

2019 G20 Osaka Summit Interim Compliance Report

Prepared by

Sofia Lopez and the G20 Research Group

University of Toronto

Toronto

and

Irina Popova and the Center for International Institutions Research

Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration,

Moscow

From 30 June 2019 to 10 May 2020

14 October 2020

“The University of Toronto ... produced a detailed analysis to the extent of which each G20 country has met its commitments since the last summit ... I think this is important; we come to these summits, we make these commitments, we say we are going to do these things and it is important that there is an organisation that checks up on who has done what.”

— *David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit*

Contents

Preface.....	3
Introduction and Summary.....	6
Commitment Breakdown.....	6
Selection of Commitments.....	6
Interim Compliance Scores.....	7
Interim Compliance by Member.....	7
Interim Compliance by Commitment.....	7
Table 1: 2019 G20 Osaka Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring.....	8
Table 2: 2019 G20 Osaka Summit Interim Compliance Scores.....	10
Table 3: 2019 G20 Osaka Summit Interim Compliance by Member.....	11
Table 4: 2019 G20 Osaka Summit Interim Compliance by Commitment.....	11
Table 5: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008–2018.....	12
Conclusions.....	14
Future Research and Reports.....	14
Considerations and Limitations.....	14
Appendix: General Considerations.....	15
1. Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth.....	16
2. Macroeconomics: Exchange Rates.....	83
3. Trade: Open Markets.....	92
4. Trade: Reform of the World Trade Organization.....	109
5. Infrastructure: Quality Infrastructure Investment.....	141
6. Digital Economy: Frameworks.....	183
7. International Taxation: Digitalization.....	201
8. Crime and Corruption: Cyber Resilience.....	215
9. Terrorism: Internet Security.....	237
10. Labour and Employment: Opportunities for Youth.....	268
11. Gender: Education and Training.....	289
12. Gender: Labour Market.....	315
13. Development: Energy.....	350
14. Development: Investment in Human Capital.....	370
15. Health: Ageing Populations.....	416
16. Health: Public Health Preparedness.....	458
17. Environment: Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics.....	490
18. Climate Change: Financing for Sustainable Development.....	508
19. Climate Change: Innovation.....	528

3. Trade: Open Markets

“[We strive to] ... keep our markets open.”

G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia		0	
Brazil		0	
Canada		0	
China		0	
France			Not applicable
Germany			Not applicable
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy			Not applicable
Japan	-1		
Korea	-1		
Mexico		0	
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States	-1		
European Union			+1
Average		-0.12 (41%)	

Background

Maintaining free trade and open market access has been a feature of G20 summits since the Washington Summit in 2008. Before the 2017 Hamburg Summit it primarily took the form of an anti-protectionism pledge. This pledge was part of the response by the G20 to the 2008 financial crisis and was extended three times: at the 2009 London Summit, at the 2010 Toronto Summit and at the Los Cabos Summit until the end of 2014. At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, it was again extended until the end of 2016. At the 2015 and 2016 G20 summits in Antalya and Hangzhou, the G20 reaffirmed the commitment to a standstill and rollback on protectionist measures.

More recently, however, with increasingly differing opinions on trade policies' contribution to domestic and international economic growth and employment, G20 leaders have been less precise on the issues of international trade, despite affirmations of support for a “free, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent, predictable and stable trade and investment environment.”⁵⁸¹

Nevertheless, the upsurge in protectionism remains a primary threat to market access around the world. The World Trade Organization (WTO) estimated that by mid-October 2019 trade restrictions imposed

⁵⁸¹ G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 29 June 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

by the G20 economies had reached their historic peaks, with a 37% increase, compared to the previous period (mid-October 2018 to mid-May 2019) and a trade coverage of over USD460 billion.⁵⁸²

The traditionally applied indicator for trade openness, measured as the sum of a country’s total exports and total imports divided by its gross domestic product (GDP), is criticized by the WTO on the grounds that it correlates with some of economies’ innate characteristics and thus cannot be utilized for cross-country comparisons.⁵⁸³ Additionally such measurement cannot be applied to the monitoring of the G20 performance during the summit cycles, due to the lags in trade and GDP data availability. As such, given the history of the institution’s activity on trade and the corresponding leaders’ pledges the compliance assessment is based on the traditional G20 commitment to avoid protectionist measures.

Commitment Features

This commitment requires that G20 members maintain a non-restrictive trade environment and ensure free access to their domestic markets. The Osaka Summit leaders’ declaration calls for G20 members not to impose new protectionist measures and roll back those restrictions, which were imposed previously.

According to the WTO definition, protectionist measures include “tariffs, non-tariff measures, subsidies, and burdensome administrative procedures regarding imports.”⁵⁸⁴ Subsidies in particular cause competition-distorting effects.

To fully comply with the commitment the G20 members need to avoid imposing new protectionist measures and eliminate the ones in force.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member implemented one or more protectionist measures AND did not roll back any existing measures.
0	The G20 member did not implement new protectionist measures BUT existing measures were not rolled back OR the G20 member did implement new protectionist measures BUT at least one existing measure was rolled back.
+1	The G20 member did not implement any new protectionist measures AND rolled back at least one existing measure

Centre for International Institutions Research

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with the commitment to keep its market open.

On 24 July 2019, the Ministry of Treasury of Argentina adopted Resolution 417/2019 simplifying the procedure to obtain export licenses for liquefied natural gas. As a consequence, licenses will be issued in 15 working days instead of 45 working days.⁵⁸⁵

On 9 August 2019, the Executive of Argentina issued Decree 555/2019 eliminating the import duties set on 38 eight-digit tariff lines related to used oilfield equipment. According to the import download

⁵⁸² Trade restrictions among G20 economies remain at historic highs, World Trade Organization, 21 November 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/trdev_21nov19_e.htm

⁵⁸³ A Practical Guide to Trade Policy Analysis, World Trade Organization 2012. Access date: 20 August 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/wto_unctad12_e.pdf.

