



Secretariat and budget

- Roberto Azevêdo was reappointed by WTO members for a second term, starting in September 2017, following a selection process in 2016.
- At the end of 2016, the WTO had 628 staff representing 79 nationalities.
- The WTO is close to achieving gender parity at the professional level. In 2016 nearly 45 per cent of professional staff was female.
- The WTO introduced a Young Professionals Programme to increase the number of professionals from under-represented countries.

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Background on Secretariat and budget

The WTO Secretariat has over 600 regular staff who coordinate the activities of the WTO. Most of the WTO's annual budget consists of contributions by its members.

WTO Secretariat

The Secretariat is headed by Director-General Roberto Azevêdo, who took office for four years on 1 September 2013. WTO members agreed to appoint Mr Azevêdo for a second term, starting in September 2017, following a selection process at the end of 2016. The four Deputy Directors-General began their terms on 1 October 2013. They are Yonov Frederick Agah of Nigeria, Karl Brauner of Germany, David Shark of the United States and Xiaozhun Yi of China (see Figure 1). The number of WTO staff fell from 647 to 628 in 2016; a recruitment process is under way to fill the vacancies.

General Council Chair Harald Neple of Norway informed WTO members on 3 November 2016 of the process to appoint the WTO Director-General after the current term of office comes to an end on 31 August 2017. He said that Mr Azevêdo had provided a letter expressing his wish to seek reappointment for a further term, and that if members wished to nominate other candidates, they would have from 1 to 31 December 2016 to do so. On 4 January 2017, he told the WTO membership that no further nominations for the position of Director-General had been received and that the incumbent, Roberto Azevêdo, was the only candidate. At a meeting of the General Council in February 2017, WTO members reappointed Mr Azevêdo for a second term, starting in September 2017.

WTO Secretariat staff members come from 79 WTO member countries (see Figure 5). The staff are composed mostly of economists, lawyers and others with a specialization in international trade policy. Staff also include other professions required to carry out the daily operations of the organization in areas such as information technology, statistics, finance, human resources and language services. The working languages of the WTO are English, French and Spanish.

Secretariat staff on the regular budget comprise professional and support service categories. Professional staff account for 61 per cent of the total and support service staff 39 per cent. Women continue to outnumber men at the WTO, by 335 to 293. Of the professional staff, 44 per cent are female and 56 per cent male (see Figure 4).

The Human Resources Division has responded to the evolving needs of the Secretariat, assisting in the reallocation of resources to new or high-priority areas of work. In 2016, the legal divisions continued to face a rising workload due to the high number of disputes being filed by WTO members. To address this, 29 posts have already been deployed to the legal divisions and nearly all have been filled.

At the end of 2016, the number of staff working in the legal divisions stood at 20 in the Appellate Body, 31 in the Legal Affairs Division and 28 in the Rules Division, up from 17, 23 and 20, respectively, in 2014, when the period of reallocation began (see Figure 2). The recruitment process is still under way to fill the remaining vacant positions in the Appellate Body Secretariat and the Rules Division. The staffing measures take into account the limitations imposed by WTO members, including the overall

New recruits

Stela Rubínová

Research Economist | Economic Research and Statistics Division
Nationality: Czech
Joining date: 1 July 2016

I came to Geneva almost six years ago to do a master's degree in international economics. It was the emphasis on policy that attracted me to the programme, and Geneva's clustering of academic and international institutions motivated me to stay for my doctoral studies. The WTO always interested me because it connects economic research with practical policy considerations. I did an internship here when I started my PhD.

In the past four years, I have been working on my doctorate, which focuses on aspects

of globalized production and how they change the way we should think about international trade. My academic research led me to collaborate with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Belgian National Bank. I also participated in policy-oriented projects with the World Bank and the International Labour Organization.

Becoming part of the WTO economic research team allows me to capitalize on and expand my previous experience. I will participate in all its activities, ranging from policy publications, such as the World Trade Report, to collaboration with academia and other international organizations and economic analysis for dispute settlement.

“The WTO always interested me because it connects economic research with practical policy considerations”



cap on the budget, and are being met by reallocating vacated posts from elsewhere in the WTO Secretariat.

Other organizational initiatives in 2016 included the establishment of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) and the appointment of a Head of Office (see page 170). The OIO will provide an independent and objective assessment of management practices, expenses and budgetary control and any allegations of misconduct. It takes over the functions formerly exercised by the Office of Internal Audit.

New methods of informal resolution of workplace disputes have been introduced, with the appointment of an external mediator and an internal mediator whose role is to facilitate dialogue between staff to help them arrive at an agreement.

