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World Tariff Profiles 2008

The 2008 edition of World Tariff Profiles presents a comprehensive and updated compilation of the main tariff indicators for the WTO’s members as well as for other countries and customs territories. World Tariff Profiles provides detailed data on the bound and applied tariffs of WTO members. Information on each country’s market access is presented in summary tables – allowing cross-country comparisons – and in country pages. These detail the levels of protection for domestic markets and the protectionism encountered in the major export markets.

This year’s edition includes more detailed information on “exports to major trading partners and duties faced”, with data provided for agricultural and non-agricultural products. There are also two new technical annexes. The first discusses the new Harmonized System and its impact on WTO members’ schedules while the second covers concessions on other duties and charges for all WTO members. World Tariff Profiles is a joint publication of the WTO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre (ITC).

Published August 2008 | CHF 50.-

International Trade Statistics 2008

International Trade Statistics is the WTO’s annual compilation of global trade statistics. This Report provides comprehensive statistics on trade in merchandise and commercial services, with an assessment of world trade flows by country, region and main product groups or service categories. Some 250 tables and charts depict trade developments from various perspectives and provide a number of long-term time series. Major trade developments are summarized and discussed in the first part of the report under Overview. Detailed trade statistics are provided in Appendix tables. This volume has been produced by a team of statisticians of the Economic Research and Statistics Division.

Expected November 2008 | CHF 50.-

Trade Profiles 2008

This booklet is a quick source of information on national and trade statistics of WTO members and countries which are in the process of negotiating WTO membership. These trade profiles combine information on trade flows and trade policy measures of members, observers and other selected economies. The information is derived from various WTO divisions and external sources and presented in a standardized format for quick reference.

Expected November 2008 | CHF 40.-

WTO web site on DVD 2008

This DVD provides a “snapshot” of the WTO web site. It includes the legal texts, trade policy reviews, and trade statistics. The DVD is particularly useful for those who wish to access the web site content without an Internet connection. It is an ideal training tool for seminars.

Published September 2008 | CHF 20.-

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Featuring: New Releases on Trade Topics

Theory And Practice of EC External Trade Law and Policy
Rafael Leal-Arcas

Both the European Community (EC) and its Member States agree that it is in their best interest to coordinate their action vis-à-vis the rest of the world in international trade agreements. Theory and Practice of EC External Trade Law and Policy looks at the intricacies of the institutional framework of EC trade law, with special emphasis on services trade. It examines examines the law and practice of EC external trade relations from a policy, economic, legal and an overarching European constitutional perspective.

The objective of the author’s analysis is not only to find ways to nurture and preserve the unitary character of EC external trade relations in areas of shared competence between EU Member States and EU institutions, but also to understand the management of the EC’s external trade relations.

Cameron May, March 2008

Termites in the Trading System
How Preferential Agreements Undermine Free Trade
Jagdish Bhagwati

Jagdish Bhagwati, an internationally renowned economist known for his insightful analyses and elegant writing, here shines a critical light on Preferential Trade Agreements, revealing how the rapid spread of PTAs endangers the world trading system. Preferential Trade Agreements, many taking the form of Free Trade Agreements, now number over 300 and are rapidly increasing. Bhagwati reveals how these agreements have recreated the unhappy situation of the protectionist 1930s, when world trade was undermined by discriminatory practices (today, ironically, as a result of a misdirected pursuit of free trade). The world trading system is definitely at risk again, the author argues, and the danger is palpable. Indeed, PTAs have created a chaotic system of preferences that has destroyed the principle of non-discrimination in trade. The trading system today is characterized by a blizzard of discriminatory barriers, each designed to favor some specific trading partner, so that we have what Bhagwati has called the “spaghetti bowl” problem. And while the big firms in the big countries can cope with the chaos, though at a cost, the author shows that small countries and small exporters are seriously handicapped.

Oxford University Press, July 2008

Developing Countries and the WTO: Policy Approaches
Gary P. Sampson & W. Bradnee Chambers

It is widely accepted that a well-functioning global trading system is a prerequisite for trade promotion and the development of developing countries. However, it is equally well recognized that the trading system has not worked out to the advantage of many developing countries. For this reason, it is of critical importance for developing countries to have clear proposals for reform that are both ambitious and realistic. Only then can they constructively promote their interests in the coming years. The book addresses the critical policy choices now facing developing countries with respect to trade policy. Experienced negotiators, scholars and trade officials from very different backgrounds offer policy prescriptions to secure a world trading system that will meet the needs of developing countries.

United Nations University, July 2008

The Law and Policy of the World Trade Organization
Text, Cases and Materials
2nd Edition
Peter Van den Bossche

As the leading student text in the field, this title provides both a detailed examination of the law of the World Trade Organization and a clear introduction to the basic principles and underlying logic of the world trading system. It explores the institutional aspects of the WTO together with the substantive law. New to this edition are examinations of the WTO rules on the protection of intellectual property and the rules on technical barriers to trade and sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

Cambridge University Press, August 2008

The Genesis of the GATT
Douglas A. Irwin, Petros C. Mavroidis & Alan O. Sykes

This book is part of a wider project that aims to propose a model GATT that makes good economic sense without undoing its current basic structure. It asks: What does the historical record indicate about the aims and objectives of the framers of the GATT? To what extent does the historical record provide support for one or more of the economic rationales for the GATT? The book supports that the two main framers of the GATT were the United Kingdom and the United States; developing countries’ influence was noticeable only after the mid-1950s. The framers understood the GATT as a pro-peace instrument; however, they were mindful of the costs of achieving such a far-reaching objective and were not willing to allocate them disproportionately. This may explain why their negotiations were based on reciprocal market access commitments so that the terms of trade were not unevenly distributed or affected through the GATT.

Cambridge University Press, August 2008
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