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## **1 ARTICLE 7 OF THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE-RELATED INVESTMENT MEASURES**

### **1.1 Text of Article 7**

#### **Article 7**

##### *Committee on Trade-Related Investment Measures*

1. A Committee on Trade-Related Investment Measures (referred to in this Agreement as the "Committee") is hereby established, and shall be open to all Members. The Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and shall meet not less than once a year and otherwise at the request of any Member.
2. The Committee shall carry out responsibilities assigned to it by the Council for Trade in Goods and shall afford Members the opportunity to consult on any matters relating to the operation and implementation of this Agreement.
3. The Committee shall monitor the operation and implementation of this Agreement and shall report thereon annually to the Council for Trade in Goods.

### **1.2 TRIMs Committee**

1. In practice, the monitoring by the Committee on Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs Committee) of the operation and implementation of the Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs Agreement) is mainly carried out by inviting Members to raise, for discussion at Committee meetings and through exchanges of written questions and answers, the potential TRIMs of other Members. The practice of the Committee therefore usually resembles a system of counter-notification in which Members identify other Member's measures that may be of interest or concern. This differentiates the Committee from some other bodies whereby Members' own self-notified measures may be the basis for their monitoring.

#### **1.2.1 Rules of Procedure**

2. At its meeting of 1 December 1995, the Council for Trade in Goods approved the TRIMs Committee's Rules of Procedure<sup>1</sup>, consisting of the General Council's Rules of Procedure<sup>2</sup> applied *mutatis mutandis* with agreed modifications. The TRIMs Secretariat maintains an informal contact list for the TRIMs Committee to facilitate efficient communication of matters regarding Committee meetings. Delegates assigned to TRIMs may contact the Secretariat at [trimscommittee@wto.org](mailto:trimscommittee@wto.org) to be added to the contact list.

#### **1.2.2 Article 7.2: Responsibilities assigned by the Council for Trade in Goods**

3. At its meeting of 20 February 1995, the Council for Trade in Goods, in approving the standard format for notifications specified under Article 5.1 and 5.5 of the TRIMs Agreement, agreed to a proposal made by the Chairman of the Committee to the effect that the TRIMs Committee would carry out the task assigned to the Council for Trade in Goods with respect to notifications of TRIMs.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [G/C/M/7](#), section 2. The text of the Rules of Procedure can be found in [G/L/151](#).

<sup>2</sup> [WT/L/161](#).

<sup>3</sup> [G/C/M/1](#), para. 2.1.

4. At its meeting of 7 May 2002, the Council for Trade in Goods adopted a Decision that assigned to the TRIMs Committee the work for continued discussion on implementation issues relating to special treatment for developing country Members in respect of the TRIMs Agreement. The Decision stated that:

"Members agree in accordance with Article 7.2 of the TRIMs Agreement, the CTG will assign to the Committee on TRIMs the responsibility for conducting the work on the outstanding implementation issues contained in tirets 37-40 of the document JOB(01)/152/Rev.1. The TRIMs committee shall report regularly on the progress of its work to the CTG, which will report to the Trade Negotiating Committee in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration."<sup>4</sup>

5. The TRIMs Committee discussed these issues during 2002-2007.<sup>5</sup> On 18 December 2007, the Chairperson of the TRIMs Committee submitted an oral report to the General Council, noting that the TRIMs Committee had considered two proposals on special and differential treatment submitted by the African Group<sup>6</sup>, including a revised version thereof<sup>7</sup>, with respect to Articles 4 and 5.3 of the TRIMs Agreement.<sup>8</sup> At the meeting of the General Council on 17 December 2009, the Chairperson of the Committee had no further developments to report.<sup>9</sup>

### **1.2.3 Article 7.3: Reporting**

6. The TRIMs Committee reports to the Council for Trade in Goods on an annual basis.<sup>10</sup>

Current as of: July 2022

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<sup>4</sup> [G/C/M/60](#), Section VI.

<sup>5</sup> See the 2002-2007 annual reports of the Committee.

<sup>6</sup> [TN/CTD/W/3/Rev.2](#).

<sup>7</sup> The latest revised version of the African Group's proposals is reproduced in Annex 4 to the TRIMs Committee's Annual Report for 2007 ([G/L/837](#)).

<sup>8</sup> [WT/GC/M/112](#), para. 142.

<sup>9</sup> [WT/GC/M/124](#), para. 52.

<sup>10</sup> The reports are contained in the following documents: [G/L/37](#) for 1995; [G/L/133](#) for 1996; [G/L/193](#) for 1997; [G/L/259](#) for 1998; [G/L/319](#) for 1999; [G/L/390](#) for 2000; [G/L/589](#) for 2002; [G/L/649](#) for 2003; [G/L/705](#) and [Corr.1](#) for 2004; [G/L/752](#) for 2005; [G/L/793](#) for 2006; [G/L/837](#) for 2007; [G/L/860](#) for 2008; [G/L/900](#) for 2009; [G/L/928](#) for 2010; [G/L/964](#) for 2011; [G/L/1003](#) for 2012; [G/L/1045](#) for 2013; [G/L/1091](#) for 2014; [G/L/1123](#) for 2015; [G/L/1153](#) for 2016; [G/L/1197](#) for 2017; [G/L/1273](#) for 2018; [G/L/1337](#) for 2019; and [G/L/1363](#) and [Corr.1](#) for 2020.