ABOUT THE WTO

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only international organization dealing with the global rules of trade. The WTO has 164 members, accounting for 98% of world trade. Its main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably, and freely as possible. It does this by:

- administering trade agreements
- acting as a forum for trade negotiations
- settling trade disputes
- reviewing national trade policies
- building the trade capacity of developing economies
- cooperating with other international organizations

The WTO is an official observer organization to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

OUR ROLE AT COP27

The WTO will play an active role in the upcoming UN Climate Change COP27 taking place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 18 November. Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala will participate in world leaders’ summit events while the WTO will also take part in events with other organizations to discuss issues regarding trade and climate change. COP27 will also see the launch of the WTO’s World Trade Report 2022 entitled "Climate Change and International Trade".

HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS WITH WORLD LEADERS

Roundtable on Food Security
Co-convened by Egypt and the World Economic Forum
7 November, 13:30-15:30 (EET)
Speaker: Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director General

Accelerating Adaptation in Africa
Co-organized by the African Union and Global Center for Adaptation
8 November, 11:00 – 12:00 (EET)
Speaker: Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director General

Time to act: Implementing Trade-Related Contributions to the Global Response to Climate Change
Launch of World Trade Report on Climate Change
UK Pavilion, COP27 Blue Zone
8 November, 14:45 – 15:30 (EET)
Speaker: Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director General
Our annual flagship report released during the Climate Change COP27 focuses on the trade-climate change relationship. It provides critical data and analysis to help guide governments, businesses, and other key stakeholders in using trade to contribute to climate change action, including both mitigation and adaptation. It explains, for example, how global markets provide the scale required to bring down the cost of clean energy and climate-related goods and services. Likewise, the prospect of export markets expands the incentives for private companies to invest in innovation in renewable power generation and all the other cleantech breakthroughs needed to shift the global economy onto a sustainable trajectory. And trade ensures that nations without their own production capacities to essential goods and services, as well as required to transition to a clean energy future.

Eliminating tariffs and reducing non-tariff measures on a subset of energy-related environmental goods could boost exports by 5 percent by 2030 while driving energy efficiency.

Increased uptake of renewable energy technologies would reduce global emissions by 0.6 percent.

Global shift to clean energy will generate as many as 30 million new jobs in clean energy and related sectors by 2030.

International trade can play an essential role in climate adaptation, risk prevention, reduction, and disaster preparedness.

Between 2013 to 2020, Aid for Trade disbursements related to climate change action totalled US$ 96 billion, with a larger share of the disbursements directed at climate mitigation.