



2020 G20 Riyadh Summit Final Compliance Report

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Feedback, as always, is welcome and is kept anonymous.

We encourage readers to send comments to

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4. Trade: Open Markets

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

G20 Riyadh Leaders' Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia		0	
Brazil		0	
Canada	-1		
China		0	
France	Not applicable		
Germany	Not applicable		
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy	Not applicable		
Japan		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		+0.12 (56%)	

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.

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.”¹⁹⁷¹ 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 by the G20 economies had reached their historic peaks, with a 37 percent increase, compared to the previous

¹⁹⁷¹ G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, RANEPa (Moscow) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2021.
<https://www.ranepa.ru/ciir/sfery-issledovaniy/gruppa-dvadtsati/dokumenty-gruppy-dvadtsati/yaponskoe-predsedatelstvo-2019/>

period (mid-October 2018 to mid-May 2019) and a trade coverage of over USD460 billion.¹⁹⁷² More recently, against the backdrop of declining trade and investment in the wake of COVID-19 crisis the G20 members moderated the number and coverage of regular trade-restrictive measures to around USD36.8 billion.¹⁹⁷³

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.¹⁹⁷⁴ 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." 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	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	G20 member did not implement any new protectionist measures AND rolled back at least one existing measure.

*Compliance Director: Alexander Ignatov
Lead Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with the commitment on open markets.

On 24 December 2020, the Executive of Argentina adopted Decree 1040/2020 approving a temporary export ban on several metal scraps and wastes. Prior to the regulation, no export restriction applied to the affected goods.¹⁹⁷⁵

On 11 January 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishing of Argentina revoked the temporary export ban on corn replacing it with a temporary export quota. Concretely, the new measure allows the registration of exports of maize under the Advanced Sworn Export Declaration

¹⁹⁷² Trade restrictions among G20 economies remain at historic highs, World Trade Organization (Washington DC) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news19_e/trdev_21nov19_e.htm.

¹⁹⁷³ WTO Report on G20 Trade Measures (mid-May to mid-October 2020), WTO (Washington, DC) 18 November 2020. Access Date: 10 January 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news20_e/report_trdev_nov20_e.pdf.

¹⁹⁷⁴ A Practical Guide to Trade Policy Analysis, World Trade Organization (Washington DC) 2012. Access Date: 10 January 2021. https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/wto_unctad12_e.pdf.

¹⁹⁷⁵ Decreto 1040/2020, Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina (Buenos Aires) 24 December 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/239141/20201224?busqueda=1>

but limiting the issuance of permits to 30,000 tons per day. Previously, in December 2020, the Argentine authorities suspended the issuance of export permits approving a de facto export ban on this commodity.¹⁹⁷⁶

On 17 March 2021, the Federal Administration for Public Revenue adopted General Resolution 4946/2021 establishing export reference prices on concentrated grape juice. The affected product was classified under tariff subheading 2009.69.00. The new export criterion value was set at Free on Board (FOB) value of USD1 per kilogram and it only applies to exports to Canada, the United States, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Nigeria, South Africa, Israel, Finland, Hungary, Norway, Poland, the United Kingdom, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Czechia, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, Morocco, Bahrain, Australia, The Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China, the Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Thailand and Hong Kong.¹⁹⁷⁷

On 14 April 2021, the Federal Administration for Public Revenue adopted General Resolution 4961/2021 establishing new import criterion values on headstocks classified under tariff line 9209.92.00. The new reference price was decreased from a FOB value of USD35.73 per kilogram to USD14.36 per kilogram. The previous applicable reference prices were established in General Resolution 4372/2018. Notably, the new legislation affected the following jurisdictions: the Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China, Chinese Taipei, Philippines, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.¹⁹⁷⁸

On 14 April 2021, the Federal Administration for Public Revenue of adopted General Resolution 4963/2021 establishing new import criterion values on artificial teeth classified under tariff line 9021.21.10. For products originating in the Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China, Chinese Taipei, Philippines, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal and Germany, the new reference price was established at a FOB value of USD0.60 per unit. Previously, artificial teeth classified under this tariff line imported from these jurisdictions did not face any import criterion value. Notably, the new regulation also refers to other jurisdictions. However, the reference price announced for them does not change from the one announced in 2009. Thus that section of the regulation has not been recorded under this state act.¹⁹⁷⁹

On 25 May 2021, the Federal Public Revenue Administration adopted General Resolution 4998/2021 increasing the export reference prices on different frozen bovine meat cuts. The affected products were classified under tariff subheadings NCM 0202.20.90 and 0202.30.00.¹⁹⁸⁰

During the compliance period Argentina both rolled back several protectionist measures and introduced new ones.

¹⁹⁷⁶ Official communication on foreign sales of corn, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishing of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 11 January 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/node/235893>

¹⁹⁷⁷ General Resolution 4946/2021, Federal Administration of Public Revenue General Directorate of Customs (Buenos Aires) 17 March 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/241947/20210317?busqueda=1>

¹⁹⁷⁸ General Resolution 4961/2021, Federal Administration of Public Revenue General Directorate of Customs (Buenos Aires) 14 April 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/345000-349999/348725/norma.htm>

¹⁹⁷⁹ General Resolution 4963/2021, Federal Administration of Public Revenue General Directorate of Customs (Buenos Aires) 14 April 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/345000-349999/348727/norma.htm>

¹⁹⁸⁰ Resolución General 4998/2021, Official Gazette of the Republic of Argentina. Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina (Buenos Aires) 25 May 2021. Access Date: 21 September 2021.

<https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/244734/20210525?busqueda=1>

Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Australia: 0

Australia has partially complied with the commitment on keeping its markets open.

On 9 December 2020, the Australia-Singapore Digital Economy Agreement was launched. The agreement, covering such important issues as personal data protection, e-invoicing, paperless customs procedures, and electronic certification for agricultural exports, made it easier for Australian exporters to do business in Singapore.¹⁹⁸¹

On 9 December 2020, the Australian Parliament “adopted the Foreign Investment Reform (Protecting Australia’s National Security) Bill 2020 establishing a “national security test” for foreign direct investment which expands the scope of investments subject to screening controls. With the new regulation, all foreign investments which raise national security concerns will now be subject to the screening from the Foreign Investment Review Board.”¹⁹⁸² In terms of developed land considered sensitive, which includes mines and critical infrastructure, the thresholds have been increased from AUD55 million (USD41.3 million) to AUD61 million (USD46 million).¹⁹⁸³

On 11 December 2020, the Parliament passed the legislation to better assist those Australian exporters trying to enter new markets. The eligible exporters “now receive funding closer to when they incur costs which boosts their marketing and promotional activities.”¹⁹⁸⁴

On 13 December 2020, the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus, which “ensures greater market access and lower tariffs” in the region, came into force. Farmers, businesses and investors across Australia and the Pacific will have their trade opportunities boosted.¹⁹⁸⁵

On 1 January 2021, Australia cut export tariffs for some countries on chilled beef, sheep, goat and honey. The cuts were made possible thanks to a network of free trade agreements. Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan said: “Reducing trade barriers will boost export opportunities for Australian farmers and businesses in key export markets which translates to more jobs and economic growth in Australia.”¹⁹⁸⁶

¹⁹⁸¹ Australia-Singapore digital trade agreement kicks-off, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Barton) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 28 January 2021. <https://www.trademinister.gov.au/minister/simon-birmingham/media-release/australia-singapore-digital-trade-agreement-kicks>

¹⁹⁸² Australia: Government modifies the FDI regime, Global Trade Alert (St Gallen) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/46948/australia-government-modifies-the-fdi-regime>