⁵⁸⁴ G20 governments refrain from extensive use of restrictive measures, but some slippage evident, Pascal Lamy, World Trade Organization, 14 September 2018. http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news09_e/trdev_14sep09_e.htm.

⁵⁸⁵ Argentina simplifica los procesos para exportar gas natural, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 26 July 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-simplifica-los-procesos-para-exportar-gas-natural>.

facility of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the previous applicable duties ranged between 3.5% and 18.5%.⁵⁸⁶

On 7 November 2019, the Secretariat of Industry of Argentina adopted Resolution 235/2019 updating the list of products recognized as part of the Promotion Scheme for the Argentine Naval Industry and that are subject to a 0% import duty. The new list adds 10 new products to the list enclosed in 7 eight-digits tariff lines (one of the products has been inserted in the list with a temporary character and is to be removed on 15/11/2020).⁵⁸⁷

On 14 December 2019, the Argentine Executive adopted Decree 37/2019 amending the export tax regime introduced via Decree 793/2018. One of the changes introduced with the new legislation is the decrease of the export tax applicable on 595 eight-digits tariff lines. The new duties have been reduced from 30 per cent and 12 per cent depending on the product to 9 per cent. The new export duties have entered into force on 14 December 2019 and apply until 31 December 2020.⁵⁸⁸

On 27 December 2019, the Argentine Executive adopted the Decree 99/2019 on the reduction of the export tax applicable on services rendered in the country when such services shall be effectively used or exploited abroad. Concretely, the new legislation reduced the export tax from 12 per cent to 5 per cent. The new export duty entered into force on 1 January 2020 and is to be terminated on 31 December 2021.⁵⁸⁹

On 27 December 2019, the Argentine Executive adopted new legislation regulating export duties, modifying the internal taxation of imports and establishing a temporary tax applicable to the acquisition of foreign currency as well as other goods and services made by Argentine residents using foreign currency.⁵⁹⁰

On 9 January 2020, the Argentine Ministry of Productive Development adopted Resolution 1/2020 amending the import license regime. The new legislation modified the list of products subject to non-automatic import licenses adding 607 new products enclosed in 304 eight-digits tariff lines. In addition, the tolerance margin assessed over the free-on-board value of the imported goods was reduced from 7 per cent to 5 per cent for the products subject to these types of licenses. Finally, it also reduced the validity of the licenses from 180 calendar days to a 90 calendar-day term. Resolution 1/2020 entered into force on 10 January 2020.⁵⁹¹

Argentina rolled back several restrictive measures but at the same time introduced new ones.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

⁵⁸⁶ Decreto 555/2019, Legislative Information of Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 9 August 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/325000-329999/326498/norma.htm>

⁵⁸⁷ Resolución 235/2019, Official Journal of Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 7 November 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/220956/20191108?busqueda=1>

⁵⁸⁸ Decreto 37/2019, Official Journal of Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/223859/20191214?busqueda=1>

⁵⁸⁹ Decreto 99/2019, Official Journal of Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 27 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/224184/20191228>

⁵⁹⁰ Decreto 99/2019, Official Journal of Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 27 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/224184/20191228>

⁵⁹¹ Resolución 1/2020, Official Journal of Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2020. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/224467/20200109?busqueda=1>

Australia: 0

Australia has partially complied with the commitment to keep the markets open.

Australia introduced new trade-restrictive measures during the monitoring period.

On 1 September 2019, the Australian Government introduced mandatory import permits on cut flowers and foliage from Kenya, Colombia and Ecuador. The permit application must include details on supply chain management system.⁵⁹²

On 29 March 2020, the Minister of Treasury of Australia announced a temporary amendment to the Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975, which would make all foreign investments into Australia subject to government approval.⁵⁹³

On 9 April 2020 Australia notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of its decision to introduce temporary quantitative restrictions on non-commercial exports of personal protective equipment and sanitizers essential to combatting the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the communication the “measure seeks to prevent individuals and criminal syndicates from hoarding, pricegouging and profiteering on noncommercial exports from Australia” and will not cover legitimate commercial and humanitarian exports.⁵⁹⁴

Australia rolled back one of the previously introduced trade-restrictive measures during the monitoring period.

On 1 May 2020, Australia notified the WTO of its unilateral trade measure introduced in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The country introduced a temporary tariff concession measure, with custom duty refunds available, to facilitate the importation of supplies critical in the fight against COVID-19 outbreak, including medical and hygiene products.⁵⁹⁵

Australia both introduced new restrictive measures and rolled back some of the existing ones during the monitoring period.

Thus, it is awarded a score of 0 for partial compliance.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with the commitment to keep its market open.

On 4 October 2019, President Jair Bolsonaro signed a law to modernize the country’s regulatory regime for telecommunication services. It lifts restrictions on asset sales and seeks to encourage

⁵⁹² 125-2019 — Reminder: Import permits required to import cut flowers and foliage from Kenya, Colombia and Ecuador from 1 September 2019, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment of Australia (Canberra) 5 August 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/industry-advice/2019/125-2019>

⁵⁹³ Changes to foreign investment framework, Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia (Canberra) 29 March 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://ministers.treasury.gov.au/ministers/josh-frydenberg-2018/media-releases/changes-foreign-investment-framework/>

⁵⁹⁴ Notification pursuant to the Decision on notification procedures for quantitative restrictions (G/L/59/REV.1), World Trade Organization (Geneva) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/notifications_e.htm

⁵⁹⁵ Unilateral measures relating to the COVID-19 pandemic: measures to facilitate the importation of vital medical supplies, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/notifications_e.htm

investment in broadband in remote areas of Brazil by allowing companies to own outright telecom assets, such as cell towers and real estate.⁵⁹⁶

On 26 September 2019, the decision was made that allowed the Central Bank of Brazil to authorize to recognize the increase in foreign capital participation in domestic financial institutions, as well as the licensing of new branches of foreign financial institutions, as being in the interest of the government. Furthermore, a new law eliminated, in September 2019, the reciprocity requirement that had regulated insurance and reinsurance operations within the country to date, and which conditioned the capacity of foreign firms to carry out insurance transactions and establish in Brazil on equal treatment of Brazilian insurers in the foreign country.⁵⁹⁷

On 17 June 2019, Brazil's Congress passed Law 13.842 amending the Brazilian Aviation Code to remove restrictions on foreign ownership and control of national airlines. Previously, airlines wishing to establish in Brazil faced a foreign ownership limit and were required to have exclusive Brazilian management and control. As a result of the amendment, from, international airlines can now own a subsidiary company in Brazil, subject to the requirement that its headquarters and administration are based in the country.

