



**REPORT TO THE TPRB FROM THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON
TRADE-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS**

(Mid-October 2014 to mid-May 2015)

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KEY FINDINGS

104 new trade-restrictive measures (excluding trade remedy measures) were put in place in the reporting period 16 October 2014 to 15 May 2015 – an average of around 15 new measures per month.

This monthly rate has remained relatively stable since 2012, though the overall stock of measures nevertheless continues to rise.

Of the 2,416 measures recorded since October 2008, less than 25% have been removed, leaving the stock of restrictive measures still in place at 1,828. This represents an increase of 12% compared to the last report.

This remains a cause for concern and continued vigilance is required from WTO members.

More encouragingly, WTO Members have adopted more trade-liberalizing measures (excluding trade remedy actions) than trade-restrictive measures since the end of 2013. Continuing this trend, during the period under review, WTO Members implemented 114 new trade-liberalizing measures – an average of more than 16 measures per month.

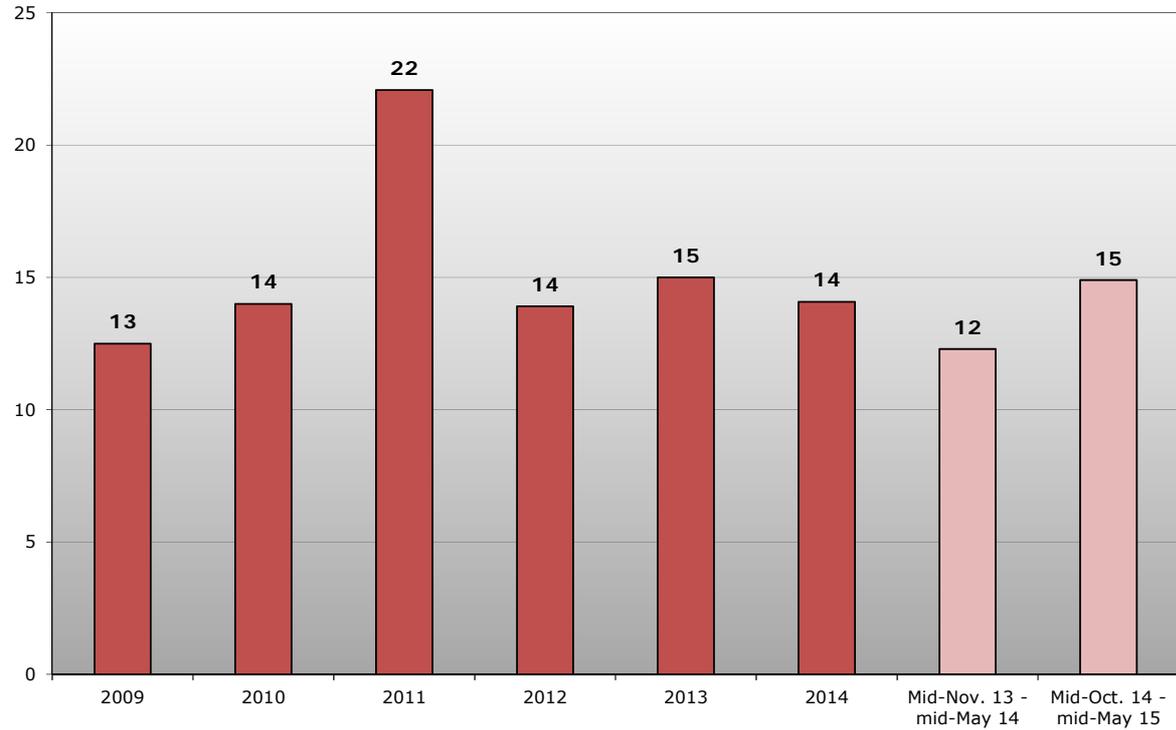
The broader international economic context supports the need for vigilance and action with regard to trade-restrictive measures. According to the WTO's most recent forecast (14 April 2015), growth in the volume of world merchandise trade should increase from 2.8% in 2014 to 3.3% in 2015 and further to 4.0% in 2016, but remaining below historical averages.

The multilateral trading system has proven its usefulness in providing a predictable and transparent framework governing trade between nations and in helping Members resist protectionist pressures as a response to the global economic and financial crisis and thereafter.

This role in providing a stable, predictable and transparent trading environment should be kept in mind as Members prepare for the WTO's tenth Ministerial Conference in Nairobi in December.

Trade-restrictive measures, not including trade remedies

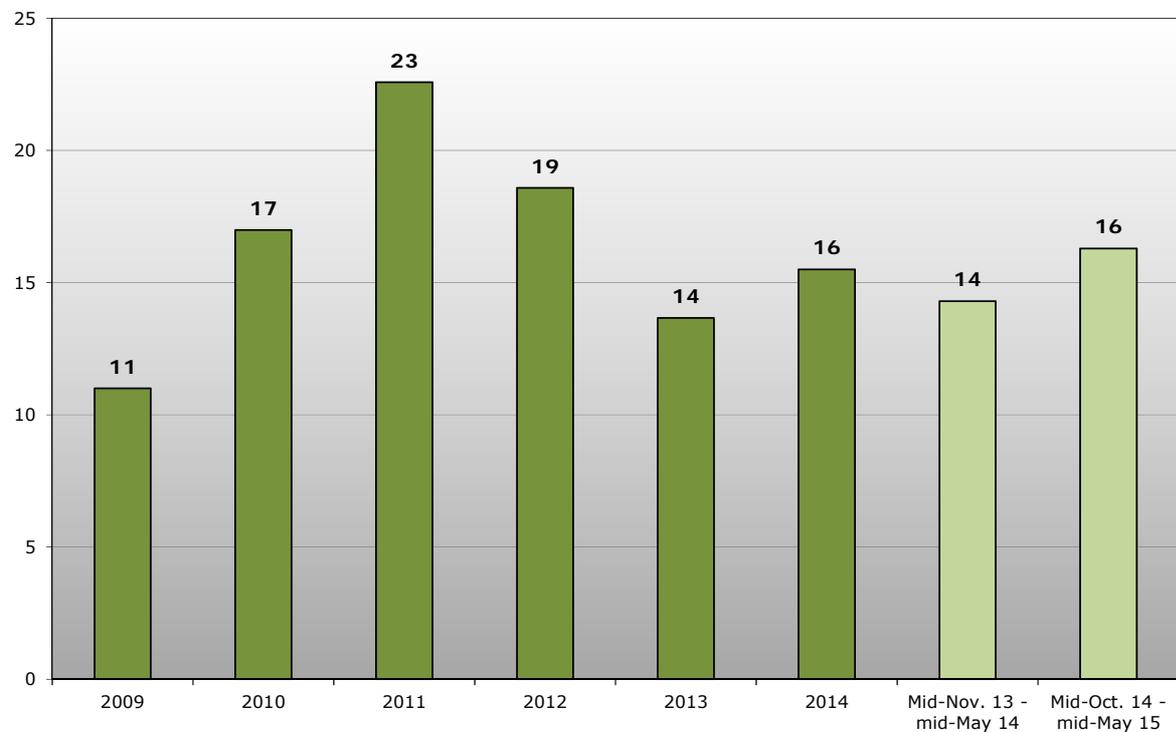
(Average per month)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

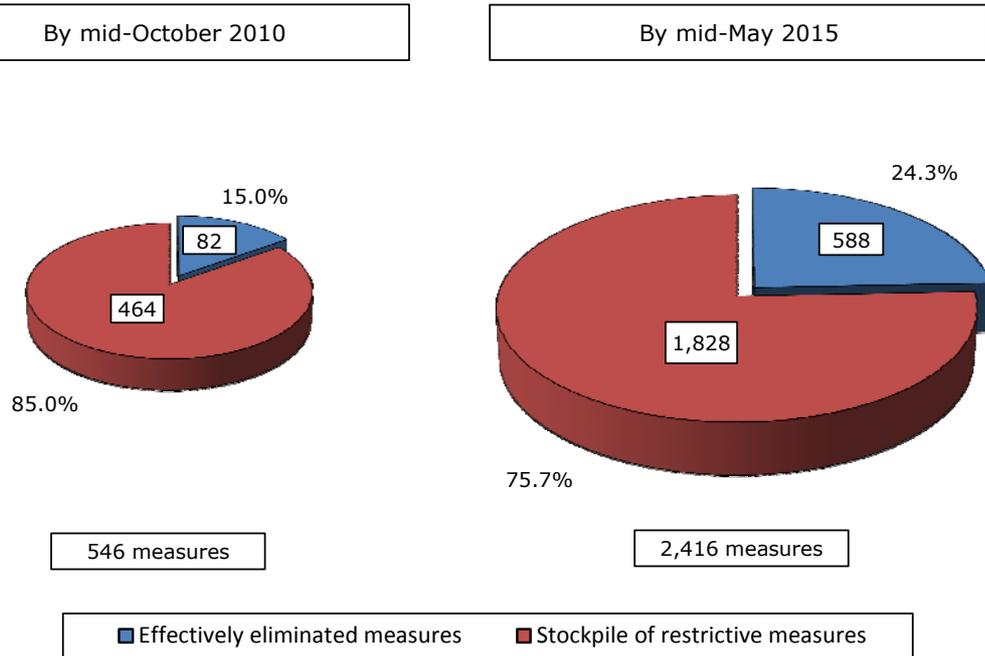
Trade-facilitating measures, not including trade remedies

(Average per month)



Source: WTO Secretariat.

Stockpile of restrictive measures¹



Source: WTO Secretariat.

¹ Totals include measures listed in Annex 3 and initiations of trade remedy actions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This trade-monitoring report reviews trade-related developments during the period from 16 October 2014 to 15 May 2015.

The report confirms that WTO Members continue to show some restraint in introducing new trade-restrictive measures with the introduction of such measures (excluding trade remedies) relatively stable since 2012. During the period under review, 104 new trade-restrictive measures were put in place – an average of around 15 new measures per month.

Nevertheless, the slow pace of removal of previous restrictions means that the overall stock of restrictive measures is continuing to increase. Of the 2,416 restrictions (including trade remedies) recorded by the monitoring exercise since October 2008, only 588 have been removed. In other words, the total number of those restrictive measures still in place currently stands at 1,828 – up by over 12% compared to the last report. The addition of new restrictive measures, combined with a slow removal rate, remains a persistent concern. With the share of removals of total restrictive measures still under 25%, the longer-term trend in the number of trade-restrictive measures remains an area where continued vigilance is required.

More encouragingly, WTO Members continued to adopt measures aimed at facilitating trade, both temporary and permanent in nature. Members implemented 114 new trade-liberalizing measures during the period under review – an average of more than 16 measures per month. When counted without trade-remedy actions, WTO Members have adopted more liberalizing trade measures than restrictive measures since the end of 2013.

Also, in the area of trade remedies, a slight deceleration has been observed in the number of initiations of anti-dumping investigations during the period under review. Initiations of countervailing investigations and safeguard investigations have also declined recently.

The broader international economic context also supports the need for continuing vigilance and action. Trends in world trade and output have remained mixed since the last monitoring report, as merchandise trade volumes and GDP growth picked up in the second half of 2014 but appear to have slowed in the first quarter of 2015. Economic activity remained uneven across countries as the United States (US) and China slowed in Q1 while growth in the euro area and Japan picked up. Plunging oil prices and strong exchange rate fluctuations – including an appreciation of the U.S. dollar and a depreciation of the Euro – generated uncertainty to the economic outlook. Lower prices for oil and other primary commodities were expected to provide a boost to importing economies, but reduced export revenues weighed heavily on commodity exporters. In light of these developments, the Secretariat's most recent forecast (14 April 2015) predicted a continued moderate expansion of trade in 2015 and 2016, although the pace of recovery was expected to remain below historical averages. According to this forecast, growth in the volume of world merchandise trade should increase from 2.8% in 2014 to 3.3% in 2015 and further to 4.0% in 2016.

This report shows that WTO Members introduced 75 new general economic support measures. The main beneficiaries were selected industries in the manufacturing sector, activities related to the agricultural sector and a number of programmes to assist SMEs. A variety of financial aid schemes appear by design to seek to encourage or boost exports while others identify conservation and the environment as overall objectives. A significant number of programmes which seek to eliminate or reduce subsidy schemes for gasoline and other fuels were identified during the period under review.

From transparency and systemic points of view, important developments took place in the WTO's TBT and SPS Committees. The SPS Committee has witnessed a significant growth in notifications from developing countries leading to the highest number of notifications to date. An increase in the number of notifications does not, however, automatically imply greater use of measures taken for protectionist purposes. Another noteworthy development was a significant increase in the number of new specific trade concerns (STCs) raised in the TBT Committee.

A number of recent policy developments in services were recorded during the review period. These include reforms of the insurance and pension sectors and easing of the rules on foreign investment

in the construction and railway transportation sectors in India, as well as the lifting of restrictions on foreign investment in several service sectors in China. Also noteworthy is the amendment of the Russian Law on Foreign Investment in Strategic Companies; several important reforms in the audio-visual and ICT sectors by Argentina, Belgium, Mexico, Madagascar, Myanmar, Poland, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone and the United States (US); and also in financial services by China, India, Myanmar and the Philippines.

The overall assessment of this monitoring report is that the continuing increase in the stock of new trade-restrictive measures recorded since 2008 remains of concern in the context of an uncertain global economic outlook. WTO Members – individually and collectively – must show leadership and reinforced determination towards eliminating existing trade restrictions and refrain from implementing new ones.

The multilateral trading system has proven its usefulness in providing a predictable and transparent framework governing trade between nations and in helping Members resist protectionist pressures as a response to the global economic and financial crisis and thereafter. The role of the multilateral trading system in providing a stable, predictable and transparent trading environment should be kept in mind as Members prepare for the WTO's MC10 in Nairobi in December. Decisive progress in eliminating remaining trade-restrictive measures combined with further multilateral trade liberalization would be a powerful policy response.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. This monitoring report² reviews trade and trade-related developments during the period mid-October 2014 to mid-May 2015.³ It is a mid-year preparatory contribution to the annual report by the Director-General provided for in paragraph (g) of the Trade Policies Review Mechanism (TPRM) mandate which aims to assist the TPRB in undertaking an annual overview of developments in the international trading environment that are having an impact on the multilateral trading system. This report is intended to be purely factual and is issued under the sole responsibility of the Director-General. It has no legal effect on the rights and obligations of Members, nor does it have any legal implication with respect to the conformity of any measure noted in the report with any WTO Agreement or any provision thereof. This report is without prejudice to Members' negotiating positions in the Doha Round.

1.2. Section 2 of the report provides an overview of recent economic and trade trends. Section 3 presents an account of the main trade and trade-related policy developments during the period under review. Policy developments in trade in services are included in Section 4.

1.3. Information on the measures included in this report has been collected from inputs submitted by Members and Observers, as well as from other official and public sources. Replies to the Director-General's request for information on measures taken during the period under review were received from 67 Members⁴ (Box 1), which represents 42% of the membership, or an almost 14% increase over the 2014 annual report. One Observer Government also replied to the request for information. All country-specific information collected was sent for verification to the delegation concerned. Requests for verification of information were sent to 76 delegations.⁵ 37 provided replies in time for the preparation of this report. Where it has not been possible to confirm the information, this is noted in the annexes. The country-specific measures listed in the four annexes are new measures implemented by Members and Observers during the period under review.⁶ The

² The previous interim trade monitoring report presented to the TPRB (WT/TPR/OV/W/8, 27 June 2014) covered measures taken over the period from mid-November 2013 to mid-May 2014. The WTO trade monitoring reports have been prepared by the WTO Secretariat since 2009. On 15 June 2015, the WTO Secretariat, together with the Secretariats of the OECD and UNCTAD, issued a report on trade and investment measures implemented by G-20 economies during the period mid-October 2014 to mid-May 2015 (available on the WTO website). The relevant G-20 measures identified in that document are also reproduced in this report.

³ Unless otherwise indicated in the relevant section.

⁴ The European Union and its Member States counted separately.

⁵ Counting the European Union (EU) and its member States as one.

⁶ The inclusion of any measure in this report or in its annexes implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in this report implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, as to the consistency of any measure referred to in the report with the provisions of any WTO Agreement.

compilation of all measures that have been covered by the trade-monitoring reports since October 2008 is available in the Trade Monitoring Database (<http://tmdb.wto.org/>).

1.4. The increase in participation and the involvement of several newcomers to the monitoring exercise is a positive development. However, participation remains low, in particular of African Members. The WTO Secretariat will continue to build on its recent outreach programme to regional and other groups so as to increase Members' understanding of and participation in the trade monitoring exercise.

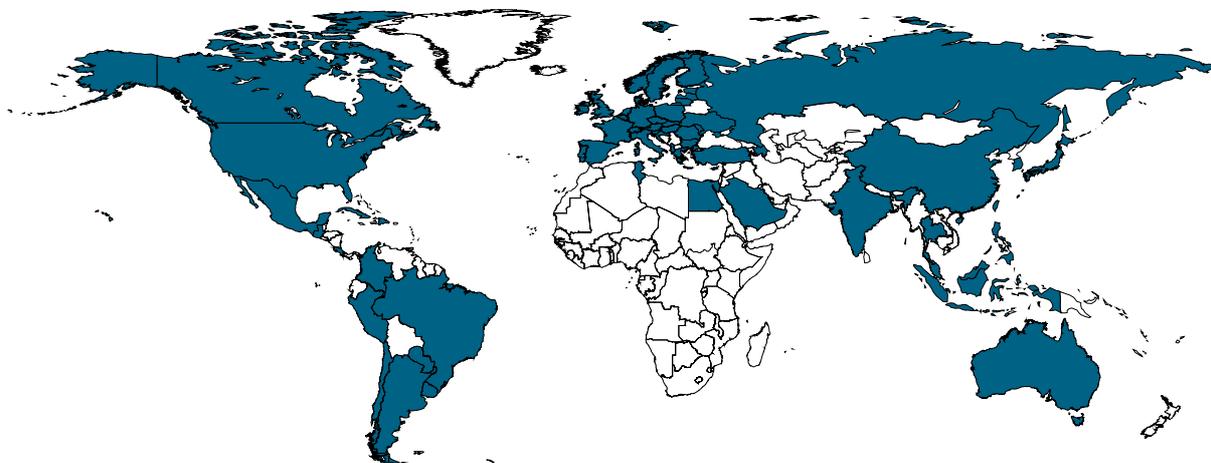
Box 1 Members and Observers that replied to the Director-General's request for information⁷

Albania	Guatemala	Philippines
Argentina	Hong Kong, China	Russian Federation
Australia	India	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of
Azerbaijan*	Indonesia	Singapore
Brazil	Japan	Switzerland
Canada	Korea, Republic of	Chinese Taipei
Chile	Macao, China	Thailand
China	Malaysia	Tunisia
Colombia	Mauritius	Turkey
Costa Rica	Mexico	Ukraine
Cuba	Moldova	United States
Dominican Republic	Norway	Uruguay
Egypt	Paraguay	
European Union	Peru	

* Observer

Source: WTO Secretariat.

WTO Members and Observers Participating in the WTO Monitoring Exercise



⁷ The request was circulated to all Members and Observers on 18 March requesting information by 20 April 2015.

2 RECENT ECONOMIC AND TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

2.1 Overview

2.1. World trade and output picked up in the second half of 2014 after a weak first half limited the potential expansion for the year. However, slumping trade flows and mixed economic data in the first quarter suggest that trade growth will remain modest in 2015. According to the WTO's most recent forecast (14 April 2015), the volume of world merchandise trade should increase by 3.3% in 2015 – up from 2.8% in 2014 – and 4.0% in 2016, slightly faster than current forecasts for world GDP at market exchange rates⁸, but still well below the average rate of 5.1% since 1990.

2.2. Economic activity continues to be uneven across countries and regions. Most developed countries saw their economies strengthen since the last monitoring report, but the U.S. saw its pace of expansion slow, dragged down by weaker investment and falling exports. In contrast, GDP growth in the EU appears to have regained some momentum. Among EU member countries, the United Kingdom and Germany grew more slowly in the first quarter of 2015, but the pace of growth quickened in France, Italy and Spain. Among the emerging economies, Brazil and the Russian Federation have recorded weak growth since the last report, partly due to slumping commodity prices and, in the case of Russia, geopolitical tensions. China and India have continued to outpace other major economies despite slower growth recently in China.

2.3. Large fluctuations in commodity prices and exchange rates have made the global outlook more uncertain and have strongly influenced current dollar denominated trade statistics. Of particular importance for trade is the sharp rise in the value of the U.S. dollar against other currencies, since many traded goods are priced in dollars. This is illustrated by Chart 2.1, which shows the U.S. Federal Reserve's broad trade-weighted U.S. dollar exchange rate index since the start of 2014. The U.S. currency appreciated by 16% on average against trading partners' currencies between 1 July 2014 and 15 March 2015. The index has since retreated from its peak but is still up around 10% year-on-year.

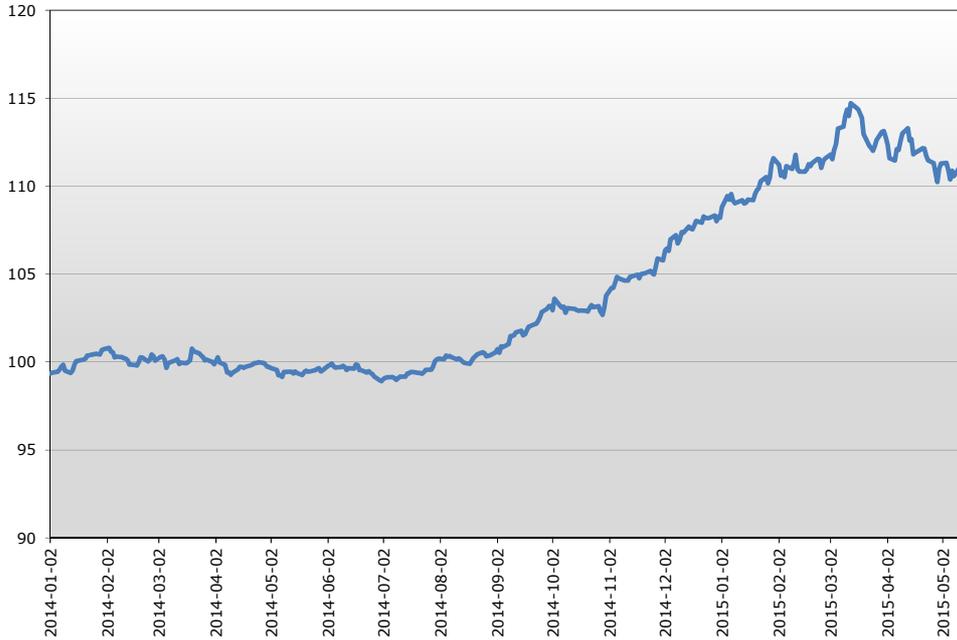
2.4. Some bilateral exchange rates have experienced larger swings, driven by changes in monetary policy (i.e. the expectation that interest rates will soon rise in the U.S., paired with the belief that the euro area and Japan will maintain a more accommodative stance). The value of the euro against the dollar declined by 23% between 1 July 2014 and 15 March 2015 and is currently down 17% year-on-year. Similarly, the dollar value of the Japanese yen dropped 15% year-over-year and 23% since January 2013. In contrast, the China/US exchange rate is nearly unchanged from a year ago. Dollar appreciation may cause trade denominated in other currencies (e.g. intra-EU trade) to be undervalued, thereby distorting growth rates and other calculations. As a result, trade statistics in current dollar terms must be interpreted with caution.

2.5. Oil prices have also fallen sharply since the last monitoring report as a result of surging production in North America and weaker energy demand in certain emerging markets. Part of the price decline reflects the increased purchasing power of the dollar, which now commands more goods and services than it did a year ago. Fuel prices fell 51% between June 2014 and January 2015, and are currently down 44% year-on-year despite a small rebound in recent months (Chart 2.2). In principle, a decline in oil prices should reduce import demand in oil exporting countries since it cuts into their export revenues, which are used to pay for imports. On the other hand, lower oil prices boost real incomes in energy intensive economies, increasing demand for all goods and services, including imported ones.

⁸ World GDP growth at market exchange rates should be 2.9% in 2015 and 3.2% in 2016 according to the IMF World Economic Outlook of April 2015.

Chart 2.1 Trade weighted US\$ exchange rate index, 2 January 2014-15 May 2015

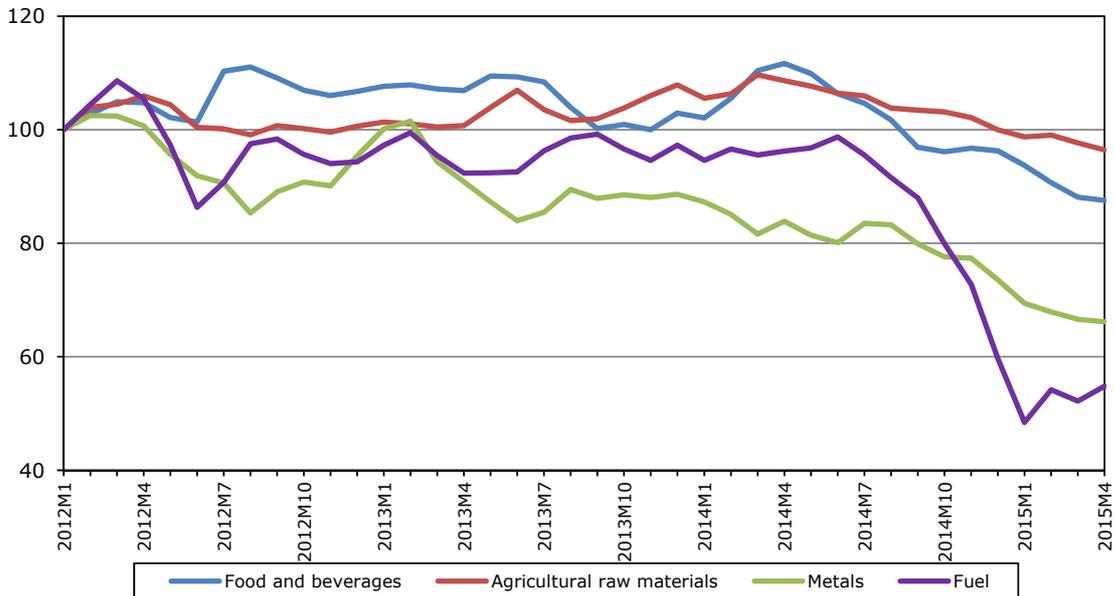
(Index, January 2014 = 100)



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Chart 2.2 Prices of primary commodities, January 2012 – April 2015

(Indices, January 2012 = 100)



Source: IMF Primary Commodity Prices.

2.6. In April, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released its latest projections for world output in 2015 and 2016, which were mostly in line with previous estimates. The IMF expects global GDP at purchasing power parity to grow 3.5% in 2015 and 3.8% in 2016. These modest gains in GDP should translate into equally modest increases in world trade. Growth is expected to accelerate in advanced economies but weaken in developing economies, reflecting a more subdued outlook for emerging markets and for oil exporters.

2.7. Lower oil prices may provide some limited upside potential for trade if their positive impact on demand in energy-intensive economies outweighs their negative impact in oil exporters. So far in 2015, lower oil prices do not appear to have produced a strong increase in world import demand in developed countries. Consumers may believe that the recent fall in oil prices is temporary, in which case they would tend to save any windfall rather than raise their consumption. If low prices persist households may revise their expectations and start consuming (and importing) more. However, in contrast to this positive scenario most current risks to the forecast are firmly on the downside. These include disruptive financial flows stemming from divergent monetary policies, legacies from the financial crisis (including uncertainties regarding some sovereign debts), and geopolitical tensions.

2.2 GDP and employment

2.8. Quarterly data on world GDP growth are not readily available, but aggregate figures for G-20 economies can serve as a reasonable substitute since these countries represent around 85% of world output. According to statistics from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), output of G-20 economies grew at an average (annualized) rate of 3.6% in the second half of 2014, up from 3.0% in the first half. The increase appears to have been driven by a pickup in output of developed countries, particularly the U.S., where growth accelerated from 1.2% in the first half of the year to 3.5% in the second half.

2.9. US GDP growth was very uneven in 2014, with a 2% decline in Q1 followed by increases of 4.5% in Q2, 4.9% in Q3 and 2.0% in Q4. Growth subsequently fell to 0.4% in Q1 of 2015, partly as a result of harsh winter weather. Despite the more recent GDP slowdown, the U.S. unemployment rate has continued to decline, dropping to 5.4% in April.

2.10. The EU's GDP increased at a 1.2% annual rate in Q3 of last year before accelerating to 1.6% in both 2014Q4 and 2015Q1. EU-wide unemployment remained elevated at 9.8% in March, with no change in joblessness since January. By comparison, euro area GDP growth rose to 1.6% in Q1 of this year, up from 0.8% in Q3 of last year. The unemployment rate for the euro area was higher than the EU rate at 11.3% in March 2015. This was also unchanged since January.

2.11. Japan's GDP has alternated between expansion and contraction since 2013. Output growth was negative in Q3 of last year (-2.8%) but turned positive (+1.6%) in Q4. Despite the fact that growth averaged -0.6% in the second half of 2014, unemployment has continued to decline gradually, dropping to 3.4% in March from 3.6% in January.

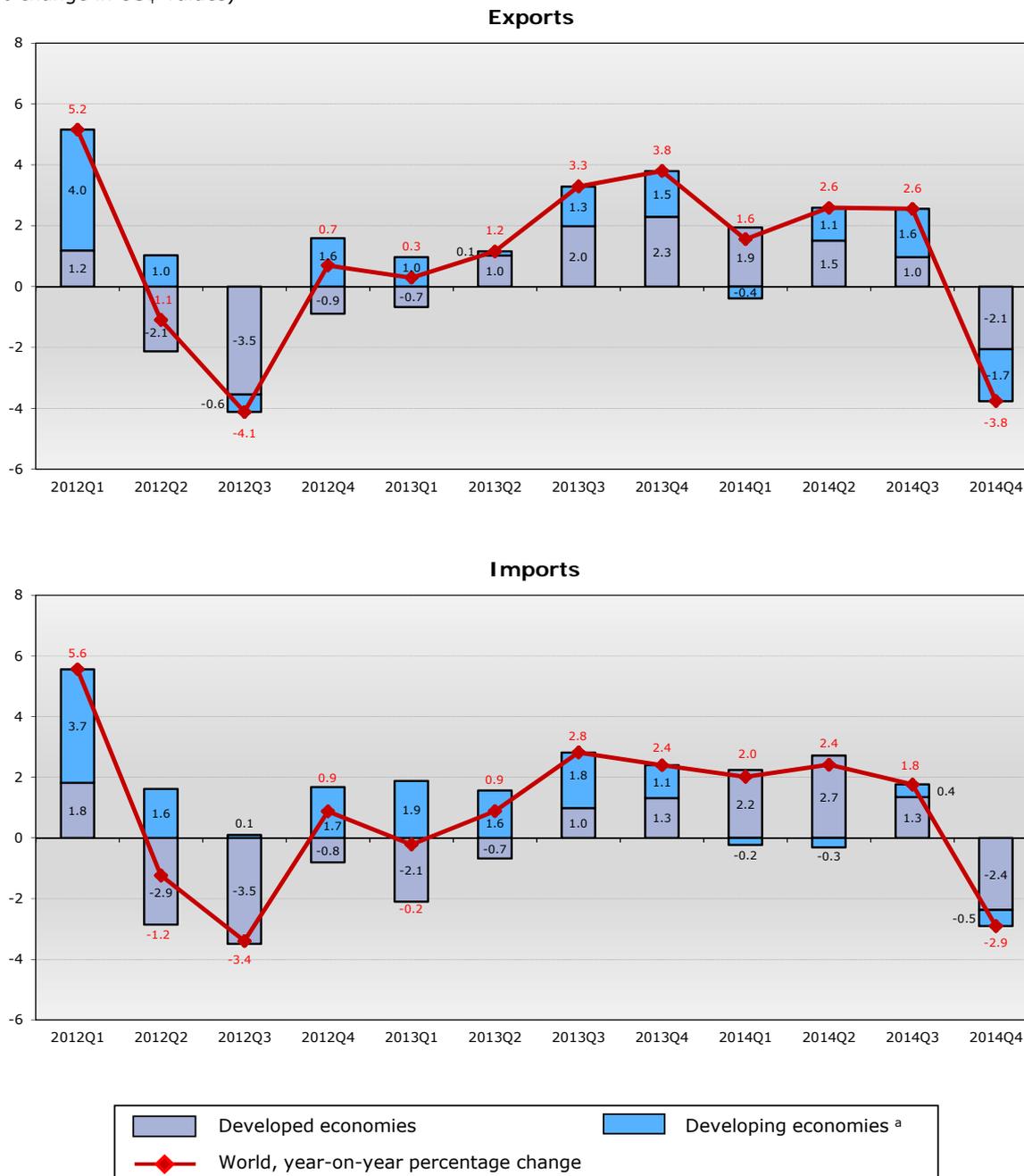
2.12. GDP growth remained positive in China (7.0%), Brazil (1.0%), and India (7.8%) in the second half of last year, while the Russian Federation managed to avoid an outright decline (0.0%). Among these countries, only China has reported GDP figures for Q1 (5.3%).

2.3 Merchandise trade

2.13. Chart 2.3 shows quarterly contributions of developed and developing economies to year-on-year growth in the dollar value of world merchandise trade since 2012Q1. A combination of lower oil prices and U.S. dollar appreciation certainly contributed to the declines in exports (-3.8%) and imports (-2.9%) in Q4. How much of this decline is attributable to changes in the quantity of goods traded is difficult to say without resorting to trade statistics in volume terms. Quarterly merchandise trade volume indices jointly prepared by the WTO and UNCTAD indicate that world trade actually rose 4% year-on-year in volume terms in Q4. On the other hand, monthly trade volume indices through February from the Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis (CPB) suggest that quarter-on-quarter growth in world merchandise trade may turn negative in Q1 once all data for the quarter are collected.

Chart 2.3 Contributions to year-on-year growth in world merchandise exports and imports, 2012Q1-2014Q4

(% change in US\$ values)



a Includes significant re-exports. Also includes the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Note: Due to scarce data availability, Africa and Middle East are under-represented in world totals.

Source: WTO Secretariat estimates, based on data compiled from IMF International Financial Statistics; Eurostat Comext Database; Global Trade Atlas; and national statistics.

2.14. The fact that developing countries contributed less than developed countries to world import demand between 2013Q4 and 2014Q3 is striking. However, the most notable features of this chart are the large negative contributions to exports and imports from developed economies in Q4. These declines may be partly explained by the conversion of euro-denominated trade values into dollars before calculating growth rates. Recent dollar appreciation could cause identical quantities of goods to have lower dollar values Q4, thereby biasing growth rates downward. For example,

Intra-EU trade was down 16% year-on-year in March when measured in dollars, but it was up 7% when measured in euros.