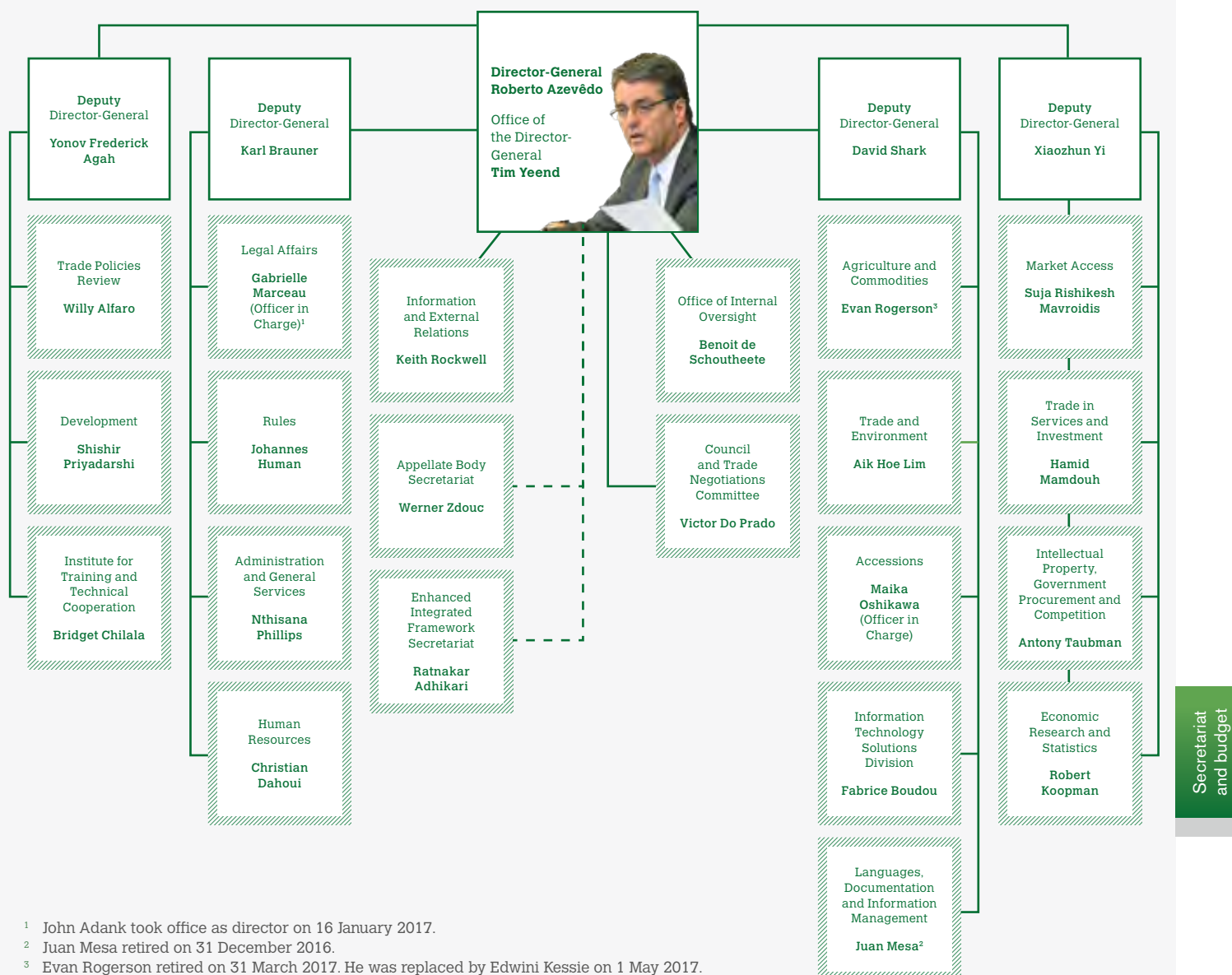
The Young Professionals Programme (YPP) was introduced in 2016 to increase the number of professionals in the WTO Secretariat from developing and least-developed countries with currently no representation. A vacancy notice was published

in 2016 and a large number of applications were received. The selection process was held jointly by the Institute for Technical Cooperation and Training (ITTC) (see page 134) and the Human Resources Division. Divisions interested in hosting a young professional were also invited to participate in the process. Six young professionals from five unrepresented countries were selected and will work in various divisions. The young professionals joined the WTO in January 2017 for a year.

The Human Resources Division continued to perform its role of enhancing the performance and effectiveness of WTO staff and supporting a work environment that is both engaging and conducive to developing the professional skills of staff.

The WTO Staff Council, elected by staff members, promotes the interests of all staff within the Secretariat, provides staff with a forum for issues of concern, increases staff understanding of their rights and duties, represents the interests of staff and presents staff views to senior management.