On 19 November 2019, the Government of Brazil reduced the import duty set on certain yarns of polyester and influenza vaccines for a concrete quota, as well as renewing and altering the application of another tariff-rate quota set on two other products.⁵⁹⁸

On 30 December 2019, the Brazilian Foreign Trade Chamber (Camex) issued Resolution No 23 reducing the applicable import duties on 400 products enclosed in 114 eight-digits tariff lines. The affected products are related to the regime of auto-parts not produced in the country. The new import duties have been set at 2 per cent. According to the WTO tariff download facility, the previously applicable import tariffs ranged between 4.67 per cent and 20 per cent depending on the product. The new legislation entered into force on 2 January 2020.⁵⁹⁹

On 30 December 2019, the Brazilian government eliminated the import duties set on solar cells.⁶⁰⁰

On 30 December 2019, the Government of Brazil eliminated the import duties on 250 capital goods enclosed in 135 eight-digits tariff lines. However, it restored the import duties on 19 ex-tarifários. The amendment introduced led to an increase in the import duty from 0 per cent to values ranging between 6 per cent and 16.22 per cent depending on the tariff line.⁶⁰¹

⁵⁹⁶ Report shows trade restrictions by WTO members at historically high levels, WTO (Geneva) 12 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/dgra_12dec19_e.htm

⁵⁹⁷ Report shows trade restrictions by WTO members at historically high levels, WTO (Geneva) 12 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/dgra_12dec19_e.htm

⁵⁹⁸ Resolução Nº 11, Diário Oficial da União (Brasília) 22 November 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <http://www.in.gov.br/web/dou/-/resolucao-n-11-de-19-de-novembro-de-2019-229205656>

⁵⁹⁹ RESOLUÇÃO Nº 23, Diário Oficial da União (Brasília) 31 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <http://www.in.gov.br/web/dou/-/resolucao-n-23-de-30-de-dezembro-de-2019-236097333>

⁶⁰⁰ RESOLUÇÃO Nº 25, Diário Oficial da União (Brasília) 31 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <http://www.in.gov.br/web/dou/-/resolucao-n-25-de-30-de-dezembro-de-2019-236099128>

⁶⁰¹ RESOLUÇÃO Nº 30, Diário Oficial da União (Brasília) 31 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. <http://www.in.gov.br/web/dou/-/resolucao-n-30-de-30-de-dezembro-de-2019-237206913>

On 30 December 2019, the Government of Brazil eliminated the import duties on 18 information technology and telecommunications products enclosed in 12 eight-digits tariff lines. However, it restored the import duties on four products.⁶⁰²

Brazil rolled back several restrictive measures but at the same time introduced new ones.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with the commitment to keep the markets open.

Canada introduced new trade-restrictive measures during the monitoring period.

On 23 August 2019, the Department of Finance released the communication on the new measures to protect domestic steel and aluminum industry. The measures included new anti-dumping regulations, addition of certain aluminum products to the import control list and making their exports subject to general import permit.⁶⁰³

Canada rolled back some of the previously introduced trade-restrictive measures during the monitoring period.

On 23 August 2019, the Department of Finance announced the exclusion of certain specific heavy plate and stainless steel products from the list of goods subject to safeguard measures, allowing Canadian companies to have access to surtax-free sources of supply of the products concerned.⁶⁰⁴

On 11 May 2020 Canada notified the World Trade Organization of its additional unilateral trade measures, taken in response to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Canada waived custom duties on medical supplies identified in the list of goods critical for combating COVID-19 by the World Health Organization and the World Customs Organization.⁶⁰⁵

Canada both introduced new restrictive measures and rolled back some of the existing ones during the monitoring period.

Thus, it is awarded a score of 0 for partial compliance.

Analyst: Andrei Sakbarov

⁶⁰² RESOLUÇÃO GECEX Nº 29, Diário Oficial da União (Brasília) 9 January 2020. Access date: 20 May 2020. <http://www.in.gov.br/web/dou/-/resolucao-gecex-n-29-de-30-de-dezembro-de-2019.-237206952>

⁶⁰³ Government Takes Further Steps to Protect Canada's Steel and Aluminum Workers and Industries, Canadian Department of Finance (Ottawa) 23 August 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2019/08/government-takes-further-steps-to-protect-canadas-steel-and-aluminum-workers-and-industries.html>.

⁶⁰⁴ Government Takes Further Steps to Protect Canada's Steel and Aluminum Workers and Industries, Canadian Department of Finance (Ottawa) 23 August 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2019/08/government-takes-further-steps-to-protect-canadas-steel-and-aluminum-workers-and-industries.html>.

⁶⁰⁵ Unilateral Measures Relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Measures to Facilitate the Importation of Medical Supplies, Including Personal Protective Equipment, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/notifications_e.htm.

China: 0

China has partially complied with the commitment on keeping its national market open.