2.15. Trade statistics in volume terms provide a more accurate picture of recent trade developments since they can account for strong fluctuations in prices and exchange rates. Chart 2.4 shows seasonally-adjusted quarterly merchandise trade volume indices for the U.S., the EU, Japan, Brazil and developing Asia (including both China and India) from 2010Q1 to 2014Q4.

2.16. Extra-EU imports did turn slightly negative in the fourth quarter of 2014 (-0.6%, not annualized) and intra-EU trade was basically flat, but exports and imports of most other countries and regions actually accelerated toward the end of the year. One major exception was Brazil, where imports declined by 6.4% and exports dropped 3.7% in Q4. Overall, world trade as measured by the average of exports and imports increased by 2.0% in Q4.

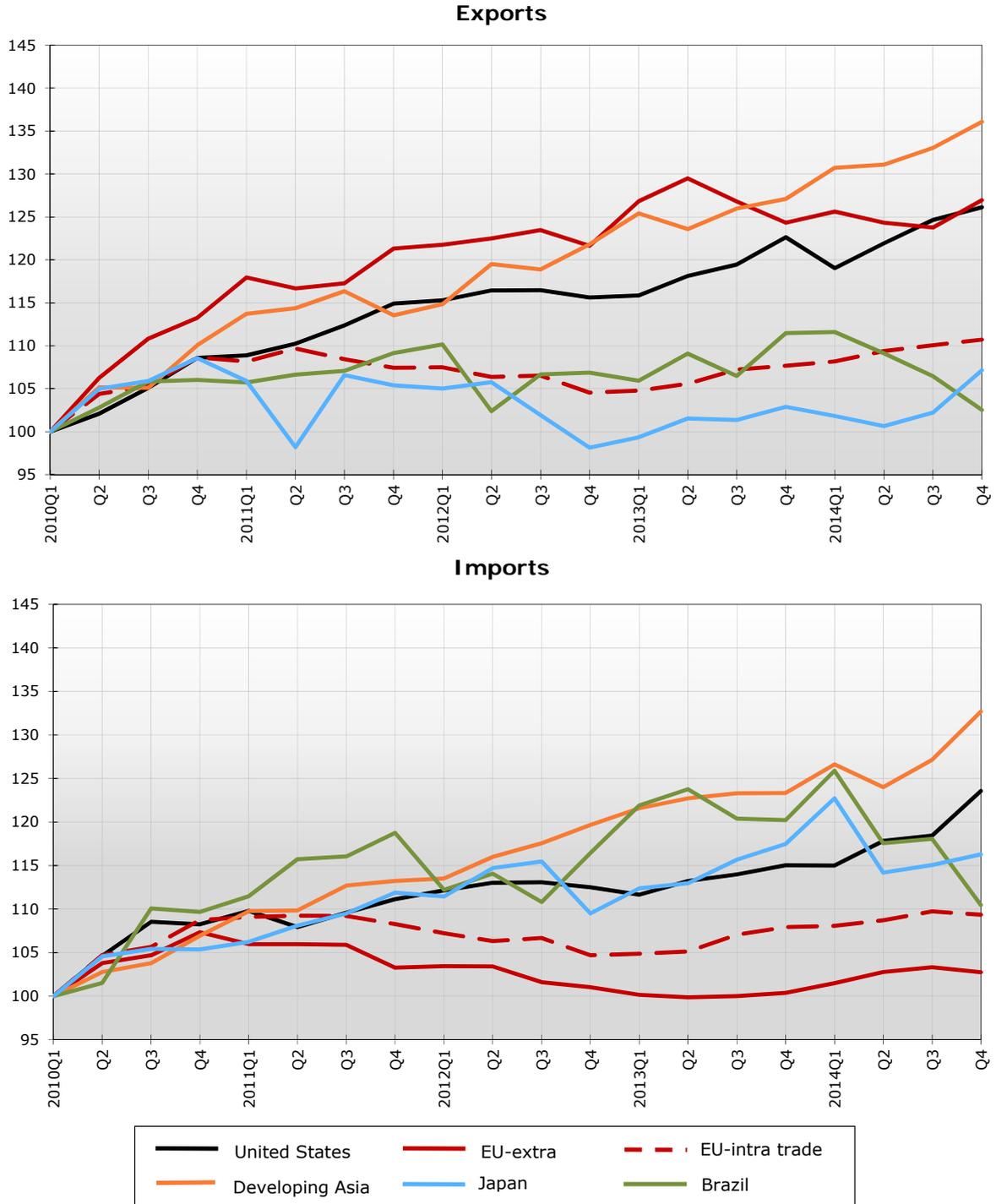
2.17. Weak EU import demand continues to weigh heavily on world trade since the EU accounts for roughly one third of world imports, including intra-EU trade. Although the decline in Brazil's imports was larger in percentage terms, it does not have as strong an influence on world trade since the country only accounts for 1.3% of global imports.

2.18. Merchandise trade statistics in current U.S. dollar terms are more timely than those in volume terms, and are available for a larger number of countries. These data are illustrated by Chart 2.5, which shows monthly exports and imports of selected economies through March or April, depending on availability. Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Chinese Taipei have already reported data for April, while all other countries are shown through March.

2.19. These data present a rather negative picture of trade in the first quarter, with imports of the EU, Japan, Brazil and the Russian Federation at or near multi-year lows. These data probably do portend weaker world trade volume growth in Q1, but exchange rates and commodity prices account for much of the weakness. CPB trade volume estimates for January-February suggest that world trade volume may decrease by around 1% quarter-on-quarter in Q1 unless there is a turnaround in March.

Chart 2.4 Volume of exports and imports of selected economies

(Seasonally adjusted volume indices, 2010Q1 = 100)

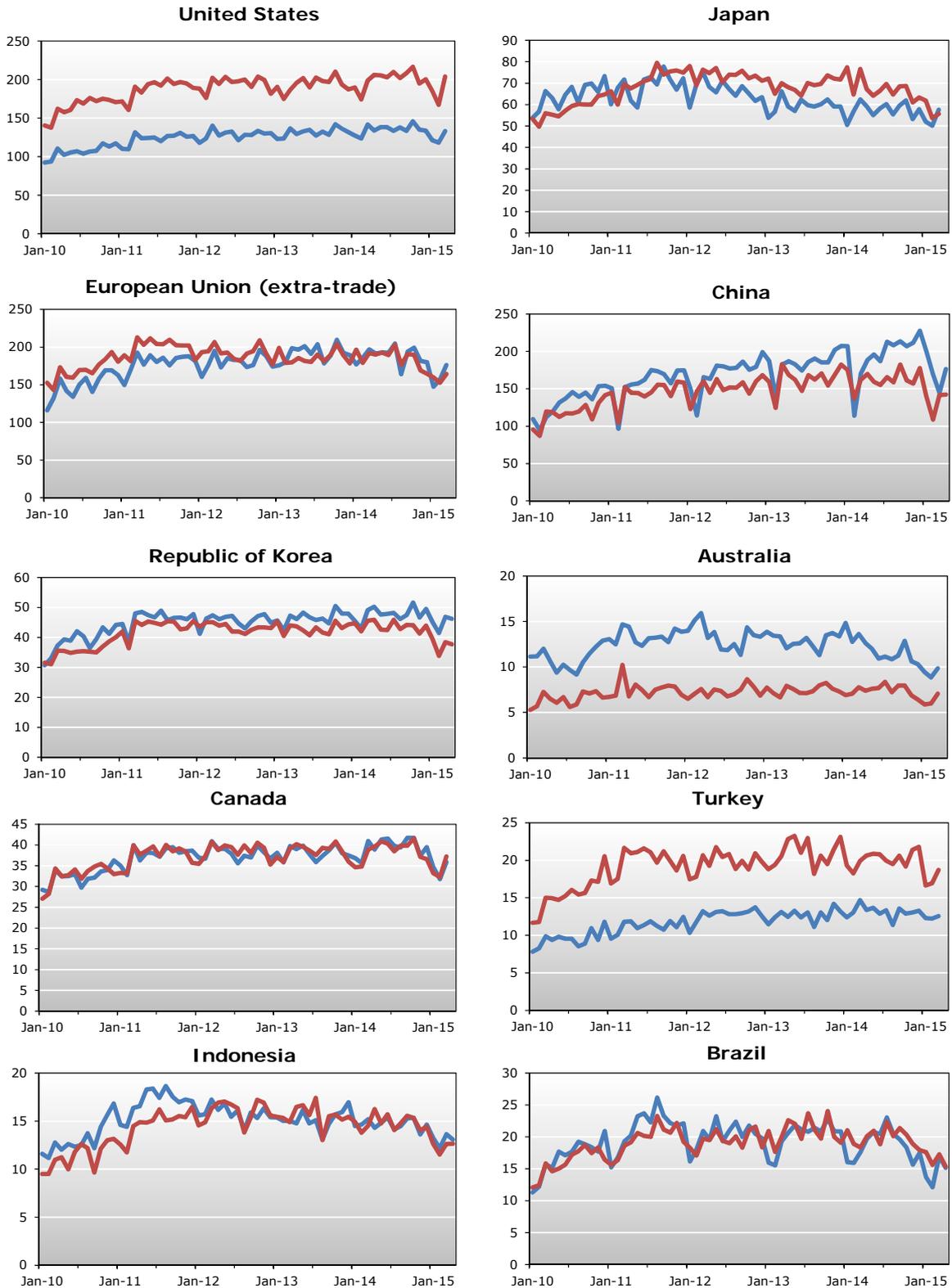


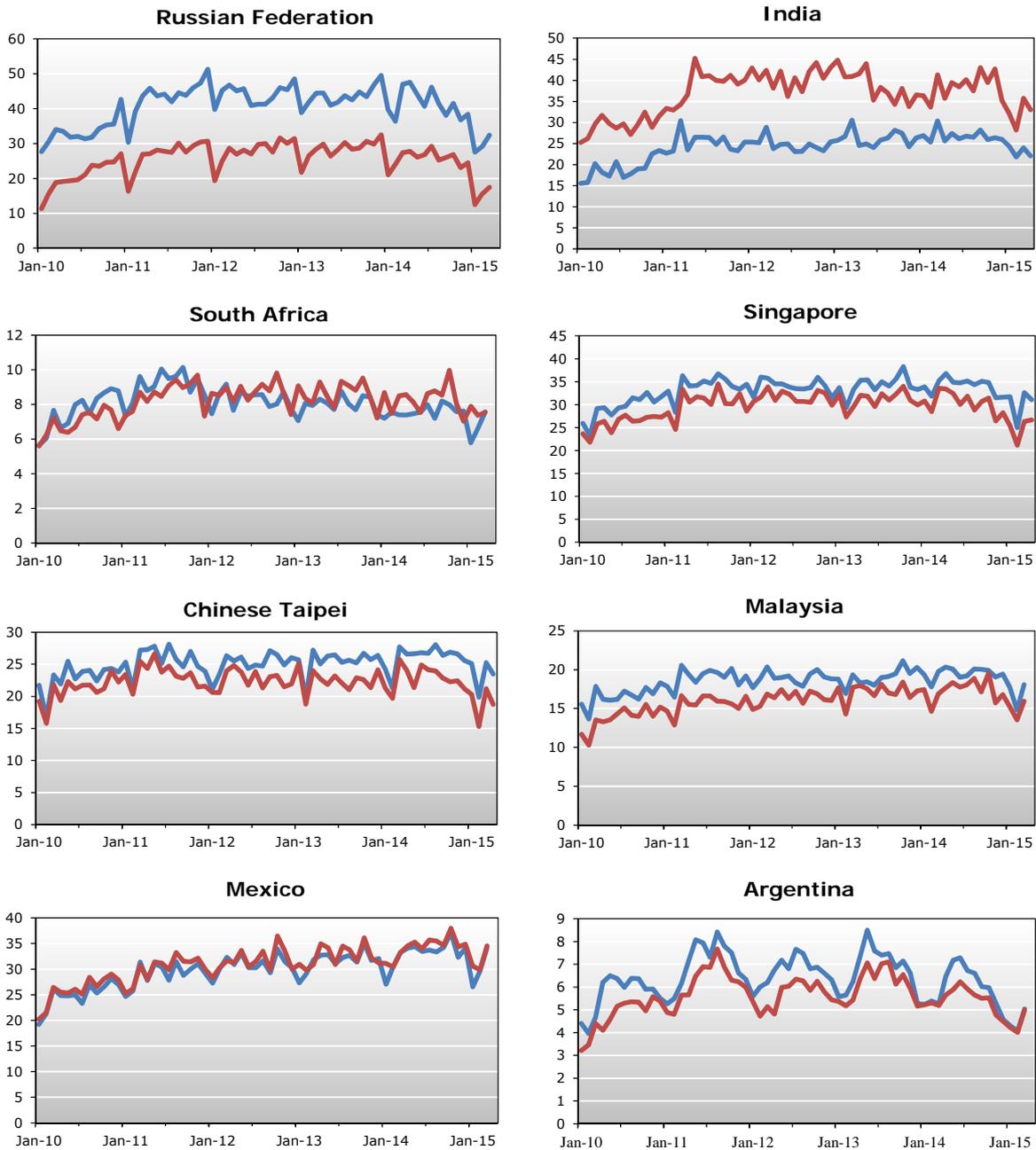
Note: Data for the EU, Japan and the U.S. were obtained from national statistical sources while figures for developing Asia are seasonally adjusted Secretariat estimates that should be interpreted with caution.

Source: WTO and UNCTAD Secretariats.

Chart 2.5 Merchandise exports and imports of selected economies, January 2010-April 2015

(US\$ billion)





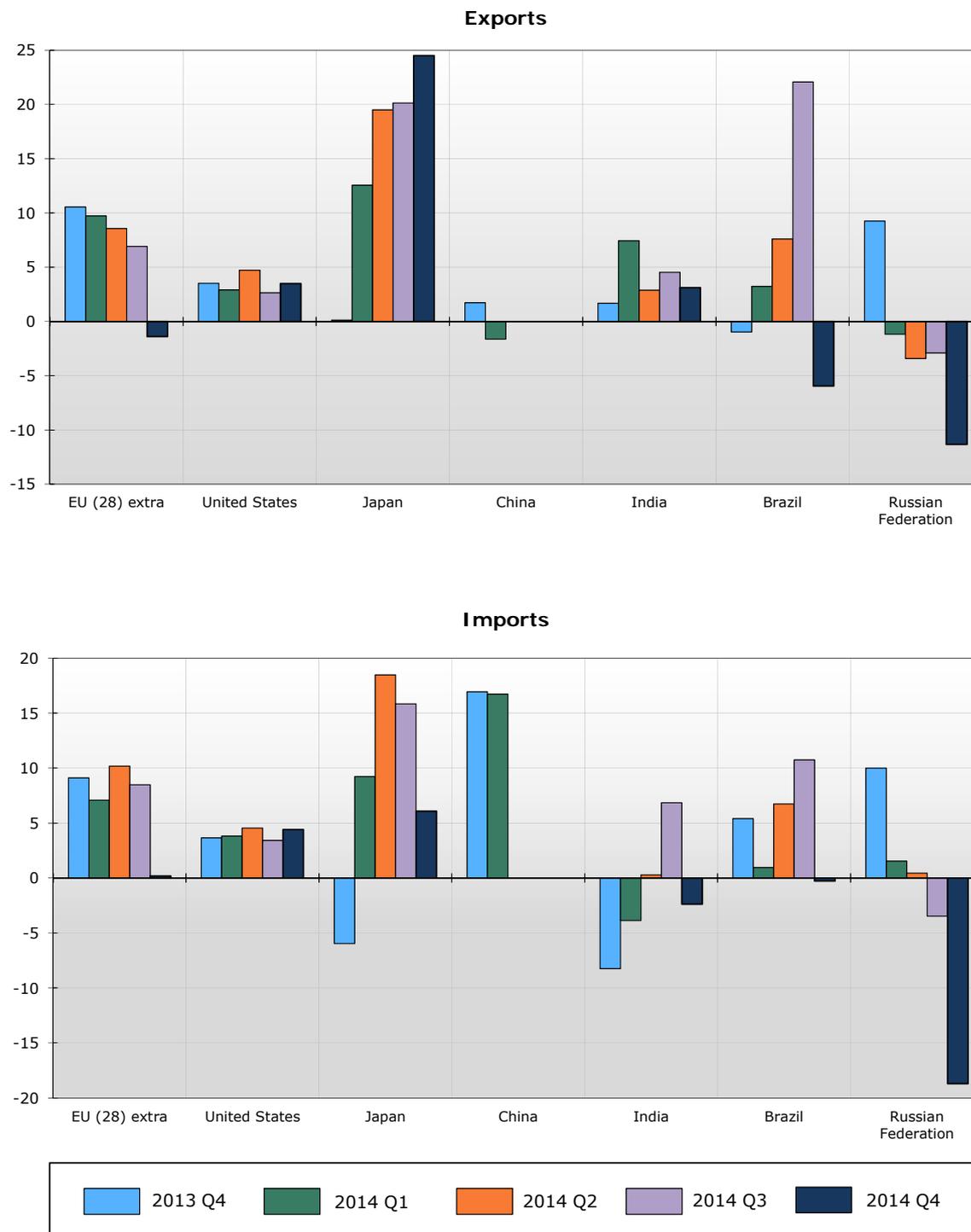
Source: IMF, International Financial Statistics; Global Trade Information Services GTA database; national statistics.

2.4 Trade in commercial services

2.20. Chart 2.6 shows year-on-year growth in the dollar value of commercial services trade for selected economies from 2013Q4 to 2014Q4. These data are affected by the recent appreciation of the U.S. dollar in much the same way that the merchandise trade values are. For example, the 1%

decline in service exports of the EU in Q4 becomes a 3% increase when data are expressed in euros. Consequently, these data should also be interpreted with care.

Chart 2.6 Commercial services exports and imports of selected economies, 2013Q4-2014Q4^a



a China's figures for 2014Q2 to 2014Q4 are not available.

Source: WTO and UNCTAD Secretariats.

2.21. Japan recorded rapid growth in commercial services exports in Q4, with a year-on-year increase of 24%. The Russian Federation suffered a sharp decline of 11% during the same period.

2.22. Japan also registered the fastest growth on the import side (6%), while the Russian Federation experienced the biggest decline (-19%). Exports and imports of the U.S. have continued to grow at a slow, steady pace between 3% and 5%. World commercial services exports were flat in Q4, with an increase of 0.2%, down from 5% in the previous quarter.

2.5 Trade forecast and economic outlook

2.23. In the WTO's annual spring press release, the Secretariat predicted 3.3% growth in the volume of world merchandise trade for 2015 and 4.0% growth in 2016 based on consensus estimates of world GDP at market exchange rates (see Table 2.1). These estimates imply multiples of trade growth over GDP growth slightly greater than 1 in 2015 and 2016, above than the rough 1-to-1 ratios observed between 2012 and 2014 but well below the 2-to-1 ratios that were common before the financial crisis.

2.24. Both exports and imports of developed countries are expected to grow by 3.2% in 2015. Meanwhile, exports of developing/emerging economies are expected to increase by 3.6% and their imports are forecast to grow by 3.7%.

2.25. Asia should record the strongest export growth in 2015 (5.0%), followed by North America (4.5%). European exports should also pick up this year with a 3.0% increase, up from 1.9 % last year. Weaker export growth is anticipated for South America (0.2%) and "Other Regions" (-0.6%, comprising Africa, Middle East and CIS) in 2015.

2.26. Imports should increase by around 5% in 2015 in both North America and Asia. At the same time, Europe should see solid import growth of around 3%. In contrast to these gains, South America and other regions should register declines in their imports of 0.5% and 2.4%, respectively.

2.27. A return to higher oil prices in the neighbourhood of US\$100/barrel would significantly alter the outlook for world trade and output, possibly muting the economic recoveries in energy intensive economies and boosting growth in oil exporters. A partial recovery in prices is possible as growth picks up in developed economies and as lower prices curtail investment in unconventional extraction. However, a full recovery of prices is unlikely due to the economics of shale oil (investment would likely increase once prices rose sufficiently to cover costs in new projects) and the recent relative weakness of emerging economics. The IMF is forecasting an average world oil price of US\$58/barrel in 2015 and US\$68/barrel in 2016.

Table 2.1 Merchandise trade volume growth, 2011-16

(Annual % change)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 ^a	2016 ^a
Volume of world merchandise trade	5.4	2.2	2.4	2.8	3.3	4.0
Exports						
Developed economies	5.2	1.1	1.6	2.2	3.2	4.4
Developing and emerging economies	5.8	3.7	3.9	3.3	3.6	4.1
North America	6.6	4.5	2.8	4.3	4.5	4.9
South and Central America	6.6	0.8	1.5	-2.5	0.2	1.6
Europe	5.6	0.8	1.6	1.9	3.0	3.7
Asia	6.4	2.7	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.4
Other regions ^b	2.0	4.0	0.7	0.1	-0.6	0.3
Imports						
Developed economies	3.4	-0.1	-0.2	3.2	3.2	3.5
Developing and emerging economies	7.2	4.8	5.6	2.9	3.7	5.0
North America	4.4	3.2	1.1	4.4	4.9	5.1
South and Central America	12.6	2.3	3.2	-3.0	-0.5	3.1
Europe	3.2	-1.8	-0.3	2.8	2.7	3.1
Asia	6.5	3.6	4.8	3.6	5.1	5.1
Other regions ^b	7.9	9.9	3.9	0.0	-2.4	1.0

a Figures for 2015 and 2016 are projections.

b Other regions comprise Africa, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Middle East.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3 TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

3.1 Overview

3.1. The trade measures compiled for this report are presented in three categories: (i) measures that clearly facilitate trade (Annex 1); (ii) trade-remedy measures (Annex 2); and (iii) other trade and trade-related measures (Annex 3).⁹ The total number of measures in these three categories recorded over the period mid-October 2014 to mid-May 2015 is 387. This comprises 114 trade-facilitating measures, 169 trade-remedy measures and 104 other trade and trade-related measures.

3.2. The 114 trade-facilitating measures (Table 3.1) recorded during the seven-month period covered by this report represent an absolute increase over the previous period (mid-November 2013 – mid-May 2014), but more importantly is the highest monthly average of such measures recorded in monitoring reports since 2012. Over 73% of these trade-facilitating measures consist of measures that provide for tariff reductions, sometimes applied on a temporary basis. These trade-facilitating measures cover 0.7% of world merchandise imports (US\$133 billion).¹⁰

Table 3.1 Measures facilitating trade (Annex 1)

Type of measure	Mid-October 2011 to mid-October 2012	Mid-October 2012 to mid-November 2013	Mid-November 2013 to mid-October 2014	Mid-November 2013 to mid-May 2014 (6 months)	Mid-October 2014 to mid-May 2015 (7 months)
Import	136	101	168	81	97
- Tariff	120	82	145	63	83
- Customs procedures	13	15	18	15	10
- Tax	2	3	1	2	2
- Quantitative restrictions	1	1	4	1	2
Export	18	6	9	4	12
- Duties	7	3	4	0	7
- Quantitative restrictions	11	3	3	2	0
- Other			2	2	5
Other	8	0	0	1	5
Total	162	107	177	86	114
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>13.5</i>	<i>8.2</i>	<i>16.1</i>	<i>14.3</i>	<i>16.3</i>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.3. The principal sectors benefiting from the trade-facilitating measures were: machinery and mechanical appliances; precious metals (gold); transport equipment (parts and accessories of motor vehicles); precision instruments (e.g. medical); and chemical products.

3.4. Trade-remedy measures taken between mid-October 2014 and mid-May 2015 are listed in Annex 2.¹¹ As a share of all trade and trade-related measures recorded for the review period, trade remedies make up almost 44%. Out of the 169 trade remedy measures recorded (Table 3.2), 136, or over 80%, were anti-dumping actions. In line with the trend identified in past monitoring reports, more initiations were recorded than terminations. However, the monthly average of trade remedy actions recorded for this exercise was down compared to previous reports. Out of the total number of trade-remedy measures, 92 were initiations of new trade-remedy investigations covering around 0.1% of world merchandise imports (close to

⁹ WTO document WT/TPR/OV/15, 29 November 2012.

¹⁰ The trade coverage of a measure is calculated to be the value of imports of the specific product concerned from countries affected by the measure as a share of the value of total world merchandise.

¹¹ A trade-remedy measure for purposes of Annex 2 is the initiation of an (anti-dumping, countervail or safeguard) investigation, the conclusion of such an investigation without imposition of a measure, or the termination of a final anti-dumping, countervail or safeguard measure.

US\$16.0 billion), and 77 measures were terminations of either investigations or of existing duties covering around 0.04% of world imports (US\$8.0 billion).

Table 3.2 Trade remedy measures (Annex 2)¹²

Type of measure	Mid-October 2012 to mid-November 2013 (13 Months)			Mid-November 2013 to mid-October 2014 (11 Months)			Mid-October 2014 to mid-May 2015 (7 Months)		
	Initiations	Terminations	Total	Initiations	Terminations	Total	Initiations	Terminations	Total
Anti-dumping	156	112	268	134	133	267	74	62	136
Countervailing	24	9	33	21	15	36	13	9	22
Safeguard	37	17	54	16	18	34	5	6	11
Total	217	138	355	171	166	337	92	77	169
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>16.7</i>	<i>10.6</i>	<i>27.3</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>15.1</i>	<i>30.6</i>	<i>13.1</i>	<i>11.0</i>	<i>24.1</i>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.5. The number of other trade and trade-related measures recorded during the review period (Annex 3) was 104, compared to 74 recorded for the mid-year monitoring report in 2014. However, more interestingly, the monthly average of the introduction of such measures has gone up in the current period, although it remains below the monthly average of trade-facilitating measures. Out of the 104 measures listed in Annex 3, some 77 measures were applied to imports. The import measure of choice remains tariffs, accounting for over two-thirds of import measures in Annex 3 (Table 3.3).

Table 3.3 Other trade and trade-related measures (Annex 3)

Type of measure	Mid-Oct. 2011 to mid-Oct. 2012	Mid-Oct. 2012 to mid-Nov. 2013	Mid-Nov. 2013 to mid-Oct. 2014	Mid-Nov. 2013 to mid-May 2014 (6 months)	Mid-Oct. 2014 to mid-May 2015 (7 months)
Import	118	153	119	48	77
- Tariff	54	106	74	26	52
- Customs procedures	38	25	26	13	10
- Tax	6	6	7	2	4
- Quantitative restrictions	20	15	11	7	6
- Other	0	1	1	0	5
Export	32	27	36	20	18
- Duties	8	4	12	7	8
- Quantitative restrictions	24	11	12	7	1
- Other	0	12	12	6	9
Other	14	10	13	6	9
Total	164	190	168	74	104
<i>Average per month</i>	<i>13.7</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>14.9</i>

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.6. Other trade and trade-related measures recorded (Annex 3) for the review period cover a wide range of products. The main sectors targeted were: mineral products; iron and steel; vegetable fats and oils; and chemical products, accounting for 1.2% of world imports (US\$225 billion).¹³

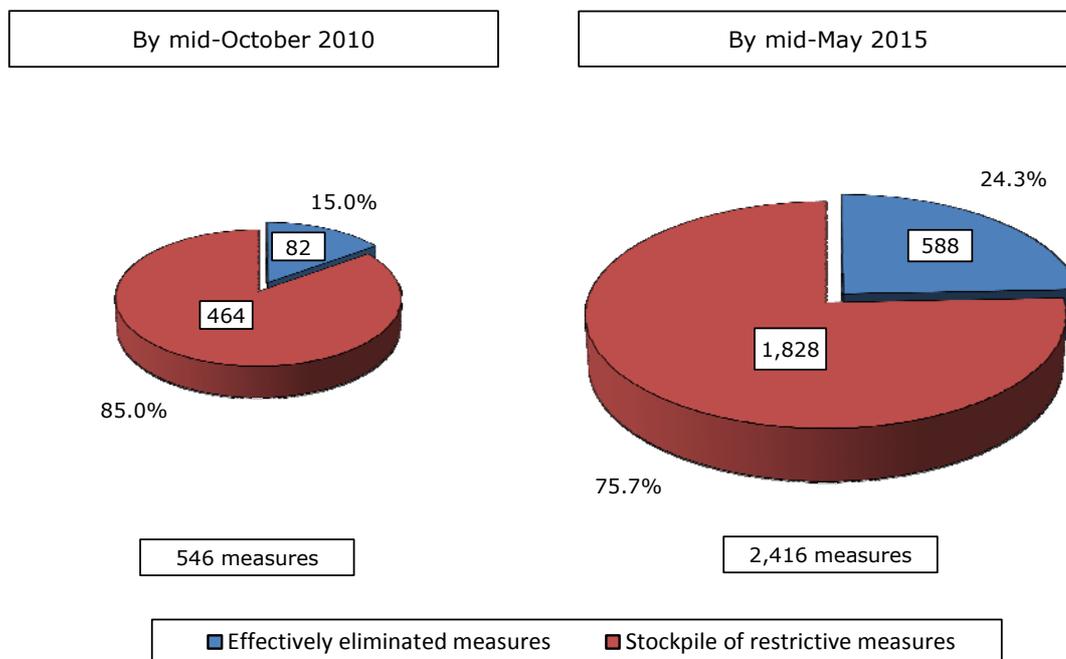
3.7. Continuing a positive trend identified in the annual overview last year, the number of trade-facilitating measures remains higher than the number of other trade and trade-related measures. In other words, as can be seen from a comparison of Table 3.1 and Table 3.3, according to the number of measures recorded by the monitoring exercise since the end of 2013, WTO Members have introduced more trade-facilitating measures than other trade and trade-related measures, although the value of merchandise imports covered by trade-facilitating measures is significantly lower.

¹² It should be noted that in this Table and in Annex 2 a single measure affecting several trading partners is counted only once.

¹³ The trade coverage of a measure is calculated to be the value of imports of the specific product concerned from countries affected by the measure as a share of the value of total world merchandise.

3.8. The total number of trade-restrictive measures (including trade remedy measures) introduced by WTO Members since October 2008, and recorded by the periodic monitoring reports is 2,416.¹⁴ According to information recorded for this exercise, as of mid-May 2015, 588, or around a quarter, of these measures had been removed leaving the stockpile of measures still in place at 1,828 – an increase of almost 12% since October 2014. Chart 3.1 compares the stockpile of restrictive measures at mid-October 2010 with that of mid-May 2015.

Chart 3.1 Stockpile of restrictive measures¹⁵



Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.9. Overall, and as indicated by the previous report, the addition of new trade-restrictive measures combined with a removal rate which fails to significantly reduce the overall accumulated stockpile of trade measures remains an area of concern for global trade.¹⁶

3.2 Trade-remedy trends¹⁷

3.10. This section provides an assessment of trends in trade-remedy measures during the period October 2013 to April 2014 ("first period") in comparison with October 2014 to April 2015 ("second period").¹⁸ Concerning anti-dumping, the most recent data indicate a slight deceleration of initiations. Countervailing and safeguard patterns between the two periods show a decrease in initiations of both types of investigations. The number of safeguard initiations in particular in the second period is at two thirds that of the first.

3.11. The number of initiations of anti-dumping investigations remained relatively stable over the two periods examined, with 130 initiations registered during the first period and 122 during the second (Table 3.4). However, the number of investigations initiated by individual members varied, in some cases significantly, between the periods. During the first period, the largest number of anti-dumping investigations was initiated by Brazil (35), the U.S. (23), Australia (15) and India (15). During the second period, the largest number of anti-dumping investigations was

¹⁴ As indicated in previous monitoring reports, this figure includes initiations of trade remedy investigations counted as restrictive. It is without prejudice to rights of Members' to take trade remedy actions. See also footnote 6.

¹⁵ Totals include measures listed in Annex 3 and initiation of trade remedy actions.

¹⁶ WTO document WT/TPR/OV/17, 24 November 2014.

¹⁷ In this section of the report, anti-dumping and countervailing actions are counted on the basis of the number of countries affected. Thus, one anti-dumping or countervailing action involving imports from n countries is counted here as n actions.

¹⁸ Data for January-April 2015 is partly unverified and collected from various unofficial sources.

initiated by India (28), Turkey (16) and the U.S. (14). Reductions in the number of investigations initiated in the second period were seen for Brazil, the U.S. and Australia, while the number of initiations from India, Mexico and the EU increased significantly.

Table 3.4 Initiations of anti-dumping investigations

(Counted on the basis of exporting countries affected)

Reporting Member	October 2013 – April 2014	October 2014 – April 2015 ^a
Argentina	4	5
Australia	15	11
Brazil	35	10
Canada	0	1
Chile	0	1
China	2	3
Colombia	2	1
Dominican Republic	2	0
Egypt	2	1
European Union	2	6
Guatemala	1	0
India	15	28
Indonesia	0	6
Japan	1	0
Korea, Republic of	6	2
Mexico	2	10
Pakistan	2	3
Peru	1	0
Russian Federation	4	2
South Africa	5	0
Chinese Taipei	1	0
Turkey	4	16
Ukraine	1	1
United States	23	14
Uruguay	0	1
Total	130	122

a Data available only through April 2015. Data for January through April 2015 is partly unverified and collected from various unofficial sources.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

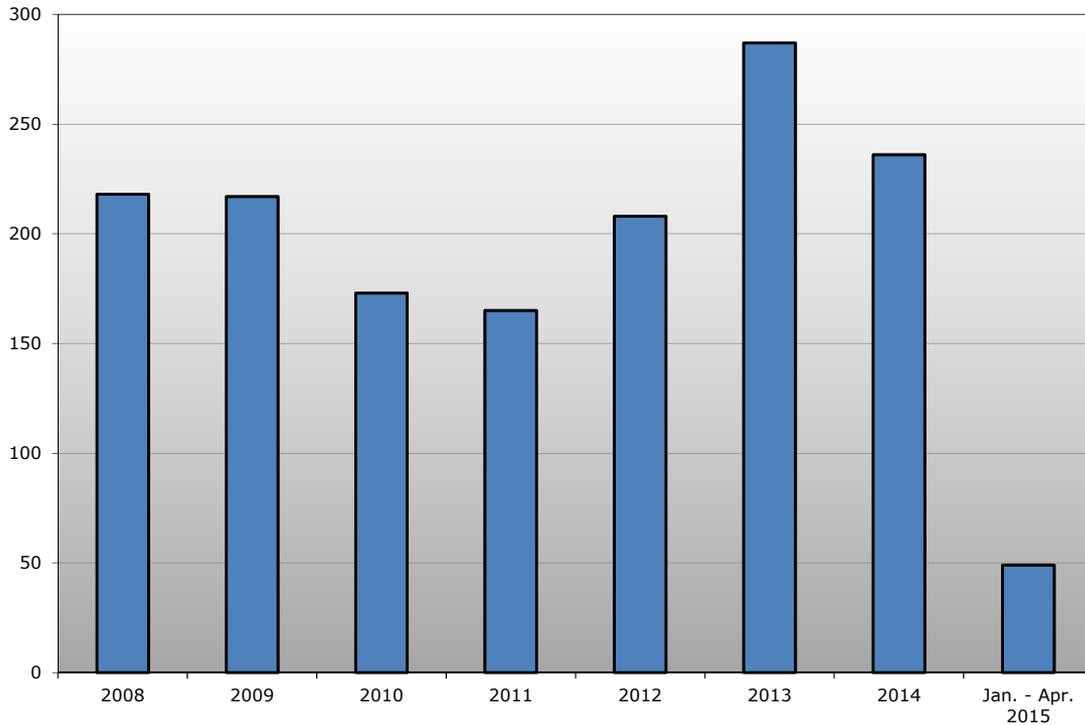
3.12. Chart 3.2, below, shows the trends in total initiations between 2008 and April 2015.

