

Public Forum 2019

"Trading Forward: Adapting to a Changing World"

8 October 2019

10:45 - 13:00

Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
CR	Opening plenary debate	Opening plenary debate	World Trade Organization	<p>The trading landscape is increasingly influenced by technological change, shifting employment patterns and environmental concerns which are redefining demand patterns and production methods. Adapting to this evolving landscape presents challenges and opportunities not only for the trading system, but also for policy makers, businesses and workers.</p> <p>This session will bring together a panel of experts to discuss how societies can best prepare and adapt to a changing world and better harness the opportunities offered by trade. They will deliberate on how countries can address the challenges of new technologies to ensure that benefits are conducive to a more inclusive trading system. The panel will consider the important role of services in trade and how countries can leverage this sector to increase their participation in trade. It will also discuss the role of the next generation in shaping the future of the trading system to meet their hopes and expectations.</p>

14:15 - 15:45

Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Forum participants' views on trade: a comparison with public views	German Marshall Fund	Trade issues are increasing the subject of public debate and political discourse. Trade is no longer just a topic of debate among opinion leaders. The WTO Public Forum is a unique assembly of both opinion leaders and public representatives and thus a unique opportunity to assess the views of such influentials and, where possible, to compare their views with those of the general public. These findings will help kick off a discussion of both the divergences and shared views between the public and opinion leaders.
S2	Working Session	Crafting a Regulatory Regime that Supports the Digital Economy and Young Entrepreneurship	Sovereign Strategy, TCube Consulting LLP, Appleton Luff - International Lawyers	Mode One trade challenges the traditional nation-state model of trade. Millennials, Generation Z, and the digital economy thrive in an unregulated environment unfettered by taxes, firewalls, and capital restrictions. They no longer feel the need to be associated with a nation

				<p>state. How can we ensure that the future is bright for young entrepreneurs who are active in Mode One? What can the WTO do to keep the doors of cross-border service trade and finance open, while protecting privacy and preventing irresponsible and lawless behaviour? Should the WTO develop rules governing cross-border data flows? What can the WTO Members do to foster an entrepreneurial climate best suited to Millennials and Generation Z, while at the same time protecting their citizens? The objective of this Working Session is to answer these questions, which are important given the growing concern about better data governance.</p>
S3	Working Session	Trading in women's rights: How does trade in public services impact on gender equality and sustainable development?	Action Aid UK, Action Aid, Viet Nam	<p>The Buenos Aires Declaration at the 2017 WTO Ministerial has placed trade and gender at the forefront of policy debates. There is growing consensus on the fundamental role of free and universal public services play in advancing women's rights and sustainable development, whilst at the same time trade in public services is being viewed as the 'next frontier' for growth. This session will explore the contradiction this presents, together with the impacts of liberalising public services in recent trade agreements on the ambitious aim to empower women through trade set out in the 2017 Declaration, focusing on new analysis from Vietnam.</p> <p>Within session, ActionAid UK seeks to advance understandings of the complex ways trade impacts on women's rights, and invites a vibrant discussion on the challenges presented by current trading regimes and the solutions can be offered to address negative impacts.</p>
W	Working Session	WTO Dispute Settlement - A Renovation Case?	Bertelsmann Stiftung	<p>This session will present and discuss a survey of WTO member delegations and practitioners on the role and importance of the Appellate Body; what respondents regard as critical features of an updated conflict resolution system that is fit for purpose in the 21st century; and possible paths forward in updating the DSU. The session will address the following questions: How strong is the support for an Appellate Body? Is the AB dispute distracting attention from consideration of alternative ways to manage trade conflicts in the trading system? What do countries that do not participate in disputes think is in their interest? The main goal of the session is to discuss whether we need to re-think the dispute settlement system instead of assuming that tinkering will be enough.</p>

D	Working Session	Trade in Fisheries Services – Today and Beyond	FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	<p>Fish is currently the most traded animal protein worldwide in value terms. The fishing industry is also characterized by a wide range of product types and participants, which make trade global, diverse, and complex. This intensive international trade flow generates an associated economic activity – the occurrence of trade in services related to fish production and distribution.</p> <p>The importance of developing countries and small-scale producers in the supply of fish and fishery products to international markets, in addition to the unique role of vessels in fish production, naturally leads to trade opportunities in fisheries services. Regardless of whether the fish is wild caught or from aquaculture, demand for services can arise throughout the supply chain.</p> <p>This Working Session will discuss options to reach an effective win-win situation on trade in fisheries services, where participating countries and stakeholders would be able to take real advantage of an efficient allocation pattern.</p>
E	Workshop	Youth's Perspective on the Future of Trade	Global Shapers Community - Geneva Hub	<p>In an era of constant change and societal transformation, the youth are increasingly considered a crucial stakeholder to engage with when looking at the challenges of our times and the potential solutions. The Geneva Hub of the Global Shapers Community proposes a workshop aiming to bring forth the pressing issues that young people care about and that impact the way the youth perceive trade, for instance, when looking at climate change, the impact of new technologies and how the youth can be involved in shaping a better and fairer trade system for everyone. The Geneva Hub will leverage the network of Global Shapers from across the world to truly reflect diversity in the voices of the youth.</p>
B	Working Session	Rethinking services trade in a digital world	Frontier Economics	<p>Digitisation is changing what we trade, how we trade it, and who participates in trade. Yet there is a need for policymakers to have a toolkit that helps them understand the economics of digitisation, as well as how this in turn can inform trade policies and trade rules that are globally beneficial. We focus specifically on what digitisation means for the future of services trade, by looking at four clusters of issues: (i) how digitisation reduces trade costs in services; (ii) how can we write trade rules that reflect the digital economy (iii) what does digitisation offer SMEs in services trade; and (iv) across all those dimensions, what is at stake for developing countries specifically.</p>

16:00 - 17:30

Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Where is Africa in the Next Chapter of the WTO?	Africa Trade Network (ATN) hosted by Third World Network-Africa, Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiation Institute- SEATINI-UGANDA	The need to reform the WTO to respond to the challenges confronting member states seem to enjoy a consensus among WTO member states. What stokes the difference is the direction of the reform. Some member states are calling for new approaches to decision making such as on plurilateral basis clearly exemplified by the electronic commerce proposals; narrowing the scope and application of SD&T, regularizing plurilateral agreements, tightening the rules in some areas. Others, especially the Africa Group, India and others hold a contrary view. Reforms of the WTO must start from the addressing the decades-old inequities in the world trading system. How can these issues be resolved in the changing world in such a way that delivers jobs, incomes and development in Africa? Is it still legitimate to hold on to longstanding issues of Africa or Africa should wake up to the reality confronting the world.
S2	Working Session	Rethinking on approach towards Services- Enabling SMEs from developing economies to join GVCs	Indo Global SME Chamber	Role of services in production, distribution, and trade is rising. Services have evolved dramatically and have reduced space and time and provided a platform for the explosive growth of international trade and investment. This offers both opportunities and challenges for developing and LDCs. Rise of IT has reduced trade-related information and communication costs and increased the global distribution of production for SMEs to specialize in narrow activities at various stages along the production chain. It has allowed the manufacturing SMEs in GVCs to participate through both, backward and forward linkages However, In the developing and LDC countries, the services have been often neglected in policy development. Further, most discussions on services are around opportunities for trade in services rather than services supportive of participation in GVCs. This approach needs rethinking by national policy-makers. This session will discuss and offer suggestion on the various issues on services for policy makers.
S3	Working Session	New Digital Technologies: the protagonists of a change in perspective in the Global Supply Chain.	AIPPI	Digital technologies modify traditional supply chains, switching commerce's standpoint from products to services. 3D-printing could allow everybody to "self-produce" almost everything; algorithms are capable of creating newspaper articles or artwork, and in the future automated news/artwork creation services could be provided; block-chain is raising new services, allowing users to perform smart contracts, enforce IP rights and access right-holders' information without

				intermediaries; internet-connected devices are expanding the services provided to consumers. Everything happens more and more online: society should be prepared to embrace in time this switch of perspective, avoiding potential negative effects. IP rights are in the core of societal debates, notably with regards to access to digital technologies as it appears with the global litigation over standard essential patents. AIPPI has extensive knowledge on the subject and is notably carrying out a global comparative law study on AI and copyright for its Congress in September 2019.
W	Working Session	High-level Youth Panel: The next generation – what do Millennials & Gen Z want to see from global trade?	World Trade Organization	<p>Millennials and Generation Z will represent over half of the world's population by 2020. This next generation of consumers, entrepreneurs, workers and leaders are the first to come of age in this era of rapid technological change and have a unique perspective on the challenges the world is facing today.</p> <p>This session will bring together Millennials from the private and public sectors to discuss, together with WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo, how they believe the trading system needs to adapt to fulfil their hopes and expectations for the future. They will discuss how they believe global trade can reflect their values and address the challenges facing young people as a result of the changing economic landscape including new employment patterns, education and skills mismatch, environmental concerns, and the continuing imperative of poverty reduction.</p>
D	Working Session	On the Road to Nur-Sultan: Eurasian Perspectives on the Future of the Multilateral Trading System	Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the WTO	Historically, trade has played a critical role in shaping Eurasia. More recently, it has served as a catalyst for the region's integration into the global economy by unlocking the economic potential of its newly-independent states. Soon after gaining their independence, they began the journey of joining the WTO, and for over the next two decades, the Eurasian states have contributed to an expansion of the multilateral trading system. Now Eurasian states are active participants in the system, such as in discussions on Joint Initiatives. As WTO Members prepare themselves for the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference, this session provides a platform for Eurasian governments and their key trading partners to exchange views on: the contributions of the Eurasian economies to the multilateral trading system (and vice versa); lessons learned from Eurasian countries' accessions to the WTO and their membership experiences; and topical issues in preparation for MC12, including WTO Reform.

E	Working Session	Graduating Least Developed Countries in an Evolving WTO	Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Centre for Policy Dialogue	A rule-based and predictable multilateral trading system, attuned to the special and differential needs of its relatively weak members, can best serve the interests of the LDCs. The degree of openness of LDC economies (defined by the share of exports and imports in GDP) has seen a steady rise over recent years. LDCs are now integrated with the global economy as never before. In spite of many concerns, LDC economies have, in general, benefitted from the rule-based global trading system and the international support mechanisms and special and differential (S&D) provisions in place in the WTO in the form of preferential market access, derogation from various obligations, aid for trade and technical support. A weakened WTO, or at worst, an absence of it, will be harmful from the perspective of LDC interests.
B	Working Session	Adapting to the changing global economy: Time to consider new WTO rules to address trade barriers arising from competition/antitrust regulatory regimes?	University of Southern California Gould School of Law Center for Transnational Law & Business	<p>As technology and other multinational enterprises become more prevalent and increasingly critical for innovation and economic development for WTO members, competition rules and antitrust enforcement can impose new non-tariff barriers that are inadequately addressed by existing WTO rules. The lack of due process, transparency and other procedural rules can pose as non-tariff barriers. In addition, the patchwork of differing procedural rules as well as different interpretations of anti-competition-related concepts among WTO members can result in uncertainty for businesses, restraints to market access, and discriminatory treatment.</p> <p>This session will discuss how establishing new WTO rules to mitigate the use of competition enforcement rules as trade barriers - including the establishment of multilateral harmonized procedures and standards for competition/antitrust enforcement, could strengthen the WTO trading system and help maintain the WTO's future relevance and usefulness in facilitating the free flow of trade in the changing global economy and trading system.</p>
17:45 - 19:15				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	What is the Role of Domestic Regulation Disciplines in a time when Services are the next trade frontiers	Nigeria Private Sector Alliance (NiPSA)	In a time of rapid technological change, services are the next trade frontier and so the WTO's services domestic regulation disciplines (DRD) take on increasing importance. As some WTO Members aim to conclude DRD by the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference in June 2020, this session will explore the likely effects of the proposed DRD on services trade, the digital economy, public services and development. Speakers will also

				give their views as to what Millennials and Generation Z want from the DRD negotiations and whether developing countries such as Nigeria can comply with the proposed DRD.
S2	Working Session	Global Trade Systems and the Next Generation: Connecting Our World	Cargill	Perceptions about trade are changing. But the benefits of open trade remain unchanged. Trade serves as the connector of our world – raising incomes, fueling economic growth and a driver to achieve the SDGS. Trade enables nations to share in the whole global system, and gain access to critical commodities, services and capital—and even ideas. As the world of trade is evolving, so is our workforce. Millennials and Gen Z, care deeply about issues such as environment, inclusivity and growth and responsible trade. For Cargill, responsible trade is fundamental to feed and nourish the world. Experts from the private and public sector will discuss how trade is a critical part of the solution to address issues that matter to our newest workforce, and how we need to shape the global trading system to respond to some of the challenges awaiting our next generation.
S3	Working Session	Financial Innovation for the Private Sector's Greater Participation in International Trade	China Minsheng Bank, China Chamber of International Commerce, International Trade Center	<p>The private sector is the backbone for most countries and access to finance is the greatest challenge for them to grow and scale up. In the volatile global trade and investment environment shaped by technology and trade tensions, the private sector including SMEs face both challenges and opportunities. Financial institutions are reforming their tools and services to provide innovative solutions for the private sector to engage in international trade with reduced risks, increased efficiency and convenience.</p> <p>This session will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Address challenges faced by the private sector in trade finance in the changing global environment; 2.Share successful cases of innovative tools and solutions by financial institutions to improve access to finance for the private sector including SMEs, and facilitate their internationalization; 3.Discuss outlook for the private sector's finance in the data-driven economy, especially changes in risk analysis and the private sector's demands for more tailored financial services.

