



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS YAMAN

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Directors
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

FROM : The OIC Director
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ALL TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED MEASURES TAKEN FROM MID-MAY TO MID-OCTOBER 2023**

DATE : 21 SEP 2023

This pertains to the electronic mail dated 19 September 2023 from Ms. Marie Sherylyn D. Aquia, OIC-Director of the Department of Trade and Industry-Bureau of International Trade Relations (DTI-BITR) requesting the Department to provide regarding information on all trade and trade-related measures taken from mid-May to mid-October 2023. These include any updates to and/or elimination of existing measures, as well as measures that were taken specifically in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In providing the requested information, please be guided by the following:

1. Goods trade – indicate the HS Codes of the products concerned;
2. Services trade – indicate changes to or the introduction of new measures affecting market access and conditions of operation of foreign service suppliers;
3. Intellectual property – indicates new developments or changes to existing policies; and
4. General economic support measures – provide information on granted, modified, or withdrawn measures during the covered period, including industry-specific and sectoral assistance.

In cases where measures were already notified to the WTO, please indicate only the document number for reference. Measures taken between 21 September and 15 October 2023 will also be covered during the verification process. A separate request will be sent on the verification in due course.

Attached for your reference are the following templates which you may use in providing your inputs and may be accessed through the following link: <https://bit.ly/3Lq8r5q>. We would appreciate receiving an advance copy of your inputs **on or before 27 September 2023** through e-mail at psddivision@gmail.com, copy furnished to this e-mail address: policy@denr.gov.ph, to facilitate immediate consolidation and subsequent submission to the DTI-BITR.

For your appropriate action, please.


CHERYL LOISE T. LEAL

19 September 2023

(Please see Distribution List)

Dear Sir/Madame:

We refer to the attached communication dated 4 September 2023 from WTO-DG Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala requesting information on all trade and trade-related measures taken from mid-May to mid-October 2023. These include any updates to and/or elimination of existing measures, as well as measures that were taken specifically in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In providing the requested information, please be guided by the following:

- Goods trade – indicate the HS Codes of the products concerned;
- Services trade – indicate changes to or the introduction of new measures affecting market access and conditions of operation of foreign service suppliers;
- Intellectual property – indicate new developments or changes to existing policies; and
- General economic support measures – provide information on granted, modified or withdrawn measures during the covered period, including industry-specific and sectoral assistance.

In cases where measures were already notified to the WTO, please indicate only the document number for reference. Measures taken between 21 September and 15 October 2023 will also be covered during the verification process. A separate request will be sent on the verification in due course.

Attached for your reference are the following templates which you may use in providing your inputs: Annex A for goods; Annex B for services; and Annex C for COVID-related measures. We would appreciate receiving the requested information **on or before 28 September 2023** through email at NormaArpafo@dti.gov.ph and ShairaSteffanyGranada@dti.gov.ph.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



Marie Sherylyn D. Aquia
OIC-Director

Copy : Undersecretary Ceferino S. Rodolfo, DTI-IDTPG
Assistant Secretary Allan B. Gepty, DTI-IDTPG

DTS No. IN00296732

BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE RELATIONS

Philippines' Trade and Trade-related Measures
Trade in Goods
(mid-May to mid-October 2023)

[Agency/Office]

Measure	Source	Weblink	Regulation date	Date of Publication	Date of Effectivity	HS/AHTN 2022 Codes

Philippines' Trade and Trade-related Measures
Trade in Services
 (mid-May to mid-October 2023)

[Agency/Office]

Measure	Mode(s) of Supply	Sectoral Classification	Source	Weblink	Regulation Date	Date of Publication	Date of Effectivity

**Philippines' Trade and Trade-related Measures
Measures Taken in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic
(mid-May to mid-October 2023)**

[Agency/Office]

Measure	Mode(s) of Supply (For Services)	Sectoral Classification (For Services)	HS/AHTN 2022 Codes (For Goods)	Source	Weblink	Regulation Date	Date of Publication	Date of Effectivity