3.13. The distribution of anti-dumping measures across different sectors remained relatively constant across the two periods. Metals and chemicals each accounted for approximately one third of new anti-dumping investigations in both periods (Chart 3.3). Plastic related products, machinery and stone/plaster products also accounted a steady share of initiations across the two periods.

3.14. China remains the country that is most frequently affected by the initiation of anti-dumping investigations, although the share of initiations that targeted China declined from 30% in the first period to 22% in the second period. In the first period, Japan and the Republic of Korea were then the next most affected, both with 6% of initiations. In the second period, the Republic of Korea once more was targeted next after China, along with India and the U.S., with 7% of initiations each.

3.15. The number of initiations of countervailing investigations decreased from 19 in the first period to 14 in the second (Table 3.5). Investigations were only initiated in the first period by the U.S. (12), the EU (five) and Australia (two). In the second period, the U.S. continued to be the most active Member in this area with 10 initiations, but Brazil, Canada, the EU and the Russian Federation also initiated a countervail investigation.

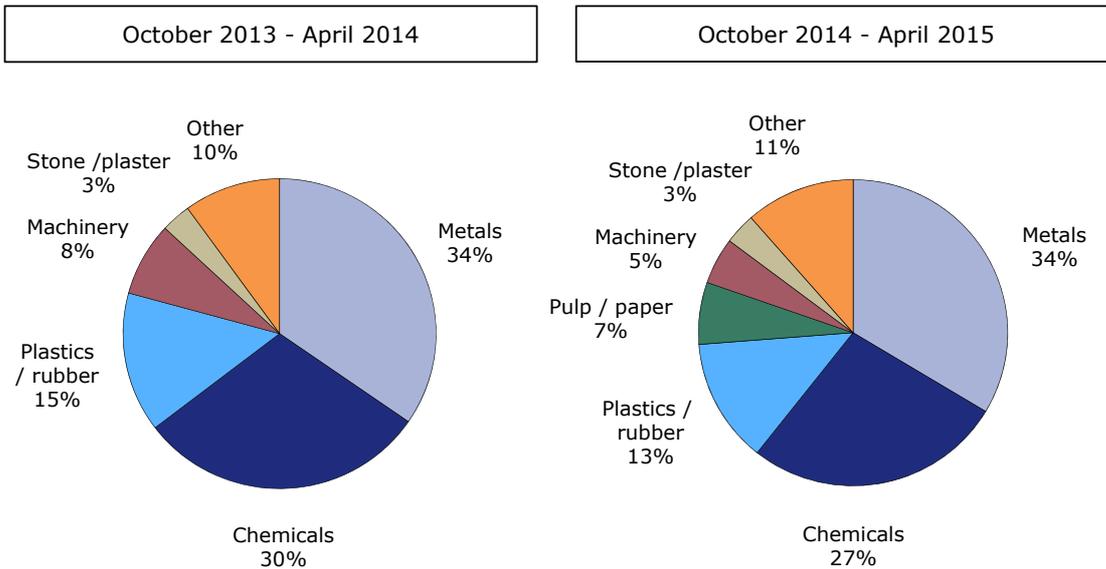
Chart 3.2 Anti-dumping initiations by reporting Member^a



a Data available only through April 2015. Data for January through April 2015 is partly unverified and collected from various unofficial sources.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Chart 3.3 Anti-dumping initiations by sector



Source: WTO Secretariat.

Table 3.5 Initiations of countervailing duty investigations

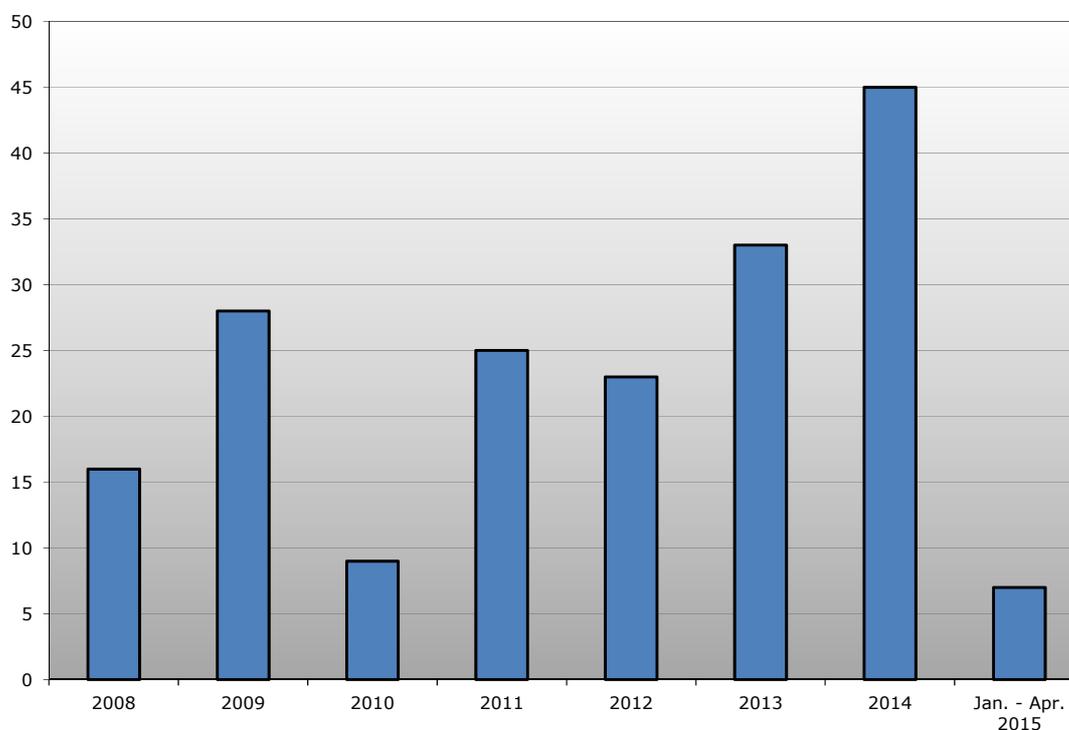
(Counted on the basis of exporting countries affected)

Reporting Member	October 2013-April 2014	October 2014-April 2015 ^a
Australia	2	0
Brazil	0	1
Canada	0	1
European Union	5	1
Russian Federation	0	1
United States	12	10
Total	19	14

a Data available only through April 2015. Data for January through April 2015 is partly unverified and collected from various unofficial sources.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.16. Chart 3.4, below, shows the trends in total initiations between 2008 and April 2015.

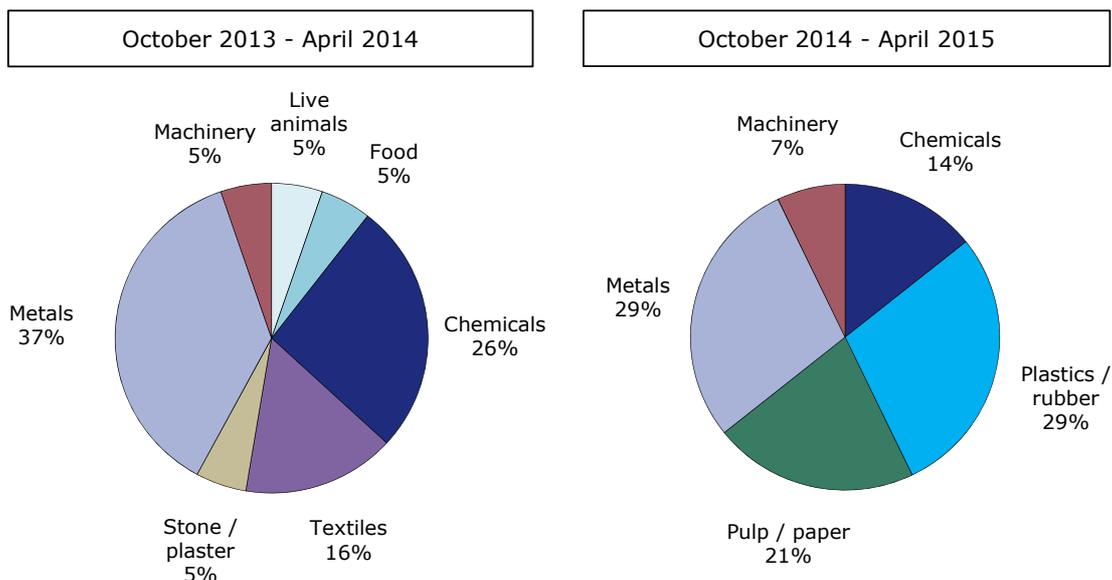
Chart 3.4 Countervailing investigation initiations by reporting Member^a

a Data available only through April 2015. Data for January through April 2015 is partly unverified and collected from various unofficial sources.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.17. During the first period, metals accounted for seven of the 19 initiations, chemicals accounted for five, and textile products, three. The remaining countervail investigations were in relation to: machinery; food; animals/animal products; and stone/plaster sectors with one initiation each. In the second period, metals and plastics were the most affected sectors with four initiations each. Paper products were the subject of three investigations, chemicals were subject to two and one investigation was initiated in relation to machinery. Chart 3.5, below, provides the percentage breakout.

Chart 3.5 Countervailing initiations by sector



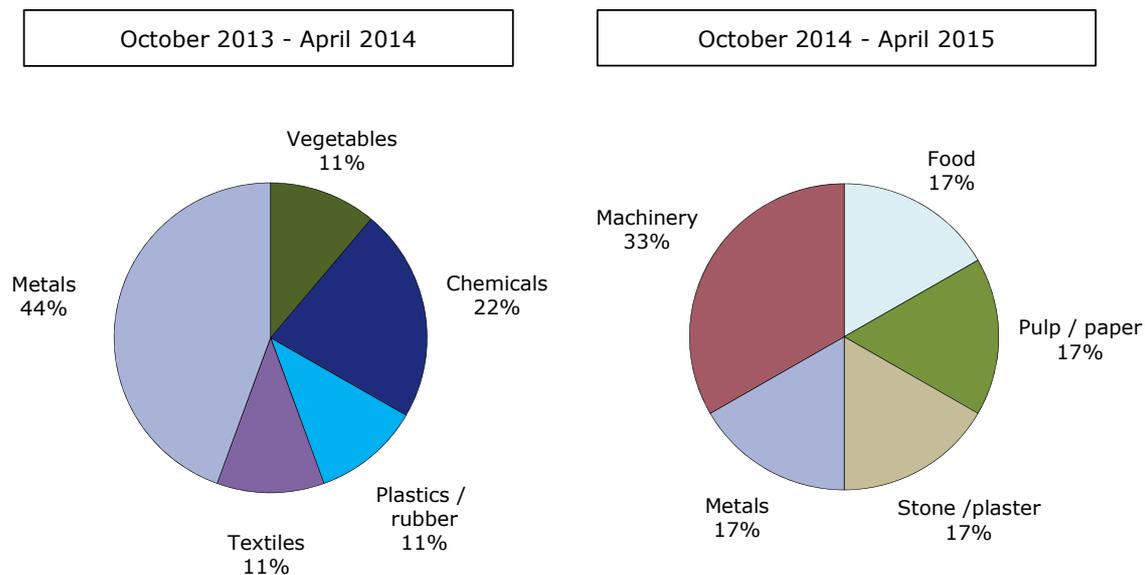
Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.18. Similarly to anti-dumping, China is the country most frequently subject to the initiation of countervail investigations. The share of countervail investigations of imports from China was 58% in the first period and 29% in the second. Second to China was India, which was subject to one investigation in the first period (5% of initiations), but three in the second period (21% of initiations).

3.19. During these periods, countervail investigations were frequently initiated in parallel with anti-dumping investigations on the same product from the same country of export. In total, 15 of the 19 countervail investigations were initiated in parallel with anti-dumping investigations in the first period, while 11 of the 14 countervail investigations accompanied an anti-dumping investigation in the second period. There is a confirmed tendency for Members to initiate concurrent anti-dumping and countervail investigations in relation to China in particular.

3.20. The number of initiations of safeguard investigations declined from nine in the first period to six in the second (Table 3.6). India initiated the most safeguard investigations in the first period (four), while only Egypt and Turkey initiated investigations in the second period, with three each. In terms of product coverage, metals and chemicals accounted for two thirds of the initiations in the first period, accounting for four and two initiations respectively. In the second period, machinery accounted for two initiations and the four remaining investigations related to the metal, stone/plaster, paper and food sectors. Chart 3.6 below, provides the percentage breakout.

Chart 3.6 Safeguard initiations by sector



Source: WTO Secretariat.

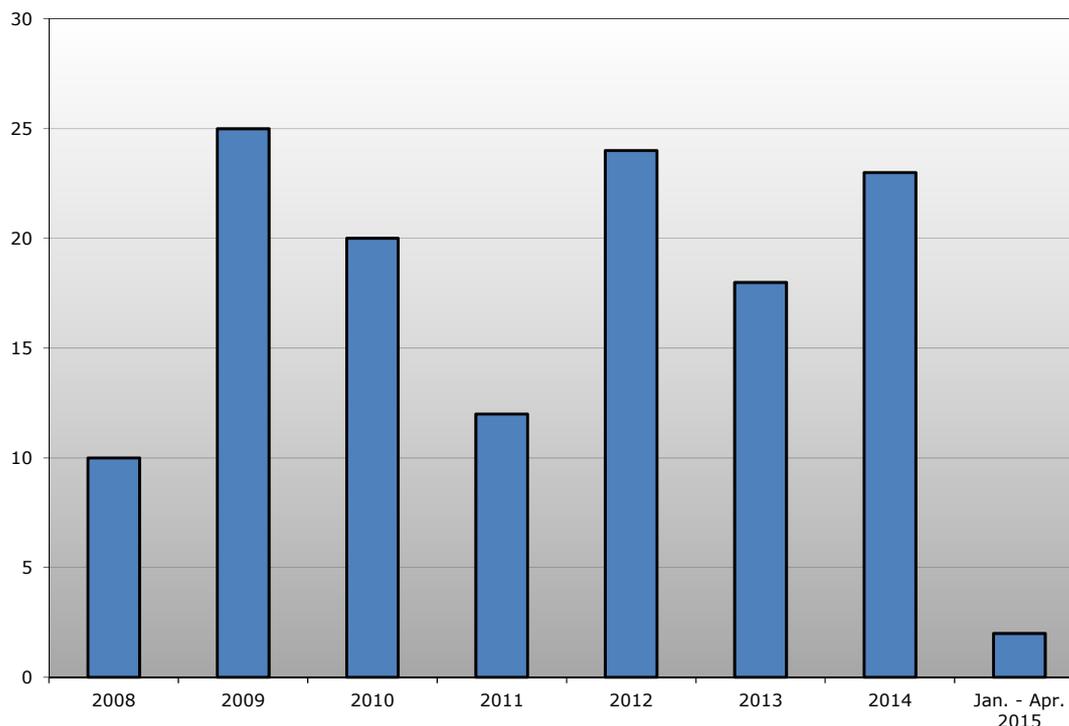
Table 3.6 Initiations of safeguard investigations

Reporting Member	October 2013-April 2014	October 2014-April 2015 ^a
Costa Rica	1	0
Egypt	0	3
India	4	0
Indonesia	2	0
Chinese Taipei	1	0
Thailand	1	0
Turkey	0	3
Total	9	6

a Data available only through April 2015. Data for January through April 2015 is partly unverified and collected from various unofficial sources.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.21. Chart 3.7 below, shows the trends in total initiations between 2008 and April 2015.

Chart 3.7 Safeguard initiations by reporting Member, 2008–2015^a

a Data available only through April 2015; data for January through April 2015 is partly unverified and collected from various unofficial sources.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.3 Sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS)¹⁹

3.22. Under the SPS Agreement, WTO Members are obliged to provide an advance notice of intention to introduce new or modified SPS measures²⁰, or to notify immediately when emergency measures are imposed. The main objective of complying with the SPS notification obligations is to inform other Members about new or changed regulations that may significantly affect trade. Therefore, an increased number of notifications does not automatically imply greater use of protectionist measures, but rather enhanced transparency regarding these measures.

3.23. In the period from October 2014 to March 2015, 814 SPS notifications (regular and emergency, including addenda) were submitted to the WTO. Notifications from developing-country Members accounted for 79% of the total number. In the previous six-month period, the proportion of measures notified by developing-country Members was considerably lower: from April through September 2014, a total of 714 notifications were submitted, of which 61% were by developing country Members. Consequently, in the period under review, there has been a 30% increase in the share of notifications made by developing-country Members as compared to the previous six-month period.

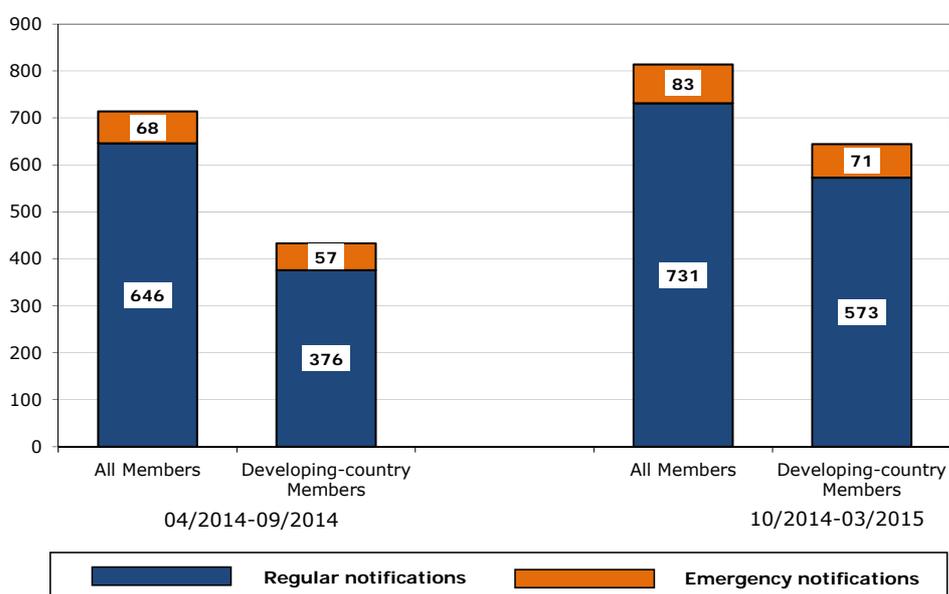
¹⁹ Information presented in this section has been retrieved from the SPS Information Management System (SPS IMS: <http://spsims.wto.org>). This section is based on notifications to the WTO for the period 1 October 2014 to 31 March 2015. STCs are only raised at SPS Committee meetings. The information in this section summarizes the STCs raised at the October 2014 and March 2015 SPS Committee meetings.

²⁰ Transparency obligations are contained in Article 7 and Annex B of the SPS Agreement. Annex B of the SPS Agreement requires that Members notify measures whose content is not substantially the same as that of an international standard, guideline or recommendation, and when the measure may have a significant effect on trade. However, the Recommended Procedures for Implementing the Transparency Provisions of the SPS Agreement, adopted by the SPS Committee in 2008 (G/SPS/7/Rev.3), recommend that Members also notify measures which are based on the relevant international standards, and provide a broad interpretation of effects on trade.

3.24. If we consider regular notifications (including addenda), from October 2014 through March 2015, WTO Members submitted 731 regular SPS notifications; 78% of which were submitted by developing-country Members. Compared with the previous six-month period (April-September 2014), there was a 13% increase in the total number of notified measures, and a 35% increase in the share of notifications made by developing-country Members.

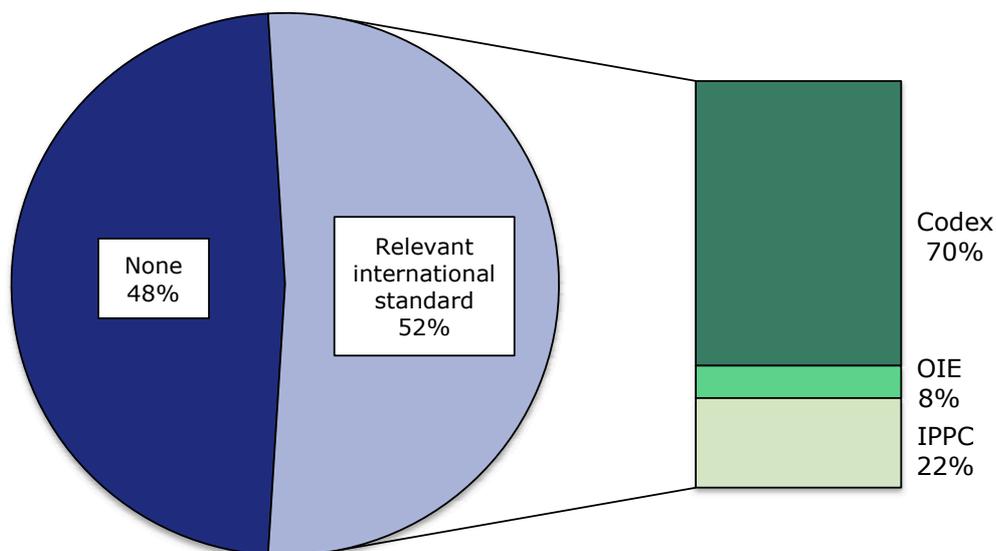
3.25. The number of notifications of emergency measures also increased compared with the previous period (Chart 3.8). The share of emergency notifications submitted by developing-country Members was similar to that of the previous period. From October 2014 through March 2015, 86% of the 83 notifications of emergency measures were submitted by developing-country Members. For the previous period (April-September 2014), 84% of the 68 emergency notifications had been submitted by developing-country Members. This high proportion of emergency measures notified by developing-country Members might stem from the fact that they do not have extensive SPS regulatory systems as developed-country Members do, and consequently, when facing emergency challenges, they are more likely to have to introduce new regulations or change existing ones.

Chart 3.8 Number of SPS notifications



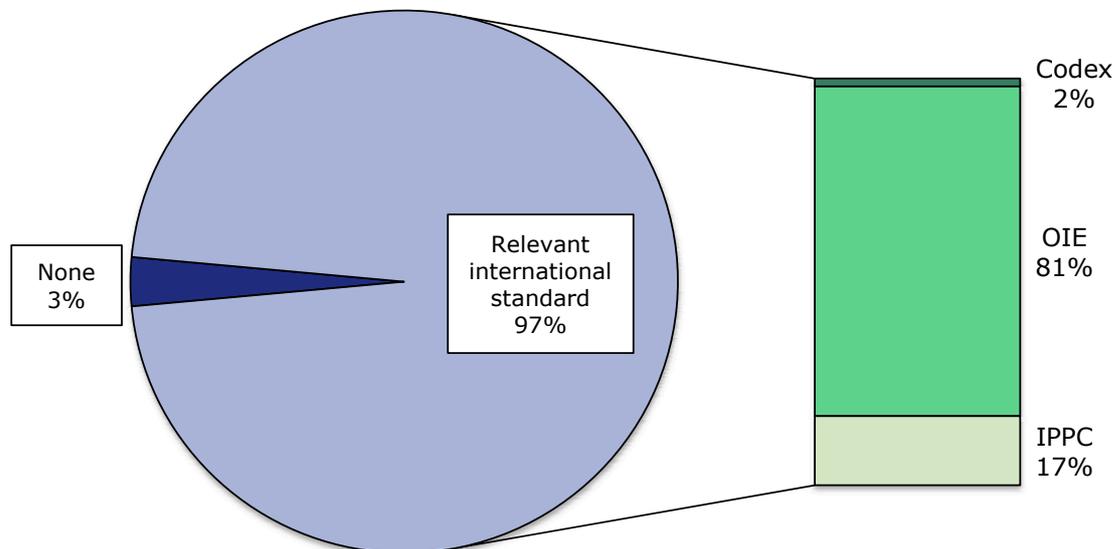
Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.26. Many Members are following the recommendation to notify SPS measures even when these are based on a relevant international standard, as this substantially increases transparency regarding SPS measures. Of the 626 regular notifications (excluding addenda) submitted from October 2014 to March 2015, 329 (52% of the total) indicated that an international standard, guideline or recommendation was applicable to the notified measure (Chart 3.9). Of these, 68% indicated that the proposed measure was in conformity with the existing international standard.

Chart 3.9 Regular SPS notifications and international standards

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.27. International standards often provide useful guidance regarding measures to address disease outbreaks and other emergency situations. Indeed, 97% of the 67 emergency notifications (excluding addenda) submitted from October 2014 to March 2015 indicated that an international standard, guideline or recommendation was applicable to the notified measure (Chart 3.10). They all indicated that the measure was in conformity with the existing international standard.

Chart 3.10 Emergency SPS notifications and international standards

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.28. Of the 626 regular notifications (excluding addenda) submitted from October 2014 to March 2015, the majority were related to food safety.²¹ The remaining notifications related to plant protection, the protection of humans from animal diseases or plant pests, animal health and the

²¹ The objective of an SPS measure falls under one or more of the following categories: (i) food safety, (ii) animal health, (iii) plant protection, (iv) protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, and (v) protect territory from other damages from pests. Members are required to identify the purpose of the measure in their notifications. It is not uncommon for more than one objective to be identified for a measure.

protection of the Member's territory from other damage from pests. Several of the regular notifications identified more than one objective per measure.

3.29. Of the 67 emergency measures (excluding addenda) notified in the same period, the majority related to animal health, followed by measures related to the protection of humans from animal diseases or plant pests, food safety, plant protection and the protection of the Member's territory from other damage from pests. Similarly, the majority of emergency notifications during this period identified more than one objective per measure.

3.30. While there is no formal provision for "counter notification", concerns regarding the failure to notify an SPS measure, or on a notified measure, can be raised as a specific trade concern (STCs) at any of the three regular meetings of the SPS Committee each year. In the two Committee meetings of October 2014 and March 2015, 9 new STCs were raised. Three of these STCs related to food safety, 2 to animal health, 1 to plant health, and 3 to other types of concerns (Table 3.7).

3.31. One new STC which had been included on the proposed agenda for the March 2015 meeting was withdrawn following bilateral consultations: Chile's concerns regarding Viet Nam's measures on meat and dairy products.

Table 3.7 SPS specific trade concerns raised between October 2014 and March 2015

STC	Document title	Members maintaining the measure	Members raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	Date raised	Primary objective
379	Russia's market access requirements for bovine meat in compliance with OIE requirements	Russian Federation	India		15/10/2014	Food safety
380	Russia's restrictions on imports of fruits and vegetables from Poland (G/SPS/N/RUS/69)	Russian Federation	European Union		15/10/2014	Plant health
381	Russia's introduction of new requirements for veterinary certificates	Russian Federation	Ukraine		15/10/2014	Other concerns
383	China's measures on bovine meat	China	India		26/03/2015	Animal health
384	General import restrictions due to African Swine Fever	Certain Members	European Union		26/03/2015	Animal health
385	General import restrictions due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	Certain Members	European Union		26/03/2015	Food safety
386	Mexico's measures on imports of hibiscus flowers	Mexico	Nigeria	Burkina Faso, Senegal	26/03/2015	Other concerns
387	Chinese Taipei's strengthened import restrictions on food with regard to radionuclides	Chinese Taipei	Japan		26/03/2015	Food safety
388	US proposed rule for user fees for agricultural quarantine and inspection services	United States	Mexico		26/03/2015	Other concerns

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.32. Sixteen previously raised STCs were discussed at the October 2014 or March 2015 SPS Committee meetings (twelve were discussed in both meetings). Of these, 4 addressed persistent problems that have been discussed 7 times or more. In particular, 2 STCs have been discussed on 17 or more occasions (Table 3.8).

Table 3.8 Previously-raised SPS specific trade concerns discussed in October 2014 and/or March 2015

STC	Document title	Members maintaining the measure	Members raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	First date raised	Times subsequently raised
193	General import restrictions due to BSE	Certain Members, specifically Australia, China, Japan, Korea, Rep. of, Ukraine	European Union, United States	Canada, Switzerland, Uruguay	01/06/2004	23
238	Application and modification of the EU Regulation on Novel Foods	European Union	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru	Argentina, Benin, Bolivia, Plurinational State of, Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Philippines, Uruguay, Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	01/03/2006	17
330	Indonesia's port closures	Indonesia	Chile, China, European Union, New Zealand, United States	Argentina, Australia, Canada, Japan, Korea, Rep. of, South Africa, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Uruguay	27/03/2012	7
340	Requirements for importation of sheep meat	Turkey	Australia	United States	18/10/2012	7
354	Import restrictions in response to the Japanese nuclear power plant accident	Certain Members, specifically China; Chinese Taipei; Hong Kong, China	Japan		27/06/2013	4
358	Import conditions for pork and pork products	India	European Union		16/10/2013	4
359	Strengthened import restrictions on fishery products with regard to radionuclides	Korea, Republic of	Japan		16/10/2013	4
289	US measures on catfish	United States	China		28/10/2009	3
356	Phytosanitary measures on citrus black spot	European Union	South Africa	Argentina	27/06/2013	3

STC	Document title	Members maintaining the measure	Members raising the concern	Members supporting the concern	First date raised	Times subsequently raised
373	U.S. high cost of certification for mango exports	United States	India	Dominican Republic	09/07/2014	3
374	EU ban on mangoes and certain vegetables	European Union	India	Nigeria	09/07/2014	2
375	U.S. non-acceptance of OIE categorization for BSE	United States	India		09/07/2014	2
376	Australia's non-acceptance of OIE categorization for BSE	Australia	India		09/07/2014	2
378	EU withdrawal of equivalence for processed organic products	European Union	India		09/07/2014	2
346	Ban on Bisphenol A	France, European Union	United States		21/03/2013	1
382	EU revised proposal for categorization of compounds as endocrine disruptors	European Union	United States	Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa and Uruguay	25/03/2014	1

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.4 Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

3.33. Under the TBT Agreement, WTO Members are obliged to notify their intention to introduce new or modified TBT measures, or to notify immediately when emergency measures are imposed. The main objective of complying with the TBT notification obligations is to inform other Members about new or changed regulations that may significantly affect trade.²² Therefore, an increased number of notifications does not necessarily imply greater use of protectionist measures. TBT notification obligations are meant to promote enhanced transparency regarding measures taken to address legitimate policy objectives, such as the protection of human, animal or plant life or health, or the environment.

3.34. During the period from 8 November 2014 to 12 May 2015 ("reviewed period"), WTO Members submitted 702 regular notifications of TBT measures²³, of which around 80% were submitted by developing-country Members.²⁴ This overall number of 702 notifications is markedly lower than in the period November 2013 – May 2014, although the proportion from developing

²² More specifically, under the TBT Agreement, WTO Members are not required to notify all proposed TBT measures (technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures). Rather, they are only required to notify those measures that may have a *significant effect on trade* of other Members and are *not* based on a relevant international standard. However, the TBT Committee in its Sixth Triennial Review encouraged Members, "for the purpose of enhancing predictability and transparency in situations where it is difficult to establish or foresee whether a draft technical regulation or conformity assessment procedure may have a "significant effect on trade of other Members", to notify such measures."

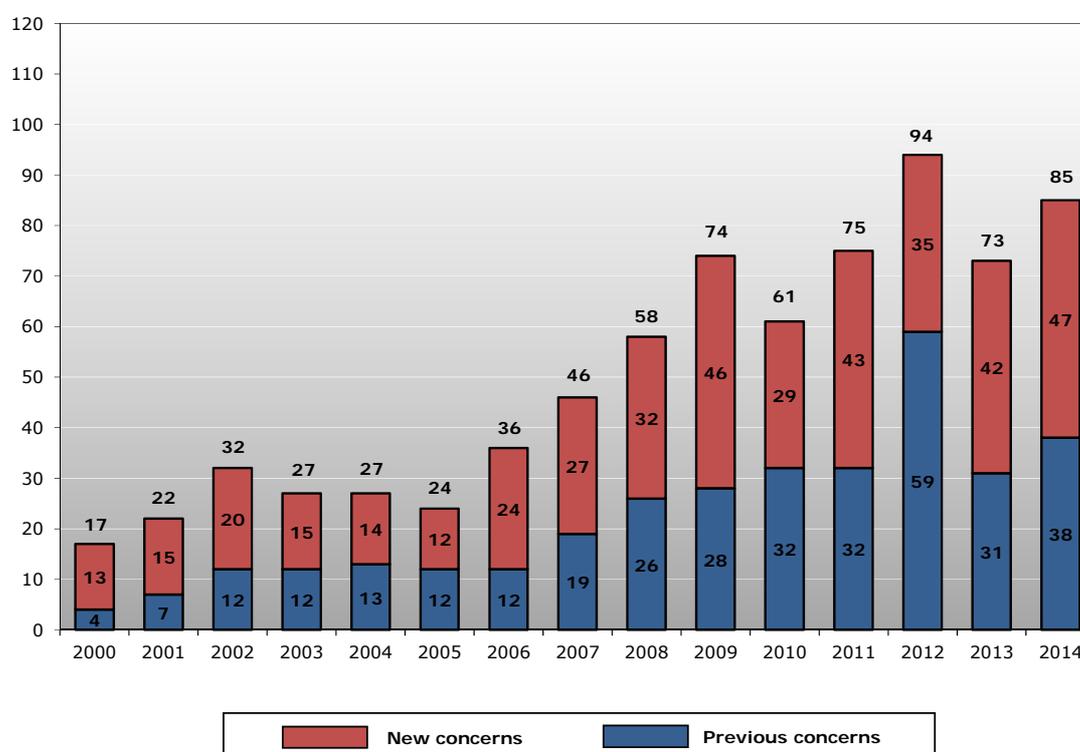
²³ Since 1995, almost 20,000 notifications of new or revised regulations have been submitted by 126 Members.

²⁴ This total number of developing-country Members' notifications (559) includes those made by the Commonwealth of Independent States Members (13) and LDC Members (52).

countries was only slightly lower.²⁵ The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the U.S. submitted the highest number of notifications during this period (57 each), followed by the Republic of Korea (51), and the EU (40). A large portion (25%) of these notifications came from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members. The main objectives²⁶ indicated in these notifications were: "protection of human health or safety" (70%); "prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection" (30%); and "protection of the environment" (15%).

3.35. Any Member may raise STCs with respect to TBT measures taken or proposed by other Members.²⁷ These STCs are frequently discussed in the regular meetings of the TBT Committee. Since 1995 and up to 12 May 2015, Members have raised 461 *new* STCs. STCs are, however, frequently discussed in subsequent meetings to the one in which they were first raised. In 2014, a record of 47 *new* STCs were raised, the most in any given year since 1995. An upward trend in STCs has been observed since 2005 (see Chart 3.11). 2014 was also the second highest year in the overall number of STCs (new and previously-raised) discussed (85).²⁸

Chart 3.11 Number of STCs raised with respect to Members' TBT measures per year



Note: This chart counts the number of TBT measures discussed as STCs per year. STCs raised in 2015 are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

²⁵ From 7 November 2013 to 12 May 2014 the overall number of regular notifications was around 900, the great majority of which (around 85%) were from developing-country Members, including LDCs.