Figure 1: WTO Secretariat organizational chart, as of 31 December 2016

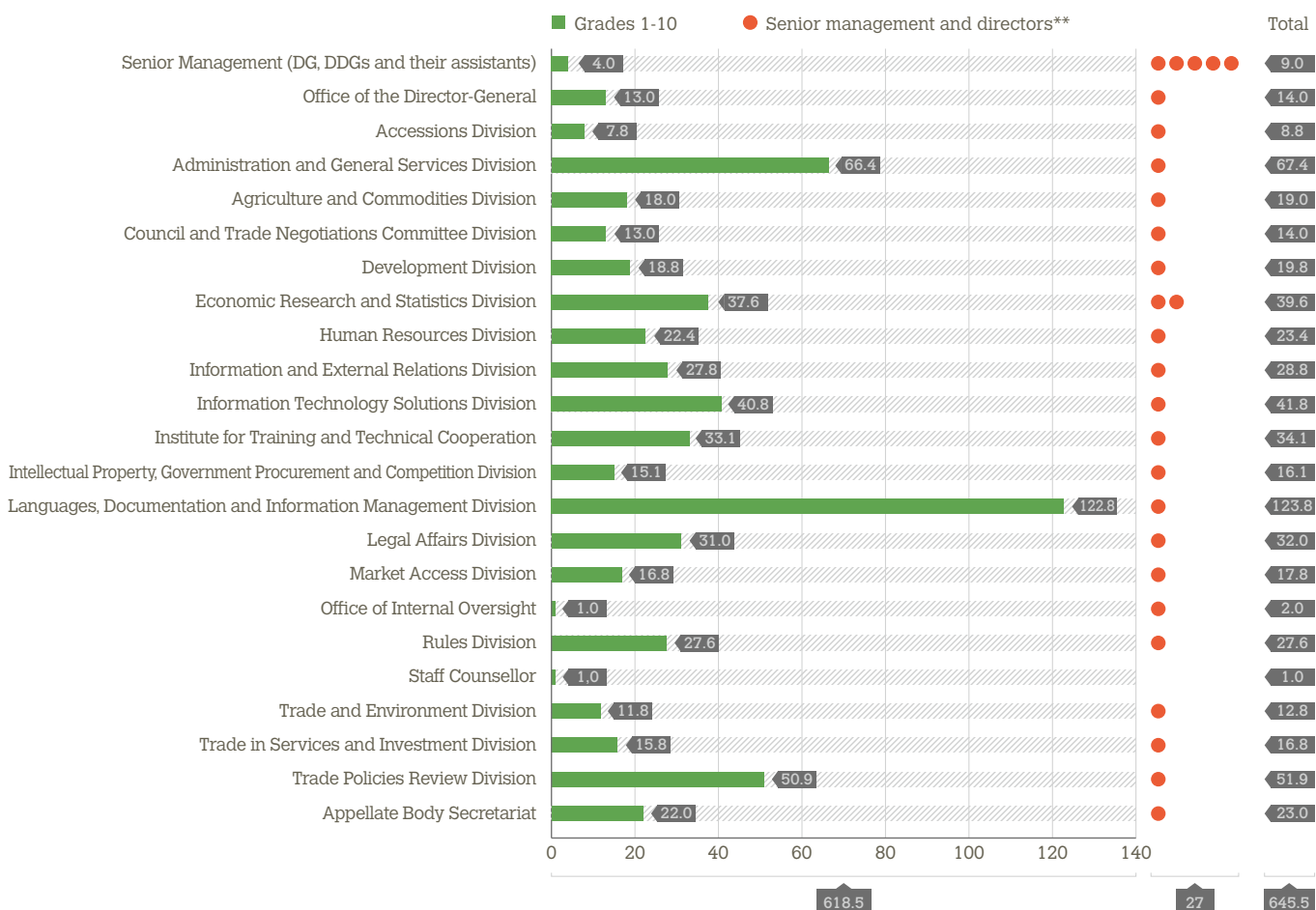


¹ John Adank took office as director on 16 January 2017.

² Juan Mesa retired on 31 December 2016.

³ Evan Rogerson retired on 31 March 2017. He was replaced by Edwini Kessie on 1 May 2017.

Figure 2: Allocation of staff by division, as of 31 December 2016 (number of posts)*



* Includes posts not yet filled. Figures in decimals indicate staff members who work a percentage of the working week (e.g. 80 per cent).

** Two grade 10s as Officers in Charge (Accessions and Legal Affairs Divisions) counted in this instance as "Directors".

New recruits

Benoit de Schoutheete

Head of Office | Office of Internal Oversight

Nationality: Peruvian

Joining date: 5 September 2016

I have worked in internal oversight for more than 15 years, first in the private sector, then for non-governmental humanitarian organizations and finally for United Nations' agencies, including the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Before arriving in Geneva, I had worked in Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia-Pacific. Everywhere I have seen how trade is at the heart of social and human development.

I believe that international trade is a key factor in the improvement of social well-being and the preservation of peace,

“ I believe that international trade is a key factor in the improvement of social well-being and the preservation of peace ”

and so I was very excited to join the WTO, an organization with a worldwide reputation, operating at the heart of international trade.

In my view, the role of internal oversight is to provide an unbiased view on the organization's risk management, governance and internal control processes. We are not here to judge and we do not pretend to give lessons. We are like the WTO's family doctor, responsible for helping managers and staff to establish a clear diagnostic of their professional risks, problems or challenges, and to find adequate solutions and mitigating controls. Internal audits, evaluations and investigations aim to enhance the WTO's effectiveness and efficiency.



Figure 3: WTO staff on regular budget by grade and gender, as of 31 December 2016

