

It is time for action

The 2023 Public Forum will explore how trade and the WTO can help create a greener and more sustainable future. In particular, it will delve into how the services sector, digitalisation and inclusive trade policies can support this objective.

The Forum has three subthemes:

- The role of the services sector in sustainable trade
- Inclusive policies for the advancement of green trade
- Digitalisation as a tool for the greening of supply chains

Climate change is one of the most critical issues of our time. The global community must take action now to live up to the objectives of the Paris Agreement and keep alive the ambition of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees. According to the United Nations' Secretary-General, we are headed for a 2.8-degree increase without urgent action. Trade can be one of the solutions in helping the planet get back on track for meeting the ambition of 1.5 degrees. Taking action together can create a more sustainable, green and resilient future!

By embracing inclusive growth and sustainable policies, the world can not only tackle climate change but also address other pressing challenges, such as biodiversity loss, the high cost of living and slow economic growth. International trade plays a vital role here. It can increase the availability and affordability of environmental goods and technologies, align climate policies and accelerate the transition to a global low-carbon economy. This can help countries work towards their national plans to cut emissions and adapt to climate impacts while contributing to the collective goal of tackling global warming head on. It is time for action!

Public Forum 2023 *** "It is Time for Action" (As of 24 th July)		
12 September 2023		
14:00-15:00		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Launch of the World Trade Report 2023	World Trade Organization (WTO)	TBC
17:00-17:45		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Conversation with the Director-General	World Trade Organization (WTO)	TBC
13 September 2023		
10:00-10:45		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Presidential Lecture	World Trade Organization (WTO)	TBC
11:00-12:30		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Forging Trade for a Sustainable Future	World Trade Organization (WTO)	This panel will explore how we can accelerate climate action with value chains, while promoting globally minded policies that support local and international initiatives. From nationally determined contributions to market-based solutions, this panel will tackle the big questions and uncover practical solutions for a more sustainable future.
12:30-13:30		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Book Launch - The Trade Handbook: Making Trade Work for Prosperity, People and Planet by Arancha González Laya	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	We are living in turbulent times. Trade, as globalisation is facing major economic, geopolitical and societal shifts. Trade continues to drive job creation, growth, innovation, development and poverty reduction. Simultaneously, trade is also raising legitimate concerns about resilience, distribution, inclusion and the environment. More recently concerns about national security, dependencies and technology are redrawing trade maps. In today's complex trade ecosystem, the Trade Handbook provides the reader with a comprehensive view of why open trade and economic integration matter, where trade is headed, how to regulate it, and how it can work for everyone – not just some or most. If in the past the focus has been on making trade possible, i.e. negotiating trade agreements, the Trade Handbook suggests to pay the same attention to making trade happen, and most importantly, to ensure trade works for all. Basically, how to make trade effectively work for prosperity, people and planet.
Meet the Author: Revitalizing the WTO by Alan Wm. Wolff	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	In recent years, the world trading system has been confronted by a range of new and developing challenges: the risk of climate change, the instability of the digital economy, the ongoing impacts of

		<p>COVID-19 and the threat of future pandemics, to name but a few. In this book, veteran trade negotiator, Ambassador Alan Wm. Wolff, draws from his years of experience at the World Trade Organization to consider the history of trade, the current trading system and how it should be reformed in the future. Offering a rare insight into the inner workings of the WTO, Wolff is uniquely placed to identify deficiencies in the current system and suggest actionable solutions. This essential guidebook to the WTO equips readers with the tools and knowledge required to tackle to emerging and emergent challenges of a global trading system.</p> <p>> Addresses how the WTO has tackled some of the most important contemporary issues, including pandemics, climate change, and economic development</p> <p>> Suggests actionable ways to reform the WTO and update the trading system to meet emerging challenges</p> <p>> Offers an accessible introduction to the management of the world trading system and its history</p>
13:30-14:45		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
The Route to Transport Decarbonisation	World Trade Organization (WTO)	This panel will explore the opportunities and challenges to facilitate the movement and take-up of zero- and low-emissions technologies in transport, as well as the role that trade policy can play in the broader decarbonisation agenda.
15:15-16:30		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Empowering Rural Women for Action: Inclusive Policies for Sustainable and Resilient Livelihoods in the Circular Economy	International Trade Facilitation Association Thistleberry Food Company Limited	This panel session explores the role of inclusive policies in empowering rural women for sustainable livelihoods in the circular economy. By advocating for their active participation, the session addresses the theme of trade's contribution to a greener and more sustainable future. We share best practices, strategies, and case studies to highlight the transformative potential of inclusive policies. Key questions include: How can inclusive policies empower rural women in the circular economy? What challenges do they face in accessing resources and markets? How can trade facilitate their access to environmental goods and technologies? By fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange, this session aims to inspire action and create an enabling environment for rural women's empowerment, promoting a more sustainable and resilient future.
Including People and Fish – Sustainable Trade and Targeting Unsustainable Subsidies	Pacific Network on Globalisation (PANG) World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF) Handelskampanjen	Sustainable Development Goal 14.6 has given a clear mandate to the WTO to take action, while some have claimed that the SDG mandate has been achieved the unaddressed issues of Special and Differential Treatment and subsidies for overfishing and over capacity suggest there is still much work to be done. Any further collective action on sustainable trade relating to fisheries subsidies must get the balance right for Developing Countries, Least Developed Countries and Small Island States to be able to develop and support their domestic industries with the need to reduce levels of unsustainable fisheries subsidies. This session will focus discussion on the AFS and ongoing negotiations for a fisheries subsidies outcome on overfishing and SDT by providing insights from affected coastal communities, civil society and trade officials to examine how action can be take to target those most responsible for overfishing while protecting small-scale fishers.
Impact de l'agriculture intensive dans un monde climatiquement instable et solutions	ompouyi-la-ferme-biologique (OFB)	La séance permettra à un panel d'invité et d'intervenants de pouvoir discuter sur les opportunités qu'offres les changement climatiques sur une réorganisation des méthodes de culture en adoptant des méthodes plus écologique, plus digitale par l'usage des systèmes de livraisons automatisés. Cela

		permettra de mieux gérer les approvisionnements et la production agricole, lutter contre les gaspillages alimentaires, et la préservations des terres pour un développement durable.
Promoting a Level Playing Field for Steel Decarbonization	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	Accelerating the decarbonization of heavy industry is crucial for combatting climate change and meeting the targets of the Paris Agreement. The steel sector is responsible for around 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions, but there are technologies available today that can help cut those emissions. A level playing field and the right policy environment is important for supporting investments in these technologies and enabling all industry participants to move together toward a low-greenhouse gas future. However, as regions explore different approaches to incentivize decarbonization, and avoid carbon leakage, fragmentation is a growing challenge. This session will discuss the main challenges and opportunities for ensuring a level playing field for steel decarbonization, and the contribution of the global trade system.
Trade Winds	Peterson Institute for International Economics (PIIE)	A live Trade Winds session that will address questions pertinent questions like -What can we expect of MC13? -How is the WTO reform agenda progressing?
How Trade can Enable an Inclusive Transition to a Circular Economy	TradeExperettes (TE)	Transitioning from a linear “take-make-dispose” economy to a circular economy is seen by the international community as a way to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and to promote a global low-carbon economy. It can also contribute to socio-economic development by creating new jobs and sources of value. Trade rules and policies can support these efforts by enabling an inclusive transition that leaves no-one behind. However, questions remain about how to translate these trade ambitions into concrete actions. For instance, do current trade rules provide adequate policy space to promote this transition? What new tools are needed to ensure an inclusive transition for developing economies? Through an analysis of the challenges and experiences of some developing countries, with a particular focus on Latin America, this session will explore how trade can promote the transition to an inclusive circular economy, addressing environmental problems while contributing to socio-economic development.
Boosting Green Trade: Integrating Marginalised Voices	Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of India (ALEAP)	Businesses are considering an array of measures aimed at boosting green trade, including the following: harmonising environment-based technical regulations; mandating the use of sustainably produced parts and components across the entire supply chain; facilitating the use of technology in supply chain visibility and traceability; implementing policies that support sustainable agricultural practices etc. The working session titled Boosting Green Trade: Integrating marginalised voices will explore the opportunities and challenges for marginalised voices – MSMEs, gender empowerment groups and women– arising from participation in initiatives aimed at enhancing trade in products with low carbon footprint. The session will also discuss how best these stakeholders can leverage trade in climate-friendly technologies for facilitating decarbonisation and boosting climate mitigation activities. The session will seek to identify solutions that could work best for the marginalised stakeholders in enhancing green trade, while transitioning to a low carbon emission trajectory.
Critical Minerals Extraction, Processing and Trade: North and South Perspectives	Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch (PCGTW) Mighty Earth	As the United States, the European Union and other governments scale up sustainability investments to meet Paris climate commitments, the rush toward securing critical minerals used in electric vehicle batteries has intensified. There is a danger that, in the name of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the Global North, valuable resources will be extracted irresponsibly from Global South countries and vulnerable communities in a continuation of the historically colonialist North-South relationship. In order to achieve a just, equitable energy transition, the process of sourcing those minerals must not contribute to worker exploitation and environmental degradation in the communities where these minerals are located. In this session, experts will discuss how to ensure that human and labor rights and high environmental standards are protected throughout the EV supply chain, particularly in the context of a number of “critical minerals agreements” that have been feverishly pursued in recent months.

Rethinking Global Financial Governance for Sustainable Development	Permanent Mission of Barbados	Many of the countries on the frontlines of climate devastation are unable to access the necessary financing because of multilateral financial systems that have matured with the realities of today. Climate financing is crucial to supporting mitigation and adaptive actions but should not disadvantage already highly indebted nations. The Bridgetown Initiative highlights the current problems but also sets out some solutions. It proposes a reform of the current global financial by inter alia, providing liquidity support, restoring debt sustainability, mobilizing private sector investment for green transformations, and increasing official sector development lending. These are all aligned with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. This panel will bring together one of the main architects of the Initiative along with development practitioners, academics and financial institutions to discuss why the Bridgetown Initiative makes sense and why it matters.
How trade policy can make (climate) migration work	Borderlex	Trade policy has not given migration the attention it deserves. Making migration inclusive will become a salient issue as climate change will turbo-charge global migration and trade policy can have a role to play. This panel proposes to: - Explain current and future trends in global migration, including how climate change will affect the migration conversation - Highlight economics latest research on the interlinkages between trade and migration - Discuss how trade policy, competitiveness, migration and climate policies can work together - Take stock of how trade policy deals with migration and make proposals on what it could do better - not least in light of the coming climate change upheaval
Digital Transformation within the Secretariat	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	TBC
17:00-18:15		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Leveraging Global Semiconductor Trade for Sustainability: Powering Sustainability and Net Zero through Global Trade and the WTO	Singapore Semiconductor Industry Association (SSIA) Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)	Global trade in semiconductors and the digitalization it powers will play a critical role in driving global sustainability across industries. These tiny yet powerful devices form the backbone of modern digitalized technologies. WTO has facilitated the wide deployment of semiconductor-enabled technologies that have powered energy efficiency improvements and revolutionized the way the economy functions in the digital age. Given the intricate global supply chains for semiconductors, it is vital the WTO to move forward with new initiatives to further facilitate the deployment of emissions-reducing technologies through initiatives such as the further expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA-3), maintaining the E-Commerce Moratorium, and strengthening the WTO as a global institution to support and guide rules-based trade across technologies and markets. This panel aims to explore the intricate relationship between global semiconductor trade, de-carbonization, and energy efficiency, with a particular focus on the significance of WTO trade policies and new WTO initiatives.
Green energy investments in Africa: Opportunities and challenges for scaling up	Permanent Mission of South Africa, Permanent Mission of Norway	Africa can play a leading role as the world's energy systems transition to a net zero future. The continent is rich on solar and wind, and its soils are home to many minerals and rare earths needed for clean energy technologies. The growth necessary for Africa's prosperity necessitates a just transition that takes into account Africa's energy needs and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the future. Scaling up investments in green energy in Africa makes both a good business and sustainability case, spurring African countries to trade more while combatting climate change effectively. The world has the green energy solutions, Africa has enough sun and wind to power the world, investors want good investment opportunities. This session, organized by South Africa and Norway, featuring private sector, government representatives and academia, will explore opportunities and challenges to scaling up investments in green energy in Africa.