²⁶ A TBT measure may pursue a variety of legitimate objectives, although historically the majority fall under one of the three top categories: the protection of human, animal or plant life or health, or the environment. Members are required to identify the purpose of the measure in their notifications. It is not uncommon that more than one objective is identified for a measure.

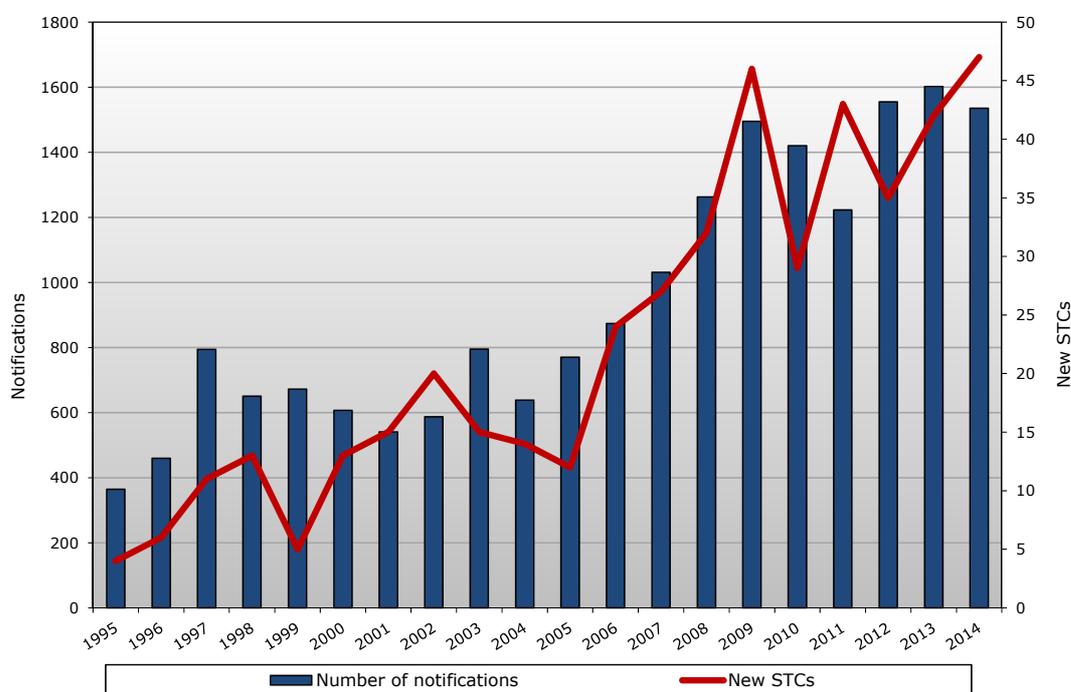
²⁷ Members use the TBT Committee as a forum to discuss trade issues related to specific measures (technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment procedures) maintained by other Members. These are referred to as "specific trade concerns" (STCs) and normally relate to proposed draft measures notified to the TBT Committee or to the implementation of existing measures. Issues raised range from simple requests for additional information and clarifications to questions on the consistency of measures with TBT Agreement disciplines.

²⁸ More detail on STCs raised in the TBT Committee is available through the TBT IMS (<http://tbtime.wto.org>).

3.36. As illustrated by Chart 3.12, below, there is a marked correlation between the number of new notifications and new STCs raised each year. On average, since 1995, 66% of STCs discussed in TBT Committee meetings relate to notified measures.

3.37. Members raised 8 new STCs during the only Committee meeting that fell within the reviewed period (March 2015). Overall, 55 new and previously-raised STCs were discussed, keeping with the trend of a greater number of STCs being discussed per meeting as well as per year. Chart 3.13 illustrates that the volume of STCs discussed in the TBT Committee annually has grown significantly between 2005 and 2014 (from 33 to 148). This upward trend shows that the Committee has spent more time discussing STCs (only around 11 STCs were discussed per meeting in 2005 while that figure was 49 in 2014). All 8 new STCs discussed during the reviewed period were either raised by, or involved measures from, G-20 Members. Almost all new STCs (7 out of 8) targeted measures maintained by G-20 Members, significantly higher than the overall trend since 1995.²⁹ The list of all new concerns raised in the March 2014 meeting is provided in Table 3.9.

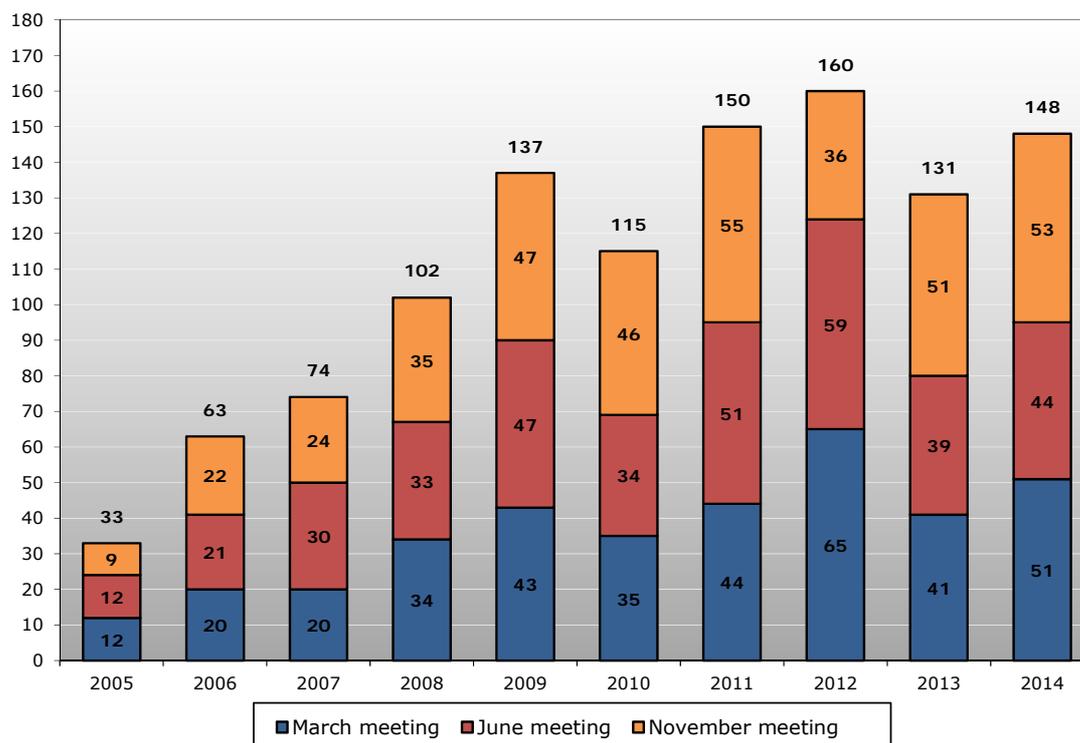
Chart 3.12 Number of notifications and new STCs



Note: STCs raised in 2015 are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat. See in particular Twentieth Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement – Note by the Secretariat (G/TBT/36, 23 February 2015).

²⁹ Since 1995, 78% of all STCs tabled were directed at G-20 measures.

Chart 3.13 STCs discussed per committee meeting, 2005-14

Note: This chart counts the number of STCs on the agenda of the TBT Committee per meeting. Note that the same STCs can be raised at all three meetings in a year and, in this chart, is counted under all three meetings. STCs raised in 2015 are not included.

Source: WTO Secretariat. See in particular Twentieth Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement – Note by the Secretariat (G/TBT/36, 23 February 2015).

3.38. Around 30% of all 55 STCs (new and previously-raised) covered by the reviewed period involved measures dealing with nutrition (5), alcohol (5), cosmetics (4) and tobacco (3), including a proposed tobacco-control measure taken by a Local Government within a Member. Although technical regulations taken by Local Governments are also disciplined by the TBT Agreement, they are not commonly notified and are rarely subject to STCs in the Committee.³⁰ Besides these areas, STCs of the reviewed period involved measures covering a variety of other issues, including two that are becoming more frequently discussed in the Committee: IT and environment.

Table 3.9 New STCs raised during the March 2015 TBT Committee meeting

Member maintaining the measure (in alphabetical order)	STC title	Stated objective	Product coverage	Members raising the concern
Canada	Tobacco Reduction (Flavored Tobacco Products) Amendment Act, 2013 – Bill 206 (ID 463)	Protection of human health and safety	Flavoured tobacco products	Indonesia

³⁰ Since 1995 the TBT Committee has only received 135 notifications of TBT measures taken by local governments, mostly (129) from the U.S. This corresponds to around 0.006% of all notifications to date.

Member maintaining the measure (in alphabetical order)	STC title	Stated objective	Product coverage	Members raising the concern
China	Administrative Measure on Cosmetics Labelling (AMCL) (ID 456)	Integrating, summarizing and adjusting the relevant existing regulations and standards to promote the norm, healthy development of the industry.	Cosmetics	Canada; Japan; Republic of Korea; United States; European Union
China	Banking IT Equipment Security Regulation (ID 457)	To strengthen the security of the information network	IT banking system	Canada; Japan; United States; European Union
Ecuador	Emergency Technical Regulation (RTE) No. 088: "Surface tension agents", of the Ecuadorian Standardization Institute (INEN) G/TBT/N/ECU/117 (ID 458)	Protection of human health and safety; protection of the environment; prevention of deceptive practices	Surface tension agents	Mexico
Indonesia	Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture No. 39/Permentan/PD.4, 10 December 2014, concerning Importation of Carcass, Meat and/or Processed Meat Products into the Territory of the Republic of Indonesia, and Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture No. 02/Permentan/PD.4, 10 January 2015, concerning the Amendment of the Regulation of the Minister for Agriculture No. 39/Permentan/PD.4, 10 December 2014 (ID 461)	Protection of human health and safety; protection of the environment	Meat	Australia; Canada; European Union
Japan	Wood Use Points Programme (ID 459)	Protection of the environment; development in rural areas	Wood	Russian Federation
Mexico	Standard on non-alcoholic and soft drinks (ID 462)	N/A	Juices and non-alcoholic drinks	El Salvador
Russian Federation	Technical Regulations on Safety of Railway Transport (TR CU No. 002/2011 and No. 003/2011) (ID 460)	Protection of human health and safety	Railway transport	Ukraine

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.39. Eight of the 47 previously-raised STCs (Table 3.10) discussed during the reviewed period addressed persistent concerns that have been discussed in the Committee for a number of years (10 or more times).

Table 3.10 Previously raised STCs

	Previously raised STCs (March 2015 TBT Committee meeting)	Frequency
1	India - Pneumatic tyres and tubes for automotive vehicles.	26 times
2	India - Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 2007.	19 times
3	China - Provisions for the Administration of Cosmetics Application.	14 times
4	India - New Telecommunications related Rules (Department of Telecommunications, No. 842-725/2005-VAS/Vol.III (3 December 2009); No. 10-15/2009-AS-III/193 (18 March 2010); and Nos. 10-15/2009-AS.III/Vol.II/(Pt.)/(25-29) (28 July 2010); Department of Telecommunications, No. 10-15/2009-AS.III/Vol.II/(Pt.)/(30) (28 July 2010) and accompanying template, "Security and Business Continuity Agreement").	14 times
5	China - Requirements for information security products, including, inter alia, the Office of State Commercial Cryptography Administration (OSCCA) 1999 Regulation on commercial encryption products and its on-going revision and the Multi-Level Protection Scheme (MLPS).	13 times
6	Russian Federation - Draft on Technical Regulation of Alcohol Drinks Safety (published on 24 October 2011).	10 times
7	Republic of Korea - Regulation on Registration and Evaluation of Chemical Material.	10 times
8	Indonesia - Technical Guidelines for the Implementation of the Adoption and Supervision of Indonesian National Standards for Obligatory Toy Safety.	10 times

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.5 Trade concerns raised in other WTO Bodies

3.40. During the period covered by this report a number of other trade concerns were raised by Members in formal meetings of various WTO bodies.³¹ With a view to increasing transparency, this section aims to provide a brief and factual overview of such concerns raised between mid-October 2014 and mid-May 2015.³² As this section does not seek to reproduce the full substantive description of the trade concerns described by Members, a specific reference is made to the relevant formal meeting where a particular issue was raised. For the full amount and context of the concerns, Members are invited to consult the records of the respective WTO bodies. The list of concerns and issues mentioned in this section is not exhaustive.

3.41. In the *Council for Trade in Goods* (CTG)³³ new concerns were raised on the restrictive measures on automobiles adopted by Ecuador and on the establishment of a surcharge in the form of temporary taxes for balance-of-payments reasons (Japan).

3.42. Other concerns expressed at the meeting included issues which had been previously raised on (i) Nigeria's restrictions/ban on imports of sea products (Iceland, Norway); (ii) Nigeria's local-content measures in the energy sector, which had also been raised in 2011, 2014 and in the April 2015 TRIMs Committee (EU, U.S.); (iii) the Russian Federation's restrictive measures affecting the transit of products through its territory and the increased border controls mainly affecting Lithuanian products and trucks, as well as, its industrial assembly programme, the local content requirements to obtain preferential treatment and the subsidies provided to the local automotive producers (EU, Japan); and (iv) Indonesia's import and export restrictions, including import licensing requirements, unique technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures, pre-shipment inspection requirements, local content and domestic manufacturing requirements, pre-paid import taxes, country port restrictions, export restrictions to raw materials and export tariffs (EU, Japan, U.S.).

³¹ This section does not include SPS and TBT Committees (covered separately) or issues brought to the Dispute Settlement Body. Some of the trade concerns raised may be the subject of a dispute.

³² Members are encouraged to communicate to the WTO's Trade Policy Review Division the non-tariff measures which they have raised in WTO bodies and which they believe are relevant to the monitoring exercise.

³³ Meeting of 26 March 2015, Minutes G/C/M/122.

3.43. At the meeting of the *Committee on Market Access* on 26 May 2015³⁴, Switzerland requested the issue of customs duties on cigarettes implemented by the Kingdom of Bahrain to be included on the agenda.

3.44. In the *Committee on Agriculture*³⁵ a number of questions and concerns were raised with respect to Members' individual notifications and on implementation-related issues under Article 18.6. During the period concerned, a total of 201 questions were discussed, including questions on individual notifications (153 questions) and under Art. 18.6 (44 questions), as well as on overdue notifications (3 questions) and in relation to the NFIDC decision (1 question). Additional details regarding these questions and concerns can be found in section 3.6 of the report.

3.45. A number of new concerns were expressed at the meeting of *Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs) Committee*³⁶ on (i) China's local content requirements for purchases of technology by the banking sector (US, Japan); (ii) Indonesia's local content requirement for 4G LTE mobile devices (US); (iii) India's local content requirement in solar power generation projects (EU); (iv) Turkey's local content requirements in the electricity generation (EU); (v) the support measures by the Russian Federation for the automotive sector (EU, Japan); and (vi) the Russian Federation's local content requirements for purchases by state-owned enterprises (EU, U.S.).

3.46. Other concerns expressed at the meeting include issues previously raised on (i) certain preferences granted by India to domestically manufactured electronic goods and telecommunication products (EU); (ii) measures by Indonesia addressing local content in investment in the telecommunications sector (Japan); (iii) Indonesia's local content provisions in the energy sector (EU, Japan, U.S.); (iv) local content measures taken by Nigeria in the energy sector (EU); (v) local content requirements in some U.S. renewable energy programmes (India); (vi) the Russian Federation's local content requirements for agricultural equipment (EU); (vii) Indonesia's minimum local product requirements for modern retail sector (EU, Japan, U.S.); and (viii) restrictions of Indonesia's newly adopted Industry Law and Trade Law (EU, Japan, U.S.).

3.47. At the meeting of the *Committee on Customs Valuation*³⁷ concerns were reiterated on issues previously raised on (i) the alleged use by Armenia of reference prices (U.S.); and (ii) Indonesia's lack of notifications on Pre-Shipment Inspection measures (U.S.).

3.48. A number of concerns were raised at the meeting of the *Committee on Import Licensing*³⁸ on (i) Angola's Joint Executive Decree 22/15 regulating the importation, distribution and sale of food/non-food products (EU); (ii) India's import licensing system on marble and marble products (EU); (iii) Nigeria's licensing procedures on importation of maritime pelagic fish (EU); (iv) Turkey's surveillance licensing regime on import authorisation of old, second-hand and renovated goods, and its import regime for non-fuel petroleum products (EU); (v) Mexico's automatic licensing procedures on certain steel products (U.S.); (vi) issues related to the product coverage and implementation of the import licensing regime of Viet Nam (U.S.); (vii) Brazil's non-automatic licensing measures on the importation of nitrocellulose (U.S.); (viii) Indonesia's import licensing regime on cellular phones handheld computers and tablets (U.S.); (ix) India's import licensing requirements on boric acid (U.S.); (x) Bangladesh's import licensing procedures and in particular with respect to the importation of medicines (U.S.); and (xi) Indonesia's import licensing regulations on carcasses and processed meat products (Australia).

3.49. In the *Committee on Safeguards*³⁹, concerns were raised at the 27 October 2014 meeting and the 27 April 2015 meeting regarding (i) Colombia's bars and rods of low-carbon steel; (ii) Ecuador's wood and bamboo flooring and accessories thereof; (iii) Egypt's steel rebar; white sugar and; automotive batteries; (iv) India's seamless pipes, tubes and hollow profiles of iron or

³⁴ Minutes G/AM/M/61 (forthcoming).

³⁵ Responses to points raised by Members under the review process in the CoA meetings on 13 November 2014 and 4 March 2015 are available in G/AG/W/138 and G/AG/W/142.

³⁶ Meeting of 16 April 2015, Minutes G/TRIMS/M/38 (forthcoming).

³⁷ Meeting of 24 October 2014, Minutes G/VAL/M/59.

³⁸ Meeting of 21 April 2015, Minutes G/LIC/M/41 (forthcoming).

³⁹ For details on Members' raising the concerns please refer to Minutes G/SG/M/46 and G/SG/M/47 (forthcoming).

non-alloy steel; saturated fatty alcohols; flexible slabstock polyol and; not-alloyed ingots of unwrought aluminium; (v) Indonesia's coated paper and paperboard, not including banknotes; cotton yarn other than sewing; wheat flour; flat-rolled product of iron or non-alloy and; I and H Sections of other alloy steel; (vi) Malaysia's hot-rolled steel plate; (vii) Morocco's cold-rolled sheets and plated or coated sheets and; wire rods and reinforcing bars; (viii) Philippines' steel angle bars and; newsprint; (ix) South Africa's frozen potato chips; (x) Thailand's non-alloy hot rolled steel flat products; (xi) Tunisia's fibreboard of wood and; glass bottles; (xii) Turkey's polyethylene terephthalate; printing, writing and copying paper; terephthalic acid; wallpaper and similar wallcoverings and; transmission apparatus incorporating reception apparatus (cellular) portable telephone; and (xiii) Ukraine's tableware and kitchenware of porcelain; and casing and pump-compressor seamless steel pipes.

3.50. Members also discussed the Russian Federation's alleged non-notification of certain safeguard actions initiated before its accession to the WTO and the Kingdom of Bahrain's alleged delay in notifying its safeguard legislation.

3.51. In the *Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures*⁴⁰ concerns were raised at the 28 October 2014 and 28 April 2015 meetings in respect of countervailing duty actions on (i) India's investigation on imports of casting for wind operated electricity generators (China); (ii) U.S.' investigation on imports of certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic products (China); U.S. measures on Turkish iron and steel products (Turkey); and (iv) Ukraine's investigation on imports of light motor vehicles (Russia). With respect to notifications, concerns were raised about the non-notification of alleged subsidies by India and China, and requests were made to China for more information on certain alleged subsidy programmes (U.S.). On subsidies, concerns were raised on (i) certain local content requirements in renewable energy sector subsidy schemes in the U.S. (Russian Federation, India); (ii) Japan's support for the MRJ project in the aircraft sector (Brazil); (iii) India's sugar subsidies provided under its Sugar Development Fund (Australia); (iv) support provided by Canada for the development of a new cement facility in Quebec (U.S.); and (v) India's export subsidies in the textile and apparel sector (U.S.).

3.52. At the 29 October 2014 and 29 April 2015 meetings of the *Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices*⁴¹ concerns were raised on (i) Argentina's investigation on imports of copper-based fungicides (Chile); review of the anti-dumping measure on air-conditioning products (Thailand) and; the sunset review and change of circumstances review on locks and chains (Peru); (ii) Australia's investigation into rod in coils (Turkey); on imports of quenched and tempered steel plate (Japan); and on steel reinforcing bar (Turkey); (iii) Brazil's investigation on biaxially-oriented polypropylene (Peru, Chile and Colombia); and on bus and truck tyres (Korea, Republic of); (iv) China's investigation on optical fibre preform (Japan); on methyl methacrylate (Japan); and sunset review on polyvinyl chloride (Japan); (v) Dominican Republic's imposition of definitive measures on steel rods and bars for concrete reinforcement (Turkey); (vi) the EU's simultaneous anti-dumping and countervailing investigation on imports of stainless steel cold rolled flat products (China); the measures on ammonium nitrate, seamless pipes and tubes, welded tubes and pipes (Russian Federation) and; the investigations on aluminium foils and grain oriented flat rolled products of silicon electrical steel (Russian Federation); (vii) India's investigation on flexible slab stock polyol (Australia); on ethyl hexanol and butanol (EU); on acetone, purified terephthalic acid and phenol (Korea, Rep. of); on investigation and measures on sodium nitrate (Ukraine); (viii) Indonesia's initiation of an investigation against wheat flour (Turkey) and; the sunset review on hot rolled coil (Korea, Rep. of and the Russian Federation); and (ix) the Republic of Korea's investigation on valves for pneumatic transmissions (Japan).

3.53. Concerns were also raised on (x) Mexico's measures on certain steel products, thick hot rolled coils, thin hot rolled coils, thick hot rolled plate and cold rolled coils (Russian Federation); and preliminary determination in the investigation on ammonium sulphate (US); (xi) Morocco's final determination regarding the investigation on imports of hot rolled steel sheets (Turkey); (xii) Philippines' provisional anti-dumping measures on wheat flour (Turkey); (xiii) South Africa's investigation on frozen chicken (EU); (xiv) Turkey's investigation on cotton (US); (xv) Ukraine's interim review of anti-dumping measures on nitrate ammonium (Russian Federation); partial interim review of measures on float glass (Russian Federation); measures on point works (Russian Federation); (xvi) the U.S. investigation on imports of grain-oriented electrical steel

⁴⁰ Minutes G/SCM/M/91 and G/SCM/M/93 (forthcoming).

⁴¹ Minutes G/ADP/M/47 and G/ADP/M/48 (forthcoming).

(Russian Federation); the great length of U.S. anti-dumping measures against certain Japanese products (Japan); the investigation on non-oriented electrical steel (Japan); (xvii) the preliminary and final determinations made by Viet Nam on exports of cold rolled stainless steel (Malaysia); and (xviii) the expiry review of the measure imposed by the EU on imports of ammonium nitrate (Russian Federation). Other trade concerns were raised in relation to certain practices of Members on product scope determinations in anti-dumping investigations by the Russian Federation. Finally, Mexico raised concerns over Colombia's investigation on DOP plasticizers, while Peru voiced concerns over Argentina's sunset review on fasteners.

3.54. In the meeting of the *Committee on Balance-of-Payments (BOP) Restrictions*⁴² consultations were held with Ukraine on its introduction of an import surcharge for BOP purposes.⁴³

3.55. At the *Council for Trade in Services (CTS)* meetings⁴⁴ concerns were raised on Ukraine's reforms of its Unified Gas Transportation System (Russian Federation).

3.56. Concerns previously raised at the *Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)*⁴⁵ with respect to Australia's measures related to plain packaging of tobacco products and their compatibility with the TRIPS Agreement (Cuba, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Ukraine and Zimbabwe) were reiterated in the first meeting in 2015⁴⁶ (Cuba, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Nigeria and Zimbabwe).

3.57. In the *Committee on Trade and Development (CTD)*⁴⁷ least-developed countries (LDCs) raised concerns with the lack of progress in the implementation of the duty-free and quota-free (DFQF) market access decision for LDCs (Bangladesh and Uganda on behalf of the LDC group). In the CTD's Aid for Trade meeting⁴⁸ concerns were reiterated on the level of Aid for Trade provided to LDCs (Uganda on behalf of the LDC group).

3.58. In the *Committee on Government Procurement*⁴⁹ concerns were raised regarding a number of Made in the USA Act legislative initiatives (Canada) and were reiterated in its first meeting of 2015⁵⁰ (Canada).

3.6 Policy developments in agriculture

3.59. The Committee on Agriculture (CoA) provides a forum for Members to discuss matters related to agriculture trade and to consult on matters relating to the Members' implementation of commitments under the AoA, including rules-based commitments. The review work by the CoA is based on Members' notifications on their commitments. There is also a provision in Article 18.6 that allows Members to raise any matter relevant to the implementation of the commitments under the AoA.

3.60. In the framework of the CoA meetings in November 2014 and March 2015, Members posed a total of 201 questions, including both questions on individual notifications and under Art. 18.6, with more than half of those questions (112) directed at issues related to domestic support notifications or implementation of domestic support commitments.

3.61. In total, seven Members raised 44 questions on 26 implementation-related issues (Article 18.6) in the above-mentioned meetings. As it can be seen in Chart 3.14, 2014 has been the year with the largest number of questions raised under Article 18.6.

⁴² Meeting of 28 April 2015, Minutes WT/BOP/R/110 (forthcoming).

⁴³ Consultations in the Balance-of-Payments Committee on Ecuador's measures are scheduled for 29 June.

⁴⁴ Meetings of 28 November 2014 and 18 March 2015, Minutes S/C/M/120 and S/C/M/122.

⁴⁵ Meetings of 28-29 October 2014, Minutes IP/C/M/77.

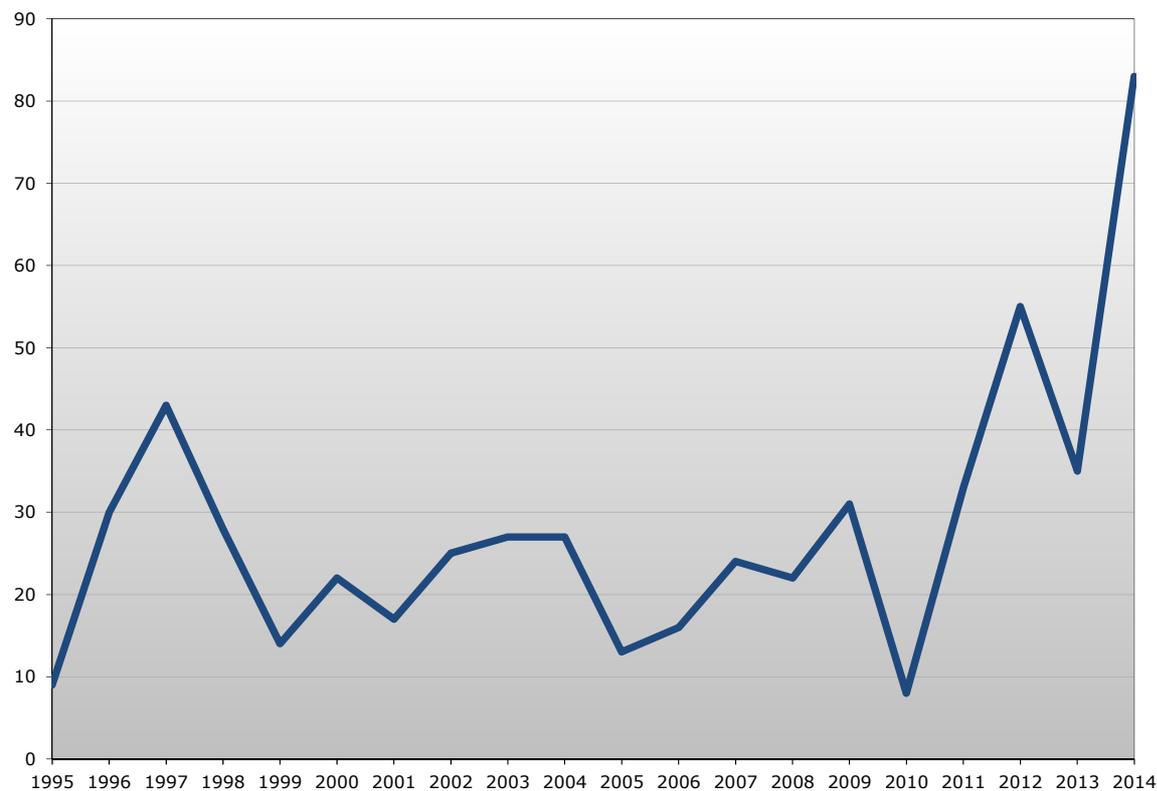
⁴⁶ Meeting of 24-25 February 2015, Minutes IP/C/M/78.

⁴⁷ Meeting of 27 November 2014 and 16 March 2015, Minutes WT/COMTD/M/92 and WT/COMTD/M/93.

⁴⁸ Meeting of 10 October 2014, Minutes WT/COMTD/AFT/M/32.

⁴⁹ Meeting of 29 October 2014, Minutes GPA/M/57.

⁵⁰ Meeting of 11 February 2015, Minutes GPA/M/59.

Chart 3.14 Number of questions raised under Article 18.6 (1995-2014)

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.62. Out of the 26 implementation-related questions, 13 issues were discussed for the first time, whereas the remaining issues had been discussed one or more times in previous years under matters raised under Article 18.6. Table 3.11 indicates the specific measures relating to implementation commitments that were discussed for the first time in the CoA during these two CoA meetings.

Table 3.11 New Article 18.6 issues

COA meeting Date	Question raised by	Answer by	Question summary	Products
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	European Union, United States	Russian Federation	Agricultural support for 2015	
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	New Zealand, United States	Canada	Tariff-rate quota for cheese	Cheese
13/11/2014 13/11/2014	European Union European Union	Brazil Egypt	Tax credit programmes Domestic support and export subsidies	
13/11/2014	Canada	Jordan	Inflation adjustments on the fixed external reference price	
13/11/2014	Canada	Turkey	Agricultural credit and investment subsidies	Bovine, swine
04/03/2015	Australia, Brazil, European Union	Thailand	Sugar policies	Cane or beet sugar
04/03/2015	Australia	United States	Export Credit Guarantee Program	
04/03/2015	Australia, European Union	Pakistan	Wheat export subsidies	Wheat

COA meeting Date	Question raised by	Answer by	Question summary	Products
04/03/2015	European Union	Russian Federation	Grain exports	Cereals, wheat, corn, rice, malt, coarse grains
04/03/2015	United States	India	Cotton policies	Cotton
04/03/2015	Australia	Indonesia	Regulation on importation of meat	Bovine
04/03/2015	European Union	Angola	Angola's Joint Executive Decree on import regulation	

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.63. Some of these issues related to a request for confirmation, and additional information, regarding the implementation of measures by a WTO Member such as Brazil's tax credit programme⁵¹, Pakistan's wheat export subsidies⁵², Russia's grain exports⁵³ and its agricultural support for 2015.⁵⁴ Some issues related to specific policy interventions by Members such as India's cotton policies⁵⁵, Indonesia's regulation on importation of meat⁵⁶, Turkey's agricultural credit and investment subsidies⁵⁷, Thailand's sugar policy⁵⁸, and the United States' Export Credit Guarantee Programme.⁵⁹

3.64. Other measures that were discussed related to follow-up questions on persistent areas of concern. Table 3.12 indicates the issues that were discussed in November 2014 and March 2015.

Table 3.12 Questions previously raised under Article 18.6

COA meeting date	Question by	Answer by	Question summary	Products
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	Australia, Colombia, European Union	India	Sugar export subsidies	Sugar, cane or beet sugar, other
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	United States	Brazil	Domestic support programmes	
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	New Zealand, U.S.	Canada	Dairy policies	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	Canada, United States	Costa Rica	Compliance with AMS commitments	Rice
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	United States	Thailand	Paddy pledging scheme	Rice
13/11/2014 04/03/2015	United States	Turkey	Destination of wheat flour sale	
13/11/2014	United States	Canada	Proposed changes to tariff schedule	Dairy, milk, milk powders, butter, cheese, other
13/11/2014	United States	Saint Lucia	Domestic purchase requirements for poultry and pork	Swine, poultry
13/11/2014	European Union	Turkey	Domestic support and export subsidies	
13/11/2014	Australia	Turkey	Export subsidy programmes	
13/11/2014	Canada	Thailand	Rice Farmer Assistance Programme	Rice

⁵¹ WTO document G/AG/W/138, pp. 5-6.

⁵² WTO document G/AG/W/142, p. 13.

⁵³ WTO document G/AG/W/142, p.15

⁵⁴ WTO document G/AG/W/138, p. 16; and G/AG/W/142, p.14.

⁵⁵ WTO document G/AG/W/142, p.p. 8-9.

⁵⁶ WTO document G/AG/W/142, p.p. 12-13.

⁵⁷ WTO document G/AG/W/138, p. 19.

⁵⁸ WTO document G/AG/W/142, pp. 15-17.

⁵⁹ WTO document G/AG/W/142, pp. 20-21.

