

KEY MILESTONES

100TH SESSION OF THE CRTA

Over **190** RTAs considered under the TM as of June 2021

- ✓ **21 June:** [100th Session](#) of the CRTA under the Chairmanship of [Amb. Cleopa Kilonzo Mailu](#) (Kenya)
- ✓ The Committee is to consider one of the largest plurilateral RTAs to date: the [Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership](#) (CPTPP).
- ✓ As of June 2021, **349** RTAs have been notified and are currently in force.

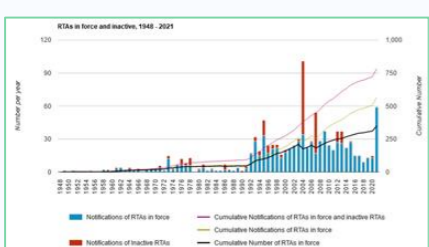


10TH WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE (MC10)



- ✓ At MC10 in Nairobi, WTO members agreed “to work towards the transformation of the current provisional Transparency Mechanism into a permanent mechanism”.
- ☐ Check out §28 of the [Nairobi Ministerial Declaration](#)

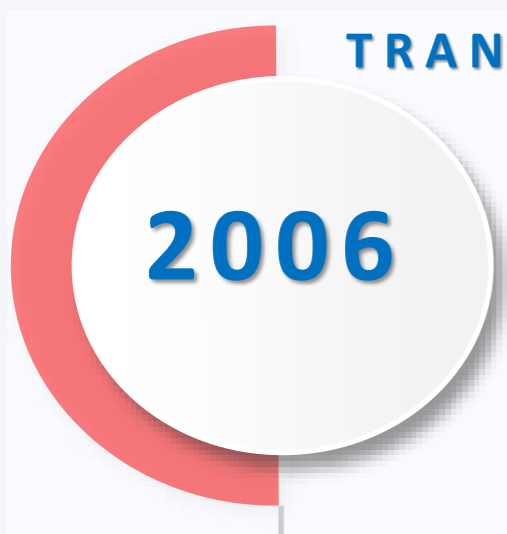
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WTO RTA DATABASE



- ✓ The [RTA Database](#) is a repository of the legal texts and annexes of all RTAs notified to the WTO, preferential tariff and trade data provided by RTA parties, and other related documents.
- ✓ §21 of the [TM for RTAs](#) mandates the WTO Secretariat to “establish and maintain an updated electronic database on individual RTAs”.
- ☐ Check out our [Tutorial videos](#) !



TRANSPARENCY MECHANISM (TM) FOR RTAS



- ✓ **14 December:** The WTO General Council established the [TM for RTAs](#) on a provisional basis.
- ✓ **10 July:** Members approved a draft decision for the provisional implementation of a TM for RTAs in [Negotiating Group on Rules](#) meeting under the Chairmanship of [Amb. Guillermo Valles](#) (Uruguay).
- ☐ Check out our video on the [RTA TM!](#)

66 RTA examinations prior to establishment of the TM

START OF NEGOTIATIONS ON RTAS

- ✓ Throughout 2002 to 2006, informal consultations and various meetings of the Negotiation Group on Rules were held to find a consensus among Members and work towards the adoption of a new “Transparency Mechanism for RTAs”.
- ✓ **8 May:** Negotiating Group on Rules requested the **WTO Secretariat** to prepare a [background note](#) which could assist delegations in the preparation of submissions and proposals on RTAs.



ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CRTA



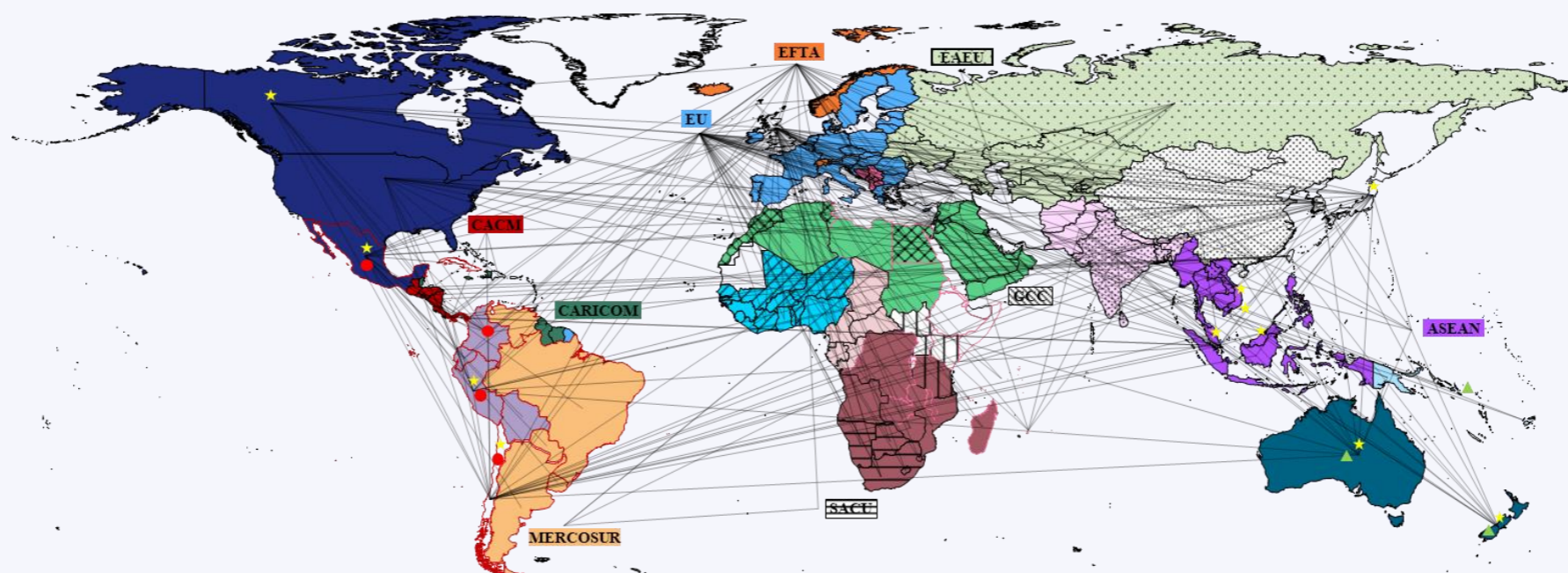
- ✓ [CRTA Rules of Procedures](#) approved by the General Council.
- ✓ **21 May:** **First Session of the Committee held** under the Chairmanship of Amb. John Weekes (Canada).
- ✓ **6 February:** During its [meeting](#), the **General Council decided to establish the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements**. The **decision** can be found in [WT/L/127](#).
- ✓ At the [meeting](#) of the General Council held in November 1995, Canada requested that *informal consultations be held on the establishment of a Committee on Regional Trade Agreement*.

RTA WORK PRIOR TO THE CRTA

- ✓ Up to the establishment of the CRTA, the examination of RTAs was carried out by individual working parties!



~ LANDSCAPE OF RTAS ~



- USMCA ■ CARICOM ■ EFTA ■ CIS ■ PAFTA ■ CEMAC ■ GCC ■ APTA ■ PICTA
- CACM ■ MERCOSUR ■ EU ■ EAEU ■ ECOWAS ■ SADC ■ EAC ■ SAFTA ■ ANZCERTA
- CAN ■ LAIA ■ CEFTA ■ AGADIR ■ WAEMU ■ SACU ■ COMESA ■ ASEAN ■ PACER Plus
- Pacific Alliance ★ CPTPP