W	Working Session	The Future of the Buenos Aires Declaration: Creating an Equitable and Inclusive Trading System	Permanent Mission of Botswana, Permanent Mission of Iceland, International Trade Centre	<p>The adoption of the Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment allowed over 124 WTO members to send a strong signal of support for inclusive economic growth and increased integration of women into the global economy. More than one year later, what have we learned? Looking forward, what will it take to keep these issues at the forefront of the equitable trading system discussion?</p> <p>During this session, WTO members and trade-related organizations will share reflections on achievements, ground-breaking initiatives and potential global actions on gender equality and the multilateral trading system. The IGC Trade Impact Group co-chairs will discuss insights on the implementation of the Declaration and plans for continued collaboration. The EC will offer insights based on a breakthrough survey on women and international trade agreements. The Trade and Gender coalition will share its view on what needs to happen to ensure this agenda is truly transformative.</p>
D	Working Session	Building trust in e-commerce for the next generation	Consumers International	<p>Ecommerce has grown rapidly and has opened up a world of convenience and choice to many consumers. 21.8% of the world's population buys online and e-commerce sales worldwide amounted to \$2.3tn. Millennials and Gen Z contribute generously to these figures. In America, millennials accounted for 54% of purchases online and in Europe 25-34 year-olds said they shopped on average eight times per month.</p> <p>Yet trust and confidence in online shopping remains low with nearly 70% of consumers reporting worries that their digital payments are unsafe.</p> <p>With Gen Z and millennials expected to account for \$143bn of direct spending and \$1.4 trillion of spending power respectively by 2020, it is important to understand the digital problems facing this group. In this session we will look at how online trading systems can be designed and improved to take into account the issues important to consumers, specifically generation z and millennials.</p>
E	Working Session	Mainstreaming Gender in Trade Agreements: A Whole Agreement Approach	Centre for International Governance Innovation	<p>Women represent half of the world's population but are substantially underrepresented in the global work force in both developing and developed countries. Significant barriers to women's participation in trade - as entrepreneurs, workers and professionals - exist in developed and developing economies. Since the 2017 Buenos Aires Declaration recognized the key relationship between trade policy and gender, major steps have been taken to improve transparency, share best practices,</p>

				gather data and conduct negotiations. WTO Members can eliminate discrimination and close the gaps that hinder women's effective participation in the global economy by negotiating gender provisions in trade agreements. Gender provisions should also be incorporated in specific chapters of free trade agreements. A whole agreement approach to mainstream gender is needed to implement gender equality in trade. With examples from across the Americas and beyond, this session will demonstrate the way to negotiate gender in trade agreements of the future.
F	Working Session	Re-Imagining Agriculture in the New WTO Architecture	TWN Trust India	The WTO has begun a process of reform in the face of challenges to its mechanism and structure. The question is can the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), and pending negotiations under it, be re-shaped and redesigned in a way that works for its membership? This workshop will explore what such a reshaped AoA could look like, what will be its elements and principles, and what could be a normative framework for it based on the 2030 Agenda or other frameworks. Moreover, how can new principles such as differentiation, new approaches towards negotiations, as well as new issues, including e-commerce & investment facilitation, that are currently being proposed by different Member States be applied to agriculture and whether outcomes can be achieved that is acceptable to all Member States. This Working Session will explore these issues and aim to provide recommendations.
B	Working Session	Next chapter of the WTO: WTO reform – good for development?	World Labor Institute	As part of the next chapter of the WTO, there are a number of proposals to reform the WTO to strengthen the trading system. This session will analyse the implications of WTO reform proposals including on: technology transfer and other performance requirements, state-owned enterprises, transparency and notification, dispute settlement and the criteria for developing country status. Panellists from a variety of perspectives will highlight the impacts of these WTO reform proposals on development and the needs of Millennials and Generation Z who will be the majority of future workers.
19:20				
Reception				

9 October 2019

8:30 - 10:00

Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Services: A Key Enabler for Agriculture Trade	Center for Socioeconomic Development (CSEND), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	<p>This working session will explore linkages between services and agriculture, and the role WTO rules can play for the promotion of SDG2 ("ending hunger"). Discussion will focus on the role of services for sustainable growth in agriculture productivity and value addition, especially in poor developing countries, small farmers and women operators in national, regional and global marketplaces. Discussion, during the session, will explore which services are important at all stages of the food value chain, from the credit farmers need to invest in inputs, through to risk management, processing and distribution of finished goods. It will also include case studies and examples from poor developing countries, on how various services enhance their agriculture sector, particularly for value-addition and export markets.</p> <p>The session will include views from key stakeholders in agricultural policy formulation, civil society, private sector, academia and development partners.</p>
S2	Working Session	Value Creation and Capture in the Digital Economy: Implications for Developing Countries	UNCTAD	<p>Digital disruptions have rapidly led to the creation of enormous wealth, but it is highly concentrated around a small number of countries, companies and individuals. Meanwhile, they raise fundamental challenges for policy makers in countries at all levels of development. Harnessing digitalization for the many and not just the few requires creative thinking and policy experimentation and calls for greatly expanded global cooperation.</p> <p>This session will focus on opportunities and constraints for developing countries to take advantage of the digital economy, notably with regard to digital data and digital platforms. It will address questions such as: How is value created and captured in the digital economy? What are the main causes for the unequal distribution of its gains? What national or international policy changes are needed to make the digital economy work for the many, not just the few? What are the potential implications for the international trading system?</p>
S3	Working Session	Keeping Pace with a Changing World: Africa Trading Forward	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale	E-commerce is growing fast globally, including in Africa. This is raising exciting opportunities as well as many challenges. While many small

			Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, CUTS International, Geneva, Nigeria Trade Office to the WTO	<p>developing countries deem multilateral negotiations premature, they should not fall behind. Rather, they should be prepared to trade forward and to inclusively harness the opportunities of digital trade.</p> <p>Already, many have started doing so by signing RTAs with e-commerce provisions. The measures adopted under such RTAs will play a decisive role in the development of their digital sector, hence their implications should be properly understood to ensure they contribute to sustainable development.</p> <p>In this session, experts will review recent research findings on e-commerce provisions in RTAs, with a view to bring to the attention of relevant African stakeholders the lessons from existing agreements. Understanding such provisions will help them in crafting their continental framework in this area, but also keep pace of related developments at the WTO and outside.</p>
W	Working Session	Young Voices on Green Trade	International Trade Centre	<p>What will the future of trade look like? With environmental considerations becoming front and centre and young people everywhere sounding the alarm, it's time to rethink global trade and make room for innovative solutions everywhere. How can entrepreneurship and innovation be leveraged for sustainable trade? And how can we build bridges between policymakers, entrepreneurs and students to reach a shared vision for greener and more inclusive trade? This session will bring together young eco-entrepreneurs, activists and policymakers affected by climate change to discuss the shift to a greener and more sustainable future.</p>
D	Working Session	What role for Parliamentarians in digital trade?	Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), European Parliament	<p>Digital trade has grown exponentially in the past 20 years. The digital trade opportunities are many, but so are the challenges. The digital economy requires new legislation protecting consumers of online goods and services, intellectual property rights, rules protecting personal data and tax and customs legislation appropriate to electronic commerce.</p> <p>This session will discuss the role of Parliaments in ensuring an environment which facilitates digital trade, while making sure that a balance is struck with other needs. Panellists will share their personal experience in working on these issues.</p>

E	Workshop	Multilateralism 2.0 - A New Social Contract and a Global Green New Deal	ITUC	<p>Multilateralism is in crisis. Troubled by limited opportunities and stagnating wages, a whole generation of workers has withdrawn its trust from the international trading system. Globalisation does increase inequality but only because the global economy works in this way.</p> <p>WTO Members, sometimes drawn into mercantilist conflicts, forget the reasons the multilateral trading system was put in place. The Havana Charters reads: "[t]he Members recognize that the avoidance of unemployment or underemployment [...] is not of domestic concern alone, but is also a necessary condition for the achievement of the general purpose and the objectives "</p> <p>In this session, we explore ways to enhance the trading system and establish a floor for competition by embedding labour and environment protection in the WTO. Revisiting our experiences from bilateral trade agreements' chapters on labour and sustainable, we propose instruments that would reinforce multilateralism and achieve the Agenda 2030.</p>
B	Workshop	Are we ready for the new generations and their peculiarities in their commercial behavior	RoureBlau	<p>Millennials have led older generations in technology adoption and embracing digital solutions. Their financial status and tech-savviness have fundamentally changed how they live and work — earning them stereotypes that they job hop and have killed a number of industries. Prior to Gen Z, millennials were the largest and most racially and ethnically diverse generation. (Business Insider 2019)</p> <p>The potential commercial differences, which some conceptualize as commercial war, will be based on distribution of powers, adaptation to climate change, resilience, economic well-being and geo-politization.</p> <p>One of the generations is known to be digital-native and the other has adapted according to the times and technological circumstances. Both will have different challenges and structures to define that well-being product of trade. What will be the areas to be reinforced? Will new technologies be generated that force companies and countries to adapt generationally?</p>

10:15 - 11:45

Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
CR	Plenary session	Launch: WTO World Trade Report 2019	World Trade Organization	<p>The session will begin with the launch of the World Trade Report 2019, which discusses how trade in services has evolved since the establishment of the WTO and the entry into force of the GATS, what its economic implications are and how it is likely to evolve further in the years to come. Following the launch, a group of eminent panellists will bring their experience on the transformation at play and how international trade cooperation can help governments reap the benefits and address the challenges of services trade.</p> <p>The World Trade Report 2019 reviews major trends affecting trade in services, including trade costs, and projects how services trade may evolve over the next 20 years. It discusses how countries engage in international cooperation in the services sphere and how cooperation has evolved and considers the prospects for further collaboration on services trade policy.</p>

12:00 - 13:30

Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Workshop	Disruptive Agricultural servification in a world of value chains	World Bank, ODI	The aim of this session is to unpack the evolution of servicification of agriculture and breakdown servicification cycle (underlying challenges in the value chain, to the stage of creation to use and diffusion), to better understand the implications for inclusive trade and development of the LDCs and vulnerable populations. Ag-servicification relates closely with the theme of the WTO Public Forum 2019 which focuses on whether technology can reduce transaction costs, increase employment, change occupational structures and promote trade, while also discussing how next generation of Millennials & Gen Z (agri-preneurs) are mobilizing ag-servicification within the sector.
S2	Working Session	Trade Policies that Work: Real Proposals for Transforming the Trading System	Our World Is Not for Sale	Most citizens realize that global problems require global solutions; and yet multilateralism is under attack. It's time for an evidence-based view of what works, and what has not worked, for creating shared prosperity around the world. This panel will address proposals being discussed in the WTO and offer concrete ideas regarding the direction WTO members could take in shaping the future of a strong, fair, and sustainable global trade system. It will evaluate the impact of tariff changes on job creation; the potential impacts of the abolition of "developing country" status, and

				<p>the development agenda; what agriculture rules could deliver food security and prosperity for farmers globally; whether the current TRIPS is delivering innovation and access to medicines; share ideas for rebalancing the DSU; and perhaps most importantly, what a pro-prosperity and pro-innovation trade in services rules could look like, particularly in the digitalized services economy of the future.</p>
S3	Working Session	Investment: more than just a support for trade	MEDEF	<p>The growth of FDI flows and stocks over the past decades has driven globalization, boosted trade, and fostered the intertwining of economies through global value chains. FDI is important for all countries. It creates jobs in local markets, supports infrastructure development, and allows for the production and sale of new goods, thus enhancing the export capacities and the domestic economic development of the investment recipient countries.</p> <p>However, important restrictions to international investment remain in many sectors of WTO members' economies, explicitly in rules and less explicitly in the application of discretionary policies. To date, investment market access and facilitation have received relatively little attention compared to trade facilitation. Consequently, developing initiatives to facilitate investment – including within the WTO - remains an area with a lot of room for action, and a high potential for positive returns for all stakeholders. This session aims at discussing the way forward.</p>
W	Working Session	Trade dialogues	International Chamber of Commerce	<p>The session will discuss the results of an on-line trade dialogue, organized by the ICC and the B20. The dialogue builds on previous trade-related discussions among private sector participants and aims at developing further views and positions towards WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference in Kazakhstan in 2020.</p>
D	Working Session	Tapping the Tourism Potential of Small Economies: A Transformative and Inclusive Approach	Commonwealth Secretariat, World Trade Organisation	<p>Tourism is important for several Commonwealth states who enjoy unique comparative advantages, providing an impetus to economic growth and diversification in many small economies. Considerable untapped potential exists to further enhance the economic gains from this sector in Commonwealth small states and distribute them more evenly, including to local communities. Fostering greater value-addition throughout the tourism value chain, by creating sustainable economy-wide linkages, including with other productive sectors, including agriculture, manufacturing and creative industries, will retain tourism foreign exchange revenues and avoid leakages. This session will examine recent trends in tourism exports of Commonwealth small states,</p>