Can plurilateralism provide an inclusive pathway to address the climate crisis?	Faculty of Law, University of Auckland (FoL, UoA) Demand Climate Justice (DCJ) Boston University Global Development Policy Center (GDP)	Plurilateral negotiations, most recently through Joint Statement Initiatives (JSIs), have emerged as one pathway to negotiate on matters for which there is currently no consensus among WTO Members, such as environment and climate change. There are currently several plurilateral initiatives underway, including the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD) and trade in environmental goods and environmental services, as well as among some Members for an Agreement on Climate Change Trade and Sustainability. This panel of experts on trade rules, climate change, development, indigenous and Pacific peoples will examine whether such plurilaterals can provide an inclusive and effective solution for advancing environmental sustainability and climate change policies in the trade context.
Inclusive policies in the Amazon: local development as a driver for environmental conservation	Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (ApexBrasil Europe) Permanent Mission of Brazil	The Amazon extends itself through 9 Latin American countries, being home to 28 million people just in Brazil. To promote inclusiveness, the three dimensions of sustainability must be taken into account. While solutions range from financing local communities to empowering women-led farms, it requires a legal framework to ensure that agriculture plays a positive role to local livelihoods while preserving the rainforest. Regional products like açaí, guarana and cashew nuts have an estimated market of USD 176 bi a year, and can play an important role in local sustainable development. However, trade barriers and private standards can hamper these opportunities. The synergy of Governments, producers and funds of preservation is essential to grant sustainable development and to guarantee environmental conservation. Join our panel to learn more about policies and cases of success in the Amazon that help to preserve forest resources and to increase the livelihood of local producers.
Ending Harmful Fisheries Subsidies: From Commitment to Reality	The Pew Charitable Trusts (PEW) World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF) International Institute For Sustainable Development (IISD) Friends of Ocean Action (FOA)	Over a billion people depend on fish as primary source for protein and a 100 million are directly dependent on fishing for their livelihoods. According to the UN FAO, 1/3 of global fish stocks are already exploited beyond sustainable levels. In 2022, the WTO reached a landmark agreement to finally end subsidized overfishing. By speeding up the entry into force of this agreement and complementing it with additional rules to tackle all harmful fisheries subsidies, WTO members can make a crucial contribution to restoring and maintaining the sustainability of fish stocks and supporting livelihoods. This session showcases perspectives from high level representatives, fisheries experts and environmental advocates. The panel will discuss why swift ratification and successful implementation of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies as well as an ambitious result from the second wave of negotiations is urgently needed to support coastal communities, ocean health and build resilience to climate change.
Harnessing Latin America's Potential: Pioneering Sustainable Agriculture to Address Global Food Security	Grupo de miembros de América Latina ante la OMC, Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura (IICA)	Latin America is a critical force in sustainable agriculture, with diverse ecosystems covering almost 40% of the planet. Rich in natural resources, including over half of the world's primary forests, the region holds great promise for a sustainable future. Despite representing 10% of the global population, Latin America contributes only 3.8% of greenhouse gas emissions. It plays a vital role in global food security and nutrition, responsible for 17% of the net export value of agricultural and fishery products, projected to reach 25% by 2028. The event aims to highlight how the region's best practices foster productivity, profitability, and equitable economic and social development. Join us in tapping into Latin America's agricultural potential, cultivating a sustainable path towards global food security while promoting social inclusivity and economic prosperity. Co-sponsors: Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú, República Dominicana and Uruguay.
Seminar on Promoting Smallholders' Inclusion in the Advancement of Green Trade	Permanent Mission of Indonesia	Green trade should contribute to the broader objectives of achieving sustainability, aimed at creating a harmonious relationship between economic development, social well-being, and environmental stewardship. Within this context, smallholders play a crucial role in green trade and sustainable development. By promoting the inclusive and active role of smallholders in green trade, the objectives of promoting sustainable agriculture, environment protection, rural development, as well as inclusive and equitable global trade system could be achieved. The seminar focuses on how pro-smallholders' inclusive

		policies are developed as the key to advancing the green trade in different countries and the strategies to increase their effective implementation. The seminar aims, among others, to examine the role of smallholder farmers in promoting sustainable practices as well as to identify challenges that hinder their participation in green trade initiatives.
Private Sector adaptability to a new and greener trade environment	BMJ Associated Consultants (BMJ) International Chamber of Commerce of Brazil (ICC Brazil)	The growing global concern regarding environmental protection and the fight against climate change has resulted in specific international trade legislations that significantly impact developing countries and their companies. This panel intends to debate how the private sector can overcome the new challenges that arise from new environmental legislations, such as new private standards and certifications. The discussion also aims to discuss how the countries and the companies can work together to ensure that these new regulations do not become trade barriers and affect sustainable growth worldwide. The panel will be hosted by representatives from the private sector, institutions, and government authorities to address key challenges presented by new environmental regulations to companies and countries.
Managing Materials for a Sustainable Future	Permanent Mission of Costa Rica Permanent Mission of Canada	The Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD) have aimed to include a broad range of issues in its agenda, focusing on four thematic areas: environmental goods and services; trade-related climate measures; circular economy – circularity; and subsidies. Exploring on possible practices for a sustainable future from the perspective of raw material sustainable sourcing and use coincides with what Ministers agreed to in TESSD's Ministerial Declaration at MC12, which states "Explore opportunities and possible approaches for promoting and facilitating trade in environmental goods and services to meet environmental and climate goals, including including through addressing supply chain, technical and regulatory elements".
Greening the WTO: Strengthening the World Trading System as an Ally in the Quest for Inclusive Climate Policies	Columbia University Law School (CLS) International Monetary Fund (IMF)	How is the WTO contributing to the goal of inclusive climate policies, and what more can be done? This is the first of two panels that explore existing and potential roles of the WTO in the critical discussion of inclusive climate policies. Recognizing that WTO structures and provisions may either promote or impede inclusive climate mitigation and adaptation, panelists will identify the limits of the existing WTO mandate and explore avenues to do more. Among angles to be considered: • What adjustments would enhance the WTO's role as an efficient player in the global discourse on inclusive climate policies? • How might past cooperation with organizations like the IMF and World Bank inform our understanding of options to enhance WTO cooperation on climate measures under the UNFCCC and Paris Climate Agreement? • Can the recent turn toward more "deliberative" WTO approaches promote WTO cooperation on inclusive climate policies?
14 September 2023		
09:00-10:15		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Global Environmental Challenges – Inclusive Solutions	Permanent Mission of India Permanent Mission of South Africa Permanent Mission of Indonesia	This session will focus on identifying the potential levers relevant to the working of the WTO in addressing the global environmental challenges. It is critical that the voices of the developing countries find a strong place in the WTO discussions on this critical global topic. This is vital for discussing solutions which move away from straight-jacketed trade discussions to real actions which will make a difference. Promoting industrialization with a green focus in the developing countries requires deployment of international capital, technology and know-how, which addresses equitable use of global carbon space. The speakers will elaborate how this can be done in a way, so as to achieve desirable global environmental outcomes.
Kicking away the ladder or building new scaffolding? Green trade measures and	Overseas Development Institute (ODI)	Urgent action is needed to address the climate emergency and new sectoral initiatives driven by the need to achieve net-zero have arisen, including in the textiles and clothing sector. This sector has historically

their development implications – a focus on the textiles and clothing global value chain		been archetypal in reducing poverty through trade, enabling countries to gain a foothold into industrialisation and global value chains. However, the impact of new green trade measures could unleash new exclusionary forces as supply chains adjust to new regulatory requirements. Unless mitigated, this process could undermine the very objectives the new policy instruments seek to achieve, as well as broader global commitments on sustainable development as part of the 2030 Agenda. This panel draws on country experiences from Africa and Asia to explore the nexus of environmental, social and economic upgrading within the textiles and clothing value chain. It draws out the implications for inclusive policies for the advancement of green trade.
Young voices from Africa – Harnessing digital tools for sustainable trade	Multilateral Dialogue Geneva Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)	With limited job opportunities in recent times, entrepreneurship provides alternative means of livelihood for most people outside the formal job market, particularly the youth. Aided by the rapid adoption of mobile technology across the continent, including new forms of digital payments, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs are finding new opportunities to leverage these tools to drive environmentally friendly trade. However, conversations around inclusive trade, digitalization and environmental sustainability will not be complete without consideration of the informal sector - a dominant feature of trade in Africa and a significant contributor to the region's economy. This session, organised by the Young African TradeExpertettes and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, will discuss ways to unleash its entrepreneurial power through the use of digital technologies in support of greener and more sustainable trade. Particular focus will be given to financial inclusion policies which are crucial to the success of this transformation.
A Green Trade Agenda for Africa - Towards a Transformative Trade Approach to Strengthen Africa Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Resilience	Dynamics Impact Advisory (DIA) International Climate Change Development Initiative- Africa (ICCDI Africa) The Open African Innovation Research Network (Open AIR), University of Ottawa Centre for Law, Technology and Society (Open AIR)	African countries contribute the least to global warming, but are among the world's most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Investments in adaptation and mitigation measures that facilitates sustainable trade, can yield high economic dividends for African nations and accelerate the continent's Sustainable Development Agenda. This session will focus on how the four transformational pillars of Regulations and Policies, Infrastructure, Digitalisation, and Finance, can facilitate green trade in Africa. Trade and climate policy coherence provides opportunities for Africa to harness its huge resource potential to achieve the targets of sustainable economic growth. This will create significant market opportunities on the continent, especially for the private sector and institutional investors. Investment for expansion of trade in environmental goods and services, the implementation of sustainability standards, and the greening of global value chains can increase the share of sustainable trade, and have the potential to significantly influence world trade patterns.
Standards, Decarbonization and Trade Liberalization	Permanent Mission of Uruguay	Abstract This session discusses the idea of an innovative framework based on mutual certification of carbon neutral/negative goods as a trade promoting avenue to push forward the decarbonization of the international productive structure and at the same time promote the liberalization of trade. At present the WTO members have several fronts of environmental negotiations open; some of them have been undergoing for many years, but to this date there have not been substantial results on this file, with the exemption of the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement. Building on the idea of the Environmental Goods Agreement, we propose to overcome the discussion about the definition of an environmental good and approach the subject from a carbon content and certification perspective. This idea relies heavily in the developing of international standard for carbon content and accounting that we believe will be pushed forward by unilateral trade-environmental measures taken by major trading members.
Designing Climate Change Policies to Meet the Needs of Developing Countries: The Role of the US, the EU and China	Center on Inclusive Trade and Development, Georgetown Law (CITD)	This session will explore how to design climate change policies, including carbon border adjustments, carbon clubs and industrial subsidies in ways that consider the particular needs and challenges facing developing countries. The session will start by examining current policies in the U.S.(Jennifer Hillman), the European Union (Cecilia Malmstrom) and China (Henry Gao), particularly the United States' increasing