On 29 November 2019, the Chinese government published new rules concerning ownership of insurance companies in China. According to the new ruling market access was significantly eased, in particular, a requirement of 30-years minimum period of insurance business operations was removed along with some procedural amendments.⁶⁰⁶

On 19 December 2019, the Chinese State Council Tariffs and Tax Standards Commission announced that several products would be excluded from the tariff roster imposed on US import back in 2018. New regulations would include various petroleum products and plastics.⁶⁰⁷

On 21 February 2020 the Chinese State Council Tariffs and Tax Standards Commission announced that several products would be excluded from the tariff roster imposed on US import back in 2018. New regulations would include various wooden products, machinery, medical and control equipment.⁶⁰⁸

On 17 March 2020, the Chinese State Taxation Administration released *Announcement 2020/15*, which raised the export rebate tax on 1,464 products, effective from 20 March. For 380 product lines, the rate was raised to 9%. These included plant growth regulators. For another 1,084 product lines including porcelain sanitary appliances, the rate was raised to 13%.⁶⁰⁹

China imposed new protectionist measures and rolled back several existing ones.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

France: Not applicable

Trade policy is set by the European Commission. Thus, as a member of the European Union, France is not assessed for compliance with this commitment.

On 1 July 2019, the further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (131 tariff lines at eight-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90) became effective for EU members.⁶¹⁰

Analyst: Irina Popova

⁶⁰⁶ China: Market access conditions for foreign insurance companies relaxed, Global Trade Alert. Access date: 23 March 2020. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/intervention/78444/fdi-entry-and-ownership-rule/china-market-access-conditions-for-foreign-insurance-companies-relaxed>

⁶⁰⁷ China: Some retaliatory tariffs on certain US imports waived, Global Trade Alert. Access date: 23 March 2020. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/intervention/78047/import-tariff/china-some-retaliatory-tariffs-on-certain-us-imports-waived>

⁶⁰⁸ China: More retaliatory tariffs on US imports suspended, Global Trade Alert. Access date: 23 March 2020. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/43280/china-more-retaliatory-tariffs-on-us-imports-suspended>

⁶⁰⁹ PRC State Taxation Administration, 17 March 2020. (财政部 税务总局公告2020年第15号 关于提高部分产品出口退税率的公告). Access date: 20 August 2020. . <http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/chinatax/n810341/n810755/c5146338/content.html>

⁶¹⁰ Summary and Status of G-20 trade and trade-related measures since October 2008 (Excel Format), WTO. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/g20_annex_bis_november19_e.xls.

Germany: Not applicable

Trade policy is set by the European Commission. Thus, as a member of the European Union, Germany is not assessed for compliance with this commitment.

On 1 July 2019, the further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (131 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90) became effective for EU members.⁶¹¹

Analyst: Andrey Shelepov

India: 0

India has partially complied with the commitment to keep the markets open.

On 24 August 2019, the Indian Ministry of Finance withdrawn the levy of a surcharge on the capital gains tax payable on the transfer of derivatives (futures and options) by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs). The surcharge will continue to be applicable to the gains from the transfer of such derivatives by any person other than FPIs.⁶¹²

On 31 August 2019, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Notification No. 15/2015-2020 amended the import policy for “Agarbatti” and other odoriferous preparations which operate by burning (under HS 3307.41) and other products (under HS 3307.49) to “restricted,” i.e., imports would require a license and also restricted to be used by the importer only. Such imports were free of conditions before.⁶¹³

On 5 September 2019, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Notification No. 18/2015-2020 amended and liberalized the import policy of chlorotrifluoroethene. Earlier, the imports of the same were restricted to only actual users of the product against a license and from a country which is a party to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. These restrictions have henceforth been removed for chlorotrifluoroethene and it can be freely imported.⁶¹⁴

On 29 September 2019, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Notification No. 21/2015-2020 prohibited the export of onions “until further orders.” The export ban has been announced to control the domestic price rise of onions.⁶¹⁵

On 9 April 2020, the Ministry of Finance through Notification No. 20/2020-Customs exempted the imports of ventilators, face and surgical masks, personal protection equipment, COVID-19 testing kits, and inputs for the manufacture of any of these products from the customs duty and the health tax.⁶¹⁶

⁶¹¹ Summary and Status of G-20 trade and trade-related measures since October 2008 (Excel Format), WTO. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/g20_annex_bis_november19_e.xls.

⁶¹² Official Press Release — Government withdraws enhanced surcharge on tax payable on transfer of certain assets, Press Information Bureau of Indian Government (Delhi) 24 August 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=192802>

⁶¹³ Notification 15/2015-2020, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (Delhi) 31 August 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.globaltradelert.org/state-act/38340/india-import-restriction-on-certain-odoriferous-preparations>

⁶¹⁴ Notification No. 18/2015-2020, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (Delhi) 5 September 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/notification%20No.%2018%20dated%2005.09.2019%20in%20english.pdf>

⁶¹⁵ Notification No. 49/2015-2020, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (Delhi) 29 September 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Noti%2049%20dt%2003.2020%20Eng_0.pdf

⁶¹⁶ Notification No. 20/2020– Customs, Ministry of Finance (Delhi) 9 April 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2020/cs-tarr2020/cs20-2020.pdf>

On 17 April 2020, the Indian Directorate General of Foreign Trade through Notification No. 3/2015-2020 amended the export policy of formulations made of paracetamol (including fixed-dose combinations) from “restricted” to “free.” Henceforth, exports of these formulations will not require the application for an export license. The export policy of paracetamol and its formulations was amended to “restricted” on 3 March 2020 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The exports of paracetamol (as an active pharmaceutical ingredient) continue to remain restricted.⁶¹⁷

India both introduced new restrictive measures and rolled back some of the existing ones during the monitoring period.

Thus, it is awarded a score of 0 for partial compliance.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to keep the markets open.

