30 November – 1 December 2020 and 29-30 March 2021 are available in WTO documents G/AG/W/208, issued on 19 November 2020, and

individual notifications and on Specific Implementation Matters (SIMs) under Article 18.6. During the period concerned, 179 questions were discussed concerning policies implemented by G20 members, including on individual notifications (60 questions), Article 18.6 matters (110 questions on 61 SIMs) and on overdue notifications (9 questions). Additional details regarding these questions and concerns can be found in Section 3.6 of this Report.

3.89. At the meetings of the *Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices*<sup>51</sup> on 28 October 2020 and 28 April 2021, concerns were raised as per Table 3.25.

**Table 3.25 Concerns raised on anti-dumping practices**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Australia - Sunset review – Ammonium Nitrate	Russian Federation
Australia - Repetitive initiations on similar products: Aluminium micro-extrusions and Aluminium zinc coated steel (<600mm) - Hot dip galvanised steel angle and solid base angle	China
Canada - Sunset review – refined sugar	European Union
Canada - Investigation - concrete reinforcing bars	Russian Federation
China - Investigation and imposition of ADDs – barely	Australia
China - Investigation - wines	Australia
China - Final determination and continued imposition of ADDs - stainless billets and hot-rolled plates and coils	Japan
China - Final determination and continued imposition of ADDs – optical fibre preform	Japan
European Union - Investigation - steel wheels	China
European Union - Investigation - glass fibre fabrics products	China
European Union Final determination and continued imposition of ADDs – grain-oriented flat-rolled products of electrical steel (GOES)	Japan
India - Final determination and continued imposition of ADDs – phthalic anhydride	Japan
Indonesia - Final determination and continued imposition of ADDs - cold rolled stainless sheet	Japan
Korea, Republic of - Final determination and continued imposition of ADDs based on the 4 <sup>th</sup> sunset review - stainless steel bar	Japan
Mexico - Measures - bond paper	Brazil
Mexico - Sunset review - hot-rolled sheet	Ukraine
Mexico - Sunset review - alloy and non-alloy carbon steel plate in sheets and bars	Ukraine
Mexico - Sunset review – bars and rods of iron or non-alloy steel	Ukraine
Mexico - Continued application of an AD measure - cold-rolled sheet	Kazakhstan
Mexico - Final determination and continued imposition of ADDs - seamless steel tubing	Japan
South Africa - Sunset review – frozen potato chips	European Union
South Africa - Sunset review - frozen bone-in chicken portions	European Union
South Africa - Initiation - Frozen bone-in portions of the species <i>Gallus Domesticus</i>	Brazil
United Kingdom - Transitional review - welded tubes and pipes of iron or non-alloy steel	Russian Federation
United States - Administrative review - frozen warmwater shrimp	China
United States -- Multiple actions on aluminium products/sheets	China
United States -Provisional measure - common alloy aluminium sheet	Norway
United States -Provisional measure - common alloy aluminum sheet	European Union
United States -Provisional determination - seamless carbon and alloy steel standard, line, and pressure pipe	Russian Federation
United States - Provisional measures - prestressed concrete steel wire strand	Ukraine
United States - Initiation - seamless carbon and alloy steel standard, line, and pressure pipe	Ukraine

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.90. Other issues and concerns raised covered: (i) the length of the United States antidumping measures – 19 prolonged measures (raised by Japan); (ii) the European Union's Regulation (EU)

G/AG/W/210, issued on 18 March 2021. All questions, responses and follow-up comments are available through the Q&A section of the Agriculture Information Management System at: <http://agims.wto.org/>.

<sup>51</sup> WTO documents G/ADP/M/58 and G/ADP/M/59 (forthcoming).

2017/2321 and Regulation (EU) 2018/825 (item placed on the agenda by Russian Federation and supported by China); (iii) overall importance of prompt notifications for transparency purposes (raised by the United States); and (iv) transitional reviews of anti-dumping measures conducted by the United Kingdom (raised by China and Russian Federation).

3.91. At the meetings of the *Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures* on 27 October 2020 and 27 April 2021 concerns were raised on subsidies as per Table 3.26.

**Table 3.26 Concerns raised at the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures**

Measures implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Canada - Sunset review – Refined sugar	European Union
China - Countervailing duty investigation - n-Propanol (NPA)	United States
China - Countervailing duty investigation – Barley	Australia
China - Provisional measures - Wines in containers holding 2 litres or less	Australia
European Union - Countervailing duty investigation - certain woven and/or stitched glass fibre fabrics	China, Egypt
United States - Provisional measures - Phosphate fertilizers	Morocco, Russian Federation
United States - Provisional measures – Seamless carbon and alloy steel standard, line, and pressure pipe	Russian Federation

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.92. Additional concerns were raised on: (i) elimination of export subsidies by the Members that received extensions under Article 27.4 of the SCM Agreement; (ii) low and declining level of compliance with the notification and transparency obligations in the SCM Agreement; (iii) requests for information pursuant to Article 25.8 and 25.9 (proposal on procedures from the United States); (iv) subsidies and overcapacity (raised by Canada, European Union, Japan, Norway, and United States); (v) request for information on certain alleged subsidy programmes in the steel sector in China (raised by European Union and United States); (vi) countervailing duty regulation of the United States regarding designation of developing country status in CVD cases (raised by Brazil); (vii) countervailing duty regulation of the United States regarding the assessment of currency undervaluation in CVD cases (raised by Brazil and China); (viii) use of adverse facts available by the United States in certain CVD investigations (raised by China); (ix) transitional reviews of countervailing measures conducted by the United Kingdom (raised by China and Russian Federation); (x) subsidy transparency and China's publication and inquiry point obligations under China's protocol of accession (raised by European Union and United States).

3.93. At the meetings of the *Committee on Safeguards* held on 26 October 2020 and on 26 April 2021<sup>52</sup>, concerns were raised on specific safeguard actions as per Table 3.27.

**Table 3.27 Concerns raised at the Committee on Safeguards**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>European Union</b> Investigation on certain steel products	Japan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Switzerland, China, India, Brazil, Turkey
<b>Kingdom of Bahrain; State of Kuwait; Oman; Qatar; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and United Arab Emirates<sup>a</sup></b> Investigation on certain steel products	Japan, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States, India
<b>India</b> Investigation on single mode optical fibre	Japan
<b>Indonesia</b> Investigation on carpets and other textile floor coverings	Japan
Investigation on articles of apparel and clothing accessories	European Union, Japan
Investigation on cigarette paper	European Union
<b>South Africa</b> Investigation on certain flat-rolled products of iron, non-alloy steel or other alloy steel	Japan, European Union
Investigation on U, I, H, L and T sections of iron or non-alloy steel	Republic of Korea, Japan,
Investigation on bolts with hexagon heads of iron or steel	Chinese Taipei
<b>Turkey</b>	

<sup>52</sup> WTO documents G/SG/M/57 and WTO document G/SG/M/58 (forthcoming).

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
Investigation on toothbrushes	European Union
Investigation on wallpaper and similar wallcoverings	Ukraine, European Union
<b>United Kingdom</b>	
Investigation on certain steel products	Japan, Russian Federation, Turkey, Switzerland, Republic of Korea, China, Brazil
<b>United States</b>	
Investigation on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells	China
Investigation on fresh, chilled, or frozen blueberries	Chile, Peru
Investigation on large residential washers	Republic of Korea
Measures taken following Section 232 investigations	India, Japan, European Union, Turkey, Russian Federation, China

a Investigations are initiated at the level of the GCC.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.94. At the meeting of the *Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs) Committee* on 23 March 2021<sup>53</sup> new or returning issues were raised, as per Table 3.28:

**Table 3.28 Concerns raised at the TRIMs Committee**

Measure implemented by	Member(s) raising the concern
<b>Indonesia</b>	
Comprehensive review of localization measures <sup>a</sup>	European Union, Japan, United States
Import restriction on carpets and other textiles	Japan
Import restriction on air conditioners	Japan
<b>India</b>	
Import restriction on air conditioners	Japan
Import restriction on tires	Japan
<b>Russian Federation</b>	
Measures implementing Russia's import substitution policy <sup>b</sup>	European Union, United States

a G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/5, 14 May 2019; G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/6 of 13 March 2020; G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/7 of 7 June 2020; and G/TRIMS/Q/IDN/8 of 17 July 2020.

b G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/4, 26 May 2016; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/5, 27 September 2016; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/6, 27 April 2017; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/8, 24 January 2018; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/7, 8 November 2017; G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/9, 22 March 2018; and G/TRIMS/Q/RUS/10 of 2 September 2020.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.95. At the meeting of the *Working Party on State Trade Enterprises (STEs)* of 2 November 2020,<sup>54</sup> trade concerns were raised on: (i) India's decision not to identify certain entities as STEs in its 2018 and 2019 notifications (raised by United States and European Union); (ii) Brazil's notification of no STEs (raised by United States); (iii) the continued non-notification of STEs by the Russian Federation (raised by United States and European Union); and (iv) the low level of compliance with notification obligations relating to STEs (raised by United States).

3.96. At the meeting of the Working Party on STEs of 3 May 2021,<sup>55</sup> trade concerns were raised on: (i) Brazil's decision not to identify certain entities as STEs; (ii) the involvement of STEs in China's importation of key agricultural commodities and coal (raised by Australia); (iii) India's decision not to identify certain entities as STEs in its 2018 and 2019 notifications (raised by United States and Australia); (iv) the continued non-notification of STEs by the Russian Federation (raised by United States and European Union); and (v) the need to enhance transparency (raised by Canada, European Union, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Switzerland, and United States).

3.97. At the 16 and 20 November 2020 and 30 March 2021 meetings of the *Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE)*<sup>56</sup>, the European Union briefed delegations on the trade aspects of the European Green Deal, which included, *inter alia*, its Farm-to-Fork policy, the objective of climate neutrality by 2050, and plans to adopt a carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM). While several delegations recognized the importance of the objectives pursued, Colombia and Paraguay

<sup>53</sup> WTO document G/TRIMS/M/49 (forthcoming).

<sup>54</sup> WTO document G/STR/M/37.

<sup>55</sup> WTO document G/STR/M/38.

<sup>56</sup> WTO documents WT/CTE/M/70, 17 March 2021 and WT/CTE/M/71 (forthcoming).

raised concerns that increased costs could exclude smaller agricultural producers from developing countries from international markets in favour of bigger producers. On the climate policy and CBAM, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, India, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Paraguay, the Russian Federation, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United States raised a series of specific concerns, including: the importance of respecting the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC); the bottom-up approach to climate action under the Paris Agreement; the importance of respecting trade obligations, including under preferential trade agreements, and avoid discriminatory and unnecessary barriers to trade; the need to assist developing countries in a just transition to low carbon economies.

3.98. At the meeting of the *Council for Trade in Services (CTS)* held on 4 December 2020, concerns were raised about certain tax measures of the Russian Federation (raised by United States). At that same meeting, concerns were reiterated about measures of the Russian Federation related to market access for foreign-licensed fixed satellite operators (raised by United States).<sup>57</sup> At the CTS meetings held on 4 December 2020 and 5 March 2021, concerns were reiterated about: (i) cybersecurity measures of China (raised by Japan and United States); (ii) 5G-related measures of Australia (raised by China); (iii) measures of the Russian Federation requiring software pre-installation (raised by United States); (iv) measures of the United States related to mobile applications (raised by China); (v) measures of India on prior approval for acquisitions of Indian companies and on the use of mobile applications (raised by China).<sup>58</sup>

3.99. The above Section provides evidence of the numerous trade concerns raised in the various WTO bodies between mid-October 2020 and mid-May 2021. The overwhelming majority of the trade concerns raised in WTO committees and councils related to measures and policies implemented by G20 economies. During the review period, although the WTO committees and councils meetings were hosted virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions, Members continued to raise trade issues and concerns. Several new trade concerns were raised during the review period and several had already been raised in previous periods, indicating persistent and unresolved issues. Also, some trade concerns were raised in more than one WTO body, suggesting that these concerns involve cross-cutting and technically complex issues. It may also suggest that WTO Members are continuing to use multiple platforms within the WTO committee structure to address various aspects of such concerns. Systemically, this is significant because of the increased transparency which it brings, but also because it demonstrates that Members are actively using the WTO committees to engage trading partners on real or potential areas of trade friction. At the same time, however, the repetition and non-resolution of the same trade concerns and issues in various WTO bodies may also be a source of concern. The Secretariat will continue to closely monitor developments in this area.

### **3.6 Policy developments in agriculture**

3.100. The Committee on Agriculture (CoA) provides a forum to discuss matters related to agricultural trade, and to consult on matters related to the implementation of commitments under the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA). The review work of the CoA is based on notifications that WTO Members make in relation to their commitments. There is also a provision in Article 18.6 of the AoA that allows Members to raise any matter relevant to the implementation of their commitments (i.e. Specific Implementation Matters (SIMs)). The CoA has also been tasked with monitoring the implementation of specific outcomes reached under the agriculture negotiations.

3.101. During the review period, the CoA held two regular meetings: 30 November-1 December 2020 and 29-30 March 2021 (96th and 97th CoA meetings). Of the 238 questions raised during the review period, 75% (179 questions) related to policies implemented by G20 economies, including questions on SIMs under Article 18.6, individual notifications and overdue notifications. Most questions on individual notifications were related to domestic support (over 67%), followed by market access (28%). For SIMs under Article 18.6, around 41% related to domestic support policies, 26% to policies affecting market access, 16% to the export competition pillar, and 13% targeted matters related to export prohibitions and restrictions on foodstuffs. The remaining SIMs related to transparency issues.

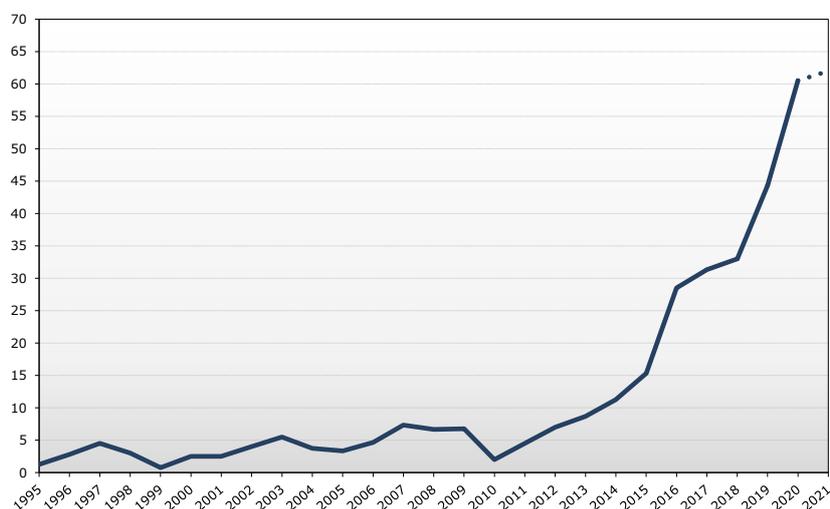
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<sup>57</sup> WTO document S/C/M/144.

<sup>58</sup> WTO documents S/C/M/144 and 145.

3.102. In total, 11 G20 economies (counting the European Union as one) received 110 questions on 61 SIMs under Article 18.6 at the 96th and 97th CoA meetings. As shown in Chart 3.21, the annual average number of questions raised under Article 18.6 concerning G20 members' policies has been on the rise since 2011, reaching an all-time high of an average of 61 questions per meeting in 2020. These numbers include questions that were repeated in more than one meeting.

**Chart 3.21 Average number of questions posed to G20 economies on SIMs under Article 18.6 (1995-2021<sup>a</sup>)**



a 2021 data cover questions raised until the 97th CoA meeting.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.103. Of the 61 SIMs raised in relation to policies implemented by G20 economies during the review period, 33 were discussed for the first time. Of these, almost 37% related to domestic support programmes, 27% to market access issues, 21% to policies prohibiting or restricting exports of foodstuffs and the remaining 15% to export competition and other issues.

3.104. The 12 new SIMs raised in relation to domestic support concerned policies implemented by G20 economies. Clarifications were sought on support policies targeting specific products, including dairy products (Canada's farm gate milk prices and its dairy price increase in New Brunswick), cereals (China's minimum support prices and the Russian Federation's wheat subsidies), soybeans (France's soybean production and the European Union's Blue Box support) and sugar (India's support to sugar and biofuels), as well as support policies with a wider sectoral scope (Australia's package reforms for the agricultural sector, China's rural development plans for 2021, the European Union's trade policy, France's national strategy for vegetable proteins and the United States' domestic support programmes and its COVID-19 relief package (H.R. 1319, American Rescue Plan Act of 2021)).

3.105. SIMs in the area of market access targeted measures that restricted, or had the potential to restrict, trade in agricultural products, including bovine meat (Indonesia's regulations on imports of bovine meat), cereals (China's maize import duties), cotton (India's increase on cotton tariffs), fruits and vegetables (Indonesia's imports of citrus, melons, strawberries and persimmons, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's imports of agricultural products from Turkey) and seeds (India's oilseeds policies). Certain SIMs related to broader import policies (Canada's Bill C-216, the EU member States' regulations on domestic food products and India's Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC)).

3.106. Seven SIMs related to policies restricting or prohibiting exports, including of cereals (the Russian Federation's grain export duties and its formula-based grain export tax), fresh vegetables (India's export prohibition on onions), seeds (the Russian Federation's sunflower seed export duty and its draft resolution on export duties), and soyabeans (the Russian Federation's soyabean export duty). One SIM concerned the Russian Federation's lack of notifications to the CoA regarding recently implemented export restrictions.

3.107. Three SIMs sought clarification on policies that potentially subsidized exports of agricultural products (India's export subsidies for sugar, the Russian Federation's support on exports of high value-added agricultural products and its support on exported agricultural products). Other SIMs concerned China's outstanding responses to questions raised in the CoA and France's requirements concerning the origin of goods on supermarket shelves.

3.108. Twenty-eight SIMs of the 61 total that were discussed during the review period followed up on matters regarding policies implemented by G20 economies. Some have been raised multiple times. For example, Canada's new milk ingredient class and India's pulses policies have been raised in 17 and 13 CoA meetings, attracting 63 and 57 questions, respectively. Similarly, matters related to China's cotton policies, India's skim milk powder export subsidies and the Russian Federation's railway subsidy for exports have been raised on more than six occasions. Agricultural policies of Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Indonesia, the Russian Federation, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States were the subject of repeated concerns under Article 18.6. All 61 SIMs, including questions, answers and follow-up comments, can be accessed through the Agriculture Information Management System (AG IMS).<sup>59</sup>

3.109. WTO Members continued to implement the December 2015 Nairobi Ministerial Decision on Export Competition. Of the 16 Members with positive export subsidy commitment levels in their schedules at the time of adoption of the Decision, nine are G20 members. Six (Australia, Indonesia, Mexico, South Africa, Turkey and the United States) have had their revised export subsidy schedules certified. Two G20 economies (Canada and the European Union) circulated their draft revised schedules, which are pending certification. At the 97<sup>th</sup> CoA meeting, Brazil reported on the completion of the domestic process to approve the Decision, paving the way for the circulation of its draft schedule.

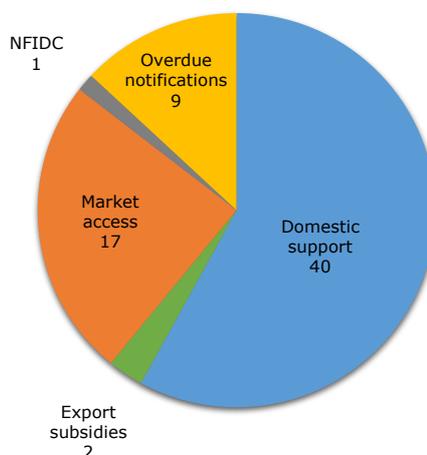
3.110. The CoA continued its review of the implementation of Members' commitments under the AoA primarily on the basis of notifications submitted by Members. Twelve distinct notification requirements are applicable in the domain of agriculture, covering market access, domestic support, export subsidies, export prohibitions or restrictions, and the follow-up to the Marrakesh Net Food Importing Developing Countries (NFIDC) Decision. The applicability of a notification requirement to a Member is largely dependent on its specific commitments under the AoA. Of the 12 notification requirements, 5 are "regular" or "annual" notification requirements: (i) imports under tariff and other quotas (MA:2); (ii) special agricultural safeguards (MA:5); (iii) domestic support (DS:1); (iv) export subsidies (ES:1); and (v) total exports (ES:2). Annual notifications are required to be submitted no later than a certain number of days following the end of the year in question, in accordance with the deadlines set out in the Committee's Notification Requirements and Formats (WTO document G/AG/2, 30 June 1995).

3.111. From 15 October 2020 to 15 May 2021, G20 economies submitted 72 notifications (including addenda and corrigenda). A total of 60 questions were raised concerning notifications from G20 members during the 96<sup>th</sup> and 97<sup>th</sup> CoA meetings. These questions accounted for more than 60% of all notification-related questions raised in the CoA in that period. As seen in Chart 3.22, most questions concerned notifications related to domestic support, followed by market access. Nine questions on overdue notifications were directed at Australia, Brazil, the European Union, India, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United States.

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<sup>59</sup> In the AG IMS (<http://agims.wto.org/>), under the Review Process Q&A tab, select "Search Q&A Submitted Since 1995" and select 96 and 97 in the "Meeting number" field.

**Chart 3.22 Number of questions raised per topic (mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021) at the 96th and 97th CoA meetings**



Source: WTO Secretariat.

### Policy developments in agriculture related to the COVID-19 pandemic

3.112. The 96th and 97th CoA meetings included a dedicated agenda item on COVID-19 and agriculture. While WTO Members used the CoA's standard review process to request clarification on policies implemented in response to the pandemic, this standing agenda item provided the membership with an opportunity to engage in a holistic discussion on the pandemic and the serious disruptions it has caused to food and agriculture systems globally. The agenda item also offered WTO Members a chance to review each other's *ad hoc* reports on measures taken in response to the pandemic. In this regard, seven WTO Members (counting the European Union as one) submitted *ad hoc* reports to the CoA, among them three G20 economies (Table 3.29). In addition, at the request of Members, the WTO Secretariat produced a compilation of WTO Members' COVID-19 agricultural measures (WTO document G/AG/W/209, 9 December 2020) based on Members' *ad hoc* reports submitted to the CoA.

**Table 3.29 *Ad hoc* reports by G20 members on COVID-19 measures in the agricultural sector (mid-October 2020 to mid-May 2021<sup>a</sup>)**

Member	Document symbol	Issue date
European Union	G/AG/GEN/159/Add.3, G/AG/GEN/159/Add.4	26/11/2020, 24/03/2021
South Africa	G/AG/GEN/180	12/03/2021
Japan	G/AG/GEN/166/Rev.1	26/03/2021

a WTO Docs Online. Viewed at: [https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE\\_Search/FE\\_S\\_S005.aspx](https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Search/FE_S_S005.aspx).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.113. Observer international organizations also contributed to discussions under the agenda item on COVID-19 and agriculture. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the OECD, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Grains Council (IGC) submitted reports to the 96<sup>th</sup> and 97<sup>th</sup> CoA meetings, outlining their work in relation to the pandemic.<sup>60</sup>

3.114. Some measures put in place by WTO Members in response to the pandemic included restrictions or prohibitions on exports of certain goods, including agricultural products. The AoA establishes disciplines for cases where Members institute export prohibitions or restrictions to prevent or relieve critical shortages of foodstuffs (Article 12). Transparency is at the heart of these disciplines. The AoA states that: (i) Members are to give due consideration to the effects of such prohibition or restriction on importing Members' food security; and (ii) before any WTO Member institutes an export prohibition or restriction, it shall give notice in writing, as far in advance as practicable, to the CoA, comprising such information as the nature and the duration of such measure, and shall consult, upon request, with any other Member having a substantial interest as

<sup>60</sup> WTO documents G/AG/GEN/175 (FAO), 26 November 2020; G/AG/GEN/176 (OECD), 27 November 2020; and G/AG/GEN/181 (IGC), G/AG/GEN/182 (IGC), and G/AG/GEN/183 (WFP), 16 March 2021.

an importer with respect to any matter related to the measure in question. During the review period, there were no notifications submitted to the CoA on export restrictions or prohibitions on agricultural products attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **3.7 General economic support**

3.115. At the 11 December 2020 TPRB meeting dedicated to discussing the Director-General's Overview of Developments in the International Trading Environment report, WTO Members emphasized the importance of the trade monitoring exercise as a horizontal, factual and objective platform that reinforces transparency and predictability, especially in the difficult times of the COVID-19 pandemic. Members stressed the timeliness of the report in providing trends on the impact of the global health crisis on trade and commended the rapid reaction and responsiveness of the Secretariat in providing an online transparency platform for sharing COVID-19-related measures, including on economic support programmes. Providing this transparency platform may offer an opportunity to understand the nature of the policies and programmes implemented, their duration and the envisaged timetables for a phase-out.

3.116. As indicated in previous Reports, since July 2017, the Secretariat has been unable to justify the inclusion of a separate annex on general economic support measures (unrelated to COVID-19) in the Trade Monitoring Reports. This has been partly due to the low participation and response rate of WTO Members to the request for information, and partly because such an annex would have been biased against those Members that traditionally share and publish detailed information of such measures and programmes. Compounding the lack of information volunteered by Members, some delegations have often insisted on excluding general economic support measures identified by the Secretariat from public sources and for which verification was sought. The December 2020 TPRB meeting generated an exchange of views on how to address this issue, with several Members emphasizing the need to preserve and strengthen transparency through the trade monitoring exercise. Several Members welcomed the online list of COVID-19 support measures compiled by the WTO Secretariat, which was put in place in the early stages of the pandemic. The list<sup>61</sup> provides an informal situation report and is an attempt to provide transparency with respect to support measures taken in response to the COVID-19 crisis. It includes only information and measures communicated by delegations directly to the WTO Trade Monitoring Section in response to the Director-General's requests in March 2020, September 2020 and March 2021. The COVID-19 list of support measures presents measures only in the original language of the submission and makes no attempt to categorize them. It is important to emphasize that it is difficult to ascertain the extent to which, if at all, these measures are trade related or impact competition.

3.117. During the review period, WTO Members continued to address the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to prepare for a sustainable and strong post-crisis economic recovery. In terms of general economic support, this translated into more resources being allocated to COVID-19-related support measures and to fewer regular support measures, implemented by WTO Members.

#### **Regular economic support measures (not related to COVID-19)**

3.118. In response to the Director-General's March 2021 request for information for this Trade Monitoring Report, only the European Union, out of the G20 economies, communicated to the Secretariat general economic support measures unrelated to the pandemic. The Secretariat's own research suggests that many more support measures with potentially important ramifications for trade were implemented during the review period.

3.119. During this period, regular support measures (not related to COVID-19) communicated by WTO Members more broadly, as well as those identified by the Secretariat, included measures relating to environmental sustainability targets, such as: investments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; subsidies for renewable energies; research and development programmes focusing on sustainability and energy efficiency or to achieve carbon neutrality; state aids to eliminate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and to promote renewable energy sources; fiscal policies to support the supply of renewable energies; and loans for developing green and sustainability frameworks. Other

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<sup>61</sup> WTO, *COVID-19: Support Measures*. Viewed at: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/trade\\_related\\_support\\_measures\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/trade_related_support_measures_e.htm).

measures included investments to promote the use or development of digital technologies, aid schemes to support high-capacity connectivity infrastructures, and support to research and innovation. Support to farmers and to the agricultural sector – as well as funds to assist MSMEs and businesses, loan guarantees for MSMEs and more general stimulus packages – were also put in place. Several of these measures were multi-year programmes, with financial disbursements staggered over the lifetime of a project. Other measures were one-off grants or aid schemes.

### **COVID-19-related economic support measures**

3.120. Since the beginning of the pandemic, at least 1,521 COVID-19-related economic support measures have been put in place by 106 Members and 4 Observers.<sup>62</sup> Of these, as at 27 May 2021, 930 (61%) were communicated directly to the WTO Secretariat. This number includes 39 COVID-related support measures for MSMEs that were communicated directly to the trade monitoring exercise by five Members following the recommendation adopted by the Informal Working Group on MSMEs to further increase transparency and provide, on a voluntary basis, information on policies related to MSMEs.

3.121. The unprecedented number of COVID-19-related support measures put in place since the beginning of the pandemic far exceeds the activity seen in the wake of the GFC of 2008-09. Most of the COVID-19-related support measures recorded were put in place by G20 economies (908, or 60% of the total), of which 618 (68%) were communicated to the Secretariat. So far in 2021, 294 such measures have been announced or implemented in the form of grants, loans or stimulus packages targeting sectors of the economy affected by the pandemic, including agriculture, health, aviation, transport, tourism, education and culture, and also fiscal and financial measures to support businesses and MSMEs as well as broader and very sizeable stimulus packages. Some of the measures implemented in the early stages of the pandemic were extended in 2021, but overall, the flow of new support measures has slowed during the review period. Several were one-off grants, and others included disbursements staggered over a few months up to several years. Some of these measures form part of rescue plans and stimulus packages worth several trillion US dollars.

3.122. Another set of support measures put in place by governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic included measures implemented by central banks to ease monetary policies; reduce policy rates, statutory reserve ratios and repo rates; regulate the foreign exchange market; issue and purchase government bonds; and ease debt terms and reschedule deferrals on credit instalments to lower funding costs across economies. Government responses have also included financial and fiscal measures to ensure economic stability, including strengthening the supply of credit to households and businesses, providing the banking system with additional liquidity, easing of credit conditions and terms, backing business investment, granting moratoriums, providing credit guarantees and reducing taxes and fees. The responses of high-income economies have been significantly more generous in terms of the number and variety of measures implemented and funds allocated than those offered by lower-income economies whose responses have often relied on funding or other assistance obtained from international organizations and/or donors.

