

# WTO Chairpersons (as of 31 December 2016)

## Chairpersons of the General Council and bodies reporting to it

General Council	Ambassador Harald Neple (Norway)
Dispute Settlement Body	Ambassador Xavier Carim (South Africa)
Trade Policy Review Body	Ms Irene B. K. Young (Hong Kong, China)
Council for Trade in Goods	Ambassador Hamish McCormick (Australia)
Council for Trade in Services	Ambassador Gustavo Vanerio (Uruguay)
Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights	Mr Modest Jonathan Mero (Tanzania)
Committee on Trade and Environment	Ambassador Héctor Casanueva (Chile)
Committee on Trade and Development	Ambassador Christopher Onyanga Aparr (Uganda)
Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions	Ambassador Shameem Ahsan (Bangladesh)
Committee on Regional Trade Agreements	Ambassador Daniel Blockert (Sweden)
Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration	Ambassador Inga Ernstsone (Latvia)
Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology	Ambassador Luis Enrique Chávez Basagoitia (Peru)
Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance	Ambassador Atanas Atanassov Paparizov (Bulgaria)
Trade Negotiations Committee	Director-General Roberto Azevêdo (WTO)
Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation	Ambassador Mariam Md. Salleh (Malaysia)

## Chairpersons of bodies established under the Trade Negotiations Committee

Negotiating Group on Market Access	Ambassador Didier Chambovey (Switzerland)
Negotiating Group on Rules	Ambassador Wayne McCook (Jamaica)
Special Session of the Council for Trade in Services	Ambassador Marcelo Cima (Argentina)
Special Session of the Council for TRIPS	Ambassador Dacio Castillo (Honduras)
Special Session of the Dispute Settlement Body	Ambassador Stephen Karau (Kenya)
Special Session of the Committee on Agriculture	Ambassador Vangelis Vitalis (New Zealand)
Sub-Committee on Cotton	Ambassador Vangelis Vitalis (New Zealand)
Special Session of the Committee on Trade and Environment	Ambassador Syed Tauqir Shah (Pakistan)
Special Session of the Committee on Trade and Development	Ambassador Yee Woan Tan (Singapore)

## Chairpersons of subsidiary bodies of the Council for Trade in Goods

Committee on Agriculture	Mr. Garth Ehrhardt (Canada)
Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices	Mr. Peira Shannon (Australia)
Committee on Customs Valuation	Dr Yasser Korani (Egypt)
Committee on Import Licensing	Mr Tapio Pyysalo (Finland)
Committee on Market Access	Ms. Hanna Olsen Bodsberg (Norway)
Committee on Rules of Origin	Mr. Chih-Tung Chang (Chinese Taipei)
Committee on Safeguards	Mr. Yusong Chen (China)
Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	Ms Marcela Otero (Chile)
Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	Mr Jin-dong Kim (Republic of Korea)
Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade	Ms Esther Peh (Singapore)
Committee on Trade-Related Investment Measures	Ms Marine Willemetz (Switzerland)
Working Party on State Trading Enterprises	Ms Yeili Danelly Rangel Peñaranda (Colombia)
Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products	Ms Zsafia Tvarusko (Hungary)

## Chairpersons of subsidiary bodies of the Council for Trade in Services

Committee on Trade in Financial Services	Ms. Junko Ueno (Japan)
Working Party on Domestic Regulation	Ms Katarzyna Stecz (Poland)
Committee on Specific Commitments	Mr Han Changtian (China)
Working Party on GATS Rules	Mr. Gustavo Héctor Mendez (Argentina)

## Chairpersons of Committees of Plurilateral Agreements

Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr Hsiao-Yin Wu (Chinese Taipei)
Committee on Government Procurement	Mr John Newham (Ireland)