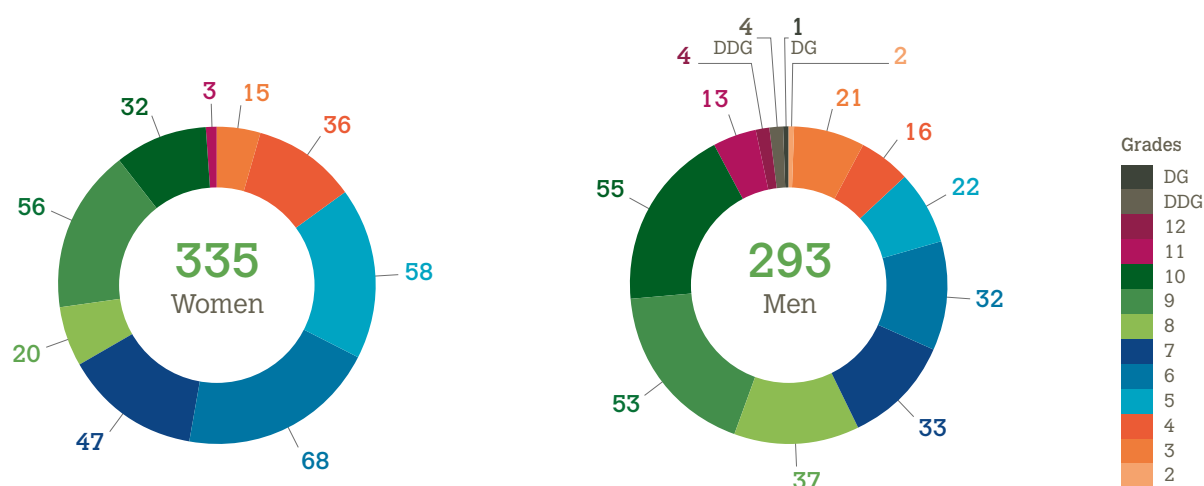


Figure 4: Percentage of WTO staff by professional/support category

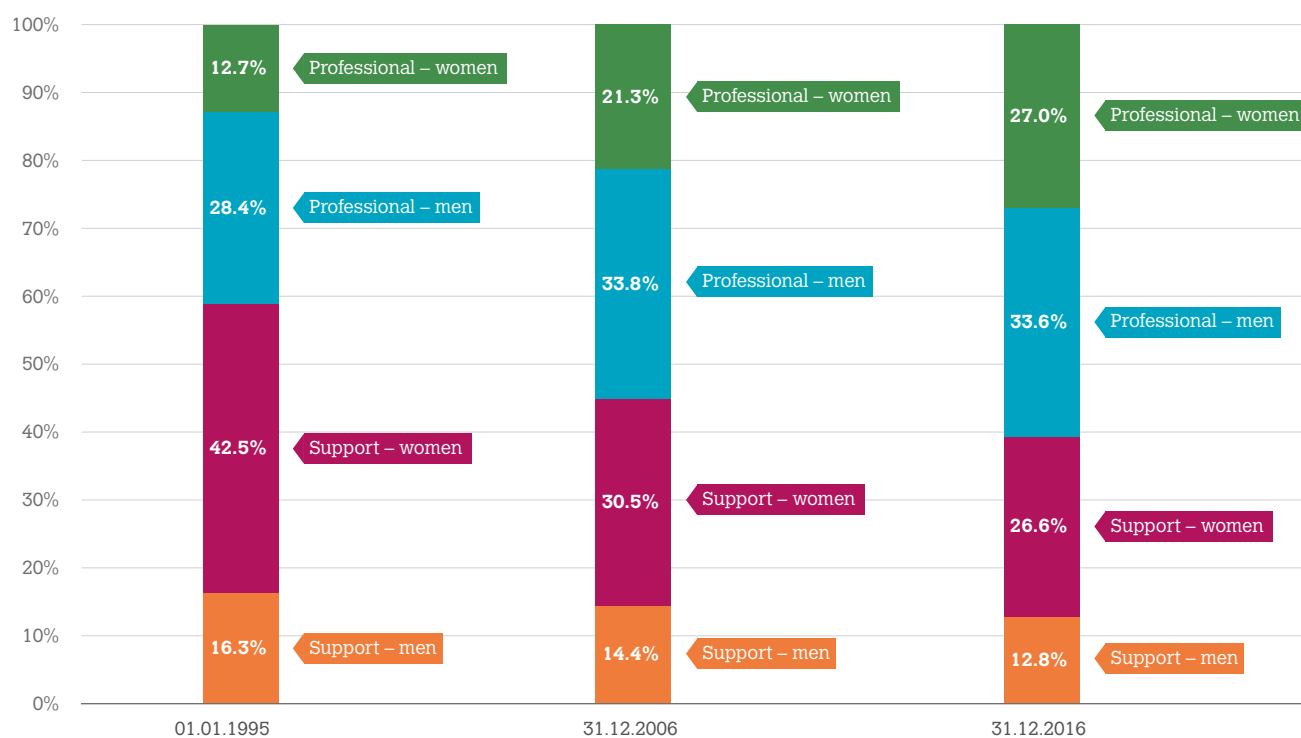
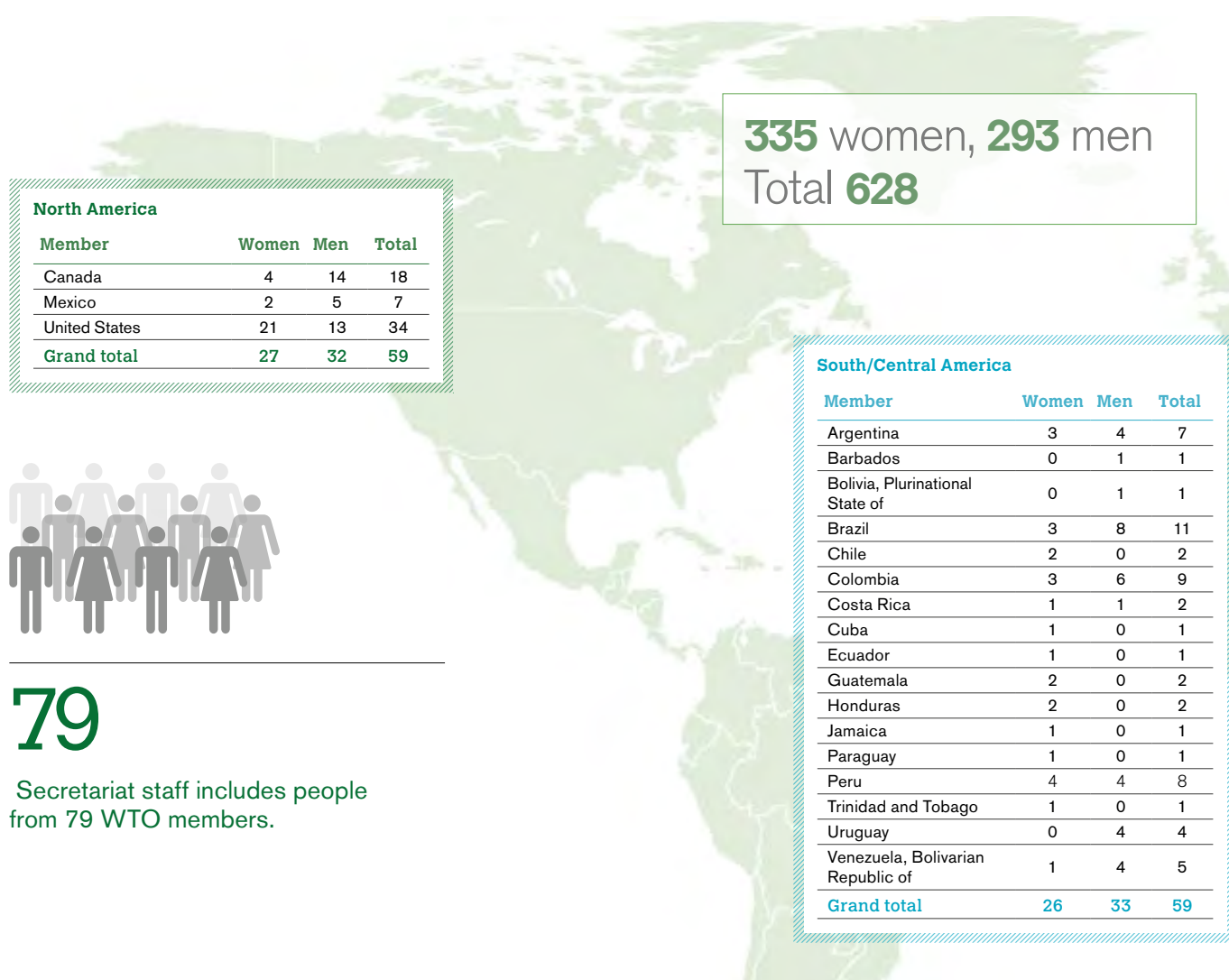


Figure 5: WTO staff on regular budget by gender and nationality, as of 31 December 2016



New recruits

Tashi Kaul

Dispute Settlement Lawyer | Rules Division

Nationality: Indian

Joining date: 1 October 2016

I have worked in international trade all my career, as a lawyer and as an economist. I have represented companies before investigating authorities in anti-dumping and safeguards cases and advised governments on trade policy and compliance with WTO rules.