3.123. COVID-19-related support measures generally appear to be temporary in nature. Several of these measures have been adjusted and/or extended to reflect changing circumstances and challenges that have arisen in dealing with new surges of the pandemic. Large injections of money in some countries generated discussions about finding the right balance between maintaining support measures to address the negative impacts of the crisis and ensuring a coordinated phasing-out of such measures to effectively support a broad and sustainable recovery.

3.124. Some Members have needed additional resources and assistances in dealing with the pandemic. The Secretariat identified 283 bilateral and multilateral assistance<sup>63</sup> measures that were received during the review period by 122 Members to address the COVID-19 crisis. Of the 283 measures, 129 related to vaccination roll-out and bilateral vaccines donations. Others included additional financing for governments to address the pandemic in the forms of loans, grants and donations of medical devices. Several assistance measures were also provided to support the education sector and MSMEs in facing the challenges brought by the pandemic. Although the

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<sup>62</sup> Azerbaijan, Belarus, Equatorial Guinea and Iraq.

<sup>63</sup> Multilateral assistance refers to assistance from international organizations and regional development banks.

Secretariat's information on the bilateral and multilateral assistance measures is not exhaustive<sup>64</sup>, the amount of such assistance appeared to be substantial in 2020, as preliminary findings from the OECD<sup>65</sup> seem to indicate.

3.125. Globally, governments have provided unprecedented support to help their own societies and economies recover from the crisis. The United Nations March 2021 Policy Brief<sup>66</sup> estimated the global value of national fiscal support measures related to COVID-19 at USD 18 trillion. The large stimulus packages by some governments to boost consumer spending generated some concerns about the inflationary effects of such programmes. The IMF projected<sup>67</sup> that, although commodity prices are expected to increase in the coming months, the volatility of prices should be short-lived and inflation pressures will remain contained in most countries.

3.126. While many high-income economies may enjoy sufficient fiscal space to accommodate large economic stimulus initiatives, other economies entered the pandemic with already elevated debt risks or with elevated debt levels. Public debt in emerging markets has surged to levels not seen in 50 years, according to the World Bank<sup>68</sup>, and many developing countries have increasingly taken on debt on non-concessional terms. The IMF<sup>69</sup> identified as at 30 April 2021, 7 low-income countries in debt distress, 29 at high risk, 23 at moderate risk and 10 at low risk. Debt-service repayments throughout 2020 and 2021 would amount, according to UNCTAD<sup>70</sup>, between USD 2 trillion and USD 2.3 trillion in high-income developing countries, and between USD 700 billion to USD 1.1 trillion in middle- and low-income countries. Multilateral organizations have encouraged donors and creditors to take action in supporting emerging markets and low-income countries with financial liquidity problems. The IMF provided financial assistance and debt-service relief of USD 250 billion to member countries to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic<sup>71</sup>, including initiatives such as the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) and the Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust (CCRT). The establishment of the G20 economies Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) in place since 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020 to December 2021, provided 73 eligible low-income countries for a temporary suspension of debt-service payments owed to their official bilateral creditors. The World Bank contributed some USD 160 billion between April 2020 and June 2021 to help developing countries strengthen their pandemic response and health-care systems and committed USD 26.3 billion in financing economies participating in the G20 DSSI.<sup>72</sup> Stronger and coordinated global responses would be needed to address the difficulties faced by low-income and middle-income economies in the context of the pandemic. Trade could play an important role in alleviating the debt pressure felt by many of these economies and lowering trade barriers could provide countries with more opportunities to push down their debt-to-exports ratios. Addressing supply-side constraints and improving access to trade finance would help these countries take better advantage of market opportunities.

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<sup>64</sup> Given the speed with which COVID-19-related policies and programmes were introduced and/or modified, the number and type of support measures covered in this Section are not exhaustive. For example, it has been difficult to keep up with all actions undertaken by central banks and other monetary institutions to maintain flexibility in terms of tools, lending programmes and interest rate decisions required to deal with new challenges as they have emerged. Additionally, many WTO Members continued to provide aid or assistance bilaterally or through multilateral initiatives such as the COVAX Facilities.

<sup>65</sup> OECD, *COVID-19 Spending Helped to Lift Foreign Aid to an All-Time High in 2020 but More Effort Needed*, 13 April 2021. Viewed at: <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/COVID-19-spending-helped-to-lift-foreign-aid-to-an-all-time-high-in-2020-but-more-effort-needed.htm>.

<sup>66</sup> United Nations, *Policy Brief Liquidity and Debt Solutions to Invest in the SDGs: The Time to Act is Now*, March 2021. Viewed at: [https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sq\\_policy\\_brief\\_on\\_liquidity\\_and\\_debt\\_solutions\\_march\\_2021.pdf](https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sq_policy_brief_on_liquidity_and_debt_solutions_march_2021.pdf).

<sup>67</sup> IMF, *World Economic Outlook: Managing Divergent Recoveries, April 2021*. Viewed at: <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/03/23/world-economic-outlook-april-2021>.

<sup>68</sup> World Bank, *Debt Service Suspension and COVID-19*, 19 May 2021. Viewed at: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/factsheet/2020/05/11/debt-relief-and-covid-19-coronavirus>.

<sup>69</sup> IMF, *List of LIC DSAs for PRGT-Eligible Countries, as of 30 April 2021*. Viewed at: <https://www.imf.org/external/Pubs/ft/dsa/DSAlist.pdf>.

<sup>70</sup> UNCTAD, *Trade and Development Report 2020 Update*, April 2020. Viewed at: <https://unctad.org/webflyer/great-lockdown-great-meltdown-developing-country-debt-time-COVID-19>.  
<https://unctad.org/webflyer/great-lockdown-great-meltdown-developing-country-debt-time-covid-19>.

<sup>71</sup> IMF, *COVID-19 Financial Assistance and Debt Service Relief*, last viewed 20 May 2021. Viewed at: <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/COVID-Lending-Tracker>.

<sup>72</sup> World Bank, *Debt Service Suspension and COVID-19*, 19 May 2021. Viewed at: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/factsheet/2020/05/11/debt-relief-and-COVID-19-coronavirus>.

3.127. The above has captured activities in the area of regular and COVID-19-related economic support measures, including bilateral and multilateral assistance, until mid-May 2021. Governments around the world have provided an unprecedented number and variety of support measures to address the social and economic impacts of the pandemic. These emergency support measures are central to governments' strategies to address the pandemic-induced economic downturn and to prepare for a sustainable recovery. Keeping international markets open will be an essential component of the recovery from this crisis, and a rapid, global and equitable vaccine roll-out is a prerequisite in this respect.

3.128. The trade monitoring exercise does not make any judgement as to the WTO-compatibility of any of the measures referred to in this Section. While it is possible that such measures, whether taken as part of a Member's overall commercial strategy or as part of a Member's emergency response to the COVID-19 crisis, may affect trade in some way, it is not always straightforward to conclude that they restrict or facilitate trade (and by how much), or that they distort competition. Nevertheless, and fully recognizing that other international organizations are often better placed to report on and analyse many of these measures, providing a brief overview of such measures taken during the review period represents an important element of transparency regarding developments in the international trading system. The Secretariat will continue to monitor and report on general economic support measures within the resources available to it.

### **3.8 Other selected trade policy issues**

3.129. The following Section provides a brief overview of the other selected trade policy issues where important developments took place during the review period. It also includes follow-up to a number of issues which saw outcomes at MC11.

#### **COVID-19 related discussions at the General Council**

3.130. At various General Council (GC) meetings during the review period the TRIPS Council Chair reported on the discussions on the proposed waiver on some TRIPS provisions by India, South Africa and other co-sponsors in relation to the prevention, containment or treatment of COVID-19.<sup>73</sup>

3.131. At these meetings, the European Union, Canada and other co-sponsors drew the General Council's attention to the Trade and Health Initiative in document WT/GC/223 which was established in an effort to enable trade policy to contribute to the fight against COVID-19 and to create conditions for a more stable and predictable trade environment which would help mitigate the impact of the pandemic. And, at the 5-6 May 2021 GC meeting, Canada and other co-sponsors referred to the relevant proposed General Council Declaration in JOB/GC/251/Rev.1.<sup>74</sup>

3.132. At the March 2021 GC meeting, the delegations of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama and Paraguay presented their joint communication in document WT/GC/W/818 and called on Members to exercise restraint in the adoption and implementation of export restrictions on COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>75</sup> Finally, at the May 2021 GC meeting, the delegations of Paraguay, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Costa Rica called on Members to exercise restraint in the adoption and implementation of trade restrictions that block equal access to COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>76</sup>

#### **Box 3.3 COVID-19 and Vaccine Equity: What can the WTO contribute?**

On 14 April 2021, the Director-General convened a virtual meeting titled: "COVID-19 and Vaccine Equity: What can the WTO contribute". The event brought together speakers from the private sector, international organizations, civil society, and Members, including trade ministers and senior officials. It brought clarity as to the reasons for the inequity in global vaccine distribution and the factors impeding manufacturing upscaling and diversification.

One theme that emerged strongly was that achieving speed and scale in COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing depends on open markets. Among the factors cited as constraining manufacturing scale-up were: shortages in key input supplies, the effect of export prohibitions and restrictions, limited technology transfer,

<sup>73</sup> WTO documents WT/GC/M/188, WT/GC/M/190 and WT/GC/M/191 (forthcoming).

<sup>74</sup> WTO documents WT/GC/M/188, WT/GC/M/190 and WT/GC/M/191 (forthcoming).

<sup>75</sup> WTO document WT/GC/M/190.

<sup>76</sup> WTO document WT/GC/M/191 (forthcoming).

technically intricate production methods and complex regulatory compliance; and shortage of skilled staff. The need for regulatory convergence on how to handle various types of approved vaccines and medicines was another point highlighted.

Recognizing the complexity of vaccine manufacturing and hence the vital role of collaboration and the sharing of intellectual property (IP), know-how and data, the meeting explored several options regarding possible contributions by the IP system. Those included voluntary licensing and technology pooling, the full use of TRIPS flexibilities, and a waiver of Members' obligations to protect certain IP rights during the pandemic. Different views persisted as to how best to foster the transfer of technology and know-how to unlock existing, underutilized capacity and to build up new manufacturing capacities. However, there was broad agreement that pragmatic measures were needed to immediately accelerate vaccine.

In her closing remarks, the Director-General called on WTO Members, vaccine manufacturers and international organizations to act together to solve a problem of the global commons. She called on them to address trade-related obstacles to the scale-up of COVID-19 vaccine production to save lives, hasten the end of the pandemic and accelerate the global economic recovery.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

## Trade and environment

3.133. Debates at the November 2020 and March 2021 meetings of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) have continued to raise important global issues at the intersection between trade and environmental policies. WTO Members held dedicated discussions at the CTE, and at side-events during the second WTO Trade and Environment Week (November 2020) on several topics including: plastics pollution and circular economy; trade and climate change; sustainable paper production; and the new draft multilateral framework for biodiversity conservation. Relevant international organizations also briefed delegations on their work on these issues.<sup>77</sup> Several Member-driven workshops were held back-to-back with the CTE meetings, in particular in November<sup>78</sup>, providing delegations with the opportunity to report on these events at the formal meetings of the CTE.

3.134. During the WTO Trade and Environment Week, two new initiatives were launched by groups of like-minded Members. The Structured Discussions on Trade and Environmental Sustainability (TESSD) will aim to identify areas for future work to help the WTO address sustainable development challenges more effectively and would work on possible environmental sustainability "actions and deliverables".<sup>79</sup> The Informal Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (IDP) will seek to identify opportunities for enhanced trade cooperation within the rules and mechanisms of the WTO to support efforts in other fora.<sup>80</sup> Sponsors of both initiatives announced at the March 2021 meeting of the CTE that they would work towards potential outcomes by MC12 and beyond.

3.135. COVID-19 has been raised in both the November 2020 and March 2021 meetings as well as in side-events during the Environment Week. For instance, some Members noted the link between environmental degradation and pandemics; the importance of ensuring a green recovery from COVID-19; the role trade policy could play, including by seizing the opportunity provided by low global oil prices to reform fossil fuel subsidies. Observer institutions noted how COVID-19 had impacted their work, including ongoing processes under multilateral environmental agreements, and they presented their plans to contribute to a green recovery from COVID-19. Finally, the WTO Secretariat, jointly with UNEP, held a High-Level Event on Environment and Trade for a Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery from COVID-19 during the WTO Trade and Environment Week. At the event, panellists, including ministers and representatives from civil society and the private sector, called for trade policies to play a bigger role in a whole-of-society approach needed to tackle environmental challenges and build back better from the COVID-19 crisis.

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<sup>77</sup> Annual Report 2020, WTO document WT/CTE/27 and minutes of the November 2020 CTE meeting, WTO document WT/CTE/M/70, 17 March 2021.

<sup>78</sup> WTO document WT/CTE/M/70, 17 March 2021.

<sup>79</sup> WTO document WT/CTE/W/249/Rev.1. TESSD currently counts with 53 co-sponsors.

<sup>80</sup> WTO document WT/CTE/W/245. IDP currently counts with 16 co-sponsors.

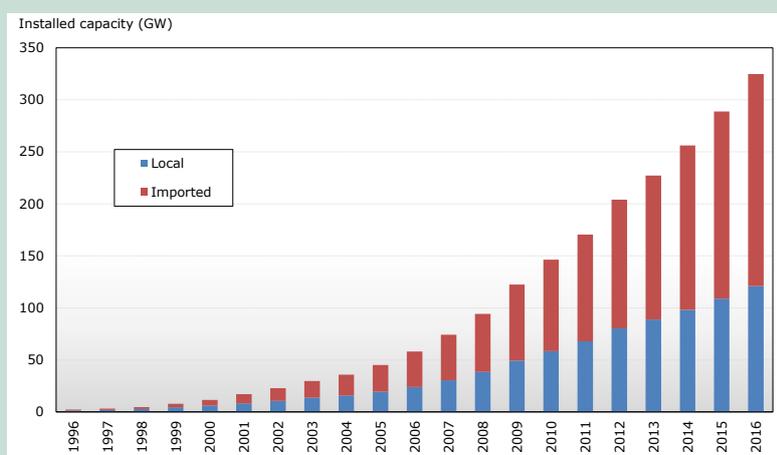
3.136. The following box has been contributed by the OECD.

### Box 3.4 Trade as a channel for environmental technology diffusion: the wind turbine manufacturing industry

Wind turbines embody an accumulation of sophisticated knowledge and know-how. Only a few companies, located in a few countries, have developed expertise in wind technologies, with their technological advantage growing over time. Such concentration also appears to characterize trade in wind turbines: the countries that dominate the field of wind technology are also the largest exporters of wind turbines.

Given the importance of cumulative and tacit knowledge in the sector, expertise in wind technologies seems to be difficult to transfer and to duplicate across borders. Thus, trade in wind turbines can be seen as tantamount to trading (wind) technologies that deliver a level of efficiency that cannot be replicated in importing countries. This explains why, while installed wind power capacity has been increasing globally, most of the added installations have been wind turbines made by foreign manufacturers (Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Installed capacity of wind turbines increasingly relies on imports**



Recent OECD work shows that wind projects are more effective if they diversify their sourcing through international trade. Relying on a high share of imported turbines – as opposed to locally manufactured wind turbines only – contributes to the competitiveness of wind power generation and, critically from an environmental perspective, contributes to the displacement of old, environmentally harmful technologies.

These results shed light on the debate about the role of "green protectionism" to achieve dual environmental and economic goals by simultaneously reducing carbon emissions and creating a local manufacturing industry to supply renewable equipment. The continued deployment of wind energy and the job creation associated with it are possible only if wind farms can compete with older power generation technologies. As the competitiveness of wind energy depends on access to the higher quality wind turbines available in international markets, government support to renewable energy should not discriminate against foreign suppliers.

Rather, firms should engage with the wind power industry by building on their existing industrial capabilities and their application in these sectors rather than trying to vertically-integrate the full range of skills required to commercialize complex wind technologies. Countries with the industrial capacity to produce components for aircrafts, automobiles, or other such products may have a competitive edge to manufacture components for wind turbines. Thus, the challenge may not be to design industrial policies for the creation of national champions but rather to ensure that domestic firms can apply their specific capabilities to new opportunities in global industries.

a Garsous, G. and S. Worack (2021), "Trade as a channel for environmental technologies diffusion: The case of the wind turbine manufacturing industry", *OECD Trade and Environment Working Papers*, No. 2021/01, OECD Publishing, Paris. Viewed at: <https://doi.org/10.1787/ce70f9c6-en>.

Source: OECD.

### Trade facilitation

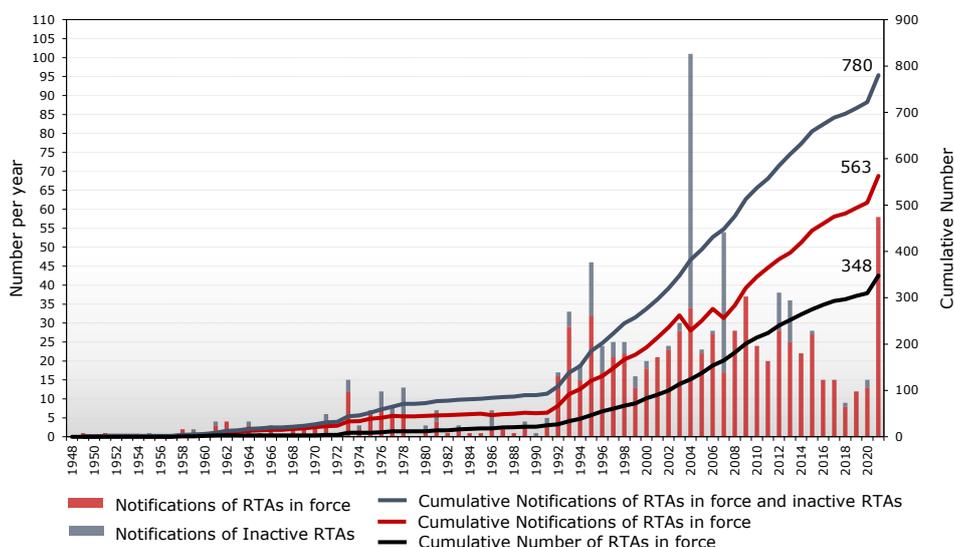
3.137. The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) entered into force on 22 February 2017, when two thirds of WTO Members presented their corresponding instruments of acceptance. At the conclusion of the review period, 154 Members or 94% of the WTO Membership had notified the WTO of their domestic ratification of the TFA and had deposited the instruments of acceptance. Since mid-October 2020, two Members have deposited their instruments of acceptance.

3.138. During the period under review, G20 economies did not submit any notifications concerning the implementation of categories A, B and C. Three WTO Members presented notifications under Articles 1.4, 10.4.3, 10.6.2 and 12.2.2, (transparency notifications) of which two related to COVID-19 measures.

### Regional trade agreements (RTAs)

3.139. Between October 2020 and May 2021, there was a sharp increase in the number of RTA notifications, with 43 new RTAs being notified to the WTO. Of these, 20 were notified under GATT Article XXIV and GATS V and one was notified under the Enabling Clause and GATS V (covering trade in goods and services), while 22 were notified under GATT Article XXIV (covering only trade in goods). These bring the total to 348 RTAs notified and in force (corresponding to 563 notifications in goods, services, and accessions)<sup>81</sup> (Chart 3.23).

**Chart 3.23 RTAs notified to the GATT/WTO (1948 to 2021) by year of entry into force**



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.140. Among the RTAs notified during this period, around 80% involved the United Kingdom, which left the European Union at the end of 2020. Most of these RTAs therefore aim to replicate the preferential conditions under which the United Kingdom was trading with its RTA partners as a member of the European Union. The European Union and the United Kingdom also notified the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement to replace their previous trading relationship.

3.141. In addition to the UK notifications, eight RTAs notified involved WTO Members in the Asia Pacific region (six), Africa (three), the Americas, the Middle East and Europe (one each). Four RTAs covered members from two different regions. The Committee on Regional Trade Agreements (CRTA) will be considering the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) at its 100<sup>th</sup> Session in June 2021. The Agreement, which is one of the largest plurilateral RTAs to date, includes 11 parties, of which 7 have ratified the Agreement. Other plurilateral agreements include the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) which was notified on 16 September 2020 and will be considered by the CRTA shortly, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, RCEP, between 15 parties which has thus far been ratified by four parties, the African Continental Free Trade Area between 54 African economies which has been implemented since 1 January 2021, as well as the EU-MERCOSUR Agreement which has not yet been signed by the parties.

### Government procurement

3.142. The WTO Agreement on Government Procurement 2012 (GPA 2012) continues to gain importance as an instrument for promoting trade and good governance in WTO Members'

<sup>81</sup> Information on these agreements in the WTO database on RTAs. Viewed at: <http://rtais.wto.org>.

government procurement markets. Currently, the Agreement has 21 Parties, covering 48 WTO Members<sup>82</sup>, including 10 G20 economies.<sup>83</sup> Thirty-five WTO Members/Observers participate as Observers in the Committee on Government Procurement, including eight G20 economies.<sup>84</sup> Eleven WTO Members are in the process of acceding to the GPA<sup>85</sup> and another four undertook commitments in their WTO accession protocols to initiate accession negotiations to the GPA.<sup>86</sup>

3.143. On 1 January 2021, the GPA 2012 replaced the GPA 1994 in relation to all GPA Parties.<sup>87</sup> Moreover, the United Kingdom joined the GPA 2012, in its own right, also on 1 January 2021.<sup>88</sup> Significant progress was made on several ongoing accessions to the Agreement. Following the circulation of its Replies to the Checklist of Issues in October 2020, Brazil submitted its initial market access offer in February 2021. China and the Russian Federation are continuing to pursue their respective accessions to the GPA.

3.144. To enhance information-sharing in the Committee on Government Procurement, the GPA Parties have agreed to hold workshops on two topics: (1) how can government procurement processes be conducted in a manner that protects and advances labour standards while still respecting international trade commitments; and (2) how can digital advances support trade and competition in government procurement. These two workshops are tentatively planned for late 2021 and early 2022, respectively.

3.145. With regard to the COVID-19-related government procurement measures, GPA Parties expressed a general interest in experience-sharing and peer learning in a Member-driven process in the Committee.

#### **Aid for trade**

3.146. Aid-for-Trade (AFT) disbursements totalled USD 45.8 billion in 2019, up 1% from the previous year. Economic infrastructure accounted for 55% of total aid-for-trade support with 43% going to building productive capacity and 2% to trade policy and regulations. In terms of geographic distribution, Africa received 39% of disbursements and Asia some 37%, followed by the Americas (7%), Europe (5%) and Oceania (2%). Ten percent of disbursements supported projects implemented at a global level.

3.147. LDCs, a particular focus group of the AFT Initiative, received USD 13.5 billion in AFT funding (27% of the total) in 2019. The 2019 total represents an increase of USD 377.8 million on the 2018 funding figure. Lower-middle income countries received 39% of the total; upper-middle income countries, 18%.

3.148. The top 10 AFT donors in 2019 were Japan (USD 8.9 billion), the World Bank Group (USD 7.7 billion), EU Institutions (USD 5.7 billion), Germany (USD 4.9 billion), France (USD 2.7 billion), the United Kingdom (USD 2.7 billion), the Asian Development Bank (USD 2.1 billion), the United States (USD 2.0 billion), the African Development Bank (USD 2.1 billion) and the Republic of Korea (USD 0.7 billion).

3.149. The top 10 recipients of Aft support in 2019 were India (USD 4.6 billion), Bangladesh (USD 1.9 billion), Egypt (USD 1.9 billion), Pakistan (1.5 billion), Kenya (USD 1.4 billion), Ethiopia (USD 1.3 billion), Viet Nam (USD 1.1 billion), the Philippines (USD 1.0 billion), Myanmar (USD 0.8

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<sup>82</sup> The European Union and its 27 member States are covered by the Agreement as one Party.

<sup>83</sup> Australia, Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>84</sup> Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

<sup>85</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, Georgia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, North Macedonia, Oman, Russian Federation and Tajikistan.

<sup>86</sup> Afghanistan, Mongolia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Seychelles.

<sup>87</sup> The GPA 2012 entered into force for Switzerland on 1 January 2021. With the entry into force of the GPA 2012 for Switzerland, all GPA Parties have accepted the amended GPA.

<sup>88</sup> The United Kingdom had previously been covered by the GPA 1994 and subsequently by the GPA 2012 as a member State of the European Union and later in accordance with the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the European Union and the United Kingdom and relevant decisions of the WTO Committee on Government Procurement. From 2018 to 2020, the United Kingdom negotiated with GPA Parties on GPA membership in its own right. On 2 December 2020, the United Kingdom deposited its instrument of accession to the GPA 2012.

billion) and Senegal (USD 0.8 billion). USD 4.6 billion were disbursed for projects at a global level, USD 1.4 billion for African-wide projects and USD 1.1 billion for Sub-Saharan-wide projects.

3.150. Work on the WTO-led Aft Initiative is guided by the 2020-22 Work Programme, themed "Empowering Connected, Sustainable Trade".<sup>89</sup> The focus of the programme is on the opportunities that digital connectivity and sustainability offer for economic and export diversification and how Aft can help empower different economic actors to realize these opportunities. The centrepiece of the Work Programme is the 2022 Global Review of Aid for Trade. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted least-developed countries and many small, tourism-dependent developing countries hard. The trade and development impacts of the ongoing pandemic were the focus of an Aid-for-Trade Stocktaking event (Box 3.5).

### **Box 3.5 Aid for Trade Stocktaking event – 23-25 March 2021**

The Aid-for-Trade Stocktaking event on 23-25 March 2021 provided an opportunity to survey the on-going economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on trade and development prospects. A total of 35 sessions were held, with more than 200 speakers of whom some 46% were women. The online event generated analysis on how Aid for Trade is contributing to pandemic response, recovery and resilience measures. The divergent outlooks of different parts of the world in terms of economic growth, indebtedness and access to finance was a theme evoked in the high-level plenary event at which the Director-General was joined by the Heads of the IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, WHO and World Bank.

Equitable global COVID-19 vaccine roll-out was also identified as the best value global economic stimulus package available. There was recognition too of the need to redouble efforts to promote global value chain integration and to address supply-side capacity constraints if hard-won development gains were not to be permanently reversed by the pandemic.

Keeping markets open was described as essential for vaccine delivery and to bring forth a strong and sustained recovery. Several sessions looked at adapting trade formalities to take account of the pandemic, both at a practical level in terms of using electronic tools to speed clearance and also how implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement provisions might help in this regard.

Regional approaches to COVID-19 recovery were also discussed, including leveraging the African Continental Free Trade Area and the PACER Plus agreement in the Pacific. There was also a focus on promoting recovery among MSMEs and in the tourism sector. One bright spot in terms of resilience was the rapid growth of digital trade, but again there was concern that opportunities for recovery were limited by the digital divide.

Promoting an inclusive and green recovery was also a theme discussed and one that will be taken forward through further work in the 2020-22 biennial Aft Work Programme. This work will culminate in the summer of 2022 during the Global Review of Aid for Trade that will examine the theme of "Empowering connected, sustainable trade."

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### **Trade finance**

3.151. In view of the deterioration of trade finance markets in 2020, governments of large traders deployed specific measures for importers/exporters such as guaranteed loans and payment deferral schemes through banks and export credit agencies, in addition to maintaining sufficient liquidity through monetary policy. Recent developments suggest that for these countries the trade recovery is boosting demand for import and export finance. Generally, trade finance measures put in place last year are supporting this recovery despite increasing losses of trade loans and rising financing costs for SMEs. According to a January 2021 survey by one of the world's largest working capital fintech (C2FO) of over 6,700 SMEs in Europe, Asia and North America, the average interest rate for working capital increased by a third in the last year, including on short-term trade finance facilities, over concerns about late or extended (re)payments. The increase in working capital costs is found to be the highest in emerging economies (over 50% in some cases).

3.152. Low-to-middle income countries received much less support from public sources, apart from that deployed by multilateral development banks (some USD 30 to 40 billion overall). Since the beginning of 2020, sovereign and counterparty risks have deteriorated sharply – with an obvious knock-on effect on private sector trade finance availability. Available information point to continued high demand for multilateral trade finance facilities, as an indicator of rising gaps: year-on-year, the increase is +50% for the African Development Bank and the International Finance Corporation (IFC, World Bank Group), and +100% for the Asian Development Bank. The March 2021 Bank Survey of the IFC signals that 40% of local banks in client countries continue to experience "stress" with respect to the lack of confirming lines or credit lines from international banks, and that 90% of them would continue to need MDB support (guarantees). A March 2021

<sup>89</sup> WTO document WT/COMTD/AFT/W/81/Rev.1.

joint study by the Afreximbank and African Development Bank on the "Impact of COVID-19 on Trade Finance in Africa" pointed to a 30% increase in the rejection rate of letters of credit relative to pre-COVID, a reduced dollar availability and a reduced participation of local banks in trade finance in Africa.