	AIG Global Trade Series (AIG-GTS)	reliance on industrial subsidies, the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and China's role as the largest producer of renewable energy goods and critical minerals. It will explore the economic and trade implications of those policies on developing countries, particularly their potential to exacerbate inequities and raise trade tensions. The session will close with proposals to use trade tools to coordinate border measures in a way that encourages positive policy action without substantially disadvantaging poorer countries and to design industrial policies that encourage the transfer of green technology to developing countries.
Unveiling Trade Secrets: Exploring the Implications of trade agreements for AI Regulation in the Global South	Data Privacy Brazil Research Association (DPBR) Brazilian Network for the Integration of Peoples (REBRIP)	Harnessing artificial intelligence in the digital economy architecture requires a comprehensive approach. The advancement of AI technologies can establish meaningful interactions with the socio-economic and rights development processes. When negotiating source code and algorithms rules, policymakers must move beyond strict trade considerations and also embrace the importance of human rights, local needs and inequalities among countries. This is crucial to effectively realize a future characterized by inclusive, equitable, and sustainable development. The session addresses shared Global South's needs to promote proper AI regulations that ensure a high level of human rights protection and do not prevail over a discipline on source code and/or algorithms. In particular, examine common challenges and identify the current social, regulatory and policy space needs of these countries when AI and digital trade rules are approaching.
Does IPEF offer a new model of trade agreements to address sustainability & the climate crisis?	IBON International Foundation, Inc. (IBON International) Dewan Perniagaan Melayu Malaysia (DPMM) Malaysian Agroecology Society for Sustainable Resource Intensification (SRI-Mas) Bumiputera Economic Action Council/Majlis Tindakan Ekonomi Melayu (MTEM)	The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) involving Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the USA and Vietnam is a new model of trade agreement. Principles of sustainability and inclusivity are embedded across four pillars of trade, supply chains, clean economy and fair economy. Novel rules, commitments to good regulatory practices and forms of cooperation aim to enhance affordable and reliable access to environmental goods, services and technologies, resilience of supply chains and transition to a global low-carbon economy. This panel examines the implications of the IPEF model for multilateralism, developing countries, Indigenous Peoples, climate change, sustainability and green trade.
Making trade work for women: key learnings from the World Trade Congress on Gender	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	International trade provides women with economic opportunities as shown by research. But trade needs to work better for women because they still face higher obstacles than men to fully reap its benefits. In the last decade, more governments are including gender relevant measures in their trade policies, with the purpose of achieving gender equality in trade and make it more inclusive. They are being vastly aware that using trade to integrate women in the economy can have positive ripple effects on sustainable growth. Supporting these policy trends, the WTO Gender Research Hub, an international network of trade and gender researchers, was created by the WTO in May 2021 and in December 2022, it organised the World Trade Congress on Gender, the first research conference on trade and gender held internationally. This publication, includes some of the most significant research presented at the conference.
The Rachman Review	Financial Times (FT)	WTO Director-General Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala sits with the FT's Gideon Rachman for a conversation
Unpacking the promise of a sustainable and inclusive trade agenda and the reality for Indigenous Peoples	INDIGI-X	Addressing Indigenous Peoples' rights, interests, duties, and responsibilities in international trade agreements requires meaningful opportunities for Indigenous Peoples' participation in trade negotiations. However, over the last 25 years, there has only been incremental advancement. Domestic implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as policies and laws that support reconciliation with settler governments, such as Australia, Canada, and New Zealand, have led to some positive developments toward inclusive trade policy. These policies have included new provisions that support trade promotion for goods and services produced by Indigenous businesses, as well as

		exceptions and carve-outs that protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples in each country's trade arrangements. Looking forward, international trade instruments which incorporate Indigenous worldviews that support sustainability, such as the Indigenous Peoples Economic and Trade Co-operation Arrangement, are critical innovations for advancing 'green' trade.
10:45-12:00		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Inclusive Strategies for Sustainable Trade	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	Climate change affects every corner of the globe, and its impacts are disproportionately felt by vulnerable communities. Inclusive climate action recognizes the unique challenges faced by different regions, cultures, and socioeconomic groups. By actively involving and empowering these communities in decision-making processes, we can develop comprehensive strategies that address their specific needs, protect their rights, and promote environmental justice. This panel seeks to explore how to better engage with diverse stakeholders. It is guided by the belief that acknowledging and embracing the diversity of perspectives, voices, and experiences is not only a moral imperative but a strategic approach to address the complex and intertwined issues we face today.
12:30-13:30		
Meet the Author: The Economic Government of the World: 1933-2023 by Martin Daunton	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	The Economic Government of the World is the first history to show how trade, international monetary relations, capital mobility and development impacted on and influenced each other. Martin Daunton places these economic relations in the geo-political context of the twentieth century, and considers the importance of economic ideas and of political ideology, of electoral calculations and institutional design. The book rests on extensive archival research to provide a powerful analysis of the origins of our current global crisis, and suggests how we might build a fairer international order.
13:30-14:45		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
The Digital Boost to Green Innovation	World Trade Organization (WTO)	Digital tools have the potential to unleash the power of the global economy, bringing people closer together and unlocking new opportunities for companies of all sizes. Digitalisation offers opportunities to overcome barriers to growth, enhance access to trade, and revolutionize the delivery of goods and services. However, it also introduces complexities, such as defining and measuring digital trade, determining openness in the digital era, and adapting existing trade rules to the changing environment. This panel will bring together leaders from international organisations, the private sector and civil society to discuss approaches to ensuring inclusive sharing of benefits and opportunities of digital technologies while serving the needs of the environment.
15:15-16:30		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Ally-shoring Critical Minerals for A Green Transition: Reimagining the WTO's Role in Managing Confrontations and Disruptions	China International Business and Economic Law (CIBEL) Centre, Faculty of Law & Justice, UNSW Sydney (CIBEL Centre, UNSW Law & Justice) Yong Pung How School of Law,	Governments worldwide are taking mounting efforts to transition to a greener economy. This transition is leading to a global race for access to critical minerals based on defensive and proactive strategies and a wide array of policy tools. As these strategies are adopted either unilaterally or between allies, they are increasingly disrupting rather than securing access to critical minerals and consequently are creating growing tensions between resource-rich and resource-seeking economies. Even between allies, their strategies in pursuit of diversified and reliable critical mineral supply chains are inherently competitive

	Singapore Management University (YPHSL, SMU) Van Bael & Bellis (VBB)	and may generate friction. This session will bring together leading commentators from four major jurisdictions – the US, the EU, China and Mexico – to discuss the latest developments of critical mineral strategies. It will explore: How may such strategies cause confrontations and disruptions regionally and globally? What role can the WTO play in addressing these challenges at the multilateral level?
Catalysing Green Trade: Indigenous Women Entrepreneurs Shaping Sustainable Policies	Institute of Export & International Trade (IOE&IT) Organization for Women in International Trade - UK (OWIT UK) Permanent Mission of Ecuador	The impact of the climate crisis disproportionately affects women, particularly those who rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. As valuable contributors to sustainable trade, learnings from indigenous women's green practices and experiences are key to addressing climate change. This session will showcase stories from indigenous traders and examine the issues they face as they embark on their entrepreneurial journeys, looking at the inclusive green policies that can support them and bring them into global supply chains. Representatives from academia, NGOs, inter-governmental organisations and global trade experts will share best practices for inclusive policies. Session outcomes will include recommendations for national governments to create a policy environment that fosters inclusive green trade, from grassroots through the supply chain. It will link with the established United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), which provides a platform for indigenous women to engage with states on sustainable development issues, including trade.
Bridging the Digital Divide for Transition to a Greener Economy	Ministry of Trade, Türkiye	Benefiting from artificial intelligence and big data, transition to paperless trading, increasing digital jobs, decreasing transport costs through distant working, learning and even health treatment all are examples of digital transformation aspects that help improving environmental conditions and transition to green transformation. However, not all countries can benefit from the positive impacts of digital transformation equally. This is in particular true for developing countries as they experience a huge digital gap with the developed countries. It is apparent that developing countries that bridge this digital divide will be better set to compete in today's increasingly green economy. The foreseen session in this year's Public Forum is intended to open up a discussion on the benefits of digital transformation, the digital gap that developing countries experience and how can the bridging of this gap help efforts for the transition of developing countries to a greener economy.
Trade Finance for a Sustainable Future: Overcoming Challenges and Fostering Inclusive Global Trade	International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	Trade finance, which underpins 90% of trade operations, has a pivotal role in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to OECD estimates, it would take less than 1% of global finance to fill the estimated US\$ 3.9 trillion SDG financing gap. But sustainable trade finance faces many challenges, including the absence of a commonly accepted way of measuring the sustainability of global supply chains. To address this, ICC is developing a framework to assess the environmental sustainability of a financial transaction and how it supports socio-economically sustainable development. In this session, an expert panel will discuss how the framework is advancing alignment behind a consistent definition of sustainable trade finance, explore how banks are fostering inclusive and sustainable lending practices, and exchange views on how to ensure financing opportunities remain accessible to those who need it the most, the micro, small and medium sized enterprises.
CBAM Smackdown - The Green Trade Debate	The Geneva Debate (The Geneva Graduate Institute) (IHEID) The Geneva Trade Platform (GTP)	The debate will be conducted in British parliamentary style, in two teams of three, and a moderator. The Government side will start the debate with the Prime Minister's speech, followed by the Opposition side's Leader of Opposition. Other members include the deputy PM, deputy leader of the opposition, member of government, and member of the opposition, each of whom will have seven minutes in total (with a

