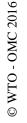


WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DEL COMERCIO

Overview of the Multilateral Agreements & One-off and Regular Notification Requirements: a Summary for Afghanistan by Agreement

Module III



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Samer Seif El-Yazal & Anna Varyanik WTO Bangkok, 11-15 July 2016

WTO - Basic Legal and Economic Principles

Transparency

Publications, Notifications, TPR

Predictability

Through binding – access to markets

No Discrimination

Most Favoured Nation (MFN)

National Treatment (NT)

Undistorted "fair competition"

Anti-dumping, Subsidies and Countervailing, Safeguards

Encourage development: Assisting developing countries to increase their participation in the multilateral trading system



WTO: What is it?

- The World Trade Organization a rules-based organization set up by governments to administer multilateral trade agreements (MTAs) and perform a number of other important functions
- Established on 1 January 1995; Not an entirely new institution. Succeeded the GATT which existed from 1 January 1948 - 31 December 1994
- Membership: keeps on changing, but recent figure is 162 Members, 21 acceding.
- Secretariat: around 700 people; different backgrounds and nationalities. Headed by a Director-General, Mr. Roberto Azevêdo from Brazil.
- Offices in Geneva. No field offices.



WTO - History

- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
- From 1948 to 1995
- Rules with a "provisional" character
- 23 Contracting parties (in 1948)
- Negotiations were organized under the so-called "Rounds" (8 during the GATT)



WTO vs GATT: Main differences

- Nature
 - GATT: applied on a provisional basis with no institutional framework
 - WTO: permanent framework with a permanent organization
- Scope
 - **GATT: trade in goods**
 - > WTO: trade in goods and services and TRIPS
- Approach
 - ➤ GATT: à la carte (many agreements selective)
 - > WTO: single undertaking
 - Dispute settlement



WTO: Main functions

- Administering and implementing the multilateral and plurilateral trade agreements
- Forum for multilateral trade negotiations
- Dispute settlement
- Overseeing national trade policy
- Co-operation with the IMF and the World Bank (coherence in global economic policy-making)



Art. III

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WTO: Uruguay Round Results

Final Act

- **WTO** Agreement (Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the WTO)
- □ Annex 1A: Multilateral Agreements on Trade in Goods
- □ Annex 1B: General Agreement on Trade in Services and Annexes
- Annex 1C: Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
- □ Annex 2: Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes
- □ Annex 3: Trade Policy Review Mechanism
- □ Annex 4: Plurilateral Trade Agreements
- **Ministerial Declarations and Decisions**

Annex 1A

Multilateral agreements on trade in Goods

GATT 1994 (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) Understandings Marrakesh Protocol

1 A Multilateral trade agreement on trade in goods

Agreements on:	
Agriculture	Antidumping
Sanitary and phytosanitary	Customs valu
measures	Preshipment
To still a subscript of a their su	

lextiles and clothing

ms valuation

ipment inspection

Pules of origin

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