				exploring what trade policies, strategies could help optimise exploit new opportunities arising therefrom, including from traditional, cultural and natural assets to modern medical services, to realise the economic potential of the sector and contribute to achieving the SDGs. Existing programmes that harness investment and effective trade-related support to tourism initiatives, will also be explored.
E	Working Session	Trading forward: Services liberalization under AfCFTA	IHEID Africa Summit Student Initiative	<p>The 18th Ordinary session of the Assembly of Head of State and the Government of the African Union adopted a decision to establish a Continental Free Trade Area aimed at creating a single continental market allowing free movement of goods and services. The agreement is now in effect for 23 countries that ratified and deposited the trade agreement instruments.</p> <p>This panel aims to discuss the potential trade gains from services liberalization under AfCFTA in line with two of the WTO Public Forum 2019 sub-themes "Services – The next trade frontier" how can African countries use this agreement to increase services trade and "The next generation – what do Millennials and Gen Z want to see from global trade" how can Africa's Millennials and Generation Z benefit from services liberalization.</p>
F	Working Session	Think Small First: How to Make the WTO & International Trade Fit For MSMEs	Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)	Building upon the work of the informal working group on MSMEs, this session explores how the WTO as an institution and international trade in general can improve in order to deliver for the small business community – both now and in the future. By gathering, for the first-time ever, several organisations representing MSMEs from around the world, this session will seek to provide concrete proposals 'trading forward' on what small businesses need in order to thrive in the international trading environment: from trading rules adapted to the modern world, a bottom-up approach to MSME engagement, greater transparency, to the required support to help them start their export journey.
B	Working Session	China and the WTO: Towards a Better Fit	Bruegel	The participation of China in the WTO has been anything but smooth. Its self-proclaimed "socialist market economy" system has alienated its trading partners. Two diametrically opposite approaches (and a few variations of them) have been proposed to deal with the emerging problems. One is to demand that China changes its economic regime. The other is to stay idle and accept that the WTO must accommodate different economic regimes, no matter how idiosyncratic. At this event we want to propose a third way. In our view, the problems posed by

				China are due to the fact that, while in the past the GATT/WTO had to address the accession of socialist countries or of big trading nations, it never had to deal with a big, socialist country like China. In order to retain its principles and yet accommodate China, the WTO needs to translate some of its implicit legal understanding into explicit treaty language.
13:30 - 14:30				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
Atrium	Author's corner	Meet the Author: Jean-Christophe Graz	World Trade Organization	Standards often remain unseen, yet they play a fundamental part in the organisation of contemporary capitalism and society at large. What form of power do they epitomise? Why have they become so prominent? Are they set to be important for the globalisation of services as for manufactured goods? Graz draws on international political economy and cognate fields to present strong theoretical arguments, compelling research and surprising evidence on the role of standards in the global expansion of services, with in-depth studies of their institutional environment and cases including the insurance industry and business process outsourcing in India. The power of standards resembles a form of transnational hybrid authority, in which ambiguity should be seen as a generic attribute, defining the status of public and private actors involved in standardisation and regulation and the scope of issues concerned and the space in which such authority is recognised when complying to standards.
14:45 - 16:15				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Gender Inclusiveness in Trade in Services	Organization of Women in International Trade	<p>Services add value to manufacturing and contribute to competitiveness, employment and trade. Technological innovations and ICT make "traditional" services easier to deliver internationally. Intangible elements add value to traded products, leveraging AI, big data and technology. Advances in technology revolutionized existing and created new service sectors. And technology has led to new business models that represent game-changers in a range of industries.</p> <p>Gender equity in Trade in Services is a multi-faceted and complex issue that needs to be addressed by a diverse and multidisciplinary group, who understand different sectors and countries; combine theory and practice; work at macro-, meso- and micro- level.</p>

				Session panellists will collaboratively address each issue to create a starting-point, building on each other's ideas and drawing in contributions from the floor. Opportunities for participants to collaborate to influence and support the Agenda for Gender Equity in Trade in Services beyond the session will be highlighted.
S2	Working Session	Construction of a Digital Industrial path for Africa: What is the role of the Youth?	Southern and Eastern African Trade Information and Negotiations Institute, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung -Brussels Office	The 32nd African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government have called for the development of development of a Digital Strategy for Africa, with an objective of fostering the enabling environment and to harness the full benefits of digital transformation. This initiative is happening at a time when discourse on the digital economy is in high gear. Indeed, in order to bridge the prevailing digital divide, there is a need for Africa to expedite her efforts in constructing a digital path. For a continent with the youngest population in the world, the role of the youth in influencing the digital economy can't be underestimated. This session will explore how the youths can be engaged in the construction of Africa's digital industrial path. It will also generate proposals on how eCommerce rules at the WTO should be crafted in order to address the contemporary development challenges facing the youth.
S3	Workshop	Addressing the elephant in the room: Exploring the national security exception and the future of the WTO	National Foreign Trade Council	Does the essential security exception create a gaping hole in global trade rules? Questions about the scope of the essential security provision of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade have come into sharp focus in Geneva and threaten to impact adherence to an open, rules-based trading system. Join experts, officials and practitioners to explore recent political trends and legal developments involving the impact of national security policies on the international trading system, which could impact everything from automobiles to the internet.
W	Working Session	2020 Vision: How Successful Conclusion of Fisheries Subsidies Negotiations Can Demonstrate that the WTO is Adapting to a Changing World	The Pew Charitable Trusts, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IIDS), Friends of Ocean Action	<p>After two decades of stop-start negotiations, less than two months remain for WTO members to fulfil the MC11 Ministerial Mandate to reach an agreement to end harmful fisheries subsidies by 2020. Science indicates that doing so could be the greatest single action that governments can take to combat overfishing, which today threatens the health of the world's ocean. Never has there been greater political momentum nor more evidence of the need to act to protect the ocean, and the livelihoods of people that depend on it.</p> <p>The international community must adapt to our changing world. In line with the 2019 Public Forum theme, the session will examine how the</p>

				fisheries subsidies negotiations could be a testing ground for innovative approaches to demonstrate how environmental considerations can be better taken into account in global trade, reignite confidence in the rules-based trading regime, and show a pathway for institutional reform.
D	Working Session	What can WTO do to facilitate digital trade?	HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES CO., LTD., International Trade Centre	<p>Digital technologies are rapidly reshaping the landscape of global trade, investment and value chains. The rise of digital trade poses new challenges for the rules-based multilateral system: do we have a full understanding of the scale and impact of digital trade? are existing WTO rules adequate to address digital trade? what can WTO do to facilitate such trade? how to ensure that digital trade contributes to bridging the digital gap and increasing inclusiveness and sustainability?</p> <p>The session will explore these issues from a variety of perspectives, offering views from governments, industries, international organizations as well as development agencies.</p>
E	Working Session	Striving in the digital world: how innovative startups are changing the services landscape in Latin America	Ministry of Economy of Brazil	<p>Latin American businesses are creating innovative solutions in the service sector that address key development issues faced by their home economies. While fintechs are delivering new and traditional services to groups that once had poor access to financial services, agritechs are providing alternatives to traditional farming methods, increasing productivity and profitability in agricultural industries. Platforms are connecting demand and supply and helping to address logistical bottlenecks. Although known and recognized as national success stories, there is a real challenge for these companies to reach the external market and scale up. This panel will discuss the growth of startups in Latin American countries and the role of international trade, domestic and trade policies to ensure that these companies reach regional or global scale.</p>
F	Working Session	Young, digital and globally connected: the new face of trading Africa	Borderlex, Trade Experettes	<p>This session will seek to give a fresh look at the reality of Africa as a trading continent, with a focus on digital and the role of its young population in changing its dynamics.</p> <p>Among others, we will present new data by economists Marta Bengoa and the global trend-tracking and prediction technology firm Riwi (based in Canada), and hold a discussion on the relevance of current international trade initiatives - the African Continental Free Trade Area, the WTO (including e-commerce) in enabling services trade and jobs for Africa.</p>

B	Working Session	"Building on the timeless principles of international trade to be relevant in the future"	Pernod Ricard	<p>Never has it been so critical for the WTO to strike a balance between the recognition of the value of its heritage and the need to have a plan to address new trade challenges.</p> <p>The objectives for this session will be (i) to encourage a discussion about the value of the WTO as a guarantor of the proper implementation of global trade rules and (ii) to generate a reflection about the role of the WTO as protectionism is on the rise. The panel will discuss concrete suggestions for improving the work of the institution with practical illustrations such as the work of its committees, the role of the secretariat, and ways to reflect better new consumers and societal realities as well as emerging challenges for businesses.</p>
16:30 - 18:00				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Workshop	Strengthening support for trade through decent work	ILO, UNCTAD	<p>Export Processing Zones (EPZs) are a critical component of trade and comprise a large component of many national economic development strategies worldwide. Many countries view EPZ creation as a straightforward way to bring jobs to areas of the country where opportunities for formal employment are otherwise limited. However, the poor track record of many EPZs in providing adequate protection to workers undermines these objectives and erodes public support for trade.</p> <p>The report "Enhancing the contribution of export processing zones to SDG 8, decent work and economic growth" surveys 100 government-managed EPZs to identify effective examples of EPZs promoting sound labour policy and positive local developmental impact. It also highlights areas where EPZs can make a greater impact in advancing decent work and strengthening support for trade.</p> <p>This session will present the findings of the report and discuss the implications for government policies and practices impacting decent work in EPZs</p>
S2	Working Session	AI, IP and the future of digital trade	US Chamber of Commerce, Global Innovation Policy Center	<p>Our most valuable resources is human ingenuity. Through our creativity and innovative technologies, we can help solve the most pressing problems facing our generation and future generations. Join us for an in-depth discussion of how technologies and IP protections can both continue to drive innovation in digital trade – taking a look at new</p>

				<p>products and services, as well as the types of regulations and incentives that will help enable a strong global system and the efflorescence of digital trade.</p> <p>Not only do we cherish the creators and innovators in our world, but we must also support them and incentivize them. Policy leaders around the world play an important role in the ecosystem for new technologies, creative works and innovations. This session will look at the global investment environment, cross-border collaborations and the legal and regulatory environments that will propel us toward a better future for humanity.</p>
S3	Working Session	The role of multilateral development banks in expanding trade in environmental goods and services	EBRD	<p>With their drive to combat the negative effects of climate change, future-focused and environmentally conscious Millennials and Generation Zs are key to shaping the future of global trade. This is even more so in emerging markets.</p> <p>The EBRD has been working with governmental and trade support institutions and local banking sectors through its Green Trade Facilitation Programme and Green Economy Financing Facilities to stimulate the demand for environmental goods and services and to facilitate their supply across borders. These efforts, which can be replicated in other regions, should ultimately result in better adaptation to climate change and faster transition to a sustainable (green) economy.</p>
W	Workshop	Trade and Tax: Adapting to Digitalization	World Economic Forum	<p>The international trading system is under strain as the gap widens between the rules and realities of a global and increasingly digitalized economy. New business models, alternative growth strategies and concerns around inequality have been left unaddressed. Countries are contemplating or using various economic policy tools to bridge these gaps, sometimes with spill-over effects or unintended consequences. These include digital services taxes, customs duties on electronic transmissions, data localization laws and national security-based tariffs and foreign investment screening. At the OECD, countries are looking for consensus on international tax reform, in the context of digitalization. Strengthening the trading system will require understanding these developments and learning from other areas of international economic governance.</p>
D	Working Session	E-commerce Governance at Domestic, Regional and	Institute of Developing Economies, Japan	<p>This session aims to contribute to the debate on the future of multilateral e-commerce governance that is under significant transformation at</p>

		Multilateral Levels: Asian Perspectives	External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO), World Trustmark Alliance	<p>domestic as well as regional levels by sharing Asian experiences. Many Asian countries recently introduced new regulations on e-commerce, and also many Asian FTAs have established with substantial provisions on e-commerce such as TPP11. Meanwhile, the prospect of the multilateral negotiations on e-commerce remains uncertain. Because of the cross-cutting and borderless nature of e-commerce, regulators and negotiators face challenges to develop new governance system which cannot be applied by traditionally territorial based political legal systems.</p> <p>In this session, experts with various background (business, NGO and academia) shares their views on e-commerce regulations in Asia, and draw lessons for policymakers in other regions who are involved in domestic regulations and/or regional negotiations for e-commerce chapters. We also consider implications for global or multilateral rule-making from lessons of Asian negotiations.</p>
E	Working Session	Reform of the WTO - for a global level playing field	AEGIS Europe	<p>AEGIS Europe believes that within the next WTO chapter, WTO agreements in relation to trade remedies must be updated and expanded to address current economic and policy distortions so as to ensure fair and transparent global competition.</p> <p>Steps are also needed to address the current crisis in WTO dispute settlement. By the end of 2019 there will no longer be a functioning Appellate Body. While WTO members explore alternative ways of dispute settlement, it is also important to consider substantive ways WTO dispute settlement needs to be improved, especially in relation to trade remedies issues.</p> <p>A global level playing field requires the modernization and further harmonization of global trading rules. Only WTO members are capable of resolving the current crisis. For that reason, Aegis Europe is bringing WTO members to the panel discussion to explore concrete improvements before a broader audience.</p>
B	Working Session	Digital trade and health: opportunities and challenges for developing countries	Geneva Network, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation	<p>An increasingly important component of trade in services is digital. Cross-border digital trade has particularly enticing potential for the health sector across a range of services, including telemedicine, patient management and analytics, and various components of the biopharmaceutical R&D value-chain.</p>