### **Fisheries subsidies**

3.153. The negotiations on fisheries subsidies in the Negotiating Group on Rules have continued in 2021 as Members could not reach an agreement by the end of 2020. This was mainly due to a confluence of factors, including the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions on movements and gatherings, and the postponement of MC12. However, all Members have reiterated their commitment to deliver as soon as possible an outcome that respects the mandate of Sustainable Development Goal 14.6 and the MC11 to prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing with special and differential treatment integral to the negotiations. To this end, Members have been engaged continuously and intensively in the text-based negotiations since the fall of 2020, with an aim of holding a Ministerial-level meeting in July 2021.

### **Electronic commerce**

3.154. Discussions on electronic commerce in the WTO are continuing under two parallel tracks – multilaterally under the General Council and its relevant subsidiary bodies, and under the Joint Statement Initiative on Electronic Commerce (JSI). In both settings, delegations are reiterating the important role of e-commerce in supporting the economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to address development-related challenges.

3.155. At the multilateral level, discussions on the reinvigoration of the 1998 Work Programme and on the moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions are intensifying. The Work Programme was discussed extensively at the General Council meetings in December 2020 and March 2021. Work continues in the relevant bodies entrusted with the implementation of the Work Programme. At the December 2020 General Council meeting, the Chairs of the Councils for Trade in Services, Trade in Goods and TRIPS reported on the work undertaken in their respective bodies. The December 2019 General Council Decision calls for the reinvigoration of the Work Programme and for structured discussions on any trade-related topic brought forward by Members, including issues related to the moratorium. It also extends the moratorium until MC12 and instructs the General Council to report to the meeting.

3.156. With over 35 proposals, JSI negotiations on e-commerce are ongoing under six broad themes: enabling e-commerce; openness and e-commerce; trust and e-commerce; cross-cutting issues, such as transparency, domestic regulation, and cooperation; telecommunications; and market access. Delegations are encouraged to consider the unique opportunities and challenges faced by developing countries and LDCs, as well as by MSMEs, in relation to each issue under discussion. In December 2020, the co-convenors (Australia, Japan and Singapore) circulated a consolidated negotiating text which provides the basis for further negotiations in 2021. Work in virtual small group format is intensifying to streamline the text as much as possible by MC12. Clean text was reached under the groups on unsolicited commercial electronic messages (spam) and on e-authentication and e-signatures.

### **Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)**

3.157. The MSME Informal Working Group (MSME Group) was established at MC11 in December 2017, and currently comprises 91 WTO Members. Some Members oppose, or do not support, discussions on this issue, noting that it is not part of the original Doha Round discussions and that focusing on DDA issues should be the priority. The MSME Group in its 11 December 2020 meeting, endorsed the MSMEs final package which contains six recommendations and declarations and counts 96 signatories.<sup>90</sup> The package includes a recommendation on the collection and maintenance of MSME-related information from TPRs; a declaration to support the operationalization of the Global Trade Helpdesk, a joint ITC-UNCTAD-WTO initiative to aggregate

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<sup>90</sup> WTO document INF/MSME/4/Rev.1

international trade and market information in a single online portal; a recommendation on trade facilitation and MSMEs calling for full implementation of the TFA; a recommendation on promoting MSME inclusion in regulatory development in the area of trade; a recommendation to support the WTO integrated database (IDB), a time series database of Member tariffs and import statistics, through voluntary submission of information to the IDB; and a declaration on addressing the trade-related aspects of MSMEs' access to finance and cross-border payments.<sup>91</sup>

3.158. At the MSME Group's first meeting of 2021, held on 18 February, presentations by external experts on various topics were made, including low value shipments; Integrated Services for MSMEs (ISMITE); MSME access to finance; and MSME cybersecurity education. The Group was also briefed on MSME-related work and discussions in other WTO committees including the working group on trade, debt and finance; government procurement; and the standards and trade development facility. Members also discussed the organization of the Group's work for 2021, which was focused around three topics, namely implementation of the package; the Group's objective for MC12; and new issues for the Group to consider.

3.159. The below box on company resilience in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic has been contributed by the ITC.

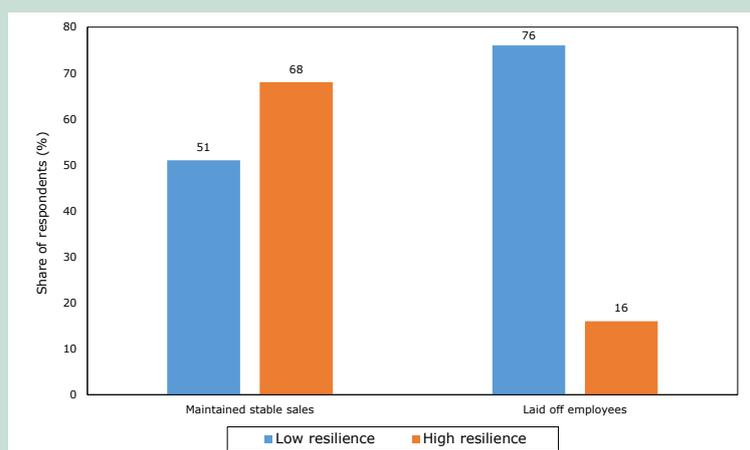
### Box 3.6 Enterprises' resilience during the pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic and related containment measures led to a devastating economic fallout. Nearly all companies were affected, with micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) particularly hard hit.<sup>a</sup> The latest International Trade Centre (ITC) data show that nearly two out of three small businesses were strongly affected, compared with less than half of large companies.<sup>b</sup> Despite this bleak finding, many companies have also been remarkably resilient.

The ITC interviewed the same group of 770 firms in Benin, Cambodia and the Philippines before and after COVID-19 hit. It found that companies displaying certain competitiveness characteristics before the shock fared better during the crisis; that is, they were more resilient.<sup>c</sup>

Resilience is based on pre-crisis characteristics, such as the strength of a company's business processes, its external connections and access to resources that underpin innovative responses. These elements make companies competitive in good times and resilient in bad times.<sup>d</sup> Being resilient matters. It not only helps firms withstand crises, but also reduces the disastrous social and economic consequences of their decline. The ITC found that companies with higher resilience were almost five times less likely to lay off employees during the pandemic and 17 percentage points more likely to report stable sales, compared with companies with lower resilience.<sup>e</sup>

#### Resilient companies had stable sales and employment during pandemic<sup>f</sup>



#### Building resilience into small business recovery

Small firms make up 90% of all businesses and 70% of jobs across the world. They also employ a disproportionate share of young people and women, and account for around half of economic activity around the world.<sup>9</sup>

The bad news is that small businesses tend to be less resilient. The ITC calculated the average resilience score of micro and small firms to be 20% lower than that of medium and large firms at the onset of the pandemic.<sup>h</sup>

<sup>91</sup> WTO document INF/MSME/R/21.

The good news is that resilience can be built. Having experienced the disruption of COVID-19, MSMEs and those that support them are primed to act. In this context, policymakers and business support organizations (BSOs) are building MSME resilience into COVID-19 recovery programmes. Given scarce resources, an efficient strategy is to focus on the areas that make MSMEs competitive in good times, and resilient in bad times.

For example, investments in innovation through research and development (R&D) proved essential to adapt successfully. Firms that invested more in R&D before the pandemic were more likely to adopt resourceful strategies to cope with the crisis. They were twice as likely to create new or customized products.

Skill matching was also important in dealing with COVID-19. Workers that possess the right set of skills and know the product and production process well are more likely to implement creative solutions to problems.<sup>1</sup> For example, when confinement rules forced SMEs to shut their doors, many put their full offering online, which required digital skills.<sup>j</sup>

Small firms cannot succeed on their own. BSOs, policymakers, lead firms and international organizations have roles to play. For example, trade-related technical assistance can encourage robust company management practices. These include efficient inventory management, complete recordkeeping and diversification of input sources and export markets. Access to trade-related information through engagement with BSOs, and use of tools such as the ITC-UNCTAD-WTO Global Trade Helpdesk is critical prior to, during and after a crisis.<sup>k</sup>

As underlined by the WTO Informal Working Group on MSMEs, there is need for a coordinated and holistic approach to help small businesses recover from the pandemic and prepare for future shocks. The ITC stands ready to support the efforts required to make trade inclusive and resilient.

- a ITC, "SME Competitiveness Outlook 2020: COVID-19: The Great Lockdown and Its Impact on Small Business" (Geneva: International Trade Centre, 2020), <https://www.intracen.org/SMEOutlook/>.
- b ITC, "SME Competitiveness Outlook 2021: A Greener Future: Building Competitive, Resilient and Sustainable SMEs" (Geneva: International Trade Centre, 2021).
- c In 2019, ITC collaborated with institutions in three countries – Benin, Cambodia and the Philippines – to conduct an in-depth assessment of the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises, using its SME Competitiveness Survey. In mid-2020, a follow-up survey was carried out in the three countries, allowing for an assessment of whether and to what extent certain pre-crisis competitiveness factors influenced business outcomes during the crisis. The result is a dataset of 770 responses to both the ITC SME Competitiveness and the COVID-19 Business Impact Survey in the three countries. Data were collected between July 2019 and August 2020.
- d ITC, "SME Competitiveness Outlook 2021: A Greener Future: Building Competitive, Resilient and Sustainable SMEs."
- e ITC.
- f ITC, based on ITC SME Competitiveness and COVID-19 Business Impact Survey in Benin, Cambodia and the Philippines with 770 firms. Data collected between July 2019 and August 2020.
- g ITC, "SME Competitiveness Outlook 2020: COVID-19: The Great Lockdown and Its Impact on Small Business"; Matthew Wilson, "Guest Article: Five Trends for Trade and Development as We Emerge from Global Pandemic | SDG Knowledge Hub | IISD," IISD SDG Knowledge Hub (blog), April 19, 2021, <https://sdg.iisd.org:443/commentary/guest-articles/five-trends-for-trade-and-development-as-we-emerge-from-global-pandemic/>.
- h Justine Falciola, Sarah Mohan, and Valentina Rollo, "Identifying the Drivers of SME Resilience: A Framework and Index Based on Evidence from the COVID-19 Pandemic" (ITC Working Paper WP-03-2020.E, Geneva, March 2021). Company size is defined using the number of full-time employees: Micro: 0 to 4 employees; Small: 5 to 19 employees; Medium: 20 to 99 employees; Large: 100 or more employees.
- i Sapana Agrawal et al., "To Emerge Stronger from the COVID-19 Crisis, Companies Should Start Reskilling Their Workforces Now," McKinsey & Company, May 7, 2020, <https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/organization/our-insights/to-emerge-stronger-from-the-covid-19-crisis-companies-should-start-reskilling-their-workforces-now>; ITC, "Promoting SME Competitiveness in Benin: COVID-19: An Inclusive Path towards Resilience" (Geneva: International Trade Centre, 2020), [https://www.intracen.org/uploadedFiles/intracenorg/Content/Publications/Benin\\_SME\\_EN\\_WEB\\_v1.3.pdf](https://www.intracen.org/uploadedFiles/intracenorg/Content/Publications/Benin_SME_EN_WEB_v1.3.pdf).
- j Christoph Ungerer and Alberto Portugal, "Leveraging E-Commerce in the Fight against COVID-19," Brookings (blog), April 27, 2020, <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2020/04/27/leveraging-e-commerce-in-the-fight-against-covid-19/>.
- k Viewed at: <https://globaltradehelpdesk.org/en>.

Source: International Trade Centre (ITC).

## Women's economic empowerment

3.160. On 23 September 2020, the 127 proponents of the Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment established the Informal Working Group on Trade and Gender (IWG). Its work is based on the objectives of the 2017 Buenos Aires Declaration and of the Interim Report establishing it.<sup>92</sup>

<sup>92</sup> WTO document WT/L/1095/Rev.1, 25 September 2020.

3.161. Members and Observers of the IWG work on the basis of four pillars: experience-sharing; considering the concept and scope for a "gender lens"; reviewing analytical work undertaken; contributing to the Aid for Trade work programme. At its first 2021 meeting, on 26 February, the IWG adopted a Work Plan<sup>93</sup> to help its members advance on technical work and to inform an outcome at MC12. The technical work focuses on acquiring a better understanding of the trade and gender nexus and how gender is integrated into members' trade and trade policies.

3.162. The IWG has already taken up two pillars, namely (i) review of analytical work; and (ii) sharing of national experiences. On review of analytical work, in addition to the presentation of the WTO/World Bank joint report on their data and research efforts on trade and gender – entitled "Women and Trade: The Role of Trade in Promoting Gender Equality" – members have shared information on data and gathering statistics; on the correlation between higher per capita income and better gender equality at the national level; on women's participation on the services sector; on the Global Trade and Gender Arrangement between Canada, Chile and New Zealand; on gender equality and standards development; on gender chapters in Free Trade Agreements (FTAs); and on current research on how trade and export sector support women's jobs, the impact of trade on women and the under-representation of women and women entrepreneurs in trade. On experience sharing, members discussed trading experience of the Association of Waorani Women of the Ecuadorian Amazon, who make cacao and palm fibre products in order to shift away from the unsustainable hunting of wildlife; export training and networking programmes for women and young entrepreneurs; applying gender-based analysis to trade agreements to help negotiators and policymakers assess how diverse groups of women and men would be impacted; experience securing the welfare of women avocado farmers in agricultural negotiations in Mauritius as well as efforts by the government and development partners to assist women entrepreneurs.

3.163. In addition, it is also noteworthy that since 2018, more than half of the WTO Members whose Trade Policy Review was carried out during this period, provided information on their gender-responsive trade policies. In 2021, so far, most Members reported on the work legal ecosystem they have put into place to promote women's participation in the economy.

3.164. The following box has been contributed by the GTA.

### **Box 3.7 The COVID-19 Vaccine Shortage**

Currently there is a shortage of COVID-19 vaccines. The 1.73 billion doses of vaccine produced by 20 May 2021 is a fraction of the 10.82 billion doses needed to inoculate 75% of the world's population aged 5 and over.<sup>a</sup>

COVID-19 vaccine production is ramping up. This box reports the latest estimates of how much vaccine production this year will alleviate the current shortage. These estimates take account of (a) what was known in May 2020 about existing vaccine production capacity, (b) announced capacity expansions to come on stream later this year, and (c) lessons learned from attempts to boost production during the first five months of this year. The projections reported here do not include any extra production that might result from the adoption of a TRIPS waiver at the World Trade Organization.

Any forward-looking exercise like this involves making model-based forecasts. Data were collected on the production capacity for each vaccine-manufacturing facility globally. The three main inputs for each facility are company stated production, real observed production, and assumptions on scale-up time. A leading consultancy in this area, Airfinity, tracks the production by each site where vaccine manufacture is underway. Start dates for the bulk production at sites yet to come online are estimated based on when the relevant vaccine is expected to (a) publish phase III efficacy data and (b) be approved for production. The model is adjusted in light of prior forecast errors. This approach generates forecast over time of the total number of doses produced for each vaccine.<sup>b</sup>

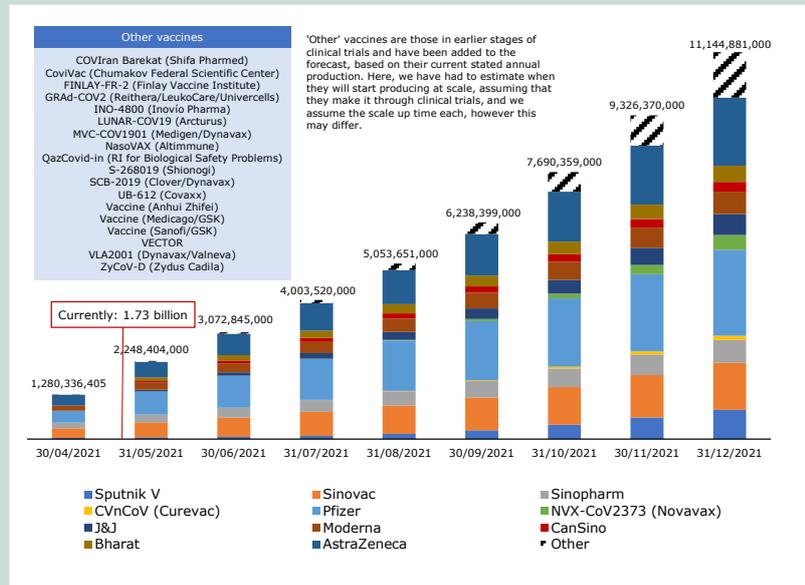
How good are previous forecasts using this approach? It is possible to compare total production levels forecasted in February 2021 with the observed outcomes and with the projections made by the vaccine manufacturers themselves. The latter exceeded actual production outcomes by a factor of three. However, Airfinity's forecasts closely track the substantial vaccine production increases observed in March and April 2021. The average percentage forecast error fell from 20.1% in March to 9.8% in April.

Using the same method, and taking account of the fact that 18 vaccines are in phase III trials, it is possible to project out COVID-19 vaccine production through to the end of 2021 (see Figure 1). By the end of December 2021, the total number of doses produced is projected to be 11.14 billion, exceeding the 10.82 billion doses needed. This forecasted production total is less than the comparable projection of 12 billion doses made by the Global Health Innovation Centre of Duke University, another independent tracker of

<sup>93</sup> WTO document INF/TGE/W/1/Rev.2, 29 March 2021.

COVID-19 vaccine developments.<sup>c</sup>

**Figure 1: By the end of 2021 total COVID-19 vaccine production is forecast to exceed 11 billion doses**



In interpreting these forecasts three considerations should be borne in mind. First, vaccine hoarding would reduce the total number of vaccine doses available for inoculation in other countries. Second, policies that disrupt relevant international supply chains and even the risk of such policies may have a chilling effect on the production of vaccines, their ingredients, and distribution items.

Third, concerns have been raised about possible shortages of certain COVID-19 vaccine ingredients and medical items needed to distribute vaccines. Examples of bottlenecks have been mentioned in recent press reports. However, to date no evidence has come to light of a broad-based threat to the projected ramp up in vaccine production.

- a In the assessment of many experts inoculating 75% of the population is needed to reach herd immunity.
- b For more details see Simon Evenett and Matt Linley "How much vaccine will be produced this year?" 20 May 2021, available at <https://www.globaltradealert.org/reports/72>.
- c For a summary of that forecast see <https://launchandscalefaster.org/covid-19/vaccinemanufacturing>.

Source: Global Trade Alert (GTA).

## 4 POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE IN SERVICES

### 4.1 Regular measures affecting trade in services

4.1. Over the review period covered by the Report, a number of measures were introduced by G20 economies that affect different modes of supply across various sectors. While some measures are trade-facilitating, many new policies appear to be trade-restrictive, including measures affecting communication and network-enabled services, and policies pertaining to the screening of foreign investment in areas considered as strategic.

4.2. Annex 4 provides additional information on 66 new measures, from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, the Russian Federation, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.<sup>1</sup>

#### Measures affecting supply through multiple modes of supply across various sectors

4.3. On 2 November, Indonesia enacted a new Law regarding Job Creation (Omnibus Law), which simplifies licence processes and harmonizes laws and regulations in multiple sectors (postal services, telecommunication services, health services, maritime transport, energy and related services). Business activities are divided into three risk categories, i.e. low, medium (certification needed) and high risk (business licence required). It provides that investment is permitted except for business lines that are closed or those that can be carried out only by the Central Government. It also removes relevant requirements and restrictions for foreign investment that are currently stipulated in laws governing several business sectors that are amended by the Omnibus Law. Indonesia liberalized foreign ownership limits in numerous sectors, such as in the ICT sector, e-commerce, distribution, transportation, energy, construction and health services. The minimum foreign investment threshold is IDR 10 billion. The Omnibus Law also introduces several changes to the Immigration Law, aiming to simplify the hiring of foreign workers.

#### Measures affecting supply through commercial presence across various sectors

4.4. China released the new catalogue of industries where foreign investment is encouraged, effective on 27 January 2021, covering new activities such as in the ICT sector, e-commerce retail services and online services (education, health or office services). China also issued the 2020 version of its market access negative list, effective since 10 December 2020, which includes the list of prohibited or restricted activities. Notably, restrictions on the establishment of financial holding companies were added to the list. India released a new consolidated foreign direct investment policy document. The document incorporates restrictions notified earlier in the year on foreign direct investment and supersedes all previous press notes, press releases, clarifications and/or circulars issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

4.5. Many G20 economies adopted revised or new procedures pertaining to investment screening. In China, new measures effective since 18 January 2021 authorize the review by the Foreign Investment Security Review Working Mechanism of foreign investments in certain sectors linked to security issues, and in important sectors such as transportation services, energy and financial services or in the area of digital trade. Also, a new law effective since 1 December 2020 establishes the country's export supervision regime, which applies to "controlled items" that may cover services related to the maintenance of national security and also affects third parties that provide services to export operators impacted by the new law. Another new measure authorizes competent authorities to issue an injunction allowing Chinese citizens, legal entities, and organizations not to recognize, implement, or comply with foreign measures or laws that are designed to bar economic, trade and related activities between China and other countries.

4.6. In Canada, the Government published updated guidelines on the National Security Review of Investments on 24 March 2021. The guidelines increase the examination of foreign investments to sectors involving sensitive personal data, investment by foreign state-owned investors, or private investors closely tied to enterprises influenced by foreign governments. In the United Kingdom, a

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<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in the Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the Annex implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

new law was adopted on 29 April 2021, reforming the screening of investments. It introduced mandatory notification obligations for transactions in data related infrastructure, artificial intelligence, communications and transport. The Government may review investments in other sectors if a transaction is considered as giving rise to national security risks. Australia reformed the act and regulations pertaining to the review of foreign investment to protect national security. All proposed investments by foreign persons into Australia which raise national security concerns will require approval by the Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB), regardless of the value of the transaction or the nature of the foreign investor. The threshold for screening is acquiring 10% of the position of control or influence in a national security business or starting a national security business.

4.7. Germany added new activities subject to screening such as those relating to artificial intelligence, cybersecurity or ICT services. For critical technologies a 20% threshold will apply. Germany also included the review of investments in connection to activities affecting security or public order in other EU member States. Italy clarified and expanded the scope of application of the review of acquisitions that require prior government approval (effective since 14 January 2021). The process covers assets and sectors of strategic importance to the national interest.

4.8. In the United States, a new rule effective since 15 October 2020 modifies the criteria for mandatory declarations for certain foreign investment transactions involving a US business that produces, designs, tests, manufactures, fabricates, or develops one or more critical technologies. The measure removes the previous analysis and nexus to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes and replaces it with an analysis of export control authorization requirements. Also, a new act requires that issuers of securities declare that they are not owned or controlled by any foreign government. Specifically, an issuer must make this certification if the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board is unable to audit specified reports because the issuer has retained a foreign public accounting firm not subject to inspection by the Board.

#### **Measures related to communication services, e-commerce and digitally enabled services**

4.9. Several G20 economies adopted new measures in relation to communications services, e-commerce and Internet- and other network-enabled services. In particular, a number of governments adopted new measures relating to digital services taxes.

4.10. In Mexico, a new decree, effective on 1 January 2021, addresses income tax and VAT treatment of digital services and transactions performed on online platforms. The withholding tax should be levied on the total amount of income without VAT that individuals receive or cash-in: 2.1% for ground/land passenger transport services and the delivery of goods; 4% for lodging/accommodation services; and 1% for the transfer of goods and the provision of services. In case of noncompliance, non-resident legal entities without a permanent establishment in Mexico can have their digital service in Mexico temporary blocked.

4.11. In India, the Finance Act 2021, enacted on 28 March 2021, amended certain provisions related to the 2% equalization levy for e-commerce operators introduced in April 2020. According to the 2021 act, it will apply to foreign e-commerce operators for the sales of goods or the provision of services in India (whether on own-account or as intermediary in the transaction), except for those sales/provision by a person resident in India or by the Indian permanent establishment of a non-resident. Foreign e-commerce companies will need to segregate the inventory of resident and non-resident sellers on their platforms to make clear where the levy will be applicable.

4.12. Various G20 economies adopted new measures in relation to the platform economy. Japan introduced new measures, effective since 1 February 2021, to improve the transparency and fairness of digital platforms. It sets out principles for certain digital platform providers identified according to the size of their sales in Japan (JPY 300 billion for B-to-C shopping malls and JPY 200 billion for B-to-C application stores). In China, the State Administration for Market Regulation issued Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Online Transactions. Since 1 May 2021, the measures have provided specific rules for operators of e-commerce platforms, including sales via livestreaming and social media, and set out the responsibilities of platform operators, including with respect to protection of consumers' rights and protection of personal information.

4.13. Other changes took place in some G20 economies in relation to Internet- and other network-enabled services, as well as the communication sector. In India, the Government adopted the Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code, which establish a new regulatory category. Significant social media intermediaries will be identified based on the number of registered users and will have to retain user information for six months and disclose user information to law enforcement agencies. Chief compliance officers and related positions of these intermediaries as well as of over-the-top service providers and of news media content providers must be employees who are resident in India. Also, new guidelines seek to eliminate prior approvals, licences and other restrictions on the collection, generation, preparation, dissemination, storage, publication, updating and/or digitization of geospatial data and maps in India. The guidelines also restrict cross-border transfer of geospatial data. Such data must be stored and processed only in India, even if such data are licensed to a foreign company by an authorized Indian entity. Finally, the Government published an amendment under its Allocation of Business Rules that expands the authority of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to regulate and censor social media, digital news and streaming services.

4.14. In the United States, the President issued an Executive Order on 5 January 2021 that prohibits, on national security grounds, transactions with certain connected mobile and desktop applications and other software developed or controlled by Chinese companies (Alipay, CamScanner, QQ Wallet, SHAREit, Tencent QQ, VMate, WeChat Pay, and WPS Office). The order entered into force 45 days after the issue date.

4.15. In the Republic of Korea, the Government enacted and implemented amendments to the Telecommunications Business Act, including a requirement on foreign telecom services suppliers to appoint a local representative.

### **Financial services**

4.16. Some policy changes took place during the review period in the financial services sector, including measures relating to forms of entry permitted and relaxation of foreign equity limits, as well as some new restrictive measures. In February 2021, the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) issued new measures that set out the Authority's approach to the authorization and supervision of international firms and the circumstances in which they may need to establish a UK subsidiary rather than a branch. The FCA indicated that relevant banks (and insurers), as dual-regulated firms, should consider the document as the Authority will provide consent to any authorization applications that they submit to the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA).

4.17. The People's Bank of China released guidelines on the collection and processing of personal financial information that apply to the financial services sector. Personal financial information can be transferred abroad for business purposes and under certain conditions (e.g. consent, privacy and security assessment), but it is required, *inter alia*, that certain sensitive information is not shared with third-party service providers. On 12 November 2021, the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC) issued a Notice on Matters Related to Insurance Fund Financial Equity Investment which removes restrictions on financial equity investment of insurance funds. Since 1 February 2021, only licensed insurance institutions are allowed to engage in Internet insurance business. Therefore, such activities can no longer be conducted via a third-party platform.

4.18. Since 1 January 2021, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has limited to a maximum of 30% the market share of foreign electronic payment service suppliers processing online payments made through India's United Payment Interface (owned and operated by NPCI).

### **Other measures**

4.19. In Brazil, a new decree was published on 12 April, which provides for public calls regarding the use of port facilities in organized ports and introduces temporary use contracts. The procedures for public calls for the lease of port facilities within the polygonal of the organized port were amended and it is possible to dismiss bids if it is verified that an interested party is a user of the facilities. The term of port concessions and leasing of port facilities to maximum of 70 years. A temporary use contract was also provided for interested parties in cargo handling, with an unconsolidated market for the temporary use of port areas and facilities located in the polygonal of

the organized port, with dismissal of prior bidding. Turkey established a legal framework for shared electric scooter businesses. Each authorized entity can obtain one fifth of the maximum permissible shared e-scooter permits in a given district (up to 1/200 of the population, subject to certain exceptions). At least 30% of the fleet must be manufactured domestically.

4.20. Starting in April 2021, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has introduced a new short-term work visa, called the Temporary Work Visit Visa (TWVV). It provides foreign nationals with a multiple-entry visa valid for one year and allows them to work in the Kingdom for up to six months in that one-year period, with certain conditions for employers to qualify for the new visa quota.

### Air Services Agreements

4.21. Table 4.1 presents information on air services agreements (ASAs) concluded or amended by G20 economies during the period under review. These include new ASAs and revisions of existing ones. As far as can be assessed from available sources, the majority of these ASAs provide for improved access conditions. The air transport sector is under continued severe strain because of the COVID-19 pandemic and this appears to have generally resulted in a fall in the number of ASAs concluded during the reporting period.

4.22. As part of the strategies for COVID-19 response and aviation recovery, at the end of 2020 the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC) concluded a new multilateral agreement to liberalize air cargo services in the region. The agreement came into effect immediately among its 10 signatories, and establishes expanded traffic rights, namely "seventh freedom" traffic rights, permitting airlines from one LACAC member State to provide all-cargo services between two other signatory States without restrictions on routes and capacity. The agreement will remain in effect for one year, until 31 December 2021, and may be extended for a further year, at the discretion of LACAC States.