## Membership of the WTO: 164 members (as of 31 December 2016)

Member <sup>1</sup>	Year of accession	Member <sup>1</sup>	Year of accession	Member <sup>1</sup>	Year of accession
Afghanistan	2016	Israel	1995	Suriname	1995
Albania	2000	Italy	1995	Swaziland	1995
Angola	1996	Jamaica	1995	Sweden	1995
Antigua and Barbuda	1995	Japan	1995	Switzerland	1995
Argentina	1995	Jordan	2000	Chinese Taipei	2002
Armenia	2003	Kazakhstan	2015	Tajikistan	2013
Australia	1995	Kenya	1995	Tanzania	1995
Austria	1995	Korea, Republic of	1995	Thailand	1995
Bahrain, Kingdom of	1995	Kuwait, the State of	1995	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2003
Bangladesh	1995	Kyrgyz Republic	1998	Togo	1995
Barbados	1995	Latvia	1999	Tonga	2007
Belgium	1995	Lao People's Democratic Republic	2013	Trinidad and Tobago	1995
Belize	1995	Lesotho	1995	Tunisia	1995
Benin	1996	Liberia	2016	Turkey	1995
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	1995	Liechtenstein	1995	Uganda	1995
Botswana	1995	Lithuania	2001	Ukraine	2008
Brazil	1995	Luxembourg	1995	United Arab Emirates	1996
Brunei Darussalam	1995	Macao, China	1995	United Kingdom	1995
Bulgaria	1996	Madagascar	1995	United States of America	1995
Burkina Faso	1995	Malawi	1995	Uruguay	1995
Burundi	1995	Malaysia	1995	Vanuatu	2012
Cambodia	2004	Maldives	1995	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	1995
Cameroon	1995	Mali	1995	Viet Nam	2007
Canada	1995	Malta	1995	Yemen	2014
Cabo Verde	2008	Mauritania	1995	Zambia	1995
Central African Republic	1995	Mauritius	1995	Zimbabwe	1995
Chad	1996	Mexico	1995		
Chile	1995	Moldova, Republic of	2001		
China	2001	Mongolia	1997		
Colombia	1995	Montenegro	2012		
Congo	1997	Morocco	1995		
Costa Rica	1995	Mozambique	1995		
Côte d'Ivoire	1995	Myanmar	1995		
Croatia	2000	Namibia	1995		
Cuba	1995	Nepal	2004		
Cyprus	1995	Netherlands	1995		
Czech Republic	1995	New Zealand	1995		
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1997	Nicaragua	1995		
Denmark	1995	Niger	1996		
Djibouti	1995	Nigeria	1995		
Dominica	1995	Norway	1995		
Dominican Republic	1995	Oman	2000		
Ecuador	1996	Pakistan	1995		
Egypt	1995	Panama	1997		
El Salvador	1995	Papua New Guinea	1996		
Estonia	1999	Paraguay	1995		
European Union	1995	Peru	1995		
Fiji	1996	Philippines	1995		
Finland	1995	Poland	1995		
France	1995	Portugal	1995		
Gabon	1995	Qatar	1996		
The Gambia	1996	Romania	1995		
Georgia	2000	Russian Federation	2012		
Germany	1995	Rwanda	1996		
Ghana	1995	Saint Kitts and Nevis	1996		
Greece	1995	Saint Lucia	1995		
Grenada	1996	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1995		
Guatemala	1995	Samoa	2012		
Guinea	1995	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	2005		
Guinea-Bissau	1995	Senegal	1995		
Guyana	1995	Seychelles	2015		
Haiti	1996	Sierra Leone	1995		
Honduras	1995	Singapore	1995		
Hong Kong, China	1995	Slovak Republic	1995		
Hungary	1995	Slovenia	1995		
Iceland	1995	Solomon Islands	1996		
India	1995	South Africa	1995		
Indonesia	1995	Spain	1995		
Ireland	1995	Sri Lanka	1995		

### States/separate customs territories seeking to join the WTO (as of 31 December 2016)

Algeria
Andorra
Azerbaijan
Bahamas
Belarus
Bhutan
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Comoros
Equatorial Guinea
Ethiopia
Iran
Iraq
Lebanese Republic
Libya
São Tomé and Príncipe
Serbia
Somalia
Sudan
Syrian Arab Republic
Timor Leste
Uzbekistan

### Countries that officially became WTO members in 2016

Member	Date of membership
Liberia	14 July 2016
Afghanistan	29 July 2016

<sup>1</sup> Members are mostly states but can also be customs territories with full autonomy over their external commercial relations.

## Abbreviations

ADP	Anti-Dumping Practices	MFN	Most-favoured nation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	NAMA	Non-agricultural market access
CTD	Committee on Trade and Development	NFIDCs	Net food-importing developing countries
DDA	Doha Development Agenda	NGO	Non-governmental organization
DSB	Dispute Settlement Body	NTMs	Non-tariff measures
DSU	Dispute Settlement Understanding	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
EIF	Enhanced Integrated Framework	PLS	Progressive learning strategy
EU	European Union	PSI	Agreement on Preshipment Inspection
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	RTAs	Regional trade agreements
FDI	Foreign direct investment	SCM	Subsidies and Countervailing Measures
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services	SG	Agreement on Safeguards
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
GDP	Gross domestic product	SPS	Sanitary and phytosanitary measures
GIs	Geographical indications	STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility
GPA	Government Procurement Agreement	SVE	Small, vulnerable economy
HS	Harmonized System	TBT	Technical barriers to trade
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce	TNC	Trade Negotiations Committee
ILO	International Labour Organization	TPR	Trade Policy Review
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union	TPRM	Trade Policy Review Mechanism
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	TRIMs	Trade-related investment measures
ITA	Information Technology Agreement	TRIPS	Trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights
ITC	International Trade Centre	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
ITTC	Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
ITU	International Telecommunication Union		
LDCs	Least-developed countries		
MEAs	Multilateral environmental agreements		

0 is zero or became zero due to rounding.

Billion means one thousand million.

Minor discrepancies between constituent figures and totals are due to rounding.