		minute's break each), and during the middle five minutes, they will be able to take questions in the form of 'Points of Information' which they can accept or reject. The debate will take place within 50 minutes, after which the jury will deliver their verdict. The jury will make their decisions based on the content and quality of arguments, strategies employed, engagement with POIs, rebuttals and clashes, and style. The decision of the jury will be final and binding.
Elevating the cultural foundations of green trade: Experiences of Māori and Pasifika in Aotearoa New Zealand	OpinioNative, Permanent Mission of New Zealand	This session will shed light on the opportunities and challenges for Indigenous trade and cooperation chapters in trade agreements, joint statement initiatives and other mechanisms, instruments and processes. It will also highlight the value of Indigenous Peoples engagement in a WTO Member's national trade policy, and the ongoing trade-related concerns for Māori and Pasifika communities in connection with climate, sustainability, security and technology in the South Pacific region.
Innovative Partnerships with the Private Sector to Tackle Plastics Pollution	Permanent Mission of the Philippines	With the launch of negotiations on a new legally-binding multilateral treaty on plastics pollution, countries are examining pathways to significantly reduce and eliminate plastics pollution. The work in the WTO's Dialogue on Plastics Pollution has shown the important role that trade can play, including through the development and diffusion of new technologies, support for market-based mechanisms and services to reduce plastics footprints, and adoption of circular supply chains. Case studies will be shared on how social enterprises are supporting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs, how public-private sector collaboration helped to develop a vegan eco-leather made from pineapple fiber, and how startups are utilizing sustainable materials to develop new innovative products while supporting local communities. These real-world experiences will help inform policy makers and stakeholders in developing a more responsive and agile regulatory environment for sustainability.
Do DTA's present the risk of mission creep? What have we learned so far about the success or failure of DTAs in striking agreements on addressing sustainability and inclusiveness?	Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) The World Bank	How far can international trade agreements be stretched to pursue non-trade goals, such as curbing greenhouse gas emissions, labor protection and greening investments? Is there a danger of mission creep? Have deeper agreements been effective in addressing non-trade outcomes? This session will discuss the potential role of deep trade agreements (DTAs) in addressing non-trade outcomes. The session will present new evidence on the impact of deep trade agreements on non-trade outcomes such as FDI, innovation, the environment and labor rights from the new CEPR-World Bank publication "Beyond Trade: How Deep Trade Agreements Shape Non-Trade Outcomes". It will also bring together policy makers, academia, and the private sector to discuss the potential role of Deep Trade Agreements in supporting sustainability and the implications of broadening DTA objectives beyond trade in terms of their design and implementation.
Remaking the Global Trading System for a Sustainable Future	Yale University, University of the West Indies, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University	This panel will discuss the preliminary findings of a year-long series of "trade and sustainability" workshops with a view towards developing an actionable WTO reform agenda that reinvigorates the international trading system, regears the trade regime to meet the challenges of the current moment, and better aligns the WTO with the emerging sustainability imperative and the global community's commitment to climate change action.
Traceability for sustainability: Lessons from digital tools for trade facilitation	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)	Digital technologies have significant potential to enhance traceability of goods across borders. These technologies successfully helped traders navigate regulatory requirements and border clearance procedures during COVID-19. They can also help accurately identify product characteristics, collect more information, and share data swiftly and securely. Research on paperless trade in agri-food provides valuable lessons, highlighting the need for information to be standardised, compiled, verified and communicated across borders between actors from both public and private sectors. Meeting new regulatory requirements, product standards, and sustainability demands requires the ability to track, report and monitor information between supply chain actors, including on environmental impacts along a product's life cycle. In a context where sustainability-related initiatives are multiplying and impacting all

		aspects of global trade, this session will explore the opportunities (and limitations) for digital tools to enhance traceability for more environmentally sustainable trade across all sectors.
Unleashing the potential of EU's Green Trade Agenda: Integrating development as the missing part of the triangle	Europe Jacques Delors (EJD) Tulip Consulting	The greening of EU's trade policy is progressing at a rapid pace. However, strong critique that has been levied against the EU's unilateral trade measures (e.g. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, Deforestation-Free Products Regulation) signals that without acknowledging that such measures are affecting and will disproportionately affect some of its most vulnerable trade partners, and taking action to address this, the EU's green trade agenda will not flourish. This session will shed light on the potential of more inclusive EU policies in advancing green trade and fostering a more sustainable future. The panellists will discuss ways to better integrate the development dimension into the EU's green trade policy. This panel will centre around recommendations put forward by a recent Europe Jacques Delors report that focus on the importance of shifting the EU's green trade narrative, leveraging regional and multilateral framework, establishing specific trade-environment-development fora, and developing new trade instruments.
17:00-18:15		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Driving Africa's Green Transition: The AfCFTA as a catalyst for environmentally friendly production, trade and consumption	International Trade Centre (ITC)	Africa faces significant environmental challenges including climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, food and water insecurity and deforestation. Although this poses a risk to materialising benefits from the AfCFTA, the Agreement also offers an opening for setting up a policy framework for advancing environmentally friendly production, trade and consumption. Unlike many recent FTAs, the AfCFTA does not contain environmental provisions beyond the preambular language. But it is not too late to strengthen the positive relationship between the AfCFTA and the environment. Policymakers, international organisations and business actors will discuss how the AfCFTA can drive environmentally sustainable trade through answering: What are the linkages between AfCFTA and the environment? How can market access provisions strengthen these links? What steps can mainstream environmental considerations in the AfCFTA standards harmonisation and intellectual property agendas? How can the AfCFTA promote sustainable consumption and uptake of green production methods by SMEs?
How digitalization can green international trade by reducing the environmental footprint of supply chains	French Treasury - Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty (DG Trésor / MEFSIN) Belgian Federal Public Service - Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation	Making international trade more sustainable requires an in-depth reflection on the efficiency and optimisation of supply chains. This working session, co-organised by the French and Belgium delegations to the WTO, aims to address this question, in particular the use of digitalisation to reduce the environmental footprint of supply chains. The scale of the problem and the pressing need to address it are clear, known and well documented. The challenges are numerous and of different kinds. Innovative projects are emerging at different stages of maturity and in response to different problems. What questions need to be asked, what are the specific issues raised by international trade, what solutions already exist and are being deployed? How can we get everyone on board, in particular developing countries? Experts from companies specialising in this area, academics and NGOs will try to answer these crucial questions.
Measuring digital trade	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	What is digital trade? What action can countries take to measure, monitor, and respond to the challenges of digital trade? Digital technologies have made it increasingly feasible for buyers and sellers to place and receive orders globally. They enable the remote delivery of services directly into businesses and homes. Digitalization is changing how products are purchased and delivered. Yet, it remains largely invisible in macroeconomic statistics.

		<p>This session introduces you to the newly released IMF-OECD-UNCTAD-WTO Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade. Its goal is to help statistical compilers across the world to address policymakers' demands for better statistics on digital trade, and to ensure that developing economies are not left behind. Focusing on two key criteria – digital ordering and digital delivery across borders – the Handbook clarifies the definition of digital trade, reviews best data sources, and presents advances by countries in the measurement of digital trade.</p>
EU and African Perspectives on the Green Transition	European Commission (EU) Permanent Mission of Kenya	<p>This EU-Kenya co-hosted session will offer the EU and African perspectives on the green transition. The panel will examine how to drive respective efforts with appropriate policy frameworks, including the role of trade. The panel will bring together the perspectives from government, business and think tank with a focus on development.</p> <p>The EU will outline its approach under the European Green Deal and how the EU designs its policies to minimise negative spill-overs on trade. The EU will share experiences on how it works with partners to address concerns and assist in the transition.</p> <p>Kenya will present its approach and challenges faced in energy transition and energy mix dominated by green energy. TRAPCA will provide an overview of the challenges and needs faced by African countries, while an African private sector representative will give the business perspective and explore the opportunities for green growth.</p>
Exploring ways to leverage Green Trade to mitigate the climate crisis and its implications for the Caribbean and other Small Island Developing States	Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)	<p>The panel will explore tailored strategies, raising awareness, and mobilizing support to address the climate crisis in small island developing states (SIDS). SIDS often have limited resources, climate smart infrastructure, and capacity to cope with and recover from such challenges. Exploring ways to leverage Green Trade can provide these states with sustainable solutions to mitigate the climate crisis and build resilience. In addition, SIDS heavily rely on sectors such as tourism, agriculture, and fisheries, which are directly impacted by climate change. Embracing Green Trade practices could foster economic diversification, create new job opportunities, and enhance the long-term sustainability of these industries. Finally it is important to explore the role that Multilateral Development Banks and International Financial Institutions play in assisting SIDS to adopt green trade, climate mitigation strategies while building resilient communities.</p>
Transnational Climate Change Litigation and its implications on Trade	Harvard Kennedy School Women's Network (HKSWN / OWIT Brussels)	<p>This session explores the rapidly increasing trend of transnational climate change litigation, which has witnessed significant growth, with over 1400 cases filed since 2015. Simultaneously, the number of environment-related notifications submitted to the WTO Environmental Database has surged, reaching 827 in 2020, incorporating approximately 1391 distinct environment-related trade measures. The session aims to discuss the implications of these cases on trade, human rights, and corporate accountability. It seeks to unravel the characteristics of transnational lawsuits targeting corporations or governments for climate-related damages or policy inaction, examining their far-reaching consequences. Additionally, the panel will address the intricate relationship between trade rules, human rights, and climate change in litigation, including the link with WTO agreements and dispute settlement. Finally, it aims to assess the extent to which climate litigation can drive systemic change in climate change, highlighting the challenges and opportunities within this evolving landscape.</p>

Supporting Equity-oriented Sustainable Pathways to Development using Trade Policy	Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP) Indonesia for Global Justice (IGJ)	This session will examine systemic issues affecting sustainable development and green industrialization pathways in the Global South, including the reflection of equity considerations in multilateral and national trade and climate policies. In particular, a range of experts will explore equity-oriented policy considerations that underlie developing country government responses to new trade-related climate change response measures such as the USA's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the European Union's carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM).
Bees & Honey: How a small business and a tiny island are using digital technologies and trade to save the world's bees	Global Innovation Forum (GIF)	We present a case study on how digital technologies and trade can help save the world's bees. Niue, a tiny island in the Pacific, houses the Earth's last known disease and parasite-free Italian honey bees. With the help of the WTO, World Bank, Niuean government and the Standards and Trade Development Facility, Niue is launching a bee sanctuary and increasing biosecurity and investments in ports in order to protect these bees. Much like Norway's Global Seed Vault, the Pacific Bee Sanctuary is the world's insurance policy on pollinators. Niue can breed and export pure, healthy queens and genetic bee-breeding material to help repopulate the dwindling colony numbers worldwide. Niue Honey (a public-private partnership) is exporting its award-winning honey to new international markets and importing beekeeping equipment. It is relying on digital technologies across the e-commerce ecosystem, including tools that enable marketing, communications, payments, productivity and shipping.
Empowering Youth Towards A Green Economy: Driving Innovation for Sustainable Development	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	The panel will focus on how young people (21 – 35 years old) are spearheading innovation for sustainable development globally and across regions. The panel will explore regional perspectives with examples of youth-led initiatives that leverage green technologies and innovation, and will draw attention to the broader ecosystem which these initiatives need to thrive and better serve sustainable trade and development, examining in particular the partnerships that need to happen within and across the public and private sectors. Speakers will also share their experience as young professionals working in the field of green technologies and innovation for sustainable development. The panel will further include an interactive Question and Answer component that seeks to involve the audience in fuelling discussions around the topic of youth inclusion in driving innovation for sustainable development.
Making trade work for environment - the role of Parliamentarians	European Parliament (EP) Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)	Parliaments play a crucial role in the transition towards a global low-carbon economy and a greener, more sustainable society. Ambitious policy actions are required to steer the economy towards a sustainable trajectory, necessary to mitigate climate change and adapt to its disruptive and costly consequences. Many countries are currently putting in place ambitious green and clean tech policies. By facilitating the availability of environmental goods, services and technologies and reducing their cost, trade can contribute to efforts to protect the environment. International trade can also help countries adapt to the impacts of climate change and build future resilience. In this panel, Members of Parliament will discuss how they in their role as legislators, can make sure that trade and climate change policies are mutually supportive. How can WTO rules better enable green policies? Briefly, how can we make trade work for environment?
Digital trade and tax policy	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	The growth of digitalized products and services trade has the potential to fundamentally transform economic activity by increasing efficiency but doing so sustainably requires appropriate policies in place. Developing countries are faced with several obstacles to participating in digital trade and risk being left behind. This panel will discuss optimal tax policies for developing countries in an era of green and digital transformation. IMF staff will present a new policy note on the revenue potential and efficiency of different consumption taxes on digitalized trade, followed by discussions with academics and stakeholders, who will share their own perspectives. The panel will discuss challenges in these areas from a fiscal policy perspective and propose priority areas for designing appropriate tax policies and updating tax infrastructure.