				<p>The growth of innovative digital health services holds particular promise for developing countries, given that they can be adopted and deployed at significantly lower cost than traditional “bricks and mortar” health services. Developing countries also stand to gain economically by increasing their participation in various parts of the digital health global value-chain, from data collection and management, to the management of clinical trials.</p> <p>This session brings together speakers from a range of countries and sectors to explore the potential for developing countries of digital trade in health services, and examines how the global trading system might adapt in order to promote the growth of this exciting sector.</p>
18:15 - 19:45				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Digital technologies, services trade and the WTO of the future	University of International Business and Economics (Beijing, China) and University of Geneva, Geneva School of Management and Economics	In 1995, when WTO was established, the tech hit of the year was the announcement of the DVD. The internet was in its infancy; clouds and streams belonged only to nature. China’s exports ranked below Belgium’s. Even if WTO agreements have aged relatively well, it is high time to take a fresh look into how new technologies and services trade impact our world. It is time to discuss how the WTO of the future can be fit for the challenges of a world of digitalization and growing services trade. How is digitalization affecting trade? What is the future of trade in services? What are the key policies challenges in a tech and services-driven economy? What kind of trade opportunities are enabled by new technologies? How can the WTO of the future make the most of these developments?
S2	Working Session	Adapting the WTO to recent trends: build coherence between trade and sustainable development	European Economic and Social Committee	<p>With the adoption of ambitious and comprehensive SDGs by the UN, the time has come for the WTO to play its role in actively contributing to the achievement of the UN SDGs and the promotion of labour and environmental standards. That, with the purpose of strengthening the coherence within the commitments of the global governance. Therefore, an inclusive vision of trade based on consultation with civil society, as well as basic democratic and social values, is required. The session will focus on:</p> <p>1) Introducing coherence between the multilateral trading system and</p>

				<p>social and labour international standards and between the objectives and rules of the WTO and other multilateral organizations;</p> <p>2) Making international trade contribute to the fight against climate change, to ensure that international trade in industrial and agricultural goods enters a more virtuous circle;</p> <p>3) Building the SDGs into the multilateral trading agenda.</p>
S3	Working Session	Challenges faced by Urban Women Traders in ordering and receiving goods online	TradeMark East Africa	<p>The potential of e-Trade unlocking intra-Africa trade is strong. However, key regional dimensions have to be addressed to enhance inclusion of women and youth traders. TMEA proposes to host a Panel - jointly with UNCTAD and with other players like the Revenue Authorities, Women and Youth Traders, delivery companies like DHL and Jumia, regional postal services, etc - to look at the regional aspects of e-commerce and implications for women and youth traders; looking at all aspects from regulatory (e-Commerce laws, policies- an area that UNCTAD has worked on at country level e.g. conducting a needs assessment in Uganda); tax and revenue modalities and needed reforms; information and procedures, payment systems. The focus will be on working with Revenue Authorities to simplify processes for e-commerce. New-Zealand is a front runner in e-commerce and revenue reforms and can provide some lessons for the region.</p>
W	Working Session	Agriculture in the context of WTO Reforms: strengthening the world trading system	Permanent Mission of Brazil to WTO and other Economic Organizations in Geneva, Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (Apex-Brasil)	<p>It is increasingly evident that the WTO must evolve to cope with the ongoing transformations in the global economic and political landscape, by incorporating and modernizing disciplines for leading sectors of the world economy. Any reform of the WTO rule book should be inclusive and provide wide-ranging benefits, without which such initiatives risk undermining the credibility of the WTO as a platform for global development. For many developing economies, this means that WTO reform must include not only 21st century issues, such as e-commerce and services, but also outstanding topics in the agriculture agenda.</p> <p>Unlocking discussions and providing much needed tangible outcomes in agriculture may depend upon recognizing the new realities of the global economy. With a view to identifying new negotiating paths, Members should be open to engage constructively and creatively in terms of both substance and negotiating formats.</p>

D	Working Session	Book launch: MAKING GLOBALIZATION MORE INCLUSIVE: LESSONS FROM EXPERIENCE WITH ADJUSTMENT POLICIES	WTO, ERSD	<p>The papers in this volume examine various examples of adjustment policies adopted to address globalization-related shocks in developed and developing economies that have contributed to make globalization more inclusive. They help understand how governments can ensure that the benefits from trade are shared more broadly within countries. By showing how the design of appropriate adjustment policies can make globalization more inclusive, they respond to those who expressed concerns regarding the effects of trade on labour markets. They also help understand how to respond to technological change, which may well be an even more important source of changes in the labour market than trade and which is raising increasing public concern. The book launch will start with a presentation of the main findings of the various country studies. A discussant will then comment on the volume. A questions and answers session will complete the session.</p>
E	Working Session	The Next Trade Frontier: Why are Computer and Related Services Important?	Consumers' Association of Penang	<p>There has been rapid technological change since the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) came into force. Some WTO Members are now proposing the full liberalization of computer and related services at a two-digit level (CPC84) and adoption of an Understanding on Computer and Related Services (CRS) as part of the plurilateral WTO e-commerce negotiations. As discussions on the next chapter of the WTO, such as WTO reform, are occurring, it is timely to examine the implications of liberalizing CRS and adopting the Understanding. This session will provide a variety of perspectives on the legal, economic, security and development impacts of doing so, including for the ability to regulate computer systems, programmes and data, and the interaction with telecommunications services proposals.</p>
F	Working Session	Subsidies in Services Trade – What needs to change?	Institute for International Trade, Schumpeter Centre, Friederich Schiller University	<p>Subsidies have become one of the most prevalent and distortionary instruments to restrict trade and gain a competitive advantage. There are WTO instruments for disciplining goods-related subsidies, notably the Agreement on Subsidies and countervailing Measures (SCM), and the Agreement on Agriculture. Reforms to these instruments have been discussed for many years, the latter under the Doha Round, with the former moving into focus via the trilateral US, EU, Japan initiative. However, subsidies in services industries are increasingly prevalent, and mostly unregulated in the WTO. Such subsidies may be paid directly to services providers and indirectly to manufacturers producing inputs for services producers. They are very difficult to measure and even more difficult to remove. In addition to distorting international trade and investment flows, they might be a severe barrier to increased services</p>

				trade and productivity gains. The panel will explore these issues and their significance relative to WTO reform initiatives.
B	Workshop	Tomorrow's Trading World – Thinking Ahead for the Future Generations	The WTI Alumni	<p>Change is the only constant. Various factors are inflicting change to the way we trade. Technological advancements are modifying the ethos of the trading ecosystem. These changes and cross-interactions mandate us to re-visit the impact of trade policies on the next generations, the way they will trade and the world they will inherit.</p> <p>This workshop aims at initiating a dialogue among the young trade lawyers and economists that advise global cross-sectoral industries, with the intention to offer analysis, feasible solutions and policy recommendations for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The impact of recent technological advancements, which has blurred the clear lines between trade in goods and trade in services. - The existing trade policies and their effect on innovation, modernization and sustainable development – taking full account of the needs of future generations. - The critical need for the next generation of trade policies to address inclusive, symbiotic sustainable growth in the coming decades.
10 October 2019				
8:30 - 10:00				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Creative content and data-driven international trade: modernizing the multilateral trading system with an Orange 4.0 approach.	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism of Colombia	Colombia is convinced that the creative industries' sector – what is known in Colombia as the Orange Economy (OE) - is the future for economic development, and the economic sector that will forge new and revolutionary international trade practices. The OE is creating an exponential increase of creative content and data-driven international trade in order to adjust to and satisfy the consumption needs (e.g. immediacy) of Millennials and Gen Z consumers, and increasingly other generations as well. The 24 years old (and 72 years old) multilateral trading rules must be modernized to keep up with new trading practices and evolving dynamics of international trade. The WTO must remain in the vanguard of such evolution to maintain its global relevance. This session will allow us to introduce the concept of the OE to the WTO Membership and interested parties, proposing practical and concrete actions to include it in its multilateral agenda.

S2	Workshop	Globalizing Regulation: Can the Trade and Investment System Hold Global Corporations to Account?	Copenhagen Business School	This panel considers whether, in the next chapter of the WTO and the world trading system, measures to allow for international regulation of corporate conduct on labour, the environment and human rights, could be incorporated into trade and investment agreements. Such measures would allow for some safeguard against corporate forum shopping and the difficulties that individual governments face in regulating business activities that often takes place transnationally. The panel will begin by presenting cutting edge academic research into the potential for this type of regulation, and then by exploring through discussion and interactive workshop exercises with audience members, the effectiveness of different proposed measures and how they might be implemented.
S3	Working Session	Building a Low-Carbon Future: What New Multilateral Rules Do We Need?	Confederation of British Industry	Young people around the world are calling for bold action on climate change. The transition to a global, low-carbon economy will necessitate huge changes in energy production, industrial policy, manufacturing processes and consumer behaviour. Business, government and civil society must act now to meet 2030 carbon targets if we are to limit global warming and achieve the aims of the Paris Climate Agreements. Progress toward developing the industry, governance and opportunities for low-carbon markets around the world has been uneven. For many firms, there are just two investment cycles between now and 2030. 'Green' financing and domestic policies such as carbon taxes will be essential to moving toward low-carbon economies, but can also affect trade flows as competition pressures can inhibit green investments. The panel will examine how to support low-carbon investment and trade, and how the benefits of progress can be delivered in both high and low-income countries.
W	Working Session	Do services offer a realistic growth model for developing countries?	World Bank Group	In many developing economies, the peak shares of manufacturing in value-added and employment were both lower and occurred at lower levels of development compared to their high-income, early-industrializer, precursors. Studies show that this process of "premature de-industrialization" has accelerated in recent decades. Studies also highlight the importance of distinguishing between different types of services and how they are traded. This panel explores how services can supply the twin gains of productivity growth and large-scale job creation for the relatively unskilled long associated with the dominant development paradigm of manufacturing-led growth. Doing so is particularly important given that premature deindustrialization, reinforced by the spread of automation technologies, has raised concerns that the development model based on export-led manufacturing will be

				harder to replicate in the future in lower-income countries. This panel asks how can developing countries diversify successfully into services and what implications this may hold for trade and investment policy?
D	Working Session	What e-commerce business models mean for trade policy in the digital era	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	Firms are innovating in the ways in which they sell products online, making use of a range of digital technologies (e.g. artificial intelligence, blockchain and the Internet of Things) to facilitate e-commerce, while new payment services like mobile money and digital wallets widen its scope. These technologies drive changes in business models, especially those that: 1) use platforms to facilitate transactions online, 2) include subscriptions, whereby users access goods and services in a recurring stream, and 3) combine online processes alongside offline activities, including in brick and mortar stores. These changes have wide-ranging implications for trade and trade policymaking, including for the measures that affect trade. This session will unpack different e-commerce business models and identify how these affect the “who”, the “what” and the “how” of trade. It will then discuss what this means for how we approach market openness in the digital age.
E	Working Session	Le commerce des services et son impact sur le développement des pays Africains	Ministère de l'industrie, de l'investissement, du commerce et de l'économie numérique	<p>Le secteur des services joue un rôle de plus en plus important dans l'économie mondiale et dans la croissance et le développement des pays en créant des opportunités d'accroissement des revenus, de la productivité, de l'emploi, de l'investissement et du commerce.</p> <p>La libéralisation du commerce des services devrait constituer un mécanisme efficace pour stimuler la concurrence et favoriser le développement des services en Afrique. Cette libéralisation exige de la part des pays africains une capacité à définir et mettre en œuvre des politiques commerciales permettant de développer le commerce des services et l'investissement.</p> <p>Pour que la libéralisation du commerce profite au développement, une synergie des objectifs réglementaires et commerciaux ainsi qu'une coordination efficace entre les organes de réglementation et les ministères (chargés du commerce et sectoriels) sont nécessaires. La coordination régionale et internationale est également indispensable pour une meilleure intégration du commerce africain des services dans le commerce mondial.</p>

