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Who we are

The WTO is run by its member governments. All major decisions are made by the membership as a whole, either by ministers (who meet at least once every two years) or by their ambassadors or delegates (who meet regularly at the WTO's headquarters in Geneva). Decisions are normally taken by consensus. The WTO Secretariat coordinates the activities of the WTO.

A meeting of the General Council in early 2023.





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Who we are



Director- General

Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala took office as WTO Director-General on 1 March 2021. She is the first woman and the first African to serve as Director-General.



Membership

The WTO has 164 members, accounting for 98 per cent of world trade. All members have joined the system as a result of negotiations and therefore membership means a balance of rights and obligations. Over 20 countries are currently negotiating to join the organization.



How the organization is structured

Unlike some other international organizations, such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, power is not delegated to a board of directors or the organization's head. The WTO's main decision-making body is the Ministerial Conference, which meets usually every two years.

The General Council, which meets several times a year in Geneva, is the highest decision-making body outside of ministerial conferences. It meets as the Dispute Settlement Body to oversee procedures for settling disputes between members and as the Trade Policy Review Body to discuss members' trade policies and practices. Numerous councils, committees, working groups and working parties deal with the individual WTO agreements and other specific issues, such as the environment, development and membership applications.



WTO Secretariat

The WTO has approximately 630 staff on its regular budget and is headed by a Director-General. The main duties of the Secretariat are to support the WTO's various councils and committees, to provide technical assistance to developing economies, to monitor developments in world trade, to disseminate information about WTO activities and to organize ministerial conferences. The Secretariat also provides legal assistance in the dispute settlement process and advises governments wishing to join the WTO.

Secretariat staff include individuals representing 85 nationalities. It is composed mostly of economists, lawyers and specialists in international trade policy, communications, statistics, language services and other areas. The working languages of the WTO are English, French and Spanish.



Budget

The WTO derives most of the income for its annual budget from contributions by its members. These contributions are based on a formula that takes into account each member's share of international trade.

WTO Secretariat

- In February 2022, DG Okonjo-Iweala established the Transformation Office to strengthen the WTO Secretariat's capacity to meet future work needs.
- As of 31 December, the WTO employed 623 staff members on fixed-term and regular contracts, slightly down from 627 the year before. Of the professional staff, 48 per cent were women, up from 47 per cent in 2021.
- The WTO's recruitment activity remained high, with 39 fixed-term vacancies filled in 2022.

In February 2022, DG Okonjo-Iweala established the Transformation Office to strengthen the Secretariat and ensure that it is equipped to meet future work needs. Initial transformation work addressed specific subjects of concern and work processes that could be improved, as identified by staff and external consultants McKinsey and Company during a diagnostic phase conducted in 2021 (see below).

The WTO's recruitment activity remained high, with 39 fixed-term vacancies filled in 2022.

Background

As international civil servants, WTO staff members are required to discharge their duties solely with the interest and objectives of the WTO in view. Staff members may neither seek nor accept any instruction relating to the performance of their duties from any government or other entity or person external to the WTO. The recruitment policy of the WTO aims to attract and retain staff with the highest standards of competence, efficiency and integrity.

As of 31 December, the WTO employed 623 staff members on fixed-term and regular contracts, down slightly from 627 in 2021. Professional staff account for 63 per cent of the total regular budget staffing, and support service staff for 37 per cent. Women continue to outnumber men at the WTO, by 340 to 283 (see Figure 1). Of the professional staff, 48 per cent are female and 52 per cent male (see Figure 2), compared to 47 and 53 per cent, respectively, in 2021. Male staff members outnumber females at director levels (see Figure 1).

WTO Secretariat staff come from 85 different WTO members, up from 81 in 2021, showing the widening geographical diversity of WTO staff (see Figure 4).

Figure 1: WTO staff on regular budget by grade and gender, as of 31 December 2022

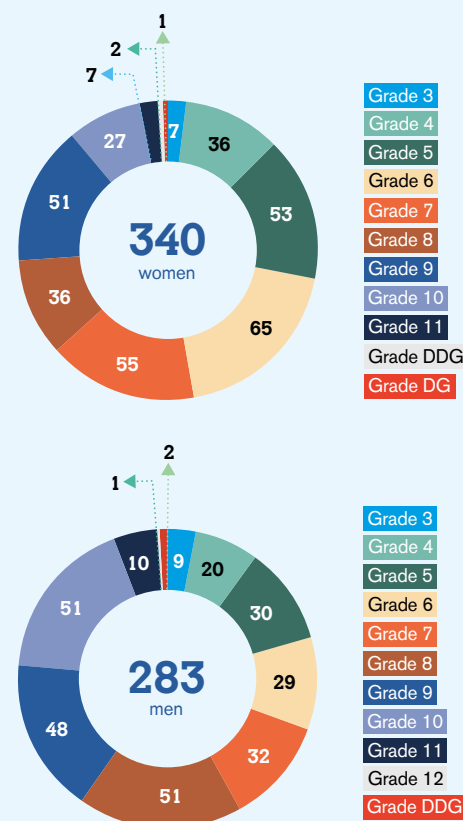
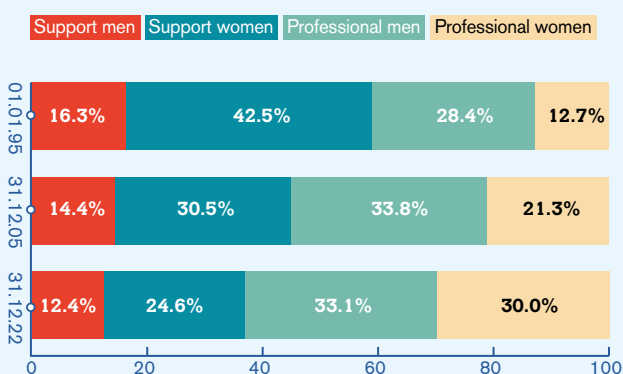


Figure 2: Percentage of WTO staff by professional/support category



Positions continued to be systematically advertised through social media outlets, such as LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook, to attract a deep pool of qualified candidates. On average, there were 160 applicants for every external vacancy in 2022.

Fourteen young professionals joined the Young Professionals Programme (YFP) in January 2022 (see page 149). The group included professionals from Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Georgia, Ghana, Kenya, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Viet Nam and Zambia. They were selected from more than 7,000 candidates following a competitive selection process. The programme was established in 2016 as part of the Secretariat's efforts to broaden diversity and increase the number of professionals from under-represented members from developing economies and least-developed countries.

The implementation of a cloud-based HR/ payroll platform called "Workday" continued during 2022, incorporating human resources core activities of recruitment, absence, payroll, benefits and compensation. A second phase is planned, involving learning and development, performance management and other areas.