¹⁹⁸³ Australia: Government modifies the FDI regime, Global Trade Alert (St Gallen) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/46948/australia-government-modifies-the-fdi-regime>

¹⁹⁸⁴ Reforms to the Export Market Development Grants scheme pass Parliament, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, (Barton) 2020. Access Date: 28 January 2021. <https://www.trademinister.gov.au/minister/simon-birmingham/media-release/reforms-export-market-development-grants-scheme-pass-parliament>

¹⁹⁸⁵ Trade agreement with the Pacific enters into force, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Barton) 13 December 2020. Access Date: 28 January 2021. <https://www.trademinister.gov.au/minister/simon-birmingham/media-release/trade-agreement-pacific-enters-force>

¹⁹⁸⁶ Australia’s free trade agreements deliver more tariff cuts, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Barton) 1 January 2021. Access Date: 28 January 2021. <https://www.trademinister.gov.au/minister/dan-tehan/media-release/australias-free-trade-agreements-deliver-more-tariff-cuts>

On 17 March 2021, the Australian government launched export.business.gov.au, a range of digital tools to help Australian businesses to reach new international markets and customers. The website will feature a lot of helpful information (grants, funding, local laws, shipping etc.).¹⁹⁸⁷

Australia implemented some protectionist measures and rolled back several existing measures.

Thus, Australia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anastasiya Kirillova

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with the commitment on open markets.

On 22 March 2021, the Executive Committee of the Brazilian Foreign Trade Chamber (GECEX) issued Resolution No. 175 increasing the import tariffs on certain X-ray devices of the types used for luggage security inspection, as well as on X-ray devices of the types used for a vehicle safety inspection. The affected products were classified under the tariff subheading NCM 9022.19.99.¹⁹⁸⁸

On 29 March 2021, GECEX adopted Resolution N° 182 adding 65 new products to the list of goods identified as critical to fight the COVID-19 outbreak. These products are temporarily exempted from import tariffs. The affected goods were classified under 42 different eight-digit tariff lines.¹⁹⁸⁹

On 30 March 2021, GECEX adopted Resolution N° 183 removing certain diodes from the annex of GECEX Resolution n° 173. The affected tariff line was NCM 8541.10.32. As a consequence of the changes introduced, the import tariff was increased from 5.4 per cent to 6 per cent.¹⁹⁹⁰

On 30 March 2021, GECEX issued Resolution N° 184 establishing a 4 percent import tariff on polypropylene for a quota of 77,000 tons. The affected product is classified under the tariff subheading NCM 3902.10.20. According to the World Trade Organization tariff download facility, the average import tariff applicable for products imported outside the quota is 14 percent. The new import tariff quota applies for a period of 3 months.¹⁹⁹¹

On 28 May 2021, GECEX issued Resolution No. 210 increasing the temporary tariff-rate quota on palm oil applicable until 31 August 2021. The affected product was classified under tariff line NCM 1513.29.10. The previous import tariff quota was adopted in May 2019 and extended in 2020. The regulation established the total volume of palm oil that can be imported with a 0 per cent import tariff at 59,500 tonnes for a period of 3 months. There was no applicable import tariff quota immediately prior to this announcement.¹⁹⁹²

On 21 June 2021, GECEX issued Resolution No. 212 temporarily eliminating the import tariffs on 251 capital goods. Furthermore, 26 additional ex-tarifários were added to previous regulations also

¹⁹⁸⁷ Digital tools to help Australian businesses, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Barton) 17 March 2021. Access Date: 23 March 2021. <https://www.trademinister.gov.au/minister/dan-tehan/media-release/digital-tools-help-australian-businesses>

¹⁹⁸⁸ GECEX Resolution No. 175, of 22 March 2021, Government of Brazil (Brasilia) 22 March 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/resolucao-gecex-n-175-de-22-de-marco-de-2021-309992038>

¹⁹⁸⁹ GECEX Resolution No. 182, of 29 March 2021, Government of Brazil (Brasilia) 29 March 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/47912/brazil-changes-to-the-list-of-essential-goods-subject-to-duty-free-imports-in-response-to-the-covid-19-pandemic>

¹⁹⁹⁰ Resolução No. 183 de 30 de Março de 2021, Official Gazette Diário Oficial da União 30 March 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/resolucao-gecex-n-183-de-30-de-marco-de-2021-311543537>

¹⁹⁹¹ Resolução No. 183 de 30 de Março de 2021, Official Gazette Diário Oficial da União 30 March 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/resolucao-gecex-n-183-de-30-de-marco-de-2021-311543537>

¹⁹⁹² Resolution No 210, Official Gazette of Brazil: Diário Oficial da União (Brasilia) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/resolucao-gecex-n-210-de-28-de-maio-de-2021-322992399>

leading to the elimination of duties. In total, the changes introduced affected 21 eight-digit tariff lines. At the same time, Resolution eliminated from the ex-tarifário regime 26 capital goods enclosed in 19 eight-digits tariff lines. The change introduced lead to an increase in the import duties applicable to the affected products.¹⁹⁹³

During the compliance period Brazil both rolled back several protectionist measures and introduced new ones.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Canada: -1

Canada has failed to comply with the commitment to keep markets open.

On 23 December 2020, the Canada Border Services Agency announced the imposition of a provisional duty on imports of wheat gluten from Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany and Lithuania. The rate of duty imposed on imports from Australia is 26.1 per cent; from Austria 26.1 per cent; from Belgium 26.1 per cent; from France 22.5 per cent; from Germany 26.1 per cent; from Lithuania 26.1 per cent.¹⁹⁹⁴

On 1 January 2021, the Government of Canada announced the amendments to the Investment Canada Act with new thresholds for foreign direct investment. The threshold for direct acquisitions of control by foreign World Trade Organization (WTO) members' investors has been reduced from CAD1.075 billion to CAD1.043 billion; for investors from countries which have preferential trade agreements with Canada – from CAD1.613 billion to CAD1.565 billion, and for WTO members' state-owned investors – from CAD428 million to CAD415 million.¹⁹⁹⁵

In January 2021, it was announced that public consultations were launched on developing a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between Indonesia and Canada.¹⁹⁹⁶

On 4 February 2021, the Canada Border Services Agency imposed a provisional duty on imports of certain concrete reinforcing bar from Algeria, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore and Viet Nam. The rates of Algeria amounted to 13.7 per cent; Egypt 22 per cent; Indonesia 28.4 per cent; Italy 28.4 per cent; Malaysia 28.4 per cent; Singapore 28.4 per cent; Vietnam 15.4 per cent.¹⁹⁹⁷

On 4 March 2021, the Canada Border Service Agency imposed a provisional antidumping duty on imports of certain concrete reinforcing bar from Oman and Russia. Imports from Russia are charged with 45 per cent provisional duties, while imports from Oman are charged with 8 per cent.¹⁹⁹⁸

¹⁹⁹³ Resolution GECEX Nº 212, Official Gazette of Brazil: Diário Oficial da União (Brasília) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/resolucao-gecex-n-212-de-21-de-junho-de-2021-327567941>

¹⁹⁹⁴ WG 2020 IN: Wheat gluten, Notice of preliminary determination, Canada Border Service Agency (Ottawa) 23 December 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/sima-lmsi/i-e/wg2020/wg2020-np-eng.html>

¹⁹⁹⁵ Investment Canada Act, Thresholds, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 January 2021. Access Date: 14 May 2021. https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ica-lic.nsf/eng/h_lk00050.html

¹⁹⁹⁶ Canada, Indonesia Trade Talks Begin for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, ASEAN Briefing 17 February 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/canada-indonesia-trade-talks-begin-for-comprehensive-economic-partnership-agreement/>

¹⁹⁹⁷ RB3 2020 IN: Certain concrete reinforcing bar, Notice of preliminary determination, Canada Border Service Agency (Ottawa) 4 February 2021. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/sima-lmsi/i-e/rb32020/rb32020-np-eng.html>

¹⁹⁹⁸ RB4 2020 IN: Certain concrete reinforcing bar, Notice of preliminary determination, Canada Border Service Agency (Ottawa) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/sima-lmsi/i-e/rb42020/rb42020-np-eng.html#app2>

On 5 May 2021, the Canada Border Services Agency introduced a temporary (six-months) countervailing duty on upholstered domestic seating imported or originating from China and Vietnam.¹⁹⁹⁹

Canada implemented new protectionist measures while failing to roll back any existing trade restrictive measures.