**Table 4.1 Air Transport Agreements<sup>2</sup> concluded or amended between October 2020 and May 2021**

Parties		Date of signature	Source
Bangladesh	EU (Austria)	19.10.2020	<a href="https://thepolicytimes.com/flight-operation-between-dhaka-and-vienna/">https://thepolicytimes.com/flight-operation-between-dhaka-and-vienna/</a>
Cambodia	EU (Hungary)	3.11.2020	<a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/04/c_139490188.htm">http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/04/c_139490188.htm</a>
United Kingdom	United States	17.11.2020	<a href="https://www.cityam.com/uk-and-us-sign-aviation-agreement-to-protect-vital-travel-links/">https://www.cityam.com/uk-and-us-sign-aviation-agreement-to-protect-vital-travel-links/</a>
Rwanda	Brazil	18.11.2020	<a href="https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-ratifies-5-bilateral-deals-expand-aerospace-network">https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-ratifies-5-bilateral-deals-expand-aerospace-network</a>
Rwanda	Republic of Korea	27.11.2020	<a href="https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-korea-sign-deal-open-air-space">https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-korea-sign-deal-open-air-space</a>
India	Philippines	23.12.2020	<a href="https://www.cnbctv18.com/aviation/cabinet-approves-signing-of-revised-bilateral-air-service-agreements-with-afghanistan-philippines-7811431.htm">https://www.cnbctv18.com/aviation/cabinet-approves-signing-of-revised-bilateral-air-service-agreements-with-afghanistan-philippines-7811431.htm</a>
India	Afghanistan	23.12.2020	<a href="https://www.cnbctv18.com/aviation/cabinet-approves-signing-of-revised-bilateral-air-service-agreements-with-afghanistan-philippines-7811431.htm">https://www.cnbctv18.com/aviation/cabinet-approves-signing-of-revised-bilateral-air-service-agreements-with-afghanistan-philippines-7811431.htm</a>
Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela	Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC) air cargo liberalization agreement	24.12.2020 (until 31.12.21)	<a href="https://www.atn.aero/#/article.html?id=78616">https://www.atn.aero/#/article.html?id=78616</a>
Republic of Korea	Georgia	4.02.2021	<a href="http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20210205000273">http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20210205000273</a>
Kuwait	EU (Luxembourg)	26.03.2021	<a href="https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2967911&amp;language=en">https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2967911&amp;language=en</a>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

<sup>2</sup> The term "Air Transport Agreements" is used here to refer to Air Services Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding, Exchange of Notes, and other such relevant instruments.

## 4.2 COVID-19 related measures affecting trade in services<sup>3</sup>

4.23. Between mid-October 2020 and mid-May 2021, the Secretariat compiled information on seven new COVID-19 related measures affecting trade in services for the following G20 economies: Indonesia, Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom. The number of reported new measures is far fewer than the number recorded in the first half of 2020 when governments wanted to ensure a fast and efficient response to mitigate the economic, social and health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. The decrease in the number of new measures introduced since mid-October 2020 confirms the downward trend witnessed from the third quarter of 2020.

4.24. Many measures that were taken in response to the outbreak of the pandemic and the subsequent waves, have been extended and were still in force at the time writing of this report (e.g. France and Italy prolonged until 30 June 2021 the special measures introduced for the screening of foreign direct investment; in the United Kingdom, the airport slot allocation waiver was extended on 26 March 2021, ensuring that airlines do not have to operate flights at least 80% of the time to retain their slots).

4.25. However, there were also several measures that terminated in certain G20 economies. For example, Canada confirmed the termination on 6 April 2021 of a number of the financial support measures it had initiated in March 2020 (support of the financial and operational resilience of financial institutions, and a repo facility to counter severe market-wide liquidity stress and support the stability of the financial system). Australia removed on 1 January 2021 the temporary changes to the foreign investment review framework (introduced on 29 March 2020) that were designed to safeguard its national interest during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. During this period the monetary threshold amounts under the Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975 were AUD 0 for proposed foreign investments.

4.26. While the measures listed in this Report refer to those introduced since mid-October 2020, the full list of trade in services related measures compiled since the beginning of the pandemic is available at: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/trade\\_related\\_services\\_measure\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/trade_related_services_measure_e.htm).

### Financial services

4.27. In the United Kingdom, during the review period, the Bank of England and the Prudential Regulatory Authority (PRA) have announced a range of measures to give firms more operational flexibility to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. guidance on submitting 2021's annual submissions and other types of regulatory reporting, the benchmarking exercise relating to capital internal models, or reporting and disclosure of exposures subject to measures applied in response to the COVID-19 pandemic).

4.28. In Indonesia, the Financial Services Authority (OJK) issued on 29 December 2020 an amendment to a previously introduced policy under OJK Regulation No. 14/POJK.05/2020 on Countercyclical Policy in relation to the Impact of COVID-19 for Non-Bank Financial Institutions (POJK 14/2020, which came into force on 17 April 2020 and is valid until 31 December 2020). The policy was extended to non-bank financial service institutions including insurance and reinsurance companies, pension funds, financing companies (e.g. leasing and multi-finance companies) and other financial services institutions (such as pawnshop companies) and their debtors.

4.29. Japan continued introducing new measures at the beginning of 2021, in response to the spread of COVID-19. The Minister of State for Financial Services issued a statement on maintaining the functions of the financial system and financial markets under the Declaration of a State of Emergency Responding to the Spread of the COVID-19 Infection on 7 January 2021. The

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<sup>3</sup> The information in this Section, and in Annex 6, was compiled by the WTO Secretariat and is an informal situation report and an attempt to provide transparency with respect to measures affecting trade in services taken in the context of the COVID-19 crisis. It does not pass judgement on or question the right of WTO Members to take such actions. The Secretariat has not sought to determine or indicate whether the measures listed in the table in Annex 6 have trade-restrictive or trade-facilitating effects. The information is not exhaustive and does not include information on general support measures relating to services. Further, the objective is not to list all COVID-19 related measures taken by governments around the world to limit movement or all the measures taken to ease the impact of border restrictions or other limits on movement.

Financial Services Agency (FSA) made requests to financial institutions to take prompt and flexible measures related to cash flow support for companies and individuals by publishing notices on 19 January 2021. The FSA also put forward the conditions for the extension of the deadline for submitting annual securities and other reports in connection with the COVID-19 due to unavoidable reasons on 8 January 2021.

### **Transportation services**

4.30. The Maritime and Coastguard Agency of the United Kingdom revised the medical certificate policy for seafarers to allow them to continue working on merchant ships in support of the supply chain. The UK Government also relaxed the requirements on drivers' hours and rest periods between 22 January 2021 and 31 March 2021.

4.31. In order to slow the spread of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in India and mitigate its impact on shipping, the India's Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways issued several orders in May 2021 extending the validity of recruitment and placement of seafarers licences and the validity of ship sanitation certification, restricting ships to shore interaction and prioritizing vaccination for seafarers.

4.32. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia introduced on 31 March 2021 a measure in the air transport services sector, allowing the extension of the validity of licences, attestations, and certificates for aircrew, trainers, examiners and flight dispatchers, in accordance with terms and conditions that ensure safety levels. The measure is valid until 30 June 2021. Also, on 20 December 2020, airlines were exempted for two weeks from the compensation obligations in the Customer Protection Rights Regulation based on *force majeure* (as per Article 16). Airlines had to continue to provide the appropriate care and assistance services.

### **Measures affecting the temporary entry and stay of natural persons**

4.33. The Government of Indonesia launched in October 2020 an e-visa to streamline the visa application process and remove the need to wait in queues at the border to obtain a visa on arrival. The e-visa is first being made available to business travellers from selected countries that have a Travel Corridor agreement with Indonesia, as well as investors, skilled workers, and civil servants.

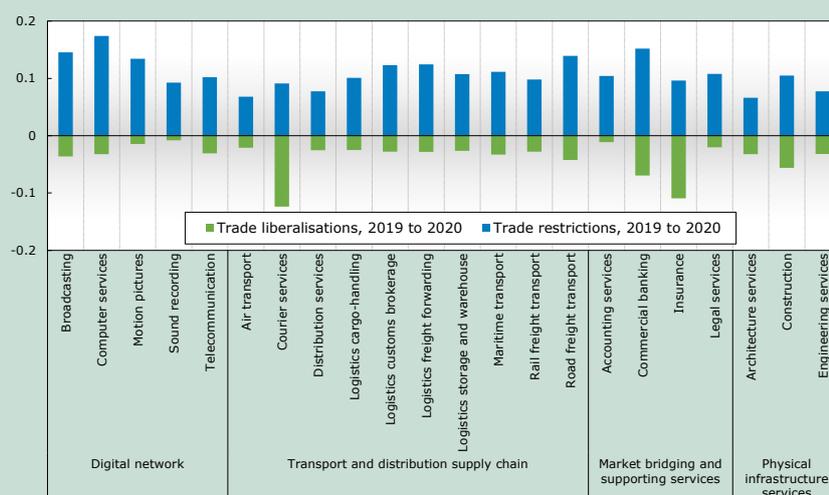
4.34. The following box was contributed by the OECD.

### Box 4.1 Barriers to services trade – trends up to 2021

Annual monitoring by the OECD finds that the global regulatory environment for services trade became more restrictive in 2020, with new barriers compounding the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic on exporters.

New barriers to trade were most prevalent in computer, commercial banking and broadcasting services sectors (Figure 1). Tightened measures affected primarily services traded through commercial establishments (Mode 3), and to a lesser degree the other modes of supply. This was due to new restrictions in some countries on measures affecting the ability of foreign firms to set up affiliates in new markets as a result of increased FDI screening conditions and processes, among others. Liberalizing measures occurred most frequently in courier services and insurance services.

**Figure 1. Changes in the STRIs per sector, 2019-2020**



Note: The figure shows the sum of all the positive changes (trade restrictions) and negative changes (trade liberalization) across all the measures in a given sector over the period considered. Within sectors and for each country, the STRIs range between 0 and 1, where 1 indicates a completely closed regulatory environment for services trade.

Source: OECD, Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI) database (<http://oe.cd/stri-db>).

At the same time, governments lowered barriers to cross-border digital trade in 2020 as part of the overarching policy response to the COVID-19 pandemic. More facilitation measures were introduced than in previous years, helping remote working and online business operations. Nonetheless, the considerable build-up of restrictions applied to digital trade over the last few years, and the restrictions that continue to apply in certain sectors, such as computer and telecommunications services, risk slowing down the pace of digital transformation in a post-pandemic era.

National and collective action to ease barriers to services trade can reduce trade costs for firms that provide services across borders. On average, across sectors and countries, services trade costs could decline by more than 15% after 3-5 years if countries could converge towards best performers by reducing regulatory gaps by half. An ambitious reform agenda to address restrictive measures in services and enhance market access opportunities globally is key to revitalizing trade and growth. Lifting restrictions to trade in services will be critical as governments seek to put the global economy on the road to a sustainable recovery and enhance resilience of their economies.

Source: OECD, STRI: Policy Trends up to 2021.

## **5 POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

5.1. During the review period, G20 economies continued to fine-tune their intellectual property (IP) domestic frameworks. They also implemented specific IP measures aimed at facilitating the development and dissemination of COVID-19-related health technologies, as well as at relaxing procedural requirements for administrative IP matters.

### **Acceptance of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement**

5.2. On 1 January 2021, the United Kingdom confirmed its continued acceptance of the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement.<sup>1</sup>

### **IP-related international, regional, and bilateral instruments**

5.3. During the review period, the following international instruments entered into force in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure and to the Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification, on 16 October 2020; as well as the Vienna Agreement Establishing an International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks and the Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs, on 3 December 2020. Furthermore, the IP offices of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (SAPI) and China (CNIPA) signed a Cooperation Agreement on the Patent Prosecution Highway, on 30 October 2020.<sup>2</sup>

5.4. The Russian Federation completed the ratification procedures of the Treaty on Trademarks, Service Marks and Appellations of Origin of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), with the entry into force of Federal Law No. 360-FZ, on 20 November 2020. The Treaty will enter into force upon final notification from the EAEU member States. The ratification procedures of the Protocol to the Eurasian Patent Convention on the Protection of Industrial Designs of September 1994 were also completed and the Protocol entered into force on 11 April 2021 for the Russian Federation.<sup>3</sup>

5.5. Mexico and the United Kingdom signed an Agreement on the Mutual Recognition and Protection of Designations for Spirit Drinks, on 3 November 2020.<sup>4</sup>

### **Bilateral and regional trade agreements**

5.6. Regional trade agreements (RTAs) have further developed the interconnection between IP and trade in goods and services, and the links of the IP system to other normative areas, such as investment, e-commerce, and competition policy. Currently, over 70% of the RTAs in force and notified to the WTO contain specific IP provisions.

5.7. During the review period, several G20 economies signed the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement, in November 2020.<sup>5</sup> The RCEP contains a comprehensive IP chapter, building on the TRIPS Agreement, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), the Republic of Korea-United States FTA (KORUS), and the ASEAN+1 FTA.

### **Domestic legislation and administrative developments**

5.8. Domestically, G20 members are working to streamline IP into their economies and to modernize and fine-tune their IP legislation and administration (Table 5.1).

<sup>1</sup> WTO document WT/L/641, 8 December 2005.

<sup>2</sup> Submission by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>3</sup> Submission by the Russian Federation to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>4</sup> Submission by Mexico for the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

<sup>5</sup> The 15 parties to the RCEP include the 10 member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), as well as five of their free trade agreement (FTA) partners – Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea.

**Table 5.1 Domestic legislation and administrative developments**

Member/Observer	Measure
Australia	Public consultations on geographical indications in the framework of the negotiations of a Free Trade Agreement with the European Union took place in October-November 2020.
China	The National Intellectual Property Administration issued the Decision on Amending the Guidelines for Patent Examination (Announcement No. 391), which entered into force on 15 January 2021.
Indonesia <sup>a</sup>	The Regulations on the Procedures for Trade Mark Application, Patent Application and Compulsory Licenses were amended, on 3 February 2021. Viewed at: <a href="https://peraturan.go.id/common/dokumen/bn/2021/bn105-2021.pdf">https://peraturan.go.id/common/dokumen/bn/2021/bn105-2021.pdf</a> , <a href="https://peraturan.go.id/common/dokumen/bn/2021/bn106-2021.pdf">https://peraturan.go.id/common/dokumen/bn/2021/bn106-2021.pdf</a> and <a href="https://peraturan.go.id/common/dokumen/bn/2021/bn107-2021.pdf">https://peraturan.go.id/common/dokumen/bn/2021/bn107-2021.pdf</a>
Mexico	The Federal Law of Industrial Property Protection entered into force on 5 November 2020. <sup>b</sup> The law amended, consolidated, and supplemented prior legal instruments.
Russian Federation	Certified scientific and educational organizations are authorized to undertake preliminary search and assessment of patentability for inventions and utility models, as per Federal Law No. 262-FZ, which entered partially into force on 30 October 2020 and will fully enter into force on 1 August 2021.  Applicants to submit 3D-models with their applications for inventions, utility models, industrial designs, and trademarks and electronic titles of protections can now be issued, as per Federal Law No. 217-FZ, which entered into force on 17 January 2021.
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	The Saudi Authority for IP (SAPI) expanded the scope of the optional Copyright Registration to architectural works, on 28 December 2020; and issued the Rules for Licensing IP Agents, on 19 November 2020.  The Council of Ministers approved the cancellation of the bylaw of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) patent office, on 30 March 2021. As a result, patent applicants need to file Paris Convention or Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) applications; and Article 1 of the GCC Trademark Law was amended on 1 April 2021.

a Information not confirmed.

b See also notification to the TRIPS Council IP/N/1/MEX/21.

Source: WTO Secretariat. Submissions to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

### COVID-19 related measures

5.9. Since the beginning of the pandemic, G20 economies have implemented substantive IP-related measures to facilitate innovation or access with respect to COVID-19-related health technologies; and to ease procedural requirements or deadlines for administrative matters. Legislatures have also acted, for example on 30 April 2021, the Brazilian Senate approved a proposal to suspend patent protection for COVID-19 vaccines, tests and medications during the pandemic. The resolution was sent to the Lower House of Congress for consideration and possible amendments.<sup>6</sup>

5.10. G20 members have endeavoured to make information related to COVID-19 more easily available and/or introduced measures, which may facilitate the grant of government use or compulsory licences for patented technology relevant to addressing the pandemic. Substantive measures normally require the enactment of government decrees or amendments to existing legislation. These are shown in Table 5.2.

**Table 5.2 COVID-19-related Substantive Measures**

Member	Measure	Source	Date
Australia	IP Australia's Trademark COVID-19 Helpline ceased to operate on 1 April 2021.	<a href="https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/about-us/news-and-community/news/business-continuity-and-coronavirus-disease-covid-19-outbreak">https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/about-us/news-and-community/news/business-continuity-and-coronavirus-disease-covid-19-outbreak</a>	01/04/2021

<sup>6</sup> Viewed at: <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/brazil-senate-votes-suspend-patent-protection-covid-19-vaccines-2021-04-30/>

Member	Measure	Source	Date
Canada	ExploreIP is a searchable database that showcases an inventory of public sector patents held by government, academia or other public sector institutions. ExploreIP's new "COVID-19 related" technology category allows IP owners to promote technologies that could help in the fight against COVID-19, as well as help interested businesses find and obtain licences for those technologies.	<a href="https://ised-isde.canada.ca/ipm-mcpi/?lang=en">https://ised-isde.canada.ca/ipm-mcpi/?lang=en</a>	12/02/2021
Russian Federation	Based on the ground of national security pursuant to Art. 1360 of the Civil Code, an Order granting a compulsory licence with regards to a number of patents related to Remdesivir until the end of 2021 with the aim of supplying the population of the Russian Federation. <sup>a</sup>	<a href="http://publication.pravo.gov.ru/Document/View/0001202101050003">http://publication.pravo.gov.ru/Document/View/0001202101050003</a>	31/12/2020
United States	The USPTO is expanding the Patents for Humanity Awards Program to include a new category for those who are responding rapidly to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by using or developing game-changing technologies. This new award category will provide business incentives for patent applicants, holders, and licensees whose inventions track, prevent, diagnose, or treat COVID-19.	<a href="https://www.uspto.gov/ip-policy/patent-policy/patents-humanity-covid-19">https://www.uspto.gov/ip-policy/patent-policy/patents-humanity-covid-19</a>	05/04/2021

a The information on the compulsory licence was reported by the Russian Federation to the TRIPS Council in March 2021. Source: <http://publication.pravo.gov.ru/Document/View/0001202101050003>.

Source: WTO Secretariat. Submissions to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

5.11. A number of G20 economies took measures to ease procedural requirements with respect to administrative IP matters, as shown in Table 5.3. Administrative measures continue to evolve, as IP offices across the WTO membership<sup>7</sup> extended IP-related deadlines temporarily or ceased to provide such extensions and adapted their services and required fees.

**Table 5.3 COVID-19-Related Administrative Measures**

Member	Measure	Source	Date
Australia	IP Australia ceased offering streamlined extensions of time for COVID-19 related disruptions on 1 April 2021. From 1 April 2021 extensions of time will still be available for customers who continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic on a case-by-case basis. The Commissioner of Patents and Registrars of Trade Marks, Designs and Plant Breeder's Rights will consider the impacts of COVID-19 when assessing extension requests. A declaration explaining why customers cannot comply with a due date will be required, and a sample declaration will be available to assist them.	<a href="https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/about-us/news-and-community/news/business-continuity-and-coronavirus-disease-covid-19-outbreak">https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/about-us/news-and-community/news/business-continuity-and-coronavirus-disease-covid-19-outbreak</a>	1 April 2021

<sup>7</sup> For example: Japan, Brazil, India, Chile, the United Kingdom, Jamaica, Finland, Georgia, Australia and Mongolia. Viewed at: <https://www.worldtrademarkreview.com/brand-management/ip-offices-implement-measures-in-wake-of-coronavirus-crisis>.

Member	Measure	Source	Date
Russian Federation	Under Government Resolution of 20 June 2020 No. 893, time limits for the applicant's opportunity to perform actions related to the legal protection of intellectual property (including those related to the payment of patent and other fees) which expire from 30 March 2020 to 30 November 2020 may be extended at the request of the applicant until 31 December 2020. Entry into force: 22/06/2020.	<a href="https://rospatent.gov.ru/ru/news/informacionnoe-soobshchenie-23062020">https://rospatent.gov.ru/ru/news/informacionnoe-soobshchenie-23062020</a>	22/06/2020
United States	As a companion to the COVID-19 prioritized examination, the USPTO has implemented the Fast-Track Pilot Program for Appeals Related to COVID-19, under which an appellant may have certain COVID-19-related <i>ex parte</i> appeals before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB or Board) accorded fast-track status. The Fast-Track Pilot Program for Appeals Related to COVID-19 is effective on 15 April 2021.	<a href="https://www.uspto.gov/patents/patent-trial-and-appeal-board/covid-fast-track-appeals-pilot-program?MURL=PTABCOVIDFastTrack">https://www.uspto.gov/patents/patent-trial-and-appeal-board/covid-fast-track-appeals-pilot-program?MURL=PTABCOVIDFastTrack</a>	15/04/2021

Source: WTO Secretariat. Submissions to the WTO Trade Monitoring Report.

### TRIPS Council

5.12. During the review period, the TRIPS Council met formally on four occasions, (14-15 October, 10 December 2020; and on 10-11 March and 30 April 2021); and held several informal meetings and consultations. At the October 2020 and March 2021 meetings, G20 economies actively discussed the proposal by India and South Africa to waive parts of the TRIPS Agreement during the pandemic<sup>8</sup> and the proposal by the LDC Group to extend the transition period beyond 1 July 2021.<sup>9</sup> They also presented their annual reports on incentives for technology transfer and technical cooperation activities. At both meetings, G20 economies continued to share information and best practices on domestic policies to boost MSMEs' intellectual property and their competitiveness in green technologies.<sup>10</sup>

5.13. Since mid-October 2020, four G20 economies<sup>11</sup> have notified legislative measures under Article 63.2. The United Kingdom submitted 75 notifications that charted the evolution over two decades in relation to trademarks and designs. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia submitted its responses to the illustrative list of questions on Article 27.3(b).<sup>12</sup>

### TRIPS-related discussions in Trade Policy Reviews

5.14. The Trade Policy Reviews of Indonesia, India, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia took place during the review period and all included discussions and information exchanges on a wide range of IP issues with a bearing on trade policy.

<sup>8</sup> WTO document IP/C/W/669 and addenda.

<sup>9</sup> WTO document IP/C/W/668.

<sup>10</sup> WTO documents IP/C/W/667 and IP/C/W/675.

<sup>11</sup> Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea and United Kingdom.

<sup>12</sup> WTO document IP/C/R/BT/SAU/1.

## ANNEX 1 - MEASURES FACILITATING TRADE<sup>1</sup>

(MID-OCTOBER 2020 TO MID-MAY 2021)

### Confirmed information<sup>2</sup>

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Argentina</b>		
Extension of the temporary reduction of import tariffs on certain hybrid motor vehicles, under an import quota of 1,000 vehicles	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Decreto No. 846/2020, Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (4 November 2020)	Effective 7 November 2020, for 6 months
Amendment introduced in the list of products with export duties ( <i>derechos de exportación</i> ), resulting in the reduction and elimination of export duties on certain products (4,606 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in NCM Chapters 1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 24; 25; 26; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 38; 39; 40; 41; 43; 44; 45; 47; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 67; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 78; 79; 80; 81; 84; 85; 87; 90; 94)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Decreto No. 1060/2020 - Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Derechos de Exportación (30 December 2020)	Effective 1 January 2021
Amendments introduced to the national list of exemptions to the Mercosur Common Tariff (103 tariff lines at 8-digit level in NCM Chapters 15; 22; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 37; 38; 39; 40; 45; 54; 55; 59; 64; 70; 72; 73; 76; 84; 85; 87)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Decreto No. 297/2021 (5 May 2021)	Effective 7 May 2021
Reduction of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. (from 14% to 2%) on vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate-copolymers, corrugated paper and paperboard, heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom(s) only; (from 16% to 2%) on certain primary batteries, tubular metal needles and needles for sutures; (from 18% to 2%) on lead-acid, of a kind used for starting piston-engines; (from 14% to zero) on machines for electroplating and electrolysis; (from 10% to 2%) on sodium dichromate; and (from 12% to 2%) on formic acid	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Decreto No. 297/2021 (5 May 2021)	Effective 7 May 2021
<b>Brazil</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on soya beans; soya beans crude oil, whether or not degummed; oil-cake and other solid residues resulting from the extraction of soyabean oil (effective 21 October 2020 to 15 January 2021); and on maize (corn) (effective 21 October 2020 to 31 March 2021); on certain immunological products for retail sales; inductors; LED lamps (effective 1 November 2020); trailers and semi-trailers for the transport of goods (effective 16 January 2021 to 31 December 2021); looped pile fabrics (effective 16 January 2021)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution Nos. 101/2020 and 102/2020 (20 October 2020), 105/2020 (22 October 2020), 129/2020 (24 December 2020)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Temporary reduction of import tariffs on disodium sulphate; pharmaceutical products; orthopaedic or fracture appliances; bicycles and other cycles not motorized; poly(vinyl chloride), not mixed with any other substance; immunological products for retail sale; vaccines; apparatus based on the use of X-rays	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution Nos. 158 (11 February 2021), 159 (17 February 2021), 174 and 175 (22 March 2021)	
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on non-electrical articles of graphite or other carbon, under an import quota of 2,530 tonnes; on ethylene dichloride (ISO) (1,2-dichloroethane), under an import quota of 400,000 tonnes; on alcohol peroxides, under an import quota of 300 tonnes; on aromatic polyamides and their derivatives, salt thereof, under an import quota of 10,440 tonnes; on printing ink, under an import quota of 800	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution Nos. 161/2021 (22 February 2021), 177 (23 March 2021), 184 (30 March 2021)	

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

<sup>2</sup> This Section includes information that either has been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Measure	Source/Date	Status
tonnes; on activated carbon, under an import quota of 1,500 tonnes; on petroleum resins, under an import quota of 30,000 tonnes; on self-adhesive plates of plastic, under an import quota of 330 tonnes; on high tenacity yarn of polyesters, whether or not textured, under an import quota of 2,688 tonnes; on polycarbonates, under an import quota of 10,000 tonnes; on coffee extracts, essences and concentrates, under an import quota of 200 tonnes; on food preparations, under an import quota of 1,371.43 tonnes; on acrylic polymers in primary forms, under an import quota of 840 tonnes; on poly(ethylene terephthalate), having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher, under an import quota of 10,000 tonnes; on synthetic filament yarn, under an import quota of 2,200 tonnes; on synthetic staple fibres of polypropylene, under an import quota of 795 tonnes; on spherical roller bearings, under an import quota of 1,000 units; on polymers of propylene, under an import quota of 77,000 tonnes		
Reduction of import tariffs on certain capital goods, informatics and telecommunications equipment: from up to 2% to zero; from 4% to 3.6%; from 6% to 5.4%; from 8% to 7.2%; from 10% to 9%; from 12% to 10.8%; from 14% to 12.6%; and from 16% to 14.4%	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021); Gecex Resolution Nos. 173/2021 (18 March 2021) and 183/2021 (30 March 2021)	Effective 26 March 2021
Reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on certain products, e.g. mucilages and thickeners, trichloroethylene, aromatic ethers, salts of formic acid, gluconic acid, rock-drilling or earth-boring tools, and certain motorcycle/bicycle parts and accessories	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 136 (24 December 2020)	Effective 31 December 2020
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on wheat and meslin, under an import quota of 750,000 tonnes (effective 18 November 2020 to 17 November 2021); on certain vaccines for human medicine, under an import quota of 20 million doses (effective 26 November 2020 to 25 November 2021); on certain vaccines for human medicine, under an import quota of 28 million doses (effective 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021); on acrylic or modacrylic, under an import quota of 9,000 tonnes (effective 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021); on other polyethers, under an import quota of 2,000 tonnes (effective 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021); on cellulose ethers, under an import quota of 1,200 tonnes (effective 2 December 2020 to 1 December 2021); on not roasted malt, under an import quota of 300,000 tonnes (effective 30 December 2020 to 31 December 2021); on sardines, under an import quota of 120,000 tonnes (effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021); on wheat and meslin, under an import quota of 750,000 tonnes (effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021); on sewing machines of the household type, under an import quota of 500,000 units (effective 14 January 2021 to 13 January 2022); on not alloyed unwrought aluminium, under an import quota of 262,000 tonnes (effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021); on colouring matter, containing 80% or more by weight of titanium dioxide calculated on the dry matter, under an import quota of 9,672 tonnes (effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021), on disodium sulphate, under an import quota of 910,000 tonnes (effective 19 February 2021 to 31 December 2021); and on certain cellulose ethers, under an import quota of 1,200 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Secex Portaria Nos. 60/2020, 61/2020, 62/2020 (17 November 2020), 66/2020 (1 December 2020), 67/2020 (3 December 2020), 73/2020, 74/2020, 75/2020 (31 December 2020), 1/2021 (8 January 2021)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on film of polymers of ethylene, under an import quota of 600 tonnes (effective 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021); on chemical preparations for photographic uses, under an import quota of 1,700 tonnes (effective 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021); on other paper, paperboard, cellulose wadding and webs of cellulose	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Secex Portaria Nos. 66/2020 (1 December 2020), 67/2020 (3 December 2020), 70/2020 (15 December 2020), 1/2021 (8 January 2021)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