COA meeting date	Question by	Answer by	Question summary	Products
04/03/2015	European Union	India	Exports of cereals and rice	Cereals, wheat, corn, rice, malt, coarse grains
04/03/2015	United States	China	Cotton domestic support	Cotton

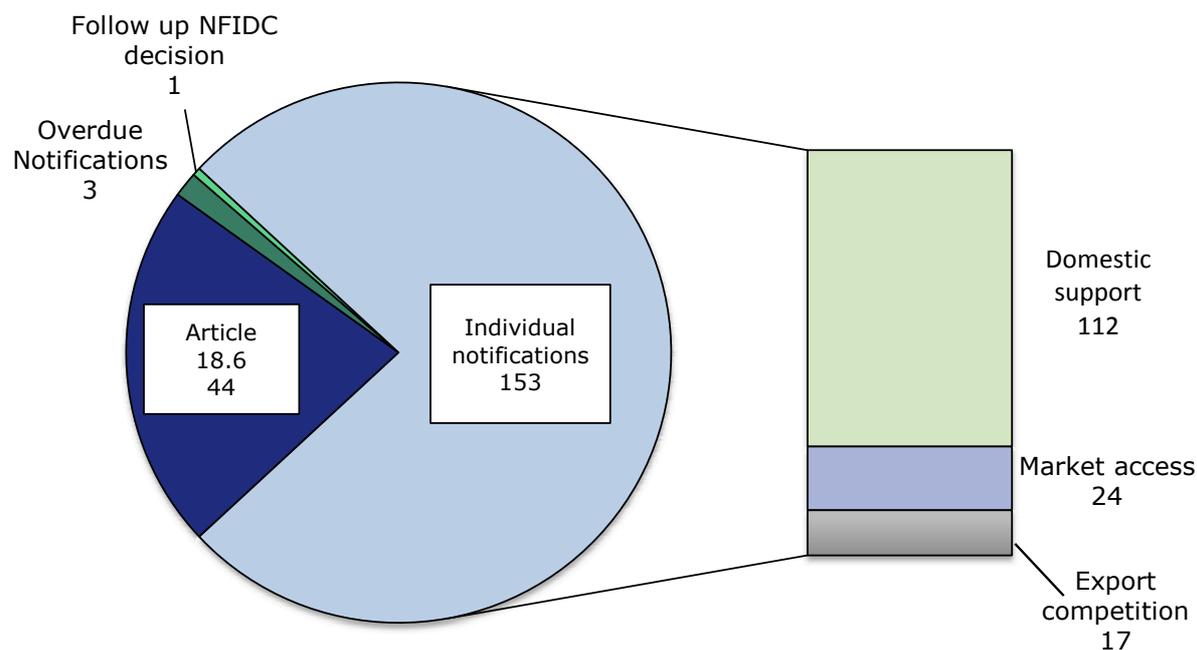
Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.65. In the area of export competition, while Members welcomed the positive trends in the reduction of the use of export subsidies, there were a number of issues raised regarding developments in some Members' policies such as Pakistan's wheat export subsidies, India's sugar export subsidies, and Switzerland's recent decision to submit to Parliament a proposal to increase the export subsidy budget for processed agricultural products for 2015 by a maximum of CHF 20 million. Switzerland noted that the budget increase was proposed in the context of the unexpected appreciation of the Swiss currency and the corresponding impairment of competitiveness of Swiss exporters following the discontinuation of the minimum exchange rate of the Euro against the Swiss Franc by the Swiss National Bank in January 2015. Both Pakistan and India noted that although the export subsidy policies were in place, no payment had been made to date.

3.66. In the context of the review process, Members requested information on Russia's agricultural support for 2015 and noted that on 28 January 2015, the Russian government had issued its "Plan of Priority Measures to Ensure Sustainable Economic Development and Social Stability in 2015". One Member requested an overview of the specific programmes that would be funded through this plan. Russia noted that the plan was provisional and that it would be adjusted in accordance with the established schedule for the financial year. Russia also stated that the implementation of the plan did not presume the use of additional or new measures in domestic support. In addition, an assessment of the level of government support information on actually used funds was needed, which would be available at the end of the financial year after the formal implementation of the budget. Accordingly, the Russian Federation assured Members that it would present information about domestic support measures in its notification.⁶⁰

3.67. Regarding the review of notifications, timely and complete notifications are fundamental for effective monitoring of the implementation of commitments. In the period reported, Members submitted 119 notifications (including addenda and corrigenda). In the same period, a total of 153 questions were raised during the CoA meetings concerning these and previously submitted notifications. As seen in Chart 3.15, during the reported period, Members continued to focus the majority of their questions on Domestic Support notifications with 73% of the questions regarding individual notifications targeted at this type of notifications. In particular, notifications by India, U.S., Canada and Brazil received a considerable amount of scrutiny by the Membership.

⁶⁰ WTO document G/AG/W/138, p. 16; and G/AG/W/142, p. 14.

Chart 3.15 Number of questions raised per section (mid-October 2014 – mid-May 2015)

Source: WTO Secretariat.

3.7 Trade financing

3.68. Over the past 12 months, the significant reduction in the participation of global banks in the global trade finance markets, especially in lower- to middle-income countries, has been a major development. An important indicator of this trend has been the significant decline in the number of "correspondent banking" relationships with banks in developing countries, notably in Africa, Latin America and developing Asia, reflecting a continued drive by global banks to reduce trade lending exposure. Although this gap was partly filled by local and regional banks, the poorest countries are increasingly being left out.⁶¹ For example, the African Development Bank estimated that US\$130 billion of requested trade financing had been rejected – i.e. one-third of the total African trade finance market. In Asia, the Asian Development Bank carried out a similar survey in 2014, which estimated that in Asia US\$800 billion had been rejected, with no alternative financing. The rejection rates are 7% for multinational firms and 85% for SMEs.

3.69. The issue of trade finance has received considerable attention from WTO Members since 2008 with many pointing to the lack of trade finance as potentially important non-tariff barriers to integration into global trade. In its 2014 Report to the General Council, the Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance stated that there was "the need for the WTO, including its Director-General, to continue its diagnosis, advisory and advocacy role on the availability of trade finance in developing countries, in partnership with the IMF, World Bank Group and other multilateral development banks". The Working Group also requested a dedicated seminar on trade finance to be held in the spring of 2015 with the objective of better understanding the workings and developments in this area.

3.70. Immediately prior to this seminar, on 26 March 2015, the Director-General's Expert Group on Trade Finance noted that although liquidity was sufficient in trade finance markets for the main trading nations, many developing countries lacked both the capacity in the financial sector to support trade and access to the international financial system. The situation had been aggravated after the onset of the financial crisis as global private financial institutions had been withdrawing from least-developed countries.

3.71. At the WTO special meeting of the Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance on 26-27 March 2015, the Director-General acknowledged that lack of trade finance could be the

⁶¹ WTO document WT/WGTDF/W/74/Rev. 1, 2 February 2015.

equivalent of a strong non-tariff barriers to trade. He insisted that despite the comprehensive cooperation between the WTO and multilateral development banks to foster the expansion of trade finance facilitation programmes, and with the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision to lighten the regulatory burden on those institutions willing to supply trade finance in the poorest countries, much remained to be done. Discussions generally reflected the sentiment that there would be no quick fix for developing countries to expand their financial industry into providing efficient and cost-effective financial services for traders. This required specific knowledge dissemination, build-up of institutions (including local or regional export-import banks), and specific support by multilateral development agencies.

3.72. At the same time, several delegations urged the trade community to take ownership of the trade finance issue because of its centrality in building an overall trading infrastructure, including the physical infrastructure associated with road and shipping transport. Many felt that this effort required a broader cross-institutional approach which allowed trade finance to be part of the wider effort to support growth through trade integration. Several examples were provided of regional integration initiatives, particularly in Africa, where efforts to build new road and rail corridors to ports had not been accompanied by improved national financial systems. There was widespread support for the Director-General's call for inclusion of the trade finance dimension into the "financing for development" agenda beyond 2015 and in the G-20 agenda as a way to establish trade finance development as part of the long-term trade and development agenda.⁶²

3.8 General economic support⁶³

3.73. Only five WTO Members volunteered information relating to economic support measures. As part of the verification exercise, the WTO Secretariat subsequently requested confirmation of several such measures, including many obtained from other official sources, from a broader group of WTO Members. As for previous reports, a substantial number of Members requested that such measures relating to their economies not be included in the report.

3.74. For the review period, according to information provided to the Secretariat or obtained through other sources, 75 new general economic support measures were put in place by 40 WTO Members.⁶⁴ For around one-third of these measures, and therefore comparable to previous reports, no confirmation or verification were received from the Member concerned.

3.75. Just under one-third of the general economic support measures listed in Annex 4 covers the EU or its member States and reflects the availability of information regarding subsidies of this WTO Member. Although this share is lower compared to the last report, it continues to reflect the transparency practices of this WTO Member with respect to the publication of information regarding support measures, including in instances where previously-allocated general economic support has been recovered. Although such transparency is fundamental for providing a balanced account of the overall number of new general economic support measures, the fact remains that Annex 4, to a significant extent reflects measures taken by one Member despite the fact that many others may apply similar measures.

3.76. The monthly average of almost 11 new general economic support measures recorded by this exercise for the period under review is three times higher than the comparable figure in the June 2014 mid-year monitoring report.⁶⁵ Although this might suggest a significant increase in the application of general economic support measures, the lack of active participation by more WTO Members has made it very difficult to assess any overall trends.

3.77. Annex 4 covers measures that provide economic assistance and financial support targeted at certain sectors, including export credit, insurance support and various financial aid and loan programmes for specific industries or sectors. For the period under review, the main beneficiaries were selected industries in the manufacturing sector, activities related to the agricultural sector and a certain programmes seeking to assist SMEs. A variety of incentive schemes, tax rebates,

⁶² Details on the WGTDF trade finance seminar viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/coher_e/wkshop_mar15_e/wkshop_mar15_e.htm.

⁶³ Measures in Annex 4 are not included in the overall number of trade measures reported in section 3.1 of the monitoring reports, nor in the trade monitoring database.

⁶⁴ The European Union and its Member States counted separately.

⁶⁵ WTO document WT/TPR/OV/W/8, 27 June 2014.

loan guarantees and import duty refunds/reductions can be identified. Several of these schemes appear by design to seek to encourage or boost exports while some grant schemes identify conservation and the environment as overall objectives. An interesting new development in the context of Annex 4 is the significant number of entries which relate to the reduction in subsidy schemes for gasoline and other fuels.

3.78. Annex 4, as well as the summary above, provides ample evidence of the challenge faced by the Secretariat in compiling information on general economic support measures. It is important to reiterate that Annex 4 has never been intended to report only on general economic support measures linked to the financial crisis. Although initial monitoring reports included a substantial number of measures which, in spirit as well as in words, were directly related to the crisis, others were not. Yet, their trade-related effects were potentially important. It is also clear that even when subsidies are duly notified to the WTO this alone does not mean that they should not feature as general economic support in Annex 4. Similarly, Annex 4 is not intended to only capture when general economic support is granted, but also when it is reduced or eliminated, e.g. in the case of the reductions of fuel subsidy programmes.

3.79. In preparing the latest monitoring reports it has become clear, perhaps unsurprisingly, that the definition of general economic support differs considerably depending on the economy in question. In this context, it remains imperative to emphasize that the monitoring reports have no legal effects or imply no judgement with respect to any of the measures or information contained therein. As a transparency exercise the monitoring exercise depends, in large part, on the contributions of Members and Annex 4 has since the very beginning suffered from very uneven contributions by WTO Members. At the same time, there is little doubt that the format and coverage of Annex 4 and the information contained therein would benefit from a broader discussion among Members in terms of its coverage, and how to make the monitoring of this type of measure more relevant.

4 POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE IN SERVICES⁶⁶

4.1. On 13 March 2015, **China** issued a new Industry Catalogue for Foreign Investment, which entered into force on 10 April 2015, replacing the 2011 Catalogue. Similar to the past versions of the Catalogue, the 2015 Catalogue lists a number of industries and classifies them according to whether foreign investment is encouraged, restricted or prohibited. An industry which is not explicitly listed is deemed to be one in which foreign investment is permitted. Compared to the 2011 Catalogue, the 2015 Catalogue has substantially reduced the number of restricted industries from 79 to 38. However, certain service industries have been added to the restricted and prohibited categories. The following are the main changes in services-related industries.

Distribution services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The wholesale and retail of tobacco, cigarettes and other tobacco products are newly added to the prohibited category. - The direct selling, mail order, online sale, distribution of audiovisual products, and the wholesale, retail and delivery of vegetable oil, sugar, crude oil, pesticides and fertilizers are reclassified from the restricted to the permitted category.
Education services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher educational institutions and childcare institutions have been included in the restricted category, with the investment method limited to the formation of cooperative joint ventures controlled by the Chinese party. The same requirement for Chinese controlling shareholding applies to ordinary high school education. - Foreign investment in compulsory education remains prohibited.
Entertainment services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operation of entertainment places is moved from the restricted category into the encouraged category with the requirement on joint venture removed. - Brokering and agency of stage performances remains restricted with the additional requirement that the Chinese partner shall hold the majority of shares.

⁶⁶ All information in this section has been verified by the Members concerned unless otherwise indicated.

Financial Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foreign investment in finance companies, trust companies, currency brokerage companies and insurance brokerage companies has been moved from restricted to permitted. - The business scope of securities companies has been expanded to include the underwriting and sponsoring of RMB common shares, foreign shares, government bonds and corporate bonds, the brokerage of foreign shares and the brokerage and proprietary trading of government bonds and corporate bonds. - A foreign-invested securities company may further apply to extend its business scope after two years of establishment provided certain requirements are fulfilled. - The foreign shareholding ratio allowed in securities companies has been increased from 33.3% to 49%, which is consistent with the amended Rules on the Establishment of Foreign-invested Securities Companies issued by the China Securities Regulatory Commission in 2012. - No change has been introduced to China's foreign investment policy with regard to insurance companies, securities investment fund management companies and futures companies.
Health services	- Foreign investment in medical institutions is reclassified into the restricted category and is limited to the formation of equity or cooperative joint venture.
Legal services	- Consulting services on Chinese legal matters are added to the prohibited category.
Telecommunications and internet related services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Even though value-added telecommunications industries are still listed in the restricted category, the foreign shareholding restriction on e-commerce has been removed. - Network publishing services are added to the prohibited category.
Transport services	- Railway freight transport is removed from the restricted category.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

4.2. The **Russian Federation's** amended Law on Foreign Investment in Strategic Companies (Federal Law No.343-FZ on Amending the Federal law on the Procedure for making foreign investments in companies which are of strategic importance for ensuring the country's defence and state security and certain legislative acts of the Russian Federation as of 4 November 2014) now also covers acquisitions of assets in "strategic" companies if the value of these assets exceeds 25% of the total value of the company's assets. Such transactions now require prior approval by the Governmental Commission. In addition, the list of strategic activities has been amended to include services rendered in ports in the territory of the Russian Federation (a specific list of such services is to be drawn up by the Government).

Audio-visual and telecommunications services

4.3. On 18 December 2014, **Argentina** enacted the "Digital Argentina" Law (Law 27078, Ley Argentina Digital), a new telecommunications law replacing the existing legislation from 1972. The new law declares Information Technology and Communications (ICT) service an "essential and strategic public service" and guarantees "equal access" of citizens across the country. The measure allows operators to provide bundled telephone, internet and cable television services, in practice opening the supply of telephony safeguarding small and medium enterprises and cooperatives. The law also establishes the Federal Authority for Information Technology and Communications (Autoridad de Aplicación de las Tecnologías de la Información y las Comunicaciones, in Spanish), the new converged regulatory body responsible for of all ICT-related matters.⁶⁷

4.4. On 24 September 2014, the **Belgian** Institute for Post and Telecommunications (BIPT), through a Council's decision, confirmed the deregulation of fixed telephony services for residential and business customers. The watchdog also decided to lift the price control and transparency obligations imposed on fixed line incumbent, Belgacom, at the retail level, as the market was increasingly facing competition.⁶⁸ This decision follows the EU's "recommendation on relevant markets" which defines the telecom markets subject to regulation within the EU in order to ensure sufficient competition between the operators, but also allows national regulators to remove limits on wholesale prices of a particular market if it is no longer dominated by a single operator.⁶⁹

⁶⁷ Viewed at: <http://www.argentinadigital.gob.ar/>.

⁶⁸ Viewed at: http://www.ibpt.be/public/files/fr/21368/Besluit_markten_3-5_2003_PUBL_FR.pdf.

⁶⁹ Viewed at: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/explanatory-note-accompanying-commission-recommendation-relevant-product-and-service-markets>.

4.5. On 29 October 2014, the Ministry of Telecommunications and New Technologies of **Madagascar** announced the enactment of 3 decrees for the implementation of the law N° 2005-023, passed 9 years ago and aimed to reform the telecom sector.⁷⁰ The implementing decrees focus on the total liberalization of the telecommunications market and establish minimum fees to obtain and renew licences. Furthermore, the rules will allow the operators to introduce and provide services using new technologies like the 4G. Finally, infrastructure sharing obligations are imposed, in order to decrease the amount of pylons and reduce their impact on the environment and on public health.

4.6. On 31 October 2014, the Regulations to the Foreign Investment Law and to the National Foreign Investment Registry of **Mexico** were amended. Among other issues, the amendments outline the information and documents that are necessary to obtain a favourable opinion from the National Commission of Foreign Investments (required by the Federal Telecommunications Institute) to obtain the concession for broadcasting services involving the participation of foreign investment, according to the Federal Telecommunications and Broadcasting Law. In addition, the amendments simplify the registration requirements imposed by the National Foreign Investment Registry.

4.7. On 6 May 2015, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) of **Myanmar** published its latest list of licences issued.⁷¹ This covers licenses to provide Network Facilities Services (Individual), which permit licensees to construct networks, lease access to service providers and offer any type of public or private telecom service and Network Facilities (Class) concessions that will permit licensees to deploy and maintain passive infrastructure and to lease access to service providers. Between February 2014 and March 2015, 26 licences have been awarded to different operators.⁷² In addition, for the first time, two international mobile operators will launch services within the territory.

4.8. On 7 October 2014, the President of the Office of Electronic Communications of **Poland** issued a resolution on deregulation of broadband access market in 76 municipalities. This decision was the outcome of a previous analysis of the competitive situation in each of the 3000 municipal areas in Poland. This decision regulates, for the first time since 2007, wholesale access to hi-speed internet in a more comprehensive manner.⁷³

4.9. On 14 October 2014, the President of the **Russian Federation** enacted the Federal Law Amending the Law of the Russian Federation on Mass Media. According to this Law, except as otherwise provided by an international agreement to which the Russian Federation is a party, the ownership or control of the share capital of mass media companies by a foreign State, an international organisation, a citizen of the Russian Federation having the citizenship of another state, a Russian legal person having a foreign stake in its charter capital exceeding 20%, a foreign natural person, or a foreign legal person, is limited to 20%. The law will enter into force on 1 January 2016.

4.10. On 6 March 2015, the House of Parliament of **Sierra Leone** adopted the Telecommunications Amendment Act 2015. The amended bill repeals section 33 of the Telecommunications Act 2006, which entrusted a monopoly over the telecommunications international gateway to the incumbent operator, the Sierra Leone Telecommunications Company (SIERRATEL). Before the liberalization, SIERRATEL had the monopoly for a decade.⁷⁴

4.11. On 26 February 2015, the **U.S.**' Federal Communications Commission (FCC) enacted the Open Internet Order containing new rules on net neutrality that would apply to fixed and mobile broadband service providers.⁷⁵ The Order focusses on 4 points: no blocking, which means that internet service providers (ISP) may not restrict access to legal content, applications, services or non-harmful devices; no throttling, which means that no ISP should, intentionally, slow down the

⁷⁰ This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of Madagascar.

⁷¹ Viewed at: <http://www.mcit.gov.mm/news/licence-issued-list652015.html>.

⁷² Viewed at: [http://www.mcit.gov.mm/sites/default/files/Licence_Issued_List_\(6.5.15\).pdf](http://www.mcit.gov.mm/sites/default/files/Licence_Issued_List_(6.5.15).pdf). This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of Myanmar.

⁷³ Viewed at: <http://www.en.uk.gov.pl/new-regulations-concerning-wholesale-broadband-internet-access-services-in-poland-14775#.VDZ-SadAA-E.wordpress>.

⁷⁴ Viewed at: <http://www.natcom.gov.sl/index.php/2-uncategorised/76-int-gateway>.

⁷⁵ This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of the U.S.

content or speed up others; and no paid prioritization, in other words, ISP wouldn't be allowed to favour specific lawful Internet traffic over other lawful traffic, in exchange for special consideration of any kind. The new rules also impose transparency requirements on broadband providers, forcing them to disclose such information as promotional rates, fees and surcharges and data caps. In order to apply these provisions, "broadband Internet Access service" is reclassified as a Telecommunication Services under the Title II of the Telecommunications Act.⁷⁶

Construction services

4.12. **India** eased foreign direct investment rules for the construction sector.⁷⁷ Under the new rules (announced in the Press Note No. 10 (2014 series)), effective 17 April 2014, 100% foreign investment, without prior approval, is now allowed in townships, housing, built-up infrastructure and construction-development projects with a minimum built area of 20,000 square metres (down from a previous 50,000 sqm threshold). Minimum capitalization of US\$10 million is required for wholly owned subsidiaries, while minimum capital for joint-ventures with Indian partners amount to US\$5 million.

Financial services

4.13. According to a circular release on 22 April 2015, starting June 1st, **China's** State Council will regulate the market access for bankcard transaction clearing institutions.⁷⁸ The circular lists the requirements that need to be fulfilled in order to apply to set up a bankcard clearing institution and to conduct such business in China:

- organizations will be able to engage in bankcard clearing business after their applications are approved by the authorities and licenses issued;
- the application requirements, covering various aspects, include a minimum of 1 billion yuan (US\$161 million) of registered capital;
- the banking authorities should decide whether the applications are approved within 90 working days after receiving the applications. The applicants should complete preparatory work within one year after approval and no clearing business is allowed during the period;
- applicants are required to officially start bankcard clearing services within six months after receiving the business permits;
- requirements are set on the organizations' business, including protecting the information they acquire from bankcard clearing services;
- overseas institutions that provide bankcard clearing services for clients in China should establish foreign-invested enterprises in the country according to law; and
- organizations that have already started business should submit applications for business permits or report their operations to authorities within a year after the new rule takes effect or they will be forbidden to continue the business.

4.14. In March 2015, the **Indian** Government passed the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Act, 2015⁷⁹, which increased foreign equity ownership in Indian insurance firms from 26% to 49%.⁸⁰ Foreign investment of up to 26% will be allowed without prior government approval, while any investment above 26% and up to the cap of 49% will require prior government approval from the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) of the Government of India. While the shareholding

⁷⁶ Viewed at: <http://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-strong-sustainable-rules-protect-open-internet>

⁷⁷ This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of India.

⁷⁸ Viewed at:

http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2015/04/22/content_281475093816882.htm. This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of China.

⁷⁹ Subsequently, the government published the Indian Insurance Companies (Foreign Investment) Rules, 2015, and issued Press Note 3 of 20154 to amend the consolidated foreign investment policy of the Government of India.

⁸⁰ Measures on financial services have not yet been verified by the Government of India.

cap has been increased, "ownership" and "control" of the company must remain with Indian residents. Indian ownership is defined to mean more than 50% of the share equity capital in the hands of Indian residents. Control has been defined in line with the definition in the consolidated FDI Policy to include the "right to appoint majority of directors or to control management or policy decisions including by virtue of their shareholding or management rights or shareholders agreements or voting agreements." The Act also recognizes "health insurance" as an exclusive line of business, and carves it out from general insurance. The amended Law also enables foreign reinsurers to set up branches in India.

4.15. In line with the reforms of the insurance sector, on 24 April 2015 the government of India raised the limit of foreign direct investment in the pension sector also to 49%. According to the press note No 4 (2015 Series), no government approval is required to acquire 26% of ownership. But the approval of the FIPB is needed for investment beyond 26% and up to the cap of 49%.

4.16. On 23 April 2015, the Reserve Bank of India issued a notification (RBI/2014-15/573) requiring foreign banks that have more than 20 branches to achieve the 40% total priority sector lending target (to agriculture, small and medium sized firms and housing) by March 2019. Foreign banks with fewer than 20 branches, who were previously subject to a 32% total priority sector lending target, will now need to move to a 40% target, on a par with Indian banks, by 2020.

4.17. In October 2014, the Central Bank of **Myanmar** granted provisional approval for nine foreign banks to commence limited operations, marking a resumption of such services for the first time since 1962. All nine were chosen from a pool of more than 40 lenders with representative offices in the country, more than half of which opened within the past three years. The banks, all from the Asia-Pacific region, have been given 12 months to launch operations. Under the terms set out in October, the new entrants into the market will only be able to offer wholesale banking products and services to foreign firms and local banks. They will therefore not be allowed to engage in normal retail banking. They will be allowed to provide kyat-denominated loans to domestic companies only through a partnership arrangement with a registered domestic lender, with interest rates set by the Central Bank.

4.18. In November 2014, the Monetary Board (MB) of the **Philippines** released the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10641.⁸¹ The new law provides for the further entry of foreign banks into the Philippines and thus amends R.A. No. 7721, from 1994. With the approval of the IRR, additional foreign banks can now apply to operate in the Philippines either as a branch or as a wholly-owned subsidiary. In addition, the new law allows foreign banks to acquire up to 100% of the voting stock of an existing domestic bank. This is an increase from the 60% under the previous law (R.A. No. 7721). The R.A. No. 10641 allows foreign banks to control up to a combined 40% of the total assets of the banking system (up 10 percentage points from the previous 30% limit). The minimum capital requirements applicable to foreign bank branches have been aligned with that of domestic banks of the same category.

Health Services

4.19. On 25 July 2014, **China's** National Health and Family Planning Commission issued the Notice on Establishing Wholly Foreign-Owned Hospitals, which allows foreign investors to wholly own hospitals in Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai and the provinces of Jiangsu, Fujian, Guangdong and Hainan as part of a pilot test.⁸² Foreign suppliers should have experience in medical and health investment and management, and meet one of the following requirements: a) being capable of offering advanced hospital management ideas, and management and service models; b) being capable of offering advanced medical technology and equipment; and c) being capable of improving local medical service, technology, fund and facilities. The wholly foreign-owned hospitals should meet basic national medical institute standards.

Transport services

4.20. **Australia** has recently relaxed foreign ownership restrictions in the flag carrier Qantas. On 8 August 2014, the Qantas Sale Amendment Act 2014 received Royal assent. According to the Act,

⁸¹ This is in addition to the information on the Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10641 provided in the previous report.

⁸² This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of China.

ownership by a single foreign investor may now exceed 25% and aggregate ownership by foreign airlines may now exceed 35%. However, foreigners may, cumulatively, still not own more than 49% in Qantas.

4.21. Effective 17 April 2014 (Press Note No. 8 (2014 series)), the government of **India** permitted 100% foreign direct investment, without prior authorization, in several activities of the railway transportation sector, such as high speed train projects, railway electrification, signalling systems and freight and passenger terminals.⁸³ However, FDI beyond 49% of the company in sensitive areas from a national security point of view, will be authorized by the Cabinet Committee on Security on a case-by-case basis.

4.22. Law No. 150 of 17 July 2014 (Road Transport Code) of the Republic of **Moldova** requires mandatory licensing for the transport of goods in international and national traffic. Licences for international traffic are issued for a period of 8 years (Effective 1 January 2015), while licences for national traffic are valid for a period of 5 years (Effective 1 January 2016).

Services supplied through the movement of natural persons

4.23. On 1 March 2015, **Chile** introduced a new "Temporary Residence for Work Purposes" work visa category. The multiple-entry visa, which has an initial duration of one year, allows foreigners to enter the country with an employment contract and subsequently change employers, and perform unlimited work activities. It also exempts employers from paying repatriation costs once their employee leaves Chile.⁸⁴

4.24. **Egypt's** Ministry of Manpower has announced that, starting from February 2015, new work permit applications are subject to labour market testing requirements.

4.25. The **Swiss** government has set the 2015 quotas for short-term work permits (L permits) and for long-term work permits (B-permits) at 2,500 and 4,000, respectively, for non-EU/EFTA applicants, and at 250 and 2,000 for EU/EFTA applicants.⁸⁵

4.26. Foreign business visitors to **Thailand** are allowed to perform a longer list of activities, including attending business meetings, seminars or conferences, as of 13 March 2015, without needing to obtain a work authorisation.

4.27. Since 22 December 2014, intra-corporate transferees working in several services industries in **Viet Nam** may apply for an exemption from work permit requirements. The exemption is available to intra-corporate transferees that are managers, specialists or technicians who have been in the employment of the company for at least one year prior to their transfer to Viet Nam.

⁸³ This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of India.

⁸⁴ Viewed at: <http://www.extranjeria.gob.cl/noticias/2015/03/02/nueva-visa-temporal-por-motivos-laborales/>. This measure has not yet been verified by the Government of Chile.

⁸⁵ Viewed at: https://www.bfm.admin.ch/bfm/fr/home/aktuell/news/2014/ref_2014-11-283.html

ANNEX 1

MEASURES FACILITATING TRADE¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2014 TO MID-MAY 2015)

Confirmed information²

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Albania	Elimination of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. live bovine animals and swine, live poultry, eggs, wheat or meslin flour; and petroleum oils. Decrease of import tariffs (from 15% to 10%) on new pneumatic tyres of rubber (HS 0102.29.29; 0103.91.10; 0105.11.11; 0105.11.19; 0105.12.00; 0105.13.00; 0105.14.00; 0105.15.00; 0407.11.00; 0407.19.11; 0407.19.19; 0511.10.00; 1001.19.00; 1001.99.00; 1101.00.11; 1101.00.15; 2309.90.31; 2709.00.90; 4011)	Law No. 159/2014 (27 Nov. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Argentina	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on acyclic monoamines and its salts (NCM 2921.19.23), under an import quota of 26,282 tonnes; and dimethylamine and their salts (NCM 2921.11.21), under an import quota of 12,226 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Decretos Nos. 80/2015 and 84/2015 (21 Jan. 15)	Effective 3 Feb. 15 for 1 year
Australia	Reduction of import tariffs (second phase) (from 10% to 5%) on certain textiles, clothing and footwear (in Chapters 39; 40; 42; 58; 60; 61; 62; 63; 96). Tariffs eliminated for imports from developing countries	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Azerbaijan	Measures to facilitate trade through the introduction of amendments to the customs legislation "Rules on export-import operations" and "Rules on declaration of goods"	Permanent Delegation of Azerbaijan (19 May 15)	Effective 1 Nov. 14
Azerbaijan	Measures to facilitate trade through the introduction of amendments to the customs legislation "Rules on export-import operations" and "Rules on declaration of goods"	Permanent Delegation of Azerbaijan (19 May 15)	Effective 1 Nov. 14
Azerbaijan	Amendments introduced to the Tax Code, harmonizing rates of excise duty applied on imports and locally produced alcoholic beverages and tobacco products (HS 2204; 2207; 2208; 2402)	Permanent Delegation of Azerbaijan (19 May 15)	Effective Jan. 15
Brazil	Implementation of the customs pilot project "Brazilian Authorized Economic Operator (AEO)" for imports	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 4 Dec. 14
Brazil	Implementation of the customs pilot project "Brazilian Authorized Economic Operator (AEO)" for exports	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 4 Dec. 14

¹ The inclusion of any measure in this table implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the table implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

² This section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Brazil	Implementation of the new drawback programme web system ("exemption modality") eliminating the use of paper documents in the request for licences under this programme and streamlining registration of foreign trade operators	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 15 Dec. 14
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on 64 informatics and telecommunication equipment tariff lines (NCM 8443; 8471; 8517; 8530; 8531; 8532; 8536; 8537; 8542; 8543; 9030; 9032), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunication equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolutions Nos. 111/2014 (21 Nov. 14), 113/2014 (25 Nov. 14), 117/2014 (18 Dec. 14), 7/2015 (30 Jan. 15), and 21/2015 (31 Mar. 15)	Effective until 31 Dec. 15
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on 1,731 capital goods tariff lines (in NCM Chapters 73; 84; 85; 86; 87; 90), and elimination of import tariffs on 5 tariff lines (NCM Chapter 86), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunication equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolutions Nos. 114/2014 (25 Nov. 14), 118/2014 (18 Dec. 14), 8/2015 (30 Jan. 15), and 22/2015 (31 Mar. 15)	Effective until 30 Jun. 16
Brazil	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on p-Xylene (NCM 2902.43.00), under an import quota of 80,000 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 112/2014 (21 Nov. 14)	Effective 1 Dec. 14 to 29 May 15
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on chemical preparations for photographic uses (NCM 3707.90.21), under an import quota of 1,700 tonnes (effective from 10 Dec. 14 to 9 Dec. 15); carbonates (NCM 2836.60.00), under an import quota of 8,250 tonnes (effective 10 Dec. 14 to 9 Dec. 15); rectangular plate of aluminium alloys (NCM 7606.12.90), under an import quota of 2,937 tonnes (effective 31 Jan. 15 to 30 Jan. 16); and plates of poly(vinyl butyral) (NCM 3920.91.00), under an import quota of 5,818,500 kg (effective 1 Mar. 15 to 31 Aug. 15)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 115/2014 (9 Dec. 14)	
Brazil	Reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on 111 parts and accessories of motor vehicles tariff lines (NCM Chapters 39; 40; 73; 76; 84; 85; 87; 90; 94), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunication equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolutions Nos. 116/2014 (18 Dec. 14) and 16/2015 (31 Mar. 15)	Effective 19 Dec. 14