Learning and development programme

The Learning Service programme in 2022 took account of recommendations from the

New recruit

Aichetou Ba

Economic Affairs Officer – Standards and Trade Development Facility

Nationality:
Mauritanian
Joining date:
1 November 2022



I started out at the WTO in 2021, joining the Agriculture and Commodities Division (AGCD) as a Young Professional. I assisted the division in its work on cotton and in supporting the Committee on Agriculture.

Prior to the WTO, I worked on monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) and project management at the Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation based in Wageningen, the Netherlands, which aimed to foster food security and fight poverty in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries.

I now have the privilege to be a part of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), where I support STDF's MEL work and projects to improve food safety and animal and plant health to facilitate safe trade.

As a woman and an African, I feel honoured to be at the WTO under the leadership of the current DG, who is a true source of inspiration. I am thrilled to work with so many talented colleagues on enhancing agriculture trade which respects international norms and standards and pays close attention to issues such as gender equality and environmental sustainability in developing economies.

New recruit

Kotaro Okada

**Paralegal,
Rules Division**

Nationality:
Japanese

Joining date:
14 November 2022



In Japan, the WTO is well-known as a forum to adjudicate international trade disputes, with wins and losses and subsequent policy changes that could affect the life of ordinary people being reported in the media.

Prior to joining the WTO, I worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism before coming to Geneva to join Japan's WTO mission. During my time working for the Government, I researched and advised on trade remedies, subsidies and other trade measures and was part of a team representing the Government in dispute settlement proceedings. When I was looking for a new opportunity to pursue my passion for trade law, the WTO was a natural path.

In my current role as a paralegal, my main responsibilities involve providing panels with secretarial and technical support and assisting the panel composition process. I am looking forward to the privilege of being able to work on many different cases together with wonderful colleagues.

In Japan, the WTO is well-known as a forum to adjudicate international trade disputes

transformation exercise, especially in the areas of performance management, leadership and managerial capabilities and innovation. In the "Leadership, Innovation and Change" learning programme, Secretariat staff interacted with leaders of innovation from various international organizations. Emphasis continued to be placed on diversity, equity and inclusion. The first-ever workshop on racism was conducted in 2022, with the aim of ensuring an inclusive, safe and productive working environment.

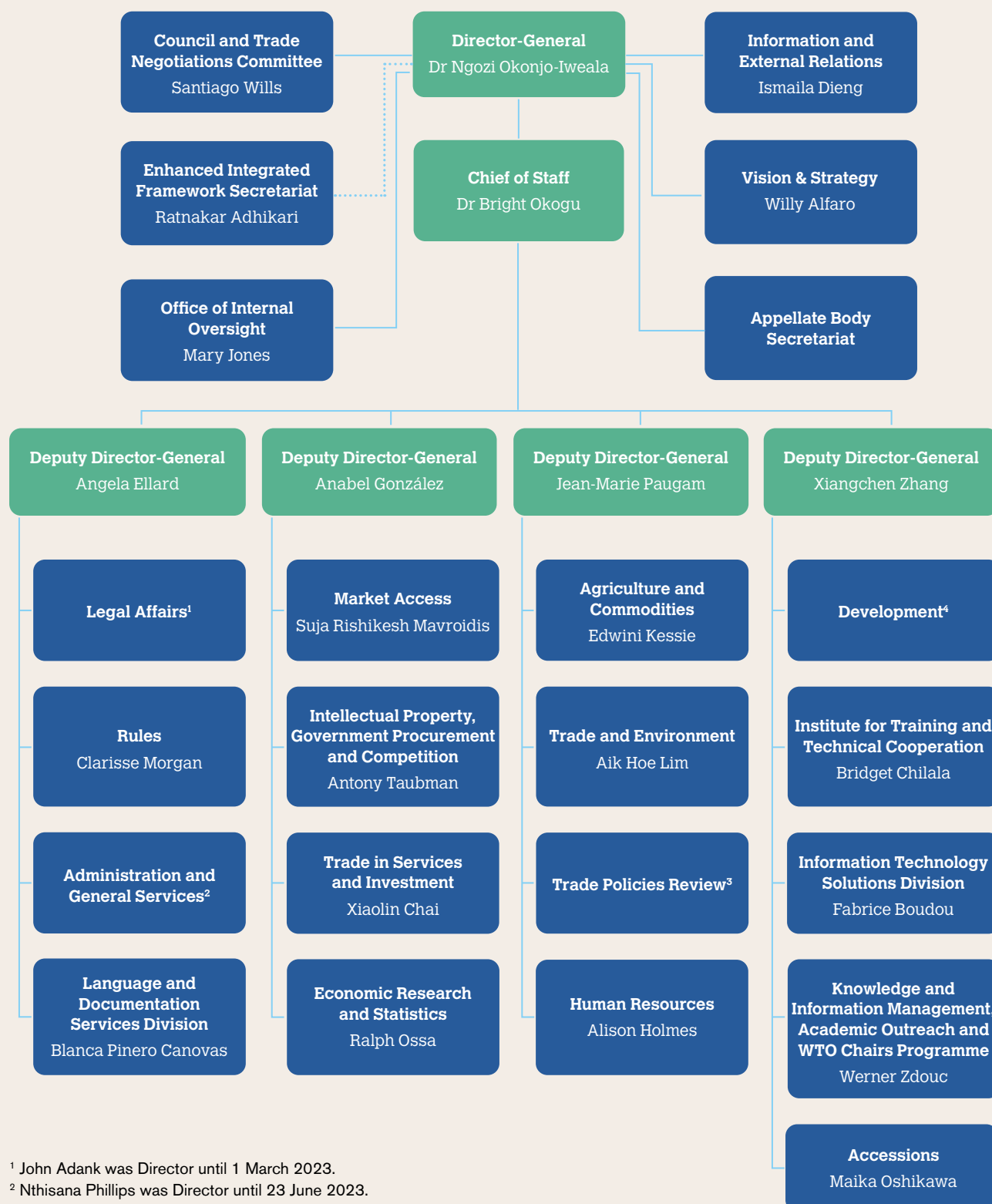
Digitalization initiatives

In 2022, WTO members continued to make use of virtual platforms that allow them to participate remotely in WTO meetings with simultaneous interpretation. They also benefited from the dispute online registry application (DORA), which permits the filing of submissions in ongoing disputes remotely through a secure portal. These tools, which were not available prior to COVID-19, have particularly benefitted delegates working from capitals. In 2022, over 2,500 WTO meetings were conducted via conferencing platforms – Interprefy, Zoom or Webex – with over 112,000 participants.

