



2nd High-Level Regional Dialogue on WTO Accessions

The Trade for Peace Programme

Background and Overview



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Trade for Peace Programme

1. Origin: g7+ WTO Accessions Group
2. Fragile & Conflict-Affected States (FCS) in accession
3. T4P Programme: 4 Pillars of activities
4. Outlook for 2022

Origin: g7+ WTO Accessions Group



Background:

- Most recent accessions and applications are from fragile & conflict-affected LDCs:
 - ✓ New members: Yemen (2014), Liberia and Afghanistan (2016)
 - ✓ New applications: Somalia and Timor-Leste (2016), South Sudan (2017)

g7+ WTO Accessions Group:

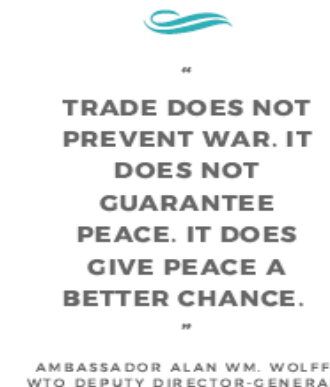
- ✓ Launched during MC11, Dec. 2017
- ✓ Joined by other FCS-LDCs (Comoros, Sao Tomé & Príncipe, Sudan)
- ✓ Issued Ministerial Declaration (WT/MIN(17)/51)
- ✓ Objective: To highlight special needs and challenges faced by FCA economies in accession and post-accession
- ✓ Coordinated by Afghanistan (2017-2020), Liberia & Timor-Leste since 2021

Trade for Peace Initiative:

- ✓ T4P vision shared by other FCS, including non-LDCs
- ✓ Activities aimed at better understanding on the trade & peace nexus
- ✓ Efforts to bring together the trade, peace/humanitarian & development communities



Launch of the g7+ WTO Accessions Group, Buenos Aires, 10 December 2017



Fragile & Conflict-Affected States (FCS) in ongoing accessions: World Bank 2022 list



Africa	Europe/CIS	Asia Pacific	Middle East	Americas
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Algeria, 1987 2. Sudan*, 1994 3. Ethiopia*, 2003 4. Libya, 2004 5. Sao Tomé and Príncipe*, 2005 6. Comoros*, 2007 7. Equatorial Guinea, 2008 8. Somalia*, 2016 9. South Sudan*, 2017 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Belarus, 1993 2. Uzbekistan, 1994 3. Azerbaijan, 1997 4. Andorra, 1997 5. Bosnia & Herzegovina, 1999 6. Serbia, 2005 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bhutan*, 1999 2. Timor-Leste*, 2016 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lebanese Rep., 1999 2. Iraq, 2004 3. Iran, 2005 4. Syrian Arab Rep., 2010 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bahamas, 2001 2. Curaçao, 2020
	<p><i>Turkmenistan, 2020 (observer to the GC & subsidiary bodies)</i></p>			

Notes: Year of application in; **FCS**; LDC (*).

Arab Region: 7 out of 8 on-going accessions, plus Palestine (*ad hoc* observer to MC), are FCS

The Trade for Peace Programme



Vision:

- Promotion of the rules-based MTS as an instrument for peacebuilding and sustaining peace
- Call for collaboration between trade, peace/humanitarian & development partners
- Seeking interdisciplinary & innovative approaches in leveraging the MTS for peace and security

Implementation through 4 Pillars:

1. Political engagement and partnerships

- ✓ e.g. agency- and issue- specific collaboration, T4P Network, support to the g7+ WTO Accessions Group

2. Public dialogue and outreach

- ✓ T4P Week (2020, 2021), WTO Public Forum, Geneva Peace Week, Geneva Trade Week, WB Fragility Forum etc
- ✓ T4P Podcast: Hosted by former Liberia's Accession Chief Negotiator Axel Addy and 16 episodes aired since March 2021

3. Research

- ✓ e.g. T4P Research & Knowledge Hub, T4P Index, call for papers for 1st T4P publication

4. Training and Capacity building

- ✓ e.g. Executive training program, curriculum development for a T4P course



Geneva Trade Week, September 2021



EPISODE 15

"Defrosting Frozen Conflicts: The Role of Trade"

Trade
for peace

Podcast



- **Thomas Greminger**

*Director, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)
Former Secretary General, Organization for Security
and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)*

Outlook for 2022



WTO Director-General: “2022 is the Year of Consolidation for T4P”

- More activities envisaged under all the 4 Pillars of T4P Programme
- More partners from different communities and regions
- Focus on the voices from the ground, country-specific & region-specific approaches
- Always looking for new ideas to make the WTO more inclusive and relevant to today’s world – *“The WTO is about the people”*

Upcoming Activities in 2022

- World Bank Fragility Forum, March
- 2nd T4P Research & Knowledge Hub meeting, Q1
- 2nd T4P Network meeting, Q2
- Publication of 1st Trade for Peace book, Q4
- 1st Trade for Peace Conference, Q4
- 1st Executive Education Programme on T4P, Q4

And more





Stay in touch:

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