Thus, Canada receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Andrei Sakbarov

China: 0

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

On 26 November 2020, the Chinese government announced an overhaul of restrictions related to the import and export of certain encryption products. In broad terms, the regulation formally states that the relevant products will be treated similarly to dual-use goods (goods that have military applications as well as civilian).²⁰⁰⁰

On 10 December 2020, a large technology transfer center was opened in Qingdao, Shandong. The center was created as a new platform for technological, economic, cultural etc. exchanges. It is also worth noting that the “Shanghai Cooperation Organization International Youth Entrepreneurship Incubator,” a project that will help to support youth innovation and entrepreneurship in various countries, will also be implemented in the center.²⁰⁰¹

On 10 December 2020, the Chinese government published the annual list of goods that would be subject to automatic import licensing for the subsequent year. Five items were removed from the list.²⁰⁰²

On 19 December 2020, the Ministry of Commerce released Order 2020/37, updating the framework of “National Security Review” for inbound foreign investments which expands the scope of investments subject to screening controls. According to the new regulation, the applicability of the screening mechanism has been expanded to cover all investments carried out by foreigners in areas close to any military facility. Previously, this test only applied to certain military facilities.²⁰⁰³

¹⁹⁹⁹ UDS 2020 IN: Certain upholstered domestic seating. Statement of Reasons—preliminary determinations, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 20 May 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/sima-lmsi/i-e/uds2020/uds2020-pd-eng.html>

²⁰⁰⁰ Announcement No. 63 (2020) of the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China, the State Encryption Administration and the General Administration of Customs, PRC Ministry of Commerce (Beijing) 22 January 2021. Access Date: 18 May 2021. <http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/b/g/202101/20210103033181.shtml>

²⁰⁰¹ China-Shanghai Cooperation Organization Technology Transfer Center opened in Qingdao, Qingdao Daily (Qingdao) 11 December 2020. Access Date: 31 January 2021. http://www.qingdao.gov.cn/ywdt/zwyw/202012/t20201211_2786769.shtml

²⁰⁰² Announcement No. 67 (2020) of the Ministry of Commerce and the General Administration of Customs Announces the "Catalogue of Goods Subject to Automatic Import License Administration (2021)", PRC Ministry of Commerce (Beijing) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/47308/china-2021-automatic-import-licensing-goods-catalogue-announced>

²⁰⁰³ National Development and Reform Commission Order of the Ministry of Commerce No. 37 Measures for the Security Review of Foreign Investment, PRC Ministry of Commerce (Beijing) 19 December 2020. Access Date: 18 May 2021. <http://wzs.mofcom.gov.cn/article/n/202012/20201203024662.shtml>

On 25 December 2020, the Chinese government stated that the supplementary tariffs imposed on certain imports from the US would be suspended for six product lines, including paraffin and polypropene.²⁰⁰⁴

On 30 December 2020, China published the list of goods which require a license before being able to be legally exported. Compared to the previous year, a single product line was removed from the list, meaning it no longer requires a license.²⁰⁰⁵

On 31 December 2020, China released the 2020 negative list for foreign investment access in Hainan. It will come into effect on 1 February 2021 and promote investment liberalization and facilitation in the Hainan free trade port.²⁰⁰⁶

On 1 January 2021, China implemented the “Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement” tariff reduction arrangement with Mongolia. The tariff reduction was mutual and utterly significant.²⁰⁰⁷

On 1 January 2021, import tariffs on 883 products were cut in order to coordinate the utilization of domestic and international resources and continuously improve the quality and level of supply of products on the market. Some examples of the products include medical equipment such as artificial heart valves, hearing aids, milk powder for infants, parts and raw materials required for new infrastructure and high-tech industry etc.²⁰⁰⁸

On 1 January 2021, China allowed the import of recycled iron and steel materials. The change was made because the materials do not constitute solid waste. It has been also proposed that imports that do not meet the national standards for “recycled steel raw materials” will be banned.²⁰⁰⁹

On 12 March 2021, the 14th Five-Year Plan was announced. According to the plan, China will further open up to the outside world and better participate in international economic cooperation, improve the customs system, promote the establishment of various open trade platforms, accelerate the opening up of the central, western and northeastern regions, establish important global processing and manufacturing bases, further opening up free trade zones, etc.²⁰¹⁰

On 12 March 2021, Premier Li Keqiang announced that one of the main goals for China in 2021 is promoting stable development of imports and exports. The premier listed some of the main actions that should be taken to achieve the goal. The actions include credit support for small and medium foreign trade enterprises, develop cross-border e-commerce, optimization and adjustment of import

²⁰⁰⁴ No. 10 Announcement of the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council on the Second Exclusion and Extension List of Tariffs on the United States and Canada, PRC State Council Tariffs and Tax Standards Commission (Beijing) 25 December 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/state-act/47100/china-tariff-exemptions-on-certain-goods-from-the-united-states>

²⁰⁰⁵ Announcement No. 71 (2020) of the Ministry of Commerce and the General Administration of Customs Announcement of the Catalogue of Goods Subject to Export License Management (2021) 30 December 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/b/c/202012/20201203027824.shtml>

²⁰⁰⁶ China to introduce foreign investment negative list in Hainan, Xinhua (Beijing), 1 January 2021. Access Date: 31 January 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202101/01/content_WS5fee5ce4c6d0f72576943081.html

²⁰⁰⁷ China and Mongolia will mutually implement the tariff reduction arrangement of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement on January 1, 2021, Ministry of Commerce of The People's Republic of China (Beijing) 1 January 2021. Access Date: 30 March 2021. <http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/ae/ai/202101/20210103028092.shtml>

²⁰⁰⁸ In order to support the establishment of a new development paradigm, China will adjust import tariffs on some commodities from January 1, 2021, Ministry of Finance (Beijing) 23 December 2020. Access Date: 31 January 2021. http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/2020-12/23/content_5572513.htm

²⁰⁰⁹ Five sectors: compliant recycled steel raw materials can be imported freely from 2021, Xinhua (Beijing) 31 December 2020. Access Date: 31 January 2021. http://www.xinhuanet.com/fortune/2020-12/31/c_1126934407.htm

²⁰¹⁰ The Fourteenth Five-Year Plan for the National Economic and Social Development of the People's Republic of China and the Outline of Long-Term Goals for 2035, Xinhua (Beijing), 13 March 2021. Access Date: 29 March 2021.