The Secretariat launched a new platform for WTO members' notifications of trade measures – the WTO Notifications Portal. The portal displays the status of notifications by WTO agreement and by member. The eAgenda, which supports information exchanges among members ahead of meetings on topics such as specific trade concerns, was extended to the Import Licensing Committee. In addition, the Secretariat implemented an updated version of ePing, allowing traders to register to receive alerts on changes to technical requirements for the export of goods. The platform also contains trade concerns discussed in the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Committee and Technical Barriers to Trade Committee.

Cybersecurity remains a core area of attention, notably in view of emerging cyber threats related to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The WTO is closely monitoring the threat of cyber-attacks to prevent or mitigate the potential impact on its operations.

Figure 3: WTO Secretariat organizational chart, as of end-May 2023



¹ John Adank was Director until 1 March 2023.

² Nthisana Phillips was Director until 23 June 2023.

³ Willy Alfaro was Director until 30 April 2023.

⁴ Shishir Priyadarshi was Director until 31 December 2022.

New recruit

Roberta Allport

Economic Affairs Officer, Development Division

Nationality:
Dominican
Joining date:
1 August 2022



Early in my career, I worked for a non-profit and advocacy group that interviewed farmers across the Caribbean and advocated on their behalf with national governments and international organizations. Many of the farmers' problems stemmed from barriers to international trade.

I decided to deepen my knowledge with a Masters in Global Affairs from Yale University. It was there, during a course on international trade law, that I became aware of the WTO and its role in governing multilateral trade.

Currently, I help organize meetings of the Informal Group of Developing Countries, a forum where developing members can share experiences and perspectives on current negotiations. I also coordinate work related to monitoring achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Addis Ababa Agenda for Financing for Development and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries. Finally, I assist in the organization of Geneva Week.

Working with Development Division colleagues has expanded my understanding of trade and development policy, and I enjoy benefiting from their many years of expertise.

Many of the farmers' problems stemmed from barriers to international trade.

Transformation Office

The overall goals of the transformation exercise are to ensure that the Secretariat is equipped with the skills, experience and tools needed to serve members' needs effectively and be able to modernize as those needs evolve. The objective is to develop a more agile and collaborative Secretariat, where information and best practices are shared and where staff are fully engaged in fulfilling the WTO's mandate, with the opportunity to build rewarding careers.

The exercise is driven by the Transformation Office, which is overseen by the Transformation Steering Committee. Staff at all levels are encouraged to get involved in the design and implementation work. The Steering Committee is chaired by the DG and composed of the Chief of Staff and the four DDGs.

In 2022, work focused on various talent-management policies and practices, such as reforms in staff rewards, mobility, promotions and career pathways. A second focus was improving ways of working in specific areas - for example, risk management, procurement and recruitment. A digital transformation effort was also begun, aiming to optimize efficiency and leveraging opportunities related to data, technology and innovation.

The Steering Committee endorsed proposals for several new policies and practices. The Transformation Office and small teams of staff volunteers are working to implement the approved changes, engaging with experts and consulting with directors and staff focus groups. Work completed in 2022 led to the adoption of new policies on staff recognition and rewards and on procurement. The Transformation Office also held consultations with members on their experiences with Secretariat digital tools, such as the "docs online" search facility for WTO documents, the dispute settlement registry, eAgenda and ePing.

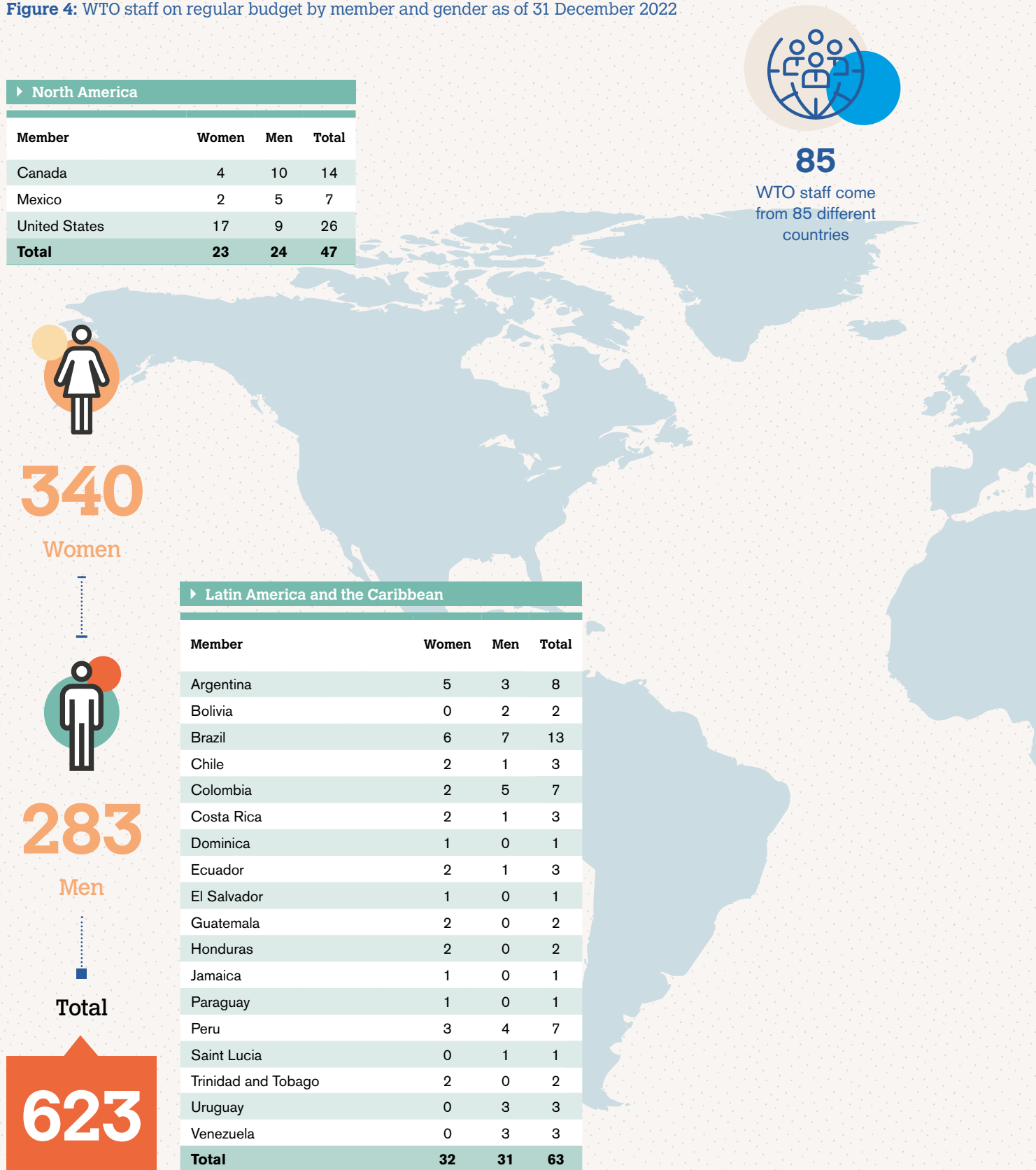
WTO members receive updates on progress in the transformation exercise through regular reports to both the General Council and the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration.