Unless otherwise indicated, (i) all value figures are expressed in US dollars; (ii) trade figures include the intra-trade of free trade areas, customs unions, regional and other country groupings.

### Note

This report covers the WTO's activities in 2016 and early 2017. The word "country" is frequently used to describe WTO members whereas a few members are officially "customs territories", and not necessarily countries in the usual sense of the word.

## Further information

**Further information about the organization and its activities can be found on the WTO website: [www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)**

General information about the WTO is available in the following publications, which may be downloaded free of charge from the website:

### WTO in Brief

*WTO in Brief* provides a starting point for essential information about the WTO. Concise and practical, this short brochure is an ideal introduction to the WTO.

### 10 things the WTO can do

This publication highlights some of the benefits of the trading system, but it does not claim that everything is perfect – otherwise there would be no need for further negotiations and for the system to evolve and reform continually. The publication replaces *10 Benefits of the WTO Trading System* and *10 Common Misunderstandings about the WTO*.

### Online bookshop

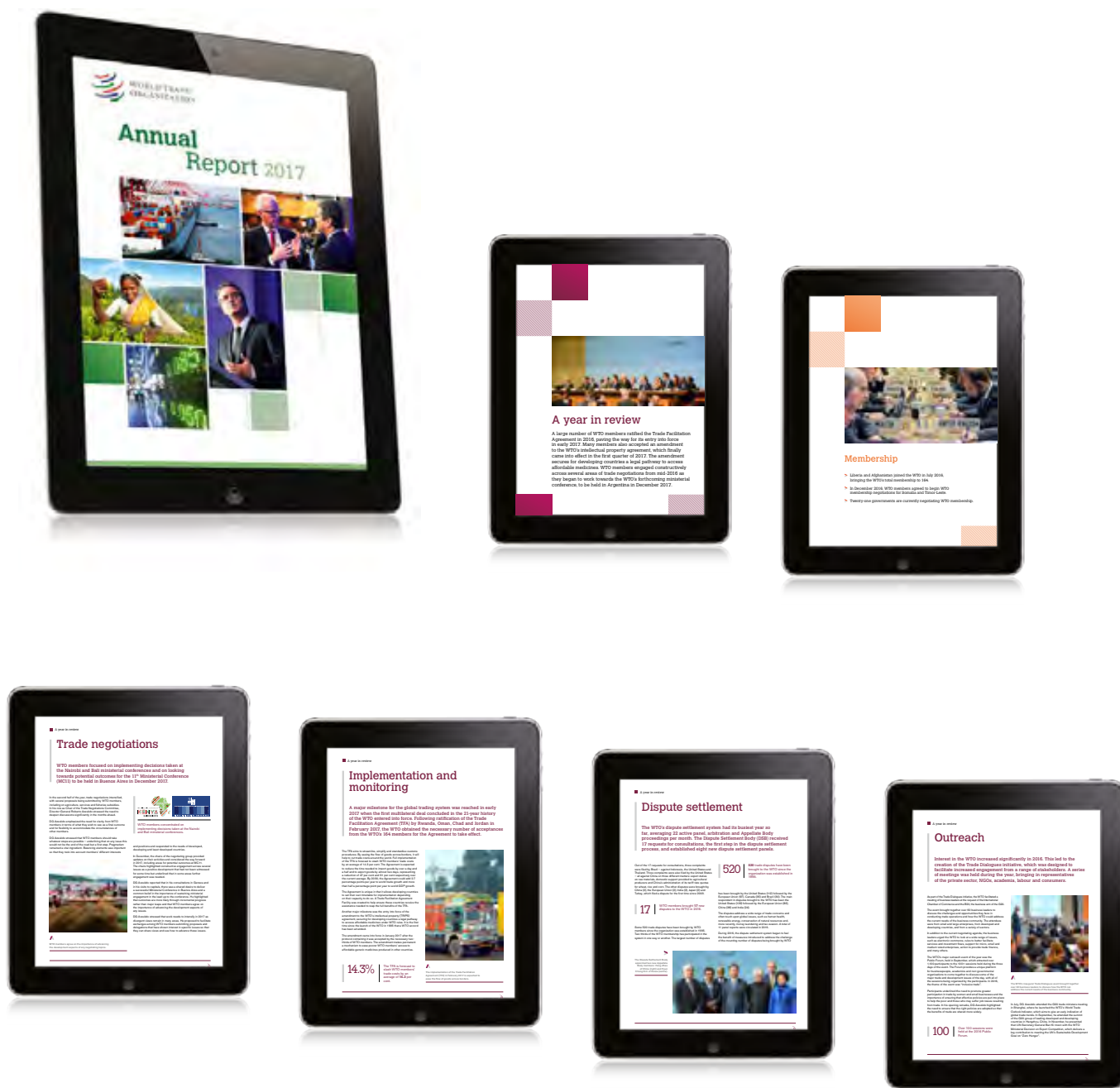
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