<http://politics.people.com.cn/n1/2021/0313/c1001-32050444.html>

tax policies to increase the import of high-quality products and services, improve customs clearance procedures, etc.²⁰¹¹

On 24 March 2021, China's State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al SAUD in Riyadh; it was reported as an outcome of the meeting that both parties pledged to push forward negotiations on a free trade deal between China and the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.²⁰¹²

On 23 April 2021, the Ministry of Commerce and other 20 departments issued "Notice on Several Measures to Promote Trade Liberalization and Facilitation of the Hainan Free Trade Port." The Notice clarified 28 policy measures which will help with the liberalization of trade in Hainan Free Trade Port.²⁰¹³

China implemented some protectionist measures and rolled back multiple existing measures.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anastasiya Kirillova

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.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

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.

Analyst: Andrey Shelepov

India: 0

India has partially complied with the commitment on keeping its markets open.

On 22 December 2020, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Notification No. 49/2015-2020 imposed the requirement of prior registration of coal imports under the Coal Import Monitoring System. The amendment applies to 5 coal products and requires that the importer register online and submit information at least 15 to 60 days before the expected date of arrival of the import goods.²⁰¹⁴

²⁰¹¹ Government working report, Xinhua (Beijing), 12 March 2021. Access Date: 17 March 2021.

http://www.gov.cn/premier/2021-03/12/content_5592671.htm

²⁰¹² China eyes free trade agreement with the Gulf states, Arab News (Riyadh) 24 March 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1831261/business-economy>

²⁰¹³ The Ministry of Commerce and other 20 departments issued a notice on several measures promoting trade liberalization and facilitation of the Hainan Free Trade Port, Ministry of Commerce of The People's Republic of China, 26 April 2021. Access Date: 26 April 2021. <http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/ae/ai/202104/20210403055185.shtml>

²⁰¹⁴ Notification No. 49/2015-2020, Government of India Ministry of Commerce & Industry Department of Commerce (New Delhi) 22 December 2020. Access Date: 18 May 2021. <https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/575732e8-1449-4a32-80e1-d0cbb8137a0/notification%20no.49%20dated%2022.12.2020%20scanned%20english.pdf>

On 28 December 2020, India allowed export of onions. The export of onions has been made free, with the effect from 1 January 2021. Before that, the export of all kinds of onions was prohibited in India.²⁰¹⁵

On 7 January 2021, India allowed import of fur skins of several animals, including mink, fox, reptiles and other animals. Before that, the import of such items was prohibited in India.²⁰¹⁶

On 31 March 2021, India made import of copper and aluminium subject to compulsory registration under Non-Ferrous Metal Import Monitoring System. The system will require importers to submit advance information in an online system, apply for registration and pay the registration fee.²⁰¹⁷

On 14 June 2021, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade through Notification No. 08/2015-2020 amended the export policy of Remdesivir injections and Remdesivir Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) by replacing an export ban with an export licensing requirement. The Notification amended the export policy of these goods from “Prohibited” to “Restricted.” A prohibited policy implies a ban while a restricted policy imposes the requirement of a license. The exports of these goods were earlier banned on 11 April 2021.²⁰¹⁸

On 19 August 2021, the Indian Ministry of Finance through Notification No. 40/2021-Customs reduced the customs duty on imports of certain edible oils temporarily until 30 September 2021. These include: crude soya oil from 15 per cent to 7.5 per cent; crude sunflower oil from 15 per cent to 7.5 per cent; refined soya oil from 45 per cent to 37.5 per cent; and refined sunflower oil from 45 per cent to 37.5 per cent.²⁰¹⁹

India has imposed some protectionist measures and rolled back some existing measures.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Anastasiya Kirillova and Irina Popova

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on trade.

On 18 December 2020, it was reported that Indonesia and Korea signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement; under the agreement Korea will eliminate tariffs on 95.8 per cent of Indonesian goods and Indonesia 94.8 per cent of Korean goods – 1.6 percentage points and 3.3 percentage points higher, respectively, greater than the terms of the Regional Comprehensive

²⁰¹⁵ Amendment in Export Policy of Onions, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (New Delhi) 28 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/42ca7128-80d6-447f-bc98-6a64914b5080/Noti%2050%20Eng.pdf>

²⁰¹⁶ Amendment in import policy and condition of items classified under Chapter 41 & 43 of ITC (HS), 2017, Schedule – I (Import Policy), Directorate General of Foreign Trade (New Delhi) 7 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/b8332978-c197-419b-a33b-e571ba84cd64/Notification%2055%20English.pdf>

²⁰¹⁷ Amendment in Import Policy of Copper and Aluminium under Chapter – 74 and Chapter – 76 of ITC (HS), 2017, Schedule-I (Import Policy) – reg., Directorate General of Foreign Trade (New Delhi) 31 March 2021. Access Date 31 March 2021. <https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/1b6ab9f3-256f-4a35-a899-6595c4eda5d2/Notification%2061%20English%20PDF.pdf>

²⁰¹⁸ Notification No. 08/2015-2020, Gazette of India (Delhi) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/28f692ab-b541-469f-9fe9-b8e4be0361a0/Noti%208%20Eng.pdf>

²⁰¹⁹ Notification No. 40/2021-Customs, Gazette of India (Delhi) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2021/cs-tarr2021/cs40-2021-new.pdf>

Economic Partnership; zero tariffs started to be applied immediately or will start to be applied within five years.²⁰²⁰

In January 2021, it was announced that public consultations were launched on developing a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between Indonesia and Canada.²⁰²¹

On 1 February 2021, it was reported that activities were to be increased within the negotiations process on the development of trade agreement and free trade zone between Indonesia and the Eurasian Economic Union.²⁰²²

On 12 April 2021, it was reported that Indonesia's parliament approved the draft for the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between Indonesia and the European Free Trade Association (comprising Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland).²⁰²³

On 6 August 2021, it was reported that the updated Indonesia-Singapore double taxation agreement (DTA) entered into force, strengthening efforts to prevent tax evasion, increase the tax base, and increase investments between the two countries. Updating the DTA can further enhance Singapore's status as a hub for international investments into Indonesia. There were three significant changes to the tax treaty, namely, the introduction of an article that provides capital gains tax protection, the reduction of withholding tax on royalties, and the reduction in branch profit tax (BPT). The treaty issues a new anti-tax avoidance article (Article 28), which means businesses that are unable to satisfy the BPT may not be entitled to treaty benefits under this updated DTA.²⁰²⁴

On 25 August 2021, it was reported that the trade balance of Indonesia showed a widening surplus in July 2021. However, the reason why Indonesia could enjoy a widening trade surplus in July is not really positive as it was a huge drop in imports that allowed the growing surplus, with particularly imports of raw materials and capital goods sliding heavily (which could be a sign that manufacturing and investment experienced a setback after the Indonesian government imposed tighter restrictions – locally known as PPKM Level 3 or 4 – in the economic centers on Java and Bali at the start of July 2021).²⁰²⁵

On 31 August 2021, it was reported that the government is pushing hard to produce medical supplies domestically and cut the exorbitant cost of imports from its COVID-19 budget. Speaking at a webinar on Monday, Coordinating Maritime Affairs and Investment Minister Luhut Pandjaitan called for more incentives to be given to import-substitution industries in the health sector. Imports of medical supplies take up a big chunk of the COVID-19 response budget. "If it's necessary, we are going to impose tariffs on imported [medical equipment] products that we already produce

²⁰²⁰ S. Korea signs CEPA with Indonesia for near tariff-free trade, Pulse (Seoul) 18 December 2020. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2020&no=1299046>

²⁰²¹ Canada, Indonesia Trade Talks Begin for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, ASEAN Briefing (Jakarta) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/canada-indonesia-trade-talks-begin-for-comprehensive-economic-partnership-agreement/>