Table 1: Allocation of posts by division, as of 31 December 2022 (number of posts)*

	Grades 1-10	Senior Management and Directors	Total
Senior Management (DG, DDGs and their assistants)	9.0	6.0	15.0
Accessions Division	8.0	1.0	9.0
Administration and General Services Division	67.6	1.0	68.6
Agriculture and Commodities Division	30.8	1.0	31.8
Council and TNC Division	12.0	1.0	13.0
Development Division	18.8	1.0	19.8
Economic Research and Statistics Division	35.5	0.0	35.5
Executive Secretariat for the Enhanced Integrated Framework	9.0	1.0	10.0
Human Resources Division	25.8	0.0	25.8
Information and External Relations Division	26.8	0.0	26.8
Information Technology Solutions Division	33.5	1.0	34.5
Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	37.5	1.0	38.5
Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division	13.5	1.0	14.5
Knowledge and Information Management, Academic Outreach and WTO Chairs Programme	15.8	1.0	16.8
Language and Documentation Services Division	90.5	1.0	91.5
Legal Affairs Division	29.0	1.0	30.0
Market Access Division	22.0	1.0	23.0
Office of Internal Oversight	3.0	0.0	3.0
Office of the Director-General	12.8	1.0	13.8
Rules Division	34.0	1.0	35.0
Trade and Environment Division	16.0	1.0	17.0
Trade in Services and Investment Division	13.4	1.0	14.4
Trade Policies Review Division	50.6	1.0	51.6
Total	614.9	24.0	638.9

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

Figure 4: WTO staff on regular budget by member and gender as of 31 December 2022



▶ Europe							
Member	Women	Men	Total	Member	Women	Men	Total
Austria	2	2	4	Lithuania	0	1	1
Belgium	3	2	5	Netherlands	0	4	4
Bulgaria	2	4	6	Norway	0	1	1
Croatia	1	0	1	Poland	3	1	4
Czech Republic	1	0	1	Portugal	0	4	4
Denmark	1	1	2	Romania	3	0	3
Estonia	1	0	1	Russian Federation	5	1	6
Finland	3	2	5	Spain	33	12	45
France	94	65	159	Sweden	2	2	4
Germany	8	13	21	Switzerland	10	12	22
Greece	4	2	6	Ukraine	1	0	1
Hungary	1	3	4	United Kingdom	34	12	46
Ireland	11	0	11	Total	235	158	393
Italy	12	14	26				

▶ Africa			
Member	Women	Men	Total
Benin	0	3	3
Botswana	1	0	1
Burundi	0	1	1
Cameroon	1	0	1
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	2	2	4
Egypt	3	1	4
Gambia	2	0	2
Ghana	1	0	1
Guinea	0	1	1
Kenya	3	0	3
Malawi	0	1	1
Mauritius	0	3	3
Morocco	1	3	4
Nigeria	1	1	2
Rwanda	0	1	1
Senegal	0	1	1
South Africa	0	1	1
Tanzania	2	0	2
Tunisia	2	2	4
Uganda	1	1	2
Zambia	1	0	1
Zimbabwe	2	0	2
Total	23	22	45

▶ Asia			
Member	Women	Men	Total
Bangladesh	0	1	1
China	8	6	14
India	2	11	13
Japan	2	4	6
Jordan	1	0	1
Korea, Republic of	4	0	4
Malaysia	0	2	2
Nepal	0	1	1
Pakistan	0	3	3
Philippines	6	7	13
Singapore	0	1	1
Sri Lanka	2	0	2
Tajikistan	0	1	1
Türkiye	1	3	4
Total	26	40	66

▶ Oceania			
Member	Women	Men	Total
Australia	1	7	8
New Zealand	0	1	1
Total	1	8	9

Budget, finance and administration

- **The Committee endorsed the revised WTO financial regulations.**

The Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration endorsed the revised WTO financial regulations, transfers between budgetary sections during 2021 and the 2021 WTO audited financial statements, which were subsequently approved by the General Council. The Committee also endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group on Coherence in the Establishment of Trust Funds.

The General Council approved the 2023 scale of assessed contributions to the WTO budget upon recommendations of the Committee.

The Committee recommended to the General Council that the Secretariat use the CHF 6 million surplus from 2021 to address emergency and mandatory expenses in 2023, but one member did not join in the consensus in the General Council to adopt the recommendation.

The Committee also took note of the 2021 WTO Pension Plan audited financial

statements and the external auditors' reports for the WTO's and WTO Pension Plan's financial statements.

It noted outstanding contributions to the WTO budget from WTO members and observers and invited the General Council to urge those under administrative measures to liquidate their arrears.

The Committee took note of the establishment of the Fisheries Funding Mechanism (see

Background

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.



page 58) providing targeted technical assistance to developing economies as a new trust fund under financial regulation 19.

The 2022 WTO salary survey and dependency allowances were presented to the Committee. Quarterly financial reports were considered by the Committee and taken note of, as were updates from the Chair of the WTO Pension Plan Management Board. The Committee also took note of actuarial valuations of the WTO Pension Plan as at the end of 2020 and 2021 and a draft reform proposal addressing the Pension Plan's funding gap.

The Committee reviewed the status of the WTO medical insurance plan and After Service Health Insurance, the status of implementation of internal and external audit recommendations, the annual strategic facilities plan, the annual report on diversity, the annual report on grading structure and the learning and development programme for 2021.

**Table 2: Consolidated budget for 2023
(in CHF thousands)**

Section	Total
Staff expenditure (including staff remuneration, pension and post employment benefits, health and invalidity insurance, family and international benefits)	131,565
Temporary assistance (including short-term staff, consultants and panellists)	17,575
General services (including telecommunications and post, contractual services and maintenance, energy and supplies, documentation and publications)	15,626
Travel and hospitality	7,607
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)	3,095
Financial expenditure (including bank and interest charges and building loan reimbursement)	2,080
Contributions to International Trade Centre and special reserves (including the Building Renovation Fund and Ministerial Conference Operating Fund)	19,443
TOTAL	197,204

The Office of Internal Oversight presented its report on internal audit activities for 2020-21 and reports on the status of implementation of the internal audit recommendations. Regular updates on the WTO Secretariat transformation exercise (see page 192) were provided at each Committee meeting by DDG Angela Ellard.

