WTO Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products

Symposium on the 20th Anniversary of the Information Technology Agreement

27-28 June 2017

Programme

Purpose:
A. To have an overview of the trade liberalization under the ITA and the evolution of global trade in ICT products over the past 20 years;
B. To examine how ICT, as a development tool, can help developing countries and SMEs in promoting connectivity and achieving sustainable development goals; and can enable diversification, technology upgrading, and innovation;
C. To discuss what is next for the ITA and the ICT sector.

On this occasion, a new WTO publication to mark the 20th Anniversary of the Information Technology Agreement will be launched. The Symposium also serves as an opportunity to help capacity building on ITA for developing Members and LDCs.

The Chairperson of the ITA Committee, Ms Zsofia Tvarusko, will serve as facilitator.
Day One:
Tuesday, 27 June 2017

Morning Session

10:00 Welcome Address and launching of the WTO publication:
Mr Roberto Azevêdo
Director-General of the WTO

Keynote Address:
Mr James Kenneth Lockett, Vice President, Head of Trade Facilitation and Market Access, Huawei

Keynote Address:
Mr John Neuffer, President and CEO, Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)

Keynote Address:
H.E. Mr Alexander Mora, Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica

A. Trade liberalization under the ITA and evolution of global trade in ICT products over the past 20 years

10:45 Overview

- Mr Andreas Maurer, Economic Research and Statistics Division, WTO

B. How ICT, as a development tool, can help developing countries and SMEs in promoting connectivity and achieving sustainable development goals; and can enable diversification, technology upgrading, and innovation

11:00 Overview

- How ICT as a development tool can help developing countries and SMEs in promoting connectivity and achieving sustainable development goals

- Mr Pierre Sauvé, Senior Trade Specialist, World Bank Group
- Dr Cosmas Zavazava, Chief, Projects and Knowledge Management Department, ITU

11:20 Evidence-based presentations: ICT as a development tool, benefits, opportunities and challenges to developing countries

- Academic views

- Mr Stephen Ezell, Vice President of Global Innovation Policy, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF)

- The experience of developing countries

- Mr Gideon Mwangi, Senior Economist, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kenya
- The experience of developing ITA Participants
  - Mr Danilo Lachica, President of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines (SEIPI)
  - Mr Sudhir Kumar Marwaha, Director, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, India
  - Mr Suraj Ramgolam, Programme Manager, Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation, Mauritius

12:45 Panel discussion and Q&A
  - Mr Trevor Gunn, Vice President of International Relations, Medtronic
  - Ms Nanjira Sambuli, Digital Equality Advocacy Manager, World Wide Web Foundation
  - Mr Ulf Pehrsson, Vice President, Government & Industry Relations, Ericsson

13:30–15:00 Lunch break

Afternoon session

15:00 Overview
  - How ICT, as a development tool can enable diversification, technology upgrading, and innovation in particular in the developing world
    - Mr Torbjörn Fredriksson, Chief, ICT Analysis Section, UNCTAD
    - Mr Martin Labbé, Senior Officer, Division of Business and Institutional Support, Trade Support Institutions Strengthening, ITC

15:20 Evidence-based presentations: ICT as a development tool, benefits, opportunities and challenges to SMEs
  - Ms Katia Cerwin, Co-Creator and Director, Funsepa/Programa Valentina, Guatemala
  - Ms Sonia Ozoux, eServices Manager, FRCI
  - Mr Csaba Faix, Head of Communications, Prezi

16:00 Q&A

C. ITA and the ICT sector: What's next?

16:15 Existing challenges and opportunities: non-tariff barriers to trade in information technology products
  - Mr Michikazu Chihara, Chairperson of the Trade Policy Committee, Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA)
  - Mr Peter Kelleher, Product Regulatory Engineer, Dell
17:00  Panel discussions and Q&A

- Mr Josh Rosenberg, Director of Global Policy, Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
- Mr Jay Chavez, Vice President Operations, Ionics Philippines
- Mr Pietro di Fiore, Chairman Market Access Group, Digitaleurope
- Mr Gilles Thonet, Head of ICT Standards Coordination, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)

18:00  End of day one

18:15  Cocktail Reception for all participants sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Hungary
Day two:

*Wednesday, 28 June 2017*

Morning Session

C. *ITA and the ICT sector: What's next? (cont'd)*

10:30 **Existing challenges and opportunities (cont'd)**

- Mr Marc Vancoppenolle, Global Head of Government Relations, Nokia
- Ms Jill Franze, Senior Director of Global Customs and Trade, Cisco
- Mr Doug Johnson, Vice President of Technology Policy, Consumer Technology Association (CTA)

11:00 **Future challenges and opportunities: further expansion of trade in ICT products**

- Mr Yoichi Otabe, Special Advisor of Trade Policy and International Cooperation Board, JEITA
- Mr Ganesh Kumar Bangah, Deputy Chairman, National ICT Association of Malaysia (PIKOM)
- Ms To Thi Thu Huong, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Information and Communications of Vietnam
- Mr Raymond Pao, Vice President, VR New Technology, HTC

12.00 **Panel discussions and Q&A**

- Mr Mario Palacios, Global Director of Export and Import Policy, Intel Corporation
- Mr Hendrik Abma, Director General, European Semiconductor Industry Association
- Mr Carlos Halasz, Customs Compliance Officer, HP, Inc.

12:45  

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=============================CLOSING SESSION=============================
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The facilitator will provide a summary of the Symposium. Participants will then have an opportunity for final discussion and to provide any last comments and feedback.

13:00 **End of Symposium**

The Symposium will be followed at 15:30 on day two by a formal meeting of the ITA Committee, which will be open only to WTO Member Government representatives and other international intergovernmental organizations enjoying observer status.
**Operational details:**

- The Symposium will be held in the Council Room, Centre William Rappard, WTO, Geneva, Switzerland;
- The Symposium is open to all WTO Members and Observers, to private sector IT industry representatives, to academic experts in IT technologies, to international intergovernmental organizations, to NGOs and journalists, and to the public;
- Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the three official WTO languages (English, French, and Spanish);
- **Registration** via the WTO website is mandatory in order to gain access to the WTO building and to facilitate seating arrangements, excepting those already in possession of a WTO badge
- Copies of the presentations will be made available on the WTO website after the Symposium, subject to speaker authorization.