²⁰²² EAEU to set up free trade zones with Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Belta (Moscow) 1 February 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://eng.belta.by/economics/view/eaEU-to-set-up-free-trade-zones-with-egypt-india-indonesia-mongolia-137057-2021/>

²⁰²³ House approves Indonesia-EFTA trade deal, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 12 April 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/paper/2021/04/11/house-approves-indonesia-efta-trade-deal.html>

²⁰²⁴ The Updated Indonesia-Singapore Tax Treaty Enters into Force, ASEAN Briefing (Jakarta) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/the-updated-indonesia-singapore-tax-treaty-enters-into-force/>

²⁰²⁵ Trade Balance of Indonesia: Growing Trade Surplus in July 2021 'Thanks' to Heavily Plunging Imports, Indonesia Investments (Jakarta) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/trade-balance-of-indonesia-growing-trade-surplus-in-july-2021-thanks-to-heavily-plunging-imports/item9440>

domestically,” said the senior minister, suggesting this would incentivize new investments for local producers.²⁰²⁶

On 2 September 2021, it was published that the Indonesian government has pledged to make the special economic zones a policy priority to attract foreign investment, boost industrial activity, and promote job creation – further facilitated through its tax incentive programs under the Ministry of Finance regulation No. 237/PMK.010/2020 (PMK 237). These tax incentives include exemptions from income tax, value-added tax, import duties, sales tax on luxury goods, and excise duties.²⁰²⁷

On 3 September 2021, it was reported that Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates took the next step in their trade and investment cooperation, when the two countries commenced negotiations on a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA). The CEPA is Indonesia’s first such deal with a Middle Eastern country and the UAE’s first with a Southeast Asian country. The countries’ respective trade ministers opened the first round of negotiations to address issues including investment, halal products, automotive goods, steel, aluminum, gold and e-commerce. The first round of negotiations is slated to conclude on September 4.²⁰²⁸

During the compliance period, Indonesia has taken both pro-open trade and anti-open trade measures.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

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.

Analyst: Andrei Sakbarov

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with the commitment on trade.

On 5 January 2021, it was reported that Japan as Chair in Trans-Pacific Partnership for 2021 was willing to work closely with previous chair Mexico to maintain and strengthen the free and open economic framework and was expected to lead talks on expanding the regional FTA membership (pro-open trade).²⁰²⁹

On 29 January 2021, Japan attended the WTO’s videoconference informal meeting; Japan’s inputs at the meeting included the call to start discussions on tariff and non-tariff aspects in order to smoothly disseminate goods and technologies that contribute to decreasing greenhouse gas emissions at a global level, and on enhancement of disciplines on industrial subsidies is necessary in order to

²⁰²⁶ Indonesia threatens tariffs, scaled back imports to spur domestic health industry, the Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2021/08/31/govt-threatens-tariffs-scaled-back-imports-to-spur-domestic-health-industry.html>

²⁰²⁷ Tax Incentives for Special Economic Zones in Indonesia, ASEAN Briefing (Jakarta) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/tax-incentives-for-special-economic-zones-in-indonesia/>

²⁰²⁸ Indonesia, UAE open talks on comprehensive trade deal, the Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 3 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2021/09/03/indonesia-uae-open-talks-on-comprehensive-trade-deal.html>

²⁰²⁹ Japan and Mexico agree to expand membership of TPP free trade pact, Kyodo (Tokyo) 5 January 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/01/05/business/economy-business/japan-mexico-agree-expand-membership-of-tpp/>

prevent government support measures from distorting markets in the post coronavirus era (pro-open trade).²⁰³⁰

During the compliance period, Japan has taken both pro-open trade and anti-open trade measures.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment to keep its national market open.

On 18 December 2020, it was reported that Indonesia and Korea signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement; under the agreement Korea will eliminate tariffs on 95.8 per cent of Indonesian goods and Indonesia 94.8 per cent of Korean goods – 1.6 percentage points and 3.3 percentage points higher, respectively, greater than the terms of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership; zero tariffs started to be applied immediately or will start to be applied within five years.²⁰³¹

On 26 January 2021, Korea announced the introduction of an import tariff quota on fresh and processed eggs to help stabilize domestic egg prices. Under the new scheme, the first 50,000 tons of imported eggs (14,500 tons of fresh eggs and 35,500 tons of processed eggs) will enjoy a 0 percent import tariff duty.²⁰³²

On 22 June 2021, Korea extended and increased the import tariff quota on fresh and processed eggs by 36,000 tons. Under the updated quota, 18,000 tons of fresh eggs and 18,000 tons of processed eggs will enjoy a 0 per cent import tariff duty.²⁰³³

Korea has liberalized its trade regulations and has not introduce any new protectionist measures.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with the commitment on open markets.

On 26 December 2020, Mexico adopted an Agreement that updates the lists of products subject to export/import permits from the Secretary of Energy. The norm replaced the time validity of the permits applicable to fuel from 5 years to 20 years.²⁰³⁴

²⁰³⁰ Minister Kajiyama Attends WTO Informal Ministerial Meeting, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 January 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2021/0129_001.html

²⁰³¹ S. Korea signs CEPA with Indonesia for near tariff-free trade, Pulse (Seoul) 18 December 2020. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2020&no=1299046>

²⁰³² Resolved amendment to the quota regulations for the application of egg-free tariffs, Ministry of Trade (Seoul) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 13 May 2021. https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000053437&menuNo=4010100

²⁰³³ Resolution of amendments to tariff quota regulations for extension of egg duty-free application, the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Korea (Sejong-si) 22 June 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 27 September 2021.

https://www.moef.go.kr/com/synap/synapView.do;jsessionid=J7GMe1h+dhxIYm+qeMmtAzU3.node30?atchFileId=ATC_H_000000000017843&fileSn=1

On 22 February 2021, Mexico published a decree that modifies the national import and export tariffs, with the objective of creating new national tariff codes for and eliminating the import tariffs of COVID-19 vaccines and oxygen tanks.²⁰³⁵

On 3 March 2021, Mexico published an Agreement that temporarily suspends the modifications made to the list of goods that need prior authorisation for its importation/exportation from the Secretary of Energy. The decision comes in the aftermath of a precautionary measure of the Second District Judge in Mexico City that has national jurisdiction.²⁰³⁶

On 27 April 2021, Mexico published an Agreement that decreased the import tariff quota for beans for the 2021 period. The Agreement only opens a duty-free quota for imports of kidney or black beans under HS code 0713.33.99, effectively closing the quotas for the HS codes 0713.33.02 and 0713.33.03. The previous measure, a 2008 Agreement, established an annual duty-free import quota at 100 000 metric tonnes which were applicable to three codes (0713.33.02, 0713.33.03, and 0713.33.99). In this sense, beans imports under codes 0713.33.02 and 0713.33.03 will not benefit from a free-duty quota for the 2021 period.²⁰³⁷

On 23 June 2021, Mexico adopted an Agreement that establishes a duty-free quota for poultry during 2021. The affected six-digits HS codes are 0207.11; 0207.12; 0207.13; and 0207.14. The total quota was set at 30,000 tonnes, available until 31 December 2021. Notably, there was no duty-free quota for the 2020 period since the last similar Agreement applied only until 31 December 2019.²⁰³⁸

During the compliance period Mexico both rolled back several protectionist measures and introduced new ones.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to keep its national market open.

