

FORUM: GA2 (Economic and Financial)

QUESTION OF: Encouraging Member States to use the World Trade Organisation as a framework for trade negotiations

SUBMITTED BY: Jamaica

CO-SUBMITTERS: North Macedonia, Holy See, Romania, Bolivia, Ethiopia, WTO, Chile, Spain, Vietnam, Ecuador, Cape Verde, Moldova, Equatorial Guinea, Uzbekistan, Dominica, Malawi, Solomon Islands, ESA, Japan, Sweden, UNWTO

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Affirming the essential role of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in promoting the fair and free trade among the Member States and beneficiaries, including both public sector and private sector who are engaged in the international trade,

Recognizing the need to ensure that the benefits of trade are more widely shared among all nations including Less Economically Developed Nations (LEDCs),

Deeply concerned for the less economically developed nations who are severely impacted by those who violate the World Trade Organisation policies,

Deploring those who exploit the World Trade Organization's policies for economic gain rather than supporting global trade as a whole,

Keeping in mind the six main goals of the World Trade Organisation some of which are routinely broken,

Further alarmed by the several nations that refuse to join the World Trade Organisation,

Recognizing also that multilateral rules and disciplines are the best guarantee against protectionism and they are a fundamental element for adequate international trade, ensuring transparency, stability, and predictability,

Reaffirming also that the Most-favored-nation (MFN) principle is the basis of, promotes, and fosters clean and predictable free trade;

Defining “tariff escalations” as the phenomenon that many industrialized countries have low tariffs for raw materials and high tariffs for manufactured products, in order to protect their domestic manufacturers, effectively reducing the opportunity for developing countries to export their manufactured products and grow their manufacturing industries,

Concerned that the World Trade Organization is vulnerable to the insufficient progress in multilateral trade negotiations and that it is imperative for the World Trade Organization to address issues that are at the heart of current problems in international trade, recognizing the viability and effectiveness of its dispute settlement and negotiating functions,

1. Urges the WTO to work to facilitate the cooperation between Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) and More Economically Developed Countries (MEDC's) in regard to mutually beneficial free trade deals by:
 - a) Suggesting fiscal policies to LEDCs that will strengthen their domestic economy and set a more solid basis of them to trade internationally
 - b) Eliminating the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) Agreement that unfairly benefits MEDC's and creates new intellectual property laws, using the WTO, that allows LEDCs to use potentially life saving patents at a lower rate of payment to the patent holder;

2. Strongly urges Developed Countries to take measures such as but not limited to:
 - a) Transferring the focus of agricultural investment and subsidies from the domestic harvests to the international imports from the Developing Countries under that regulations of WTO, including but not limited to
 - b) Equal payments to the agricultural sector in the Developing Countries from where the Developed Countries buy the agricultural products
 - c) Raise the awareness among the citizens in the Developed Countries that shifting the agricultural imports to the Developing Countries ensures both the living conditions of the Developed Countries and the economies in the Developing Countries by lowering “tariff escalations” which violates the aims and purposes of WTO and cannot bring a sustainable future of the economy for both Developed Countries and Developing Countries;
3. Calls for all WTO Members to further expand their negotiations about the enforcement of labor and sustainable development goals seeking to solve the overall problem of the exploitation of human and finite natural resources;
4. Further invites the WTO to improve trading policies by allowing less economically developed countries to gain equal opportunities as other countries, and asks the organization to further stick to the Most-favored-nation principle,
5. Also encourages the Member States which are currently not a part of the World Trade Organisation to promptly join and abide by the rules and policies recommended to them, having in mind all of the benefits that come with it,
6. Asks that the requirements for the Member States wishing to join to be lowered for easier access and providing incentives for these delegations by:
 - a) Simplifying the process of accession for the prospective countries to join WTO to encourage more countries to cooperate within the organization through
 - i. Replacing the system of accession check, which asks WTO personnel to check in-person, to the self-reporting processed by the nations themselves and checked by the UN personnel as basic economic facts are reported annually and checked by UN
 - ii. Shortening the check time for the WTO to assess the capability of the applicant countries by providing direct entry to the voting procedures in the WTO for all existent Member States to pass or decline accession
 - b) Promoting the aim and purposes of the WTO in a larger scale for creating the improved trade negotiations under the WTO framework
 - c) Ensuring the existent free trade zones flow under the regulations of the WTO, followed by which the newly-formed free trade zones that all of these zones are working under the same regulation and criterion set by the WTO;
7. Urges that the WTO cooperates with the International Labor Organization for preventing the following ethical concerns happening during any form of international trade:
 - a) Abuse of power of the authority that the countries put into the others for exploiting working hours, and illegitimate degradation of human dignity in the working process
 - b) Unequal payments to the workers in the domestic industry that has been contributing to the international trade between the host country and the international society.
8. Further recommends to reshape and renew World Trade Organisation rules and ethics in an attempt to better suit member states’ needs, to ensure fair treatment and inclusivity among all member states as well as potential partnerships, and to encourage the unity of less developed nations and their inclusion into the WTO such as but not limited to;
 - a) Regulating the identification of member states’ level of development to determine the need

- for special treatment,
- b) Considering the terms of reference the Appellate Body can cover and to prevent it from overreaching other areas of administration;