

GROUPS IN THE WTO

Updated 1 July 2013

A number of countries have formed coalitions in the WTO. These groups often speak with one voice using a single coordinator or negotiating team. These are some of the most active groups in the WTO.

Groups	Description / issues	Countries
ACP	<p>African, Caribbean and Pacific countries with preferences in the EU</p> <p>Nature: geographical Issues: preferences, etc</p> <p>www.acpsec.org</p>	<p>WTO members (60): Angola, Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Rep., Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Congo (Democratic Rep.), Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Rep., Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe</p> <p>WTO observers (8): Bahamas, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Liberia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles, Sudan,</p> <p>Not WTO members or observers (11): Cook Islands, Eritrea, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Somalia, Timor-Lesté, Tuvalu</p>
African group	<p>All African WTO members</p> <p>Nature: regional Issues: general</p>	<p>WTO members (42): Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Rep., Chad, Congo, Congo (Democratic Rep.), Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe</p>
Asian developing members	<p>Asian developing WTO members. Announced in document WT/GC/COM/6 of 27 March 2012</p> <p>Nature: regional Issues: general</p>	<p>WTO members (31): Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong China, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Rep. Korea, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Rep., Laos, Macao China, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam</p>
APEC	<p>Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum</p> <p>Nature: regional Issues: general</p> <p>www.apec.org</p>	<p>WTO members (21): Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Japan, Rep. Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, US, Viet Nam</p>
ASEAN	<p>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</p> <p>Nature: regional Issues: general</p> <p>www.asean.org</p>	<p>WTO members (10): Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam</p>

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EU	<p>European Union, in the WTO officially called the European Communities</p> <p>Nature: customs union Issues: general</p> <p>ec.europa.eu</p>	<p>WTO members (29): Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom + European Union</p>
Mercosur	<p>Common Market of the Southern Cone (Mercosul in Portuguese)</p> <p>Nature: customs union Issues: general</p> <p>www.mercosur.int</p>	<p>WTO members (4): Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay</p>
G-90	<p>African Group + ACP + least-developed countries</p> <p>Issues: general</p>	<p>WTO members (68): Angola, Antigua & Barbuda, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Rep., Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Congo (Democratic Rep.), Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Rep., Egypt, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Laos, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe</p> <p>WTO observers (11): Afghanistan, Bahamas, Bhutan, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Liberia, São Tomé & Príncipe, Seychelles, Sudan, Yemen</p> <p>Not WTO members or observers (12): Cook Islands, Eritrea, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu</p>
Least developed countries (LDCs)	<p>Least developed countries: the world's poorest countries. The WTO uses the UN list.</p> <p>www.un.org/special-rep/ohrlls/ldc/list.htm</p> <p>Issues: general</p> <p>Official website: www.ldcgroups.org</p>	<p>WTO members (34): Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Rep., Chad, Congo (Democratic Rep.), Djibouti, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Laos, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, , Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zambia</p> <p>WTO observers (9): Afghanistan, Bhutan, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Liberia, São Tomé & Príncipe, Sudan, Yemen</p>

Groups	Description / issues	Countries
Small, vulnerable economies (SVEs) — agriculture	<p>This list is based on sponsors of proposals. See also: list in Annex I of the 10 July 2008 revised draft agriculture modalities, and footnote 9 (paragraph 65) and paragraph 151.</p> <p>Issues: agriculture</p>	WTO members (15): Barbados, Bolivia, Cuba, Dominican Rep., El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Maldives, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Trinidad & Tobago
Small, vulnerable economies (SVEs) — non-agricultural market access (NAMA)	<p>This list is based on sponsors of proposals. See also: definition in paragraph 13 of the 10 July 2008 revised draft NAMA modalities</p> <p>Issues: NAMA</p>	WTO members (20): Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Bolivia, Dominica, Dominican Rep., El Salvador, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Maldives, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago
Small, vulnerable economies (SVEs) — rules	<p>Sponsors of TN/RL/W/226/Rev.5</p> <p>Issues: Rules (fisheries subsidies)</p>	WTO members (15): Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Rep., El Salvador, Fiji, Honduras, Jamaica, Maldives, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Tonga
Recently acceded members (RAMs)	<p>Recently acceded members (RAMs), ie, countries that negotiated and joined the WTO after 1995, seeking lesser commitments in the negotiations because of the liberalization they have undertaken as part of their membership agreements. Excludes least-developed countries because they will make no new commitments, and EU members</p> <p>Issues: general</p>	WTO members (18): Albania, Armenia, Cape Verde, China, , Ecuador, FYR Macedonia, Georgia, Jordan, Kyrgyz Rep., Moldova, Mongolia, Oman, Panama, Saudi Arabia, Chinese Taipei, Tonga, Ukraine, Viet Nam
Low-income economies in transition	<p>Seeking to secure the same treatment as least-developed countries. (Georgia formally withdrew, but in the agriculture draft the full list is: Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyz Rep, Moldova)</p> <p>Issues: Agriculture</p>	WTO members (3): Armenia, Kyrgyz Rep., Moldova
Cairns group	<p>Coalition of agricultural exporting nations lobbying for agricultural trade liberalization.</p> <p>Issues: agriculture</p> <p>www.cairnsgroup.org</p>	WTO members (19): Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, Uruguay