On 27 November 2020, the Government of Russia increased import quotas of ingredients used in manufacturing painkillers. The quota for oxycodone increased from 50 kg to 126 kilograms, for remifentanil – from 0.5 to 3.67 kilograms and for fentanyl – from 30 to 45 kilograms.²⁰³⁹

On 29 January 2021, the Eurasian Economic Commission's Council reintroduced a zero-import duty on aluminum fluoride used as an electrolyte component in manufacturing aluminum. The measure

²⁰³⁴ Agreement that establishes the merchandise whose import and export is subject to regulation by the Ministry of Energy, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 26 December 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. <https://sidof.segob.gob.mx/notas/5608832>

²⁰³⁵ Decree by which the Rate of the General Import and Export Tax Law is modified, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5611928&fecha=22/02/2021

²⁰³⁶ AGREEMENT by which all the consequences derived from the Agreement that establishes the goods whose import and export are subject to regulation by the Ministry of Energy are suspended, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 3 March 2021. Access Date: 12 May 2021. http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5612613&fecha=03/03/2021

²⁰³⁷ Agreement disclosing the allocation mechanism for importing beans under tariff-quota, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5050108&fecha=27/06/2008

²⁰³⁸ Agreement announcing the quota for importing chicken meat under the tariff-quota indicated, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5622008&fecha=23/06/2021

²⁰³⁹ Government Lifts Quotas for Painkiller Ingredients, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 29 November 2020. Access Date: 13 May 2021. <http://government.ru/news/40971/>

will be in effect retroactively from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2023. The statutory import duty is 7 per cent.²⁰⁴⁰

On 16 February 2021, the EEU re-introduced a temporary reduction of import duty on carbon graphite products used in aluminum electrolysis, effective from 21 March 2021 to 1 April 2022. The 5 per cent duty on carbon graphite electrodes (tariff line 854519 000 0) was waived, as was the 12.5 per cent duty on carbon graphite brushes (tariff line 8545 90 900 0). Although the items in question seem to be used primarily for the electrolysis of aluminum, the reductions are not sector- or firm-specific.²⁰⁴¹

On 6 July 2021, the EEU issued a regulation imposing a safeguard measure on imports of clothing for women and girls from Vietnam. The products subject to the safeguard measure are classified under HS codes 6104.41.00.00, 6104.42.00.00, 6104.43.00.00, 6104.44.00.00, 6104.49.00.00, 6204.41.00.00, 6204.42.00.00, 6204.43.00.00, 6204.40.00.00, 6204.49.10.00, 6204.49.90.00 and 6110. The rate of duty on imports from Vietnam is equal to the common customs tariff of the Eurasian Economic Union. The rate duty ranges from 1,75 per cent to 10 per cent depending on the product. This follows Article 2.10 of the Vietnam-EEU Free Trade Agreement, in force since 2016. The customs duty is imposed for a period of six months.²⁰⁴²

Russia has liberalized its trade regulations and has not introduce any new protectionist measures.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with the commitment on trade.

On 24 March 2021, China's State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud in Riyadh; it was reported as an outcome of the meeting that both parties pledged to push forward negotiations on a free trade deal between China and the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.²⁰⁴³

On 15 April 2021, the Saudi Ports Authority announced an initiative to support international shipping lines stranded at the south end of the Suez Canal on the Red Sea coast, extending the services of Jeddah Islamic Port for ship transfers and container offloading; measures include an extended period of exemption from storage fees for transshipment containers – from 30 days to 60 days – for a duration of three months.²⁰⁴⁴

²⁰⁴⁰ On the establishment of the rate of import customs duty of the Unified Customs Tariff of the Eurasian Economic Union in respect of aluminum fluoride, Council of Eurasian Economic Commission (Nur-Sultan) 29 January 2021. Access Date: 13 May 2021. https://docs.eaeunion.org/docs/ru-ru/01428591/err_16022021_3

²⁰⁴¹ On setting import customs duties in the Unified Customs Tariff of the Eurasian Economic Union with respect to certain types of carbon and graphite products for aluminum electrolysis, Collegium of the Eurasian Economic Commission (Moscow) 16 February 2021. Access Date: 13 May 2021. https://docs.eaeunion.org/docs/ru-ru/01428628/err_19022021_15

²⁰⁴² On the application of a trigger protective measure in relation to certain types of women's clothing and clothing for girls and certain types of knitwear originating from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and imported into the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union, the Eurasian Economic Commission (Moscow) 6 July 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 22 September 2021. https://docs.eaeunion.org/docs/ru-ru/01429726/err_08072021_85

²⁰⁴³ China eyes free trade agreement with the Gulf states, Arab News (Riyadh) 24 March 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1831261/business-economy>

²⁰⁴⁴ Saudi Ports Authority to support shipping lines with storage fee exemptions, Construction Business News (Dubai) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.cbnme.com/logistics-news/saudi-ports-authority-to-support-shipping-lines-with-storage-fee-exemptions/>

On 5 July 2021, Saudi Arabia amended its rules on imports from other Gulf Cooperation Council countries to exclude goods made in free zones or using Israeli input from preferential tariff concessions, in a bid to challenge the United Arab Emirates' status as the region's trade and business hub.²⁰⁴⁵

On 20 August 2021, it was reported that Saudi Arabia is looking for more trading partners under free trade agreements as the country aims at increasing non-oil exports share in GDP. The kingdom is resuming negotiations for free trade agreements with 11 countries. Target countries are China, India, Pakistan, Australia, New Zealand, Britain, Indonesia, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and the United States of America. Saudi Arabia aims to export services including transport, distribution, professional and financial services, communication services, postal services and many others. The Saudi Exports Development Authority announced on Wednesday, it will identify over 120 international tendering opportunities in a number of target countries.²⁰⁴⁶

During the compliance period, Saudi Arabia has taken both pro-open trade and anti-open trade measures.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment to keep its national market open.

On 24 December 2020, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) issued Notice R.1408 making an amendment in the import regime by inserting tariff subheadings 3208.20.20, 3906.90.30, and 3906.90.40 into Part 1 of Schedule No. 1. The amendment is made in order to increase the rate of customs duty on acrylic resins to 15 percent.²⁰⁴⁷

On 31 December 2020, SARS issued Notice R.1428 increasing the import duties on aluminum plates, sheets, strips, and aluminum foil from duty-free to 15 per cent. The affected products are classified under the tariff subheadings 7606 and 7607.²⁰⁴⁸

On 5 March 2021, SARS issued Notice R.181 decreasing the import duties on beet and cane sugar from 527,75 c/kg (approximately 0.34 USD/kilogram) to 414,85 c/kg (approximately 0.27 USD/kilogram). The subject product is classified under the tariff subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91, and 1701.99.²⁰⁴⁹

On 10 March 2021, SARS issued Notice R.190 decreasing the import duties on wheat and wheaten flour from 10.27c/kilogram (USD0.0071) and 15.41c/kilogram (USD0.0106) respectively to zero for

²⁰⁴⁵ Saudi Arabia amends import rules from Gulf in challenge to UAE, Reuters (Dubai) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/saudi-arabia-amends-import-rules-gulf-challenge-uae-2021-07-05/>

²⁰⁴⁶ Saudi Arabia looks for free trade agreement with 11 countries in exports push, Arab News (Riyadh) 20 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1914176/amp>

²⁰⁴⁷ Government Gazette No. 44029 of 24 December 2020, Notice R.1406, South Africa Revenue Service (SARS) (Pretoria) 24 December 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.sars.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Embargo/Tariffs/2020/LSec-CE-TA-2020-66-Notice-R1406-GG44029-Schedule-1P1-acrylic-resins-24-December-2020.pdf>