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on artificial filament yarn of viscose rayon, untwisted or with a twist not exceeding 120 turns per metre (NCM 5403.31.00), under an import quota of 624 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolution No. 127/2014 (19 Dec. 14) and Secex Portaria No. 48/2014 (22 Dec. 14)	Effective 22 Dec. 14 to 21 Jun. 15
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on certain products, i.e. sodium hydroxide "caustic soda" in aqueous solution (soda lye or liquid soda) (NCM 2815.12.00), under an import quota of 360,000 tonnes (effective 14 Nov. 14 to 13 Nov. 15); esters of acrylic acid (NCM 2916.12.20), under an import quota of 7,000 tonnes (effective 24 Feb. 15 to 23 Jul. 15); aluminium foil not backed rolled but not further worked (NCM 7607.11.90), under an import quota of 2,137 tonnes (effective 31 Jan. 15 to 30 Jul. 15); rectangular aluminium plates, sheets and strips of aluminium alloys (NCM 7607.12.90), under an import quota of 2,000 tonnes (effective 16 Jan. 15 to 15 Jan. 16); sulphates of barium (NCM 2833.27.10), under an import quota of 10,000 tonnes (effective 16 Jan.15 to 15 Jan. 16); aniline and its salts (NCM 2921.41.00), under an import quota of 7,500 tonnes (effective 16 Jan. 15 to 15 Jan. 16); titanium oxides (NCM 2823.00.10), under an import quota of 8,000 tonnes (effective 16 Jan. 15 to 15 Jan. 16); disodium sulphate (NCM 2833.11.10), under an import quota of 425,000 tonnes (effective 13 Apr. 15 to 12 Oct. 15); and babassu oil (NCM 1513.29.10), under an import quota of 116,157 tonnes (effective 17 Apr. 15 to 16 Oct. 15)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolutions Nos. 104/2014 (13 Nov. 14), 1/2015 and 2/2015 (15 Jan. 15); and Secex Portarias Nos. 46/2014 (10 Dec. 14), 1/2015, 2/2015, 3/2015 and 4/2015 (16 Jan. 15)	
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on artificial filament yarn of viscose rayon, untwisted or with a twist not exceeding 120 turns per metre (NCM 5403.31.00), under an import quota of 624 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolution No. 127/2014 (19 Dec. 14) and Secex Portaria No. 48/2014 (22 Dec. 14)	Effective 22 Dec. 14 to 21 Jun. 15
Brazil	Reduction of import tariffs (from 12% to 2%) on certain antibiotics (<i>fumarato de tiamulina</i>) (NCM 2941.90.92)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 6/2015 (28 Jan. 15)	Effective 30 Jan. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on 37 informatics and telecommunication equipment tariff lines (NCM 8443.32.31; 8471.50.10; 8517.62.39; 8517.62.59; 8517.62.72; 8517.62.77; 8517.70.10; 8517.70.99; 8528.51.20; 8530.10.10; 8531.20.00; 8532.24.10; 8534.00.51; 8536.50.90; 8536.90.40; 8537.10.20; 8541.40.16; 8541.60.90; 8543.70.99; 9030.40.90; 9030.89.90; 9032.89.29), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunication equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolutions Nos. 11/2015 (5 Mar. 15) and 29/2015 (29 Apr. 15)	Effective until 31 Dec. 15
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on 277 capital goods tariff lines (in NCM Chapters 84; 85; 86; 87; 90), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunication equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 12/2015 (5 Mar. 15)	Effective until 30 Jun. 16
Brazil	Second extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on methanol (methyl alcohol) (NCM 2905.11.00), under an import quota of 600,000 tonnes (originally effective from 8 Apr. 13 to 5 Oct. 13. Initially extended on 7 Oct. 13)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolution No. 13/2015 (5 Mar. 15) and Secex Portaria No. 13/2015 (13 Mar. 15)	Effective 4 Apr. 15 to 3 Apr. 16
Brazil	Elimination of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (from 2%) vaccines for human medicine (NCM 3002.20.29), (from 10%) roasted coffee in capsules (NCM 0901.21.00), and (from 20%) electro-thermic coffee or tea makers (NCM 8516.71.00)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolutions Nos. 17/2015 and 18/2015 (31 Mar. 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on shelled walnuts (NCM 0802.22.00), under an import quota of 2,500 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolution No. 23/2015 (8 Apr. 15) and Secex Portaria No. 23/2015 (9 Apr. 15)	Effective 9 Apr. 15 to 5 Oct. 15
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on certain products, i.e. poly(vinyl chloride), not mixed with any other substances (NCM 3904.10.20), under an import quota of 12,000 tonnes; benzyl alcohol (NCM 2906.21.00), under an import quota of 3,000 tonnes; silicones in primary forms (NCM 3910.00.90), under an import quota of 132 tonnes (effective 14 Apr. 15 to 13 Apr. 16); and acyclic monoamines and their derivatives (<i>di-n-propilamina e seus sais</i>) (NCM 2921.19.22), under an import quota of 2,400 tonnes (effective 14 Apr. 15 to 13 Apr. 17)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolution No. 24/2015 (13 Apr. 15) and Secex Portaria No. 24/2015 (16 Apr. 15)	Effective 14 Apr. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Brazil	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 2%) on 177 capital goods tariff lines (in NCM Chapters 84; 85; 87; 90; 94), through the "ex-out" regime (mechanism designed to temporarily reduce import tariffs on capital goods and informatics and telecommunication equipment not locally produced)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 30/2015 (29 Apr. 15)	Effective until 31 Dec. 16
China	Trade facilitation measure through the elimination of certain customs-related administrative charges for imports	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
China	Elimination of export quotas scheme for rare earth minerals, tungsten and molybdenum. Export subject to export-licensing administration (HS 2530; 2609; 2611; 2612; 2613; 2620; 2805; 2825; 2841; 2846; 2849; 7106; 7202; 8001; 8002; 8003; 8007; 8101; 8102; 8110; 8112)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
China	Trade facilitation measure through the elimination of certain customs related administrative charges for exports	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
China	Elimination of "price controls" on 24 commodities (i.e. tobacco leaves)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
China	VAT rebate rates increased on exports of high value-added products, processed maize products, and textile and garment	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
China	Temporary elimination of export taxes (from up to 25%) on certain products (94 tariff lines at 8 digits), i.e. rare earth minerals, rare earth ores, tungsten, iron and steel granules and powers, molybdenum alloys, and bars and rods of primary aluminium and aluminium-alloy (HS 2526.20.20; 2530.90.20; 2612.20.00; 2613.10.00; 2613.90.00; 2620.99.10; 2805.30.11; 2805.30.12; 2805.30.13; 2805.30.14; 2805.30.15; 2805.30.16; 2805.30.17; 2805.30.19; 2805.30.21; 2805.30.29; 2811.11.00; 2822.00.90; 2825.30.10; 2825.60.00; 2825.70.00; 2825.90.11; 2825.90.12; 2825.90.19; 2826.12.90; 2826.19.20; 2826.19.90; 2833.11.00; 2841.70.10; 2841.70.90; 2841.80.10; 2841.80.20; 2841.80.30; 2841.80.40; 2841.80.90; 2846.10.10; 2846.10.20; 2846.10.30; 2846.10.90; 2846.90.11; 2846.90.12; 2846.90.13; 2846.90.14; 2846.90.15; 2846.90.16; 2846.90.17; 2846.90.19; 2846.90.21; 2846.90.22; 2846.90.23; 2846.90.24; 2846.90.25; 2846.90.26; 2846.90.28; 2846.90.29; 2846.90.31; 2846.90.32; 2846.90.33; 2846.90.34; 2846.90.35; 2846.90.36; 2846.90.39; 2846.90.41; 2846.90.42; 2846.90.43; 2846.90.44; 2846.90.45; 2846.90.46; 2846.90.48; 2846.90.49; 2846.90.91; 2846.90.92; 2846.90.93; 2846.90.94; 2846.90.95; 2846.90.96; 2846.90.99; 2849.90.20; 7202.70.00; 7202.80.10; 7202.80.20; 7202.99.11; 7202.99.19; 7202.99.91; 7202.99.99; 7205.10.00; 7205.29.00; 7604.29.10; 8101.10.00; 8101.94.00; 8101.97.00; 8102.10.00; 8102.94.00; 8102.97.00; 8112.92.30; 7601.20.00; 7604.10.10; 7604.29.10)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 May 15
Colombia	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on cyclic amides (including cyclic carbamates) and their derivatives; salt thereof; and 6-hexanelactam (episolon-caprolactam) (HS 2924.29.40; 2933.71.00) and inclusion in the list of raw materials and capital goods not produced locally (3,490 tariff lines) established by Decree No. 1755 (originally implemented in Aug. 13)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective until 15 Aug. 15
Colombia	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on made up fishing nets (HS 5608.11.00)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective Dec. 14 for 2 years
Colombia	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on cotton not carded or combed (HS 5201.00.30), under an import quota of 20,400 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective Dec. 14 for 12 months
Colombia	Elimination of import tariffs on heat exchange units (HS 8419.50.90) for the automotive industry	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective Jan. 15
Ecuador	Extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on sacks of jute (HS 6305.10.10)	Resolución No. 001-2015 Comité de Comercio Exterior (12 Jan. 15)	Effective until 31 Dec. 17

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
El Salvador	Elimination of the Central American Common tariff on imports of boards, sheets, panels, tiles and similar articles not ornamented faced or reinforced with paper or paperboard only (HS 6809.11.00); and certain mountings, fittings and similar articles suitable for buildings (HS 8302.41.11)	Resolución No. 357-2014 (COMIECO-LXX) (4 Dec. 14) and Diario Oficial Tomo No. 405, No. 235 (16 Dec. 14)	Effective 16 Dec. 14. For other members of the Central American Common Market: Costa Rica has indicated implementation date on 22 May 15 (out of period); no information received on implementation date by Honduras; and Panama given a waiver on this measure
European Union	Elimination of milk quota regime (HS 0401; 0402) (originally implemented in 1984). As from 1 Apr. 15, raw cow milk production no longer restricted by quantitative limits	Art. 230 (1a) of EU Regulation No. 1308/2013 (17 Dec. 13); and Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15
Guatemala	Elimination of the Central American Common tariff on imports of boards, sheets, panels, tiles and similar articles not ornamented faced or reinforced with paper or paperboard only (HS 6809.11.00); and certain mountings, fittings and similar articles suitable for buildings (HS 8302.41.11)	Resolución No. 357-2014 (COMIECO-LXX) (4 Dec. 14) and Acuerdo Ministerial No. 917/2014 - Ministerio de Economía (15 Dec. 14)	Effective 31 Dec. 14. For other members of the Central American Common Market: Costa Rica has indicated implementation date on 22 May 15 (out of period); no information received on implementation date by Honduras; and Panama given a waiver on this measure
Japan	Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from ¥15.3/kg) on molasses resulting from the extraction or refining of sugar (HS 1703.10.09; 1703.90.09)	Permanent Delegation of Japan to the WTO (22 May 15)	Effective 20 Apr. 15
Korea, Rep. of	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (to 1%) on material for manufacturing agricultural chemicals, under an import quota of 20,000 tonnes; (to 10%) dried manioc chips (HS 0714), under an import quota of 253,000 tonnes; and (to 5%) cane or beat sugar (HS 1701), under an import quota of 90,000 tonnes	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Korea, Republic of	Reduction of import tariffs on certain capital goods (62 items in HS Chapters 73; 84; 85; 90) used in automated factories	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 6 Feb. 15
Mexico	Elimination of import tariffs on new rubber pneumatic tyres for motorcycles (HS 4011.40.01)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 11 Dec. 14
Mexico	Elimination of import tariffs on meat of swine, fresh, chilled, or frozen (HS 0203), under certain import quotas	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 11 Dec. 14
Mexico	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain toys and baby products (HS 3924.90.99; 8715.00.01; 9401.80.01; 9503; 9504.90.99; 9506.62.01), under certain import quotas	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15) and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 23 Mar. 15	Effective Mar. 15 until 31 Dec. 17
Moldova	Measures to facilitate trade through the implementation of the "Authorized Economic Operator" scheme of the World Customs Organization SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Moldova to the WTO (19 May 15) and Customs Service Order No. 483-O (13 Nov. 14)	Effective 13 Nov. 14
Moldova	Trade facilitation measures through the return of overpaid import or export duties	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Moldova to the WTO (19 May 15) and Decision No. 876 (21 Oct. 14)	Effective 24 Oct. 14
Nicaragua	Elimination of the Central American Common tariff on imports of boards, sheets, panels, tiles and similar articles not ornamented faced or reinforced with paper or paperboard only (HS 6809.11.00); and certain mountings, fittings and similar articles suitable for buildings (HS 8302.41.11)	Resolución No. 357-2014 (COMIECO-LXX) (4 Dec. 14) and Acuerdo Ministerial MIFIC No. 20-2015 (20 Mar. 15)	Effective 20 Mar. 15. For other members of the Central American Common Market: Costa Rica has indicated implementation date on 22 May 15 (out of period); no information received on implementation date by Honduras; and Panama given a waiver on this measure

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Norway	Elimination of import tariffs (114 tariff lines at 8-digits level) on certain products, i.e. cut flowers; certain edible vegetables and roots and tubers; edible fruits; starches; inulin; hop cones; caramel; corn flakes; preparation of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants; miscellaneous edible preparations (active yeasts, tomato ketchup); and animal feed preparations (HS 0603; 0704; 0705; 0706; 0707; 0708; 0709; 0710; 0808; 0809; 0810; 0813; 1108; 1210; 1702; 1904; 2001; 2003; 2004; 2005; 2006; 2008; 2009; 2102; 2103; 2209; 2309)	Permanent Delegation of Norway to the WTO (27 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Peru	Elimination of import tariffs on 1,089 tariff lines (HS Chapters 01; 03; 05; 07; 08; 09; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 18; 20; 21; 22; 24; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 30; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 45; 47; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 58; 59; 60; 63; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 73; 79; 81; 83; 84; 85; 90; 91; 92; 93; 96)	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (16 Apr. 15), and Decretos Supremos Nos. 312-2014-EF and 314-2014-EF (Nov. 14)	Effective Nov. 14
Peru	Trade facilitation measure through the elimination of import clearance duties (<i>tasa de despacho aduanero</i>) (originally imposed in 2004)	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (16 Apr. 15), and Ley No. 30230 "Disposiciones Complementarias Derogatorias" (11 Jul. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Decrease of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (to 14.6%) certain plastic articles (HS 3926.90.97); (to 12.5%) thin sheets (voiles), webs, mats, mattresses, boards and similar nonwoven products (HS 7019.39.00) (effective 14 Nov. 14); (to 6.5%) polyethylene having a specific gravity of 0.94 or more (HS 3901.20.90) (effective 12 Dec. 14), and diammonium hydrogenorthophosphate (diammonium phosphate) (HS 3105.30.00) (effective 28 Feb. 15); (to 12.3%-14%) AC motors single-phase (HS 8501.40.20; 8501.40.80) (effective 25 Jan. 15); (to 5%) self-propelled railway or tramway coaches (HS 8603.90.00) (effective 21 Feb. 15); (to 10%) railway or tramway passenger coaches not self-propelled (HS 8605.00.00) (effective 21 Feb. 15); (to 10%) unworked or simply sawn or roughly shaped precious and semi-precious stones (HS 7103.10.00) (effective 28 Feb. 15); and (to 5%) certain orthopaedic appliances (HS 9021.90.90) (effective 18 Apr. 15)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 5%) on ground (HS 2510.20.00)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	Effective 5 Jan. 15 to 4 Jan. 16
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Elimination of import tariffs (from 7%) on turbo-jets of a power not exceeding 1,100 Kw (HS 8411.21.00)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	Effective 10 Apr. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 5%) on fatty alcohols (HS 3823.70.00)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	Effective 10 Apr. 15 to 31 Dec. 17
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Temporary elimination of import tariffs on sodium hydroxide (caustic soda), in aqueous solution (soda lye or liquid soda), for use in the manufacture of sodium hypochlorite (HS 2815.12)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15) and Notice No. 1043 of 2014 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38355 (22 Dec. 14)	Effective 22 Dec. 14
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Elimination of import tariffs (from 2%) on self-adhesive paper and paper board (HS 4811.41.90)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15) and Notice No. 928 of 2014 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38240 (28 Nov. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Elimination of import tariffs (from 5%) on coated fine paper and paper board (HS 4810.13.20; 4810.13.90; 4810.14.10; 4810.14.90; 4810.19.90; 4810.29.90)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15) and Notice No. 67 of 2015 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38442 (6 Feb. 15)	Effective 6 Feb. 15
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Elimination of import tariffs (from 10%) on cylindrical lithium batteries (excluding those of a height not exceeding 7 mm), of a diameter exceeding 19 mm (HS 8506.50.25)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15) and Notice No. R. 307 of 2015 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38681 (10 Apr. 15)	Effective 10 Apr. 15
Switzerland	Reduction of import tariffs for certain cereal products, i.e. wheat, meslin, rye, barley, oats, and maize (HS 1001.19.29; 1001.99.29; 1002.90.29; 1003.90.49; 1004.90.29; 1005.90.29; 1008.60.39)	Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the WTO (22 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu	Temporary reduction of import tariffs (from 20% to 10%) on pig lard and poultry fat (HS 1501.10.00; 1501.90.00)	Permanent Delegation of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective 15 Apr. 15 to 14 Jul. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Trinidad and Tobago	Elimination of import motor vehicle tax on electric vehicles (new and used) with an engine size not exceeding 179 kilowatts	Permanent Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago to the WTO (30 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Turkey	Elimination of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (from 10%) coconut oil for technical and industrial purposes (HS 1513.19.30); (from 19.5%) certain vegetable oils and fats for the production of cocoa butter equivalent (HS 1515.90.99); (from 31.5%) molasses for the production of pastry feed and goods (HS 1703); (from 1%) iron ores (HS 2601.11; 2601.12); and (from 6%-15%) certain alloy steel products (HS 7210.61.00; 7210.69.00; 7225.19.90; 7226.19.80). Reduction of import tariffs (from 23.4% to 10%) on sesamum seeds (HS 1207.40)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Zambia	Elimination of import tariffs (from 5%) on aviation fuel (HS 2710)	The Customs and Excise (Amendment) Bill 2014 (26 Nov. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15

Recorded, but non-confirmed information³

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
India	Temporary elimination of import tariffs and "additional duty" on anti-malaria drugs and certain medical diagnostics and products, under the Revised National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP)	Notification Customs, Ministry of Finance-Department of Revenue No. 32/2014 (21 Nov. 14)	Effective until 1 Oct. 15
India	Elimination of import restrictions on gold (HS 7108) (implemented in Jun. and Jul. 13). The Reserve Bank of India established a requirement that 20% of imported gold be held in a bonded warehouse for export purposes (20:80 scheme), and that gold imports be allowed only to meet the genuine needs of the exporters of gold jewellery	Reserve Bank of India RBI/2014-15/329 A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 42 (28 Nov. 14) and WTO document WT/TPR/OV/16, 31 Jan. 14	Effective 28 Nov. 14
India	Elimination of import tariffs on urea (HS 3102.10.00) from Oman, under the "Urea Off-take Agreement"	Notification Customs, Ministry of Finance-Department of Revenue No. 4/2015 (16 Feb. 15)	Effective 16 Feb. 15

³ This section includes information which has been obtained from public sources but has not yet been confirmed by the delegation concerned.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
India	Reduction of export duties (from 5% to 2.5%) on ilmenite	Notification Customs, Ministry of Finance- Department of Revenue No. 8/2015 (1 Mar. 15)	Effective 1 Mar. 15
India	Elimination of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (from 2.5%) on ulexite ores, and evacuated tubes with three layers of solar selective coating for use in the manufacture of solar water heater systems; (from 5%) artificial heart (left ventricular assist device), certain digital still image video cameras and their parts, and magnetron of up to 1KW used for the manufacture of domestic microwave ovens. Reduction of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (from 5% to 2.5%) butanes, antimony and articles thereof including waste and scrap, and goods used in the manufacture of flexible medical video endoscopes; (from 2.5% to 2%) styrene, ethylene dichloride "EDC", and vinyl chloride monomer "VCM" (HS 2528; 2711.13.00; 2902.50.00; 2903.15.00; 2903.21.00; 8110.10.00; 8110.20.00; 8419; 8525.80.20; 8540.71.00; 9018)	Notification Customs, Ministry of Finance- Department of Revenue No. 10/2015 (1 Mar. 15)	Effective 1 Mar. 15
India	Temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 2.5%) on boron ores (HS 2528)	Notification No. 28/2015- Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (30 Apr. 15)	Effective 30 Apr. 15
India	Reduction of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. nylon tyre cord fabric, rubber chemicals, steel tyre cord, polybutadiene rubber, butyl rubber, styrene butadiene rubber	Business Standard (3 Feb. 15)	
India	Reduction of excise duty (from 12% to 6%) on man-made fibre and filament	The Hindu (7 Feb. 15)	
India	Imports of inputs, components, accessories, and parts for the manufacture of telecommunication, information and technology products exempted from the special additional duty "SAD"	The Financial Express (13 Feb. 15)	
India	Establishment in the Ministry of Commerce - Directorate General of Foreign Trade - of an online system for instant generation of import code (IEC). As from Feb. 15, electronic submission of IEC is mandatory	PTI (16 Feb. 15)	
India	Establishment in the Ministry of Commerce - Directorate General of Foreign Trade - of an online system for instant generation of export code (IEC). As from Feb. 15, electronic submission of IEC is mandatory	PTI (16 Feb. 15)	
Iraq, Rep. of	Extension of the temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain oil products. Imports also exempted from "reconstruction fee"	Iraq News referring to Cabinet Decision (Jan. 15)	
Pakistan	Termination of import ban on wheat products (HS 1101)	Business Recorder (29 Mar. 15)	
Philippines	Establishment in the Bureau of Customs of an electronic portal with the inclusion of the 7,422 regulated products, their corresponding import regulations, and required permits from 23 agencies	Manila Bulletin (17 Feb. 15)	Effective Apr. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Uzbekistan	Elimination of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. live poultry; eggs, fish; products of animal origin; plastics and articles of plastics; rubber and articles of rubber; glass and glassware; articles of iron and steel; aluminium and articles of aluminium; machinery and parts; electrical machinery and equipment; cereals; oil seeds; inorganic and organic chemicals; pharmaceutical products; and miscellaneous chemical products (HS Chapters 01; 03; 04; 05; 10; 12; 23; 25; 28; 29; 30; 32; 35; 38; 39; 40; 56; 70; 73; 76; 82; 84; 85; 86; 89; 90; 94)	Press reports referring to Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 14 (27 Jan. 15)	
Viet Nam	Reduction of import tariffs and taxes on certain vehicles and motorcycles	The Saigon Times Daily referring to Circular 164 (29 Oct. 14)	
Viet Nam	Establishment in the Ministry of Science and Technology of an electronic portal with the aim of supplying information and answering inquiries on TBT-related matters	Vietnam News Brief Service (21 Jan. 15)	

ANNEX 2

TRADE REMEDY MEASURES¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2014 TO MID-MAY 2015)

Confirmed information²

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Argentina	Termination on 17 Oct. 2014 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of fungicides (NCM 3808.92.91) from Peru and Uruguay (initiated on 18 Apr. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/ARG, 17 Feb. 15	
Argentina	Termination on 28 Oct. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of short-pitch transmission roller chain in accordance with Argentine Standards Institute (IRAM) Standard No. 5184 (NCM 7315.11) from China (imposed on 28 Oct. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/ARG, 17 Feb. 15	
Argentina	Initiation on 11 Nov. 2014 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain vaccines for veterinary medicine (NCM 3002.30.10; 3002.30.40; 3002.30.50; 3002.30.90) from France and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/ARG, 17 Feb. 15	
Argentina	Termination on 24 Nov. 2014 of anti-dumping duties on imports of frame-based transmission assembly comprising gear reducer, connecting rods, beam-type counterbalance and drilling tower for oil well pump equipment (NCM 8483.40) from China and Romania (imposed on 24 Nov. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/ARG, 17 Feb. 15	
Argentina	Termination on 8 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel wheels and rims (NCM 8708.70.90; 8716.90.90) from China (investigation initiated on 9 Mar. 09 and provisional duty imposed on 19 Nov. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/ARG, 17 Feb. 15	
Argentina	Initiation on 10 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of loading cells (<i>celdas de carga</i>) (NCM 9031.80.60) from China	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (20 Apr. 15), and Resolución No. 33/2015 Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas Públicas (4 Mar. 15)	
Argentina	Initiation on 20 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of plastic swimming pools (NCM 9506.99.00) from Brazil and China	Resolución No. 71/2015 Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas Públicas (20 Apr. 15)	

¹ The inclusion of any measure in this table implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the table implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