F	Working Session	Borderless Trade of Digital Contents: Next Chapter for the WTO	Korea Institute for International Economic Policy	<p>Represented by the rise of YouTube, consuming digital video contents on smartphone is deep in the heart of Gen Z who are digital natives. A lot of digital video contents consumed by Gen Z cross borders through digital platforms and the explosive growth of cross-border digital contents changes what we trade and how we trade. It reduces the relevance of traditional at-the-border barriers to trade, while it gives rise to a range of issues for policy makers, ranging from revenue implications in relation to collection of taxes to the implications for intellectual property protection. Then, is there a need to update existing trade rules and commitments?</p> <p>In this session, we will bring together business insiders, international experts, and policy makers to discuss the cross-border digital contents from the perspective of trade policy and the need to reconsider public policies.</p>
B	Workshop	Millennials and Generation Z as customer and client: changing trade for next generation businesses	The Law Society of Scotland	<p>Generation Z and Millennials are increasingly globalist in outlook, motivated and engaged by social and environmental responsibility in the wake of increasing concerns around climate change. Driven by incessant interconnectedness, they are used to a virtual digital world without borders where new income streams and business models, including social enterprises are the norm. This panel will explore how a changing business demographic will impact on the trade agenda and present insights on the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What do Millennials and Generation Z, in their capacity as consumers, clients and employees, expect from businesses? -How are business adapting to meet those challenges? -What is the impact of this shift on developing countries and what are the future trading opportunities for businesses based in or operating there? -How do we incorporate ethical issues into trade policy discussions at the multilateral level to engage and serve next generation businesses?
10:15 - 11:45				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Workshop	Trade norms on access to the source code: what is the impact on trade in services and development?	DiploFoundation, International Trade Centre (ITC)	Digitisation has profoundly affected trade in services. Most digital services are enabled by computer programs, which rely on the source code to function. Several trade agreements prohibit governments from requiring the disclosure, transfer of or access to the source code as a

				condition for market access. The topic is also part of the plurilateral negotiations on trade-related aspects of e-commerce at the WTO. This session will focus on legal, and economic arguments advanced in favor and against prohibitions on requiring the transfer of or access to the source code with the aim to evaluate the impact of these prohibitions on the trade in services and on development.
S2	Working Session	The impacts of the Industry 4.0 on the manufacturing sector and national states: an emerging perspective regarding digitalization, mass customization and taxation.	Federation of the Industries of the State of Sao Paulo - FIESP	As trade in services is currently growing at a higher rate than the flow of goods, the manufacturing sector (specially in emerging markets) is starting to face serious competitiveness challenges. An incomplete industrialization process led some countries to specialize in low skilled and low value-added products. This is a particularly common phenomenon that will impact developing countries, which are positioned at the fringe of global chains. Once services have become a crucial input to produce more complex goods, how will these countries reach the productive requirements of the Industry 4.0 revolution? Traditional industrial policies, such as subsidies and tax exemptions, will hold up to digital manufacturing? Will foreign capital still be attracted by the traditional features of these countries? Is this new global manufacturing environment causing the reshoring of the production back to developed countries? What is the role of the WTO in levelling the playing field for developing countries?
S3	Working Session	What do women need? WTO Reform for a Comprehensive Gender- Friendly Trading System	Gender and Trade Coalition, Regions Refocus	Women's Rights Groups have long been asking for a comprehensive assessment of the gendered impacts of trade rules implemented by the WTO and its multiple agreements which create complex outcomes on the lives of women engaged in different spheres around the world. The WTO reform offers an opportunity to present this analysis from the women's rights perspective which is based on a sustainable-development model. This can be fed towards recommendations for both structural and content related changes in the WTO of the future while linking trade and domestic macroeconomic policy, supported by sectoral policies. This workshop, organised by a coalition of key Women's Rights Groups across the world, will lay out a comprehensive analysis of impacts of the WTO and trade policy on women's lives in economic, social and other spheres, and then seek to identify key elements that a gender-responsive trade agreement of the future should include.
W	Working Session	Companies engage against climate change: How can multilateral trade rules help?	French delegation to WTO, Canadian delegation to	Many private companies have already integrated the fight against climate change into their strategy. In particular, they reinforce their research and innovation efforts to provide services and products that will enable

			WTO, International Chamber of Commerce	<p>less-polluting modes of production and consumption. International trade rules could foster and amplify these efforts of the private sector. The multilateral trade system can make a decisive contribution. In particular, it can promote the diffusion of efficient technologies and innovative products and services by reducing tariff or non-tariff barriers (standards). This issue is already taken into account in some bilateral trade agreements such as CETA.</p> <p>This working session will start with a presentation of CETA. Expectations towards the multilateral trading system will then be analysed through interventions from representatives of the private and public sectors.</p>
D	Working Session	Closing the loop: scaling up inclusive circular business models in selected sectors	Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	<p>This session seeks to identify how circular business models can create inclusive and sustainable development for all, keeping in mind the challenges that circularity can bring. It will explore how international trade can help to develop circular innovations. The panellists will provide different perspectives on the opportunities of a circular economy, by focusing on best practices of specific business models in developed and developing countries and by discussing the international initiatives currently being undertaken by the private sector, international organizations and civil society on how trade can help in scaling up.</p> <p>Some topics to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the challenges and opportunities of circularity for countries and businesses in the textile sector? - What is needed from the international trade system? - How can circular business models contribute to creating sustainable jobs? - How can trade networks and value chains be supported by resolving trade barriers or boosting innovation?
E	Working Session	From Y to Z: A Sporting Goods Industry Perspective	WFSGI - World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry	<p>The session will bring together representatives from different sporting good brands and discuss four questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) How do products meet the sustainability performance demands by Gen Y and Z? (2) How do companies address the high supply chain expectations of young customers?

				<p>(3) How does the sporting goods industry fulfil the promise of its products: to avoid the most threatening health future challenges through physical activity?</p> <p>(4) What trading environment is needed to meet expectations for new products and how can technological innovation help? Each question will be introduced by a representative, before discussing possible implications for the trading framework among each other and with the audience.</p>
F	Working Session	Globalization, Technology and Values: Millennials and Gen Z's Interaction with the Global Trading System	University of Toronto Law Faculty	<p>Millennials and Gen Z makeup approximately half of the world population, nearly 60% of the global work-force and wield immense purchasing power. Nonetheless, there is a tendency to still view them as the "next generation" when in fact, they are growing into economic and political maturity, with their decisions and opinions having significant impact on the global polity.</p> <p>Recognizing the significance of this generation, this panel, comprising five millennials with diverse experiences in relation to international trade, explore how millennials and Gen Z's interaction with globalization, technology and their values impact the global trading system. The panel highlights the fundamental differences between millennials, Gen Z and previous generations and the implication of these differences for international trade. Finally, the panel articulates the expectations of millennials and Gen Z from themselves, governments, companies and international organizations in defining the future of the international trading system.</p>
B	Workshop	Plugging the WTO into today's world with flexible, multi-stakeholder and pro-compliance approaches	University of Guadalajara	<p>Close to 25 years of existence, some areas of the WTO are in crises. Negotiating, monitoring, transparency, Appellate Body Member's nominations, and consensus decisions have polarized the multilateral trading system. This article presents concrete examples on how: flexibility, inclusiveness of various stakeholders and compliance are key aspects to strengthen the system. First, for concluding Doha negotiations and the stagnation of the Appellate Body nominations, Members can include flexible approaches which will take different shapes in the form of norms and/or negotiating techniques. Second, including relevant stakeholders such as the organized civil society (business community) and subjects will help to avoid protectionism and to plug the WTO into today's world. Third, there should be indicators that measure the level of compliance of WTO Agreements, these indicators should serve to rank</p>

				Members. According to their ranking, Members will obtain or lose certain rights.
12:00 - 13:30				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Millennial Expectations for Food Systems. Is the WTO Flexible Enough?	Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Norwegian Farmers Union, Swiss Farmers Union	<p>Millennials and societal expectations for the food system is significantly different from what previous generations wanted from the system. Previous generations priorities for food was availability, affordability and convenience. Today, with an abundant supply of affordable and nutritious food available in many parts of the world, consumers now expect their food to have many other qualities and attributes beyond those of previous generations.</p> <p>The workshop will explore whether current WTO trade rules and parameters of the Agriculture negotiations are too narrow to fully encompass consumer's and society's expectations</p> <p>Panellists will identify 1) how and why millennials are pushing the envelope in driving change in the food systems, 2) the pressure and challenges these pose on farmers and finally 3) if the WTO is flexible enough to adapt to consumers expectations and if not, what steps can be taken.</p>
S2	Working Session	Enabling eCommerce rules to unblock trade and trade finance	ICC United Kingdom	The ecommerce negotiations are an excellent opportunity to remove a number of barriers to digitising trade finance and enabling SME growth. This session will discuss current obstacles and opportunities to increase access to trade finance through an ecommerce agreement offering concrete solutions to how to take the digitalisation of trade finance forward. From the need for additional legal provisions to globally binding agreements as well as issues related to data flows, data localisation, blockchain/DLT and big data speakers will offer a holistic and pragmatic perspective on the importance of an ecommerce agreement to unlock further global economic growth.
S3	Working Session	Services and manufacturing – how can trade policy further enhance and promote this relationship?	BusinessEurope	Services play an increasingly important role in manufacturing goods exports. While they often contribute directly to the value chain, a substantial and increasing share of services is embodied in manufacturing at all stages along the value chain. Firms use services when they develop, produce, distribute and sell goods and provide after-sale services. With digitalisation and the emergence of disruptive

				technologies, such as the Internet of Things and 3D printing, this trend is likely to increase further. This high-level session will examine ways in which trade policy at different levels – multilateral, plurilateral and national – can better clarify and enhance the existing legal framework to allow more stakeholders – including in developing countries – to take advantage of trade opportunities and address potential challenges created by the emergence of disruptive technologies and the resulting servicification of manufacturing and fragmentation of supply chains.
W	Working Session	Fourth Industrial Revolution – the next servicification frontier	Permanent Mission of Sweden	<p>The technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution will make the production of industrial goods more customer-centric. Customer-demand is changing as they look for smart/digital solutions, tailored to their individual needs, are simple to buy and use, and are delivered without delay. To handle this development, industrial companies turn to services solutions, increasing the services content in their production and in their business offers. In short, the Fourth Industrial revolution accelerates servicification.</p> <p>This session will discuss the Fourth Industrial Revolution and explain why industrial companies will become more servicified, including through real life examples. The session will then turn to WTO-negotiations and discuss how GATS and other WTO-instruments can support this development.</p>
D	Working Session	SheTrades in Tech: Youth Scale up for Success	Nigeria Permanent Mission to Geneva, UK Mission to Geneva, International Trade Centre	<p>What does it take for youth female tech entrepreneurs to succeed in international trade?</p> <p>This session will feature insights from a youth female entrepreneur in the Information and Communications Technology sector about her journey to success, highlighting challenges and opportunities of the entire ecosystem within which youth entrepreneurs operate related to skills, resources, and networks. Bringing in perspectives from the public and private sector, the discussion will also touch on how Aid for Trade partners and multinational companies are supporting SMEs to internationalize, including through targeted programmes, and improving access to logistics services, among other key issues.</p>
E	Working Session	Fossil Fuel Subsidies Reform: International collaboration and the link between sustainability objectives and global trade	New Zealand Permanent Mission to the WTO	Subsidies for fossil fuels were estimated at almost USD 400 billion in 2017. These subsidies have a series of negative effects; they are socially regressive, encourage wasteful consumption, increase local pollution,

				<p>contribute to climate change, disadvantage clean energy technologies and are a drain on scarce public resources.</p> <p>The Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform is an informal group of non-G20 countries aiming to build political consensus on the importance of fossil fuel subsidy reform (FFSR). The Friends' work aims to build an international network of government officials to share lessons, knowledge and experiences, and to encourage innovative thinking on the successful implementation of FFSR. The Friends promote the benefits of FFSR within forums such as the G20, APEC, OECD, UNFCCC, Agenda 2030 and the WTO.</p> <p>This panel will discuss how international collaboration can support reforms with a view towards achieving SDG goal 12(c) of Agenda 2030.</p>
F	Working Session	Trade Remedies at the Crossroads in an Evolving World	China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC), China University of Political Science and Law, Strategic Alliance WTO and Trade Remedies (SAWTR)	<p>With the impending paralysis of the Appellate Body in the near future and the legislative function of the WTO at a stand-still, the authority and effectiveness of the multilateral trading system is under attack. Consequently, the development of trade remedies is also at a crossroads. The WTO trade remedy negotiations are going nowhere while the imposition of domestic trade remedy measures continues unabated. Such measures swing back and forth between the roles of legal remedies and trade protection tools. Yet, globalization and technological progress pose new challenges for the application and supervision of those measures.</p> <p>This session aims to clarify the functional positioning, value orientation, basic principles and reasonable boundaries of trade remedy measures that 21st century trade remedy systems should possess. Moreover, it provides a platform for communications between policy makers, scholars and legal practitioners in various countries to promote the coordinated development of both theory and practice.</p>
B	Working Session	Multilateralism - expectations from the new generation	National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE)	<p>Digital reality will overtake the "physical world". Goods and humans will withdraw from global markets – distance learning, distance medicine, distance finance, distance management will substitute current methods of commerce. New generations of experts and politicians will face new realities. What will we trade in? Will it be exchange of objects, thoughts or feelings and emotion? Being hostage to its own institutional structure, WTO is yet unable to generate up-to-date rules and might progressively lose its power. But the main principals of non-discrimination and fair</p>

				competition will be even more important. Will the WTO be able to overcome obstacles and assume its role as the central pillar of the world trading system? What do we, as the global community, have to do to ensure the bright future of the multilateral trading system? How can experts address the major challenges to trade and multilateralism?
14:45 - 16:15				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Engaging MSMEs in Digital Services Trade	Asia Business Trade Association	Every Asian economy is powered by smaller firms, which constitute up to 97% of all businesses. Many of these micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) are providing services to other businesses or directly to consumers. Getting smaller firms to engage in more cross-border trade in digital services is a key to providing additional growth in the future. This panel draws on the experiences of both firms and smaller economies to think about helpful conditions for MSME-friendly economic development.
S2	Working Session	What would services as the next trade frontier look like?	Alliance Sud	Services are the fastest growing sector and will create an increasing share of jobs. As the 'next trade frontier', at a time when the WTO is considering its next chapter and how to strengthen the trading system, it is important to include services considerations. Given the rapid technological change since GATS was concluded, this session will focus on questions such as technological neutrality, services classification, the relevance of emergency safeguard measures, the effectiveness of the LDC services waiver and Art V GATS, the experience of acceding countries and the success of Mode 4 liberalisation negotiations at the WTO.
S3	Working Session	Gen Z Insights: Brands and Counterfeit Products	International Trademark Association	The International Trademark Association's (INTA's) panel on Gen Z Insights: Brands and Counterfeit Products will explore the relationship between Gen Z and brands, their attitudes of counterfeit products and unpack the importance of different practical and ethical considerations influencing Gen Zers' purchase of counterfeit products. As counterfeit trade is estimated to reach US \$2.81 trillion by 2022, it is vital to learn what young consumers think about this issue, how their perception of purchasing counterfeit products differs from one country to another and what steps can be taken to educate young consumers about the dangers of counterfeit products and the value of trademarks and brands. INTA's newly launched study of 4500+ Gen Zers between 18 and 23 years of age in 10 countries—Argentina, China, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan,

				Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United States— will provide empirical data on some of the topics discussed in this session.
W	Working Session	Working Session on Investment Facilitation for Development	Friends of Investment Facilitation for Development	<p>The increasing interdependence between trade and investment, and its potential for development, has prompted many countries to adopt policies for facilitating trade and investment. Harnessing the development benefits from the trade-investment nexus, requires a coherent approach to trade and investment policy-making. Building on the Trade Facilitation Agreement success, international cooperation on investment facilitation is crucial to keep pace with the evolving needs of the global economy, and to support governments' efforts to expand FDI that can contribute to diversify and expand their exports, thereby promoting development.</p> <p>The Working Session will explore the opportunities and challenges arising from international cooperation on investment facilitation at the global level, particularly for developing countries. It will also update participants on the on-going Structured Discussions on Investment Facilitation for Development in the WTO and possible next steps in the lead-up to MC12.</p>
D	Working Session	Multilateral Regulation 2.0: Towards WTO Disciplines to Foster Collectively Beneficial Technology-Driven Trade	Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Oman, CUTS International Geneva	<p>Digitalisation is transforming societies, economies and enterprises on the one hand, and influencing the behaviour of all actors – from public, private to individuals - on the other. The regulatory regimes at both the national and international levels must keep pace with these transformations to ensure that benefits accrue to all. The international trading system as embodied in the WTO and its agreements is not immune to this. Digitalisation is blurring the lines between goods and services which can have fundamental implications for the current multilateral system of trade governance. The digital market place is also raising issues related to competition and consumer protection in the context of international trade. Piecemeal approaches to these challenges will not be sufficient.</p> <p>This session aims to highlight main challenges posed by the technological advancements to the regulatory regime of the current multilateral trading system with a view to identifying possible solutions.</p>
E	Working Session	How Millennials could be of help in understanding and resolving the hurdles of the Multilateral Trading System, making it	IDEAS Centre	<p>Unlike the GATT, a Baby-Boomer, the WTO is a Millennial. Like many Millennials, it struggles to convince its parents let go of the "good old days" and focus on the future. This Panel will explore how Millennial characteristics identified in social sciences research could be relevant to</p>

		[More] Inclusive and Development-Oriented?		<p>understand and resolve the predicaments faced by the MTS today and to adapt to new realities. The panellists – academics and professionals working at the forefront of international trade law, policy-making and technical assistance in Geneva - will be aided by the fact that they, themselves, are Millennials and naturally espouse Millennial views. Putting emphasis on inclusiveness as the main principle guiding the WTO's future, the Panel will address the four areas shaping the negotiating agenda/ threatening the continuation of the WTO: e-commerce/ the digital economy; trade facilitation; the on-going fisheries subsidies negotiations and, the reinvigoration of the WTO dispute settlement function.</p>
F	Working Session	Rules of Origin: Time for an update - can the WTO help?	German Textile+Fashion Industry Confederation	<p>The German textile+fashion industry is a highly innovative sector and a global player. Production processes nowadays stretch across multiple countries around the globe. Servicification, 3D-printing, e-commerce, new data flows and other new developments change and replace decades-old patterns. The industry greatly depends on fluid global value chains.</p> <p>The future world economy will need a trade policy framework living up to the multiple speedy transformation processes. To keep pace, the multilateral rules-based trading system will need updates in a number of areas. Many companies in the textile+fashion sector have identified rules of origin are one of the areas most in need of reform.</p> <p>Can trade policy makers deliver on economic operators' demands? Which possibilities are there to update rules of origin? What can be done at multilateral or plurilateral level? Can the WTO help?</p> <p>This working session will seek answers and discuss possible ways and means.</p>
B	Working Session	Future of WTO in a digitalised world	IT for Change, India, Bread for the World, Germany	<p>The future is unmistakably digital, but the question remains, what kind of digital, and digital economy? Is there just one kind, the currently dominant one across the world, or there exist more inclusive and prosperous alternatives. The dominant model is facing much criticism and even policy introspection in many countries. There is a search for alternatives with better regulation for privacy, competition, data, rights of small producers and consumers, digital industrialisation, and so on.</p> <p>What is the role of global trade forums in shaping and supporting the</p>

				right digital economy model? What is the future of WTO in the digital age? With the digital redefining almost all sectors, is this the time for creating rather than foreclosing national digital policy spaces? Or, it is best not to lose time and get the world quickly enveloped in the dominant digital economy model, even with all its increasingly evident pitfalls?
16:30 - 18:00				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Emerging policy priorities in agriculture, food and land use – role of WTO rules on domestic support?	International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (IATRC), Agriculture and Commodities Division, WTO	The WTO Agreement on Agriculture limits some of the domestic support governments provide to agricultural producers and sets rules exempting some support from limits. These provisions were designed 25 years ago to help reduce distortions in agricultural trade. Since then new policy priorities have emerged in agriculture, food and land use related to climate change, including adaptation, mitigation, and resilience. Emerging priorities also relate to UN sustainability goals and to food security, water, biodiversity, productivity growth, biosecurity, and risk management. This session addresses key questions concerning the emerging priorities. Can the WTO rules on trade-distorting domestic support accommodate or facilitate policies in pursuit of the new priorities? Can new policy priorities be addressed while also strengthening the trading system as it adapts to the changing world? What pressures may arise to update the domestic support rules in response to new policy priorities and how might desired end results be achieved?
S2	Working Session	Data as the key commodity in trade	Swisscom Blockchain AG	Trade evolves around data. The exchange of information has always been the differentiator in supporting safe and efficient trade. Whether it is trade in goods, or trade in services, data is crucial: who it flows to, how quickly and how reliable and comprehensive it is. Many of the current topics discussed within the WTO framework, such as trade facilitation or e-commerce, boil down to the need for better cross-border flow and availability of reliable trade data and data services facilitating transactions necessary for trade. The panel will aim to identify areas of trade in goods and services where data flows could be improved and the impact this could have on various actors, including SMEs and developing economies. It will attempt to answer the question on how data management could be improved and

				discuss the strengths, challenges, and opportunities for further innovation.
S3	Working Session	The Next Generation's Expectations for Trade	amfori - Trade with Purpose	This session brings together representatives of youth organisations and students with decision makers and business representatives to discuss the sustainability expectations of the next generation for trade. They will also assess the role that the WTO plays on trade and sustainable development issues, and whether it is well equipped for this task.
W	Working Session	Youth & Entrepreneurship: Leveraging the digital era for better integration of the developing world in global trade	Permanent Mission of Australia to the WTO, Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the WTO, CUTS International Geneva	<p>Young entrepreneurs and traders are the future of small developing countries and LDCs. Digital era is creating new and expanding opportunities for trade. The two together can be the catalyst for structural transformation in these countries towards sustained growth and sustainable development.</p> <p>On the other hand, the young entrepreneurs in small developing and least-developed countries continue to face many challenges, including in relation to the digital era. Many of these challenges pertain to trade-related rules and policies at the national, regional and multilateral levels.</p> <p>This working session will bring together young e-entrepreneurs from Oman and Sri Lanka, international experts and representatives of developing and developed countries to discuss the challenges faced by young e-entrepreneurs in smaller developing and least-developed countries and possible policy solutions to assist them in taking advantage of trade opportunities offered by e-commerce.</p>
D	Working Session	"Understanding the Benefits to Developing Countries Resulting From the Moratorium on Duties on Electronic Transmissions"	Coalition of Services Industries and Global Services Coalition	<p>E-commerce and related services have been and will be an important source of growth and jobs in developing economies. The WTO moratorium on e-commerce duties that has been in place since 1998, is a critical part of enabling the rise of e-commerce and ensuring its future growth. This is especially important for MSMEs in developing countries that are increasingly relying on e-commerce platforms and related services to expand their opportunities domestically and in global markets.</p> <p>This Working Session will discuss the benefits of e-commerce to developing economies, with a focus on MSMEs. It will also present a recent survey of fiscal and social welfare costs in a number of developing economies reveals that the benefits of moratorium far outweigh any costs. In addition, it will discuss how moratorium benefits continue to</p>

				outweigh potential costs even taking into account increasing digitization of goods.
E	Working Session	Bridging the policy- dialogue for digital transformation in Africa	Ecommerce Forum Africa	<p>This Session will present a brief on the digital economy trade policies in Africa.</p> <p>African countries have made good progress increasing internet penetration and ecommerce readiness, but there still exists a significant digital divide. To leverage the digital economy for economic transformation, appropriate policies need to be developed: - targeted interventions to boost digital infrastructure, ecommerce readiness, skills-development, privacy, cyber-security etc., and strengthening and updating existing policies to improve regulatory environment, and trade logistics. Benefits include economies of scale. National digital policies developed by African countries should be comprehensive, enforceable and aligned with regional and continental priorities.</p> <p>The AfCFTA is now effect, it is increasingly important to map national and regional digital strategies in Africa, which can feed into the digital economy policy negotiations.</p>
F	Working Session	Adapting Trade Secret Protection to a Changing World	The Global Trade Secret Council	<p>This session will explore the increasingly important role that trade secret protection plays in the global trading system. Trade secret protection has become a more prominent concern for businesses and national governments, and, increasingly, it has become a trade issue. Trade secret protection is still relatively new and underdeveloped, and international norms regarding cooperation and enforcement are still forming. The future health and harmony of the international trading system may depend in part on reaching stronger common understandings regarding the protection of confidential business information to reduce friction and to encourage cross-border trade and investment.</p> <p>This session will consider how governments and stakeholders can cooperate on a multilateral basis to reduce conflict over trade secret issues and technology transfer. It will address the changes needed to trade secret protection to ensure it serves the modern economy well, particularly with respect to services trade and employee mobility.</p>

11 October 2019				
8:30 - 10:00				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Workshop	Kicking away the ladder or flying geese: entering a new era of digital servification in the EAC	Overseas Development Institute	The increasing digital servification of the economy is characterised by changing knowledge flows; governance structures; and institutional configurations. This in turn has impacted trade and occupational structures and skill acquisition in Africa. This session will identify the various pathways and mechanisms through which these changes have occurred within the East African Community (EAC) and provide insights into the agency of lower tier actors (emerging entrepreneurialism, workers, women, youth, farmers) and how they are adapting to these changes, while simultaneously identifying the regulatory gaps that exist that promote uneven development. A panel of academics and policy experts will discuss new evidence in understanding the role of 'smoke-stack less' industries in driving economic transformation in the EAC; rising digital servification of AgriTech and manufacturing and its implications for changing patterns of trade, employment and informality; and implications of regulatory restrictions in digital services trade on competitiveness of the regional bloc.
S2	Working Session	Requirements in Next Generation Global Supply Chains: digital, decentralised, secure, intelligent, autonomous, transparent, connected !?!	Institute of Export & International Trade, Amber Road	<p>Millennials & Gen Z demand a better global trading system! The peer-to-peer generation knows that global connectivity and transparency are key to success in international trade. In this session, hosted only by young leaders, we explore: What does blockchain technology need to deliver for Millennials and Gen Z in global trade? How will 3-D printing help SME's to benefit from global trade? What other emerging technologies will shape our global trading world of the future?</p> <p>The Institute of Export & International Trade has teamed up with Amber Road, the leader in cloud-based Global Trade Management Systems to organise a competition for young trade professionals to pitch their ideas for a chance to present these on this panel. Join us to hear directly from the winners on their innovative ideas & requirements for Next Generation Trade.</p>
S3	Working Session	Celebrating 2 Decades of Concerted Global and Regional	Australian Services Roundtable,	Services industry coalitions play a critical role in mobilising support from MSMEs for domestic regulatory efficiency in services and policy settings