²⁰⁴⁸ Government Gazette No. 44049 of 31 December 2020, South Africa Revenue Service (SARS) (Pretoria) 31 December 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.sars.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Embargo/Tariffs/2020/LSec-CE-TA-2020-68-Notice-R1428-GG44049-Sch1P1-Aluminium-31-December-2020.pdf>

²⁰⁴⁹ Government Gazette No. 44230 of 5 March 2021, Notice R.181, South Africa Revenue Service (SARS) (Pretoria) 5 March 2021. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.sars.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Embargo/Tariffs/2021/LSec-CE-TA-2021-16-Notice-R181-GG44230-Sch1-Sugar-5-March-2021.pdf>

both categories. The affected products are classified under the following HS codes subheadings: 1001.91 and 1001.99, as well as 1101.00.10, 1101.00.20, 1101.00.30, and 1101.00.90. This import tariff applies to all countries except for the ones belonging to the Southern African Development Community.²⁰⁵⁰

On 28 May 2021, SARS adopted a notice establishing a full rebate for the importation of warp knit fabrics. Subject products are classified under the tariff subheading 6005.3. In the case of imports originating from the European Union, the import duty was reduced from 13.2 per cent to 0 per cent.²⁰⁵¹

On 18 June 2021, SARS adopted notice R.542 establishing a full rebate facility for the importation of Sodium Hydroxide (Caustic Soda) in aqueous solution for the manufacture of semi-chemical fluting paper. The subject product is classified under the tariff subheading 2815.12. Previously to this decision, the import duty on the subject products was 20 per cent.²⁰⁵²

On 2 July 2021, SARS issued Notice No. R.570 in Government Gazette No.44792, decreasing the import duties on wheat and wheaten flour from 19.17c/kg (USD0.0136) and 28.76c/kg (USD0.0204) respectively to zero for both categories.²⁰⁵³

South Africa introduced some protectionist measures, but also lifted some trade restrictions.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on trade.

On 29 December 2020, Turkey signed Free Trade Agreement with the United Kingdom, which took effect from 1 January 2021; to the extent possible, the agreement replicates the EU-Turkey trade arrangement that applied in the United Kingdom until the end of the Transition Period following Brexit, and covers all industrial and agricultural products, removes tariffs on industrial products, and scales and reflects existing concessions with the EU on agricultural products in the new trade deal.²⁰⁵⁴

On 1 March 2021, preferential trade agreement between Turkey and Azerbaijan, covering a limited number of areas; further, in April 2021 at the meeting of the two countries' trade and economy ministers it was stated that Turkey and Azerbaijan should be working towards full-scale free trade

²⁰⁵⁰ Government Gazette No.44251. No. R.190, South Africa Revenue Service (SARS) (Pretoria) 10 March 2021. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.sars.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Embargo/Tariffs/2021/LSec-CE-TA-2021-17-Notice-R190-GG44251-Sch1-Wheat-10-March-2021.pdf>

²⁰⁵¹ Government Gazette No.44635 Np. R.457, the South African Revenue Service (Pretoria) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <https://www.sars.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Embargo/Tariffs/2021/LSec-CE-TA-2021-37-Notice-R457-GG44635-Sch3P1-Rebate-on-fabrics-for-upholstery-furniture-28-May-2021.pdf>

²⁰⁵² Government Gazette No.44426 No. R.542, the South African Revenue Service (Pretoria) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <https://www.sars.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Embargo/Tariffs/2021/LSec-TA-2021-48-Notice-R542-GG44426-Schedule-3P1-Caustic-Soda-18-June-2021.pdf>

²⁰⁵³ Government Gazette No., the South African Revenue Service (Pretoria) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. <https://www.sars.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Embargo/Tariffs/2021/LSec-CE-TA-2021-052-Sch1P1-Wheat-1-July-2021.pdf>

²⁰⁵⁴ Turkey: Turkey Signs Free Trade Agreement With The United Kingdom, Mondaq (Ankara) 25 January 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.mondaq.com/turkey/international-trade-investment/1029362/turkey-signs-free-trade-agreement-with-the-united-kingdom>

agreement.²⁰⁵⁵ On 6 April 2021, it was reported that an agreement amending the definition of “originating products” and methods on administrative co-operation within the existing preferential trade agreement between Turkey and Azerbaijan was ratified.²⁰⁵⁶

On 15 March 2021, the United Kingdom-Turkey Joint Committee established under the Agreement adopted a Decision replacing the existing Rules of Origin Protocol with a revised Protocol.²⁰⁵⁷

On 10 April 2021, it was reported that Turkey and Ukraine pledged to deepen cooperation in various spheres, including to accelerate “work to conclude negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement.”²⁰⁵⁸

On 14 July 2021, it was reported that the Turkish and Malaysian trade ministers signed on 13 July a joint declaration to expand the existing free trade agreement between the two countries. The two ministers also highlighted cooperation potential in civil aviation, halal goods sector, and the defense industry.²⁰⁵⁹

On 18 August 2021, it was reported that Turkey is building a new generation of comprehensive free trade agreements to lift exports, strengthen the competitiveness of the industry and attract foreign capital, according to the nation’s trade minister. Comprehensive free trade agreement negotiations are currently ongoing with Japan, Thailand and Indonesia in the Asia-Pacific region,” Mehmet Muş told a closing session of the 34th Foreign Economic Relations Board Ordinary Financial General Assembly. These agreements will include services, investments and public procurement.²⁰⁶⁰

On 26 August 2021, it was reported that London and Ankara will start negotiations on a more comprehensive trade pact next year, a British minister said Thursday, in a move designed to add new areas for stronger bilateral commercial cooperation.²⁰⁶¹

On 8 September 2021, it was reported that Turkey has reduced to zero the import customs duty for wheat, rye, barley, oats and maize, chickpeas and lentils until year-end, according to the country’s Official Gazette.²⁰⁶²

During the compliance period, Turkey has taken both pro-open trade and anti-open trade measures.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

²⁰⁵⁵ 'Turkey, Azerbaijan should target free trade agreement', Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 1 April 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-azerbaijan-should-target-free-trade-agreement/219555>

²⁰⁵⁶ Turkey ratifies agreements with Albania, Azerbaijan, Anadolu Agency 6 April 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-ratifies-agreements-with-albania-azerbaijan/2199716>

²⁰⁵⁷ UK/Turkey rules of origin protocol update: April 2021, Government of the UK (London) Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukturkey-free-trade-agreement-cs-turkey-no12021/ukturkey-rules-of-origin-protocol-update-april-2021>

²⁰⁵⁸ Turkey, Ukraine vow to strengthen strategic partnership, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 10 April 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/politics/turkey-ukraine-vow-to-strengthen-strategic-partnership/2204901>

²⁰⁵⁹ Turkey, Malaysia resolve to expand free trade agreement, Hurriyet (Ankara) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-malaysia-resolve-to-expand-free-trade-agreement-166308>

²⁰⁶⁰ Turkey earmarks new generation free trade deals to rev up exports, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/economy/turkey-earmarks-new-generation-free-trade-deals-to-rev-up-exports>

²⁰⁶¹ Turkey, UK to start talks on more comprehensive free trade deal, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/turkey-uk-to-start-talks-on-more-comprehensive-free-trade-deal/news>

²⁰⁶² Turkey cuts grains' import customs duty to zero until year-end, Reuters (Ankara) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. [https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/turkey-cuts-grains-import-customs-duty-zero-until-year-end-2021-09-08/#:~:text=ANKARA%2C%20Sept%20%20\(Reuters\),Official%20Gazette%20said%20on%20Wednesday](https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/turkey-cuts-grains-import-customs-duty-zero-until-year-end-2021-09-08/#:~:text=ANKARA%2C%20Sept%20%20(Reuters),Official%20Gazette%20said%20on%20Wednesday)