Before joining the WTO, I worked in the international trade practice of several law firms and consulting firms worldwide. I worked at White & Case LLP in Geneva, Washington DC and Brussels before moving to New Delhi to launch an international trade practice at Ernst & Young LLP. In my last position before joining the WTO, I was a

partner on international trade practice in the law firm Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan in New Delhi.

Having worked for several years on trade remedies cases in domestic jurisdictions, I was interested in working on such cases at the international level. The WTO was a natural choice – and I am happy to be here.

At the Rules Division, I advise panels on disputes that members bring to WTO dispute settlement. The work enthralled me and I see it as an exciting progression from the work I have done on trade remedies in the past.

“Having worked for several years on trade remedies cases in domestic jurisdictions, I was interested in working on such cases at the international level ,”



Europe

Member	Women	Men	Total	Member	Women	Men	Total
Austria	2	3	5	Italy	10	12	22
Belgium	2	2	4	Netherlands	1	4	5
Bulgaria	1	2	3	Norway	0	2	2
Croatia	1	0	1	Poland	2	1	3
Czech Republic	1	0	1	Portugal	1	3	4
Denmark	2	1	3	Romania	2	0	2
Estonia	1	0	1	Russian Federation	2	0	2
Finland	2	1	3	Spain	28	11	39
France	94	69	163	Sweden	1	2	3
Germany	7	14	21	Switzerland	25	21	46
Greece	3	1	4	Ukraine	1	0	1
Hungary	0	2	2	United Kingdom	39	11	50
Ireland	10	1	11	Grand total	238	163	401

Asia

Member	Women	Men	Total
Bangladesh	0	1	1
China	7	7	14
India	3	10	13
Japan	2	2	4
Jordan	1	0	1
Korea, Republic of	4	0	4
Malaysia	0	2	2
Nepal	0	1	1
Pakistan	0	3	3
Philippines	6	8	14
Turkey	2	2	4
Grand total	25	36	61

Africa

Member	Women	Men	Total	Member	Women	Men	Total
Benin	0	2	2	Nigeria	0	2	2
Botswana	1	0	1	Rwanda	0	1	1
Chad	0	1	1	Senegal	0	1	1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	1	2	South Africa	0	2	2
Egypt	3	2	5	Tanzania	1	0	1
Ghana	0	1	1	The Gambia	1	0	1
Guinea	0	1	1	Tunisia	2	2	4
Kenya	1	0	1	Uganda	2	0	2
Malawi	0	1	1	Zambia	1	0	1
Mauritius	0	2	2	Zimbabwe	2	0	2
Morocco	1	3	4	Grand total	16	22	38

Oceania

Member	Women	Men	Total
Australia	3	6	9
New Zealand	0	1	1
Grand total	3	7	10

Budget, finance and administration

The Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration reviewed reports on the financial and budgetary situation of the WTO, presented the financial performance report 2015, the mid-term review 2016-2017 and the first report of the Office of Internal Oversight. It sent proposed revisions to the WTO pension plan to the General Council for approval.

The WTO Secretariat presented the 2015 WTO financial performance report. The Committee proposed that the General Council approve the transfers between budgetary sections outlined there and the General Council approved them.

The external auditors presented their report for 2015 to the Committee. Notably, they lifted the reservations they had made on the prior year's financial statements and gave their unqualified approval for the 2015 financial statements. On the basis of a recommendation from the Committee, the General Council approved the external auditors' report. The Committee also reviewed proposed revisions to the WTO Financial Rules and recommended their approval by the General Council.

The WTO Secretariat regularly updates WTO members on aspects of the organizational review process launched by Director-General Roberto Azevêdo in December 2013. In 2016, these aspects included the bonus working group, various groups assessing issues related to staff performance, the promotion policy and the mobility initiative.

The Committee examined the Mid-Term Review for the Biennium 2016-2017 of the WTO and of the International Trade Centre (ITC). Neither the WTO nor the ITC proposed a revision to their 2017 budget. The Committee proposed that the General Council approve the WTO members' scale of contributions for 2017.

The Committee made a recommendation to the General Council to approve pro-rata contributions for the accession of the Republic of Liberia and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the WTO in July 2016. The General Council approved the recommendation.

Background on budget, finance and administration

The Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration monitors the WTO's budgetary and financial matters. It considers issues concerning human resources management, hears progress reports on the WTO pension plan and deals with financial and administrative matters concerning the WTO Secretariat. The Committee reports to the General Council.

During the year, the Committee invited the General Council to urge members and observers in arrears and under administrative measures to eradicate their arrears.

The Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) presented its report on internal audit activities. The OIO, which was established in November 2015, is responsible for conducting internal audits, investigations and any other assessment deemed necessary to strengthen accountability, internal controls, compliance, value for money and governance in the WTO Secretariat.

The Committee was informed about the new policies put in place by the Information Technology Solutions Division regarding IT governance, information security and security controls. These have become very important global issues and the Secretariat is giving them significant attention. An IT Security Steering Committee, composed of senior management, was established and met regularly.

The Management Board of the WTO Pension Plan shared with the Committee proposed revised rules for the WTO Pension Plan. The Committee took note of the proposed revisions and sent them to the General Council for approval.