Measure	Source/Date	Status
fibres, under an import quota of 6,000 tonnes (effective 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021); on miscellaneous edible preparations for infant use, under an import quota of 2,705 tonnes (effective 2 December 2020 to 1 December 2021); on polycarbonates, under an import quota of 10,000 tonnes (effective 14 January 2021 to 13 July 2021); on uncoated paper and paperboard, weighing more than 150 g/m <sup>2</sup> but less than 225 g/m <sup>2</sup> , under an import quota of 31,985 tonnes (effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021); (to 4%) on poly(vinyl chloride), not mixed with any other substances, under an import quota of 160,000 tonnes (effective 12 December 2020 to 11 March 2021)		
Elimination of import tariffs on certain machine-tools for working any material by removal of material, operated by laser (effective 1 November 2020); and on revolvers and pistols, other than those of headings HS 9303 and HS 9304 (effective 1 January 2021); and on new pneumatic tyres of rubber (effective 21 January 2021)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 111 (23 October 2020), 126 (8 December 2020) and 148 (20 January 2021)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Reduction of import tariffs (from 35% to 30%) on tricycles, scooters, pedal cars and similar wheeled toys; dolls' carriages; dolls; other toys; reduced-size ("scale") models and similar recreational models, working or not; puzzles of all kinds	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 121 (17 November 2020)	Effective 1 December 2020
Reduction of import tariffs (from 35% to 20%) on vehicles specially designed for travelling on snow; golf cars and similar vehicles	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 137 (24 December 2020)	Effective 1 January 2021
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on capital goods tariff lines, and informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines (NCM Chapters 73; 84; 85; 86; 87; 90; 94), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunications equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution Nos. 116 and 117 (11 November 2020) 131 and 132 (24 December 2020)	Effective until 31 December 2021
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on disodium sulphate, under an import quota of 455,000 tonnes; on non-electrical articles of graphite or other carbon, under an import quota of 2,530 tonnes; and on certain caseinates, under an import quota of 1,224 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 192 (3 May 2021)	Effective 4 May 2021
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain vaccines and pharmaceutical products	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 202 (4 May 2021)	Effective 5 May 2021
Reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on certain auto parts not produced in Mercosur (NCM Chapters 39; 40; 69; 70; 73; 76; 83; 84; 85; 87; 90)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 April 2021), Gecex Resolution Nos. 108/2020 (22 October 2020), 114/2020 (11 November 2020), 138/2020 (31 December 2020), 150/2021 (1 February 2021), 169/2021 (24 February 2021), 178/2021 (23 March 2021)	
<b>Canada</b>		
Elimination of import tariffs on certain products of stainless steel, and on parts of railways or tramways locomotives or rolling-stock	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 May 2021)	Effective 23 April 2021
<b>China</b>		
Imposition of interim tariffs resulting in temporary reduction of import tariffs on certain products (in HS Chapters 1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 8; 12; 13; 14; 15; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 25; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 35; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 43; 44; 45; 48; 49; 52; 53; 56; 61; 62; 63; 68; 70; 71; 72; 74; 75; 76; 79; 81; 82; 84; 85; 87; 90; 91; 92; 96)	Customs Tariff of Import and Export of the People's Republic of China (2021)	Effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Elimination of import tariffs on anti-HIV drugs. Imports also exempted from VAT	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (26 April 2021)	Effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2030
<b>Japan</b>		
Elimination of import tariffs on dimethyl 2,6-naphthalenedicarboxylate; and on <i>m</i> -phenylenediamine	Permanent Delegation of Japan to the WTO (25 May 2021)	Effective 1 April 2021
<b>Korea, Rep. of</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariff on eggs, under import quota	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (26 May 2021)	Effective 27 January to 30 June 2021
<b>Mexico</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain trolley buses	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 May 2021) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 22 October 2020	Effective 22 October 2020 to 30 September 2024
<b>Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain products, e.g. on certain organic chemicals (effective 19 December 2020 to 31 December 2023); on certain tanning or dyeing extracts (effective 19 December 2020 to 31 December 2023); on viscose rayon fibres (effective 30 January 2021 to 31 December 2021); on desiccated coconuts (effective 22 November 2020 to 31 December 2023); on photographic plates (effective 30 December 2020 to 31 December 2023); on fluorspar (effective 26 February 2021 to 28 February 2022); on natural calcium phosphates (effective 5 January 2021 to 4 January 2024); on aluminium fluorides (effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023); on precious and semi-precious stones (effective until 31 December 2022); on carbon-graphite electrodes (effective 21 March 2021 to 31 March 2022); on fishing cages (effective 31 March 2021 to 31 March 2022); on certain raw materials of mineral origin containing precious metals (effective 29 April 2021 to 31 December 2024); on titanium waste and scrap (effective 1 March 2021 to 31 March 2024); on graphite electrodes (effective 3 April 2021 to 31 December 2022); on acrylic polymers in primary forms (effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (28 May 2021)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
<b>Turkey</b>		
Temporary elimination of import tariffs on wheat and meslin, barley and maize (corn) (effective 21 October 2020 to 30 April 2021); on rape, colza and safflower seeds, sunflower crude oil, sunflower seed oil and rape, colza, safflower oil (effective 20 March 2021 to 30 June 2021). Temporary reduction of import tariffs (from 19.3% to 9%) on sunflower seeds (effective 5 November 2020 to 30 June 2021), red lentils (effective 5 November 2020 to 30 April 2021); (from 36% to 10%) on sunflower seed oil (effective 25 October 2020 to 31 December 2020); (to 5%) on rice in the husk (paddy or rough), husked (brown); (from 36% to 10%) rice, and (from 45% to 15%) on other rice	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Elimination of the temporary increase of import tariffs (to 5%) on certain iron and steel products (HS Chapter 72) (originally implemented on 18 April to 31 December 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	Effective 1 January 2021

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>United Kingdom</b>		
Implementation of the UK's Integrated Schedule. The UK Global Tariff (UKGT) applies to all trading partners with whom the United Kingdom has no alternative agreements, such as FTAs, other regional trade arrangements, or preferential access scheme. The tariff rate applied under the UKGT is lower than that previously applied (under the European Union's CET) for over 5,600 tariff lines at 8-digit level	United Kingdom Mission to Geneva (27 May 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tariffs-on-goods-imported-into-the-uk">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tariffs-on-goods-imported-into-the-uk</a>	Effective 31 December 2020 (11 p.m.)

Note: For detailed information about HS codes, refer to the TMDB ([https://tmdb.wto.org/en/explore#page=1&members=C032&q20=0&measure\\_type=5&after\\_dt=2018-10-16&before\\_dt=2019-09-01&affected\\_members=&product\\_chapters=](https://tmdb.wto.org/en/explore#page=1&members=C032&q20=0&measure_type=5&after_dt=2018-10-16&before_dt=2019-09-01&affected_members=&product_chapters=)).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

## ANNEX 2 - TRADE REMEDIES<sup>1</sup>

(MID-OCTOBER 2020 TO MID-MAY 2021)

### Confirmed information<sup>2</sup>

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Argentina</b>		
Termination on 20 October 2020 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of mechanical appliances (whether or not hand-operated) for projecting, dispersing or spraying liquids or powders; fire extinguishers, whether or not charged; spray guns and similar appliances; and steam- or sand-blasting machines and similar jet-projecting machines from China (initiated on 18 April 2019)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/ARG, 19 March 2021	
Initiation on 10 November 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain motorcycle parts and accessories ( <i>cadenas</i> ) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/ARG, 19 March 2021	
Initiation on 10 November 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of isocyanates 80:20 from the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/ARG/Corr.1, 23 March 2021	
Termination on 9 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of non-adjustable hand-operated spanners and wrenches from China, India and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 9 June 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 10 December 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/ARG, 19 March 2021	
Termination on 16 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of zip fastener chains and slides from China and Peru (imposed on 8 October 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/ARG, 19 March 2021	
Initiation on 12 January 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of electric water heaters with steel tanks, of a kind used for domestic purposes, with a capacity of 150 litres or less from China	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Resolución No. 5/2021 - Ministerio de Desarrollo Productivo, Secretaría de Industria, Economía del Conocimiento y Gestión Comercial Externa (11 January 2021)	
Termination on 19 January 2021 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of winches and capstans powered by electric motors from Turkey (initiated on 30 July 2019)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Resolución No. 15/2021 Ministerio de Desarrollo Productivo, Secretaría de Industria, Economía del Conocimiento y Gestión Comercial Externa (15 January 2021)	
Termination on 21 January 2021 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of mowers for lawns, parks or sports-grounds from China (initiated on 4 February 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Resolución No. 16/2021 - Ministerio de Desarrollo Productivo, Secretaría de Industria, Economía del Conocimiento y Gestión Comercial Externa (19 January 2021)	
Initiation on 26 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of ball bearings from India	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Resolución No. 46/2021 - Ministerio de Desarrollo Productivo, Secretaría de Industria, Economía del Conocimiento y Gestión Comercial Externa (25 February 2021)	

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

<sup>2</sup> This Section includes information that either has been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 26 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of glass cubes and other glass smallware, whether or not on a backing, for mosaics or similar decorative purposes from Thailand and Turkey	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Resolución No. 47/2021 - Ministerio de Desarrollo Productivo, Secretaría de Industria, Economía del Conocimiento y Gestión Comercial Externa (25 February 2021)	
Initiation on 14 May 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of monofilament of which any cross-sectional dimension exceeds 1 mm, rods, sticks and profile shapes, whether or not surface-worked but not otherwise worked, of plastics ( <i>perfiles de polímeros de cloruro de vinilo</i> ) from Turkey	Resolución No. 238/2021 - Ministerio de Desarrollo Productivo, Secretaría de Industria, Economía del Conocimiento y Gestión Comercial Externa (13 May 2021)	
<b>Australia</b>		
Termination on 19 November 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel reinforcing bar from Singapore and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 17 October 2014. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 13 March and 19 November 2015, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/AUS, 19 April 2021	
Initiation on 15 March 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of quenched and tempered steel plate from the United States	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (26 May 2021) and Anti-Dumping Notice No. 2021/31 (15 March 2021)	
Termination on 17 March 2021 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium micro-extrusions from China (initiated on 17 February 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (26 May 2021) and Anti-Dumping Notice No. 2021/38 (17 March 2021)	
Initiation on 22 March 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain copper tube from Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (26 May 2021) and Anti-Dumping Notice No. 2021/41 (22 March 2021)	
Initiation on 27 April 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of clear float glass from Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (26 May 2021) and Anti-Dumping Notice No. 2021/54 (27 April 2021)	
Initiation on 27 April 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of clear float glass from Malaysia	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (26 May 2021) and Anti-Dumping Notice No. 2021/54 (27 April 2021)	
<b>Brazil</b>		
Temporary suspension on 6 November 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of iron pipes from China, India and the United Arab Emirates (investigation initiated on 8 May 2018 and definitive duty imposed on 8 November 2019)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 113 (5 November 2020)	
Termination on 28 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polypropylene resin from the Republic of Korea, (investigation initiated on 19 March 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 17 January and 28 August 2014, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/BRA, 19 April 2021	
Initiation on 18 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of sodium hydroxide (caustic soda) from the United States	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Circular No. 7 - Ministério de Economia, Secretaria Especial de Comércio Exterior e Assuntos Internacionais (17 February 2021)	
Termination on 19 February 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of synthetic fibre blankets from China (investigation initiated on 5 May 2009 and definitive duty imposed on 29 April 2010)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021)	
Termination on 19 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of clear float flat glass from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United States (investigation initiated on 15 July 2013.	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Circular No. 10 -	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 14 July and 19 December 2014, respectively)	Ministério de Economia, Secretaria Especial de Comércio Exterior e Assuntos Internacionais (18 February 2021)	
Temporary suspension on 19 February 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of clear float flat glass from Mexico (investigation initiated on 15 July 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 14 July and 19 December 2014, respectively)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021)	
Initiation on 22 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of citric acid, and salt and esters of citric acid from Colombia and Thailand	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Circular No. 12 - Ministério de Economia, Secretaria Especial de Comércio Exterior e Assuntos Internacionais (19 February 2021)	
Initiation on 25 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of flat-rolled products of stainless steel, of a width of 600 mm or more (304) from Indonesia and South Africa	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Circular No. 15 - Ministério de Economia, Secretaria Especial de Comércio Exterior e Assuntos Internacionais (24 February 2021)	
Initiation on 5 March 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of high tenacity yarn of polyesters, whether or not textured from China and India	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Circular No. 18 - Ministério de Economia, Secretaria Especial de Comércio Exterior e Assuntos Internacionais (4 March 2021)	
Termination on 22 March 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of radial tyres of rubber for buses and lorries from South Africa and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 10 June 2013 and definitive duty imposed on 24 November 2014)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Circular No. 20 - Ministério de Economia, Secretaria Especial de Comércio Exterior e Assuntos Internacionais (19 March 2021)	
Temporary suspension on 22 March 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of radial tyres of rubber for buses and lorries from Japan (investigation initiated on 10 June 2013 and definitive duty imposed on 24 November 2014)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021)	
Termination on 29 April 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of vacuum plastic tubes for blood collection from Germany (investigation initiated on 4 November 2013. Definitive duty imposed on 30 April 2015. Duty temporarily suspended on 31 March 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (27 May 2021) and Gecex Resolution No. 193 and Secex Circular No. 29 (29 April 2021)	
<b>Canada</b>		
Termination on 16 October 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of corrosion-resistant steel sheet 2 from the United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 8 November 2019 and provisional duty imposed on 20 March 2020)	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/CAN, 17 March 2021	
Termination on 16 November 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of corrosion-resistant steel sheet 2 from the United Arab Emirates (investigation initiated on 8 November 2019 and provisional duty imposed on 20 March 2020)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/CAN, 15 March 2021; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 May 2021)	
Initiation on 4 December 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of concrete reinforcing bar 4 from Oman and the Russian Federation	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/CAN, 15 March 2021; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (26 April 2021)	Provisional duty imposed on 23 March 2021
Initiation on 17 December 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of grinding media from India	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/CAN, 15 March 2021; and Canada Border Services Agency - Notice of preliminary determinations GM 2020 IN (30 April 2021)	Provisional duty imposed on 30 April 2021

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 17 December 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain grinding media from India	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/CAN, 17 March 2021; and Canada Border Services Agency - Notice of preliminary determinations GM 2020 IN (30 April 2021)	Provisional duty imposed on 30 April 2021
Initiation on 21 December 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of upholstered domestic seating from China and Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/CAN, 15 March 2021; and Canada Border Services Agency - Notice of preliminary determinations UDS 2020 IN (5 May 2021)	Provisional duty imposed on 5 May 2021
Initiation on 21 December 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of upholstered domestic seating from China and Viet Nam	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/CAN, 17 March 2021; and Canada Border Services Agency - Notice of preliminary determinations UDS 2020 IN (5 May 2021)	Provisional duty imposed on 5 May 2021
Termination on 30 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of certain oil country tubular goods from the Philippines (investigation initiated on 21 July 2014. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 3 December 2014 and 2 April 2015, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/CAN, 15 March 2021	
Termination on 5 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of heavy plate from Turkey (investigation initiated on 27 May 2020 and provisional duty imposed on 9 October 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 May 2021)	
Termination on 19 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of decorative and other non-structural plywood from China (investigation initiated on 11 June 2020 and provisional duty imposed on 23 October 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 May 2021)	
Termination on 19 February 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of decorative and other non-structural plywood from China (investigation initiated on 11 June 2020 and provisional duty imposed on 23 October 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 May 2021)	
Initiation on 15 April 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain small power transformers from Austria; the Republic of Korea; and Chinese Taipei	Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 May 2021) and Canada Border Services Agency - Notice of Initiation of Investigation SPT 2021 IN (15 April 2021)	
<b>China</b>		
Termination on 2 November 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of adipic acid from the European Union; the Republic of Korea; and the United States (investigation initiated on 10 November 2008. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 26 June and 2 November 2009, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/CHN, 9 March 2021	
<b>European Union</b>		
Initiation on 21 October 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel wind towers from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/EU, 16 April 2021	
Initiation on 22 October 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium converter foil from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/EU, 16 April 2021	
Termination on 9 November 2020 (without measure) of countervailing investigation on imports of certain hot-rolled stainless steel sheets and coils "SSHR" from China and Indonesia (initiated on 10 October 2019)	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/EU, 10 March 2021	
Initiation on 4 December 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of converter foil from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/EU, 10 March 2021	
Termination on 8 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of seamless pipes and tubes fittings of iron or steel from China (imposed on 24 September 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/EU, 16 April 2021	
Termination on 19 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of certain aluminium foils from the Russian Federation (investigation initiated on 8 October 2014. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 4 July and 18 December 2015, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/EU, 16 April 2021	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 21 December 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain iron or steel fasteners from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/EU, 16 April 2021	
Initiation on 21 December 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of optical fibre cables from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/EU, 10 March 2021	
Initiation on 17 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain graphite electrode systems from China	Commission Notice 2021/C 57/03 (17 February 2021)	
Initiation on 17 February 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of stainless steel cold-rolled flat products from India and Indonesia	Commission Notice 2021/C 57/04 (17 February 2021)	
Initiation on 18 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of calcium silicon from China	Commission Notice 2021/C 58/15 (18 February 2021)	
Initiation on 18 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of superabsorbent polymers from the Republic of Korea	Commission Notice 2021/C 58/16 (18 February 2021)	
<b>India</b>		
Termination on 20 October 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hexamethylenetetramine (hexamine) from China and the United Arab Emirates (investigation on 25 March 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 21 October 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Initiation on 23 October 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of low-density polyethylene (LDPE) from Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 16 November 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of diketopyrrolopyrrole pigment red 254 (DPP red 254) from China and Switzerland (investigation initiated on 20 June 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 17 August 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 17 November 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of caustic soda-III from China and the Republic of Korea, (imposed on 26 December 2002)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 20 November 2020 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of coated/plated tin mill flat-rolled steel products from the European Union, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States (initiated on 28 June 2019)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 20 November 2020 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of mono ethylene glycol (MEG or ethylene glycol) from Kuwait, Oman, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates (initiated on 9 December 2019)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 30 November 2020 of anti-dumping duties on acrylic fibre from Thailand (imposed on 25 April 1997)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 1 December 2020 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of acrylic fibre from Belarus, the European Union, Peru and Ukraine (initiated on 24 September 2019)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND/Rev.1, 26 April 2021	
Termination on 3 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on melamine tableware and kitchenware products from China, Thailand and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 28 October 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 4 December 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 3 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on plastic processing machinery from China (imposed on 12 May 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 3 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on acrylonitrile butadiene rubber from the Republic of Korea (imposed on 31 January 1997)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 3 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of nylon tyre cord fabric-II from China (imposed on 26 July 2004)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 4 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of hot-rolled flat products of stainless steel of 304 series from China, the Republic of Korea and Malaysia (investigation initiated on 11 March 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 5 June 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 7 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of glioclazide from China (investigation initiated on 28 August 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 8 December 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 13 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of albendazole from China (investigation initiated on 11 September 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 14 December 2015)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Termination on 14 December 2020 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of choline chloride in all forms from China, Malaysia and Viet Nam (initiated on 1 October 2019)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND/Rev.1, 26 April 2021	
Initiation on 17 December 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of caustic soda from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Oman and Qatar	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Initiation on 24 December 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of aluminium primary foundry alloy ingot from Malaysia	Notification F. No. 6/43/2020-DGTR (Case No. OI (CVD) 7/2020), Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (24 December 2020)	
Termination on 30 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of all fully drawn yarn from China and Thailand (imposed on 26 March 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 31 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of carbon black from China and the Russian Federation (investigation initiated on 26 December 2008. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 30 July 2009 and 28 January 2010)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/IND, 19 April 2021	
Termination on 9 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of Phenol-I from South Africa (imposed on 13 August 2002)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 18 January 2021 of countervailing duties on imports of castings of wind-operated electricity generators from China (investigation initiated on 29 May 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 19 January 2016)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 20 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of plain medium-density fibre board from China, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand (imposed on 8 October 2009)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 27 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on mulberry raw silk from China (investigation initiated on 9 December 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 28 January 2016)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 31 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of cold-rolled flat products of stainless steel (cold-rolled flat products of stainless steel of width greater than 1250 mm) from China, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and the United States (imposed on 22 April 2009)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 31 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on methylene chloride from China and the Russian Federation (investigation initiated on 7 April 2015. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 8 December 2015 and 31 May 2016, respectively)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 31 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of phthalic anhydride from Japan and the Russian Federation (investigation initiated on 9 May 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 4 December 2015)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 7 February 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of float glass from China (imposed on 7 January 2003)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Initiation on 17 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of plastic processing machines (PPM) from China	Notification F. No. 6/45/2020-DGTR (Case No. AD - OI - 46/2020), Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (17 February 2021)	
Initiation on 24 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyurethane leather which includes any kind of textile coated one sided or both sided with polyurethane from China	Notification F. No. 6/55/2020-DGTR (Case No. AD - OI - 46/2020), Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (24 February 2021)	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 25 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of n,n'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) from China	Notification F. No. 6/53/2020-DGTR (Case No. AD - OI - 45/2020), Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (25 February 2021)	
Initiation on 26 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of melamine from the European Union, Japan, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates	Notification F. No. 6/1/2021-DGTR (Case No. AD - OI - 1/2021), Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (26 February 2021)	
Termination on 7 March 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polypropylene from Singapore (investigation initiated on 24 February 2009. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 30 July 2009 and 19 November 2010, respectively)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 14 March 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of ofloxacin from China (investigation initiated on 4 October 2016 and definitive duty imposed on 15 March 2018)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 14 March 2021 of anti-dumping duties on plastic processing machines or injection moulding machines from Malaysia, the Philippines, Chinese Taipei and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 14 October 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 15 March 2016)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 20 March 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of resorcinol from China and Japan (investigation initiated on 13 October 2016 and definitive duty imposed on 21 March 2018)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Initiation on 30 March 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of fluoro backsheet from China	Notification F. No. 6/3/2021-DGTR (Case No. OI - 3/2021), Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (30 March 2021)	
Initiation on 31 March 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain rubber chemicals viz., TDQ, PVI and CBS from China, the European Union and the Russian Federation	Notification F. No. 6/4/2021-DGTR (Case No. AD (OI) - 4/2021), Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce - Directorate General of Trade Remedies (31 March 2021)	
Termination on 23 April 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) from China, Japan, South Africa and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 9 February 2017 and definitive duty imposed on 24 April 2018)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 25 April 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of synchronous digital hierarchy (SDH) transmission equipment from China and Israel (investigation initiated on 21 April 2009. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 8 December 2009 and 16 December 2010, respectively)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 1 May 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of measuring tapes from Malaysia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 27 July 2015 and definitive duty imposed on 2 May 2016)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Termination on 12 May 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of recordable digital versatile disc (DVDs) of all kinds from Thailand and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 5 May 2009. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 12 April and 28 September 2010, respectively)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	
Initiation on 15 May 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of solar cells from China, Thailand and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Indonesia</b>		
Initiation on 26 October 2020 of safeguard investigation on imports of cigarette paper	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IDN/37, 28 October 2020	
Initiation on 18 November 2020 of safeguard investigation on imports of expansible polystyrene (EPS)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/IDN/38, 18 November 2020	
<b>Mexico</b>		
Termination on 3 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of concrete steel nails from China (provisional and definitive duties imposed on 29 March and 29 November 2004, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/MEX, 11 March 2021	
Termination on 4 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel plate in sheets from China (investigation initiated on 26 July 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 31 January and 14 October 2014, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/MEX, 11 March 2021	
Termination on 4 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of carbon steel tubing with straight longitudinal seams from the United Kingdom (provisional and definitive duties imposed on 26 May 2009 and 5 January 2010, respectively)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/MEX, 11 March 2021	
Termination on 6 April 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of blenders for domestic and commercial use from China (investigation initiated on 9 August 2013. Provisional and definitive duties imposed on 14 April and 9 December 2014, respectively)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 May 2021) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 6 April 2021	
<b>Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)</b>		
Termination on 22 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel railway wheels from Ukraine (investigation initiated on 17 October 2014, definitive duty imposed on 22 January 2016 and temporarily suspended from 25 August 2019 to 1 June 2020)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (28 May 2021)	
Termination on 30 November 2020 of safeguard duties on imports of certain flat-rolled steel products (investigation initiated on 7 August 2018 and duty imposed on 1 December 2019)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (28 May 2021)	
<b>Turkey</b>		
Initiation on 17 October 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of low-density polyethylene from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/TUR, 12 March 2021	
Initiation on 9 January 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hot-rolled flat steel from the European Union and the Republic of Korea	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	
Termination on 14 January 2021 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polystyrene from Egypt (investigation initiated on 30 November 2014 and definitive duty imposed on 14 January 2016)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	
Initiation on 27 March 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cocoa butter from Malaysia	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	
Initiation on 1 April 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of diesel or semi-diesel engines not exceeding 15 kW from China	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	
Initiation on 12 May 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of dental implants from the Republic of Korea	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	
<b>United States</b>		
Initiation on 26 October 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain aluminium foil from Armenia, Brazil, Oman, the Russian Federation and Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/USA, 15 April 2021	
Initiation on 28 October 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain aluminium foil from Oman and Turkey	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/USA, 7 April 2021	
Initiation on 3 November 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of thermal paper from Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Spain	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/USA, 15 April 2021	
Initiation on 16 November 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of utility-scale wind towers from India, Malaysia and Spain	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/USA, 15 April 2021	
Initiation on 16 November 2020 of countervailing investigation on imports of utility-scale wind towers from India and Malaysia	WTO document G/SCM/N/371/USA, 7 April 2021	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 23 November 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyester textured yarn from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/USA, 15 April 2021	
Termination on 5 November 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain glass containers from China (investigation initiated on 21 October 2019 and provisional duty imposed on 29 April 2020)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/USA, 15 April 2021	
Termination on 9 December 2020 of anti-dumping duties on imports of chloropicrin from China (imposed on 22 March 1984)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/USA, 15 April 2021	
Termination on 11 December 2020 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of forged steel fluid end blocks from India (investigation initiated on 15 January 2020 and provisional duty imposed on 23 July 2020)	WTO document G/ADP/N/350/USA, 15 April 2021	
Initiation on 8 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of pentafluoroethane (R-125) from China	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-662 and 731-TA-1554 (preliminary), Federal Register 5247, Vol. 86, No. 11 (19 January 2021)	
Initiation on 8 February 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of pentafluoroethane (R-125) from China	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-662 and 731-TA-1554 (preliminary), Federal Register 5247, Vol. 86, No. 11 (19 January 2021)	
Initiation on 23 February 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of granular polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) resin from India and the Russian Federation	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-663-664 and 731-TA-1555-1556 (preliminary), Federal Register 7876, Vol. 86, No. 20 (2 February 2021)	
Initiation on 23 February 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of granular polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) resin from India and the Russian Federation	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-663-664 and 731-TA-1555-1556 (preliminary), Federal Register 7876, Vol. 86, No. 20 (2 February 2021)	
Initiation on 25 March 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain mobile access equipment and subassemblies thereof from China	International Trade Administration, Investigation No. A-570-139, Federal Register 15922, Vol. 86, No. 56 (25 March 2021)	
Initiation on 25 March 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain mobile access equipment and subassemblies thereof from China	International Trade Administration, Investigation No. C-570-140, Federal Register 15905, Vol. 86, No. 56 (25 March 2021)	
Initiation on 26 April 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of walk-behind snow throwers from China	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-666 and 731-TA-1558 (preliminary), Federal Register 17852, Vol. 86, No. 64 (6 April 2021)	
Initiation on 26 April 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of walk-behind snow throwers from China	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-666 and 731-TA-1558 (preliminary), Federal Register 17852, Vol. 86, No. 64 (6 April 2021)	
Initiation on 27 April 2021 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of organic soybean meal from India	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-667 and 731-TA-1559 (preliminary), Federal Register 18296, Vol. 86, No. 66 (8 April 2021)	

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Initiation on 27 April 2021 of countervailing investigation on imports of organic soybean meal from India	International Trade Commission, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-667 and 731-TA-1559 (preliminary), Federal Register 18296, Vol. 86, No. 66 (8 April 2021)	
Termination on 2 April 2021 (without measure) of safeguard investigation on imports of fresh, chilled or frozen blueberries (initiated on 29 September 2020)	WTO document G/SG/N/9/USA/5, 6 April 2021	

Note 1: Until the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, the European Union's trade defence regulations and measures continued to apply to and in the United Kingdom, and the full list of measures in force can be found in the European Union's semi-annual report for anti-dumping measures covering the period of July-December 2020.