On 13 August 2019, the Ministry of Trade announced regulation 63/2019 on the importation of salt. The regulation rolls back some of the import restrictions in place in the salt industry. In contrast to previous legislation, it allows the importation of salt for purposes other than as raw material.⁶¹⁸

On 18 October 2019, the Ministry of Trade issued regulation 80/2019 amending regulation 109/2018 on the exportation of coffee. Compared to its original regulation, the amendment makes it easier to obtain a license to export from Indonesia. Whereas previously the exporter needed to face an inspection by the local trading office (Dinas), it now may submit a “self-declaration of conformity” regarding its basic company information inter alia on output, plantation area and the number of employees.⁶¹⁹

On 24 October 2019, the Minister of Finance issued Regulation Number 153/PMK.010/2019 imposing definitive duties on imports of aluminium foil. The rate of duty between 7 November 2019 and 6 November 2020 is 6 per cent. The rate of duty between 7 November 2020 and 6 November 2021 is 4 per cent. A number of developing countries are exempt from duties.⁶²⁰

On 11 January 2020, Indonesian authorities imposed a definitive safeguard duty on imports of evaporators roll-bond evaporator and fin-cross evaporator used in the cooling system of freezers and refrigerators. The rate of duty between 11 January 2020 and 10 January 2021 is 17 per cent. The rate of duty between 11 January 2021 and 10 January 2022 is 15.5 per cent. The rate of duty between 11 January 2022 and 10 January 2023 is 14 per cent. A number of developing countries are exempt from duties.⁶²¹

⁶¹⁷ Notification No. 03/2015-2020, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (Delhi) 17 April 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/43763/india-export-license-requirement-removed-for-exports-of-formulations-made-from-paracetamol>

⁶¹⁸ Ministry of Trade regulation 63/2019 (in Bahasa Indonesia), Ministry of Trade of Indonesia (Jakarta) 13 August 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <http://jdih.kemendag.go.id/peraturan/detail/1871/2>

⁶¹⁹ Ministry of Trade regulation 80/2019 (in Bahasa Indonesia), Ministry of Trade of Indonesia (Jakarta) 18 October 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <http://jdih.kemendag.go.id/peraturan/detail/1881/2>

⁶²⁰ Regulation No. 153/PMK.010/2019, Government of Indonesia, Ministry of Finance (Jakarta) 24 October 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://jdih.kemenkeu.go.id/fullText/2019/153~PMK.010~2019Per.pdf>

⁶²¹ WTO, Committee on Safeguards — Notification pursuant to article 12.1(c) of the Agreement on Safeguards — Notification pursuant to article 9, footnote 2 of the Agreement on Safeguards: Indonesia — Evaporators, Document No. G/SG/N/10/IDN/22/Suppl.1 ; G/SG/N/11/IDN/22, WTO (Geneva) 24 January 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/SS/directdoc.aspx?filename=q:/G/SG/N10IDN22S1.pdf>

Indonesia both introduced new restrictive measures and rolled back some of the existing ones during the monitoring period.

Thus, it is awarded a score of 0 for partial compliance.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: Not applicable

Trade policy is set by the European Commission. Thus, as a member of the European Union, Italy is not assessed for compliance with this commitment.

On 1 July 2019, the further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (131 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS Chapters 35; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90) became effective for the EU members.⁶²²

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Japan: -1

Japan has not complied with the commitment to keep its market open.

On 1 August 2019, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan amended foreign direct investment restrictions creating new sectors that are now considered to be new restricted information and communications technology businesses mostly in the telecommunications and technology sectors.⁶²³

Japan introduced new protectionist measure and did not roll back any existing measures.

Thus, it receives a score of -1.⁶²⁴

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: -1

Korea has not complied with the commitment on keeping the national market open.

On 24 December 2019, the government of Korea announced its intention to cut tariffs on 77 products in 2020. The measure is said to bolster the country's industrial competitiveness and stabilize prices of domestic goods. The products covered by a tariff quota include crude oil, liquefied natural gas and cobalt sulfate, a key ingredient in making batteries for electric vehicles.⁶²⁵

On 19 March 2020, the government of Korea extended the antidumping duty on Japanese steel plates. The Korea Trade Commission said Seoul will continue to apply the 13.17 per cent antidumping tariff on the Japanese products for the next five years. Korea has been imposing the

⁶²² Summary and Status of G-20 trade and trade-related measures since October 2008 (Excel Format), WTO. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/g20_annex_bis_november19_e.xls.

⁶²³ METI (2019) 対内直接投資等に係る事前届出対象業種の追加等を行います Add industries subject to prior notification pertaining to inward direct investment, etc., Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo) 1 August 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/05/20190527002/20190527002.html>

⁶²⁴ WTO and UNCTAD databases were used to search for trade measures, also search in open sources was conducted.

⁶²⁵ S. Korea to cut tariff rates on 77 products in 2020, the Korea Herald (Seoul) 24 December 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20191224000149&np=73&mp=8>

tariff on the Japanese plates since April 2011. Recent extension is the second one with the first one announced back in 2016.⁶²⁶

Despite the fact that Korea has announced its intention to cut the tariffs, on evidence proving the realization of this plan has been found. At the same time, the restrictive measures against certain import products have been prolonged.

Thus, Korea receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with the commitment to keep its market open.

On 17 September 2019, the Mexican Secretariat of Economy issued a notice decreasing the quota of sugar allowed to be exported to the United States of America during the period lasting from 1 October 2019, to 30 September 2020.⁶²⁷ The new total volume has been set at 439,315.574 metric tons, which represents a decrease when compared to the 811,513.082 metric tons that was approved for the prior annual period.