In November, the WTO Secretariat delivered a draft strategy to the Monitoring Group on ASHI (after service health insurance) Strategy Development. The Group is reviewing work on developing a long-term strategy to ensure the sustainability of the WTO's medical insurance plan and related ASHI benefits. Following the Group's request for clarifications, revised texts were presented to both the Monitoring Group and the CBFA. Discussion of this topic will continue in 2017.

The working group regarding the Audit Committee assessed whether there is a need for the WTO to have an Audit Committee. In its report to the Committee, the working group indicated that it had not been able to reach a consensus. Several members of the Committee expressed the hope that the topic could be revisited in the future.

The Committee approved a CHF 70,000 donation from the Loterie Romande to finance the restoration and installation of the ceiling in meeting rooms V and Y.

WTO budget 2017

The WTO derives its income from annual contributions from its 164 members (see Tables 1, 2 and 3) and miscellaneous income. These contributions are based on a formula that

takes into account each member's share of international trade. Miscellaneous income mainly consists of contributions from observer countries, income from the sale of publications and rental of meeting rooms.

The WTO's budget for 2017 is:

WTO Secretariat:

CHF 189,624,000

Appellate Body and its secretariat:

CHF 7,579,900

The total WTO budget is

CHF 197,203,900

Table 1: Consolidated budget for 2017

Section	Budget 2017 (in thousand CHF)
Staff expenditure (including staff remuneration, pension and postemployment benefits, health and invalidity insurance, family and international benefits)	131,415
Temporary assistance (including short-term staff, consultants, panellists and Appellate Body member fees)	17,289
General services (including telecommunications and post, contractual services and maintenance, energy and supplies, documentation and publication)	15,330
Travel and hospitality	7,351
Implementing partners (includes any activity or event partly/jointly/fully funded by the WTO but executed by a third-party organization)	213
Capital expenditure (including procurement of fixed assets and rental and leasing of equipment)	2,350
Financial expenditure (including bank and interest charges and building loan reimbursement)	1,280
Contributions to International Trade Centre and special reserves (including Appellate Body operating fund and Ministerial Conference operating fund)	21,975
Grand total	197,204

Table 3: WTO members' contributions to the consolidated budget of the WTO Secretariat and the Appellate Body Secretariat 2017

Member	2017 Contribution CHF	2017 Contribution %	Member	2017 Contribution CHF	2017 Contribution %
Afghanistan	48,875	0.025%	Dominican Republic	154,445	0.079%
Albania	44,965	0.023%	Ecuador	240,465	0.123%
Angola	496,570	0.254%	Egypt	510,255	0.261%
Antigua and Barbuda	29,325	0.015%	El Salvador	74,290	0.038%
Argentina	780,045	0.399%	Estonia	179,860	0.092%
Armenia	35,190	0.018%	European Union ¹	0	0.000%
Australia	2,754,595	1.409%	Fiji	29,325	0.015%
Austria	1,978,460	1.012%	Finland	944,265	0.483%
Bahrain, Kingdom of	168,130	0.086%	France	7,470,055	3.821%
Bangladesh	297,160	0.152%	Gabon	68,425	0.035%
Barbados	29,325	0.015%	The Gambia	29,325	0.015%
Belgium	3,800,520	1.944%	Georgia	64,515	0.033%
Belize	29,325	0.015%	Germany	14,294,960	7.312%
Benin	29,325	0.015%	Ghana	152,490	0.078%
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	93,840	0.048%	Greece	672,520	0.344%
Botswana	72,335	0.037%	Grenada	29,325	0.015%
Brazil	2,586,465	1.323%	Guatemala	140,760	0.072%
Brunei Darussalam	80,155	0.041%	Guinea	29,325	0.015%
Bulgaria	316,710	0.162%	Guinea-Bissau	29,325	0.015%
Burkina Faso	31,280	0.016%	Guyana	29,325	0.015%
Burundi	29,325	0.015%	Haiti	29,325	0.015%
Cabo Verde	29,325	0.015%	Honduras	76,245	0.039%
Cambodia	86,020	0.044%	Hong Kong, China	5,157,290	2.638%
Cameroon	64,515	0.033%	Hungary	1,030,285	0.527%
Canada	5,022,395	2.569%	Iceland	60,605	0.031%
Central African Republic	29,325	0.015%	India	4,463,265	2.283%
Chad	44,965	0.023%	Indonesia	1,800,555	0.921%
Chile	787,865	0.403%	Ireland	1,955,000	1.000%
China	18,756,270	9.594%	Israel	832,830	0.426%
Colombia	576,725	0.295%	Italy	5,436,855	2.781%
Congo	91,885	0.047%	Jamaica	52,785	0.027%
Costa Rica	142,715	0.073%	Japan	8,345,895	4.269%
Côte d'Ivoire	105,570	0.054%	Jordan	164,220	0.084%
Croatia	224,825	0.115%	Kazakhstan	639,285	0.327%
Cuba	146,625	0.075%	Kenya	121,210	0.062%
Cyprus	119,255	0.061%	Korea, Republic of	5,947,110	3.042%
Czech Republic	1,397,825	0.715%	Kuwait, the State of	694,025	0.355%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	103,615	0.053%	Kyrgyz Republic	39,100	0.020%
Denmark	1,515,125	0.775%	Lao People's Democratic Republic	29,325	0.015%
Djibouti	29,325	0.015%	Latvia	156,400	0.080%
Dominica	29,325	0.015%	Lesotho	29,325	0.015%

¹ The European Union is not subject to contributions. However, its 28 members are assessed individually. The total share of members of the European Union represents 34.04% of the total assessed contributions for 2017.