The Director-General presented the WTO 2022-23 mid-term budget review to the Committee, which discussed it extensively. The Committee deferred a decision until the next year.

WTO budget 2023

The WTO derives its income from annual contributions from its 164 members (see Table 3) and miscellaneous income.

The WTO's budget for 2023 is CHF 197,203,900, representing zero nominal growth since 2012 (see Table 2).



Table 3: WTO members' contributions to the consolidated budget 2023 (in CHF)

Member	2023 contribution CHF	2023 contribution %	Member	2023 contribution CHF	2023 contribution %
Afghanistan	37,145	0.019%	Ecuador	199,410	0.102%
Albania	44,965	0.023%	Egypt	502,435	0.257%
Angola	240,465	0.123%	El Salvador	80,155	0.041%
Antigua and Barbuda	29,325	0.015%	Estonia	181,815	0.093%
Argentina	637,330	0.326%	Eswatini	29,325	0.015%
Armenia	44,965	0.023%	European Union ¹	0	0.000%
Australia	2,531,725	1.295%	Fiji	29,325	0.015%
Austria	1,943,270	0.994%	Finland	854,335	0.437%
Bahrain, Kingdom of	224,825	0.115%	France	7,387,945	3.779%
Bangladesh	420,325	0.215%	Gabon	46,920	0.024%
Barbados	29,325	0.015%	The Gambia	29,325	0.015%
Belgium	3,626,525	1.855%	Georgia	74,290	0.038%
Belize	29,325	0.015%	Germany	14,058,405	7.191%
Benin	33,235	0.017%	Ghana	189,635	0.097%
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	87,975	0.045%	Greece	629,510	0.322%
Botswana	60,605	0.031%	Grenada	29,325	0.015%
Brazil	2,111,400	1.080%	Guatemala	142,715	0.073%
Brunei Darussalam	52,785	0.027%	Guinea	43,010	0.022%
Bulgaria	340,170	0.174%	Guinea-Bissau	29,325	0.015%
Burkina Faso	39,100	0.020%	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	168,130	0.086%	Hong Kong, China	5,501,370	2.814%
Cameroon	62,560	0.032%	Hungary	1,057,655	0.541%
Canada	4,658,765	2.383%	Iceland	86,020	0.044%
Central African Republic	29,325	0.015%	India	4,576,655	2.341%
Chad	31,280	0.016%	Indonesia	1,626,560	0.832%
Chile	662,745	0.339%	Ireland	3,669,535	1.877%
China	21,031,890	10.758%	Israel	907,120	0.464%
Colombia	459,425	0.235%	Italy	4,940,285	2.527%
Congo	64,515	0.033%	Jamaica	50,830	0.026%
Costa Rica	172,040	0.088%	Japan	7,411,405	3.791%
Côte d'Ivoire	109,480	0.056%	Jordan	152,490	0.078%
Croatia	244,375	0.125%	Kazakhstan	432,055	0.221%
Cuba	101,660	0.052%	Kenya	123,165	0.063%
Cyprus	154,445	0.079%	Korea, Republic of	5,350,835	2.737%
Czech Republic	1,460,385	0.747%	Kuwait, the State of	512,210	0.262%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	125,120	0.064%	Kyrgyz Republic	33,235	0.017%
Denmark	1,554,225	0.795%	Lao People's Democratic Republic	56,695	0.029%
Djibouti	33,235	0.017%	Latvia	170,085	0.087%
Dominica	29,325	0.015%	Lesotho	29,325	0.015%
Dominican Republic	173,995	0.089%	Liberia	29,325	0.015%

Member	2023 contribution CHF	2023 contribution %	Member	2023 contribution CHF	2023 contribution %
Liechtenstein	66,470	0.034%	Rwanda	29,325	0.015%
Lithuania	318,665	0.163%	Saint Kitts and Nevis	29,325	0.015%
Luxembourg	1,059,610	0.542%	Saint Lucia	29,325	0.015%
Macao, China	230,690	0.118%	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	29,325	0.015%
Madagascar	33,235	0.017%	Samoa	29,325	0.015%
Malawi	29,325	0.015%	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	1,839,655	0.941%
Malaysia	1,837,700	0.940%	Senegal	48,875	0.025%
Maldives	29,325	0.015%	Seychelles	29,325	0.015%
Mali	41,055	0.021%	Sierra Leone	29,325	0.015%
Malta	158,355	0.081%	Singapore	4,885,545	2.499%
Mauritania	29,325	0.015%	Slovak Republic	795,685	0.407%
Mauritius	50,830	0.026%	Slovenia	342,125	0.175%
Mexico	3,935,415	2.013%	Solomon Islands	29,325	0.015%
Moldova, Republic of	39,100	0.020%	South Africa	856,290	0.438%
Mongolia	64,515	0.033%	Spain	3,753,600	1.920%
Montenegro	29,325	0.015%	Sri Lanka	179,860	0.092%
Morocco	381,225	0.195%	Suriname	29,325	0.015%
Mozambique	60,605	0.031%	Sweden	2,023,425	1.035%
Myanmar	136,850	0.070%	Switzerland	3,763,375	1.925%
Namibia	43,010	0.022%	Chinese Taipei	3,014,610	1.542%
Nepal	62,560	0.032%	Tajikistan	29,325	0.015%
Netherlands	5,778,980	2.956%	Tanzania	80,155	0.041%
New Zealand	465,290	0.238%	Thailand	2,387,055	1.221%
Nicaragua	52,785	0.027%	Togo	29,325	0.015%
Niger	29,325	0.015%	Tonga	29,325	0.015%
Nigeria	523,940	0.268%	Trinidad and Tobago	78,200	0.040%
North Macedonia	66,470	0.034%	Tunisia	172,040	0.088%
Norway	1,178,865	0.603%	Türkiye	1,978,460	1.012%
Oman	304,980	0.156%	Uganda	60,605	0.031%
Pakistan	373,405	0.191%	Ukraine	523,940	0.268%
Panama	220,915	0.113%	United Arab Emirates	2,963,780	1.516%
Papua New Guinea	60,605	0.031%	United Kingdom	7,274,555	3.721%
Paraguay	109,480	0.056%	United States	22,808,985	11.667%
Peru	422,280	0.216%	Uruguay	125,120	0.064%
Philippines	871,930	0.446%	Vanuatu	29,325	0.015%
Poland	2,537,590	1.298%	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	404,685	0.207%
Portugal	817,190	0.418%	Viet Nam	2,107,490	1.078%
Qatar	633,420	0.324%	Yemen	62,560	0.032%
Romania	834,785	0.427%	Zambia	72,335	0.037%
Russian Federation	3,210,110	1.642%	Zimbabwe	46,920	0.024%
			TOTAL	195,500,000	100.000%

(1) The European Union is not subject to contributions. However, its 27 members are assessed individually. The total share of members of the European Union represents 31.05% of the total assessed contributions for 2023.