² This section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Australia	Initiation on 17 Oct. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel reinforcing bar (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7227.90.90; 7228.30.90) from Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia; Singapore; Spain; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; and Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/AUS, 10 Mar. 15; Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15); and Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2015/33 (13 Mar. 15)	Provisional duty imposed on 13 Mar. 15
Australia	Initiation on 6 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain polyvinyl chloride "PVC" flat electric cables (HS 8544.49.20) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/AUS, 10 Mar. 15; Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15); and Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2015/09 (19 Jan. 15)	Provisional duty imposed on 19 Jan. 15
Australia	Termination on 7 Nov. 14 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of quicklime "calcium oxide" (HS 2522.10.00) from Thailand (investigation initiated on 31 Oct. 11 and terminated on 3 Apr. 12. On appeal, the Trade Measures Review Officer revoked the termination and the investigation was resumed on 28 Jun. 12. The resumed investigation was terminated on 2 May 13. After a further review by the Anti-Dumping Review Panel, the investigation was resumed again on 8 Aug. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/AUS, 10 Mar. 15	
Australia	Termination on 1 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of power transformers (HS 8504.22.00; 8504.23.00) from China; and Korea, Rep. of (investigation initiated on 29 Jul. 13 and provisional duty imposed on 27 Nov. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/AUS, 10 Mar. 15; Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15) and Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2014/130 (1 Dec. 14)	
Australia	Termination on 15 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of geosynthetic clay liners (HS 6815.99) from Germany (investigation initiated on 5 Jan. 09, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 8 May and 15 Oct. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/AUS, 10 Mar. 15	
Australia	Initiation on 19 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of prepared or preserved tomato products (HS 2002.10.00) from Italy limited to two producers (Feger di Gerado Ferraioli S.p.A. and La Doria S.p.A.)	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15)	
Australia	Termination on 9 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of sodium hydrogen carbonate (sodium bicarbonate) (HS 2836.30) from China (imposed on 3 Nov. 05)	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15) and Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2015/14 (9 Feb. 15)	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Australia	Termination on 20 Mar. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of newsprint (HS 4801.00.20; 4801.00.31; 4801.00.39) from Korea, Rep. of (initiated on 22 Apr. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/259/AUS, 1 Sep. 14; Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15); and Australia Customs Dumping Notices Nos. 2015/12 (30 Jan. 15) and 2015/29 (20 Mar. 15)	
Australia	Initiation on 27 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hot-rolled plate steel (HS 7208.40.00; 7208.51.00; 7208.52.00; 7225.40.00) from Korea, Rep. of; and Chinese Taipei	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15) and Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2015/40 (27 Mar. 15)	
Australia	Termination on 14 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of silicone emulsion concrete admixtures (HS 3824.40) from the United States (investigation initiated on 14 Aug. 09, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 26 Nov. 09 and 14 Apr. 10)	Permanent Delegation of Australia to the WTO (27 May 15) and Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2014/26 (1 Apr. 14)	
Australia	Initiation on 5 May 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of alloy galvanised steel (HS 7210.49.00; 7212.30.00) from Korea, Rep. of; and Chinese Taipei (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures imposed on 5 Aug. 13)	Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2015/55 (5 May 15)	
Australia	Initiation on 11 May 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hollow structural sections "HSS" (HS 7306.30.00; 7306.61.00; 7306.69.00) from China; Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia; and Chinese Taipei (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures imposed on 3 Jul. 12)	Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2015/58 (11 May 15)	
Australia	Termination on 13 May 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of rod in coils (HS 7213.91.00; 7227.90.90) from Turkey (initiated on 10 Apr. 14)	Australia Customs Dumping Notice No. 2015/59 (13 May 15)	
Brazil	Initiation on 24 Nov. 14 of countervailing investigation on imports of PET film (NCM 3920.62.11; 3920.62.19; 3920.62.91; 3920.62.99; 3920.63.00; 3920.68.99; 3920.69.00) from India	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/BRA, 1 Apr. 15	
Brazil	Initiation on 1 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of butyl acrylate (NCM 2916.12.30) from Germany, South Africa, and Chinese Taipei	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/BRA, 14 Apr. 15; Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15); and Camex Resolution No. 14/2015 (31 Mar. 15)	Provisional duty imposed on 1 Apr. 15
Brazil	Initiation on 15 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cuticle nipper (NCM 8214.20.00) from China and Pakistan	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/BRA, 14 Apr. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Brazil	Termination on 16 Dec. 2014 of anti-dumping duties on imports of viscose yarn (NCM 5510.11.00) from Austria, China, India, Indonesia, Chinese Taipei, and Thailand (imposed on 16 Dec. 2009)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/BRA, 14 Apr. 15	
Brazil	Termination on 3 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of wooden pencils (NCM 9609.10.00) from China (imposed on 26 Feb. 97)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Secex Circular No. 1/2015 (2 Jan. 15)	
Brazil	Termination on 10 Feb. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of biaxially oriented polypropylene "BOPP", without graphics (NCM 3920.20.19) from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, India, Peru, and Chinese Taipei (initiated on 16 Dec. 13)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Secex Circular No. 3/2015 (6 Feb. 15)	
Brazil	Termination on 10 Mar. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of diphenylmethane diisocyanate "polymeric MDI" (NCM 3909.30.20) from Belgium; Germany; Hungary; Korea, Rep. of; Netherlands; Portugal; and Spain (initiated on 9 Jun. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/259/BRA, 23 Sep. 14; Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15); and Secex Circular No. 11/2015 (9 Mar. 15)	
Brazil	Initiation on 16 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of dental X-rays apparatus (NCM 9022.12.00; 9022.13.11) from Germany	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), and Secex Circulars Nos. 15/2015 (13 Mar. 15) and 21/15 (10 Apr. 15)	Terminated on 13 Apr. 15 (without measure)
Brazil	Initiation on 23 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of PVC coated fabric (NCM 3921.90.19) from China and Korea, Rep. of	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Secex Circular No. 16/2015 (20 Mar. 15)	
Brazil	Initiation on 23 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of unframed glass mirrors (NCM 7009.91.00) from China and Mexico	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Secex Circular No. 17/2015 (20 Mar. 15)	
Brazil	Termination on 25 Mar. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of acrylic sheets (NCM 3920.51.00) from China; Hong Kong, China; Malaysia; and the United States (initiated on 18 Nov. 13)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Secex Circular No. 18/2015 (24 Mar. 15)	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Brazil	Termination on 24 Apr. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of elastomeric rubber pipes (NCM 4009.11.00) from Korea, Rep. of (initiated on 20 Jun. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/BRA, 14 Apr. 15; Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Secex Circular No. 26/2015 (23 Apr. 15)	
Brazil	Temporary suspension on 7 May 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of polymeric MDI (NCM 3909.30.20) from China, and the United States (imposed on 31 Oct. 12)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 41/2015 (5 May 15)	Effective for 1 year
Canada	Termination on 23 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of mattress innerspring units (HS 7320.20.90; 9404.10.00; 9404.29.00) from China (investigation initiated on 27 Apr. 09, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 27 Jul. and 24 Nov. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/CAN, 17 Mar. 15	
Canada	Initiation on 5 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain photovoltaic modules and laminates (HS 8541.40.00) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/CAN, 17 Mar. 15; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 Apr. 15)	Provisional duty imposed on 5 Mar. 15
Canada	Initiation on 5 Dec. 14 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain photovoltaic modules and laminates (HS 8541.40.00) from China	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/CAN, 20 Mar. 15; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 Apr. 15)	Provisional duty imposed on 5 Mar. 15
Canada	Termination on 10 Dec. 14 of countervailing duties on imports of certain concrete reinforcing bar (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7215.90.00; 7227.90.00) from Korea, Rep. of; and Turkey (investigation initiated on 13 Jun. 14 and provisional duty imposed on 11 Sep. 14)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/CAN, 20 Mar. 15	
Canada	Termination on 2 Apr. 15 of countervailing duties on imports of oil country tubular goods (HS 7304.29.00; 7304.39.00; 7304.59.00; 7306.29.00; 7306.30.00; 7306.50.00; 7306.90.00) from India; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of; Philippines; Thailand; Turkey; Ukraine; and Viet Nam (investigation initiated on 21 Jul. 14 and provisional duty imposed on 3 Dec. 14)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/CAN, 20 Mar. 15; and Permanent Delegation of Canada to the WTO (21 Apr. 15)	Terminated on 3 Dec. 14 (without measure) on imports from Korea, Rep. of and Turkey. Terminated on 3 Mar. 15 for imports from Philippines, Thailand and Ukraine
Chile	Initiation on 31 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of wheat (HS 1101.00.00) from Argentina	Permanent Delegation of Chile to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	
China	Termination on 21 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of toluene diisocyanate (TDI80/20) (HS 2929.10.10) from Japan; Korea, Rep. of; and the United States (imposed on 22 Nov. 03)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/CHN, 23 Jan. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
China	Termination on 30 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of chloroform (HS 2903.13.00) from the EU; Korea, Rep. of; and the United States (imposed on 30 Nov. 04)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/CHN, 23 Jan. 15	
China	Termination on 17 Dec. 14 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hemodialysis equipment (HS 9018.90.40) from EU and Japan (initiated on 13 Jun. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/CHN, 23 Jan. 15	
China	Termination on 25 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of 1,4-butanediol (HS 2905.39.90) from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Chinese Taipei (imposed on 24 Dec. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/CHN, 23 Jan. 15	
China	Termination on 31 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of phenol (HS 2907.11.10) from Japan; Korea, Rep. of; Chinese Taipei; and the United States (imposed on 1 Feb. 04)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	
China	Initiation on 10 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of unbleached sack kraft paper (HS 4804.21.00) from the EU, Japan, and the United States	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15) and MOFCOM Announcement No. 9/2015 (14 Apr. 15)	
China	Termination on 10 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of grain oriented electrical flat-rolled electrical steel (HS 7225.11.00; 7226.11.00) from Russian Federation and the United States (investigation initiated on 1 Jun. 09, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 10 Dec. 09 and 10 Apr. 10)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	
China	Termination on 11 Apr. 15 of countervailing duties on imports of grain oriented electrical flat-rolled electrical steel (HS 7225.11.00; 7226.11.00) from the United States (investigation initiated on 1 Jun. 09, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 10 Dec. 09 and 10 Apr. 10)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15) and MOFCOM Announcement No. 11/2015 (13 Apr. 15)	
Colombia	Initiation on 23 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of triangular files, 6 inch (HS 8203.10.00) from India	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/COL, 1 Apr. 15	
Colombia	Initiation on 13 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of non-wired glass coloured throughout the mass (body tinted), opacified, flashed or merely surface ground (HS 7005.21.11; 7005.21.90) from China	Resolución No. 2/2015 Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (13 Jan. 15)	
Colombia	Initiation on 20 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain plastic plates, sheet, films, foil and strip (HS 3921.90.10) from India	Resolución No. 28/2015 Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo (20 Feb. 15)	
Colombia	Termination on 27 Apr. 15 of safeguard duties on imports of steel wire (HS 7213.20.00; 7213.91.10; 7213.91.90; 7213.99.00; 7227.90.00) (investigation initiated on 19 Jul. 13, provisional and definitive duty imposed on 9 Oct. 13 and 30 Apr. 14)	WTO documents G/SG/N/8/COL/1/Sup pl.2, 7 May 14; and G/SG/N/6/COL/4/Sup pl.2, 20 May 15	
Egypt	Termination on 25 Nov. 14 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of synthetic staple fibres, not carded, combed or otherwise, processed for spinning of polyesters (HS 5503.20.00) from China and India (initiated on 24 Dec. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/EGY, 23 Jan. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Egypt	Initiation on 15 Dec. 14 of safeguard investigation on imports of automotive batteries (HS 8507.10.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/EGY/11, 17 Dec. 14	
Egypt	Initiation on 14 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of wet wipes (HS 3307.00) from Turkey	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (28 May 15) and Notice No. 2/2015 (April 15)	
Egypt	Initiation on 16 Apr. 15 of safeguard investigation on imports of white sugar (HS 1701.99.90)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/EGY/12, 16 Apr. 15	
European Union	Initiation on 4 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of tartaric acid (HS 2918.12.00) from China limited to one producer (Hangzhou Bioking Biochemical Engineering Co. Ltd)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/EU, 31 Mar. 15	
European Union	Initiation on 12 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain aluminium foil (CAF) (HS 7607.11.19) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/EU, 31 Mar. 15	
European Union	Termination on 17 Dec. 14 (without measure) of countervailing investigation on imports of synthetic polyester staple fibres "PSF" (HS 5503.20.00) from China, India, and Viet Nam (initiated on 19 Dec. 13)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/EU, 13 Apr. 15	
European Union	Termination on 18 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of sulphanilic acid (HS 2921.42.00) from India (imposed on 25 Jul. 02)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/EU, 31 Mar. 15	
European Union	Termination on 18 Dec. 14 of countervailing duties on imports of sulphanilic acid (HS 2921.42.00) from India (imposed on 25 Jul. 02)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/EU, 13 Apr. 15	
European Union	Initiation on 19 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of solar glass (HS 7007.19.80) from China	Commission Notice 2014/C 457/07 (19 Dec. 14)	"Absorption reinvestigation"
European Union	Initiation on 20 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of silico-manganese (HS 7202.30.00) from India	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/EU, 31 Mar. 15	
European Union	Initiation on 20 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of tubes and pipes of ductile cast iron (also known as spheroidal graphite cast iron) (HS 7303.00.10; 7303.00.90) from India	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/EU, 31 Mar. 15	
European Union	Termination on 27 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of welded tubes and pipes, of iron or non-alloy steel (HS 7306.30.41; 7306.30.49; 7306.30.72; 7306.30.77) from Ukraine (imposed on 27 Sep. 02)	Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2015/110 (26 Jan. 15)	
European Union	Termination on 27 Feb. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain rainbow trout (portion size) (HS 0301.91.90; 0302.11.80; 0303.14.90; 0304.42.90; 0304.82.90; 0305.43.00) from Turkey (initiated on 15 Feb. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/EU, 31 Mar. 15; and Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2015/316 (26 Feb. 15)	
European Union	Initiation on 11 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain slightly modified molybdenum wire (HS 8102.96.00) from China (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures imposed in 2010)	Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2015/395 (10 Mar. 15)	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
European Union	Initiation on 11 Mar. 15 of countervailing investigation on imports of tubes and pipes of ductile cast iron (spheroidal graphite cast iron) (HS 7303.00.10; 7303.00.90) from India	Commission Notice 2015/C 83/04 (11 Mar. 15)	
European Union	Initiation on 1 May 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of citric acid and trisodium citrate dihydrate (HS 2918.14.00; 2918.15.00) from Malaysia (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures imposed in Dec. 08)	Commission Implementing Regulation No. 2015/706 (30 Apr. 15)	
European Union	Initiation on 14 May 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain cold-rolled flat steel products (HS 7209.15.00; 7209.16.90; 7209.17.90; 7209.18.91; 7209.18.99; 7209.25.00; 7209.26.00; 7209.27.90; 7209.28.90; 7211.23.30; 7211.23.80; 7211.29.00; 7225.50.80; 7226.92.00) from China and Russian Federation	Commission Notice 2015/C 161/07 (14 May 15)	
India	Initiation on 28 Oct. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on melamine tableware and kitchenware products (HS 3924.10.10; 3924.10.90; 3924.90.90; 3926.40.49; 3926.90.99) from China, Thailand, and Viet Nam	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/IND, 21 Apr. 15	
India	Initiation on 20 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on 2-ethyl hexanol (HS 2905.16.20) from EU; Indonesia; Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Chinese Taipei; and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/IND, 21 Apr. 15	
India	Initiation on 20 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on normal butanol (HS 2905.13.00) from the EU, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa, and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/IND, 21 Apr. 15	
India	Initiation on 9 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on mulberry raw silk (HS 5002.00.10) from China	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/IND, 21 Apr. 15	
India	Initiation on 7 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on methyl acetoacetate (HS 2918.30.40) from China and the United States	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	
India	Termination on 13 Jan. 15 (without measure) of safeguard investigation on imports of flexible slabstock polyol of molecular weight 3000 to 4000 (HS 3907.20.10) (initiated on 22 May 14)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/IND/38, 27 May 14 and G/SG/N/9/IND/13, 23 Jan. 15	
India	Termination on 15 Jan. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of acrylic fibre (HS 55) from Egypt (initiated on 24 Jan. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/259/IND, 10 Sep. 14; and Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	
India	Termination on 15 Jan. 15 (without measure) of safeguard investigation on imports of sodium di-chromate (HS 2841.30.00) (initiated on 26 May 14)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/IND/39, 2 Jun. 14 and G/SG/N/9/IND/14, 23 Jan. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
India	Termination on 5 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of resin or other organic substances bonded wood or ligneous fibre boards of thickness below 6 mm, except insulation boards, laminated fibre boards and boards which are not bonded either by resin or other organic substances (HS 4411.12.00; 4411.13.00; 4411.14.00; 4411.92.11; 4411.92.19; 4411.92.21; 4411.92.29; 4411.93.11; 4411.93.19; 4411.93.21; 4411.93.29; 4411.94.11; 4411.94.19; 4411.94.21; 4411.94.29) from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka (investigation initiated on 11 Nov. 11, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 21 Sep. 12 and 8 Aug. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/252/IND, 15 Apr. 14; and Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	
India	Initiation on 9 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on carbon black (HS 2803.00.10) from Korea, Rep. of	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	
India	Termination on 18 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of new/unused pneumatic radial tyres, with or without tubes and flaps of rubber used in buses and lorries/trucks (HS 4011.20.10; 4012.90.49; 4013.10.20) from China and Thailand (investigation initiated on 21 Oct. 08 and definitive duty imposed on 19 Feb. 10)	WTO document G/ADP/N/202/IND, 23 Sep. 10; and Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	
India	Termination on 1 Apr. 15 (without measure) of safeguard investigation on imports of cold rolled flat products of stainless steel of chromium type 400 (HS 7219.31.11; 7219.31.12; 7219.32.10; 7219.33.10; 7219.34.10; 7219.35.10; 7220.20.21; 7220.90.21) (initiated on 19 Sep. 14)	WTO document G/SG/N/9/IND/15, 2 Apr. 15	
Indonesia	Termination on 31 Oct. 14 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of partially oriented yarn (HS 5402.33.00) from China; Korea, Rep. of; and Chinese Taipei (initiated on 2 Aug. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/IDN, 23 Feb. 15; and Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (16 May 15)	
Indonesia	Initiation on 22 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cold rolled stainless steel (HS 7219.32.00; 7219.33.00; 7219.34.00; 7219.35.00; 7219.90.00; 7220.20.10; 7220.20.90; 7220.90.10; 7220.90.90) from China; Korea, Rep. of; Malaysia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; and Thailand	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/IDN, 23 Feb. 15	
Korea, Rep. of	Initiation on 20 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on ethyl acetate (HS 2915.31) from India	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/KOR, 9 Feb. 15	
Korea, Rep. of	Termination on 25 Feb. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on polyester filament partially oriented yarn (HS 5402.46) from India, Malaysia, and Thailand (initiated on 30 May 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/259/KOR, 10 Sep. 14; and Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (29 May 15)	
Korea, Rep. of	Initiation on 13 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on coniferous wood plywood (HS 4412.39.10; 4412.39.90; 4412.99.91) from China	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (29 May 15)	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Malaysia	Termination on 31 Oct. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of stranded wire, ropes, cables (HS 7312.10.00) from China (investigation initiated on 10 Apr. 13 and definitive duty imposed on 4 Jan. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/MYS, 15 Apr. 15	
Malaysia	Termination on 10 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of steel wire rods (HS 7213.10.00; 7213.20.00; 7213.91.00; 7213.99.00) from China (investigation initiated on 26 Jun. 12, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 23 Oct. 12 and 20 Feb. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/MYS, 15 Apr. 15	
Malaysia	Termination on 29 Jan. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on steel concrete reinforcing bar "rebar" (HS 7214; 7228) from China and Korea, Rep. of (initiated on 2 Sep. 14)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (1 Jun. 15); and WTO document G/ADP/N/265/MYS, 15 Apr. 15	
Mexico	Initiation on 3 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of graphite electrodes for electric arc furnaces (HS 8545.11.01) from China (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures imposed on 1 Mar. 12)	Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 3 Dec. 14; and WTO document G/ADP/N/268, 20 Feb. 15	
Mexico	Initiation on 4 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of apples (HS 0808.10.01) from the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/MEX, 6 Mar. 15	
Mexico	Initiation on 23 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of carbon steel tubing with straight longitudinal or helical seams (HS 7305.11.01; 7305.11.99; 7305.12.01; 7305.12.99; 7305.19.01; 7305.19.99) from India, Spain, and the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/MEX, 6 Mar. 15	
Mexico	Initiation on 16 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of prestressed products (HS 7217.10.99; 7312.10.01; 7312.10.05; 7312.10.07; 7312.10.08; 7312.10.10; 7312.10.99) from China, Portugal and Spain	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (27 May 15); and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 16 Feb. 15	
Mexico	Initiation on 15 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of aluminium cookware (HS 7615.10.99) from China	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (27 May 15); and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 15 Apr. 15	
Mexico	Termination on 30 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of aluminium collapsible tubular containers (HS 7612.10.01) from Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of) (imposed on 14 May 04)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (27 May 15); and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 30 Apr. 15	
Mexico	Initiation on 8 May 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of ceramic tiles for walls and floors (HS 6907.90.99; 6908.90.01) from China	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (27 May 15); and Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 8 May 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Morocco	Termination on 27 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of insulin (HS 3004.31.10) from Denmark (investigation initiated on 25 Dec. 2012, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 6 May and 28 Oct. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/MAR, 13 Mar. 15; and Avis Public No. 5/15 Ministère du Commerce Extérieur (27 Apr. 15)	
Pakistan	Termination on 2 Dec. 14 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of wall and floor tiles (HS 6907.10.00; 6907.90.00; 6908.10.00; 6908.90.10; 6908.90.90) from Iran, Malaysia, Spain, and the United Arab Emirates (initiated on 30 Jul. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/PAK, 24 Mar. 15	
Pakistan	Termination on 17 Jan. 15 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of pegylated interferon Alpha-2A (HS 3002.20.90) from Switzerland (initiated on 14 Dec. 12)	WTO document G/ADP/N/259/PAK, 29 Aug. 14; and National Tariff Commission ADC No. 29/2012/NTC/PIA (17 Jan. 15)	
Pakistan	Initiation on 29 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of sorbitol 70% solution (HS 2905.44.00; 3824.60.00) from India	National Tariff Commission ADC No. 32/2015/NTC/SB (27 Mar. 15)	
Pakistan	Initiation on 22 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyester staple fibre (HS 5503.20.10) from China	National Tariff Commission ADC No. 33/2015/NTC/PSF (22 Apr. 15)	
Pakistan	Initiation on 28 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hydrogen peroxide (HS 2847.00.00) from Bangladesh	National Tariff Commission ADC No. 34/2015/NTC/HP (28 Apr. 15)	
Peru	Termination on 23 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of cotton fabrics (HS 5209.42.00) from China (imposed on 2 Aug. 95)	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (16 Apr. 15), and Resolución No. 001-2015/CFD-INDECOPI (9 Jan. 15)	
Peru	Termination on 6 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of woven fabrics, printed (HS 5513.41.00) from China (imposed on 2 Aug. 95)	Permanent Delegation of Peru to the WTO (16 Apr. 15), and Resolución No. 003-2015/CFD-INDECOPI (18 Feb. 15)	
Philippines	Termination on 2 Feb. 15 (without measure) of safeguard investigation on imports of galvanized iron sheets and coils (GI), and pre-painted galvanized iron sheets and coils (PPGI) (HS 7210.41.10; 7210.41.90; 7210.49.90; 7210.69.10; 7210.69.90; 7210.70.11; 7210.70.12; 7210.70.30; 7210.70.60; 7210.70.90; 7210.90.40; 7210.90.50; 7210.90.90; 7212.30.19; 7212.30.93; 7212.30.99; 7212.40.11; 7212.40.19; 7212.50.12; 7212.50.13; 7212.50.19; 7212.50.29) (initiated on 27 Sep. 13)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/PHL/10, 10 Oct. 13 and G/SG/N/9/PHL/2, 27 Feb. 15	
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Initiation on 17 Oct. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of steel railway wheels (HS 8607.19.10) from Ukraine	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/RUS, 20 Mar. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Termination on 21 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of cold-rolled flat steel products with polymer coating (HS 7210; 7212; 7225) from Hong Kong, China; Macao, China; and Chinese Taipei (investigation initiated on 11 Feb. 11 and definitive duty imposed on 1 Jul. 12)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/RUS, 20 Mar. 15	
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Initiation on 26 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of ferrosilicon manganese (HS 7202.30) from Ukraine	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/RUS, 20 Mar. 15	
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Initiation on 26 Dec. 14 of countervailing investigation on imports of ferrosilicon manganese (HS 7202.30) from Ukraine	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/RUS, 20 Mar. 15	
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Termination on 22 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of tall oil fatty acid (HS 3823.13) from Sweden (imposed on 5 Jun. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/ZAF, 17 Feb. 15	
Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu	Termination on 13 Nov. 14 (without measure) of anti-dumping investigation on imports of computer to plate (HS 3701.30; 3701.91) from China (initiated on 25 Nov. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/TPKM, 26 Feb. 15	
Turkey	Initiation on 18 Oct. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of cotton (HS 5201) from the United States	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/TUR, 11 Mar. 15	
Turkey	Initiation on 30 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polystyrene (HS 3903.19.00) from Egypt	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/TUR, 11 Mar. 15	
Turkey	Initiation on 5 Dec. 14 of safeguard investigation on imports of transmission apparatus incorporating reception apparatus "cellular" portable telephone (HS 8517.12.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/TUR/19, 8 Dec. 14	
Turkey	Initiation on 12 Dec. 14 of safeguard investigation on imports of wallpaper and similar wallcoverings (HS 4814.20.00; 4814.90.10; 4814.90.70)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/TUR/20, 12 Dec. 14	
Turkey	Initiation on 12 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of welded stainless steel tubes, pipes and profiles (HS 7306.40.20; 7306.40.80; 7306.61.10) from Malaysia and Viet Nam (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures of imports from China and Chinese Taipei imposed on 15 Mar. 13)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/TUR, 11 Mar. 15	
Turkey	Initiation on 12 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of granites (HS 6802.23; 6802.93) from Viet Nam (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures of imports from China imposed on 14 Sep. 06)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/TUR, 11 Mar. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Turkey	Initiation on 26 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of safety glass (HS 7007) from China and Israel	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/TUR, 11 Mar. 15	
Turkey	Initiation on 28 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of hot-rolled coil steel (HS 7208.37.00; 7208.38.00; 7208.39.00) from China, France, Japan, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic and Ukraine	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (22 Apr. 15)	
Turkey	Initiation on 12 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of sodium formate (HS 2915.12.00) from China	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	
Turkey	Initiation on 25 Apr. 15 of safeguard investigation on imports of porcelain and ceramic tableware and kitchenware (HS 6911.10; 6912.00)	WTO document G/SG/N/6/TUR/21, 29 Apr. 15	
Turkey	Initiation on 15 May 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of seamless tubes, pipes and hollow profiles of iron (other than cast iron) or steel (HS 7304) from China	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	
Turkey	Initiation on 15 May 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyester textured yarn (HS 5402.33) from Thailand and Viet Nam	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	
Ukraine	Termination on 6 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of syringes (HS 9018.31) from China, Germany, Spain, and the United Kingdom (imposed on 5 Nov. 09)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/UKR, 17 Feb. 15	
Ukraine	Initiation on 7 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of caustic soda (HS 2815.12.00) from the Russian Federation	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/UKR, 17 Feb. 15	
Ukraine	Termination on 14 Feb. 15 of safeguard duties on imports of certain motor cars (HS 8703.22.10; 8703.23.19) (investigation initiated on 2 Jul. 11. Definitive duty imposed on 14 Apr. 13. Measure temporarily suspended on hybrid cars from 20 Apr. 13 to 28 Feb. 14. On 28 Mar. 14, progressive liberalization of safeguard measure)	WTO documents G/SG/N/6/UKR/9, 15 Jul. 11; G/SG/N/8/UKR/3, 25 Mar. 13; G/SG/N/8/UKR/3/Suppl.1, 22 May 13; G/SG/N/10/UKR/3/Suppl.2, 31 Mar. 14; and G/SG/N/8/UKR/3/Suppl.2, 27 Feb. 15	
United States	Termination on 23 Oct. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of grain-oriented electrical steel "GOES" (HS 7225.11.00; 7226.11.10; 7226.11.90) from China; Czech Republic; Korea, Rep. of; and Russian Federation (investigation initiated on 31 Oct. 13 and provisional duty imposed on 12 May 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/USA, 26 Feb. 15	
United States	Termination on 23 Oct. 14 of countervailing duties on imports of grain-oriented electrical steel "GOES" (HS 7225.11.00; 7226.11.10; 7226.11.90) from China (investigation initiated on 31 Oct. 13 and provisional duty imposed on 11 Mar. 14)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/USA, 10 Mar. 15	
United States	Initiation on 13 Nov. 14 of countervailing investigation on imports of welded line pipe (HS 7305.11.10; 7305.11.50; 7305.12.10; 7305.12.50; 7305.19.10; 7305.19.50; 7306.19.10; 7306.19.51) from Korea, Rep. of; and Turkey	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/USA, 10 Mar. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
United States	Initiation 14 Nov. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of welded line pipe (HS 7305.11.10; 7305.11.50; 7305.12.10; 7305.12.50; 7305.19.10; 7305.19.50; 7306.19.10; 7306.19.51) from Korea, Rep. of; and Turkey	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/USA, 26 Feb. 15	
United States	Initiation 9 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of melamine (HS 2933.61.00) from China and Trinidad and Tobago	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/USA, 26 Feb. 15	
United States	Initiation on 9 Dec. 14 of countervailing investigation on imports of melamine (HS 2933.61.00) from China and Trinidad and Tobago	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/USA, 10 Mar. 15	
United States	Termination on 9 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane (HS 2903.39.20) from China (investigation initiated on 9 Dec. 13 and provisional duty imposed on 29 May 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/259/USA, 5 Sep. 14; and International Trade Commission 701-TA-509 and 731-TA-1244 (Final), Federal Register/Vol. 79 No. 73102 (9 Dec. 14)	
United States	Termination on 9 Dec. 14 of countervailing duties on imports of 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane (HS 2903.39.20) from China (investigation initiated on 9 Dec. 13 and provisional duty imposed on 18 Apr. 14)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/USA, 10 Mar. 15	
United States	Suspension on 29 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of sugar (HS 1701) from Mexico (initiated on 24 Apr. 14 and provisional duty imposed on 3 Nov. 14)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/USA, 26 Feb. 15; and Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-201-845 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 25278 (4 May 15)	Investigation resumed on 4 May 15
United States	Suspension on 29 Dec. 14 of countervailing investigation on imports of sugar (HS 1701) from Mexico (initiated on 24 Apr. 14 and provisional duty imposed on 2 Sep. 14)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/USA, 10 Mar. 15; and Department of Commerce International Trade Administration C-201-846 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 25278 (4 May 15)	Investigation resumed on 4 May 15
United States	Termination on 29 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping duties on imports of drill pipe (HS 7304.22.00; 7304.23.30; 7304.23.60; 7304.39.00; 7304.49.00; 7304.59.80; 8431.43.40; 8431.43.80) from China (investigation initiated on 28 Jan. 10, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 18 Aug. 10 and 3 Mar. 11)	WTO document G/ADP/N/265/USA, 26 Feb. 15	
United States	Termination on 29 Dec. 14 of countervailing duties on imports of drill pipe (HS 7304.22.00; 7304.23.30; 7304.23.60; 7304.39.00; 7304.49.00; 7304.59.80; 8431.43.40; 8431.43.80) from China (investigation initiated on 28 Jan. 10, provisional and definitive duties imposed on 11 Jun. 10 and 3 Mar. 11)	WTO document G/SCM/N/281/USA, 10 Mar. 15	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
United States	Initiation on 31 Dec. 14 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of uncovered innerspring units (HS 7320.20.50; 7320.90.50; 7326.20.00; 9404.10.00; 9404.29.90) from China (possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures imposed on 19 Feb. 09)	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-570-928 Federal Register/Vol 79 FR No. 78792 (31 Dec. 14)	
United States	Termination on 9 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of electrolytic manganese dioxide (HS 2820.10.00) from Australia (imposed on 7 Oct. 08)	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-602-806 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 1393 (9 Jan. 15)	
United States	Termination on 30 Jan. 15 of anti-dumping duties on imports of lightweight thermal paper from Germany (HS 3703.10.60; 4811.59.20; 4811.90.80; 4811.90.90, 4820.10.20, 4823.40.00) (imposed on 24 Nov. 08)	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-428-840 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 5083 (30 Jan. 15)	
United States	Termination on 6 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping duties of polyethylene terephthalate film, sheet and strip (HS 3920.62.00) from Brazil (imposed on 10 Nov. 08)	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-351-841 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 6689 (6 Feb. 15)	
United States	Initiation on 18 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of certain uncoated paper (HS 4802.56.10; 4802.56.20; 4802.56.30; 4802.56.40; 4802.56.60; 4802.56.70; 4802.57.10; 4802.57.20; 4802.57.30; 4802.57.40; 4802.62.10; 4802.62.20; 4802.62.30; 4802.62.50; 4802.62.60; 4802.69.10; 4802.69.20; 4802.69.30; 4811.90.80; 4811.90.90) from Australia, Brazil, China, Indonesia, and Portugal	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-602-807, A-351-842, A-570-022, A-560-828, and A-471-807 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 8608 (18 Feb. 15)	
United States	Initiation on 18 Feb. 15 of countervailing investigation on imports of certain uncoated paper (HS 4802.56.10; 4802.56.20; 4802.56.30; 4802.56.40; 4802.56.60; 4802.56.70; 4802.57.10; 4802.57.20; 4802.57.30; 4802.57.40; 4802.62.10; 4802.62.20; 4802.62.30; 4802.62.50; 4802.62.60; 4802.69.10; 4802.69.20; 4802.69.30; 4811.90.80; 4811.90.90) from China and Indonesia	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration C-570-023 and C-560-829 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 8598 (18 Feb. 15)	
United States	Initiation on 17 Mar. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of silicomanganese (HS 7202.30.00) from Australia	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-602-808 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 13829 (17 Mar. 15)	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
United States	Initiation on 26 Mar. 15 of countervailing investigation on imports of supercalendered paper (HS 4802.61.30; 4802.62.30; 4802.62.60; 4802.69.30) from Canada	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration C-122-854 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 15981 (26 Mar. 15)	
United States	Initiation on 6 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of polyethylene terephthalate resin "PET" (HS 3907.60.00) from Canada, China, India, and Oman	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration A-122-855, A-570-024, A-533-861, and A-523-810 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 18376 (6 Apr. 15)	
United States	Initiation on 6 Apr. 15 of countervailing investigation on imports of polyethylene terephthalate resin "PET" (HS 3907.60.00) from China, India, and Oman	Department of Commerce International Trade Administration C-570-025, C-533-862, and C-523-811 Federal Register/Vol 80 FR No. 18369 (6 Apr. 15)	
Uruguay	Initiation on 2 Feb. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on imports of films of polymers of ethylene (NCM 3920.10.99) from Brazil	Permanent Delegation of Uruguay to the WTO (21 Apr. 15)	

Recorded, but non-confirmed information³

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
India	Initiation on 7 Apr. 15 of anti-dumping investigation on dichloromethane (methylene chloride) (HS 2903.12.00) from China and the Russian Federation	Notification No. 14/33/2014-DGAD, Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Department of Commerce) (7 Apr. 15)	

³ This section includes information which has been obtained from public sources but has not yet been confirmed by the delegation concerned.

ANNEX 3

OTHER TRADE-RELATED MEASURES¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2014 TO MID-MAY 2015)

Confirmed information²

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Albania	Imposition of reference prices on certain imports	Permanent Delegation of Albania to the WTO (20 Apr. 15)	
Angola	Temporary import ban on certain food products contained in the basic basket of goods, i.e. oils, maize and wheat flour, salt, rice, sugar, under an import quota of 2,042,440 tonnes; beverages (i.e. water, beer, juices) under an import quota of 950,000 hectolitres; eggs, under an import quota of 156,000,000 units; and horticultural products (i.e. onions, garlic, potatoes), under an import quota of 184,500 tonnes. Ban applied to certain products where domestic supply covers 60% of national consumption (HS 0407; 0701; 0703.10; 0703.20; 1006; 1701; 22; 2501)	Decreto Ejecutivo Conjunto No. 22/15 (23 Jan. 15)	Effective 23 Jan. 15
Argentina	Updated list of "criterion values" (<i>valores criterio de carácter preventivo</i>) for imports of certain products, i.e. men's or boy's shirts of cotton, knitted or crocheted; suits of synthetic fibres; and combs of hard rubber or plastics (NCM 6105.10.00; 6203.43.00; 9615.11.00), from specific origins	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resoluciones Generales Nos. 3696, 3697, and 3699 (5 Nov. 14)	Effective 5 Nov. 14
Argentina	Updated list of "criterion values" (<i>valores criterio de carácter preventivo</i>) for imports of certain products, i.e. T-shirts, singlets and other vests, knitted or crocheted; and slates and boards, with writing or drawing surfaces, whether or not framed (NCM 6109.10.00; 6109.90.00; 9610.00.00), from specific origins	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resoluciones Generales Nos. 3705 and 3706 (7 Jan. 15)	Effective 7 Jan. 15
Argentina	Updated list of "criterion values" (<i>valores criterio de carácter preventivo</i>) for imports of handbags, with or without shoulder strap, including those without handle (NCM 4202.22.10; 4202.22.20; 4202.29.00); and unwrought magnesium products (<i>ánodos</i>) (NCM 8104.90.00), from specific origins	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resoluciones Generales Nos. 3736 and 3738 (5 Feb. 15)	Effective 5 Feb. 15

¹ The inclusion of any measure in this table implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the table implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

² This section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Argentina	Updated list of "criterion values" (<i>valores criterio de carácter preventivo</i>) for imports of certain products, i.e. men's underpants and briefs (NCM 6107.11.00; 6107.12.00; 6107.19.00); travel set for personal toilet, sewing or shoe or clothes cleaning (NCM 9605.00.00); spectacles, goggles and the like, corrective, protective or other (NCM 9004.90.20); and plastic fittings for furniture, coachwork or the like (NCM 3926.30.00), from specific origins	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resoluciones Generales Nos. 3750, 3751 (13 Mar. 15), 3752 and 3753 (17 Mar. 15)	Effective Mar. 15
Argentina	Updated list of "reference values" for exports of natural honey, garlic, and fresh grapes (NCM 0409.00.00; 0703.20.90; 0806.10.00), for certain specified destinations	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resoluciones Generales Nos. 3760, 3761, 3762 (9 Apr. 15)	Effective 9 Apr. 15
Argentina	Updated list of "criterion values" (<i>valores criterio de carácter preventivo</i>) for imports of knitted or crocheted dresses (NCM 6104), from specific origins	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos - Resolución General No. 3765 (15 Apr. 15)	Effective 15 Apr. 15
Argentina	Extension of the temporary increase of the Mercosur Common Tariff applied rates, but not over their bound levels, for imports of certain products, i.e. (to 28%) 11 dairy products tariff lines (NCM 0402) (originally implemented on 31 Jan. 10), (to 35%) prepared or preserved peaches, including nectarines (NCM 2008.70.10; 2008.70.20; 2008.70.90) (originally implemented on 1 Apr. 11), and 14 toys tariff lines (NCM Chapter 95) (originally implemented on 1 Apr. 11)	Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15) and Decreto No. 760/2015 Comercio Exterior (6 May 15) under MERCOSUR Decisión No. 35/14 del Consejo del Mercado Común (16 Dec. 14)	Effective May 15 to 30 Jun. 15
Azerbaijan	Rate of excise duty applied on imports of certain alcoholic beverages (i.e. whisky, gin, vodka) (HS 2208) higher than for same beverages locally produced	Permanent Delegation of Azerbaijan (19 May 15)	Effective Jan. 15
Brazil	Termination of the temporary elimination of import tariffs (from 2% to 14%) on adiponitrila (NCM 2926.90.91) (originally reduced on 31 May 14)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 101/2014 (29 Oct. 14)	Effective 30 Oct. 14
Brazil	Increase on import tariffs (from 12% to 18%) on led lamps (NCM 8543.70.99)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15) and Camex Resolution No. 111/2014 (21 Nov. 14)	Effective 24 Nov. 14

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Brazil	Extension of the temporary increase of the Mercosur Common Tariff applied rates, but not over their bound levels, for imports of certain products, i.e. (to 28%) 11 dairy products tariff lines (NCM 0402) (originally implemented on 31 Jan. 10), (to 35%) prepared or preserved peaches, including nectarines (NCM 2008.70.10; 2008.70.20; 2008.70.90) (originally implemented on 1 Apr. 11), and 14 toys tariff lines (NCM Chapter 95) (originally implemented on 1 Apr. 11)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15), Camex Resolution No. 129/2014 (19 Dec. 14) and Decisión No. 35/14 del Consejo del Mercado Común (16 Dec. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15 to 30 Jun. 15
Brazil	Elimination of the temporary reduction of import tariffs on simazine (NCM 2933.69.14)	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 24 Nov. 14
Brazil	Amendments to legislation temporarily granting preference in government procurement (from 8% to 25% preference margins) on certain products manufactured locally. Preference margins set up by Law No. 12.349/2010 and implemented through specific decrees covering different sectors	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective until 31 Dec. 15
China	Implementation of automatic import licensing requirements on sugar subject to out-of-quota tariff (HS 1701)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Nov. 14
China	VAT rebate rates eliminated on exports of boron steel (HS 7104.90.12; 7225.40.91; 7226.91.91; 7227.90.10; 7228.30.10) (effective 1 Jan. 15), and reduced (to 9%) on wigs (HS 6703.00.00; 6704.11.00; 6704.19.00; 6704.20.00; 6704.90.00) (effective 1 Apr. 15)	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	
Colombia	Removal of certain products, i.e. palmitic acids and stearic acid, their salts and esters; refractory cements, mortars, concretes and similar compositions; refractory bricks, blocks and tiles; doors, windows and their frames of iron and steel; castors; furniture designed to receive refrigerating equipment; and electrical insulators of glass (6 tariff lines) (HS 2915.70.22; 3816.00.00; 6902.20.90; 7308.30.00; 8302.20.00; 8418.91.00; 8546.10.00) from the list (with zero duty level) of raw materials and capital goods not produced locally (3,490 tariff lines) established by Decree No. 1755 (originally implemented in Aug. 13)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective Dec. 14
Colombia	Increase of import tariffs on non-wired glass coloured throughout the mass (body tinted), opacified, flashed or merely surface ground (HS 7005.21.90; 7005.29.90)	Permanent Delegation of Colombia to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective Feb. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Ecuador	Temporary tariff surcharges (<i>sobretasa arancelaria</i>) (5%, 15%, 25%, 45%) on 2,961 tariff lines (at 10 digits) (Chapters HS 01; 02; 03; 04; 05; 06; 07; 08; 09; 10; 11; 12; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 24; 25; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 46; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 76; 78; 79; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97), with a view to restore balance-of-payments (effective 11 Mar. 15, for 15 months). Imports from Bolivia and Paraguay exempted	Resolución No. 011-2015 del Pleno del Comité de Comercio Exterior (6 Mar. 15)	This measure replaces a previous measure for Colombia and Peru (Resoluciones Nos. 050-2014 (29 Dec. 14) and 002-2015 (20 Jan. 15) Comité de Comercio Exterior) which was terminated on 11 Mar. 15
Egypt	Imposition of temporary export duties on certain products, i.e. animal feed; and (LE 2,500/tonne) used or new rags, scrap twine, cordage, rope and cables, and worn out article of twine, cordage, rope or cables of textile materials (effective until 31 Dec. 15); (LE 280/tonne) white rice milled (effective until 31 Aug. 15); (LE 75/tonne) quartz ores; (LE 250/tonne) talc and feldspar ores; and (LE 400/tonne) azotic fertilizers (effective until 28 Jul. 15) (HS 1006.30; 2506; 2526; 2529; 31; 6310)	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (28 May 15)	
Egypt	Temporary export licensing requirement for white rice milled (HS 1006.30)	Permanent Delegation of Egypt to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective until 31 Aug. 15
El Salvador	Creation of 3 new tariff lines in the Central American Common tariff "fruit, nuts and other edible parts of plants (<i>pasta de coco</i>); preparations with a basis of tea" (HS 2008.19.20; 2101.20.10; 2101.20.90) resulting in an increase of the import tariff (from 14% to 15%)	Resolución No. 356-2014 (COMIECO-LXX) (4 Dec. 14) and Diario Oficial Tomo No. 405, No. 235 (16 Dec. 14)	Effective 16 Dec. 14. For other members of the Central American Common Market: Costa Rica has indicated implementation date on 22 May 15 (out of period); no information received on implementation date by Honduras; and Panama given a waiver on this measure