Note 2: For detailed information about HS codes, refer to the TMDb ([https://tmdb.wto.org/en/explore#page=1&members=C032&q20=0&measure\\_type=5&after\\_dt=2018-10-16&before\\_dt=2019-09-01&affected\\_members=&product\\_chapters=](https://tmdb.wto.org/en/explore#page=1&members=C032&q20=0&measure_type=5&after_dt=2018-10-16&before_dt=2019-09-01&affected_members=&product_chapters=)).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

### ANNEX 3 - OTHER TRADE-RELATED MEASURES<sup>1</sup>

(MID-OCTOBER 2020 TO MID-MAY 2021)

#### Confirmed information<sup>2</sup>

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>Argentina</b>		
Extension of the temporary export ban on ferrous waste and scrap, remelting scrap ingots of iron or steel; copper waste and scrap; and aluminium waste and scrap	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Decreto No. 1040/2020, Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (23 December 2020)	Effective 25 December 2020, for 360 days
Extension of the statistical fee ( <i>tasa de estadística</i> ) for all imports until 31 December 2021. Certain exemptions in force	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Decreto No. 1057/2020, Ley de Solidaridad Social y Reactivación Productiva en el Marco de la Emergencia Pública (23 December 2020)	Effective 31 December 2020 to 31 December 2021
Amendment introduced in the list of products with export duties ( <i>derechos de exportación</i> ), resulting in the increase of export duties on certain products (17 tariff lines at 8-digit level)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Decreto No. 1060/2020 - Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur - Derechos de Exportación (30 December 2020)	Effective 1 January 2021
Temporary suspension of the register of sworn declarations of foreign sales of agricultural products for maize exports with shipping permit dated before 1 March 2021, in order to guarantee domestic supply requirements	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca - Dirección de Prensa y Comunicación - Noticias (30 December 2020). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.magyp.gob.ar/sitio/areas/prensa/index.php?accion=noticia&amp;id_info=201230140611">https://www.magyp.gob.ar/sitio/areas/prensa/index.php?accion=noticia&amp;id_info=201230140611</a>	
Exportable surplus of maize for the remainder of the 2019/20 season set at 30,000 tonnes/day	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021) and Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca - Dirección de Prensa y Comunicación - Noticias (11 January 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.magyp.gob.ar/sitio/areas/prensa/index.php?accion=noticia&amp;id_info=210110234753">https://www.magyp.gob.ar/sitio/areas/prensa/index.php?accion=noticia&amp;id_info=210110234753</a>	Effective January 2021 to 1 March 2021
Updated list of "criterion values" ( <i>valores criterio de carácter preventivo</i> ) for imports of certain products, e.g. radiators for central heating (effective 30 March 2021), parts and accessories for certain musical instruments (effective 14 April 2021), artificial teeth (effective 14 April 2021), headphones (effective 14 April 2021) and certain woven fabrics of synthetic staple fibres, containing 85% or more by weight of polyester staple fibres (effective 14 April 2021), from specific origins	Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Dirección General de Aduanas, Resolución General Nos. 4952/2021 (26 March 2021), 4961/2021, 4963/2021, 4964/2021 and 4965/2021 (12 April 2021)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
Reference values for exports on certain products, e.g. cranberries (effective 15 December 2020), tomatoes (effective 18 March 2021), meat of bovine animals (effective 29 January and 19 March 2021), swine meat (effective 19 March 2021), garlic (21 April 2021), apples and pears (effective 26 April 2021) and frozen bovine meat (effective 10 May 2021), for certain specified destinations	Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Dirección General de Aduanas, Resolución General Nos. 4880/2020 (11 December 2020), 4914/2021 (26 January 2021), 4943/2021 (12 March 2021), 4946/2021 (15 March 2021), 4948/2021 (16 March 2021), 4969/2021 (19 April 2021), 4974/2021 (22 April 2021) and 4985/2021 (6 May 2021)	Effective: see individual dates in measure

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

<sup>2</sup> This Section includes information that either has been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Measure	Source/Date	Status
<b>China</b>		
Recycling materials for brass, recycling materials for copper and recycling materials for cast aluminium alloys that meet the following Standards (Recycling Materials for Brass (GB/T38470-2019), Recycling Materials for Copper (GB/T38471-2019) and Recycling Materials for Cast Aluminium Alloys (GB/T38472-2019)), do not belong to solid waste and can be imported freely. Imports not conforming to the Standards mentioned above are prohibited	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Announcement on Matters Related to Standardizing the Management on the Importation of Recycling Materials for Brass, Recycling Materials for Copper and Recycling Materials for Cast Aluminium Alloys (Announcement of Ministry of Ecology and Environment, General Administration of Customs, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology 2020 No. 43)	Effective 1 November 2020
Certain goods (199 tariff lines at 10-digit level) removed from the catalogue of goods prohibited in processing trade	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Announcement on Adjusting the Catalogue of Goods Prohibited in Processing Trade, Announcement of Ministry of Commerce, General Administration of Customs (2020 No. 54)	Effective 1 December 2020
On 26 December 2020, the exclusion period of the second exclusion list of the first batch of goods subject to additional tariff from the United States, extended until 25 December 2021	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Announcement of Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council on the Second Extension of the Exclusion List of Goods Subject to Additional Tariff on the United States (Announcement No. 10 [2020] of the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council)	
Recycling iron-steel materials meeting the Standards of Recycling Iron-steel Materials (GB/T39733-2020) do not belong to solid waste and can be imported freely. Imports not conforming to the Standards mentioned above are prohibited.	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Announcement on Matters Related to Standardizing the Management on the Importation of Recycling Iron-Steel Materials (Announcement of Ministry of Ecology and Environment, National Development and Reform Commission, General Administration of Customs, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology 2020 No. 78)	Effective 1 January 2021
On 28 February 2021, the exclusion period of the first exclusion list of the second batch of goods subject to additional tariff from the United States, extended until 16 September 2021	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Announcement of Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council on the Third Extension of the Exclusion List of Goods Subject to Additional Tariff on the United States (Announcement No. 2 [2021] of the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council)	
<b>European Union</b>		
Introduction of retrospective Union surveillance of imports of renewable ethanol for fuel	Commission Implementing Regulation 2020/1628 (3 November 2020)	Effective 4 November 2020
Change of management system from simultaneous examination to the "first come, first served" principle for the administration of import tariff quotas on barley, turkey, broken rice for use in the production of food preparations of HS Code 1901 10 00, and broken rice	Public information transmitted by the EU Delegation Commission (27 April 2021) and Commission Implementing Regulation 2020/1988 (11 November 2020)	Effective 1 January 2021
<b>India</b>		
Insertion of Policy Condition regarding import under all HS Codes in Chapters 72, 73 and 86 of ITC (HS) 2017 to require compulsory registration under the Steel Import Monitoring System (SIMS). SIMS requires importers to submit advance information in an online system and obtain an automatic registration number by paying a registration fee. The importer can apply for registration not earlier than 60 days and not later than 15 days before the expected	Notification No. 33/2015-2020 and Public Notice No. 19/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (28 September 2020)	Effective 16 October 2020

Measure	Source/Date	Status
date of arrival of import consignment. The automatic registration number remain valid for 75 days		
Amendments introduced to the export policy of onions seeds, resulting in an export prohibition	Notification No. 43/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (29 October 2020)	Effective 29 October 2020
Amendments introduced to the import policy of odoriferous preparations. Imports of odoriferous preparations, such as room fresheners and car fresheners that do not operate by burning, are "Free"	Notification No. 54/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (1 January 2021)	Effective 1 January 2021
Amendments introduced to the export policy of onions. The export of all varieties of onions has been made "Free"	Notification No. 50/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (28 December 2020)	Effective 1 January 2021
Amendments introduced to the import policy of coal (anthracite, bituminous, coking and steam). The import policy of coal is subject to the Coal Import Monitoring System (CIMS)	Notification No. 49/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (22 December 2020)	Effective 1 February 2021
Increase of the basic customs duty on certain products, e.g. (from zero to 5%) on cotton, not carded or combed; (from zero to 10%) on cotton waste; and (from 10% to 15%) on raw silk and silk yarn. Imposition of an Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (5%) on imports of raw cotton	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (8 June 2021)	Effective 1 February 2021
Amendments introduced to the import policy of copper and aluminium under Chapters 74 and 76 of ITC (HS) 2017, Schedule I (Import Policy) reg. The import policy of copper and aluminium is subject to compulsory registration under the Non-Ferrous Metals Import Monitoring System (NFMIMS)	Notification No. 61/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (31 March 2021)	Effective 1 April 2021
The import policy of mosquito killer racket is revised from "Free" to "Prohibited" if c.i.f. value is below INR 121/per racket	Notification No. 2/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (26 April 2021)	Effective 26 April 2021
Amendments introduced to the import policy of melon seeds. The import policy of melon seeds is revised from "Free" to "Restricted"	Notification No. 3/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (26 April 2021)	Effective 26 April 2021
<b>Indonesia</b>		
Amendments introduced to the list of goods subject to export duties (leather; wood; palm oil, crude palm oil, and derivative products; combination of crude palm oil and its derivative products; result of the processing of metal minerals; and certain mineral products)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (3 May 2021)	Effective 23 October 2020
Government procurement regulations requiring the use of domestic products and services	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (3 May 2021)	Effective 2 February 2021
<b>Russian Federation</b>		
Imposition of temporary export duties on soya beans (30% but not less than EUR 165/tonne)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (28 May 2021)	Effective 1 February to 30 June 2021
<b>Russian Federation (for Eurasian Economic Union)</b>		
Temporary increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 12%) on rectangular (including square) aluminium plates, sheet and strip, of a thickness exceeding 0.2 mm of aluminium alloys	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (28 May 2021)	Effective 3 April 2021 to 28 February 2023

Measure	Source/Date	Status
Imposition of import procedures on hydrofluorocarbons	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (28 May 2021)	Effective 16 April 2021
Imposition of a temporary export tariff quota (17.5 million tonnes) for grains (wheat and meslin, rye, barley and corn)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (28 May 2021)	Effective 15 February to 30 June 2021
<b>South Africa (for Southern African Customs Union)</b>		
Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 15%) on acrylic resins (effective 24 December 2020); (to 15%) on certain aluminium plates, sheets and strip, of a thickness exceeding 0.2 mm; and on aluminium foil (whether or not printed or backed with paper, paperboard, plastics or similar backing materials) of a thickness (excluding any backing) not exceeding 0.2 mm (effective 31 December 2020). Imports from the European Union, EFTA and Southern African Development Community (SADC) members exempted	International Trade Administration Commission Notice Nos. R 1406 - Government Gazette No. 44029 (24 December 2020), and R.1428 - Government Gazette No. 44049 (31 December 2020)	Effective: see individual dates in measure
<b>Turkey</b>		
On 1 January 2021 reduction (up to 5%) of the previously increased import tariffs (35%) on certain textile, garment and leather products (originally implemented on 21 April to 31 December 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	Effective 1 January 2021
On 1 January 2021 reduction of the previously increased import tariffs (45%) on mining, chemicals, plastic, pepper, iron and steel, metals, electrical and electronic goods, machinery, vehicles, furniture and lighting products (originally implemented on 21 April 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (26 May 2021)	Effective 1 January 2021
<b>United States</b>		
Executive Order entitled Strengthening Buy American Provisions, Ensuring Future of America is Made in America by all of America's Workers	Permanent Delegation of the United States to the WTO (26 May 2021) and Executive Order. Viewed at: <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/25/president-biden-to-sign-executive-order-strengthening-buy-american-provisions-ensuring-future-of-america-is-made-in-america-by-all-of-americas-workers/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/25/president-biden-to-sign-executive-order-strengthening-buy-american-provisions-ensuring-future-of-america-is-made-in-america-by-all-of-americas-workers/</a> (25 January 2021)	

Note: For detailed information about HS codes, refer to the TMDDB ([https://tmdb.wto.org/en/explore#page=1&members=C032&q20=0&measure\\_type=5&after\\_dt=2018-10-16&before\\_dt=2019-09-01&affected\\_members=&product\\_chapters=](https://tmdb.wto.org/en/explore#page=1&members=C032&q20=0&measure_type=5&after_dt=2018-10-16&before_dt=2019-09-01&affected_members=&product_chapters=)).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

## ANNEX 4 - MEASURES AFFECTING TRADE IN SERVICES<sup>1</sup>

(MID-OCTOBER 2020 TO MID-MAY 2021)

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<b>MEASURES AFFECTING VARIOUS SECTORS</b>					
<b>Australia</b>					
A package of reforms was passed to ensure Australia's foreign investment screening framework keeps pace with emerging risks and global developments while remaining a welcoming destination for foreign investment.  The Act improves and updates the operation of the framework across national security, compliance monitoring and enforcement, and integrity as well as streamlining requirements and making technical changes to improve the operation of the law.	Mode 3	Certain sectors	Foreign Investment Reform (Protecting Australia's National Security) Act 2020 (Act)  Foreign Investment Reform (Protecting Australia's National Security) Regulations 2020 (Regulations)  Viewed at: <a href="https://firb.gov.au/">https://firb.gov.au/</a>	1 January 2021	YES
<b>Canada</b>					
Thresholds above which foreign investors from WTO Members in Canadian businesses have to obtain federal government approval were lowered for the year 2021. The review threshold for 2021 is \$1.043 billion in enterprise value for investments to directly acquire control of a Canadian business (C\$415 million for state-owned enterprises of WTO Members).	Mode 3	Various sectors	Thresholds for Review pursuant subsections 14.1(1) and (2) of the Investment Canada Act, Canada Gazette, Part I, Volume 155, Number 7: GOVERNMENT NOTICES  Viewed at: <a href="https://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2021/2021-02-13/html/notice-avis-eng.html#n15">https://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2021/2021-02-13/html/notice-avis-eng.html#n15</a>  <a href="https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ica-lic.nsf/eng/h_lk00050.html">https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ica-lic.nsf/eng/h_lk00050.html</a>	Published 13 February 2021	
An update of the Guidelines on the National Security Review of Investments was issued under Section 38 of the Investment Canada Act. The government will notably increase the examination of foreign investments where,	Mode 3	Various sectors	Guidelines on the National Security Review of Investments  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ica-">https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ica-</a>	Published 24 March 2021	

<sup>1</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
amongst other things sensitive personal data are involved (e.g. personally identifiable health or genetic; biometric; financial; communications; geolocation), or investment by foreign state-owned investors, or private investors closely tied to enterprises influenced by foreign governments.			<a href="http://lic.nsf/eng/lk81190.html">lic.nsf/eng/lk81190.html</a>		
<b>China</b>					
The Market Access Negative List (2020) jointly issued by China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) includes items referring to prohibited or licensed activities. Requirements were relaxed or removed for inspection services for exported and imported goods, services assessing forest and mineral resources and carbon emissions, and appointing new executives in securities companies. Restrictions on the establishment of financial holding companies were added to the list.	Mode 3	All sectors	Market Access Negative List (2020)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/ghxwj/202012/t20201216_1252897_ext.html">https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/ghxwj/202012/t20201216_1252897_ext.html</a>	Effective 10 December 2020	YES
The National Development and Reform Commission and Ministry of Commerce issued the new catalogue of industries where foreign investment is encouraged. The scope in which foreign investment is encouraged was increased. This covers research and development of fifth-generation mobile communication technologies, development of blockchain technologies, design of sewage treatment facilities, maintenance of high-end equipment, transformation and integration of digital production lines, cross-border e-commerce retail, distribution centres for import and export of bulk commodities, community chain distribution, and online education, health and office services.	Mode 3	All sectors	Decree No. 38 of National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Commerce: Catalogue of Industries that Encourage Foreign Investment (Version 2020)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/fzqgw/202012/t20201228_1260594.html">https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/fzqgw/202012/t20201228_1260594.html</a>	Effective 27 January 2021	YES
Measures on Security Review of Foreign Investment jointly issued by the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Commerce, authorize the "Foreign	Mode 3	All sectors	Measures on Security Review of Foreign Investment  Viewed at:	Effective 18 January 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
Investment Security Review Working Mechanism" to review foreign investments in certain sectors linked to security issues (military support and defence, and related activities), as well as investments in certain sectors resulting in foreign control over important domestic enterprises, such as for infrastructure, transportation, energy, cultural products, Internet/online products and services; information technology, financial services, critical technologies; and other important sectors/areas.			<a href="https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/fzggwl/202012/t20201219_1255025.html">https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/fzggwl/202012/t20201219_1255025.html</a>		
China issued the Export Control Law to safeguard national security and national interest, fulfil its obligation of non-proliferation, as well as strengthen and regulate export control.	Mode 3	All sectors	Export Control Law  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/c30834/202010/cf4e0455f6424a38b5aecf8001712c43.shtml">http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/c30834/202010/cf4e0455f6424a38b5aecf8001712c43.shtml</a>	Effective 1 December	YES
The Ministry of Commerce released new measures requiring Chinese citizens, legal entities, and organizations to report to the competent authority in China any inappropriate application of foreign measures or laws that are designed to bar economic, trade and related activities between China and other countries. The competent authority has the power to issue an injunction allowing the reporter not to recognize, implement, or comply with the said foreign norms.	Multiple modes	All sectors	Rules on Counteracting Unjustified Extra-Territorial Application of Foreign Legislation and Other Measures  Viewed at: <a href="http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/policy/announce/announcement/202101/20210103029708.shtml">http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/policy/announce/announcement/202101/20210103029708.shtml</a>	9 January 2021	YES
The People's Bank of China, China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, China Securities Regulatory Commission, and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange issued a plan to support Hainan's development by allowing qualified non-residents to purchase properties in Hainan Free Trade Port on the principle of actual needs, authorizing qualified non-bank financial institutions to participate in the interbank foreign exchange market when meeting certain conditions, and enhancing foreign participation in Hainan's financial sector.	Multiple modes	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="http://www.pbc.gov.cn/goutongjiaoliu/113456/113469/4227077/index.html">http://www.pbc.gov.cn/goutongjiaoliu/113456/113469/4227077/index.html</a>	Effective 2 April 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
The National Development and Reform Commission published a list of reforms for Shenzhen, including the gradual lifting of restrictions on foreign ownership in telecommunications or promoting the streamlining of visa rules to attract talent.	Multiple modes	All sectors	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/jd/jd/202010/t20201020_1248448.html">https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/jd/jd/202010/t20201020_1248448.html</a>	18 October 2020	YES
In the Hainan Free Trade Port, market access to foreign investment was expanded in various sectors, such as telecommunication, education or business services. In the area of telecommunications services, Hainan will remove restrictions on foreign investment in online transaction processing and processing companies. For legal services, foreign investors will be allowed to engage in some commercial non-litigation affairs in Hainan. Hainan also lifted the prohibition of foreign investment in market surveys, except that the survey of radio and television ratings should still be controlled by the Chinese party. Foreign investors can also conduct social surveys in the form of equity joint ventures. The minimum percentage of ownership by Chinese party shareholders should be 67% and the legal representative should be a Chinese citizen.	Mode 3	Selected sectors	Special Administrative Measures for the Access of Foreign Investment in Hainan Free Trade Port (Negative List, 2020 Edition)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/fzggwl/202012/t20201231_1261607.html">https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xxgk/zcfb/fzggwl/202012/t20201231_1261607.html</a>	Effective 1 February 2021	YES
On 7 February 2021, the Anti-Monopoly Commission of the State Council of China issued the Antitrust Guidelines in the Field of Platform Economy. The Guidelines provide better guidance for enforcement of Chinese antitrust laws and compliance of companies in the platform sector.	Mode 3	Internet- and other network-enabled services	Viewed at: <a href="http://gkml.samr.gov.cn/nsjg/fldj/202102/t20210207_325967.html">http://gkml.samr.gov.cn/nsjg/fldj/202102/t20210207_325967.html</a>	Effective 7 February 2021	YES
The State Administration for Market Regulation issued Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Online Transactions. The measures provide specific rules for operators of e-commerce platforms, including sales via livestreaming and social media, sets out the responsibilities of platform operators, including with respect to protection of consumers' rights	Modes 1 and 3	Internet- and other network-enabled services	Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Online Transactions"  Viewed at: <a href="http://gkml.samr.gov.cn/nsjg/fqs/202103/t20210315_326936.html">http://gkml.samr.gov.cn/nsjg/fqs/202103/t20210315_326936.html</a>	Effective 1 May 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
and protection of personal information.					
<b>Germany</b>					
The government expanded the coverage of investment projects subject to screening, which now includes those touching upon public order or security of another EU member State as well as those with effects on projects or programmes of EU interest. Also, the standard under which an FDI may be prohibited or restrictive measures may be imposed has been tightened from "endangering" to "likely to affect."	Mode 3	Various sectors	16th Amendment to the German Foreign Trade and Payments Ordinance  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.gibsondunn.com/update-on-german-foreign-investment-control-new-eu-cooperation-mechanism-and-overview-of-recent-changes/">https://www.gibsondunn.com/update-on-german-foreign-investment-control-new-eu-cooperation-mechanism-and-overview-of-recent-changes/</a>	Effective 28 October 2020	YES
New activities were added to the investment projects subject to screening, in particular those relating to high-technology industries such as artificial intelligence, IT products for cybersecurity, 3D printing for industrial applications based on metal or ceramic materials, or information and communication technology services important to Germany. For critical technologies, a 20% threshold will apply. In addition to the acquisition of voting rights, the acquisition of control and management rights can also trigger a notification or an ex officio review.	Mode 3	Various sectors	17th Amendment to the Foreign Trade and Payments Ordinance  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.engage.hoganlovells.com/knowledge/services/news/new-rules-german-government-passes-far-reaching-expansion-of-foreign-investment-control_1">https://www.engage.hoganlovells.com/knowledge/services/news/new-rules-german-government-passes-far-reaching-expansion-of-foreign-investment-control_1</a>	Effective 1 May 2021	YES
The government implemented a new law that extends the competence of the competition authority to deal with restraints on competition by digital companies and new antitrust rules that cover abuse of power and other restraints on competition by digital platforms.	Multiple modes	Internet- and other network-enabled services	Law amending the law against Restraints of competition for a focused, proactive and digital competition law 4.0 and other provisions  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3_Downloads/Gesetze_und_Verordnungen/GuV/K/GWB-Art_8-Kinderkrankengeld_BGBI.pdf">https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3_Downloads/Gesetze_und_Verordnungen/GuV/K/GWB-Art_8-Kinderkrankengeld_BGBI.pdf</a>	19 January 2021	YES
<b>India</b>					
The government further liberalized FDI policy in several sectors, including, <i>inter alia</i> , contract	Mode 3	All Sectors	Consolidated FDI Policy Circular of 2020	Effective 15 October 2020	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
manufacturing, digital media, single brand retailing, insurance intermediaries and civil aviation and defence. The government has released the 'Consolidated FDI Policy Circular 2020' which supersedes all previous press notes, press releases, clarifications and/or circulars issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.			Viewed at: <a href="https://dipp.gov.in/sites/default/files/FDI-PolicyCircular-2020-29October2020_1.pdf">https://dipp.gov.in/sites/default/files/FDI-PolicyCircular-2020-29October2020_1.pdf</a>		
New guidelines seek to eliminate the prior approvals, licences and other restrictions on the collection, generation, preparation, dissemination, storage, publication, updating and/or digitization of geospatial data and maps in India. Foreign companies can license the digital maps and geospatial data of spatial accuracy/value finer than the threshold value from Indian entities only for the purpose of serving their customers in India. There are restrictions on cross-border transfer of geospatial data. Such data must be stored and processed only in India, even if the same is licensed to a foreign company by an authorized Indian entity.	Modes 1 and 3	Internet- and other network-enabled services	Guidelines on Liberalisation of Acquisition and Production of Geospatial Data  Viewed at: <a href="https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/Final%20Approved%20Guidelines%20on%20Geospatial%20Data.pdf">https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/Final%20Approved%20Guidelines%20on%20Geospatial%20Data.pdf</a>	Issued 15 February 2021	YES
The Finance Act 2021 amended certain provisions related to the 2% equalization levy for e-commerce operators introduced in April 2020. According to the amendments, it will apply to e-commerce operators for: - the sale of goods irrespective of whether the e-commerce operator owns the goods or not, however it shall not include the sale of goods owned by a person resident in India or by the Indian permanent establishment of a non-resident if sale of such goods is effectively connected with such permanent establishment; and - the provision of services irrespective of whether the service is provided or facilitated by the e-commerce operator, however it shall not include the provision of services by a person resident in India or by the Indian permanent	Mode 1	All sectors	Finance Act 2021  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.incometaxindia.gov.in/pages/acts/finance-acts.aspx">https://www.incometaxindia.gov.in/pages/acts/finance-acts.aspx</a>	Enacted 28 March 2021	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<p>establishment owned of a non-resident, if provision of services is effectively connected with such permanent establishment.</p> <p>The new amendments also clarified that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- transactions that are taxable as royalty or fees for technical services in India under the Income-tax Act, 1961 (Income-tax Act) read with the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) are not covered; and</li> <li>- e-commerce supply or service, "online sale of goods" and "online provision of services" includes one or more of the following online activities:</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) acceptance of sale offer;</li> <li>(b) placement of the purchase order;</li> <li>(c) acceptance of the purchase order;</li> <li>(d) payment; or</li> <li>(e) supply of goods or provision of services, partly or wholly.</li> </ul>					
<b>Indonesia</b>					
<p>The "Omnibus Law" on job creation simplified the license process and harmonizes various laws and regulations, aiming to streamline decision-making and attract investment. Business activities are divided into three categories, i.e. low, medium (certification needed) and high risk (business licence required). It provides that investment is permitted except for investment in business lines that are closed or those that can only be carried out by the Central Government. It also removes relevant requirements and restrictions for foreign investment that are currently stipulated in various laws governing several business sectors that are amended by the Omnibus Law. It also introduces several changes to the Immigration Law.</p>	Multiple modes	All sectors	<p>Law No. 11 of 2020 regarding Job Creation (the "Omnibus Law")</p> <p>Viewed at:</p> <p><a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=c6626343-89fa-442d-9ffb-98e16f3f99a5">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=c6626343-89fa-442d-9ffb-98e16f3f99a5</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=325667ec-4f80-4c8a-af93-a540842edaa1">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=325667ec-4f80-4c8a-af93-a540842edaa1</a></p>	Enacted 2 November 2020	
<p>A new Presidential Decree liberalized foreign ownership limits in a number of services sectors using a positive list, e.g. telecommunications,</p>	Mode 3	All sectors	Presidential Regulation No. 10 of 2021 regarding Investment Sectors	Effective 4 March 2021	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<p>e-commerce, media services, transportation, energy, distribution, construction or health services. It is part of Indonesia's ongoing economic reforms through the Omnibus Law. It replaces the prior negative list system.</p> <p>In principle, a business sector is open to 100% foreign investment unless it is subjected to a specific type of limitation. Four main fields of activity are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- prioritized business fields sectors – 245 business lines open for foreign investment;</li> <li>- business fields that stipulate specific requirements or limitations – 46 business lines open;</li> <li>- businesses fields open to large enterprises, including foreign investors, but are subject to a compulsory partnership with cooperatives and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) – 51 business lines open; and</li> <li>- Business fields reserved for cooperatives and MSMEs (not open to foreign investment) – 112 business lines.</li> </ul> <p>The minimum foreign investment threshold prescribed is 10 billion Indonesian rupiahs excluding the value of any land and buildings.</p>			<p>Viewed at:</p> <p><a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=2736e040-d7f9-41b7-82ea-894c1baf2a7b">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=2736e040-d7f9-41b7-82ea-894c1baf2a7b</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=c89fe734-adad-46d2-8c2b-74e9ec727c90">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=c89fe734-adad-46d2-8c2b-74e9ec727c90</a></p> <p><a href="https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3660/indonesia-releasing-positive-list-of-investment">https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3660/indonesia-releasing-positive-list-of-investment</a></p>		
<b>Italy</b>					
<p>The government adopted new measures that clarify and expand the scope of application of the review of acquisitions that require prior government approval. The process covers assets and sectors of strategic importance to the national interest, and include sectors such as energy, water, health, data and sensitive information, financial services, artificial intelligence and media, as well as transport (ports, airports etc.), and broadband and ultra-broadband services.</p>	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>Decrees of the President of the Council of Ministers, n. 179 of 18 December 2020 and 180 of 23 December 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regulation for the identification of assets and relationships of national interest in the areas referred to in Article 4, paragraph 1 of Regulation (EU) No 2019/452 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019, pursuant to Article 2(1)(b) of Decree-Law No 21 of 15 March 2012, converted, with amendments, by Law No 56 of 11 May 2012</li> <li>- Regulation for the identification of assets of strategic importance in the energy,</li> </ul>	Effective 14 January 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
			<p>transport and communications sectors, in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 1, of decree-Law No. 21 of 15 March 2012, converted, with amendments, by Law No. 56 of 11 May 2012</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2020/12/30/20G00200/sq">https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2020/12/30/20G00200/sq</a>  <a href="https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2020/12/30/20G00199/sq">https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2020/12/30/20G00199/sq</a>  <a href="https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3665/italy-expands-the-list-of-sectors-and-assets-subject-to-investment-screening">https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3665/italy-expands-the-list-of-sectors-and-assets-subject-to-investment-screening</a></p>		
<b>Japan</b>					
<p>New measures came into force to improve transparency and fairness of digital platforms. The Act defines "digital platforms" and calls for the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry ("METI") to designate any digital platform provider which is required to endeavour to improve the transparency and fairness of platforms in particular, amongst other digital platforms, "Specified Digital Platform Providers" (SDPPs). The act will apply to SDPPs, which covers business-to-consumer ("B-to-C") online shopping malls with annual sales in Japan measured from April 1 to March 31 of at least JPY 300 billion and B-to-C application stores with annual sales in Japan of at least JPY 200 billion. The act requires SDPPs to (i) disclose certain terms and conditions to sellers and consumers (e.g. factors used for ranking in user search responses, conditions to refuse the use of the specified digital platform by a supplier), (ii) develop fair procedures and systems, and (iii) submit an annual report on their business operations to the METI.</p>	<p>Modes 1 and 3</p>	<p>Internet- and other network-enabled services</p>	<p>Act on Improving Transparency and Fairness of Digital Platforms</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/mono_info_service/information_economy/digital_platforms/index.html">https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/mono_info_service/information_economy/digital_platforms/index.html</a></p>	<p>Effective 1 February 2021</p>	<p>YES</p>