On 31 October 2019, the Secretary of Economy of Mexico announced the new applicable reference prices for sugar. The new price has decreased from MXN 12,711.52 per tonne (USD 663.08 at the time of the announcement) to MXN 11,434.32 per ton (USD 596.42 at the time of the announcement).⁶²⁸

On 29 November 2019, the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico adopted a new Agreement modifying the applicable tax exemptions for fuel used by the fishing and agricultural industries. The new legislation decreased the percentage of the subsidized tax credit as it follows:

- from 48.54 per cent to 45.81 per cent in the case of gasoline
- from 56.71 per cent to 52.38 per cent for diesel used by the fishing industry
- from 45.37 per cent to 41.91 per cent in the case of diesel for the agricultural industry.⁶²⁹

On 31 December 2019, the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico adopted a new Agreement modifying the applicable tax exemptions for fuel used by the fishing and agricultural industries. The new legislation increased the percentage of the subsidized tax credit as it follows:

- from 45.81 per cent to 48.33 per cent in the case of gasoline,

⁶²⁶ S. Korea to extend antidumping duty on Japanese steel plates, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 19 March 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20200319007400320>

⁶²⁷ Aviso Mediante El Cual Se Da A Conocer El Monto Del Cupo Máximo, Para Exportar Azúcar A Los Estados Unidos De América Durante El Periodo Comprendido Entre El 1 De Octubre De 2019 Y El 30 De Septiembre De 2020, Official journal of Mexico (Mexico City) 19 September 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5572454&fecha=17/09/2019

⁶²⁸ AVISO por el que se da a conocer el precio de referencia del azúcar base estándar para el pago de la caña de azúcar de la zafra 2019/2020, propuesto por el Comité Nacional para el Desarrollo Sustentable de la Caña de Azúcar, Official journal of Mexico (Mexico City) 19 September 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5577349&fecha=31/10/2019

⁶²⁹ ACUERDO por el que se dan a conocer los estímulos fiscales a la gasolina y al diésel en los sectores pesquero y agropecuario para el mes de diciembre de 2019, Official journal of Mexico (Mexico City) 29 November 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5580415&fecha=29/11/2019

- from 52.38 per cent to 57.02 per cent for diesel used by the fishing industry,
- from 41.91 per cent to 45.61 per cent in the case of diesel for the agricultural industry.⁶³⁰

Mexico has launched a new protectionist measure during the compliance period. At the same time, some of the existing measures were rolled back.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with the commitment on trade.

On 25 October 2019, Russia notified the World Trade Organization on several trade-facilitating measures, including extension of the temporary elimination of export duties on certain types of wheat (effective 29 June 2019 to 1 July 2021); temporary elimination of import tariffs on certain products, e.g., (from 5 per cent) on high tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, whether or not textured, of aramids (effective 4 July 2019 to 31 July 2022), aniline and its salts (effective 4 July 2019 to 30 June 2022), (from 7.5 per cent) on non-coniferous chemical wood pulp, semi-bleached or bleached (effective 14 July 2019 to 31 May 2022); reduction of import tariffs on motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, including station wagons and racing cars; and (from 11.4 per cent to 10 per cent; from 15.7 per cent to 15 per cent and from 13.6 per cent to 12.5 per cent) on certain aircraft (for example helicopters, aeroplanes); spacecraft (including satellites) and suborbital and spacecraft launch vehicles (effective 1 September 2019).⁶³¹ On 21 August 2019, Russia temporary increased import tariffs (from zero to 5 per cent) on mixing or kneading machines (concrete or mortar mixers). The measure will be effective until 31 August 2021.⁶³²

On 25 August 2019, Russia temporary suspended antidumping duties on imports of steel railway wheels from Ukraine.⁶³³

Russia has launched a new protectionist measure during the compliance period. At the same time, some of the existing measures were rolled back.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrey Shelepon

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with the commitment on keeping the national market open.

Saudi Arabia has not imposed any new protectionist measures within the monitoring period. However, Saudi Arabia has not removed existing measures.

⁶³⁰ ACUERDO por el que se dan a conocer los estímulos fiscales a la gasolina y al diésel en los sectores pesquero y agropecuario para el mes de enero de 2020, Official journal of Mexico (Mexico City) 31 December 2019. Access date: 20 May 2020. http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5583177&fecha=31/12/2019

⁶³¹ Summary and Status of G-20 trade and trade-related measures since October 2008 (Excel Format), WTO. Access Date: 15 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/g20_annex_bis_november19_e.xls.

⁶³² Summary and Status of G-20 trade and trade-related measures since October 2008 (Excel Format), WTO. Access Date: 15 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/g20_annex_bis_november19_e.xls.

⁶³³ Summary and Status of G-20 trade and trade-related measures since October 2008 (Excel Format), WTO. Access Date: 15 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/g20_annex_bis_november19_e.xls.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on keeping its national market open.

On 16 August 2019, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) increased the general import duties on tinplate. New regulation raises the import tariff up to 10 per cent.⁶³⁴

On 20 September 2019, the SARS lifted the customs duty on wheat and wheaten flour by 30–40 per cent.⁶³⁵

On 18 October 2019, the SARS increased the general import duties on beet and cane sugar by approximately 20 per cent.⁶³⁶

On 25 October 2019, the SARS increased the general import duties on wheat and wheaten products by 30–60 per cent.⁶³⁷

On 17 January 2020, the SARS decreased the general import duties on wheat and wheaten products by 20–30 per cent.⁶³⁸

On 2 March 2020, the SARS decreased the general import duties on wheat and wheaten products and sugar.^{639,640}

On 13 March 2020, the SARS increased the import duties on frozen chicken portions and frozen boneless chicken portions.⁶⁴¹

South Africa removed several protectionist measures, but some of those imposed within the monitoring period are still in place.