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Direct line: (+41 22) 739 5848
Email: tprd-monitoring@wto.org

EMAIL

To: Members and Observer Governments of the Trade Policy Review Body (TPRB)	Date: 4 September 2023
From: Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala Director-General	

TRADE POLICY REVIEW BODY

REPORT TO THE TPRB ON TRADE-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

In preparation for the next series of trade monitoring reports, I would like to invite all delegations to provide the WTO Secretariat's Trade Monitoring Section (contact details above) with information on all trade and trade-related measures taken from mid-May 2023 to mid-October 2023, including any updates to and/or elimination of existing measures, including measures taken specifically in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you will recall, I have been emphasizing the importance of transparency for the WTO as it is fundamental to any well-functioning global governing body. The outcomes of MC12 sent a strong signal in this regard and our work towards MC13 will continue in that spirit. Transparency directly affects the credibility of the work we do at the WTO and helps equip Members with up-to-date information on trade-related developments. In these efforts, the Trade Monitoring Reports (WTO-wide and G20) are unquestionably fundamental tools in enhancing transparency and predictability. Your participation in this exercise and your inputs are essential in assisting the Secretariat in the preparation of the Reports in the most accurate and comprehensive manner. I therefore ask for your support in providing as complete information as possible within the deadline.

Specifically, in providing information on trade and trade-related measures, for goods' trade, please indicate the HS Codes of the products concerned. In the area of services' trade, delegations are invited to provide information on changes to – or the introduction of new – measures affecting access to markets (in individual service sectors, in all sectors, and/or modes of supply) and conditions of operation of foreign service suppliers. In the area of intellectual property, information is sought on new developments or changes to existing policies. In cases where measures were already notified to the WTO, please simply refer to the document reference. In the area of general economic support measures, Members are invited to provide information on such measures – granted, modified, or withdrawn during this period – including industry specific and sectoral assistance.

It would be appreciated if your inputs could be received by Thursday, **21 September 2023 at the latest** to allow the Secretariat to prepare the relevant country-specific tables for your verification shortly thereafter. Measures taken between 21 September and 15 October 2023 will also be covered during the verification process.

Attached is an illustrative list of measures (restrictive or facilitating) affecting trade in goods, trade in services, intellectual property and general economic support measures covered by the Trade Monitoring Reports. With the objective of ensuring consistency in the format and length of information provided by Members, the attached suggested template provides details on the information requested. The same template can be used for both trade and trade-related measures as well as measures taken in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In July, Members successfully concluded the Seventh Appraisal of the TPRM, and I have noted the outcomes on Trade Monitoring. Specifically, the Secretariat will continue to implement and extend IT solutions that will facilitate the exercise for delegations, including through the digital platform for the submission and verification of measures online. The digital platform is also intended to assist delegations who have not previously participated actively in the Trade Monitoring Exercise and to

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this end tutorials in the TMDB have been developed to guide you on how to use the new platform. Importantly, the use and development of the digital platform is a collaborative effort between the Secretariat and Members, and we look forward to your input in this respect.

I would like to recall that the purpose of this exercise, as stated in the TPRM mandate in Annex 3 of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the WTO, is to achieve greater transparency in, and understanding of, Members' trade and trade-related policies and measures. It is not intended to serve as a basis for the enforcement of obligations under WTO Agreements, nor for dispute settlement purposes, or to impose new policy commitments on Members.

Finally, I would like to encourage those Group Coordinators who have not done so yet, to take advantage of the outreach programme offered by the Secretariat to brief groups, upon request, on the trade monitoring effort, including the new digital platform, to further facilitate the participation of more Members in this exercise.

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
Director-General

**ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF MEASURES (RESTRICTIVE OR FACILITATING) COVERED BY THE
TRADE MONITORING REPORTS**

**TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED MEASURES
(CHANGES MADE DURING THE PERIOD COVERED BY THE REPORT)**

TRADE IN GOODS

Import

- Import tariffs.
- Other fees, charges, and taxes affecting imported products only.
- Import licensing requirements (automatic or non-automatic).
- Import price reference values.
- Quantitative restrictions (quota, ban).

