

# **LDCs in the WTO**

## **From Bali to Nairobi**

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# **The Book**

## **LDCs in the WTO: Challenges of Implementing the Bali Package**

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# **The Book: *Six Chapters***

1. Introduction
2. The Bali Package: Implications for Asia-Pacific LDCs and the Way Forward
3. The WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation: Consistency with Regional Trade Agreements and the Transition to Paperless Trade
4. The Potential Effects of Recent WTO Decisions Related to Agriculture on Trade Flows
5. Waiting for Service? Progress in Preferential Market Access for Asia-Pacific Least Developed Countries' Services Exports
6. Setting the road for post-Nairobi actions for Asia-Pacific LDCs

# **The Book: *Key Aspects***

- This monograph explores the challenges faced in implementing the WTO Bali package for the LDCs. It provides an analysis of the key decisions, and identifies opportunities and, in certain cases, outlines strategies for assessing the impact.
- The important aspects of this publication relate to policy advisory with regard to the preparedness of LDCs as a group for successful negotiations at WTO.
- Given the high trade costs faced by the LDCs, the study suggests that they must capitalize on the successful implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

# **The Book: *Key Aspects***

- The book also identifies the gaps in LDC capacities, and articulates the needs in terms of national and regional policies and capacity-building programs that will be called for to help them implement the Ministerial decisions in favor of the LDCs.
- The study aims at identifying the effects of the decisions related to public stockholding and its implications for food-importing countries, especially the economies in the Asia-Pacific region. It also looks at the progress in preferential market access for Asia-Pacific LDC's services exports
- The study also draws attention to what should be done towards finalization of the Doha Round and the ongoing WTO negotiations.

# **The Post-Bali Scenario**

# The Bali Outcome

- For the LDCs, the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the WTO held in Bali, Indonesia in December 2013 was of high importance
  - After five years of deadlock, the Bali Ministerial Declaration was able to infuse a new life into the stalled Doha Round, and in a way helped salvage the WTO as a negotiating forum and fulcrum of the multilateral trading system
  - It covered four areas:
    - ***Development and LDC issues***
    - ***Agreement on Trade Facilitation***
    - ***Agriculture*** – Public stockholding, TQRM
    - ***Cotton*** – market access, elimination of export subsidies
  - Subsequent decisions related to the Bali Ministerial Outcomes were adopted by the General Council in Geneva, Switzerland on November 2014



# Development and LDC Issues

- ***Four major elements of the LDC Package:***
  - A decision on the implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access for LDCs
  - A decision on preferential rules of origin for LDCs
  - A decision on the operationalization of the LDC services waiver

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