⁶³⁴ South Africa Revenue Service (SARS), Government Gazette No. 42640 No. R. 1075 of 16 August 2019. Access date: 25 March 2020. <https://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/Embargo/Tariffs/LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2019-32%20-%20R1075%20GG42640%20Sch%201P1%20Tin%20Plate.pdf>

⁶³⁵ South Africa Revenue Service (SARS), Government Gazette No. 42529 No. R. 924 of 14 June 2019. Access date: 25 March 2020. <https://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/Embargo/Tariffs/LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2019-26%20-%20R924%20GG42529%20Schedule%201P1%20Wheat.pdf>

⁶³⁶ South Africa Revenue Service (SARS), Government Gazette No. 42773 No. R.1346 of 18 October 2019. Access date: 25 March 2020. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/38666/sacu-customs-duty-increase-on-sugar-october-2019>

⁶³⁷ South Africa Revenue Service (SARS), Government Gazette No. 42789 No. R. 1383 of 25 October 2019. Access date: 25 March 2020. <https://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/Embargo/Tariffs/LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2019-39%20-%20R1383%20GG42789%20WHEAT.pdf>

⁶³⁸ South Africa Revenue Service (SARS), Government Gazette No. 42959 No. R. 36 of 17 January 2020. Access date: 25 March 2020. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/43155/sacu-customs-duty-decrease-on-wheat-and-wheaten-products-january-2020>

⁶³⁹ South Africa Revenue Service (SARS), Government Gazette No. 43061 No. R. 237 of 12 March 2020. Access date: 26 March 2020. <https://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/Embargo/Tariffs/LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2020-18%20-%20R237%20GG43061%20Sch1P1%20Wheat%20-%202%20March%202020.pdf>

⁶⁴⁰ South Africa Revenue Service (SARS), Government Gazette No. 43061 No. R.238 of 2 March 2020. Access date: 25 March 2020. <https://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/Embargo/Tariffs/LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2020-17%20-%20R238%20GG43061%20Sch1P1%20Sugar%20-%202%20March%202020.pdf>

⁶⁴¹ Government Gazette No. 43091 No. R.309 of 13 March 2020. Access date: 26 March 2020. <https://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/Embargo/Tariffs/LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2020-19%20-%20R309%20GG43091%20Sch%201%20Part%201%20Chicken%20Eng%20-%2013%20March%202020.pdf>

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on trade.

On 25 October 2019, the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry announced imposing a temporary import ban on the imports of breeding cattle. It is announced in the press release that, with the measure, the government aims at balancing the supply and demand conditions of the breeding cattle to ensure the sustainable development of the animal husbandry. The ministry announced that the import ban is imposed temporarily, however, the announcement did not specify when the import ban will be abolished.⁶⁴²

On 12 December 2019, the government of Turkey introduced additional customs duties on forklifts and other works trucks classified under the tariff subheadings 8427.10, 8427.20 and 8427.90.⁶⁴³

On 21 March 2020, the government of Turkey revised the licensing requirement (2020/1) on imports of safety glass of size and shape suitable for incorporation in motor vehicles classified under the tariff subheadings 7007.11.10 and 7007.21.20. With the revision, the subject products are excluded from the licensing requirement.⁶⁴⁴

On 25 March 2020, the government of Turkey abolished the additional duties imposed on disposable masks classified in the Turkish Customs Schedule under the customs tariff code 6307.90.98.10.11. The decision is taken as part of the efforts to cope with the coronavirus pandemic.⁶⁴⁵

On 18 April 2020, through a presidential decree, the government of Turkey temporarily increased the import duties on iron and steel products by 5 per cent. With the decision, tariff rates of 68 HS codes under the tariff chapter 72 is increased. The increase in the tariff rates will be valid until 15 July 2020. Tariff rates will be reduced to their previous levels after this date.⁶⁴⁶

Turkey has implemented new protectionist measures during the compliance period. At the same time, some of the existing measures were rolled back.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with the commitment on trade.

⁶⁴² Press Release of the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry concerning the import ban on breeding cattle, Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 15 October 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/HAYGEM/Haber/104/Basin-Duyurusu>

⁶⁴³ Presidential Decree on Import Regime, Official gazette of Turkey (Ankara) 12 December 2019. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2019/12/20191212-14.pdf>

⁶⁴⁴ Amendment Communique on Import Surveillance No. 2020/1, Official gazette of Turkey (Ankara) 21 March 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2020/03/20200321-6.htm>

⁶⁴⁵ Presidential Decree on Import Regime No: 2286, Official gazette of Turkey (Ankara) 25 March 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2020/03/20200325-6.pdf>

⁶⁴⁶ Amendment Decree to the Import Regime Decree, Official gazette of Turkey (Ankara) 18 April 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2020/04/20200418-7.pdf>

On 1 July 2019, the further reduction of import tariffs under the Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement (131 tariff lines at 8-digit level, in HS chapters 35; 37; 39; 59; 84; 85; 88; 90) became effective for members of the European Union.⁶⁴⁷

On 17 December 2019, the European Union issued imposed an additional import duty on a number of fruit and vegetables for the period 2020-2021.⁶⁴⁸

The UK has introduced several trade measures in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. In particular, on 13 March 2020, the UK announced the introduction of an export ban on hydroxychloroquine due to anticipated shortages in the country following the COVID-19 outbreak.⁶⁴⁹ On 20 March 2020, the export ban was expanded to cover 82 medicines.⁶⁵⁰ On 31 March 2020, several additional medicines were included in the list.⁶⁵¹ At the same time, the UK temporary eliminated the import duty and the value-added tax (VAT) imposed on imports of certain medical supplies, equipment and protective garments.⁶⁵²

On 3 April 2020, the European Commission announced temporary elimination of the VAT on imports and import duty on some goods in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.⁶⁵³

The UK has implemented new protectionist measures during the compliance period. At the same time, some of the existing measures were rolled back.

Thus, the UK receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrey Shelepov

United States: -1

The United States has not complied with the commitment to keep the markets open.

The United States introduced trade-restrictive measures during the monitoring period.

On 6 January 2020, the United States Bureau of Industry and Security enacted new regulations restricting exports of certain artificial intelligence software. With the new regulations the Bureau

⁶⁴⁷ Summary and Status of G-20 trade and trade-related measures since October 2008 (Excel Format), WTO. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/g20_annex_bis_november19_e.xls.

⁶⁴⁸ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2163 of 17 December 2019, Official Journal of the European Union 18 December 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32019R2163>.