Export

- Export tariffs.
- Other fees, charges, and taxes affecting exports.
- Export price reference values.
- Export licensing requirements (automatic or non-automatic).
- Quantitative restrictions (quota, ban).

Trade Remedy

- Initiation of trade remedy investigation (anti-dumping, countervailing, safeguard).
- Termination of trade remedy investigation (anti-dumping, countervailing, safeguard).
- Terminations of trade remedy duties (provisional and/or definitive).

Other

- Measures implemented in the context of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.
- Rules and formalities in connection with importation or exportation.
- Government procurement regulations (e.g. to establish national preferences or buy-national rules).
- Laws and regulations relating to pre-shipment inspection activities.
- Establishing or dismantling of State trading enterprises, marketing boards.
- Trade-related investment measures such as local content requirements.
- Non-preferential and unilateral preferential rules of origin.
- Subsidies which operate directly or indirectly to increase exports of any product, or to reduce imports of any product.

TRADE IN SERVICES

Services sectors and modes of supply covered in previous reports

- Audio-visual services, construction services, cultural and recreational services, distribution (retail and wholesale), education services, financial services, health care services, maritime services, postal and courier services, professional services, telecommunications.
- Commercial presence of foreign service suppliers (mode 3).
- Temporary movement of natural persons supplying services (mode 4).

GENERAL ECONOMIC SUPPORT

Stimulus packages

- Stimulus packages, state aid.
- Dedicated financial aid/support to specific sectors or any sector-specific incentives.
- Other loans, loan guarantees, transfers, preferential credit lines.
- Investment insurance, export credit/insurance.
- Tax reductions/rebates.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Policies

- New developments or changes to existing policies in trade related aspects of intellectual property rights.

COVID-19 RELATED MEASURES

(Changes made during the period covered by the report)

- The following link provides access to the Members' and Observers webpage only on trade and trade-related measures taken in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid19_e.htm.
- Members and Observers are kindly invited to provide information on new measures taken in response to the pandemic as well as modifications or terminations of existing measures. Only measures with official sources and verified by the concerned Member/Observer will appear on the WTO public website.

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SUGGESTED TEMPLATES FOR SUBMITTING INFORMATION ON TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED MEASURES AND MEASURES TAKEN IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

Import related measures

Example

Measure	Source	Dates	HS Codes
[Reduction] [Increase] [Elimination] on [date] of import tariffs [from x% to x%] on [x product(s)]	Name and serial number of the legislation	[Implementation] [Expiration] date	HS Codes (at 8 digit level)

Export related measures

Example

Measure	Source	Dates	HS Codes
[Reduction] [Increase] [Elimination] on [date] of export duties [from x% to x%] on [x product(s)]	Name and serial number of the legislation	[Implementation] [Expiration] date	HS Codes (at 8 digit level)

Trade remedy measures

Example of anti-dumping and countervailing

Measure	Source	Date	HS Codes
[Initiation] [Termination] on [date] of anti-dumping/countervailing investigation on imports of xx product(s) from xx country(ies)	Name and serial number of the legislation	[Initiation] [Termination] date	HS Codes (at 8 digit level)

Example of safeguard

Measure	Source	Date	HS Codes
[Initiation] [Termination] on [date] of safeguard investigation on imports of [product(s)]	Name and serial number of the legislation	[Initiation] [Termination] date	HS Codes (at 8 digit level)

General economic support measures

Example

Measure	Source	Date
[Aid] [Support] [Subsidy] [Programme] [Initiative] [Scheme] indicating details of funds allocated and sector(s) and product(s) covered	Name and serial number of the legislation	[Initiation] [Termination] date