How the WTO is structured

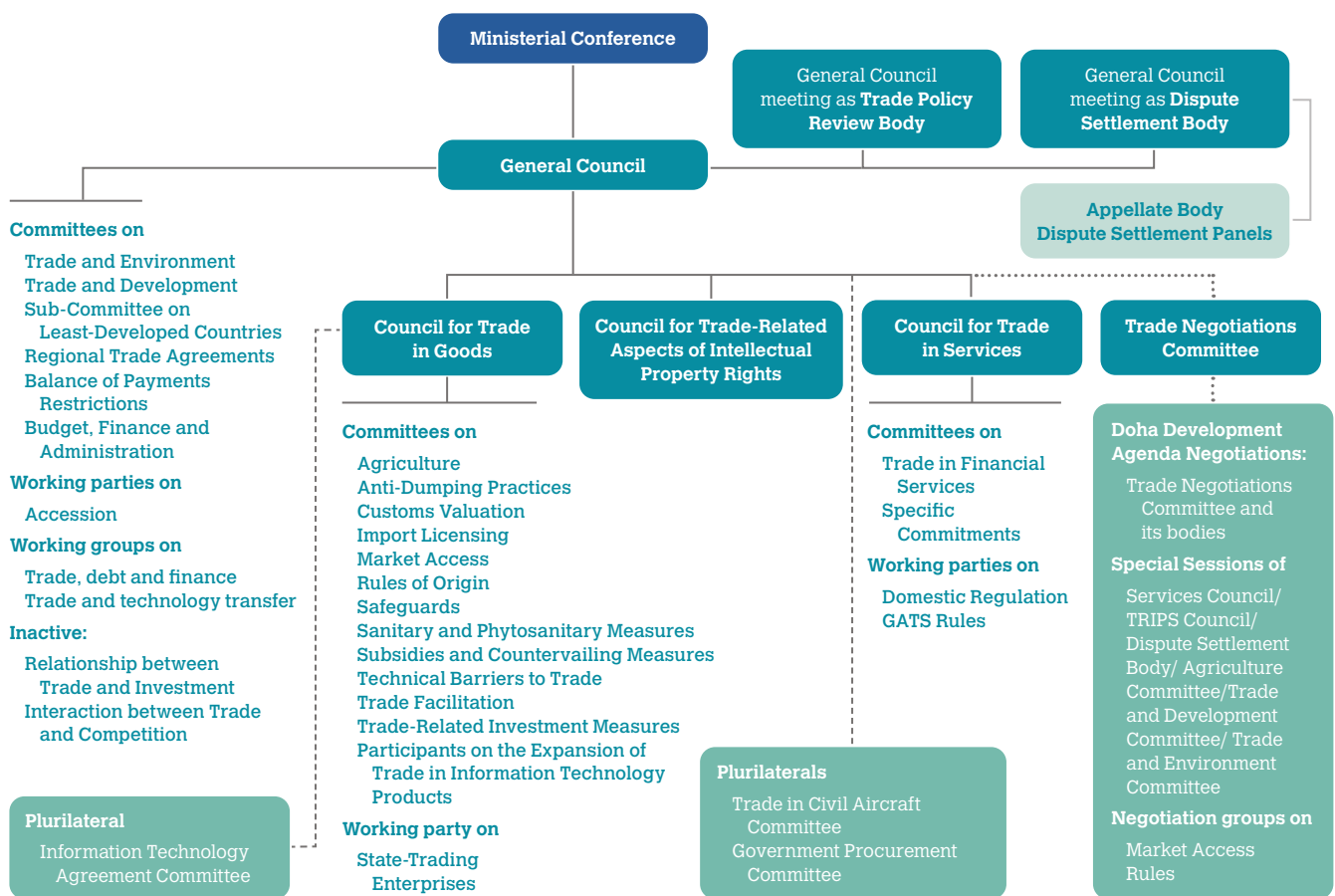
- The WTO's top-level decision-making body is the Ministerial Conference, which usually meets every two years.

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

Below this is the General Council (normally ambassadors and heads of delegation in Geneva, and 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.

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.



Key
 — Reporting to General Council (or a subsidiary)
 — Reporting to Dispute Settlement Body
 - - - - - Plurilateral committees inform the General Council or Goods Council of their activities, although these agreements are not signed by all WTO members
 ····· Trade Negotiations Committee reports to General Council

WTO Chairpersons (as of 31 December 2022)

Chairpersons of the General Council and bodies reporting to it

General Council	Ambassador Didier Chambovey (Switzerland)
Dispute Settlement Body	Ambassador Athaliah Lesiba Molokomme (Botswana)
Trade Policy Review Body	Ambassador Ángel Villalobos Rodríguez (Mexico)
Council for Trade in Goods	Mr Etienne Oudot de Dainville (France)
Council for Trade in Services	Ambassador Kemvichet Long (Cambodia)
Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights	Ambassador Lansana Gberie (Sierra Leone)
Committee on Trade and Environment	Ambassador Simon Manley (United Kingdom)
Committee on Trade and Development	Ambassador Usha Chandnee Dwarka-Canabady (Mauritius)
Sub-Committee on Least-Developed Countries	Ambassador Kirsti Kauppi (Finland)
Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions	Ambassador Saqer Abdullah Almoqbel (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)
Committee on Regional Trade Agreements	Ambassador Taeho Lee (Republic of Korea)
Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration	Ambassador Bettina Waldmann (Germany)
Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology	Ambassador Luis Chuquihuara Chil (Peru)
Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance	Mr Donatas Tamulaitis (Lithuania)
Trade Negotiations Committee	Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Chairpersons of bodies established under the Trade Negotiations Committee

Negotiating Group on Market Access	Ambassador Didier Chambovey (Switzerland)
Negotiating Group on Rules	Ambassador Santiago Wills (Colombia)
Special Session of the Council for Trade in Services	Ambassador Zhanar Aitzhanova (Kazakhstan)
Special Session of the Council for TRIPS	Ambassador Alfredo Suescum (Panama)
Special Session of the Dispute Settlement Body	Ambassador Kokou Yackoley Johnson (Togo)
Special Session of the Committee on Agriculture	Ambassador Gloria Abraham Peralta (Costa Rica)
Sub-Committee on Cotton	Ambassador Gloria Abraham Peralta (Costa Rica)