Member	2017 Contribution CHF	2017 Contribution %
Liberia	29,325	0.015%
Liechtenstein	62,560	0.032%
Lithuania	310,845	0.159%
Luxembourg	848,470	0.434%
Macao, China	303,025	0.155%
Madagascar	29,325	0.015%
Malawi	29,325	0.015%
Malaysia	2,084,030	1.066%
Maldives	29,325	0.015%
Mali	29,325	0.015%
Malta	125,120	0.064%
Mauritania	29,325	0.015%
Mauritius	58,650	0.030%
Mexico	3,503,360	1.792%
Moldova, Republic of	37,145	0.019%
Mongolia	54,740	0.028%
Montenegro	29,325	0.015%
Morocco	351,900	0.180%
Mozambique	62,560	0.032%
Myanmar	91,885	0.047%
Namibia	56,695	0.029%
Nepal	41,055	0.021%
Netherlands	5,821,990	2.978%
New Zealand	451,605	0.231%
Nicaragua	48,875	0.025%
Niger	29,325	0.015%
Nigeria	785,910	0.402%
Norway	1,530,765	0.783%
Oman	391,000	0.200%
Pakistan	340,170	0.174%
Panama	254,150	0.130%
Papua New Guinea	64,515	0.033%
Paraguay	113,390	0.058%
Peru	416,415	0.213%
Philippines	660,790	0.338%
Poland	2,107,490	1.078%
Portugal	793,730	0.406%
Qatar	791,775	0.405%
Romania	666,655	0.341%
Russian Federation	4,418,300	2.260%
Rwanda	29,325	0.015%
Saint Kitts and Nevis	29,325	0.015%

Member	2017 Contribution CHF	2017 Contribution %
Saint Lucia	29,325	0.015%
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	29,325	0.015%
Samoa	29,325	0.015%
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	2,490,670	1.274%
Senegal	43,010	0.022%
Seychelles	29,325	0.015%
Sierra Leone	29,325	0.015%
Singapore	4,723,280	2.416%
Slovak Republic	764,405	0.391%
Slovenia	308,890	0.158%
Solomon Islands	29,325	0.015%
South Africa	1,051,790	0.538%
Spain	3,800,520	1.944%
Sri Lanka	158,355	0.081%
Suriname	29,325	0.015%
Swaziland	29,325	0.015%
Sweden	2,142,680	1.096%
Switzerland	3,554,190	1.818%
Chinese Taipei	3,000,925	1.535%
Tajikistan	29,325	0.015%
Tanzania	91,885	0.047%
Thailand	2,367,505	1.211%
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	52,785	0.027%
Togo	29,325	0.015%
Tonga	29,325	0.015%
Trinidad and Tobago	115,345	0.059%
Tunisia	217,005	0.111%
Turkey	1,998,010	1.022%
Uganda	54,740	0.028%
Ukraine	746,810	0.382%
United Arab Emirates	2,774,145	1.419%
United Kingdom	7,366,440	3.768%
United States of America	21,968,335	11.237%
Uruguay	119,255	0.061%
Vanuatu	29,325	0.015%
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	705,755	0.361%
Viet Nam	1,114,350	0.570%
Yemen	99,705	0.051%
Zambia	86,020	0.044%
Zimbabwe	48,875	0.025%
TOTAL	195,500,000	100.000%

How the WTO is structured

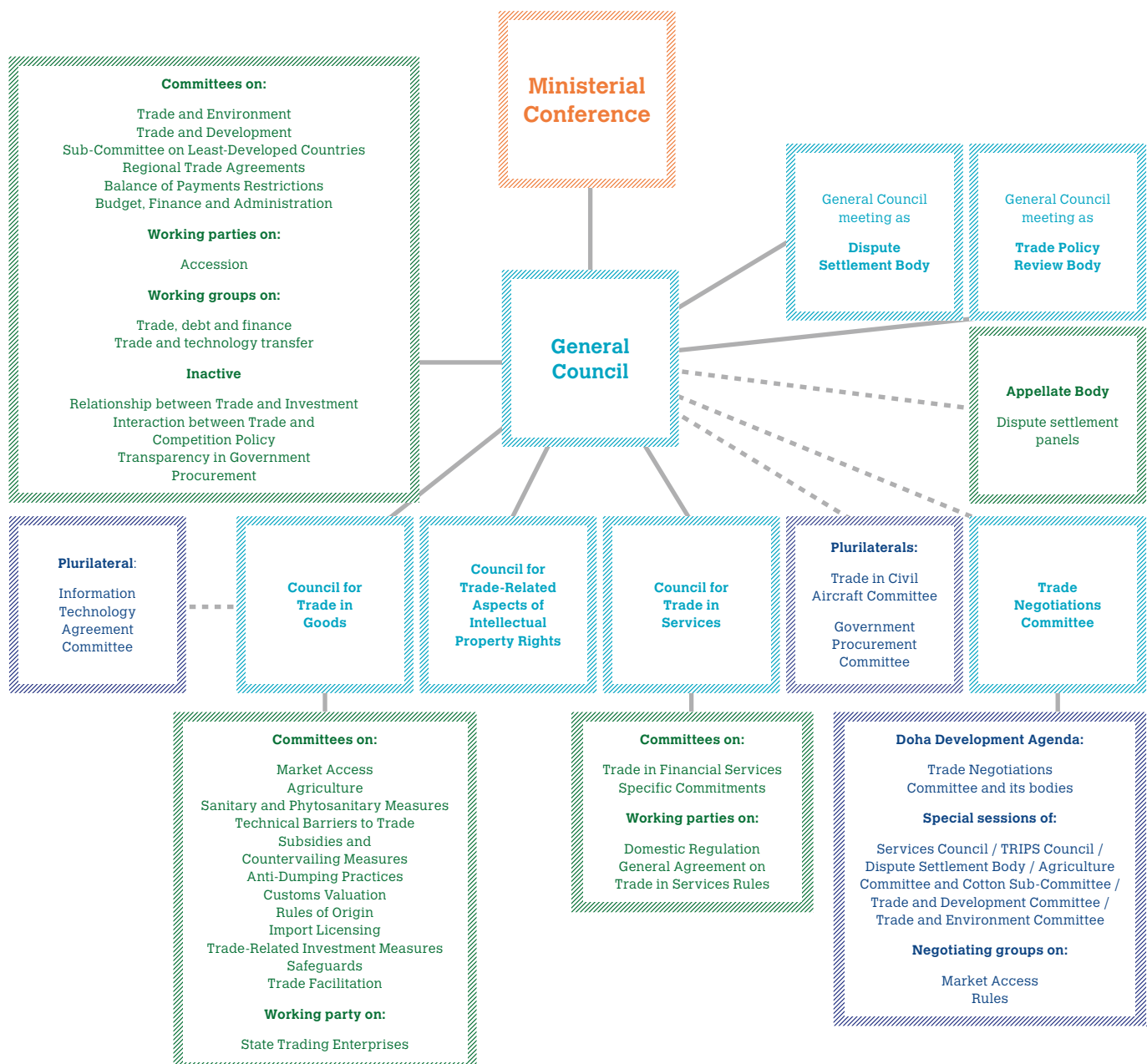
The WTO's top-level decision-making body is the Ministerial Conference, which usually meets every two years.