Policy developments in trade in services

Example

Measure	Mode(s) of Supply	Sectoral Classification	Source	Date
[Brief description of measure introduced (key points)]	(Modes of supply affected by the measure)	(Identification of the sector pursuant to the Services Sectoral Classification (MTN.GNS/W/120))	Name and serial number of the legislation	[Initiation] [Termination] date

Policy developments in trade in intellectual property rights

Example

IP-related initiatives	Source	Date
[Policy, programme or measure concerning the trade dimension of IP]	[Responsible entity]	[Initiation] [Termination] date

Note: The above represents suggested templates which delegations may find helpful in submitting information on trade and trade-related measures. However, Members are encouraged to submit information on such measures even if the information available does not strictly follow the suggested templates.

**Trade Policy Review Body (TPRB) Monitoring
Trade and Trade-Related Measures for Verification
Distribution List**

Bureau of Customs

1. Commissioner Bienvenido Y. Rubio

Attn: Deputy Commissioner Vener S. Baquiran
Ms. Rechilda Oquias
Atty. Julito L. Doria

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

1. Managing Director Thomas Benjamin B. Marcelo
International Monetary Affairs and Surveillance Sub-sector

2. Ms. Mari-Len R. Macasaquit
Department Head, International Relations and Surveillance Department

Attn: Acting Deputy Director Windel Z. Samaniego

Department of Agrarian Reform

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Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Office

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OIC Director Garland Leila A. Cuarteros

Department of Agriculture

1. Assistant Secretary Noel A. Padre
Policy Research Development

Attn: Ms. Tisha Pia de la Rosa
Ms. Sherlene de Torres

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

2. Director Demosthenes Escoto
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

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Mr. Joeren Yleanña
Atty. Mooch Alegre

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OIC Director Cheryl Loise T. Leal

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International Finance Group

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Mr. Ferdinand S. Ortilla

Department of Foreign Affairs

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Multilateral Affairs and International Economic Relations

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Deputy Assistant Secretary Maria Louella C. Duarte
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1. **Director Soledad Q. Antonio, MD, PhD, MPH, PAFP**
Bureau of International Health Cooperation

Attn: Ms. Heidi C. Umadac

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1. **Chief State Counsel Dennis Arvin L. Chan**

Attn: Assistant Chief State Counsel Marlyn Angeles
Atty. Ma. Pamelyn A. Omalin

Department of Labor and Employment

1. **Undersecretary Atty. Benedicto Ernesto R. Bitonio, Jr.**
Labor Relations, Policy and International Affairs

Attn: Director Alice Q. Visperas

Department of Trade and Industry

Bureau of Import Services

1. Director Maria Guiza B. Lim

Attn: Acting Assistant Director Armando Q. Mercado, Jr.

Board of Investments

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Attn: Director Sandra Marie S. Recolizado

Bureau of Philippine Standards

1. Director Neil Catajay

Export Marketing Bureau

1. Director Bianca Pearl Sykimte

Department of Transportation

1. Undersecretary Timothy John R. Batan
Planning and Project Development

Attn: Ms. Jasmin Marie C. Uson

Food and Drug Administration

1. Director General Samuel A. Zacate

Attn: OIC Director Irene Florentino-Fariñas, RPh., MD, MNSA

Government Procurement Policy Board-Technical Support Office

1. Executive Director Rowena Candice M. Ruiz

Attn: Atty. Maria Dionesia A. Guillermo

Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines

1. Director General Rowel S. Barba

Attn: Director Nathaniel S. Arevalo
Director Ann N. Edillon
Atty. Maria Katrina Rivera

As of 19 September 2023

National Economic and Development Authority

1. **Undersecretary Rosemarie G. Edillon**
Policy and Planning Group

Attn: Director Bien Ganapin
Assistant Director Richard Emerson Ballester

Office of the President

1. **Atty. Dana Beatrice G. Lopez**

Tariff Commission

1. **Chairperson Marilou P. Mendoza**
2. **Commissioner Ernesto L. Albano**
3. **Commissioner Marissa Maricosa A. Paderon**