Special Session of the Committee on Trade and Environment
Ambassador Leopold Samba (Central African Republic)

Special Session of the Committee on Trade and Development
Ambassador Kadra Ahmed Hassan (Djibouti)

Chairpersons of subsidiary bodies of the Council for Trade in Goods

Committee on Agriculture	Mr Marcel Vernooij (Netherlands)
Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices	Mr Juan Carlos Estrella (Ecuador)
Committee on Customs Valuation	Mr Frank Rittner (Germany)
Committee on Import Licensing	Mr Jia Jie Loh (Singapore)
Committee on Market Access	Mr Kenya Uehara (Japan)
Committee on Rules of Origin	Ms Laura Gauer (Switzerland)
Committee on Safeguards	Ms. Maryam Abdulaziz Aldoseri (Kingdom of Bahrain)
Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	Mr Tang-Kai Wang (Chinese Taipei)
Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	Ms Sally Bardayán Rivera (Panama)
Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade	Mr Anwar Hussain Shaik (India)
Committee on Trade Facilitation	Ambassador Adamu Mohammed Abdulhamid (Nigeria)
Committee on Trade-Related Investment Measures	Ms Débora Ponce de Günther (Guatemala)
Working Party on State Trading Enterprises	Mr Agustín Navarro de Vicente-Gella (Spain)
Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products	Mr Hazrul Imran Azahar (Malaysia)

Chairpersons of subsidiary bodies of the Council for Trade in Services

Committee on Trade in Financial Services	Mr Pedro Bravo (Peru)
Working Party on Domestic Regulation	Ms Anna Vitie (Finland)
Committee on Specific Commitments	Mr Danang Prasta (Indonesia)
Working Party on GATS Rules	Mr Petr Fiala (Czech Republic)

Chairpersons of Committees of Plurilateral Agreements

Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr Jean-Marie Meraldi (Switzerland)
Committee on Government Procurement	n/a

Directors-general

1995-2023

Seven directors-general have been appointed since the establishment of the WTO. The WTO's first Director-General was Peter Sutherland, who served from January to April 1995. He was succeeded by Renato Ruggiero (1995-99), Mike Moore (1999-2002) and Supachai Panitchpakdi (2002-05). Pascal Lamy, the longest-serving

Director-General, held office from 2005 to 2013. Roberto Azevêdo took office on 1 September 2013 and served until 31 August 2020. The current and seventh Director-General, Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, took office on 1 March 2021, becoming the first woman and the first African to take on this role. Her term of office will expire on 31 August 2025.



Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria), seventh WTO Director-General, as of 1 March 2021.



Roberto Azevêdo (Brazil), sixth WTO Director-General, September 2013 to August 2020.



Pascal Lamy (France), fifth WTO Director-General, September 2005 to August 2013.



Supachai Panitchpakdi (Thailand), fourth WTO Director-General, September 2002 to August 2005.



Peter Sutherland (Ireland), first WTO Director-General, January 1995 to April 1995.



Renato Ruggiero (Italy), second WTO Director-General, May 1995 to April 1999.



Mike Moore (New Zealand), third WTO Director-General, September 1999 to August 2002.

Membership of the WTO: 164 members (as of 31 December 2022)

Member*	Year of accession	Member*	Year of accession	Member*	Year of accession
Afghanistan	2016	Cyprus	1995	Israel	1995
Albania	2000	Czech Republic	1995	Italy	1995
Angola	1996	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1997	Jamaica	1995
Antigua and Barbuda	1995	Denmark	1995	Japan	1995
Argentina	1995	Djibouti	1995	Jordan	2000
Armenia	2003	Dominica	1995	Kazakhstan	2015
Australia	1995	Dominican Republic	1995	Kenya	1995
Austria	1995	Ecuador	1996	Korea, Republic of	1995
Bahrain, Kingdom of	1995	Egypt	1995	Kuwait, the State of	1995
Bangladesh	1995	El Salvador	1995	Kyrgyz Republic	1998
Barbados	1995	Estonia	1999	Latvia	1999
Belgium	1995	Eswatini	1995	Lao People's Democratic Republic	2013
Belize	1995	European Union	1995	Lesotho	1995
Benin	1996	Fiji	1996	Liberia	2016
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	1995	Finland	1995	Liechtenstein	1995
Botswana	1995	France	1995	Lithuania	2001
Brazil	1995	Gabon	1995	Luxembourg	1995
Brunei Darussalam	1995	The Gambia	1996	Macao, China	1995
Bulgaria	1996	Georgia	2000	Madagascar	1995
Burkina Faso	1995	Germany	1995	Malawi	1995
Burundi	1995	Ghana	1995	Malaysia	1995
Cambodia	2004	Greece	1995	Maldives	1995
Cameroon	1995	Grenada	1996	Mali	1995
Canada	1995	Guatemala	1995	Malta	1995
Cabo Verde	2008	Guinea	1995	Mauritania	1995
Central African Republic	1995	Guinea-Bissau	1995	Mauritius	1995
Chad	1996	Guyana	1995	Mexico	1995
Chile	1995	Haiti	1996	Moldova, Republic of	2001
China	2001	Honduras	1995	Mongolia	1997
Colombia	1995	Hong Kong, China	1995	Montenegro	2012
Congo	1997	Hungary	1995	Morocco	1995
Costa Rica	1995	Iceland	1995	Mozambique	1995
Côte d'Ivoire	1995	India	1995	Myanmar	1995
Croatia	2000	Indonesia	1995	Namibia	1995
Cuba	1995	Ireland	1995	Nepal	2004