		Services Stakeholder Advocacy: The Role of Services Industry Coalitions as the Voice of the Services Sector.	European Services Forum, Hong Kong Coalition of Services Industries, Indonesian Services Dialogue, Philippine Services Coalition	that enable services innovation, productivity and competitiveness. This year, the European Services Forum and Australian Services Roundtable jointly celebrate 20 years of active engagement in the trade and competitiveness agenda. The Hong Kong Coalition of Services industries has been in operation even longer. The Caribbean Network of Service Coalitions and the Indonesian Services Dialogue, have similarly both played a vital role in lifting public awareness of services. Despite their differences, these groupings work closely together with their peers in the Asia Pacific Services Coalition and the Global Services Coalition. Join these services champions in a celebratory sharing of the inside stories, the lessons learned - and the keys discovered for unlocking local growth potential in the fastest growing component of world trade today.
W	Working Session	Strengthening Subsidies Rules to Tackle Trade Distortions: Perspectives from the High-Tech Sector	Semiconductor Industry Association	As WTO members contemplate reform, this session will focus on ways in which the WTO could address one of the most significant distortions in international trade today: industrial subsidies and other types of non-market government support. Much of the current debate regarding subsidies has focused on older, established industries (i.e. metals), but in recent years governments have increasingly pursued industrial policies to support the development of nascent domestic advanced technology industries, such as semiconductors, robotics, aerospace, and electric vehicles. In this session, panellists will discuss the impact that market-distorting subsidies can have on the development of the domestic tech sector in developing and developed countries alike, why existing WTO subsidy rules have not kept pace with recent value chain developments, nor been effective, and recommended changes to strengthen WTO subsidy disciplines to help make the playing field level again.
D	Working Session	La agricultura y comercio adaptándose a un mundo cambiante: Explorando sinergias entre África, América Latina y el Caribe	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	En el panel "La agricultura y comercio adaptándose a un mundo cambiante: Explorando sinergias entre África, América Latina y el Caribe." se da un panorama sobre el aporte actual y futuro de la OMC a la evolución y adaptación del comercio agrícola. La sesión permite explorar desafíos comunes entre ambas regiones, lecciones aprendidas y buenas prácticas para la inversión en sostenibilidad del comercio agrícola, así como en el retorno de los jóvenes a la agricultura. Estos asuntos deberán considerarse en el próximo capítulo de la OMC. A su vez, se identifican potenciales sinergias entre ambas regiones, en las que el IICA, el ITC, el IFPRI y la OMC pueden apoyar para el fortalecimiento del sistema multilateral que engloba el comercio agrícola.

E	Workshop	New Developments of Global Value Chains in the Asia-Pacific Region and Beyond	Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai Institute for Strategy of International Trade Center, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics	Getting benefits from globalization and multilateral trading system, a most inclusive production network has been formed in Asia-Pacific region. However, heterogeneities exist for APEC economies in integration into GVCs. For instance, processing trade accounts for large share in certain economies; foreign-invested firms are different from domestic-owned in participation in GVCs. Some key challenging issues faced by policy makers are how to capture the heterogeneity and improve data quality in APEC economies in order to better capture the impacts of GVCs. All APEC economies chaired by China and the US completed the APEC TiVA Database during 2014-2019, with the support of WTO, especially Dr. Koopman and other ERSD colleagues, and OECD. In this Workshop, panellists will discuss the functions of APEC TiVA Database, its roles in effectively understanding impact of GVCs, policies development to improve opportunities for businesses to participate in world economy, improvement of multilateral trading system and WTO reform.
F	Workshop	The Next Generation and Trust in the Internet: Best Practices for Addressing Cross-Border Legal Challenges	Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network	This session will present the results of recent work by the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network, in which stakeholders from around the world work together to develop policy standards and operational solutions for how governments, Internet intermediaries and users can jointly resolve problems faced in the Internet ecosystem. The work is aimed at inspiring the trust of present and future generations that the Internet can be a safer place. The work of the multi stakeholder organization tackles common issues that must be dealt with on a cross border, multi-jurisdiction basis, addressing the tension between the transnational Internet and national jurisdictions. This requires dealing with issues such crime, illegal or infringing content, and privacy. The panellists will discuss why such work is important to future generations' confidence in the Internet, why governments have supported it, and how it complements work in the WTO.
10:15 - 11:45				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Working Session	Digital Transformation of the Agricultural Trade: Opportunities and Challenges	The Grain and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	This high-level working session will explore the opportunities and challenges arising out of the digital transformation of international trade in agriculture. The session will discuss linkages between farmers -and particularly smallholders- and agriculture trade at global level and illustrate how the trade is preparing and adapting to this transforming landscape.

				<p>The session will also highlight how opportunities presented by technological advances benefit and at the same time address the challenges that come with such advances?</p> <p>The session will include views from key stakeholders in the agriculture supply chain, including the smallholders, private sector, policy makers and development partners.</p>
S2	Working Session	Oceans of Potential - Ensuring a sustainable future for fisheries trade	Pacific Network on Globalisation (PANG); The Norwegian Trade Campaign	<p>The sustainability of fisheries plays a crucial part in future sustainable development with over 3 billion people who live and work in coastal areas dependent on the marine economy for their lives and livelihoods. Trade rules will need to support the sustainability of fishing industries for current and future generations. Sustainable Development Goal 14.6 has given a clear mandate to the WTO to take action on the issue of fisheries subsidies while respecting the mandate of special and differential treatment so that the interest of small fishers in developing and least developed countries are protected. With the deadline for negotiations approaching, this session will discuss the current negotiations examining how an outcome that supports the sustainability of fisheries resources as well as equity and policy space for development will ensure that trading in fish can continue into the future.</p>
S3	Working Session	Open & Inclusive Digital Spaces: The Young-Gen as Architects of the WTO's Digital Trade Policy	EU Trade & Investment Policy (EUTIP), Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network	<p>The digital revolution recast the relationship between states, institutions and people. It has shaped the formative years of the Young-Gen or 'digital natives' who will be the largest generation of consumers by 2020. However, their inclusion as digital entrepreneurs is challenged by excessive market concentration online. While digital trade lowers entry barriers for SMEs, it also generates network externalities that turn markets into 'winner-takes-all' with wide-ranging consequences for economic dynamism, inequality and politics. As key stakeholders, young people must therefore be represented in policy dialogues on digital trade governance. This session serves as one such platform, by bringing together a diverse panel of young trade policy practitioners to discuss ideas for designing open and inclusive digital economies. By sharing their progressive vision for digital globalization through the lens of economics, law, geopolitics and normative values, the panel reflects on the next chapter of the WTO in the millennial era.</p>
W	Working Session	Fair data and trade in services: an ethical dimension	Permanent Mission of Finland	<p>Data and particularly the secure aggregation of data from different sources is the key to new innovative services and a key driver in the growth of global trade. At the same time, how can one overcome the</p>

				<p>false dichotomy between individual rights and the imperatives of growth in the trade of services?</p> <p>In recent years, groundwork has been laid for ethical use of personal data, both in terms of regulation and practices. For example, the European Union has implemented GDPR and other legislation, with other countries and regions following.</p> <p>New business models are already paving the way for a fair data economy that combines individual control with competition and innovation. What can international trade negotiators, regulators and businesses do to increase individuals' control and build trust so that consumers can confidently take up their role as active participants in international trade?</p>
D	Working Session	The opportunities and challenges of the ICT (Information and Communication Technology) applications in smart city development and the global trade system.	Permanent Mission of Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO	<p>The session will give the introduction to successful practices in Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu in the aspect of smart city technologies application to public services (e.g., intelligent transport system, smart grids, smart medical care system, smart education, smart building management, urban informatics) that creates new type of digital economies, start-up ecosystems and promotes the benefits of smart urbanism. Invited panellists will also provide the practical achievements of "Smart City Summit & Export@Taipei" which has been evaluated by the global ICTs industry as the biggest smart city event in Asia. Furthermore, an international platform for smart city development has been built up since March 2019, namely, Global Organization of Smart Cities. GoSmart advocates international inter-city PoC (Proof-of-Concept), PoS (Proof-of-Service) and launches its mission in Taipei. The function and operation of smart city international cooperation and trading systems will be highlighted and encourage further discussions from the participants of this working session.</p>
E	Working Session	Investment facilitation and WTO modernisation: How the structured discussions could contribute to a strengthening of the WTO	German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)	<p>Discussions on investment facilitation, initiated at the 11th Ministerial Conference of the WTO in Buenos Aires, represent an opportunity both for countries aiming at improving their domestic frameworks to attract more investments but also for the WTO itself. The interest by a number of developing countries in moving forward on investment facilitation means that they value the WTO as a platform to negotiate new issues. Notwithstanding these opportunities, investment is a challenging policy field and the structured discussions are conducted by a subset of members while a sizeable group of countries remains outside the process. Before pushing ahead with discussions and eventually</p>

				negotiations about investment facilitation it is important to understand the concerns of these WTO members, in particular developing countries, in order to develop an international framework on investment facilitation that helps to attract foreign investments and supports sustainable development.
F	Working Session	Labelling in support of sustainable trade: The Central Role of WTO in Responding to Young Consumers' Demands	Eurogroup for Animals, Dierenbescherming, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Four Paws	Generation Z and Millennials are increasingly sensitive to the environmental footprint and the impact on animal welfare of food. A mandatory method of production labelling system applying also to imported products would provide them with the information they need to make conscious purchase choices. The WTO treaties recognize that trade policy must be led in accordance with sustainable development. Yet, the WTO has shied away from clarifying the legality of basing a label on a non-product related process and production method (NPR-PPM). The panellists will analyse the recent case-law which points at a compatibility between such label and WTO rules. The session will also give the opportunity to business representatives to present their views on how such labelling method could help foster sustainable trade and respond to young consumers' demand for sustainable food products.
12:00 - 13:30				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Workshop	Millennials for Trade Facilitation: New Approaches to Old Issues	Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation (GATF), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)	While digitalization is creating new opportunities for the global trading system, many developing countries struggle to harness innovation to respond to their trade facilitation needs. At the same time, companies proposing innovative solutions need to better understand constraints faced by developing countries. To design tech solutions that work for all, we need to bring together public and private sectors, including young tech companies and local businesses, to think outside the box. Led by the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation, this session will be an opportunity to explore new ways to tap into the creative potential of the Millennial / Gen Z communities to modernize the way we tackle trade facilitation reforms in developing countries. A panel of leaders and tech experts will discuss innovative solutions for trade facilitation. The session will be used to launch a call for interested countries, companies and experts to participate in the Alliance's work.
S2	Working Session	Blind spots and blockades, how to revive and update the WTO by reform	Global Business Coalition	The WTO system is increasingly under stress. There are blind spots in the rulebook, member measures are not fully transparent, and there are blockades in multilateral negotiations and in the dispute settlement

				<p>system. Quick fixes or simple fine-tuning will not suffice to adapt the WTO to the trade realities of 21st century.</p> <p>This session will discuss controversial questions of the WTO reform agenda, among others: How can the coexistence of liberal market economies and state capitalist systems be better managed while ensuring open and fair trade, free of competitive distortions? How can transparency be enhanced? How can members solve the Appellate Body crisis? Which should be the priorities for digital trade and services? How can market access get back on Geneva's agenda?</p> <p>The organizer, the Global Business Coalition brings together leading business associations from the major world economies, advocating on behalf of more than 21 million companies.</p>
S3	Working Session	Services trade: What way forward for WTO	European Services Forum - ESF	<p>This session will introduce the new ESF study on the Importance of trade in services by providing facts and figures. It will then provide an analysis of the importance of services around the products and their crucial role in trade in goods in the fast-growing global digital economy and how to reconcile this new trade frontier with existing trade policies. As trade and investment in services create millions of jobs, a Trade Unions' perspective will be presented. We will then look at the current response of the WTO to this new trade frontier by providing an assessment of the WTO E-Commerce, Domestic Regulatory Disciplines and Investment Facilitation initiatives and why they matter. The session will also summarise what the GATS has done and could do for pushing forward the necessary adaptation of the WTO to this changing world where trade in services is an essential embedded component of modern trade.</p>
W	Workshop	Harnessing Full Potentials of Data Economy: "Osaka Track" for International Rule-making and the Role of the WTO	The Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Geneva, World Economic Forum (TBC)	<p>Digital data is becoming an important driver of economic growth and social well-being. It is fundamental to promote national and international policy discussions for harnessing the full potential of data and digital economy to foster innovation, so that we can keep pace with the fast-growing digital economy and maximize the benefits of digitalization and emerging technologies. In June at Osaka, under the Japanese presidency of G20, so-called "Osaka Track" was launched to promote international policy discussions, inter alia, international rule-making on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce at the WTO.</p> <p>As a follow up exercise of "Osaka Track", this session will bring key figures from private and public sectors including one from a developing country to discuss how to facilitate international rule-making particularly</p>