15 September 2023

09:00-10:15

Title	Organizer	Abstract
A Youth-led Narrative on Green Trade: Why and How Youth Engagement Matters	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI) European Central Bank (ECB) World Farmers' Organisation (WFO)	Where do youth fit into green trade? Composed entirely of former Youth Delegates to the G20, this session makes the case for more youth-inclusive green trade policies. It does so, by showcasing the “why” and “how” of youth involvement. Specifically, the panel explores three questions: (1) How are youth being included in green trade policies? (2) Why does youth involvement matter, and what potentials can be harnessed through more engagement? (3) What are the shortcomings of current policy-making, and what do the panelists, as youths, suggest be done? In answering these questions, the speakers will each focus on four pillars to green trade: circular economy, supply chains, green investment, and digital transformation. For each sub-field, the panel will showcase regional cases and industry practices, drawing from their professional experiences in leading institutions. Simply put, this session is a youth-led narrative of green trade.
Environmental Sustainability: Uncovering key lessons from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and priority actions moving forward	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	<p>A healthy environment and climate is key for economic growth. The wellbeing of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) is often linked to the state of the natural environment and the economic opportunities it provides. Interconnected environmental issues have continued to worsen globally most notably climate change, with important implications on LDC economies and livelihoods.</p> <p>This session will uncover key lessons from the LDCs and development partners in responding to environmental concerns and improving LDC economies through trade. Strategic views will be shared on the catalytic impact of trade related technical assistance (TRTA) including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework in responding to LDC efforts towards green trade.</p>
Digitalisation as a tool for the greening of supply chains	World Economic Forum (WEF) UAE Ministry of Economy (MOEC)	This session will explore how emerging technologies can deliver greener supply chain logistics. TradeTech unlocks efficiency gains, to put to work for greener outcomes. Logistics has both concentrated (global shipping) and fragmented legs (last-mile delivery). Limited data sharing on availability, loads, etc. prevents optimization, while capital constraints and the need for flexibility coerce innovation. New business models beyond third-party logistics (3PL) are emerging thanks to TradeTech. These entail a higher level of service integration, allowing for higher customization, ways to deal with supply chain uncertainty and disruption and, ever-greater supply chain automation thanks to the incorporation of AI. This session will: • Explore how TradeTech can unlock efficiency gains that serve green outcomes in supply chains logistics. • Review how different market structures globally and domestically affect coordination for tech deployment and data sharing. • Consider the customer and other incentives for a stronger carbon focus
Do carbon border adjustment mechanisms make trade greener in an inclusive way?	Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) World Labor Institute (Instituto del Mundo del Trabajo) (IMT)	Carbon border adjustment mechanisms (CBAMs) are being implemented or planned in a number of regions around the world. For example the transitional phase of the European Union’s carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) enters into force on 1 October 2023. This session will examine the implications of CBAMs for: climate change, the transition to low-carbon economies, sustainable development and inclusive growth. It will also provide suggestions for a positive trade and environment agenda at the WTO.
Traceability as the Key Enabler for Improving Sustainability of the Cotton Value Chains	Better Cotton	As regulators, investors and consumers demand greater transparency, accountability, and commitments to science-based targets in supply chains of all commodities, the challenge for the highly complex cotton supply chain is being met head-on by Better Cotton. As the largest cotton sustainability programme in the world, working with over 15,000 supply chain organisations, Better Cotton is launching a scalable

		traceability solution to verify the country of origin of Better Cotton in clothes, bedding, and other cotton-containing products by the end of 2023. Traceable Better Cotton provides the foundation upon which Better Cotton, suppliers, members, and others can drive greater, faster, positive change towards environmental and social goals. This panel discussion will explore the possibilities opening as a consequence of Traceable Better Cotton and identify how others can begin leveraging Better Cotton's scale and the resulting greater transparency to green supply chains.
The Scramble For The markets of The Future: Decarbonization, Trade and Geopolitics	International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Foreign Trade University (FTU) E3G	Decarbonization and climate change mitigation policies may be the biggest stressors of the overall framework of WTO rules since those rules were agreed. Climate-related trade restrictions, from border carbon adjustment mechanisms to deforestation requirements in supply chains, green subsidies that aim to stake out shares of the markets of the future, and trade agreements securing access to critical minerals are testing the capacities of the multilateral trading system to adjust and reform while making sure that no one is left behind. Geopolitical rivalry and lack of trust means the world's political environment is making collaboration difficult, and walls are starting to rise together with the shift of values of electorates worldwide. Will we find ways for the multilateral trading system and the climate regime to work together? This session will look into the challenge of international cooperation in this race against the clock.
Technical and Regulatory Barriers to Trade: Why international digital services standards matter for sustainable trade	Gateway House: Indian Council on Global Relations	To realise the full potential of inclusive digital services trade, WTO Members need to embrace new means of regulatory cooperation on cornerstone technologies. But policy makers are disrupting cross-border ecosystems by adopting divergent governance approaches. Recent developments in AI in particular, which raise concerns in regard to safety, jobs, privacy, and infringement of intellectual property rights, have triggered a flurry of national regulatory initiatives. Well-proven policies are yet to be established in this area, which poses a unique opportunity for international collaboration on agile regulation. Meanwhile many governments have been retreating from international standards setting in favour of national- or region-specific approaches to technological regulation. This poses a threat to economic confidence, international market access and overall productivity growth. The session highlights the importance of ensuring that the regulation of digital services is rooted in common standards to harness the benefits of technological interoperability.
The Role of Liberalisation of Services under the AfCFTA in Accelerating Green Transition in Africa?	Positive Agenda Advisory (P2A)	The services sector is considered as a vital part of the broader movement towards the green economy. In addition to their capacity to facilitate and speed up the transition towards a green economy, the promise of the services revolution is that the latecomers to development do not have to wait for their turn to get started after China and other East Asian Tigers become uncompetitive (Banji Oyelaran-Oyeyinka, 2019). In Africa, services growth has been the largest driver of real growth. In order for the services industry to contribute to the green economy in Africa, a holistic approach towards regulation and policy development for the sector is needed. Plans to reduce emissions and stop global warming will need a broader policy toolbox especially under the AfCFTA which aims to make progressive liberalization of services. How could the AfCFTA accelerate the development of services sector in Africa?
Panel of Exhibitors	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	TBC
Renewable Energy Services: Driving Global Trade Towards a Sustainable Future	Permanent Mission of Canada Permanent Mission of United Kingdom World Trade Organisation (WTO)	This session will bring together experts from renewable energy industry, energy or trade governmental agencies, and NGOs to have an in-depth discussion on how to overcome the challenges facing renewable energy services and unlock their full potential for sustainable trade. At this session, the panelists will explore the following questions: 1. What are the services involved in the renewable energy supply chain and how are they traded? 2. What are the innovations driven by the supply of renewable energy services and what are their benefits to environment, trade and economy? 3. What challenges and opportunities do developing countries see in engaging in energy services trade? How do they building their capacity in this

		areas? 4. What are the main trade barriers to renewable energy services and what are policy tools that would facilitate renewable energy services?
How can the conclusion of the text negotiations of the WTO Agreement on Investment Facilitation for Development create opportunities for developing and least-developed countries to attract FDI for a more sustainable future?	The Friends of Investment Facilitation for Development (FIFD)	The intrinsic link between trade and investment, as twin engines of economic growth and sustainable development, prompted the discussions on an Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement among a group of Members in the WTO in 2017. Intensive negotiations of the draft Agreement is expected to be concluded in July, 2023. Scaling up FDI flows will help expand sustainable trade and accelerate the green transition, especially in the developing world. The IFD Agreement will be the first to provide global benchmarks for supporting governments' efforts aimed at facilitating sustainable investment. The Working Session will update participants on the remarkable progress achieved in the IFD negotiations by more than 110 WTO Members and next steps in the lead-up to MC13.
Mobilizing Sustainable Finance Through Public Private Partnerships	Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG)	Financial services are crucial for achieving a sustainable future. The financial sector can play an integral role in the transition through allocation of capital to the places it is needed most, whether it be in sustainable technologies or to emerging and developing countries. This session will provide participants with a better understanding of the role of financial services, as well as concrete examples of how more finance can be mobilized through public private partnerships to achieve more sustainable economic systems and trade.
10:45-12:00		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Unlocking the Economic Potential of the Weather Enterprise!	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	The session will highlight the importance of weather data in addressing climate change and building resilient economies. Weather data and analytics facilitate climate-resilient trade, identify key opportunities for greener trade practices, and examine the benefits of integrating weather insights into trade decision-making processes. With the WMO introducing the importance and application of meteorological information in social-economic sectors, the discussions will highlight the collaborative efforts of the WTO and WEF through the ACT initiative, Swiss Re's engagement in the interface between natural disasters and reinsurance markets, and the Portwatch program under the IMF which have resounding interests in the value of weather data. Integrating weather data into decision making processes enables the design of climate-resilient strategies and policies. Through showcasing the value of weather data, the discussion will emphasize its role in guiding policy makers and businesses towards effective responses to climate challenges, whereby contributing to the development of resilient economies.
Empowering Youth and Marginalised Communities in Green Trade: A Path to Sustainable Development	TradeLab	In this session, we delve into the role of inclusive trade policies in advancing green trade practices and promoting the active participation of marginalised and underrepresented communities, drawing on real-life projects conducted by students in the framework of TradeLab, an international network of legal clinics. Through the exploration of these projects, including empowering Indonesian women entrepreneurs, facilitating cross-border trade among Indigenous communities, and analysing the regulation on novel foods, we aim to foster an inclusive dialogue on sustainable economic development, renewable energy, and organic product exports. By sharing insights and experiences gained from these projects, we inspire stakeholders to consider trade policies that benefit both the environment and underrepresented groups, fostering a more equitable and sustainable multilateral trading system. Join us to explore the transformative work of our TradeLab student experts.
Getting the green transition right – the role of the WTO in enhancing inclusivity and avoiding fragmentation	BusinessEurope (BE)	In the collective fight against climate change and other environmental concerns, more and more WTO members are developing their own strategies, some more ambitious than others, some going faster than others. Trade is at the core of many of these policies and the WTO can play a fundamental role in advancing and coordinating international environmental goals. Join our session where high level