⁶⁴⁹ Medicines that cannot be parallel exported from the UK, UK Government 20 March 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874142/Medicines_that_cannot_be_parallel_exported_from_the_UK_20_March.csv/preview.

⁶⁵⁰ Medicines that cannot be parallel exported from the UK, UK Government 20 March 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874142/Medicines_that_cannot_be_parallel_exported_from_the_UK_20_March.csv/preview.

⁶⁵¹ List of medicines that cannot be parallel exported from the UK, UK Government 3 April 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877739/Medicines_that_cannot_be_parallel_exported_from_the_UK.csv/preview.

⁶⁵² Pay no import duty and VAT on medical supplies, equipment and protective garments (COVID-19), UK Government 31 March 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pay-no-import-duty-and-vat-on-medical-supplies-equipment-and-protective-garments-covid-19>

⁶⁵³ Commission Decision (EU) 2020/491 of 3 April 2020 on relief from import duties and VAT exemption on importation granted for goods needed to combat the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak during 2020, Official Journal of the European Union 3 April 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2020/491/oj>.

made neural network software “subject to license requirement for the export and reexport ... to all destinations, except Canada.”⁶⁵⁴

On 27 March 2020, the United States Congress Passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The Act contained provisions of discriminatory nature to foreign goods and services, including direct financial grants and tax relief to American enterprises.⁶⁵⁵

On 3 April 2020, the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund of the United States Treasury Department announced the start of 2020 Bank Enterprise Award Program inviting applications for the fiscal year 2020 funding round. The program distributes grants for community development projects. The applicants must, inter alia, comply with the Buy American Act of 1933.⁶⁵⁶

On 3 April 2020, US President Donald Trump issued the Memorandum on Allocating Certain Scarce or Threatened Health and Medical Resources to Domestic Use, restricting exports of personal protective equipment from the United States.⁶⁵⁷

On 10 April 2020, the Federal Emergency Management Agency published a temporary rule making exports of certain types of personal protective equipment subject to the agency’s approval.⁶⁵⁸

On 13 May 2020, the United States notified the World Trade Organization of the introduction of temporary measure requiring export authorization for the producers of certain personal protective equipment items, namely several types of respirators, surgical masks, protective gloves or surgical gloves.⁶⁵⁹

The United States introduced trade-restrictive measures but failed to roll back any pre-existing protectionist measures during the monitoring period.

Thus, it is awarded a score of -1.

Analyst: Andrei Sakebarov

European Union: +1

European Union has fully complied with the commitment to keep the markets open.

On 18 February 2020, the Council of the European Union issued Regulation (EU) 2020/231 amending the 2019-2020 import tariff quota list to expand the HS code coverage of certain hard fish

⁶⁵⁴ Federal Register / Vol. 85, No. 3 / Rules and Regulations, United States Government (Washington) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-01-06/pdf/2019-27649.pdf>.

⁶⁵⁵ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or the CARES Act, United States Congress (Washington) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/748>

⁶⁵⁶ Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, US Treasury Department (Washington) 3 April 2020. Access Date 14 May 2020. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/04/03/2020-07012/community-development-financial-institutions-fund>.

⁶⁵⁷ Memorandum on Allocating Certain Scarce or Threatened Health and Medical Resources to Domestic Use, White House (Washington) 3 April 2020. Access Date 14 May 2020. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/memorandum-allocating-certain-scarce-threatened-health-medical-resources-domestic-use/>.

⁶⁵⁸ United States of America: Presidential memorandum and subsequent FEMA rule restricting exports by intermediaries of personal protective equipment, Global Trade Alert 10 April 2020. Access Date 14 May 2020. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/intervention/78995/export-ban/united-states-of-america-presidential-memorandum-and-subsequent-fema-rule-restricting-exports-by-intermediaries-of-personal-protective-equipment>.

⁶⁵⁹ Notification pursuant to the Decision on notification procedures for quantitative restrictions (G/L/59/Rev.1), World Trade Organization (Geneva) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/notifications_e.htm.

roes to include HS code 1604.32.00 alongside the already included HS code 0305.20.00, see related state act. The import tariff quota was set at 1,500 tonnes for fresh or frozen hard fish roes salted or in brine, for processing falling under both HS code 1604.32.00 and 0305.20.00, with in-quota imports exempt from the import duty set at 20%.⁶⁶⁰

On 20 March 2020, the European Commission issued Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/426 of 19 March 2020 permitting exports of certain personal protective equipment including protective masks, gloves and garments to a number of countries without a license.⁶⁶¹

On 3 April 2020, the European Commission issued Decision (EU) 2020/491 eliminating the import duty on certain goods imported and distributed free of charge to persons either at risk from or affected by COVID-19 as well as persons combating it the COVID-19 outbreak. Additionally, goods released for free circulation which are imported by or on behalf of the state including “State bodies, public bodies and other bodies governed by public law or by or on behalf of organisations approved by the competent authorities in the Member States.” Notably, the value-added tax on imported goods was also eliminated, see related intervention.⁶⁶²

The European Union's action to expand its tariff quote on fisheries to allow more fish to be imported had a liberalizing effect, while the rollback of the earlier COVID-19 related measures was a liberalization aimed at restoring the earlier level. Thus the net effect was to keep the EU market open.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

⁶⁶⁰ Council Regulation (EU) 2020/231 of 18 February 2020, amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1977 opening and providing for the management of autonomous Union tariff quotas for certain fishery products for the period 2019-2020, Official Journal of the European Union (Brussels) 20 February 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32020R0231>

⁶⁶¹ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/426 of 19 March 2020, amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/402 making the exportation of certain products subject to the production of an export authorization, Official Journal of the European Union (Brussels) 20 March 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2020/426/oj

⁶⁶² Commission Decision (EU) 2020/491 of 3 April 2020, on relief from import duties and VAT exemption on importation granted for goods needed to combat the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak during 2020, Official Journal of the European Union (Brussels) 3 April 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2020/491/oj>