				focusing on the Joint Statement on E-Commerce and the way forward leading up to the MC 12.
D	Workshop	Professional Services Trade: Transformed By Digital Disruption	UK Mission Geneva, ICAEW, Deloitte	<p>This session, organised by ICAEW, IFAC, Deloitte and the UK Mission, Geneva, will bring together government officials, professional bodies and service providers to explore the fundamental changes that Professional Services trade is currently undergoing. Technological developments are changing the types of professional services which can be provided as well as how they are delivered.</p> <p>Drawing on their personal experiences of providing and developing cross-border services in Africa and around the world, the panellists will discuss:</p> <p>How best to harness the opportunities and challenges of digital technology to the provision of services, focusing on trade agreements, smart domestic regulation, regional efforts to promote good regulatory practices and initiatives to improve competitiveness.</p> <p>How professional services firms can help to improve trust between companies and consumers to establish and build long-term and sustainable relationships, particularly for online services and in e-commerce.</p> <p>How professional services firms can facilitate global trade in the future.</p>
E	Working Session	Leveraging Trade for Gender Equality? The Prospects and Pitfalls of the Global Trade and Gender Agenda in a Changing World	King's University College at the University of Western Ontario, University of Manchester	<p>Gender-sensitive trade policy has quickly become idiomatic in the field of global trade. Aimed at supporting women's economic empowerment, closing gaps in welfare distribution and gender inequalities, and minimizing the adverse impacts of trade liberalization on vulnerable women, gender-sensitive trade policy is advocated by NGOs, IGOs, corporate actors, and government officials alike. Nevertheless, gender and trade initiatives are also the subject of much controversy and criticism.</p> <p>Almost two years since the 2017 WTO Joint Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment was denounced as "pink washing" by over 500 civil society organizations, this working session brings together a cross-section of stakeholders to take stock of existing gender and trade initiatives. Panellists reflect on how the WTO can best provide leadership in this area, and what the prospects and pitfalls of the gender and trade</p>

				agenda are for contributing to gender equality and strengthening the global trade system alike.
B	Workshop	Digital Natives and Trade: Exploring how the next generations of entrepreneurs, students and innovators operate globally in a world of tariffs and trade turmoil	Inclusive Trade, Global Innovation Forum	While Baby Boomers are busy imposing tariffs and testing out mercantilist, managed trade and digital import substitution policies, the next generations of entrepreneurs are grinding away to make a global impact. Explore how "Born Global" Millennials and Generation Z entrepreneurs, students and business leaders feel about current trade tensions and how they navigate their businesses, studies and lives in a world that seems intent on putting up new walls. Join in the global debate and be part of the solution.
13:45 - 15:15				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract
S1	Workshop	New Paradigms for an Increasingly Digitalized Economy: perspectives, adaptation and talent upgrading	IE University – School of Global and Public Affairs, International Trade Centre (ITC), Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC)	Millennials and Gen Z have particularly influenced the current consumption patterns as they diversify from mostly consuming manufactured goods to hiring all types of services (particularly through e-platforms). They have increasingly become users of sharing economy as it offers opportunities for easier and more affordable transport, accommodation, workplace, education, housing, etc. Millennials often become 'influencers', 'youtubers', 'instagrammers' or 'bloggers' while creating market trends. And there is an increasing inclination for millennials to become minimalists for many reasons: increased mobility, environmental concerns, changed lifestyles, economic trends, living preferences, technology and mobility, among others. This panel aims to address these trends and their economic impact, together with the related regulatory challenges both for national and international markets. Moreover, it also seeks to tackle the civil society concerns accruing from these trends (in terms of safety, security, reliability, sustainability, employment, competition, etc) and how can these be balanced with actual market dynamics.
S2	Working Session	US Challenges to the World Trading System: A Way Forward	Cato Institute, Herbert A. Stiefel Center for Trade Policy Studies	The Trump administration has made a number of breaks with past US trade policy and practice, and many of these constitute significant concerns for the WTO. Under the Trump administration, the United States has challenged: (1) WTO dispute settlement, in particular the functioning of the Appellate Body; (2) the traditional restraint governments have shown with invoking national security to justify trade restrictions; (3) the self-selection process for the classification of

				developing countries; and (4) China's economic model and the perceived difficulties it causes for the trading system. This panel discusses the significance of these US challenges for the WTO, and considers how the rest of the world can react to the US actions and proposals in a way that strengthens rather than weakens the system.
S3	Working Session	Jobs for millennials in a digital world: E-commerce and the future of work	UNISON, Trade Justice Movement	<p>Digitisation is changing the world of work, and millennials are at the forefront.</p> <p>This session explores how future jobs could be affected by the WTO's e-commerce agenda, and how we can create digital trade rules that match millennials' aspirations for satisfying work.</p> <p>Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Platform workers and the gig economy - Home-grown digital industrialisation - Millennial women, 'pink-washing' and real rights at work
W	Working Session	Trade Intelligence for MSMEs: the Global Trade Helpdesk	Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the WTO on behalf of the Informal Group on MSMEs	<p>The WTO Informal Working Group on MSMEs brings together 90 WTO members to bolster the integration of MSMEs into the global market. The Informal Working Group is working with the Global Trade Helpdesk Initiative to empower MSMEs with the trade intelligence they need to make informed business decisions.</p> <p>MSMEs face considerable constraints in accessing new markets. On average, only 8% of MSMEs in developing countries are exporters, and 34% on average in OECD economies. This signals that the vast majority of firms are unable to benefit from the gains from trade. Difficulty in accessing market information is one of the key binding constraints.</p> <p>This panel will discuss the progress on creating a unique portal that provides trade intelligence from doorstep to destinations market, as well as strategies for increasing data and country coverage, and ensuring this information reaches the target audience of MSMEs.</p>
D	Working Session	The e-commerce initiative and industrial companies in the Fourth Industrial Revolution	Swedish National Board of Trade	The technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution will make the production of industrial goods more digitalised. Likewise, trade will increasingly rely on digital technologies. Production and trade will more and more rely on digital solutions and flows of data among companies and countries. It is important that trade regulation recognises these developments and here the e-commerce initiative is a specific interest.

				The e-commerce negotiations are of importance also for industrial companies. This session will explain why the e-commerce negotiations are of interest for industrial companies and discuss how the e-commerce negotiations can benefit industrial companies, including/especially companies in newly-industrialized and developing countries. This includes a conversation about the topics currently under discussion. In addition, the conversation will cover ideas on how governments could use the eventual outcome to create an enabling environment for their companies and facilitate the adoption of new digital production technologies.
E	Working Session	What trade related data have we yet to capture and what can we do TOGETHER to generate it	World Trade Organization ERSD	This session aims to seek feedback on initiatives the WTO and other international organizations can lead to generate trade statistics that address current and future challenges. With the rise of digital trade, a more connected global economy and an increasingly polarized world, the WTO needs to explore new partners and perspectives in order to find solutions to existing gaps in trade data.
B	Working Session	The New Frontier of the Trust Paradigm	Your Public Value	<p>Our world is at a crisis point, suffering from an economic status quo that aggravates climate change and poverty and from an unprecedented confidence crisis. Increasingly society demands to be heard by global corporations and governments. The Trust Paradigm has shifted and it has become urgent to understand what constitutes trust in global trade.</p> <p>Panellists will explore the common features that shape the new trust paradigm in our modern world and will discuss the new frontier of transparency and accountability. The session will be interactive. Participants will offer their own views of what constitutes trust in global trade.</p> <p>The panel will be moderated by Anne Bailey, an awarded post-graduate student who will challenge panellists from the young generation standpoint. Panellists include Eva-Maria Baumer, MasterCard; Virginie Coulloudon, Your Public Value; Delia Ferreira Rubio, Transparency International; and Wang Shi, China Vanke.</p>
15:30 - 17:00				
Room	Type	Title	Organizer	Abstract

S1	Working Session	Adapting WTO to a changing world: From development to differentiation	Centre for WTO Studies, New Delhi	<p>Given the context of transformational changes happening in the global economy, the working session titled "Adapting WTO to a changing world: From development to differentiation" will discuss the likely approaches to keeping WTO rule-making function relevant and adapting the institution to fast evolving developments. Specifically, it will examine whether Special and Differential Treatment provisions continue to remain relevant in current and future WTO negotiations; and also explore different options for S&DT provisions in future negotiations, while keeping the trade and development needs of individual WTO members in view. The session will also discuss the evidence on differentiation among WTO Members and how this could get reflected in negotiating new rules at the WTO. At a more fundamental level, the session will derive lessons from the experience of developing countries in benefiting from S&DT provisions in the past and how these could inform multilateral trade negotiations in the future.</p>
S2	Working Session	What Gives Data Value, and Why Does It Matter for Trade?	Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA)	<p>Data has revolutionized the way that business is conducted around the world, and the value generated from it has changed the way companies and governments approach strategies to be globally competitive. Companies that effectively utilize data generate significant value that can be used to improve their market position, regardless of sector. What is it about data that is so valuable? Some governments and commentators have drawn parallels between data and natural resources, implying that data extraction can enrich foreign firms at the expense of domestic economies. However, others argue that data is not finite: it can be reused, analyzed, shared, and combined with other information an infinite number of times. This panel discussion will explore how value is generated from data, who captures the benefits, what this means for development, and how trade disciplines on cross-border data flows and data localization impact these dynamics.</p>
S3	Working Session	Trade, value chains and food security: reconnecting disconnected value chains	World Farmers Organisation	<p>The emergence of global value chains (GVCs) and new trade patterns suggests revision of strategies aimed at fostering the sustainability of trade and trade policies that can directly or indirectly affect food security (FS).</p> <p>WFO working session aims at discussing the degree of participation of farmers in the different stages of the GVCs by taking into account the role of production fragmentation and the potential of blockchain in building trust in trade of food. To this end, it foresees: 1. an introduction on global value chains including definitions and characteristics, with a</p>

				specific focus on agrifood. Concrete examples of GVC cases will be provided, highlighting the multiple stages involved in trading food and the related challenges and 2. an open debate on the implications of a reshaping of food supply chains by blockchain technologies examining opportunities in increasing proximity between producers and consumers and bottlenecks to be addressed.
W	Working Session	Regional Trade Agreements, the strengthening of the multilateral trading system and the MERCOSUR perspective	Permanent Mission of Argentina	Firstly, the session will briefly review the history and development of the multilateral trading system from the second half of the 20th century to the present, focusing on the main milestones and trends in terms of trade agreements. Secondly, it will focus on the Latin American region, particularly MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market). The main objective is to identify, with a prospective approach, which have been -and are the main achievements derived from the proliferation of Trade Agreements among countries (with a focus on MERCOSUR countries) and how those agreements have brought benefits to foster economic development and prosperity (especially in the contemporary context and in the fields of trade in services, development of SMEs, value chains and/or spill-overs in terms of regional/global economic cooperation). The session is also aimed at identifying the main challenges faced regarding both substance and formalities for the countries party to the different agreements.
D	Working Session	New evidence on preferential trade in the international trading system: All that glitters is not gold?	University of Cambridge	<p>While the Most Favoured Nation principle remains a keystone of the multilateral trade architecture, regional trade agreements (RTAs) and preferential trade arrangements (PTAs) have carved out a growing number of exceptions. As the pace of new RTAs and PTAs is slowing and fears of protectionism are on the rise, many WTO members have begun to evaluate how existing agreements are implemented and how their trade preferences are utilized by business. This session will explore new evidence on the role of preferential trade in the international trading system to address the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) How preferential is preferential trade? (2) What do we know about the utilization of trade preferences in RTAs and PTAs? (3) What are barriers to preference utilization? (4) What role can multilateral institutions play to improve the utilization of trade preferences? (5) What are the implications for the future of the multilateral trading system?

E	Workshop	How should trade agreements be designed to empower women in the digital economy with new forms of service provision	WIDE+	<p>We are facing a fourth 'industrial' revolution in which digital technology is changing the way goods and services are produced and provided. While this is leading to limited growth or decrease of unskilled labour, digitalization has enabled a new model for paid work, in which workers are 'independent contractors'. This kind of work is excluded in trade agreements that regulate and promote decent labour.</p> <p>The workshop builds on the reflections from the previous forum on the digital and gender equality gap, through analyzing these developments from a political economy perspective, assessing the future risks and threats of the new platform economy. It will provide recommendations to counter these threats in the service sector in trade agreements in terms of 1) conceptions of these 'contractors' as providing labour under labour laws, and: 2) effective models and examples of social clauses provision in trade agreements, including new gender and trade chapters.</p>
F	Workshop	Friends of SDGs: innovating the future of trade	Ruspromo Foundation	<p>"Friends of SDGs: Innovating the future of trade" will focus on the role of millennials in shaping the trading system, mainly concentrated by technological factors, that has effects on the way we buy, consume, learn, and socialize with each other throughout the world. The sustainability of the digitalization without compromising the well-being and mode of transparency, inclusiveness and development of all at the same place will be the critical agenda of this session from the new generation's experts on sustainable technology, entrepreneurship, education and youth-led NGOs. Friends of SDGs will enhance the dialogue to cover and promote the sharing economy, sustainable global trade, best practices sharing and shape the coexisting of living in the era of artificial intelligence and the fourth industrial revolution championed by the millennials.</p>
B	Working Session	Industrial policy versus free trade? - Implications for the future of the trading system	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Geneva	<p>In the past year, calls arguing in favour of ambitious industrial policies in the EU have received considerable support – i.e. with the presentation of an industrial strategy by the German government. Equally, a Franco-German manifesto called for a joint EU industrial policy in order to defend technologies, companies and markets against unfair competition from the outside. These proposals have sparked a controversial debate with respect to the consequences for the trading system. However, even those who emphasize the virtues of the EU's current rules and those critical of an assertive industrial policy emphasize the need to consider alternative means in order to guarantee a global level-playing-field. Is it possible to design (European) industrial policies without weakening the</p>

				trading system as a whole? What could be alternative instruments in the WTO-context which could help to establish a global level-playing-field?
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