		representatives from governments, business and NGOs will take a particular look at the international dimension of the European Green Deal, ways to enhance cooperation with partners, facilitate implementation and address potential concerns, especially those raised by developing countries. Our invited experts will also explore the way forward in the multilateral discussions ahead of the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference.
Streamlining Services': presenting a new initiative to grow services trade	National Competitiveness Center (NCC) World Economic Forum (WEF)	This session will present 'Streamlining Services', a new initiative that aims to grow services trade in the Middle East and Africa. Services trade represents huge potential for diversification and growth. Services account for 2/3 of global GDP and 6 out 10 jobs. Yet the costs of services trade are twice that of goods, and 40 percent of those costs come from opaque regulations and cumbersome procedures. Fortunately, 2 new instruments can help unlock the growth potential of services: the WTO's Services Domestic Regulation Reference Paper and the African Continental Free Trade Area's (AfCFTA) Protocol on Trade in Services. 'Streamlining Services' will launch public-private projects in Saudi Arabia and select African economies to understand services trade potential; identify regulatory challenges to reaching this potential; and address these challenges through implementing SDR and AfCFTA provisions to improve regulatory frameworks in practice. This session will invite WTO audience to provide input into these activities
Agriculture in China: Green Development and Inclusive Opening-up	Agricultural Trade Promotion Center, MARA (ATPC) Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science (CAAS) Permanent Mission of China World Trade Organisation (WTO)	While China has made significant progress in the green development of agriculture, it still faces multiple constraints. The holistic design and coordination of the support policy, technical and management systems for green transformation of Chinese agriculture are essential for protecting the environment in China, while guaranteeing food security in the future. China is keen to share its experience over the past decade, and welcomes members to share their good policies and practices to jointly contribute to global food security, nutrition and health. China expects to make good use of the vast platform of the WTO public Forum. This session will discuss China's experience with green transformation and examine different options for technologies and enabling policy systems for green and low-carbon transformation of agriculture, how China's agriculture can achieve greater openness in the context of green development, and its the relationship with food security in China.
The new rural: accelerating sustainable agriculture and gender equality through innovation.	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	As guardians of biodiversity, women are key players in addressing the effects of climate change and promoting environmental resilience. They are also drivers of rural development as farmers, farm workers, livestock keepers, agri-business managers, extension agents, researchers and trainers. Innovation, digitalisation and IP support these fundamental roles. Only by empowering female farmers through new technologies can resilience to climate change be ensured and food security be fostered. In this context, trade policies, rules and WTO agreements support women with the purpose to achieve SDG2 and 5 and serve sustainability by facilitating women's engagement in trade. The session will look at female farmers' role in climate change mitigation and how innovation and digitalisation support their role as guardians of the environment. It will outline policy solutions including in IP in support of women in agriculture and climate change mitigation activities. It will give examples of women in tech supporting sustainable agriculture.
Unlocking the power of blockchain for carbon accounting in supply chains	The Commonwealth Secretariat, Cardano Foundation	Carbon markets have grown and evolved in recent years. Participation in these markets, including the trading of carbon credits, increasingly requires effective carbon accounting systems for both individual supply chains and whole economies. However, existing carbon accounting tools, such as point-to-point manual data exchange systems, can be inconsistent and insufficient to meet new carbon accounting and reporting requirements. This session will explore the potential to use blockchain technology for verified carbon accounting as a means to promote more sustainable trade and greener supply chains. Through perspectives from industry

		leaders, and public and private sector stakeholders, participants will gain insight into the importance of using blockchain technology to create more transparent, effective and secure carbon accounting systems, as well as the support and infrastructure required to ensure its effective implementation in developing and least developed countries and small states.
Harnessing Digitalisation for Greener Supply Chains in LDCs	Permanent Mission of Cambodia, CUTS International, Geneva (CUTS)	This session focuses on the potential of digitalisation as a tool for greening supply chains in least-developed countries (LDCs). Specifically, the session explores the ways in which digital technologies can be leveraged to drive environmental sustainability, enhance efficiency, and foster inclusive sustainable economic development in LDCs. Through interactive discussions, participants will address key questions such as: i) how digital technologies can be used to monitor and reduce environmental impacts; ii) how to leverage digital platforms for transparency and traceability, iii) how to overcome barriers to digital adoption and build capacities for effective integration of digitalisation; and iv) how to foster partnerships to support LDCs. Ultimately, through this workshop, participants from governments, IGOs, Business and NGOs will gain insights and exchange ideas for a pathway to harness digitalisation as a catalyst for achieving inclusive sustainability in LDCs.
Awakening the sleeping giant: Services Trade for Development	World Trade Organization (WTO) World Bank Group (WBG)	Services are centrally at play in the economic transformation of the global economy and services trade is becoming a key ingredient in sustainable development strategies and in growth-enhancing policy agendas. In this session, leading policy makers from developed and developing countries and inter-governmental organizations will discuss how deepened international cooperation on services trade can best yield the sector's development promise, notably by promoting digital connectivity, contributing to the fight against climate change, and promoting greater inclusiveness. Anchored in the recent joint publication by the WTO and the World Bank Group on 'Trade in Services and Development', panelists will discuss the role that Aid-for-Trade can play in helping developing countries increase their participation in - and derive development benefits from -expanded services trade. Panelists will also debate how domestic reform efforts and expanded trade and investment in services can be facilitated by making policy regimes more transparent and predictable.
Greener economies through digitalisation	European Services Forum (ESF) DigitalEurope	This session will look at how digitalisation of the economy can contribute to improving business operations' sustainability. 1) It will assess how the digitisation is providing solutions to reduce the impact on environment, while making the processes more cost- and energy-efficient, with more efficient transport and logistics, with AI, cloud computing, sustainable value chains, etc. 2) It will demonstrate that raising tariffs on digital transactions will slow these digital processes; and that the growing barriers set by governments are counter-productive to fight climate change; and the need for consistent policy and standardisation frameworks to reduce CO2 emissions across supply chains. 3) It will then look at the possible policy solutions to prevent new barriers to emerge, notably via the extension of the moratorium on custom duties on e-transmissions, the adoption of new global rules for digital trade, and the opening up of markets to develop technologies towards a greener economy.
E-Commerce Moratorium	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	TBC
Towards a sustainable future – the sporting goods industry's actions	World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WFSGI)	The WFSGI session will highlight how a free and fair worldwide trade landscape can drive climate action, especially in developing countries, and support the implementation of measures on national level. It will provide a perspective of the global sporting goods sector, a truly international industry with a global supply chain. Since most of the greenhouse gas emissions can be attributed to tier 2 suppliers and beyond, an inclusive approach is essential to ensure that developing countries, which host a significant part of the supply chain, are part of the solution. This session will therefore illustrate how trade liberalisation per se is enabling the advancement of green trade beside being inclusive.

12:30-13:45

Title	Organizer	Abstract
"Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as Laboratories for Advancing Green Trade."	The Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy, and Services, University of the West Indies (SRC)	<p>The perspectives and experiences of countries on the frontline of the climate crisis – particularly Small Island Developing States, and Least Developed Countries – are often excluded from the global conversation about the green, net-zero transition. Experience indicates that focusing on single stories produces sub-optimal solutions for the global community. Effective climate change policy, therefore, requires inclusiveness, consideration of local circumstances, and success stories or "best-practice" drawn from all countries, not just those from the Global North.</p> <p>This panel will highlight the progress made by SIDS and LDCs in developing green trade policies and explore the opportunities in these countries for designing, incubating, and implementing green, trade-related solutions to the climate crisis. The panel will reflect on the experiences of the policymakers, academics, innovators, and entrepreneurs in these "frontline laboratories" and consider how their insights can be applied to accelerating the transition to a green economy.</p>
Charting an inclusive path for digitalisation and a green transition for all	National Board of Trade	Through digital trade, governments, businesses and individuals have access to a wide range of tools with which to address climate and environmental concerns. Lead firms in global value chains will also increasingly rely on green suppliers whose production methods can be traced and verified, which typically requires the use of digital technologies. Suppliers will thus have to comply with both green and digital standards to be able to participate in the global economy. However, a digital divide is emerging between the frontrunner countries and those lagging behind. How can digitalization help to achieve the green transition? How can the JSI e-commerce negotiation contribute to closing the digital divide? And how can we enable more African countries to engage in global digital trade rulemaking?
Social sustainability: a key pillar of the green economy	Inclusive Creation	Sustainability combines three pillars: environmental, economic, social. Often, the social pillar is neglected but it is a crucial element of sustainability. The green economy will only be sustainable if it is fully inclusive and focusses on people. It promotes an improved economic model, but without a social approach, it will only reproduce the current economic paradigm. Therefore, the green economy needs to address inequality and exclusion issues and foster a pro-gender growth because women in developing countries are natural resources managers and women in developed countries care more about the environment. But women are more vulnerable to climate change than men, as seen in the US with Hurricane Katrina or in Nepal with the repetitive earthquakes. Trade and trade policies have a double role to play in fostering a greener world and gender equality. The session will discuss how social sustainability, gender equality and trade policies support a greener economy.
Addressing the 3 rd Environmental Crisis: How can WTO contribute to a nature positive future?	World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF International) World Trade Organisation (WTO) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Consumers International (CI)	A continued loss of nature threatens over half the global GDP, human health, and the achievement of SDGs - with the poorest economies and most vulnerable populations hit first and hardest. This decade must be the turning point where we halt the loss of nature, place it on the path to recovery, and transform our world to one where people, economies, and nature thrive. WTO has a key role to play to help achieve an equitable, net-zero emissions, and a nature positive world. Led by WWF, WTO, UNCTAD, WBCSD, Consumers International, and Business4Nature, this session will examine the success of getting the Nature Positive Global Goal adopted internationally as part of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Agreement, and bring together high-level government, business/finance, and civil society leaders to discuss how to turn the Nature Positive terminology into its implementation and measurable, net zero outcomes – including at the WTO.

Enabling policies for greater smallholder insertion and sustainability in agri-commodities supply-chains	United Nations Environment Programme (Project Trade, Development and the Environment Hub) (UNEP) International Institute for Sustainability (IIS) Brazilian Ministry of Rural Development and Family Farming (MDA)	This panel will address policies and initiatives to secure the participation of smallholders in international agricultural trade. Smallholders, including indigenous people and local communities, have an important role in achieving sustainable development, food security and addressing climate change. Recent sustainable commodity supply chain regulations, which require due diligence, traceability and producer's proof of compliance, have the potential of generating unintended exclusion of smallholders as a side-effect. This session will draw on lessons learned, experiences, case studies and perspectives from Brazil to illustrate the challenges and opportunities for smallholders in other developing countries. The panel will discuss policy innovations, inclusive technologies, aid for trade and financial tools to ensure greater trade inclusiveness. In this context, we will explore how demand and supply-side measures can be aligned to reinforce greening global commodities value chains, while leaving no one behind.
Partnerships for sustainable industrialization in Africa: Lessons from the operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	Government of Niger World Trade Organisation (WTO) Overseas Development Institute (ODI)	<p>Increased industrialization as a tool for economic diversification and the building of productive capacities if left unchecked could result in negative environmental impacts.</p> <p>The AfCFTA presents significant promise for Africa's development. In the context of rapidly advancing environmental degradation and climate change, the AfCFTA must also serve as a lever for sustainable growth on the continent in line with Africa's agenda 2063. Achieving sustainable development in Africa will entail quickening the pace of industrialisation in a way that is environmentally sustainable. This will require a green industrialisation that includes key components to reduce environmental footprints.</p> <p>In this session, partner perspectives will be shared on the implementation of the AfCFTA particularly efforts towards the use of the AfCFTA as an instrument for advancing green growth within the free trade area. In addition, the role of trade related technical assistance particularly national implementation arrangements in advancing green industrialisation will be explored.</p>
Avoiding green protectionism: how to address barriers to an inclusive green transition	American Chamber of Commerce to the EU (AmCham EU)	'Green protectionism' is not a new concept. However, with recent cases of developed countries boosting their ambitions to build both a green economy and economic security through aggressive industrial policy and unilateral restrictive discriminatory measures, the debate over defensive environmental policies with extraterritorial effects is gaining prominence once again. Border taxes, subsidies and import restrictions are creating concerns among developing countries and businesses of deepened global inequalities, trade fragmentation, regulatory imperialism and WTO violations. This session will explore how to discern genuine environmental policies from illegitimate green protectionism. Additionally, the event will focus on ways to ensure that developing countries are not negatively affected by developed countries' extraterritorial green policies and are fairly included in finding global solutions to global environmental issues. Panelists will discuss how to better involve developing countries and businesses in green trade instead of imposing market access barriers or forcing one-fit-all approaches to the green transition.
Green Trade and Africa-Policy Perspectives	Africa Trade Network (ATN) Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI-Uganda)	African economies are confronted with a challenge of economic transformation. This challenge accounts for the low trade figures in value-added goods and services from Africa. Tackling these, Africa has put in place policy initiatives and frameworks such as Agenda 2063, Boosting Intra Africa Trade, Africa's Continental Free Trade Area, among others. But Africa's drive to change the trade narrative is taking place in a changing global trade policy landscape, shaped by climate imperatives. This new challenge has exposed the vulnerabilities of Africa and raises the need for sustainable trade and development solutions. At the WTO, what policy reforms will Africa need to green its trade and development? This session will address these questions: 1. What are the Imperatives of Green Trade and Transformation in Africa? 2. What gaps, policies exist in Africa to ensure green economic transformation 3. What policy reforms at the WTO will enable Africa green its trade?

