WTO Accession Commitments Database (ACDB)

A tool for analysing WTO accession-related information
What is the ACDB?

**Accession Commitments Database (ACDB)** provides user-friendly access to all accession commitments and related information contained in the Working Party Reports and Accession Protocols of Members that have acceded to the World Trade Organization, pursuant to Article XII of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization.
What is the source of information?

**Accession Package of Member A**
- Binding commitments contained in WTO Official Documents

**Article XII Members**
- Ecuador (1996)
- Bulgaria (1996)
- Mongolia (1997)
- The Russian Federation (2012)
- Vanuatu (2012)
- Lao PDR (2013)
- Tajikistan (2013)

**Working Party Report and Protocol of Accession**

**Goods Schedule**

**Services Schedule**

**Accession Commitments Database (ACDB)**

**CTS* Database**

**Services Database**

*WTO Consolidated Tariff Schedules Database (CTS)*
What is the purposes?

- To meet increased demands for accessions commitments information
  - Dispute settlement proceedings
  - On-going accession processes
  - Public availability of complete WTO legal instruments (transparency + research)
- To better streamline and structure accession commitments spread in different documents
- To provide a user-friendlier access
- To integrate as part of the WTO information system
What have been done?

- Launched by Director-General at the 2012 Beijing Round Table on Accessions for LDCs on 29 May 2012
- Available on the WTO website on 16 January 2013
- Over 8700 records, covering 31 Working Party Reports and Protocols of Accession
- In 3 official languages: English, French and Spanish
- No legal status. It only electronically registers what exists in hard-copy and presents in a more user-friendly and comprehensive manner
The representative of Samoa confirmed that under the Liquor Act 2011, the act of importation would be separated from the act of distribution or selling. ... 

The representative of Samoa confirmed that from the date of accession, Samoa would ensure that its laws and ... The Working Party took note of this commitment.

The representative of Samoa said that Samoa’s existing sanitary and phytosanitary measures were applied and regulated by the Agriculture, ... 

138. The representative of Vanuatu confirmed that no later than the date of accession, ...
How to use the ACDB?

- **Browse by section:** displays accession commitments and related information by WTO member and by theme
- **Search by keyword:** allows users to search by specific term(s) in Working Party Reports and Accession Protocols
- **Report by member:** displays Working Party Reports and Accession Protocols by WTO member
... other functions/search options

- Information on transition periods/arrangements
- Pre-defined Member group (LDCs)
- Export information of PDF documents
- User Guide
WTO Accession Commitments Database (ACDB)

http://acdb.wto.org

Thanks!