United Kingdom: 0

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

On 24 November 2020, the UK temporarily eliminated the import duty on COVID-19 vaccines from non-EU countries in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Additionally, VAT was also eliminated as far as it relates to the subject goods imported. The goods must be imported by state entities “including state bodies, public bodies and other bodies governed by public law.” Non-state bodies may also be granted duty-free import on the subject goods following the submission of an application to the National Import Relief Unit.²⁰⁶³

On 29 December 2020, Turkey signed Free Trade Agreement with the United Kingdom, which took effect from 1 January 2021; to the extent possible, the agreement replicates the EU-Turkey trade arrangement that applied in the United Kingdom until the end of the Transition Period following Brexit, and covers all industrial and agricultural products, removes tariffs on industrial products, and scales and reflects existing concessions with the EU on agricultural products in the new trade deal.²⁰⁶⁴

On 31 December 2020, the UK government announced introducing a licensing requirement on the imports of some nuclear materials.²⁰⁶⁵

On 1 January 2021, the UK government abolished the Low-Value Consignment Relief, which provided relief from VAT on imported goods valued at GBP15 or less. For these goods, the standard 20percent VAT rate is currently applied.²⁰⁶⁶

On 15 March 2021, the United Kingdom-Turkey Joint Committee established under the Agreement adopted a Decision replacing the existing Rules of Origin Protocol with a revised Protocol.²⁰⁶⁷

During the compliance period the United Kingdom has implemented several new protectionist measures, while at least two of the existing measures were rolled back.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrey Shelepov

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with the commitment to keep markets open.

On 10 February 2021, the United States Customs and Border Protection issued a series of rulings, reclassifying certain goods under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States. As such, the

²⁰⁶³ Pay no import duty and VAT on medical supplies, equipment and protective garments (COVID-19), UK Government (London) 24 November 2020. Access Date: 5 May 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pay-no-import-duty-and-vat-on-medical-supplies-equipment-and-protective-garments-covid-19>.

²⁰⁶⁴ Turkey: Turkey Signs Free Trade Agreement With The United Kingdom, Mondaq (Ankara) 25 January 2021. Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.mondaq.com/turkey/international-trade-investment/1029362/turkey-signs-free-trade-agreement-with-the-united-kingdom>

²⁰⁶⁵ Importing ‘relevant’ nuclear materials into the UK: licensing requirements, UK Government (London) 31 December 2020. Access Date: 5 May 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/importing-relevant-nuclear-materials-from-the-eu-licensing-requirements>

²⁰⁶⁶ Changes to VAT treatment of overseas goods sold to customers from 1 January 2021, UK Government (London) 3 December 2020. Access Date: 5 May 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-vat-treatment-of-overseas-goods-sold-to-customers-from-1-january-2021/changes-to-vat-treatment-of-overseas-goods-sold-to-customers-from-1-january-2021>

²⁰⁶⁷ UK/Turkey rules of origin protocol update: April 2021, Government of the UK (London) Access Date: 30 April 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukturkey-free-trade-agreement-cs-turkey-no12021/ukturkey-rules-of-origin-protocol-update-april-2021>

reclassification of two mandrels with pilot drills resulted in the reduction of import tariff from 5 per cent to 3.9 per cent. The reclassification of automobile organizers and backseat automobile organizers, however, resulted in increase of import tariff from 2.5 per cent to 17.7 percent and from 2.5 percent to 7 percent, respectively. The reclassification of “piggy” banks lead to the introduction of import tariff of 3.4 percent.

On 11 March 2021, the President of the United States signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The Act provided for the stimulus package of USD1.9 trillion for the American economy, including direct financial grants to domestic manufacturing companies, agricultural producers, food distributors, and service providers.²⁰⁶⁸ This act supports the economic recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; however, it can be perceived as distorting international competitive environment.

On 24 June 2021, the United States Customs and Border Protection issued a ruling reclassifying certain mineral stones sanded down and buffed amber stones. The reclassification reduced the import tariff of sanded down and buffed amber stones from 2.7 per cent to 0 per cent.²⁰⁶⁹

On 14 July 2021, the United States Customs and Border Protection issued a ruling, reclassifying textile cover for unsprung mattress foundation as other made-up articles rather than as furniture parts, which resulted in the decrease of import tariff of the subject product from 7 per cent to 0 per cent.²⁰⁷⁰

The United States has implemented new protectionist measures while rolling back any existing trade restrictive measures.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with the commitment on trade.

On 11 December 2020, the EU published Regulation (EU) 2020/2020 that provides temporary value added tax (VAT) relief to COVID-19 vaccines and in vitro diagnostic medical devices. The objective is to ensure, as soon as possible, the most affordable access to the supply of the medical products necessary to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. For this, the regulation includes two types of tax relief: a VAT exemption for the supply of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines; and a VAT reduction or exemption for in vitro diagnostic medical kits for COVID-19.²⁰⁷¹

²⁰⁶⁸ American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, The United States Congress (Washington DC) 3 January 2021. Access Date: 14 May 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr1319/BILLS-117hr1319enr.pdf>

²⁰⁶⁹ U.S. Customs and Border Protection Application for Allowance in Duties, US Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021. https://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2021-Jun/Vol_55_No_24_complete.pdf

²⁰⁷⁰ U.S. Customs and Border Protection Application to Use Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), US Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 27 September 2021.

https://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2021-Jul/Vol_55_No_27_complete.pdf

²⁰⁷¹ EU: Temporary VAT relief to COVID-19 vaccines and testing kits, Global Trade Alert. Access Date: 5 May 2021. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/intervention/83779/internal-taxation-of-imports/eu-temporary-vat-relief-to-covid-19-vaccines-and-testing-kits>.

On 28 December 2020, the European Union updated the import tariff quotas for certain agricultural and industrial products applicable during the year 2021. The updates were both restrictive and trade-facilitating.²⁰⁷²

On 7 January 2021, the European Commission imposed a provisional duty on imports of certain iron, non-alloy or other alloy steel hot-rolled flat products from Turkey. The rate of duty is between 4.8 per cent and 7.6 per cent depending on the company.²⁰⁷³

On 8 March 2021, the European Commission issued Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/401 decreasing the import duty applicable to certain husked rice (excluding basmati rice).²⁰⁷⁴

During the compliance period the European Union has implemented several new protectionist measures, while at least two of the existing measures were rolled back.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrey Sbeleпов

²⁰⁷² Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2230 of 18 December 2020 amending Regulation (EU) No 1388/2013 opening and providing for the management of autonomous tariff quotas of the Union for certain agricultural and industrial products, EUR-Lex. Official Journal 28 December 2020. Access Date: 5 May 2021. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32020R2230&qid=1611658181982>.

²⁰⁷³ EU: Provisional antidumping duty on imports of certain hot-rolled flat products from Turkey, Global Trade Alert. Access Date: 5 May 2021. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/intervention/79539/anti-dumping/eu-provisional-antidumping-duty-on-imports-of-certain-hot-rolled-flat-products-from-turkey>.

²⁰⁷⁴ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/401 of 5 March 2021 fixing the import duties applicable to certain types of husked rice from 8 March 2021, EUR-Lex. Official Journal 8 March 2021. Access Date: 5 May 2021. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2021.079.01.0007.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2021%3A079%3ATOC.