Going circular: How the Harmonized System of Codes can(not) support a circular economy and what other tools are out there	Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva office (FES Geneva)	Are you interested in the circular economy? Did you always want to deepen your understanding about the HS codes? And are you open for experiments? Then please join this session. A global transition to an inclusive circular economy is a vital strategy for addressing the triple crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution as well as boosting industrial resilience. International trade will play a critical role in realising an inclusive circular economy. This session will explore how trade flows which promise to contribute to an inclusive circular economy can be better facilitated. “Going circular” will discuss the important role the HS can play in helping to address circular trade facilitation challenges. However, it will emphasize its limitations and introduce experimental trade facilitation measures to achieve more quickly a robust and inclusive circular economy.
Green transition in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) context	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)	The AfCFTA Agreement stands to be a game changer for Africa. In fact, latest joint ECA-CEPII modelling results show that in the year 2045, as compared to the situation without the Agreement, intra-African trade will increase by 33.5% (US\$196.4 Billion). Yet, more trade under the Agreement has the potential to exacerbate climate concerns by increasing GHG emissions. Thus, understanding ways in which trade under the AfCFTA can be environmentally considerate is key toward building Africa’s sustainable future. In fact, the modelling exercise further explores these mechanisms through adoption of climate policies in line with nationally determined contributions put forward by African countries or by setting up carbon prices across the continent. These results show, through various scenarios, that emissions reductions under the AfCFTA are indeed viable and attainable. This session will seek to explore these results, through a panel discussion of experts, and answer key questions that arise therefrom.
How International Trade Can Enable Innovative Solutions to Environmental Challenges: Views from the ICCA (International Council of Chemical Associations)	International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)	Many economies are at a crossroads with issues of trade, supply chain resiliency, and environmental sustainability. How do we promote free and fair trade while maintaining high levels of environmental protection? How can we ensure that countries have access to environmental solutions to help facilitate a circular economy and reduce climate impacts? The International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) recently released recommendations to promote a productive agenda on these issues at the WTO, focused on providing actionable ideas to leverage WTO’s expertise for maximum impact. This session will discuss these recommendations and how they complement other critical environmental initiatives on climate change, decarbonization, and plastic pollution. These recommendations can advance WTO discussions with a meaningful agenda that promotes economic growth and environmental sustainability. Our panel will include diverse leaders representing developed and developing country perspectives on a progressive and proactive WTO agenda to support meaningful environmental progress through trade.
Meet the Author: A World Trading System for the Twenty-First Century by Robert W. Staiger	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	<p>Governed by the WTO, on the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), global trade rules traditionally focus on “shallow integration”—with an emphasis on reducing tariffs and trade impediments at the border—rather than “deep integration,” or direct negotiations over behind-the-border measures. Staiger charts the economic environment that gave rise to the former approach, explains when and why it worked, and surveys the changing landscape for global trade. In his analysis, the terms-of-trade theory of trade agreements provides a compelling framework for understanding the success of GATT in the twentieth century</p> <p>With its penetrating view of the evolving global economic environment, A World Trading System for the Twenty-First Century shows us a global trading system in need of reform, and Staiger makes a persuasive case for using the architecture of the GATT/WTO as a basis for that reform.</p>
14:15-15:30		
Title	Organizer	Abstract

Implications of the EU Carbon Border Adjustment mechanism for African Countries	Firoz Lalji Institute for Africa, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE/FLIA)	A joint report by the African Climate Foundation and the Firoz Lalji Institute for Africa at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) is the first comprehensive study that focuses on the implications of CBAM on African countries. (see here: https://africanclimatefoundation.org/news_and_analysis/implications-for-african-countries-of-a-carbon-border-adjustment-mechanism-in-africa/). The report simulates aggregate effects and disaggregated effects of the CBAM on Africa. It raises concerns about the economic ramifications of the CBAM on Africa, as it is likely to hit the competitiveness of African exports, particularly industrial exports if product coverage expands over time. The legal analysis of the report complements the economic analysis in assessing these issues, including the CBAM's compatibility with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules. The report will be launched and discussed at the panel.
Trade, Peace and Environmental Conservation: What Role for WTO?	El Fondo Mundial para la Naturaleza, Colombia (WWF Colombia)	A continued loss of nature and exacerbated climate crisis risks threaten not only the health of our economies and ecosystems, but also our security - with the poorest economies and most vulnerable populations hit first and hardest. Fragile and Conflict-affected States (FCS) are particularly vulnerable to impacts of the twin climate and biodiversity crisis, which have a profound impact on their stability. Led by WWF [other partners TBC: WTO, and INTERPOL], this session will bring together practitioners and policy leaders to discuss how the multilateral trade system could help mitigate those risks, at the intersection of promoting sustainable trade practices, conserving nature, and addressing climate change. Note: we are open to merging this session with those of similar thematic focus (trade & peace) that may have already been submitted (e.g. by WTO Accessions Division)
Pay attention! AfCFTA tariff schedules from a human rights perspective	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	What have tariff schedules to do with human rights? Are tariff schedules gender neutral? Do they support expanded trade of environmental goods such as renewable energy and green technologies? How will they support intra-African agricultural trade to enhance resilience to climate driven shocks? Why should African countries pay attention to it now? And what has all this to do with inclusive policies for advancing green trade? This session seeks to answer these questions. The AfCFTA aims at playing a key role in boosting development on the continent. Development needs to go hand-in-hand with people centred trade policies, which contribute to increasing peoples' enjoyment of human rights including their rights to development and to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. The AfCFTA's tariff schedules have been published recently. It is time to develop check-lists to evaluate their impact on a society and on how trade can work for the environment.
Facilitating a Just Transition in Asia through Green and Inclusive Trade Policies	Asian Development Bank (ADB) World Trade Organization (WTO)	While trade has fueled remarkable economic growth in Asia in recent decades, total carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from exports have nearly tripled between 1995 and 2019. The region contributes more than half of annual CO2 emissions globally, while exports reportedly account for more than a quarter of production-based CO2 emissions. Against this backdrop, this session will explore how green trade can be promoted in Asia with current and prospective examples of collaboration. It will address the following questions: (i) what are the opportunities and challenges for trade to facilitate a shift towards sustainable and inclusive production practices and economies in Asian developing countries and what initiatives have been successful in enabling this shift; (ii) what inclusive policies and strategies are needed to advance green trade in Asia; and (iii) how can regional and international cooperation be leveraged to develop a greener and more sustainable trading system in the region.
Workers' rights and sustainability in globalisation	International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)	The current model of trade and investment liberalisation does not prioritise worker rights or the environment. However, seeking to correct this imbalance, WTO Members are increasingly including labour and environmental clauses in bilateral and regional agreements spanning from monitoring committees on labour practices to intergovernmental exchanges on standards and various levels of enforceability. • How could the WTO encourage tripartite collaboration within transition policies and trade? • What is labour's

		role in green trade? • How could trade policy benefit workers and protect the environment? • Which approaches have worked best in bilateral/regional settings and which would work best on the multilateral level?
Inclusiveness, Trade Policy and Gender Equality	World Trade Organization (WTO)	<p>The session will broadly revolve around how the implementation of gender-inclusive trade policies can enhance women's access to wider markets and promote sustainable value chains. These policies aim to address gender disparities, support inclusiveness and encourage environmentally friendly production and distribution processes, among other measures.</p> <p>The session will also cover the contribution of emerging topics like e-commerce and gender-responsive standards, along with regional trends of gender mainstreaming in different regions and countries to support inclusiveness and leave no one behind. Indeed, digitalization can further facilitate women's participation in trade by granting them access to new markets and information, thus allowing them to benefit from digital trade opportunities.</p> <p>Nb. Additional moderator: Welcoming remarks, DDG Zhang</p>
The Key Role Sub-National Governments Can Play in Facilitating Inclusive Policies for the Advancement of Green Trade	University of Southern California Gould School of Law Center for Transnational Law and Business (USC CTLB)	Sub-national governments can play a key role in helping countries achieve emission reduction goals through facilitating inclusive policies at the sub-national level that will advance green trade and accelerate the transition to a global low-carbon economy. The state of California and the city of Los Angeles are innovative global leaders in addressing climate change at the subnational level; as well as in building coalitions with other developed and developing subnational and national governments to advance cooperation on research, development, commercialization, availability, accessibility, and deployment of clean energy and climate-friendly technologies, goods and services, with a focus on promoting clean-tech MSMEs that are minority and women-owned. The objective of this working session is to discuss how the California and Los Angeles models for inclusive collaboration among sub-national governments can increase the availability and affordability of environmental goods and technologies, and align climate policies to create a greener and more sustainable future.
Environmentally Sustainable E-commerce and Development	CUTS International, Geneva (CUTS) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Permanent Mission of Colombia	The expansion of retail, from bricks-and-mortar stores to e-commerce has become a defining feature of the modern economy. Notwithstanding the potential economic and social benefits, for e-commerce to make a real contribution to sustainable development, it is essential to understand its nexus with the environment and wider development implications. Ensuring that e-commerce is more environmentally sustainable is attracting growing attention, given the potential of sustainable shopping to lower greenhouse gas emissions and advance environmental abatement efforts. This issue is important for developing countries and LDCs that are disproportionately impacted by climate change. Women, who are more likely to suffer the impacts of environmental degradation, also play a powerful role as implementers of solutions to make e-commerce more environmentally sustainable. Through the sharing of good practices, policy experiences and business solutions, this session will demonstrate how countries can advance environmentally sustainable e-commerce that contributes to inclusive economies and serves climate goals.
What the Return of U.S. Industrial Policy Means for Inclusive Growth and Sustainability	Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)	The return of industrial policy in the United States has left many on edge and wondering what the impact of this policy shift will mean for global growth and sustainability. The new U.S. industrial policy model has focused on investing in the domestic market, and calling on other countries to do the same. Notably, to gain public support for the green transition, some measures are structured in a discriminatory way to ensure that the benefits of these investments will be accrued in the United States. However, this approach, if replicated globally, could leave many countries that do not have the capacity to match U.S. largesse behind. What is the role of the WTO in mitigating tension from the rise of industrial policy? How do we