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
In April 2021, in accordance with the Act on Improvement of Transparency and Fairness in Trading on Specified Digital Platforms, METI designated the following digital platform providers as SDPPs subject to regulation under the Act: Amazon Japan G.K., Rakuten Group Inc., Yahoo Japan Corporation, Apple Inc/iTunes K.K. and Google LLC.					
<b>Mexico</b>					
<p>Mexico adopted new measures that address the income tax and VAT treatment of digital services and transactions performed on online platforms. Notably, the withholding tax, that is applicable to resident and non-resident entities, should be levied on the total amount of income without VAT that individuals receive or cash-in. The tax rates are 2.1% for ground/land passenger transport services and the delivery of goods; 4% for lodging/accommodation services; and 1% for the transfer of goods and the provision of services.</p> <p>In case of noncompliance, non-resident legal entities without a permanent establishment in Mexico can have their digital service in Mexico temporarily blocked, until such time that it complies with the obligations. Prior to blocking, the entity will be informed of the non-compliance.</p> <p>Since the blocking will be carried out through the operators of public networks in Mexico, telecommunication operators may also be subject to fines for noncompliance or delays in orders for blocking and unblocking.</p>	Modes 1 and 3	Internet- and other network-enabled services	<p>Decree amending the Income Tax Law, the Value Added Tax Law, and the Federal Tax Code</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_to_imagen_fs.php?codnota=5606951&amp;fecha=08/12/2020&amp;cod_diario=289781">http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_to_imagen_fs.php?codnota=5606951&amp;fecha=08/12/2020&amp;cod_diario=289781</a>   <a href="https://mnetax.com/mexico-amends-tax-rules-applying-to-digital-service-providers-online-platforms-42363">https://mnetax.com/mexico-amends-tax-rules-applying-to-digital-service-providers-online-platforms-42363</a></p>	Effective 1 January 2021	YES
<b>United Kingdom</b>					
The United Kingdom adopted the National Security & Investment Law, which reforms the screening of investments in the country.	Mode 3	All sectors	<p>National Security &amp; Investment Law</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections</a></p>	Given Royal Assent on 29 April 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
The new Act will introduce mandatory notification obligations for certain transactions in 17 core sectors, including data infrastructure, artificial intelligence, communications, and transport. The government can review investments, including beyond the 17 sectors, if a transaction is believed to give rise to national security risks.			<a href="#">/national-security-and-investment-bill</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-security-bolstered-as-bill-to-protect-against-malicious-investment-granted-royal-assent">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-security-bolstered-as-bill-to-protect-against-malicious-investment-granted-royal-assent</a>		
<b>United States</b>					
A new Act requires certain issuers of securities to declare that they are not owned or controlled by any foreign government. Specifically, an issuer must make this certification if the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board is unable to audit specified reports because the issuer has retained a foreign public accounting firm not subject to inspection by the board. Furthermore, if the board is unable to inspect the issuer's public accounting firm for three consecutive years, the issuer's securities are banned from trade on a national exchange or through other methods.	Mode 3	All sectors	Holding Foreign Companies Accountable Act  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/945">https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/945</a>	18 December 2020	YES
The US Department of the Treasury modified the criteria for mandatory declarations for certain foreign investment transactions involving a US business that produces, designs, tests, manufactures, fabricates, or develops one or more "critical technologies".  The measure removes the previous analysis and nexus to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes and replaces it with an analysis of export control authorization requirements. Additionally, it makes amendments to the definition of the term "substantial interest" and a related provision.	Mode 3	All sectors	Final Rule on Provisions Pertaining to Certain Investments in the United States by Foreign Persons  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-09-15/pdf/2020-18454.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-09-15/pdf/2020-18454.pdf</a>	Effective 15 October 2020	YES
The President issued an Executive Order that prohibits, on national security grounds, transactions with certain connected mobile and	Modes 1 and 3	Mobile, desktop applications and other software	Executive Order 13971, Addressing the Threat Posed by Applications and Other Software Developed or Controlled by	Issued on 5 January 2021, and effective 45 days after	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
desktop applications and other software developed or controlled by Chinese companies. Companies concerned are Alipay, CamScanner, QQ Wallet, SHAREit, Tencent QQ, VMate, WeChat Pay, and WPS Office.			Chinese Companies  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/08/2021-00305/addressing-the-threat-posed-by-applications-and-other-software-developed-or-controlled-by-chinese">https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/08/2021-00305/addressing-the-threat-posed-by-applications-and-other-software-developed-or-controlled-by-chinese</a>		
<b>HEALTH SERVICES</b>					
<b>Indonesia</b>					
Under the Omnibus Law, foreign ownership of hospitals is authorized up to 100%. The government regulation, which is an implementing regulation for the Omnibus Law, requires that any hospital with foreign ownership has at least 200 beds. Other requirements continue to apply.	Mode 3	Health-related services	Government Regulation No. 47 of 2021 on Hospital Administration  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=a956a169-bd73-4acd-bcf4-79ab57c47bcd">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=a956a169-bd73-4acd-bcf4-79ab57c47bcd</a>	19 March 2021	
<b>POSTAL AND COURIER SERVICES</b>					
<b>Indonesia</b>					
The Omnibus Law amends the relevant provision of the Post Law that sets out the requirements for foreign postal operators to do business in Indonesia. The Law stipulates that the requirements for foreign postal operators will be further regulated in a Government Regulation. The Omnibus Law also removes the requirement that foreign postal operators cooperate with domestic postal operators, as well as the requirement for postal operators to obtain a licence from the Minister of Communication and Informatics to be a public company.	Mode 3	Postal services	Law No.11 of 2020 regarding Job Creation (the "Omnibus Law")  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=94b928d3-4f9a-412a-9e50-3ff8923f73d4&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-14&amp;utm_term=">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=94b928d3-4f9a-412a-9e50-3ff8923f73d4&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-14&amp;utm_term=</a>	Enacted: 2 November 2020	
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ICT/AUDIOVISUAL SERVICES</b>					
<b>Brazil</b>					
The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovations adopted an ordinance containing the government's artificial intelligence (AI) strategy. The ordinance strengthens research, development and innovation in AI and includes	Multiple modes	Computer and related services	Ordinance 4.617 Establishing the Brazilian Artificial Intelligence Strategy and its thematic axes  Viewed at:	6 April 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
guidelines in government initiatives in topics such as privacy, security, ethics and human rights by design and calls for transparency, equity and non-discrimination.			<a href="https://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/portaria-gm-n-4.617-de-6-de-abril-de-2021-*-313212172">https://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/portaria-gm-n-4.617-de-6-de-abril-de-2021-*-313212172</a>		
<b>India</b>					
The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued notices ordering mobile operators to resume blocking SMS by use of "content scrubbing" filters. The measures, based on a 2018 regulation to reduce unsolicited commercial communications (spam) and fraud, require telecom companies to verify SMS content with a template pre-registered by the sender before delivering the message.	Modes 1 and 3	Telecommunication services	Press release 24/2021: Implementation of the 'Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations'  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/PR_No.24of2021.pdf">https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/PR_No.24of2021.pdf</a>	1 April 2021	YES
The government adopted a set of guidelines for digital intermediaries and a code of ethics for digital media. The rules establish a new regulatory category referred to as "significant social media intermediaries" (SSMIs). Inclusion in this category is based on the number of registered users, a threshold that will be determined by the government. Entities falling within this category must retain user information for 6 months and disclose user information to law enforcement agencies.  They must establish a 3-tiered mechanism (grievance officer, self-regulating body, inter-departmental committee) to oversee the operations of "news and online curated content publishers". Chief compliance officers and related positions of the SSMIs, Over-the-Top service providers and news media content providers must be employees who are resident in India.  The rules give the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting authority to block content in emergencies where "no delay is acceptable."	Modes 1 and 3	Digital media services	Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=f4c5cf68-5014-467d-94c8-21885824b9bb">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=f4c5cf68-5014-467d-94c8-21885824b9bb</a>  <a href="https://www.meity.gov.in/writereaddata/files/Intermediary_Guidelines_and_Digital_Media_Ethics_Code_Rules-2021.pdf">https://www.meity.gov.in/writereaddata/files/Intermediary_Guidelines_and_Digital_Media_Ethics_Code_Rules-2021.pdf</a>	25 February 2021	YES
The government published an amendment	Modes 1	Audiovisual services	Allocation of Business Three Hundred and	9 November 2020	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
under its Allocation of Business Rules that expands the authority of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to regulate and censor social media, digital news and streaming services.	and 3		Fifty Seventh Amendment Rules, 2020, CG-DL-E-10112020-223032  Viewed at: <a href="http://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2020/223032.pdf">http://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2020/223032.pdf</a>		
<b>Indonesia</b>					
Indonesia promulgated a Regulation to complete a regulatory framework on management and supervision of electronic system providers by private entities (private ESPs). The Regulation clarifies registration requirements (and removes data localization requirements previously included in the draft measure). ESPs are required to provide guidelines for the use of their electronic system in Indonesia and ensure that the system (i) does not contain prohibited information and/or documents, and (ii) does not facilitate the dissemination of prohibited information and/or documents.	Modes 1 and 3	Telecommunication services	Regulation No. 5 of 2020 regarding Private Electronic System Provider  Viewed at: <a href="https://idih.kominfo.go.id/produk_hukum/viaw/id/759/t/peraturan+menteri+komunikasi+dan+informatika+nomor+5+tahun+2020">https://idih.kominfo.go.id/produk_hukum/viaw/id/759/t/peraturan+menteri+komunikasi+dan+informatika+nomor+5+tahun+2020</a>  <a href="https://www.hoganlovells.com/~media/hogan-lovells/pdf/2021-pdfs/2021_01_26_corporate_and_finance_alert_indonesian_regulator_set_clearer_terms_for_internet_platforms.pdf">https://www.hoganlovells.com/~media/hogan-lovells/pdf/2021-pdfs/2021_01_26_corporate_and_finance_alert_indonesian_regulator_set_clearer_terms_for_internet_platforms.pdf</a>	Effective 24 November 2020	
Under the "Omnibus Law", implementing regulations on Postal, Telecommunication and Broadcasting on Capital Investment Business Fields (known as the "Priority List"), propose easing of foreign investment and associated foreign equity restrictions for the technology and telecommunication sectors. Government Regulation 46 also provides that for spectrum leasing and spectrum pooling with another telecommunication network operator, or a special telecommunication operator (without the need to obtain a specific spectrum licence).	Mode 3	Telecommunication services	Government Regulation No. 46 of 2021 on Postal, Telecommunication and Broadcasting  Viewed at: <a href="https://globalcompliancenews.com/indonesia-building-up-regulations-to-support-digital-economy-18032021/">https://globalcompliancenews.com/indonesia-building-up-regulations-to-support-digital-economy-18032021/</a>	18 March 2021	
<b>Japan</b>					
In order to strengthen the effectiveness of law enforcement for entities including foreign corporations, the amendment of the Telecommunications Business Act introduces regulations related to the obligation to designate the domestic representative or the domestic agent at the time of registration or notification.	Multiple modes	Telecommunication services	Telecommunications Business Act  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail/?id=3648&amp;vm=04&amp;re=2">http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail/?id=3648&amp;vm=04&amp;re=2</a>	Effective 1 April 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
It also introduces a publication system that also target domestic corporations in the case of violations of the Act.					
<b>Korea, Rep. of</b>					
The government enacted and implemented amendments to the Telecommunications Business Act, including a requirement on foreign telecom services suppliers to appoint a local representative.	Mode 1	Telecommunication services	Amended Telecommunications Business Act  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.kimchang.com/en/insights/detail.kc?sch_section=4&amp;idx=22016#:~:text=An%20amendment%20to%20the%20Korean,10%2C%202020%20(the%20%E2%80%9CAmended">https://www.kimchang.com/en/insights/detail.kc?sch_section=4&amp;idx=22016#:~:text=An%20amendment%20to%20the%20Korean,10%2C%202020%20(the%20%E2%80%9CAmended</a>	Effective 10 December 2020	YES
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>					
The Communication and Information Technology Commission released an updated version of the cloud computing regulatory framework. It facilitates requirements for the provision of cloud computing services, by rearranging registration categories, clarifying requirements for the registration process, explaining the mechanisms for dealing with data and its classifications, and outlines the subscribers' responsibilities of cloud computing services and service providers.	Modes 1 and 3	Computer and related services	Cloud Computing Regulatory Framework  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/mediacenter/pressreleases/Pages/2020122201.aspx#">https://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/mediacenter/pressreleases/Pages/2020122201.aspx#</a>  <a href="https://www.citc.gov.sa/en/RulesandSystems/RegulatoryDocuments/Pages/CCRF.aspx">https://www.citc.gov.sa/en/RulesandSystems/RegulatoryDocuments/Pages/CCRF.aspx</a>	Effective 3 December 2020	YES
<b>FINANCIAL SERVICES</b>					
<b>China</b>					
The People's Bank of China has released new guidelines on the collection and processing of personal financial information which apply to regulated banks, financial institutions and insurance companies. Personal financial information includes information which is collected, processed, generated and secured through the provision of financial products or services in China.  Personal financial information can be transferred abroad if necessary for business purposes and under certain conditions (e.g.	Multiple modes	Financial services	Personal Financial Information Guidelines  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.mondaq.com/china/security/1018664/stricter-data-localisation-and-security-rules-for-financial-and-insurance-data-in-china">https://www.mondaq.com/china/security/1018664/stricter-data-localisation-and-security-rules-for-financial-and-insurance-data-in-china</a>	20 December 2020	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<p>consent, privacy and security assessment). It is required, amongst other things, that certain sensitive information is not shared with third-party service providers.</p>					
<p>The People's Bank of China (PBOC) introduced a data lifecycle security code. It represents the key guideline for handling personal and other financial information by financial institutions. They are classified into five levels and different compliance obligations are specified for each. This will require financial institutions to assess and classify/tag financial data against the five levels and apply the relevant compliance obligations to each level accordingly.</p> <p>Financial institutions must comply with these extra steps as well as compliance obligations under the Cybersecurity Law, Personal Information Security Specification, etc. Apps and web terminals operated by financial institutions must not retain any information at level 3 or above once the transaction in question is concluded. Level 5 data (i.e. important data, not defined) must only be stored in Mainland China and cannot be transferred or accessed abroad. For all other financial data (i.e. levels 1 to 4), the general principal is that such data should be stored in Mainland China. Financial data at level 3 or above – which includes all customer personal information – can only be transferred to, or accessed by, third parties (onshore or offshore) if: (i) necessary for business purposes; and (ii) prior approvals are obtained. Transfers to group companies are also regulated, and different requirements apply to each level.</p> <p>The code details extensive data security measures that must be applied throughout the data lifecycle for each level of data. Financial institutions must undertake an additional data security impact assessment if they acquire any</p>	<p>Mode 3</p>	<p>Financial services</p>	<p>Financial Data Security Data Lifecycle Security Code (JR/T 0223-2021)</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://blogs.dlapiper.com/privacymatters/china-navigating-china-episode-16-new-data-lifecycle-guidelines-for-financial-institutions-in-china-detailed-assessments-additional-security-measures-and-some-data-localisation-introduced/">https://blogs.dlapiper.com/privacymatters/china-navigating-china-episode-16-new-data-lifecycle-guidelines-for-financial-institutions-in-china-detailed-assessments-additional-security-measures-and-some-data-localisation-introduced/</a>   <a href="http://www.360doc.com/content/21/0416/10/70074794_972578115.shtml">http://www.360doc.com/content/21/0416/10/70074794_972578115.shtml</a></p>	<p>Effective 8 April 2021</p>	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
data from an external (third party) supplier.					
The China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC) issued a Notice on Matters Related to Insurance Fund Financial Equity Investment. The core of the Notice is to remove industry restrictions on financial equity investment of insurance funds.	Mode 3	Insurance services	Notice on Matters Related to Insurance Fund Financial Equity Investment  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.cbirc.gov.cn/cn/view/pages/governmentDetail.html?docId=942106&amp;itemId=861&amp;generaltype=1">http://www.cbirc.gov.cn/cn/view/pages/governmentDetail.html?docId=942106&amp;itemId=861&amp;generaltype=1</a>	Effective 12 November 2020	YES
The CBIRC introduced new rules regarding Internet Insurance Business Measures according to which only licensed insurance institutions (qualified operators) are allowed to engage in Internet insurance business.	Modes 1 and 3	Insurance services	Internet Insurance Business Measures (New Internet Insurance Measures)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cbirc.gov.cn/cn/view/pages/governmentDetail.html?docId=949137&amp;itemId=861">https://www.cbirc.gov.cn/cn/view/pages/governmentDetail.html?docId=949137&amp;itemId=861</a>	Effective 1 February 2021	YES
The CBIRC issued the Decision on Amending the Implementation Rules of the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Foreign-funded Insurance Companies. Restrictive provisions on the ratio of foreign shares are removed. A foreign insurance company or a foreign insurance group company, as shareholder of a foreign insurance company, can hold 100% of the shares. The decree also clarifies access conditions for foreign insurance group companies and foreign financial institutions to invest in foreign-funded insurance companies.	Mode 3	Insurance services	Decree of China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (2021 No. 2)  Viewed at: <a href="http://www.cbirc.gov.cn/cn/view/pages/ItemDetail.html?docId=971698&amp;itemId=928">http://www.cbirc.gov.cn/cn/view/pages/ItemDetail.html?docId=971698&amp;itemId=928</a>	Effective 10 March 2021	YES
China's State Council promulgated new regulations providing that no entity or individual may publish an advertisement containing fundraising content or otherwise distribute publicity material for fundraising to the public.  For Internet information service providers failing to fulfil their obligations to prevent and dispose of suspected illegal fundraising information, the competent authorities shall order rectification, issue a warning or confiscate the illegal proceeds. For online instances such as websites or mobile applications that were	Mode 3	Banking services Advertising services	Regulations on the Prevention and Handling of Illegal Fundraising  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=fa0e88b2-a27f-4d7a-981d-2ff27b002042&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-16&amp;utm_term=">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=fa0e88b2-a27f-4d7a-981d-2ff27b002042&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-16&amp;utm_term=</a>	Effective 1 May 2021	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
established or developed for illegal fundraising, the competent telecommunications authority shall shut them down in accordance with law.					
<b>India</b>					
The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), limited to a maximum of 30% the market share of foreign electronic payment service suppliers processing online payments made through India's United Payment Interface (owned and operated by NPCI).	Multiple modes	Electronic payment services	Press release No 216: NPCI Press Release - UPI balances consumer experience with growth outlook with a 30% volume cap for Third Party App Providers (TPAPs)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.npci.org.in/PDF/npci/press-releases/2020/UPI-balances-consumer-experience-with-growth-for-TPAPs.pdf">https://www.npci.org.in/PDF/npci/press-releases/2020/UPI-balances-consumer-experience-with-growth-for-TPAPs.pdf</a>	Effective 1 January 2021	YES
<b>Indonesia</b>					
Bank Indonesia implemented important changes to the payment licensing framework in Indonesia. One of the changes introduced relates to new requirements regarding share ownership and capital that could impact foreign investors in the payment services industry: 15% Indonesian shareholding for non-bank payment service providers and 80% for new businesses that are categorized as non-bank payment services infrastructure providers, with 51% or 80% of the voting rights to be held by Indonesian investors respectively.	Mode 3	Payment services	Regulation No. 22/23/PBI/2020 on Payment System  Viewed at: <a href="https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3672/indonesia-issuing-new-regulation-on-payment-systems">https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/investment-policy-monitor/measures/3672/indonesia-issuing-new-regulation-on-payment-systems</a>  <a href="https://hsfnotes.com/indonesia/2021/02/03/major-overhaul-of-indonesian-payment-system-is-coming/">https://hsfnotes.com/indonesia/2021/02/03/major-overhaul-of-indonesian-payment-system-is-coming/</a>	Published 29 December 2020 Effective 1 July 2021.	
<b>Mexico</b>					
The Executive Branch adopted a new measure imposing certain requirements on the operations of electronic payment fund institutions, in order to ensure the security of operations with their clients and safeguard their principal activities, internal operations and processes in the event of unforeseen acts, situations or events that may block, damage or limit, such activities.  The regulation requires, <i>inter alia</i> , that electronic payment fund institutions notify their clients of a series of transactions within a period	Multiple modes	Electronic payment services	Provisions Applicable to Electronic Payment Fund Institutions referred to in Articles 48, Second Paragraph, 54, First Paragraph, and 56, First and Second Paragraphs of the Law to Regulate Financial Technology Institutions  Viewed at: <a href="http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5610487&amp;fecha=28/01/2021">http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5610487&amp;fecha=28/01/2021</a>  <a href="https://www.banxico.org.mx/marco-normativo/normativa-emitida-por-el-banco-de-mexico/reqlas-conjuntas-instituciones-">https://www.banxico.org.mx/marco-normativo/normativa-emitida-por-el-banco-de-mexico/reqlas-conjuntas-instituciones-</a>	Effective 28 April 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
of no more than 5 seconds, including money transfers. The regulation also contains provisions on the use of cloud services by electronic payment fund institutions.			<a href="de-fondos-de-pago-e/%7BADF42F57-E748-2DBE-AAA2-1988AA7A29FE%7D.pdf">de-fondos-de-pago-e/%7BADF42F57-E748-2DBE-AAA2-1988AA7A29FE%7D.pdf</a>		
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>					
The Board of the Capital Market Authority issued a resolution to approve the amendments to the Investment Funds Regulations and Real Estate Investment Funds Regulations and the Glossary of Defined Terms Used in the Regulations and Rules of the Capital Market Authority.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Amended by the resolution of the Board of Capital Market Authority dated 24 February 2021.  Viewed at: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2865.aspx">https://cma.org.sa/en/Market/NEWS/Pages/CMA_N_2865.aspx</a>  <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/IFRs%20Regulations-%20Final%20English.pdf">https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/IFRs%20Regulations-%20Final%20English.pdf</a>  <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/REAL%20ESTATE%20I NVE%20FUND%20REG_.pdf">https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/REAL%20ESTATE%20I NVE%20FUND%20REG_.pdf</a>	Effective 1 May 2021 (except for amendments to the provisions specified in the announcement).	YES
The Board of the Capital Market Authority issued a resolution to approve the amendments to the Rules on the Offer of Securities and Continuing Obligations.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Amended by the resolution of the Board of the Capital Market Authority dated 14 January 2021.  Viewed at: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/OSRCI_en.pdf">https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/OSRCI_en.pdf</a>	Effective 28 January 2021 (except sub-paragraphs (2) and, (8/b-c) of paragraph (a) of Article 6, and Articles 8, 9 and 14 which will be effective 1 January 2022)	YES
The Board of the Capital Market Authority issued a resolution to approve the amendments to the Rules for Special Purposes Entities.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Amended by the resolution of the Board of the Capital Market Authority dated 14 January 2021. The regulation can be viewed at:  Viewed: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Market_Conduct_Regulations_En.pdf">https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Market_Conduct_Regulations_En.pdf</a>	Effective 28 January 2021	YES
The Board of the Capital Market Authority issued a resolution to approve the amended Market Conduct Regulations.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Amended by the resolution of the Board of the Capital Market Authority dated 25 January 2021. The regulation can be viewed	Effective 26 January 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
			at:  Viewed: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Market_Conduct_Regulations_En.pdf">https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Market_Conduct_Regulations_En.pdf</a>		
The Board of the Capital Market Authority issued a resolution to approve the amendment to Annex 1 (Proxy Form) of the Regulatory Rules and Procedures issued pursuant to the Companies Law relating to Listed Joint Stock Companies by deleting the official seal requirement, if the shareholder is a legal person.	Mode 3	Banking and other financial services	Amended by the resolution of the Board of the Capital Market Authority dated 18 November 2020. The Regulatory Rules can be viewed at:  Viewed: <a href="https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Regulatory-Rules-and-Procedures-issued-pursuant-to-the-Companies-Law.pdf">https://cma.org.sa/en/RulesRegulations/Regulations/Documents/Regulatory-Rules-and-Procedures-issued-pursuant-to-the-Companies-Law.pdf</a>	Effective 24 November 2020	YES
<b>Turkey</b>					
A new regulation makes it possible to perform identity verification transactions by an online video call without the need for the customer representative and the customer to be physically present in the same location. In addition, after identity verification was made remotely or through branches, it becomes possible to establish remote banking contracts.	Modes 1 and 3	Banking services	Regulation on Remote Identification Methods to be Used by Banks and Establishment of Contractual Relations in Electronic Environment  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2021/04/20210401-7.htm">https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2021/04/20210401-7.htm</a>	Effective: 1 May 2021	YES
<b>United Kingdom</b>					
The Prudential Regulation Authority of the Bank of England has published a policy statement and final supervisory statement (SS) on outsourcing and third-party risk management. The statement includes details on the obligations to be met to comply with banking supervisory rules on the outsourcing to payment providers including related data. Firms will be expected to comply by Thursday 31 March 2022.	Mode 3	Financial services	Outsourcing and Third Party Risk Management, Policy Statement PS7/21, which includes the final Supervisory Statement SS2/21 of the same title.  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/prudential-regulation/consultation-paper/2021/march/ps721.pdf?la=en&amp;hash=6C70BEE48B89D7965D43894DB848FC41CD5EC6C0">https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/prudential-regulation/consultation-paper/2021/march/ps721.pdf?la=en&amp;hash=6C70BEE48B89D7965D43894DB848FC41CD5EC6C0</a>	Published 29 March 2021	YES
The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published new measures, which set out the authority's	Mode 3	Financial services	Financial Conduct Authority Handbook	Issued February 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
approach to the authorization and supervision of international firms and the circumstances in which they may need to establish a UK subsidiary rather than a branch. The FCA indicates that relevant banks (and insurers), as dual-regulated firms, should consider the document as the authority will provide consent to any authorization applications that they submit to the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA).			Viewed at: <a href="https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/corporate/approach-to-international-firms.pdf">https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/corporate/approach-to-international-firms.pdf</a>		
The Cross-Border Payments Regulation (EC) No 924/2009 (CBPR, as amended by the Amending Regulation) was "on-shored" into UK law following the end of the Brexit transition period, with amendments. Only the new transparency requirements on currency conversion charges under Article 3a and Article 3b (as inserted by the Amending Regulation) are retained. This means that the equality of charges requirements are not part of the UK CBPR regime.	Modes 1 and 3	Financial services	UK Cross-Border Payments Regulation  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=ba2105fb-c321-4101-bd45-b1535ac4dd21">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=ba2105fb-c321-4101-bd45-b1535ac4dd21</a>	1 January 2021	YES
<b>United States</b>					
A new Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) rule will determine the cross-border application of certain of the CFTC's swaps regulations for swap dealers and major swap participants, including applicable registration thresholds. The rule extends the cross-border approach of the CFTC's 2016 cross-border rule relating to the application of margin requirements for uncleared swaps and harmonizes to a significant degree the CFTC's cross-border approach to swap dealer regulation with the Securities and Exchange Commission's cross-border approach to security-based swap dealer regulation.	Multiple modes	Financial services	Cross-Border Application of the Registration Thresholds and Certain Requirements Applicable to Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cftc.gov/sites/default/files/2020/09/2020-16489a.pdf?utm_source=govdelivery">https://www.cftc.gov/sites/default/files/2020/09/2020-16489a.pdf?utm_source=govdelivery</a>	Effective 13 November 2020	YES
<b>TOURISM AND TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES</b>					
<b>Russian Federation</b>					
Guides and guide-interpreters must be citizens	Modes 3	Tourism and travel	Federal law No. 93-FZ "On Amending the	Adopted 20 April 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
of the Russian Federation unless stipulated otherwise under international agreements.	and 4	related services	Federal Law "On the Fundamentals of Tourist Activities in the Russian Federation" as Part of Legal Regulation of Activities of Guides, Guide-interpreters and Instructors-guides"  Source: Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (3 May 2021)	Effective 1 July 2022	
<b>TRANSPORT SERVICES</b>					
<b>Brazil</b>					
The new Decree provides for the public calls regarding the use of port facilities in organized ports and introduces temporary use contracts.  The procedures for public calls related to the lease of port facilities within the polygonal of the organized port were amended and it is possible to dismiss bids if the existence of a single interested party in the area's use is verified. Port concession now have a term of up to 70 years, including the original concession and its extensions. Leasing of port facilities is possible up to 35 years, extendable up to a limit of 70.  The temporary use contract was also provided for interested parties in cargo handling, with an unconsolidated market for the temporary use of port areas and facilities located in the polygonal of the organized port, with dismissal of prior bidding.	Mode 3	Maritime transport services	Decree 10,672 amending Decree 8,033/2013, regulating Law 12,815/2013 (Ports Law)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.mayerbrown.com/en/perspectives-events/publications/2021/04/regulatory-decree-of-brazils-ports-law-changed">https://www.mayerbrown.com/en/perspectives-events/publications/2021/04/regulatory-decree-of-brazils-ports-law-changed</a>	Published 12 April 2021	YES
<b>Indonesia</b>					
The Omnibus Law revises 60 articles in Law No. 17 of 2008 regarding Shipping. The main changes concern easing the licensing process in the shipping sector and allowing the use of foreign vessels for certain activities in Indonesian waters. The Omnibus Law adds a provision to the Shipping Law, stating that if Indonesian-flagged vessels are unavailable, foreign-flagged vessels may be used to conduct special activities in Indonesian waters other than carrying passengers and/or goods. A	Modes 1 and 3	Maritime transport	Law No. 11 of 2020 regarding Job Creation (the "Omnibus Law")  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=94b928d3-4f9a-412a-9e50-3ff8923f73d4&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexol">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=94b928d3-4f9a-412a-9e50-3ff8923f73d4&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexol</a>	Enacted: 2 November 2020	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
significant portion of the changes to the Shipping Law involve centralizing licensing and certification authority with the Central Government.			<a href="#">ogy+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-14&amp;utm_term=</a>		
<b>Turkey</b>					
<p>A new regulation lays out the legal framework for the shared electric scooter ("e-scooters") business. Operations are subject to a two-tiered licensing procedure: (1) businesses authorization certificate from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; (2) shared e-scooter permit for e-scooters that will be used to be issued by the Transportation Coordination Center in metropolitan municipalities and Provincial traffic commissions in municipalities.</p> <p>Each authorization certificate holder will be able to obtain shared e-scooter permits amounting up to one fifth of the maximum permissible shared e-scooter permits (up to 1/200 of the population, subject to certain exceptions) in a given district. The administration may impose conditions on prices. At least 30% of the e-scooter fleet must be manufactured domestically to comply with domestic content principles.</p>	Mode 3	Transport services	<p>Electric Scooters Regulation</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://herguner.av.tr/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/64.pdf">https://herguner.av.tr/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/64.pdf</a></p>	Published 14 April 2021	YES
<b>ENERGY SERVICES</b>					
<b>Indonesia</b>					
The Law No. 22 of 2001 on Oil and Gas was amended by the Omnibus Law. Companies involved in upstream oil and gas business activities are now required to obtain a business licence from the Central Government. The Omnibus Law removes the multiple business licensing requirement for downstream oil and gas business activities (processing, transportation, storage and/or trading) under the Oil and Gas Law. Rather, it designates a single integrated Business License that is applicable for all of the foregoing business activities. This business licence will be processed through an online system managed by the	Mode 3	Energy-related services	<p>Law No. 11 of 2020 regarding Job Creation (the "Omnibus Law")</p> <p>Viewed at:  <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=94b928d3-4f9a-412a-9e50-3ff8923f73d4&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-14&amp;utm_term=">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=94b928d3-4f9a-412a-9e50-3ff8923f73d4&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-14&amp;utm_term=</a></p>	Enacted 2 November 2020	