BUDGET, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Member*	Year of accession	Member*	Year of accession	Observers** (as of 1 February 2023)
Netherlands	1995	Slovenia	1995	Algeria
New Zealand	1995	Solomon Islands	1996	Andorra
Nicaragua	1995	South Africa	1995	Azerbaijan
Niger	1996	Spain	1995	Bahamas
Nigeria	1995	Sri Lanka	1995	Belarus
Norway	1995	Suriname	1995	Bhutan
North Macedonia, Republic of	2003	Sweden	1995	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Oman	2000	Switzerland	1995	Comoros
Pakistan	1995	Chinese Taipei	2002	Curaçao
Panama	1997	Tajikistan	2013	Equatorial Guinea
Papua New Guinea	1996	Tanzania	1995	Ethiopia
Paraguay	1995	Thailand	1995	Holy See
Peru	1995	Togo	1995	Iran
Philippines	1995	Tonga	2007	Iraq
Poland	1995	Trinidad and Tobago	1995	Lebanese Republic
Portugal	1995	Tunisia	1995	Libya
Qatar	1996	Türkiye	1995	São Tomé and Príncipe
Romania	1995	Uganda	1995	Serbia
Russian Federation	2012	Ukraine	2008	Somalia
Rwanda	1996	United Arab Emirates	1996	South Sudan
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1996	United Kingdom	1995	Sudan
Saint Lucia	1995	United States	1995	Syrian Arab Republic
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1995	Uruguay	1995	Timor-Leste
Samoa	2012	Vanuatu	2012	Turkmenistan
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	2005	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	1995	Uzbekistan
Senegal	1995	Viet Nam	2007	
Seychelles	2015	Yemen	2014	
Sierra Leone	1995	Zambia	1995	
Singapore	1995	Zimbabwe	1995	
Slovak Republic	1995			

*Members are mostly states but can also be separate customs territories with full autonomy over their external commercial relations.

**With the exception of the Holy See, observers must start accession negotiations within five years of becoming observers.

Abbreviations

ADP	anti-dumping practices	MEAs	multilateral environmental agreements
CTD	Committee on Trade and Development	MFN	most-favoured nation
DSB	Dispute Settlement Body	MSMEs	micro, small and medium-sized enterprises
DSU	Dispute Settlement Understanding	NAMA	non-agricultural market access
EIF	Enhanced Integrated Framework	NGO	non-governmental organization
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	NTMs	non-tariff measures
FDI	foreign direct investment	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services	PTAs	preferential trade arrangements
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	RTAs	regional trade agreements
GDP	gross domestic product	SCM	Subsidies and Countervailing Measures
GIs	geographical indications	SG	Agreement on Safeguards
GPA	Government Procurement Agreement	SPS	sanitary and phytosanitary measures
HS	Harmonized System	STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce	SVE	small, vulnerable economy
ILO	International Labour Organization	TBT	technical barriers to trade
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union	TNC	Trade Negotiations Committee
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	TPR	Trade Policy Review
ITA	Information Technology Agreement	TPRM	Trade Policy Review Mechanism
ITC	International Trade Centre	TRIMs	trade-related investment measures
ITTC	Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation	TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
ITU	International Telecommunication Union	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
LDCs	least-developed countries	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
MC12	12th WTO Ministerial Conference		
MC13	13th WTO Ministerial Conference		

0 is zero or became zero due to rounding.

Billion means one thousand million.

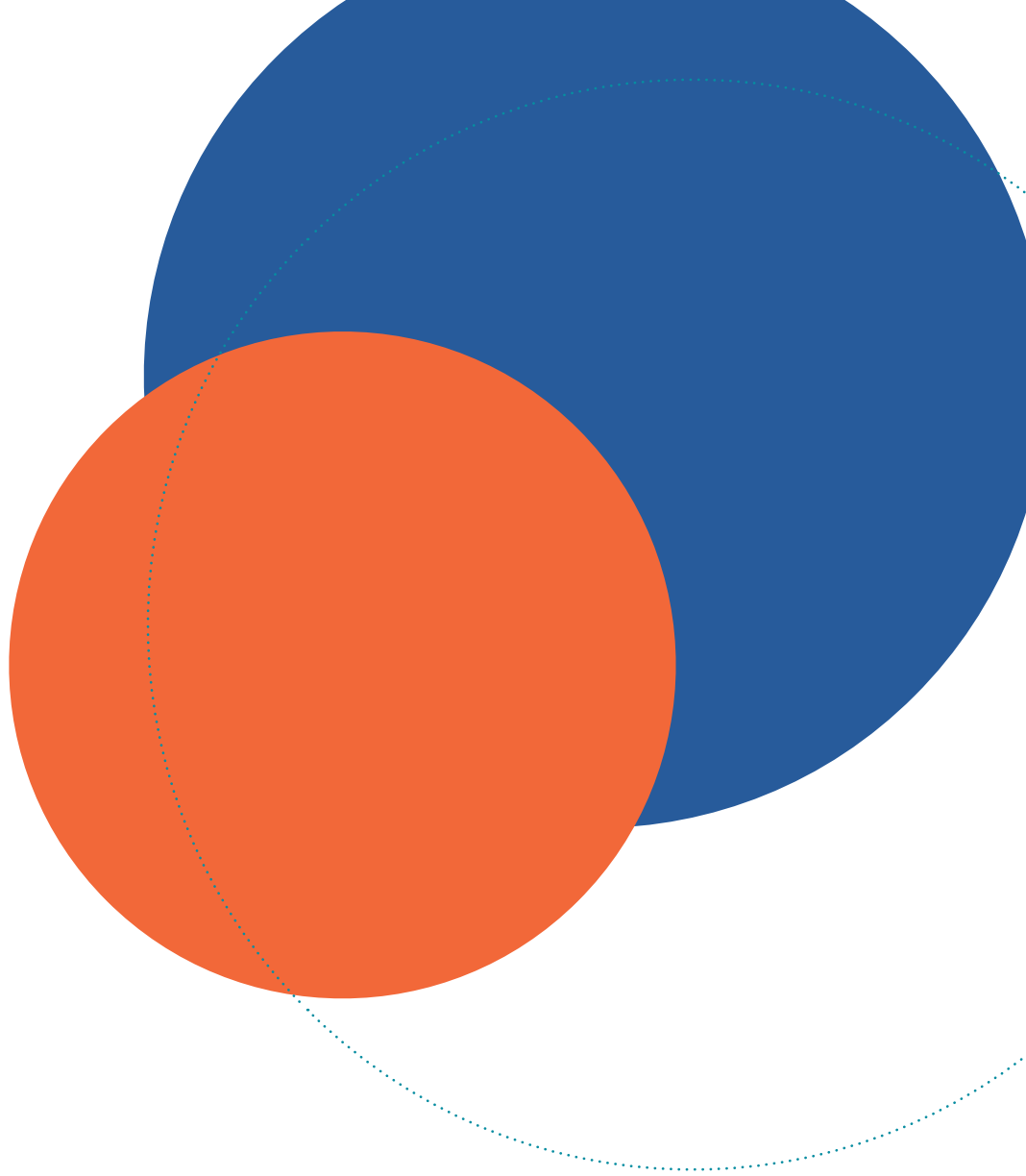
Minor discrepancies between constituent figures and totals are due to rounding.

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 groupings.

Note This report covers the WTO's activities in 2022 and early 2023. 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.

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General information about the WTO is available in the following publications, which may all 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.

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