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Guatemala	Creation of 3 new tariff lines in the Central American Common tariff "fruit, nuts and other edible parts of plants (<i>pasta de coco</i>); preparations with a basis of tea" (HS 2008.19.20; 2101.20.10; 2101.20.90) resulting in an increase of the import tariff (from 14% to 15%)	Resolución No. 356-2014 (COMIECO-LXX) (4 Dec. 14) and Acuerdo Ministerial No. 916/2014 - Ministerio de Economía (15 Dec. 14)	Effective 31 Dec. 14. For other members of the Central American Common Market: Costa Rica has indicated implementation date on 22 May 15 (out of period); no information received on implementation date by Honduras; and Panama given a waiver on this measure
Honduras	Increase of import tariff (to 35%) on certain iron or non-alloy steel (HS 7213.10.00; 7214.20.00; 7215.10.00; 7215.50.00; 7215.90.00; 7228.70.00)	Acuerdo No. 030-2015 Secretaría de Desarrollo Económico (19 Feb. 15)	Effective 19 Feb. 15
India	Re-imposition of minimum export price "MEP" (US\$250/MT) on onions (HS 0703) (reintroduced on 21 Aug. 14)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	Effective 7 Apr. 15
India	Increase of import tariffs (to 70%) on semi-milled or wholly milled-rice (HS 1006.30)	Permanent Delegation of India to the WTO (24 Apr. 15)	
Indonesia	Import restrictions on natural oil, gas and other fuels depending on domestic supply and demand (HS Chapters 22; 27; 29; 38)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective Apr. 15
Indonesia	Export restrictions on natural oil, gas and other fuels depending on domestic supply and demand (HS Chapters 22; 27; 29; 38)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective Apr. 15
Indonesia	Mandatory requirement to use letter of credits as payment method for export of certain products, i.e. iron ores and concentrates; manganese ores and concentrates; ash and residues; copper ores and concentrates; lead ores and concentrates; titanium ores and concentrates; inorganic chemicals and chemical products; organic or inorganic compounds of precious metals; nickel and articles of nickel; silver; gold; iron and steel; copper and articles of copper; aluminium and articles of aluminium; tin and articles of tin; miscellaneous articles of base metal; mineral fuels and mineral oils; palm oil and its fractions; and coconut (copra) and its fractions (in Chapters HS 15; 26; 27; 28; 71; 72; 74; 75; 76; 80; 83)	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15
Kazakhstan	List of meat commodities subject to tariff rate quotas with their respective volume allocation, for the year 2015 released by the Eurasian Economic Commission. Reduction on frozen beef quota (HS 0202) (from 15,300 to 10,000 metric tonne)	Permanent Delegation of Kazakhstan (22 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Korea, Rep. of	Imposition of import tariffs (513%) on rice (HS 1006)	WTO document G/MA/TAR/RS/396, 30 Sep. 14	Effective 1 Jan. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Macao, China	Implementation of automatic import licensing requirements on petroleum products (HS 2710)	Permanent Delegation of Macao, China to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 16 Feb. 15
Malaysia	Termination of the temporary elimination of export taxes on crude palm oil (HS 1511) (originally implemented in Sep. 14)	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (1 Jun. 15)	Terminated on 28 Jan. 15
Mauritius	Imports of black tea subject (HS 0902.30; 0902.40) to import tariffs (up to 30%), fee per consignment (MUR 1,000 to MUR 5,000), levy (20% c.i.f. value), and a "cess" (MUR 0.2/kg)	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (12 May 15)	
Mexico	Imposition of reference prices for imports of 734 textiles and apparel products tariff lines (HS Chapters 51; 52; 54; 55; 60; 61; 62; 63)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15) and Resolución - Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 29 Dec. 14	Effective 30 Jan. 15
Mexico	Implementation of automatic import licensing requirements (<i>permiso automático de importación</i>) on textiles and apparel (HS Chapters 51; 52; 54; 55; 60; 61; 62; 63)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 2 Mar. 15
Mexico	Elimination of the gradual reduction of import tariffs for broken rice (HS 1006.40.01) (originally scheduled for 1 Jan. 15)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15)	
Mexico	Establishment of the list of petroleum and oil products (HS 2709; 2710; 2711; 2712) subject to mandatory prior import authorization by the Ministry of Energy	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Mexico	Establishment of the list of petroleum and oil products (HS 2709; 2710; 2711; 2712) subject to mandatory prior export authorization by the Ministry of Energy	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Mexico	Further extension of the temporary export requirement permission on iron ore (HS 2601.11.01; 2601.12.01) (originally implemented on 22 Mar. 2011, and then extended on 1 Jan. 14 until 31 Dec. 14)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15); and WTO document WT/TPR/OV/17, 24 Nov. 14	Effective until 31 Dec. 16
Mexico	Imposition of export licensing requirements on sugar (HS 1701)	Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 6 Feb. 15
Mongolia	Increase of import tariffs (from 1% to 5%) on gasoline and diesel (HS 2710.11; 2710.19)	Permanent Delegation of Mongolia to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 18 Feb. 15
Mongolia	Increase of excise tax on imports of gasoline and diesel (HS 2710.11; 2710.19)	Permanent Delegation of Mongolia to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 18 Feb. 15
Morocco	Temporary increase of import tariffs (from 17.5% to 75%) on wheat (HS 1001.99.00)	Décret No. 2-15-275 du jourmada II 1436 (10 Apr. 15), Bulletin Officiel No. 6352 (16 Apr. 15)	Effective 1 May 15 to 31 Oct. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Nicaragua	Creation of 3 new tariff lines in the Central American Common tariff "fruit, nuts and other edible parts of plants (pasta de coco); preparations with a basis of tea" (HS 2008.19.20; 2101.20.10; 2101.20.90) resulting in an increase of the import tariff (from 14% to 15%)	Resolución No. 356-2014 (COMIECO-LXX) (4 Dec. 14) and Acuerdo Ministerial MIFIC No. 20-2015 (20 Mar. 15)	Effective 20 Mar. 15. For other members of the Central American Common Market: Costa Rica has indicated implementation date on 22 May 15 (out of period); no information received on implementation date by Honduras; and Panama given a waiver on this measure
Pakistan	Imposition of regulatory duty (20%) on wheat (HS 1001). On 30 Mar. 15, duty increased from 20% to 25%	Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs, Revenue and Statistics Notifications (Customs) S.R.O. 1015(I)/2014 (7 Nov. 14) and S.R.O. 254/(I)/2015 (30 Mar. 15)	Effective 7 Nov. 14
Pakistan	Imposition of regulatory duty (25%) on wheat flour, maida, and semolina (HS 1101.00.10; 1102.90.00)	Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs, Revenue and Statistics Notification (Customs) S.R.O. 254/(I)/2015 (30 Mar. 15)	Effective 30 Mar. 15
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Temporary export duties on certain cereals, i.e. wheat and meslin, durum wheat (HS 1001) set at 15% plus €7.5/tonne, but not less than €35/tonne (implemented on 1 Feb. 15)	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	Terminated on 15 May 15
Customs Union between the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	Preferential treatment in government procurement for certain medical devices and medicines, manufactured in the Customs Union	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	Effective 5 Feb. 15
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Increase of import tariffs (from 5% to 15%) on certain barbed wire of iron or steel (HS 7313.00; 7314.31; 7314.41) and (from 5% to 30%) on springs and leaves for springs, of iron or steel (HS 7320.20.10)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15) and Notices Nos. 68 and 69 of 2015 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38442 (6 Feb. 15)	Effective 6 Feb. 15

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Extension of the temporary increase of import tariffs (from 142.5 c/kg to 207.1 c/kg) on cane and beet sugar (originally implemented on 26 Sep. 14) (HS 1701.12; 1701.13; 1701.14; 1701.91; 1701.99)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15); WTO document WT/TPR/OV/17, 24 Nov. 14; and Notice No. 173 of 2015 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38514 (27 Feb. 15)	Effective 27 Feb. 15
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Extension of the temporary increase of import tariffs (from R 15.7 c/kg to R 46.1 c/kg) on wheat (HS 1001.91; 1001.99), and (from 23.5 c/kg to 69.2 c/kg) on wheat flour (HS 1101.00.10; 1101.00.90) (originally implemented on 10 Oct. 14)	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15); WTO document WT/TPR/OV/17, 24 Nov. 14; and Notice No. 209 of 2015 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38563 (13 Mar. 15)	Effective 13 Mar. 15
SACU - Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland)	Increase of import tariffs (from 5% to 15%) on lead-acid, of a kind used for starting piston engines (HS 8507.10.10). Imports from the EU, EFTA, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) members exempted	Permanent Delegation of South Africa to the WTO (27 May 15) and Notice No. R. 308 of 2015 - International Trade Administration Commission - Government Gazette No. 38681 (10 Apr. 15)	Effective 10 Apr. 15
Singapore	Implementation of the Prohibited Tobacco Products Regulation Act imposing an import ban on shisha (HS 2403.11.00). The act also banned its commercialization (transitional measures in place until 31 Jul. 16)	Permanent Delegation of Singapore to the WTO (27 May 15)	Effective 28 Nov. 14
Singapore	Amendments to the Strategic Goods (Control) Regulations (SGCR) comprising of (i) the expansion of the existing list of items that require a strategic goods transshipment permit; and (ii) the introduction of a new list of items that require a strategic goods transit permit. Strategic goods transshipment and transit permits are required for certain items	Permanent Delegation of Singapore to the WTO (27 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu	Special safeguard (volume-based) measure on imports of dried shiitake (HS 0712.39.20)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/120, 7 Jan. 15	Effective 17 Nov. 14 to 31 Dec. 14

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu	Special safeguard (volume-based) measure on imports of pears (HS 0808.30.90)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/119, 5 Jan. 15	Effective 26 Nov. 14 to 31 Dec. 14
Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu	Special safeguard (volume-based) measure on imports of other liquid milk (HS 0401; 0402; 0403; 1806; 1901) (effective 3 Nov. 14 to 31 Dec. 14) and garlic (HS 0703.20.10; 0703.20.90; 0712.90.40) (effective 21 Dec. 14 to 31 Dec. 14)	WTO document G/AG/N/TPKM/122, 11 Mar. 15	
Turkey	Increase of import tariffs (from 3%-15% to 30%-40%) on certain bar and wire rod of steel (HS 7213; 7214; 7227.90.10)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective 18 Oct. 14
Turkey	Increase of import tariffs (from 25% to 40%) on maltodextrine and maltodextrine syrup (HS 1702.90.50); (from zero to 31.5%) molasses resulting from the extraction or refining of sugar (HS 1703); and (from 10% to 23.4%) on processed sesamum seeds (HS 1207.40.90)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Turkey	Increase of import tariffs (up to 25%) on tools, implements, cutlery, spoons, and forks, of base metal, parts thereof of base metal (HS Chapter 82)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective 6 Feb. 15
Turkey	Increase of import tariffs (up to 50%) on hand-woven carpets (HS 5701; 5702; 5805)	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	Effective 18 Feb. 15
Ukraine	Temporary tariff increases (import surcharge) on all goods with a view to restore balance-of-payments. Import surcharge of 10% for goods classified in HS Chapters 01 to 24 (i.e. live animals, animals products, vegetable products, animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products, prepared edible fats, animal or vegetable waxes, prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits and vinegar, and tobacco), and 5% for goods classified in HS Chapters 25 to 97 (i.e. mineral products, chemicals, plastics and articles thereof, rubber and articles thereof, raw hides and skins, leather, wood and articles of wood, paper and paperboard, textiles and textile articles, footwear, cement, glass and glassware, metals and articles of base metals, machinery, mechanical appliances, electrical equipment, vehicles). Some essential goods, i.e. petroleum, petroleum gases, electrical energy, coal, gasoline, and certain medical equipments and medicines are exempted	WTO document WT/BOP/N/78, 21 Jan. 15	Effective 25 Feb. 15 to end 2015
Zambia	Increase of import tariffs (from 15% to 25%) on dynamite, gelignite and dynagel (HS 3602.00.10; 3602.00.20; 3602.00.30; 3602.00.90); (up to 30%) on certain flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, clad, plated or coated (HS 7210); and on edible oils (HS Chapter 15)	The Customs and Excise (Amendment) Bill 2014 (26 Nov. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Zambia	Increase of "import excise duty" (from 60% to 125%) on undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength by volume of 80% (HS 2207.10.00)	The Customs and Excise (Amendment) Bill 2014 (26 Nov. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15

Recorded, but non-confirmed information³

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
Ecuador	Inclusion of certain sectors, i.e. tuna, flowers, palm oil in the drawback programme (exemption of taxes on the purchase of inputs for exportable products)	Xinhua (8 Feb. 15)	
India	Increase of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (from zero to 7.5%) crude palm oil, fractions of crude palm oil (other than crude palm oil) (HS 1511); soya-bean crude oil, whether or not degummed (HS 1507.10.00); ground-nut oil, olive oil, sunflower-seed, safflower or cotton-seed oil, coconut (copra), palm kernel or babassu oil, rape, colza or mustard oil, certain fixed vegetables fats and oils (HS 1508; 1509; 1510; 1512; 1513; 1514; 1515); sunflower-seed crude oil (HS 1512.11.10); crude oil of low erucic acid rape or colza (HS 1514.11; 1514.91); and (from 7.5% to 15%) certain soya-bean oil (HS 1507.90.10); certain palm and its fractions (HS 1511.90); certain sunflower-seed (HS 1512.19.10); certain oil of low erucic acid rape or colza (HS 1514.19; 1514.91); vegetable fats and oils and their fractions (HS 1516.20); and margarine, and animal or vegetable fats and oils and their fractions (HS 1517.10.21; 1517.90.10; 1517.90.20; 1518.00.11; 1518.00.21; 1518.00.31)	Notification No. 34/2014-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (24 Dec. 14)	Effective 24 Dec. 14
India	Increase of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (from zero to 2.5%) ball crews, linear motion guides, and CNC systems for use in the manufacture of CNC lathes or machining centre; (from zero to 5%) metallurgical coke, sulphuric acid for the manufacture of fertilizers, and active energy controller for use in manufacture of renewable power system inverters; (from zero to 7.5%) water blocking tape for use in the manufacture of insulated wires and cables, ethylene-propylene-non-conjugated diene rubber "EPDM" for use in the manufacture of insulated wires and cables, and mica glass tapes for use in the manufacture of insulated wires and cables; (from 2.5% to 5%) butyl acrylate, C-block compressors, crankshafts, over load protector "OLP", and positive thermal coefficient for use in the manufacture of refrigerator compressor; (from 2.5% to 10%) certain iron and steel; (from 7.5% to 10%) certain articles of iron and steel, motor vehicles imported as a completely knocked down "CKD" kit, and electrically operated vehicles (HS 2704.00; 2807.00.10; 2916.12.10; 3919.90.90; 4002.70.00; 6814.90.90; 72; 73; 8414.90.11; 8483.40.00; 8466.93.90; 8504; 8536.20.90; 8537.10.00; 8702; 8704)	Notification Customs, Ministry of Finance- Department of Revenue No. 10/2015 (1 Mar. 15)	Effective 1 Mar. 15

³ This section includes information which has been obtained from public sources but has not yet been confirmed by the delegation concerned.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
India	Temporary increase of import tariffs on certain products, i.e. (from 25% to 40%) raw and refined sugar (HS 1701); (from 20% or Rs. 30/kg whichever is lower to 25% or Rs. 30/kg whichever is lower) natural rubber in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strip (HS 4001.21; 4001.22; 4001.29); and (from 5% to 10%) raw silk (not thrown) (HS 5002)	Notification No. 28/2015-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (30 Apr. 15)	Effective 30 Apr. 15
India	Export duties on non-agglomerated iron ores and concentrates (HS 2601.11.41; 2601.11.42) set at 10%	Notification No. 30/2015-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (30 Apr. 15)	Effective 30 Apr. 15
India	Increase of additional customs duty "Road cess" on petrol and high speed diesel oil (HS 2710)	Notification Nos. 6/2015 and 7/2015-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (1 Mar. 15)	Effective 1 Mar. 15
India	Import ban on jute sacks from Bangladesh	PTI (7 Dec. 14)	
India	Import ban on certain machinery older than 5 years	The Hindu Business Line (12 Dec. 14)	
India	New decree requiring foreign companies to source 30% of supplies to the government from domestic manufacturers. Applies to companies selling more than Rs 3 billion	Press Trust of India New Delhi (16 Dec. 14)	
India	Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 20%) on tyres (HS 4011). Inclusion of tyres in the import restricted list	Business Standard (3 Feb. 15)	
India	Guidelines from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launching Phase II - Batch II of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission on projects based on solar thermal technology, providing for 30% local content requirement in all plants and installations	The Hindu Business Line (12 Mar. 15)	
India	Increase of import tariffs (from 10% to 15%) on finished and semi-finished steel	PTI (2 Apr. 15)	
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Increase of import tariffs (up to 20%) on certain steel products, i.e. hot-rolled coil, wire rod and rebar (HS Chapters 72; 73)	Reuters (11 Mar. 15)	
Nigeria	Second phase of the "Tariff readjustment for the Automotive Industry" resulting in an increase of import tariffs (to 70%) (in Jul. 14 import tariffs were raised to 35%) (HS Chapter 87)	Press Reader - Thisday (8 Feb. 15) and WTO document WT/TPR/OV/17, 24 Nov. 14	Originally scheduled to be effective in Jan. 15 but postponed to Apr. 15
Ukraine	Export restriction on wheat (HS 1001), limited to 1.2 million tonnes for the year 2015	AgraEurope (27 Jan. 15)	
Ukraine	Increase of import tariffs (by 5%) on vehicles	Esmerk Russian News (2 Mar. 15)	
Ukraine	Non-automatic export licensing requirements on anthracite coal	Press reports referring to Resolution No. 1 (14 Jan. 15)	
United States	"Buy America" requirements for programmes funded by the Department of Transportation	Bloomberg BNA (12 Feb. 15)	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/date	Status
United States	Several "Buy American" restrictions on public procurement granting a significant share to locally produced goods and services	Report from the Commission to the European Council: Trade and Investment Barriers Report 2015 (17 Mar. 15)	

ANNEX 4

GENERAL ECONOMIC SUPPORT MEASURES¹

(MID-OCTOBER 2014 TO MID-MAY 2015)

CONFIRMED INFORMATION²

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
Argentina	Temporary support scheme. "Programa de Estímulo a la Producción de Petróleo Crudo". Aiming at maintaining the level of activity and employment, increasing oil production with a consequent increase in exports and, therefore, causing an improvement in the energy trade balance, and stimulating investments in oil exploration and exploitation	Resolución No. 14/2015-Comisión de Planificación y Coordinación Estratégica del Plan Nacional de Inversiones Hidrocarburíferas (3 Feb. 15) and Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15 to 31 Dec. 15
Argentina	Temporary aid scheme " Programa de Estímulo al Pequeño Productor de Granos" (maximum budget Arg\$2.5 billion) for corn, wheat, sunflower, and soybean producers (up to 700 tonnes per year)	Resolución No. 126/2015-Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas Públicas (16 Mar. 15) and Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective Jan. 15 to Dec. 15
Argentina	Aid scheme "Programa de Estímulo Renovate" to encourage the production of low consumption electrical appliances and to promote the entry of new technologies	Secretaría de Energía Resolución No. 48/2015 (27 Mar. 15) and Permanent Delegation of Argentina to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15 to 31 Dec. 15
Brazil	Special tax refund regime "REINTEGRA" for manufacturing companies exporting goods (equal to 3% of value exported). Reintegra's main objectives are to combat tax residue and to ensure the destination principle of taxation on exports	Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 14 Dec. 14
China	Aid scheme extending special tax discounts for small low profit enterprises with an annual turnover of Y 200,000. Only half of their income taxable at income tax rate of 20%	Permanent Delegation of China to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15 to 31 Dec. 17

¹ The inclusion of any measure in this Annex implies no judgement by the WTO Secretariat on whether or not such measure, or its intent, is protectionist in nature. Moreover, nothing in the Annex implies any judgement, either direct or indirect, on the consistency of any measure referred to with the provisions of any WTO agreement.

² This section includes information which has either been provided by the Member concerned or has been confirmed at the request of the Secretariat.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
European Union	Temporary exceptional measures for the milk and milk product sector in the form of advancing the public intervention period for butter and skimmed milk powder in 2015 (measure has not been used so far)	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and Commission Delegated Regulation No. 1336/2014 (16 Dec. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15 to 30 Sep. 15
European Union	Extension of the temporary exceptional support measures (estimated expenditure between 30 Sep. until 30 Jun. 15 of €165 million) for producers of perishable fruits and vegetables (i.e. tomatoes, carrots, cabbage, sweet peppers, cauliflowers, cucumbers, gherkins, mushrooms, apples, pear, plums, soft fruits, table grapes, kiwis, and sweet orange, clementine, mandarins, lemons (since 1 Jan. 15)) through market withdrawals especially for free distribution, compensation for non-harvesting and green harvesting (originally effective until end-December 14)	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and WTO document WT/TPR/OV/17, 24 Nov. 14	Extended on 20 Dec. 14, from 1 Jan. until Jun. 15
<i>Estonia</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €719.9 million) through direct grants for electricity produced from renewable sources and efficient co-generation	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 36023 (2013/NN) (28 Oct. 14)	Effective until 31 Dec. 20
<i>Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania</i>	Temporary exceptional aid for milk producers (€28.7 million)	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and Commission Delegated Regulation No. 1263/2014 (26 Nov. 14)	Effective until 30 Apr. 15
<i>Finland</i>	Temporary exceptional aid (annual budget €10.7 million) for milk producers	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and Commission Delegated Regulation No. 1370/2014 (19 Dec. 14)	Effective until 31 May 15
<i>France</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €70 million) through interest subsidy for restructuring firms in difficulty in agriculture, forestry, and fishing sectors	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 37501 (2013/N) (16 Oct. 14)	Effective until 31 Dec. 20

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
<i>France</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €70 million) for Turbomeca constructor of air and spacecraft and related machinery	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 37137 (2013/N) (29 Oct. 14)	Effective until 31 Dec. 20
<i>France</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €3.5 millions) through subsidized services for agriculture, forestry, and fishing sectors	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 37502 (2013/N) (14 Nov. 14)	Effective 14 Nov. 14 to 31 Dec. 20
<i>Germany</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €12 million) through a direct grant for investments in agricultural holdings (technical support "AGRI")	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 37726 (2013/N) (11 Nov. 14)	Effective until 31 Dec. 18
<i>Germany</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €80 million) in the form of interest rate-subsidised, non-collateralised subordinated loans for regional developments of SMEs	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 38674 (2014/N) (25 Nov. 14)	Effective until 31 Dec. 20
<i>Germany</i>	Aid scheme for SMEs (overall budget €60 million) through loans, loan guarantees, or grants	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 40535 (2015/N) (25 Feb. 15)	Effective 1 Mar. 15 to 31 Dec. 20
<i>Greece</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €330 million) through a direct grant for construction of roads and motorways	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 39224 (2014/N) (27 Oct. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15 to 28 Feb. 33

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
<i>Hungary</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget Ft 60 million) through a direct grant for forestry and logging	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 39440 (2014/N) (18 Dec. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15 to 31 Dec. 18
<i>Hungary</i>	Individual application (overall budget €44.39 million) through a direct grant and tax allowance for the manufacturing of fertilizers and nitrogen compounds (large investment project)	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 38981 (2014/N) (9 Jan. 15)	
<i>Ireland</i>	Aid schemes through direct grants for: (i) improvement of the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems (overall budget €6.75 million); (ii) afforestation and creation of woodland (overall budget €199.5 million); (iii) Forest Road Scheme (overall budget €30.6 million); (iv) Neighbour Wood Scheme (overall budget €1.05 million; and (v) Native Woodland Conservation Scheme (overall budget €7.3 million). Beneficiaries of the scheme are forest holders (public and private actors, including SMEs and large companies)	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aids SA. 39744, 39783, 39784, 39786 and 39787 (2014/N) (4 Feb. 15)	Effective 1 Jan. 15 to 31 Dec. 20
<i>Italy</i>	Rescue Aid (overall budget €7.2 million) through guarantee for Mabo Prefabbricati S.p.A. in A.S. manufacturer of other non-metallic mineral products	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 39870 (2014/N) (13 Feb. 15)	
<i>Latvia</i>	Individual application (overall budget €89.55 million) through a tax allowance for setting up a new refinery for the production of diesel, petrochemical naphtha and sulphur in Ventspils (large investment project) (maximum aid amount 22.05% of eligible cost)	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation (27 May 15) and EU State Aid SA. 38982 (2014/N) (29 Oct. 14)	Effective until 28 Dec. 18
<i>Portugal</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €24.4 million) through tax rate reduction for distilling, rectifying and blending of spirits in the Madeira region	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation and EU State Aid SA. 38823 (2015/NN) (2 Mar. 15)	Effective until 31 Dec. 20

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
<i>Portugal</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €5.9 million) through tax rate reduction for distilling, rectifying and blending of spirits in the Açores region	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation and EU State Aid SA. 38832 (2014/NN) (8 Dec. 14)	Effective until 31 Dec. 20
<i>Spain</i>	Aid scheme (overall budget €24 million) through a direct grant to the agriculture sector (growing of other tree and bush fruits and nuts)	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation and EU State Aid SA. 38997 (2014/N) (16 Dec. 14)	Effective until 31 Dec. 20
<i>United Kingdom</i>	Waterborne Freight Grant "WFG" scheme (overall budget £10 million) for sea and costal freight water transport	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation and EU State Aid SA. 39355 (2014/N) (7 Jan. 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15 to 31 Mar. 20
<i>United Kingdom</i>	Beef and Sheep Meat Sector Improvement Scheme (overall budget £9.3 million) (Northern Ireland) 2015	Public information available on the European Commission's website transmitted by the EU Delegation and EU State Aid SA. 39878 (2014/N) (10 Feb. 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15 to 31 Mar. 21
Hong Kong, China	Further extension of the time-limited special concessionary measures providing 80% loan guarantee coverage on eligible loans approved by participating lending institutions, through the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme (SFGS) (originally effective from 31 May 2012 to end-Feb. 2013 and then extended until Feb. 15)	Permanent Delegation of Hong Kong, China to the WTO (20 Apr. 15) and WTO document WT/TPR/OV/17, 24 Nov. 14	On 1 Mar. 15, extended until 29 Feb. 16
Indonesia	Reduction in the gasoline support price scheme	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 16 Jan. 15
Indonesia	Financial aid through tax incentives for export-oriented enterprises, enterprises investing in Indonesia, and for research and development	Permanent Delegation of Indonesia to the WTO (26 May 15)	Effective 6 May 15
Jordan	Extension of the transitional period for the elimination of the Jordan Export Subsidy Programme after 2015. The programme exempts companies from income tax profits on all exports (except phosphate and potash)	WTO document G/C/W/705, 30 Oct. 14	Programme to be phased out no later than 31 Dec. 15
Kenya	Temporary support programme for importers of certain paper products for manufacturing books under the Duty Remission Scheme. Import duty elimination for designated enterprises and allocated quantities	EAC Gazette Vol. AT 1 - No. 18 - Legal Notice No. EAC/68/2014 (1 Dec. 14)	Effective 12 months

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
Kenya	Temporary support programme (under the Duty Remission Scheme) for importers of duplex board products for exports of unit and folding boxes. Import duty elimination for designated enterprises and allocated quantities	EAC Gazette Vol. AT 1 - No. 18 - Legal Notice No. EAC/69/2014 (1 Dec. 14)	Effective 12 months
Kenya	Temporary support programme for importers of certain products, i.e. corrugated boxes, flower sleeves, labels, paper and paperboard products, BOPP film, textile and textile articles, and staple fibres, under the Duty Remission Scheme, for manufacturing goods to be exported. Import duty elimination for designated enterprises and allocated quantities	EAC Gazette Vol. AT 1 - No. 18 - Legal Notice No. EAC/72/2014 (1 Dec. 14)	Effective 12 months
Kenya	Temporary support programme for importers of glucose and glucose syrup under the Duty Remission Scheme. Import duty elimination for designated enterprises and allocated quantities	EAC Gazette Vol. AT 1 - No. 18 - Legal Notice No. EAC/73/2014 (1 Dec. 14)	Effective 12 months
Kenya and Tanzania	Temporary support programme for importers of sugar for industrial use, under the Duty Remission Scheme. Import duty reduction to 10% for designated enterprises and allocated quantities. Imports of wheat grain, under certain import quotas, also covered by the programme	EAC Gazette Vol. AT 1 - No. 18 - Legal Notices Nos. EAC/67/2014, EAC/70/2014, EAC/77/2014, and EAC/78/2014 (1 Dec. 14)	Effective 12 months
Kenya and Tanzania	Temporary support programme for importers of completely knocked-down kits for motorcycles, under the Duty Remission Scheme. Import duty reduction to 10% for designated enterprises and allocated quantities	EAC Gazette Vol. AT 1 - No. 18 - Legal Notices Nos. EAC/71/2014 and EAC/76/2014 (1 Dec. 14)	Effective 12 months
Korea, Republic of	Increase of the financial aid for rice producers (from W 900,000/hectare to W 1 million/hectare)	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (29 May 15)	Implemented in 2015
Korea, Republic of	Aid scheme (Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MoTIE)) initiated 2013 to invest jointly with the private sector by 2017 W 900 billion in the development of offshore plant industry (i.e. shipbuilding and maritime industry). Scheme includes promotion of locally-produced equipment through various policy means. Financial aid available through MoTIE in cooperation with the Export-Import Bank of Korea (KEXIM) and the Korea Trade Insurance Corporation (K-SURE). Budget 2015 for Human Resources W 1.5 billion and budget for research and development W 1.85 billion	Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the WTO (29 May 15)	
Malaysia	Tax incentives included in the Federal Government Budget 2015 granted on a non-discriminatory basis with the aim to: (i) support newly created industries; (ii) encourage transfer of technology for the development of high value-added products and industries; (iii) enhance research and development, and increase collaboration with research institutions; (iv) create a pool of knowledge workers, and upgrade technical labour skills; and (v) support the integration of local companies into global supply chains	Permanent Delegation of Malaysia to the WTO (1 Jun. 15)	

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
Mauritius	Incentives schemes in certain food crop and livestock sectors/activities, i.e. fruit growers; pre market test for agricultural SMEs (MUR 10 million); crop producers; agriculture calamities and solidarity scheme; sale of plants and ornamentals at subsidized price; seed purchase scheme (potato, onion, garlic); rain water harvest scheme; sheltered farming scheme; crop nursery/curing scheme; purchase of agricultural/processing equipment; regrouping and irrigation scheme for non-sugar sector; and chemical free bio-foods promotion (included in Budget 2015-16)	Permanent Delegation of Mauritius to the WTO (29 May 15)	Effective until Jun. 16
Mexico	Support scheme "Decreto estableciendo medidas para la productividad, competitividad y combate de prácticas de subvaluación de los sectores textiles y confección" granting financial aid for textile and apparel sectors	Resolución - Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 26 Dec. 14	
Mexico	Temporary vehicle scrapping scheme granting financial aid for the renewal of the fleet of buses and trucks (limited to 6,000 vehicles per year) "Renovación del parque vehicular de autotransporte de pasaje y carga"	Resolución - Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 26 Mar. 15	Effective until 31 Dec. 16
Russian Federation	Additional support (overall budget Rub 10 billion) to the automotive industry included as part of an "anti-crisis plan". Financial aid provided to compensate the costs related to the production of wheeled vehicles	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15) and WTO document G/TRIMS/W/152, 2 Apr. 15	First quarter of 2015
Russian Federation	"Roadmap to Promote Import Substitution 2014-15" in various strategic sectors, i.e. oil and gas machine building, chemicals, consumer goods, automobile, machinery for food manufacturing, tools and machinery, non-ferrous metals, iron and steel, energy, electrical equipment, heavy machinery, timber processing, road, construction, airport equipment, transportation equipment, shipbuilding, radio electronics, and civil aircraft. The aim of the scheme is to develop new products, increase output capacity, and promote import substitution	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	Effective 31 Mar. 15
Russian Federation	"Roadmap to facilitate import substitution for agricultural products 2014-15". The aim of the scheme is to improve state regulation and reduce the administrative burden in all economic activities and in agriculture development	Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation to the WTO (22 May 15)	
Tanzania	Temporary support programme for importers of synthetic yarn under the Duty Remission Scheme. Import duty elimination for designated enterprises and allocated quantities	EAC Gazette Vol. AT 1 - No. 18 - Legal Notice No. EAC/75/2014 (1 Dec. 14)	Effective 12 months
Turkey	Finance support scheme through Eximbank for exporters (loans, credit insurance/guarantee) (overall budget for the year 2014 US\$31.1 million). Overall budget for the year 2015 estimated at US\$35.4 million	Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the WTO (28 May 15)	

Recorded, but non-confirmed information³

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
Algeria	Aid scheme "crédit à la consommation"	Le Temps d'Algérie (3 Mar. 15)	
Bahrain, Kingdom of	Reduction of subsidized natural gas prices, increasing natural gas prices for companies to US\$2.50 per mmBtu from US\$2.25. The price will annually increase US\$0.25 until Apr. 21	Trade Arabia business news information (30 Jan. 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15
Cameroon	Reduction in the gasoline support price scheme	PTI (18 Jan. 15)	
Côte d'Ivoire	Reduction in the gasoline support price scheme	PTI (18 Jan. 15)	
Egypt	Reduction in the gasoline support price scheme	PTI (18 Jan. 15)	
Egypt	Elimination of financial aid for cotton growers	Financial Times (4 Feb. 15)	
Haiti	Reduction in the gasoline support price scheme	PTI (18 Jan. 15)	
India	Support scheme for Indian maritime vessels through the elimination of import tariffs on "bunker fuels"	Notification No. 31/2014-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (11 Nov. 14)	Effective 11 Nov. 14
India	Amendments introduced to the Export Promotion Capital Goods "EPCG" scheme granting customs duties remissions in proportion to certain export obligation requirements (up to 85%). EPCG scheme exempted the following goods: (i) capital goods for pre-production, production and post-production; (ii) capital goods in semi-knocked-down (SKD)/completely knocked-down (CKD) conditions to be assembled into capital goods by the importer; (iii) spare parts of goods specified in (i) and (ii) as actually imported and required for maintenance of capital goods so imported, assembled, or manufactured; and (iv) spare parts required for the existing plant and machinery of the importer	Notifications Nos. 16/2015 and 17/2015-Customs, Ministry of Finance - Department of Revenue (1 Apr. 15)	Effective 1 Apr. 15
India	Financial aid (Rs 4,000/tonne) for sugar exporters (up to 1.4 million tonnes)	Reuters (15 Dec. 14 and 19 Feb. 15)	
India	Extension of the scope of "Make in India" scheme, through the inclusion of 5 new sectors (i.e. gems, jewellery) with the aim of increasing domestic	The Hindu Business Line (15 Dec. 14)	
India	Reduction in the gasoline support price scheme	PTI (18 Jan. 15)	
India	Adjustment of the maximum retail price (MRP) scheme on urea (Rs 5,360/tonne)	Reuters (19 Jan. 15)	
India	Establishment of a fixed-pricing mechanism for ethanol fuel	Reuters (1 Feb. 15)	Effective Dec. 14
India	Extension of several support schemes (i.e. Focus Product, Focus Market, and the Export Promotion Capital Goods "EPGC") for textiles and apparel sectors	The Hindu (17 Feb. 15)	Extended until 2018
India	Increased financial aid (by 20%) in the 2015 budget for food subsidies (Rs 1.07 trillion)	PTI (27 Feb. 15)	

³ This section includes information which has been obtained from public sources but has not yet been confirmed by the delegation concerned.

Member/ Observer	Measure	Source/Date	Status
India	Entry into force in Apr. 15 of the "National Food Security (NFS) Act, 2013" providing food grains (wheat, rice or coarse) to around two-thirds of the population (around 800 million people) at subsidized prices. The NFS should have come into force in Jul. 2013 in all 36 States/Union Territories (UTs). 25 UTs have not yet at the time completed the preparatory measures required for implementation of the Act.	Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution - Press Information Bureau (28 Nov. 14)	
Malaysia	Support scheme for locally manufactured vehicles and auto-part sectors	The Jakarta Post (10 Feb. 15)	
Malaysia	Removal of subsidy scheme for petrol and diesel (overall budget RM 20 billion)	Reuters (21 Nov. 14)	Effective 1 Dec. 14
Nigeria	Gradual phasing out of subsidy scheme for petrol (budget allocated for 2015, ₦100 billion)	Reuters (6 May 15)	
Nigeria	Financial aid (₦45.5 billion) for kerosene support price scheme	Reuters (6 May 15)	
Norway	Elimination of the financial aid scheme (overall budget Nkr 12 million) for seal hunting	Agence France Presse (12 Dec. 14)	Effective 1 Jan. 15
Pakistan	Financial aid extended for all agricultural commodities producers (currently only wheat and sugar cane) through subsidized inputs and targeted cash transfers	Pakistan Herald Publications (Pvt.) Limited	
Pakistan	Increase in the wheat support price scheme for the year 2015	Pakistan Herald Publications (Pvt.) Limited	
Thailand	Support programme for natural rubber sector. Second tranche (B 6 billion) for the purchase of various natural rubber	The Wall Street Journal Asia (6 Feb. 15) and Reuters (18 Feb. 15)	
United States of America	Aid scheme promoting rural export initiatives through: (i) establishment of a new national rural export innovation team; (ii) new partnership with community banks for preferential credit lines; (iii) partnership with U.S. postal service; (iv) financial index for rural infrastructure projects to encourage additional investments; (v) promotion of entrepreneurial mentorship programme; and (vi) launching an i6 rural challenge grant programme providing funding to rural communities to build capacity for commercializing technologies through agency collaboration	Politico (26 Feb. 15)	
Uruguay	Financial aid (overall budget US\$960,000) for textile enterprise through loan by <i>Fondo de Desarrollo</i> "FONDES"	El País (16 Feb. 15)	