Below this is the General Council (normally ambassadors and heads of delegation in Geneva, but sometimes officials sent from members' capitals), which meets several times a year in the Geneva headquarters. The General Council also meets as the Trade Policy Review Body and the Dispute Settlement Body.

At the next level, the Goods Council, Services Council and Intellectual Property (TRIPS) Council report to the General Council.

Numerous specialized committees, working groups and working parties deal with the individual agreements and other areas such as the environment, development, membership applications and regional trade agreements.

All WTO members may participate in all councils and committees, with the exceptions of the Appellate Body, Dispute Settlement panels and plurilateral committees.



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	Mrs 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 ¹	Year of accession	Member ¹	Year of accession	Member ¹	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

¹ 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

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

Printed publications can be purchased through the WTO's online bookshop: <http://onlinebookshop.wto.org>.

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Download the app

The WTO Annual Report 2017 will be made available as an app. It can be downloaded from the App Store and Google Play for viewing on your iPad, iPhone, Android tablet or smartphone.

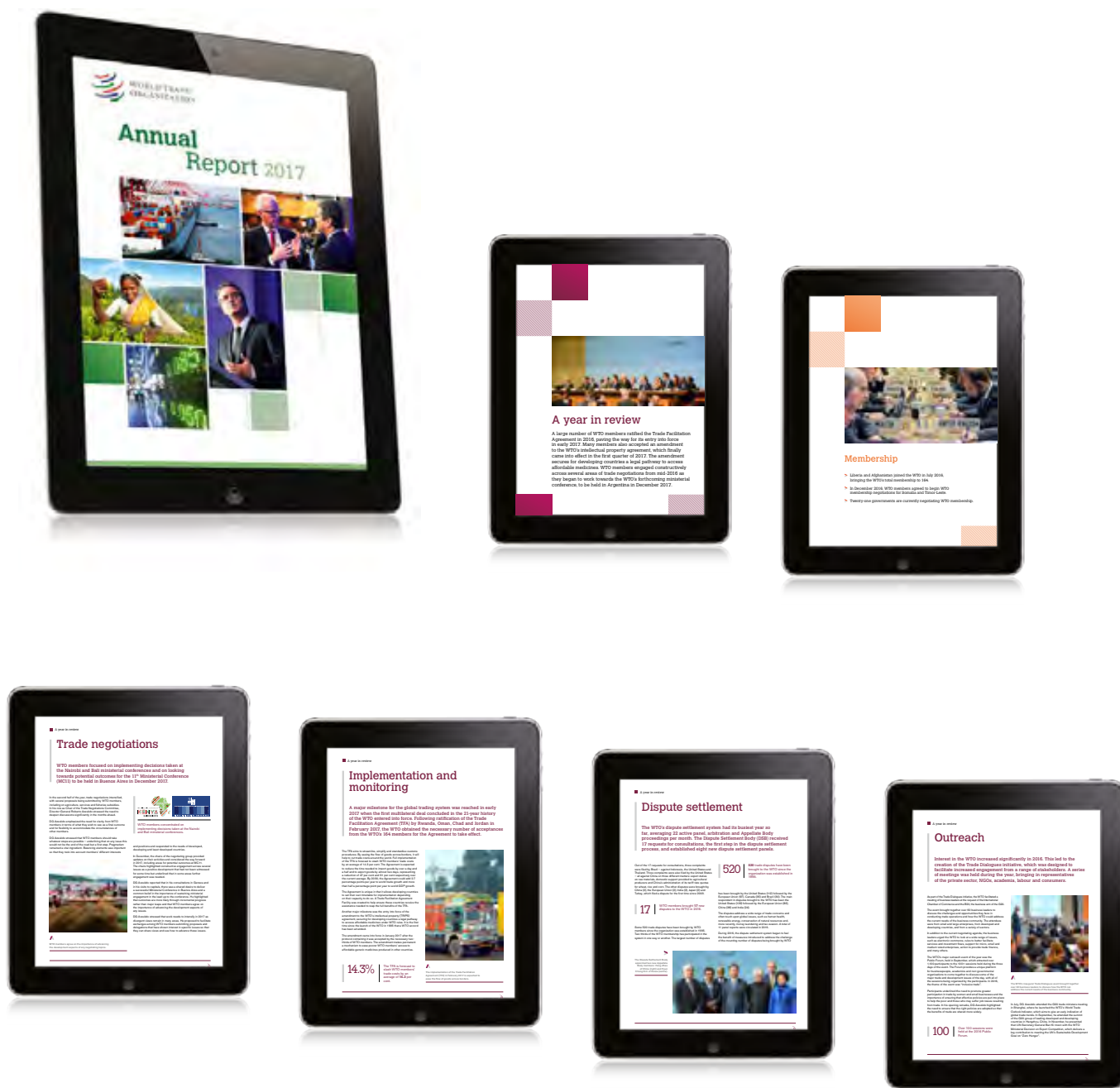


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