Groups	Description / issues	Countries
Tropical products group	Coalition of developing countries seeking greater market access for tropical products Issues: Agriculture	WTO members (8): Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru
G-10	Coalition of countries lobbying for agriculture to be treated as diverse and special because of non-trade concerns (not to be confused with the Group of Ten Central Bankers) Issues: agriculture	WTO members (9): Chinese Taipei, Rep. Korea, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mauritius, Norway, Switzerland
G-20	Coalition of developing countries pressing for ambitious reforms of agriculture in developed countries with some flexibility for developing countries (not to be confused with the G-20 group of finance ministers and central bank governors, and its recent summit meetings) Issues: agriculture www.g-20.mre.gov.br	WTO members (23): Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zimbabwe
G-33	Also called “ Friends of Special Products ” in agriculture. Coalition of developing countries pressing for flexibility for developing countries to undertake limited market opening in agriculture Issues: agriculture	WTO members (46): Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, China, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Rep., El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Rep. Korea, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tanzania, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Cotton-4	West African coalition seeking cuts in cotton subsidies and tariffs Issues: agriculture (cotton)	WTO members (4): Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali
NAMA 11	Coalition of developing countries seeking flexibilities to limit market opening in industrial goods trade Issues: NAMA	WTO members (10): Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Namibia, Philippines, South Africa, Tunisia, Venezuela

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'Paragraph 6' countries	<p>Group of countries with less than 35% of non-agricultural products covered by legally bound tariff ceilings. They have agreed to increase their binding coverage substantially, but want to exempt some products. (In paragraph 6 of the first version of the NAMA text, later paragraph 8.)</p> <p>Issues: NAMA</p>	WTO members (12): Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Kenya, Macao China, Mauritius, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Zimbabwe
Friends of Ambition (NAMA)	<p>Seeking to maximize tariff reductions and achieve real market access in NAMA. (Some nuanced differences in positions.)</p> <p>Issues: NAMA</p>	WTO members (35): Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Rep., Denmark, Estonia, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Rep., Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, US
Friends of Anti-Dumping Negotiations (FANs)	<p>Coalition seeking more disciplines on the use of anti-dumping measures</p> <p>Issues: Rules (anti-dumping)</p>	WTO members (15): Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong China, Israel, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Mexico, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Turkey
Friends of Fish (FoFs)	<p>Informal coalition seeking to significantly reduce fisheries subsidies. From time to time other WTO members also identify themselves as "Friends of Fish"</p> <p>Issues: Rules (subsidies)</p>	WTO members (11): Argentina, Australia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, US
'W52' sponsors	<p>Sponsors of TN/C/W/52, a proposal for "modalities" in negotiations on geographical indications (the multilateral register for wines and spirits, and extending the higher level of protection beyond wines and spirits) and "disclosure" (patent applicants to disclose the origin of genetic resources and traditional knowledge used in the inventions). The list includes as groups: the EU, ACP and African Group.</p> <p>* Dominican Rep. is in the ACP and South Africa is in the African Group, but they are sponsors of TN/IP/W/10/Rev.2 on geographical indications</p> <p>Issues: Intellectual property (TRIPS)</p>	WTO members (109): Albania, Angola, Antigua & Barbuda, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Rep., Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Rep, Congo (Democratic Rep.), Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Rep.*, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, EU, Fiji, Finland, FYR Macedonia, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyz Rep., Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Moldova, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovak Rep., Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, South Africa*, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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Joint proposal	Sponsors of TN/IP/W/10/Rev.2 proposing a database that is entirely voluntary www.wto.org/trips#issues Issues: TRIPS GI register	WTO members (20): Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Chinese Taipei, South Africa, US