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
Central Government. As a follow-up to the Omnibus Law, the Government of Indonesia issued Government Regulation No. 25 of 2021 regarding the Administration of the Energy and Mineral Resources Sector, which regulates not only the power sector, but also the mineral resources and geothermal sectors. The regulation stipulates the following business licences: (a) power supply for the public interest business licence; (b) power supply for own interest business license; (c) business licence for power supporting services.  Foreign representative offices (FROs) may only engage in the following power supporting services: (i) consultancy installation; (ii) construction and installation; and (iii) maintenance. FROs can only perform high-cost supporting services work (equal or exceeding the required minimum values). They are subject to certain requirements and obligations: - joint operation with local power supporting services entity that 100% locally owned, and in the form of a limited liability company; - employ at least 50% of Indonesians; - appoint Indonesian as head; - prioritize local products; and - qualification equivalent to Indonesian standards.	Mode 3	Consultancy, construction and maintenance of power installation	Government Regulation No. 25 of 2021 regarding the Administration of the Energy and Mineral Resources Sector  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=ca91f194-6924-4458-bfe1-89057e3c94a7&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-16&amp;utm_term=">https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=ca91f194-6924-4458-bfe1-89057e3c94a7&amp;utm_source=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed&amp;utm_medium=HTML+email+-+Body+-+General+section&amp;utm_campaign=Lexology+subscriber+daily+feed&amp;utm_content=Lexology+Daily+Newsfeed+2021-04-16&amp;utm_term=</a>	Effective 2 February 2021	
<b>SERVICES SUPPLIED THROUGH THE MOVEMENT OF NATURAL PERSONS</b>					
<b>Indonesia</b>					
A new regulation following the enactment of Law No. 11 of 2020 regarding Job Creation, introduces several changes that aim to simplify the process for hiring expatriate workers in Indonesia.	Mode 4	All sectors	Government Regulation No. 34/2021  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/indonesias-omnibus-law-new-regulation-to-ease-the-hiring-of-foreign-workers/">https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/indonesias-omnibus-law-new-regulation-to-ease-the-hiring-of-foreign-workers/</a>	Effective 2 February 2021	YES
<b>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of</b>					
The Saudi Arabian government has introduced a	Mode 4	All sectors	Viewed at:	Effective April 2021	YES

Measure	Mode(s) of supply	Sectoral classification	Source	Date	Verified by Member
<p>new short-term work visa, called the Temporary Work Visit Visa (TWVV). It provides foreign nationals with a multiple-entry visa valid for one year and allows them to work in the Kingdom for up to 6 months in that one-year period. Employers must comply with a number of conditions to qualify for the new visa quota.</p>			<p><a href="https://www.balglobal.com/bal-news/saudi-arabia-new-short-term-work-visa-valid-for-up-to-90-days-in-a-1-year-period/">https://www.balglobal.com/bal-news/saudi-arabia-new-short-term-work-visa-valid-for-up-to-90-days-in-a-1-year-period/</a></p>		

## ANNEX 5 - COVID-19 TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED MEASURES (GOODS)<sup>1</sup>

(MID-OCTOBER 2020 TO MID-MAY 2021)<sup>2</sup>

### Confirmed information<sup>3</sup>

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
Argentina	On 29 November 2020, termination of the temporary suspension of certain customs processing deadlines ( <i>plazos operativos</i> ) and procedures, during the validity of the provisions of Decree No. 298/2020 and its amending regulations (suspension of administrative deadlines) (originally implemented on 30 May 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (18 May 2021)	
Argentina	Temporary elimination of export duties ( <i>derechos de exportación</i> ) on raw hides and skins, leather and furskins, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Decreto No. 812/2020 (DCTO-2020-812-APN-PTE- Derecho de exportación) - Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (19 October 2020)	Effective 21 October 2020, to 31 December 2020
Argentina	Temporary elimination of export licensing requirement on certain pharmaceutical products, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Decreto 243/2021 - Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (18 April 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/243125/20210419">https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/243125/20210419</a>	Effective 19 April 2021, and in force throughout the COVID-19 emergency period
Argentina	Temporary elimination of export licensing requirement on oxygen and containers for compressed or liquified gas, of iron or steel, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Decreto 286/2021 - Nomenclatura Común del Mercosur (29 April 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/243780/20210430">https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/243780/20210430</a>	Effective 29 April 2021, and in force throughout the COVID-19 emergency period
Australia	On 11 December 2020 termination of the temporary restrictions on the non-commercial export of personal protective equipment and sanitizer products, essential to combatting the COVID-19 pandemic (originally implemented on 30 March 2020)	WTO document G/MA/QR/N/AUS/4/Add.3, 18 December 2020	

<sup>1</sup> This table has been compiled by the WTO Secretariat and is an informal situation report and an attempt to provide transparency with respect to measures affecting trade in goods taken in the context of the COVID-19 crisis. It does not pass judgement on or questions the right of WTO members to take such actions. The Secretariat has not sought to determine and indicate whether the measures listed in the table have trade-restrictive or trade-facilitating effects. The information in this table is not exhaustive and does not include information on general support measures. The measures listed in this table provide a situation report up to 15 May 2020. A consistent feature of the trade and trade-related measures taken in response to the COVID-19 crisis has been the frequent changes, adjustments and occasional roll-back of such measures to reflect the evolving situation. The updated lists of measures implemented in the context of the current pandemic are available on the COVID-19 page of the WTO website: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/trade\\_related\\_goods\\_measure\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/trade_related_goods_measure_e.htm).

<sup>2</sup> The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

<sup>3</sup> This Section includes information that either has been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
Australia	Further extension of the temporary tariff concession measure to facilitate the importation of certain goods (face masks, gloves, gowns/clothes, disinfectant preparations (excluding hand sanitizers), soaps, COVID-19 test kits and reagents, and viral transport media) required to manage the crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic (originally implemented on 1 February 2020)	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (26 May 2021); and WTO document G/MA/W/165, 18 December 2020	On 31 December 2020 extended through to 30 June 2021
Brazil	Further extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain personal protective equipment, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Resolução Ministério da Economia/Secretaria-Executiva da Câmara de Comércio Exterior Nos 144 (6 January 2021), 146 (15 January 2021), 162 (22 February 2021), 182 (29 March 2021)	Extended in December until 30 June 2021
Brazil	Further extension of the temporary suspension of the anti-dumping duties on vacuum plastic tubes for blood collection imported from Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States; and on and syringes imported from China, due to the COVID-19 pandemic (originally implemented on 26 March 2020)	Resolução No. 23/2020, Ministério da Economia/Secretaria-Executiva da Câmara de Comércio Exterior (25 March 2020); Gecex Resolution Nos. 145 (6 January 2021) and 147 (15 January 2021)	On 7 January 2021, extension of the suspension on syringes until 30 June 2021. On 16 January 2021, extension of the suspension on vacuum plastic tubes until 30 June 2021
Brazil	Special export licence for products essential in combatting COVID-19 (e.g. syringes and syringe needles)	WTO document G/MA/QR/N/BRA/2/Add.2, 1 February 2021	Effective 1 January 2021
Brazil	Elimination of prohibitions and certain licensing procedure requirements on imports of used goods related to actions under a Public Health Emergency of National Concern, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Secex Portaria No. 79 (11 February 2021)	Effective 12 February 2021
Brazil	Export license requirement for certain products used to prevent and fight COVID-19 (e.g. oxygen and vaccines for human medicines)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 April 2021) and Notícia Siscomex Exportação No. 09/2021 (5 February 2021)	Effective 6 February 2021
Canada	Conditional prohibition of the export of certain pharmaceuticals. Interim Order Respecting Drug Shortages (Safeguarding the Drug Supply). The Interim Order does not prohibit exports but provides the Minister of Health the authority to do so if a sale could cause or exacerbate a critical drug shortage	WTO document G/MA/QR/N/CAN/4/Add.1, 17 December 2020	Effective 26 November 2020
European Union <sup>a</sup>	Amending Directive 2006/112/EC as regards temporary measures in relation to value added tax applicable to COVID-19 vaccines and in vitro diagnostic medical devices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Members States may take one of the following measures: (i) apply a reduced rate to the supply of COVID-19 in vitro diagnostic medical devices and services closely linked to those devices; (ii) grant an exemption with deductibility of VAT paid at the preceding stage in respect of the supply of COVID-19 in vitro diagnostic medical devices and services closely linked to those devices. Member States may grant an exemption with deductibility of VAT paid at the preceding stage in respect of the supply of COVID-19 vaccines and services closely linked to those vaccines. Only COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the	European Commission Council Directive 2020/2020 (7 December 2020)	Effective 11 December 2020 to 31 December 2022

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
	Commission or by member States shall be eligible for the exemption		
European Union	Export authorization of vaccines against SARS-related coronaviruses (SARS-CoV species) irrespective of their packaging. Authorisations are granted to the extent that the volume of exports is such that it does not pose a threat to the execution of Advanced Purchase Agreements that the Union has concluded with vaccines manufacturers. Exemptions from measures are listed in Article 1.5 of the regulation and include exports to Republic of Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Faeroe Islands, the Republic of Iceland, Kosovo <sup>b</sup> , the Principality of Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of North Macedonia, the Republic of San Marino, Serbia, the Swiss confederation, Vatican City State, the overseas countries, territories listed in Annex II of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union, and exports to Büsingen, Helgoland, Livigno, Ceuta and Melilla, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine <sup>c</sup> , Syria, Tunisia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Israel, Moldova and Ukraine, exports in the context of humanitarian aid, exports to low- and middle-income countries in the COVAX AMC list <sup>d</sup> , as well as exports of goods purchased and/or delivered through COVAX, UNICEF and PAHO with destination to any other COVAX participating country	Public information transmitted by the EU Delegation. Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/111 (29 January 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0111&amp;from=EN">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0111&amp;from=EN</a> . WTO document G/MA/QR/N/EU/5/Add.1, 5 February 2021	Effective 30 January 2021 to 12 March 2021. Measure expired
European Union	Export authorization shall be required for the export of vaccines against SARS-related coronaviruses (SARS-CoV species), irrespective of their packaging as well as for export of active substances, including master and working cell banks used for the manufacture of such vaccines. Authorizations are granted to the extent that the volume of exports is such that it does not pose a threat to the execution of Advance Purchase Agreements that the European Union has concluded with vaccine manufacturers. Exemptions from measures are listed in Article 1.9 of the regulation and include exports to the Republic of Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Faeroe Islands, the Republic of Iceland, Kosovo <sup>b</sup> , the Principality of Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of North Macedonia, the Republic of San Marino, Serbia, the Swiss confederation, Vatican City State, the overseas countries, territories listed in Annex II of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union, and exports to Büsingen, Helgoland, Livigno, Ceuta and Melilla, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine <sup>c</sup> , Syria, Tunisia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Israel, Moldova and Ukraine, exports in the context of humanitarian aid, exports to low- and middle-income countries in the COVAX AMC list <sup>d</sup> , as well as exports of goods purchased and/or delivered through COVAX, UNICEF and PAHO with destination to any other COVAX participating country.	Public information transmitted by the EU Delegation. Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/442 (12 March 2021). Viewed at: <a href="http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2021/442/oj">http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2021/442/oj</a> . WTO document G/MA/QR/N/EU/5/Add.2, 18 March 2021	Effective 13 March 2021 to 30 June 2021

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
European Union	<p>The measure introduces changes to the existing mechanism imposed by Regulation 2021/442 (12 March 2021). Export authorisation shall be required for the export of vaccines against SARS-related coronaviruses (SARS-CoV species) currently falling under CN codes 3002.20.10; ex 2933.99.80; ex 2934.99.90; ex 3002. 90.90; ex 3504.00.90<sup>e</sup>, irrespective of their packaging as well as for export of active substances, including master and working cell banks used for the manufacture of such vaccines, currently falling under CN codes ex 2933.99.80; ex 2934.99.90; ex 3002.90.90; ex 3504.00.90<sup>e</sup>. Authorisations are granted to the extent that the volume of exports is such that it does not pose a threat to the execution of Advance Purchase Agreements that the European Union has concluded with vaccines manufacturers. Authorisations are granted where exports do not pose a threat to the security of supply within the European Union. In order to determine whether the condition above is fulfilled, the competent authorities shall assess the following factors: 1) does the destination country restrict its own exports of vaccines or their raw materials, either by law or other means?; and 2) are the conditions prevailing in the destination country better or worse than the European Union's, in particular its epidemiological situation, its vaccination rate and its access to vaccines. Exemptions from measures are listed in Article 1.9 (b), 1.9 (c), 1.9 (d), 1.9 (e), and 1.9 (f) of the Regulation (EU) 2021/442 as well as in Article 1 of the Regulation (EU) 2021/521. They include exports in the context of humanitarian aid, exports to low and middle income countries in the COVAX AMC list<sup>d</sup>, as well as exports of goods purchased and/or delivered through COVAX, UNICEF and PAHO with destination to any other COVAX participating country</p>	<p>Public information transmitted by the EU Delegation. Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/521 (24 March 2021). Extended by Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/734 (5 May 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0521&amp;from=EN">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0521&amp;from=EN</a> and <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0734&amp;from=EN">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0734&amp;from=EN</a>. WTO documents G/MA/QR/N/EU/5/Add.3, 31 March 2021; and G/MA/QR/N/EU/5/Add.4, 11 May 2021</p>	<p>Effective 26 March 2021 for a period of 6 weeks, until 6 May 2021. Extended from 7 May 2021 until 30 June 2021 (Exemptions reintroduced for Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway)</p>
India	<p>Amendments in Export Policy of Nitrile/NBR Gloves, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The export policy of Nitrile/NBR Gloves is revised from "Prohibited" to "Restricted"</p>	<p>Notification No. 42/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (22 October 2020)</p>	<p>Effective 22 October 2020</p>
India	<p>Amendments in Export Policy of Medical Googles, and Nitrile/NBR Gloves, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The export policy of Medical Googles and Nitrile/NBR Gloves is revised from "Restricted" to "Free"</p>	<p>Notification No. 47/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (22 December 2020)</p>	<p>Effective 22 December 2020</p>
India	<p>Procedure and criteria for submission and approval of application for exports of diagnostic kits and their components/laboratory reagents. Export quota for the following types of diagnostic kits fixed for the period December 2020 to February 2021: VTM kits or its component elements (660 Lakh); RNA extraction kits or its component elements (400 Lakh); and RT-PCR kit (COVID/Non COVID) or its component elements (280 Lakh)</p>	<p>Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Export Cell - Trade Notice Nos. 39/2020-21 (19 January 2021) and 45/2020-21 (2 March 2021)</p>	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
India	The export of Injection Remdesivir and Remdesivir Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) falling under the ITCES Codes 2934.99 and 3004.90, or falling under any other HS Codes has been prohibited	Notification No. 1/2015-2020, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (11 April 2021)	Effective 11 April 2021
India	Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 10%) on: (i) Remdesivir Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API); (ii) on Beta Cyclodextrin (SBEBDCD) used in manufacture of Remdesivir, subject to the condition that the importer follows the procedure set out in the Customs (Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty) Rules, 2017; and (iii) on injection Remdesivir, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Notification No. 27/2021-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (20 April 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs27-2021.pdf">https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs27-2021.pdf</a>	Effective until 31 October 2021
India	Operationalization of DGFT "COVID-19 Helpdesk" for International Trade-related Issues. The Department of Commerce have undertaken to monitor the status of export and imports and difficulties being faced by trade stakeholders in view of the surge of COVID-19 cases. DGFT has accordingly operationalized a "COVID-19 Helpdesk" to support and seek suitable resolutions to issues arising in respect of International Trade. It would look into issues relating to Department of Commerce/DGFT, Import and Export Licensing Issues, Customs clearance delays and complexities arising thereon, Import/Export documentation issues, Banking matters. The Helpdesk would also collect and collate trade-related issues concerning other Ministries/Departments/Agencies of Central Government and State Governments and will coordinate to seek their support and provide possible resolution(s)	Trade Notice No. 02/2021-22, Ministry of Commerce and Industry - Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (26 April 2021)	
India	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain goods to fight COVID-19, e.g. COVID-19 vaccines, oxygen concentrator, medical oxygen, oxygen canisters, oxygen filling systems, oxygen storage tanks, oxygen generator, ISO containers for shipping oxygen, oxygen cylinders including cryogenic cylinders and tanks, ventilators	Notification No. 28/2021-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (24 April 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs28-2021.pdf">https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs28-2021.pdf</a>	Effective 24 April 2021
India	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on inflammatory diagnostic (marker) kits, namely- IL6, D-Dimer, CRP (C-Reactive Protein), LDH (Lactate De-Hydrogenase), ferritin, Pro Calcitonin (PCT) and blood gas reagents, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Notification No. 29/2021-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (30 April 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs29-2021.pdf">https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs29-2021.pdf</a>	Effective 30 April 2021
India	Temporary reduction of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax "IGST" on oxygen concentrator, imported for personal use, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Notification No. 30/2021-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (1 May 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs30-2021.pdf">https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs30-2021.pdf</a>	Effective 1 May 2021 to 30 June 2021
India	Temporary exemption of goods specified in notification Nos. 27/2021-	<i>Ad hoc</i> Exemption Order No. 4/2021-Customs,	Effective 3 May 2021 to 30

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
	Customs and 28/2021-Customs, from Integrated Good and Services Taxes "IGST" levied thereon at the time of import subject to conditions as follows: (i) when such goods are imported into India free of cost for the purpose of COVID Relief by a state government, or any entity, relief agency, or statutory body empowered in this regard by any state government; (ii) said goods are received from abroad for free distribution in India for the purpose of COVID relief; and (iii) follows the procedure prescribed in the notification	Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (3 May 2021). Viewed at: <a href="https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/AdHoccs04-2021.pdf">https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/AdHoccs04-2021.pdf</a>	June 2021
Indonesia	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on vaccines essential in combatting COVID-19, raw materials used in the production of the vaccine, and equipment necessary for its production and handling. Imports also exempted from other taxes	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (3 May 2021) and Regulation No. 188/PMK 04/2020 - Ministry of Finance	Effective 26 November 2020
Indonesia	Extension of the exemption from VAT and income taxes on imports of certain medical and pharmaceutical products	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (3 May 2021) and Regulation No. 239/2020 - Ministry of Finance	Effective 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021
Japan	Elimination of import tariffs on gloves, of polymers of vinyl chloride, of a thickness of less than 0.2 mm	Permanent Delegation of Japan to the WTO (25 May 2021)	Effective 1 April 2021
Korea, Rep. of	On 23 October 2020 termination of the temporary quantitative restriction on the exportation of surgical and anti-droplet masks, filtering respirators, and melt blown filters	WTO document G/MA/QR/N/KOR/3/Add.1, 6 November 2020	
Mexico	Creation of three new tariff lines, resulting in the elimination of import tariffs on vaccines essential in combatting COVID-19 and aluminium containers for oxygen	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (28 May 2021) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 22 February 2021	Effective 23 February 2021, and in force throughout the COVID-19 emergency period
South Africa	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on vaccines essential in combatting COVID-19. Imports also exempted from VAT	International Trade Administration Commission, Notice No. 88, Government Gazette No. 44152 (12 February 2021), and, Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, Notice No. 34/2021 (28 January 2021)	Effective 12 February 2021 and in force throughout the COVID-19 emergency period
Turkey	Temporary export authorization for certain personal protective equipment (PPE), due to the COVID-19 pandemic	WTO document G/MA/QR/N/TUR/2/Add.1, 9 April 2021	Effective 4 March 2021
Turkey	Temporary export registration for meltblown fabric, due to the COVID-19 pandemic	WTO document G/MA/QR/N/TUR/2/Add.1, 9 April 2021	Effective 18 March 2021
United Kingdom	On 31 December 2020 expiration of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain medical supplies, equipment and protective garments, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Imports also exempted from VAT (originally implemented on 27 March 2020)	United Kingdom Mission to Geneva (27 April 2021); GOV.UK: business and industry, trade and investment, customs declarations, duties and tariffs (import and export)	
United Kingdom	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain medical items which are critical in the response to COVID-19. All products listed by the World Health Organization in June 2020 as COVID-19 critical are able to enter the UK tariff free	United Kingdom Mission to Geneva (27 April 2021)	Effective 1 January 2021, for 12 months

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
United States	Further Extension and Modification of FEMA temporary rule allocating certain scarce or threatened materials for domestic use (originally implemented from 7 April 2020 to 30 June 2021 - unless sooner modified or terminated)	Permanent Delegation of the United States to the WTO (26 May 2021) and WTO document G/MA/QR/N/USA/5/Add.1, 1 February 2021	Modifications 31 December 2020

- a The United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union as of 1 February 2020. During the transition period, which ends on 31 December 2020, European Union law, with a few limited exceptions, continues to be applicable to and in the United Kingdom. During the transition period, the information provided by the European Union which is relevant to this document continues to cover the United Kingdom.
- b This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
- c This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the EU member States on this issue.
- d Please refer to <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/92-low-middle-income-economies-eligible-access-covid-19-vaccines-gavi-covax-amc>.
- e The scope of products covered by this measure is exactly the same as for the regulation 2021/111. For more clarity, regulation 2021/442 provides the relevant CN codes for active substances, which was not the case in the regulation 2021/111.
- Note: For detailed information about HS codes, refer to the *WTO, COVID-19 and World Trade*: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/trade\\_related\\_goods\\_measure\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/trade_related_goods_measure_e.htm).

Source: WTO Secretariat.

## ANNEX 6 – COVID-19 TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED MEASURES (SERVICES)<sup>1</sup>

Member	Sector	Measure	Source	Date	Verified by Member
Indonesia	All sectors	The Indonesian government has launched an e-visa to streamline the visa application process and remove the need to wait in border queues to obtain a visa on arrival. The e-visa is first being made available to business travellers from selected countries who have a Travel Corridor agreement with the Indonesian government, as well as investors, skilled workers, and civil servants.	Indonesian e-Visa  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.onlinevisa.com/indonesia-visa/">https://www.onlinevisa.com/indonesia-visa/</a>	Effective October 2020	
Indonesia	Financial services	The Indonesian Financial Services Authority had previously introduced a countercyclical policy under OJK Regulation No. 14/POJK.05/2020 on Countercyclical Policy in relation to the Impact of COVID-19 for Non-Bank Financial Institutions (POJK 14/2020) that came into force on 17 April 2020. That policy was valid until 31 December 2020. On 29 December 2020, the OJK issued an amendment to the above regulation OJK. The stimulus is thereby extended to non-bank financial service institutions including insurance and reinsurance companies, pension funds, financing companies (e.g. leasing and multi-finance companies) and other financial services institutions (such as pawnshop companies), and their debtors.	Financial Services Authority (OJK) Regulation No. 58/POJK.05/2020 on Amendment to OJK Regulation No. 14/POJK.05/2020 on Countercyclical Policy in relation to the Impact of COVID-19 for Non-Bank Financial Institutions (POJK 58/2020)  Viewed at: <a href="https://www.ojk.go.id/id/regulasi/Pages/Perubahan-Atas-Peraturan-Otoritas-Jasa-Keuangan-Nomor-14-tentang-Kebijakan-Countercyclical-Dampak-Penyebaran-.aspx">https://www.ojk.go.id/id/regulasi/Pages/Perubahan-Atas-Peraturan-Otoritas-Jasa-Keuangan-Nomor-14-tentang-Kebijakan-Countercyclical-Dampak-Penyebaran-.aspx</a>  <a href="https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/id/Documents/audit/id-aud-ojk-banking-regulations-jan2021.pdf">https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/id/Documents/audit/id-aud-ojk-banking-regulations-jan2021.pdf</a>	Issued 29 December 2020	
Japan	Financial services	In response to the spread of COVID-19, the relevant authorities have taken measures, including: (i) Minister of State for Financial Services issued a statement on maintaining the functions of the financial system and financial markets under the Declaration of a State of Emergency Responding to the Spread of the COVID-19 Infection on 7 January 2021 (ii) The Financial Services Agency (FSA) made requests to financial institutions to take prompt and flexible measures related to cash flow	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/ordinary/coronavirus202001/press.html">https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/ordinary/coronavirus202001/press.html</a>	October 2020 – April 2021	YES

<sup>1</sup> This table has been compiled by the WTO Secretariat and is an informal situation report and an attempt to provide transparency with respect to measures affecting trade in services taken in the context of the COVID-19 crisis. It does not pass judgement on or questions the right of WTO members to take such actions. The Secretariat has not sought to determine and indicate whether the measures listed in the table have trade-restrictive or trade-facilitating effects. The information in this table is not exhaustive and does not include information on general support measures relating to services. Further, the objective of this table is not to list all COVID-19-related measures taken by governments around the world to limit movement, nor all the measures taken to ease the impact of border restrictions or other limits on movement. The measures listed in this table provide a situation report up to 15 May 2020. A consistent feature of the trade and trade-related measures taken in response to the COVID-19 crisis has been the frequent changes, adjustments and occasional roll-back of such measures to reflect the evolving situation. The updated lists of measures implemented in the context of the current pandemic are available on the COVID-19 page of the WTO website: [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/covid19\\_e.htm#measures](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid19_e.htm#measures).

Member	Sector	Measure	Source	Date	Verified by Member
		support for companies and individuals in consideration of COVID-19 spreads by publishing notices on 19 January 2021; (iii) The FSA put forth the conditions for the extension of deadline for submitting annual securities and other reports in connection with the COVID-19 infection due to unavoidable reasons on 8 January 2021; and (iv) The FSA established the Networking Group on the corporate disclosure, financial reporting and audit of listed companies in consideration of the impact of the COVID-19 Infection on 3 April 2020, under which some meetings have been held since then.			
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	Air transport services	In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, a measure was introduced to allow the extension of the validity of licenses, attestations, and certificates for aircrew, trainers, examiners and flight dispatchers, in accordance with terms and conditions that ensure safety levels.	Viewed at: <a href="https://gaca.gov.sa/scs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&amp;blobheader=application%2Fpdf&amp;blobheadername1=Content-Disposition&amp;blobheadervalue1=inline&amp;blobkey=id&amp;blobtable=MungoBlobs&amp;blobwhere=1442854983908&amp;ssbinary=true">https://gaca.gov.sa/scs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&amp;blobheader=application%2Fpdf&amp;blobheadername1=Content-Disposition&amp;blobheadervalue1=inline&amp;blobkey=id&amp;blobtable=MungoBlobs&amp;blobwhere=1442854983908&amp;ssbinary=true</a>	31 March 2021  Valid until 30 June 2021	YES
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	Air transport services	Airlines are exempted from the compensation obligations in the Customer Protection Rights Regulation based on Force Majeure (as per Article 16). Airlines must continue to provide the appropriate care and assistance services.	Source: Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the WTO	20 December 2020  Valid for 2 weeks	YES
United Kingdom	Financial services	The Bank of England and the Prudential Regulatory Authority (PRA) have announced a range of measures to give firms more operational flexibility to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. guidance on submitting the 2021's annual submissions and other types of regulatory reporting, the benchmarking exercise relating to capital internal models, or reporting and disclosure of exposures subject to measures applied in response to the COVID-19 outbreak).	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/coronavirus/information-for-firms">https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/coronavirus/information-for-firms</a>	October 2020 - April 2021	YES
United Kingdom	Transport services	A number of measures relating to drivers and seafarers were published, in particular to avoid disruptions in the supply chain (driver hours relaxation reintroduced from 23 December 2020 until 31 March 2021; drivers hours and tachographs temporary exemptions effective on 22 January 2021; temporary relaxation of medical fitness certificates for merchant seafarers and ML5 medical certificate holders).	Viewed at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-drivers-hours-relaxations/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-drivers-hours-relaxations">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-drivers-hours-relaxations/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-drivers-hours-relaxations</a> <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/58/made/data.xht?view=snippet&amp;wrap=true">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/58/made/data.xht?view=snippet&amp;wrap=true</a> <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/967565/Medical_policy_during_COVID19_pandemic_for_Merchant_Seafarers_and_Fishermen_V3.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/967565/Medical_policy_during_COVID19_pandemic_for_Merchant_Seafarers_and_Fishermen_V3.pdf</a>	December 2020 - March 2021	YES