		balance domestic investments with global needs to address the green transition? Join us for a lively discussion of these and other questions.
Sustainable agricultural revolution in Argentina: The powerful synergy between biological and digital innovation.	Permanent Mission of Argentina	Argentine agriculture, together with the complex ecosystem of goods and services that surrounds it, is facing a true biological and digital revolution. This is evidenced by the rapid incorporation of new technologies and good agricultural practices that promote sustainable and inclusive growth processes in all local, regional, and global production chains. The panel will present Argentina's case as an example of a successful partnership between public and private actors which has resulted in sustainable agricultural intensification through: i) the adoption of enabling regulatory frameworks, ii) the development of new plant varieties, iii) the promotion of sustainable mechanization and the extension of good agricultural practices, iv) the provision of its own satellite services, among other features. An agriculture based on biological and digital innovation, associated with fairer and more competitive international trade schemes, constitutes an effective formula to achieve global food security and sustainability in all its dimensions.
Building a just and inclusive climate transition for small businesses	International Trade Centre (ITC) Caribbean Development Bank	Small businesses suffer disproportionately from climate change, especially those led by women and young people. A truly Just Transition needs to address issues of equity, economic development, social and labour inclusion and the voice of small businesses has to be an integral part of trade and climate discussions. This panel will discuss how trade can deliver in an inclusive and just transition in developing countries towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement and thereby contributing to build ownership, inclusion and positive social and environmental impacts. The specific focus of the panel will be on how the trade community can learn from best practices from developing countries in addressing the climate, just and inclusive transition. This panel is co-organised by the International Trade Centre and The Caribbean Development Bank.
Exploring IP's role in pushing the needle on green, digital technology and trade	World Trade Organization (WTO) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	What role does Intellectual Property play in shifting trade to a green and sustainable future? Join thought leaders Tony Taubman (Director, WTO Intellectual Property Division), Amy Dietterich (Director, WIPO Global Challenges Division) and Dr. Carolyn Deere Birkbeck, (Executive Director, Forum on Trade, Environment and the SDGs) for a lively discussion, taking up the examples of real-life IP strategies of diverse companies. Airbus, a global aircraft manufacturer with the ambition to use hydrogen planes for zero emission air transport, relies on its patent portfolio to drive resource-intensive research. Materialise, a medium-sized enterprise operating globally, leverages 3-D printing software, technology and research to revolutionize both medical technology and manufacturing and be part of a sustainable future. The WIPO Green online platform supports sustainable technology exchange by connecting providers and seekers of environmentally friendly technologies – learn about its real-life impact through case studies. We end with an inspirational exchange with participants!
16:00-17:15		
Title	Organizer	Abstract
Building a Circular Economy to Drive The Green Transition	National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC)	As the green transition intensifies worldwide, demand for sustainably produced materials and resources will quickly outstrip the available supply. This panel will explore the circular economy and how key services and technologies can contribute to a more sustainable global economy, while cutting costs and generating jobs.
Empowering Inclusive and Sustainable Trade in Asia-Pacific: Perspectives on the WTO E-commerce Moratorium	Digital Prosperity for Asia (DPA)	This session will explore the importance of maintaining the WTO moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions, and how it will drive more inclusive and sustainable trade in the Asia-Pacific. The digital economy is a key driver of economic growth in the region, particularly for developing countries, where the potential to leapfrog is significant. Digital SMEs and start-ups in the Asia-Pacific are leveraging digital tools to promote greener trade, resource efficiency, and environmental sustainability – for example,

		the use of blockchain technologies to facilitate traceability and accountability for sustainable agriculture trade. Losing the Moratorium would disproportionately affect digital SMEs and start-ups, imposing higher costs through tariffs on electronic transmissions and diminishing their competitiveness in export markets. Even in the absence of immediate tariff implementation, the uncertainty alone would dampen innovation and impede the potential of the digital economy for developing countries in the region.
How can developing economies best attract climate action foreign direct investment?	Permanent Mission of Namibia	Developing economies face a significant funding gap for climate action. Some of these needs can be met by foreign direct investment (FDI). This session highlights a new guidebook for investment promotion agencies (IPAs) on facilitating "climate FDI" – in other words, FDI that contributes to climate-aligned growth of countries. The guidebook lays out practical steps IPAs, the private sector and other stakeholders can take in this area. The session will also highlight initial findings from two pilot projects to implement the guidebook's recommendations. These include building a sustainable supplier database in Namibia and creating a pipeline of climate-friendly investment projects that would help multinational firms deliver on decarbonisation commitments in Brazil.
Launch of WTO publication titled: "International export regulations and controls: Navigating the global framework beyond the WTO"	World Trade Organizations (WTO)	During this technical session, the WTO Market Access Division will launch a publication titled 'International export regulations and controls: Navigating the global framework beyond the WTO'. It explores the vast and complex framework of export regulations and controls that seek to regulate trade and manage different types of risks. Experts will discuss their contributions to the publication and provide an overview of the export-related provisions in the respective international agreement/convention. Given the little discussion on agreements covered in the publication and their relation to the multilateral trading system, this session will provide an opportunity to understand how these non-WTO international agreements regulate exports in areas they cover, and their relationship with WTO rules. The publication is a timely endeavour providing information on the existing international framework on export regulations and controls in selected areas that may prove useful as blueprints for negotiating new disciplines on sustainability and climate change.
The Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate: Developing a Transformative and Inclusive Agenda	E3G - Third Generation Environmentalism (E3G)	The Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate, launched in January 2023, is a new initiative bringing together 56 trade ministers from around the world to facilitate inclusive cooperation on trade and climate change. This Public Forum event brings together commentators close to the initiative to respond to the early priorities recently set out by Ministers. How can the Coalition to develop a truly transformative and inclusive agenda for trade cooperation and global climate action? What does a transformative agenda look like, and what are the practical steps to make transformative and inclusive change a reality?
AfCFTA implementation for the establishment of sustainable African businesses	Africa Export Import Bank (afreximbank)	The AfCFTA is predicted to bring vast economic benefits to the continent, with some studies finding that the AfCFTA will contribute to boosting the combined consumer and business spending in Africa to over \$6.7 trillion by 2030. Additionally, in an era marked by rapidly advancing environmental degradation and climate change, the AfCFTA must also serve as a lever for sustainable growth. Against this backdrop, home-grown African Businesses will play a vital role in both the implementation and use of the AfCFTA. It is, therefore, paramount to deploy inclusive policies aligned with the private sector expectations and recommendations. The panel discussion, anchored on the 2023 PAFTRAC CEO Trade Survey, will discuss the key private sector-led inclusive policies needed to realise the full potential of the AfCFTA and realise the AU's Africa we Want agenda 2063.
Empowering waves: An ocean of opportunities for women in the blue economy	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)	The ocean economy offers vast opportunities for developing countries to foster innovative and resilient economies and accelerate trade through the adoption of socially and environmentally sound practices. Women are key economic actors in the fisheries and seaweed cultivation value chains, and yet their contribution is often overlooked. Both sustainable aquaculture and seaweed cultivation are emerging economic sectors with the potential to double in value and volume over the next decade. However, these

		sectors will need to adapt to the policies and measures put in place by countries to fulfil their Paris Agreement commitments. Recognizing and harnessing the untapped potential of women's full participation in these industries can lead to a more inclusive and sustainable ocean economy. The session will identify policy gaps and barriers hindering women's active participation in these sectors and will facilitate the exchange of concrete bottom-up experiences, best practices, and innovative approaches to better support women.
Harnessing the Digital Creative Economy in Small Economies- Creating Pathways Towards Services-led Diversification	Commonwealth Small States Office (CSSO) United Nation Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	In 2022 the creative economy was worth at least \$1.5 trillion, making it one of the world's fastest-growing sectors. Beyond vast natural resources, small states and SIDS possess rich indigenous cultural and creative assets, and vast pools of young, talented, entrepreneurs and artists. This under-exploited creative wealth, combined with innovative, disruptive technologies and digital tools, presents opportunities and challenges for smaller economies. The creative economy exhibits more resilience than other services sectors and can employ, empower, innovate and monetise talent, in order to bridge small economies' geographical and other structural constraints in accessing global markets. Ahead of key multilateral conferences, including the 4th SIDS Conference in 2024, this session will explore how innovative technologies, advances in digitalisation, and trade policy can nurture and support this sector, allowing smaller economies to attract investment and create jobs, kick-starting services-led economic diversification as a sustainable pathway to economic transformation.
AMWAE: Journey to Sustainable Inclusivity	World Trade Organisation (WTO)	Delve into the captivating story of AMWAE, the Waorani Women's Association of the Ecuadorian Amazon. Discover how their production of chocolate and handicrafts drives sustainable economic development, preserves ancestral customs, and uplifts Waorani families. Join us for an immersive event where you'll savor their delectable chocolate, witness exquisite craftsmanship, and learn about their transformative journey towards sustainability. Be inspired by the resilience and empowerment of the Waorani indigenous people as they protect their land and foster inclusivity. This is an opportunity to support their cause and celebrate the remarkable results achieved through sustainability. Step into a world where ancient traditions meet modern innovation, and experience the harmonious blend of sustainability and inclusiveness in the heart of the Amazon Rainforest. Together, let's honor heritage and shape a brighter future.
How Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) and trade institutions could leverage digital tools to create sustainable supply chain partnerships'	World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)	Investment and trade are engines for development, job creation and poverty reduction. With the advancement of digital tools and technologies government agencies responsible for trade and investments are able to further expand their reach and value by promoting and facilitating sustainable investments and thus also to a greening of supply chains. They can do that via a range of means such as providing information, connecting investors, and fostering partnerships. This session will therefore examine what tools are currently being used and how digital platforms can leverage outreach and support data-driven analysis for more sustainable development, particularly in developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs). It moreover will provide participants with a clear menu on how to implement these tools via showcasing successful implementations and global best practices.
Trade and Climate Change: What are we missing in the policy dialogue?	World Bank Group (WBG) World Trade Organization (WTO)	Developing countries are among the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. They must both pursue their development goals while simultaneously adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change. At the same time, they must adapt to green-trade policies that are reshaping comparative advantages and providing new competitive opportunities. This session will discuss ways to ensure that policies to advance green trade are consistent with development objectives. A new World Bank report, "Trade and Climate Change: Policy Considerations for Developing Countries," as well as ongoing WTO work, will serve as a starting point to discuss the menu of trade policy options countries can use when preparing their National Adaptation Plans and Nationally Determined Contributions. These options include

		leveraging supply chains to improve access to environmental goods and services; streamlining customs procedures for trade in environmentally friendly cargo; and improving digital connectivity to facilitate cross-border monitoring of climate events.
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