

A map of Eurasia showing various countries and cities. The map is light green and yellow, with blue lines for rivers and seas. Countries labeled include Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, and Russia. Cities labeled include Moscow, Astana, Novosibirsk, Krasnoyarsk, Istanbul, and others. The title 'Overview WTO Accessions in Eurasia' is centered in large black font.

Overview WTO Accessions in Eurasia

Achievements to Date and State of Play

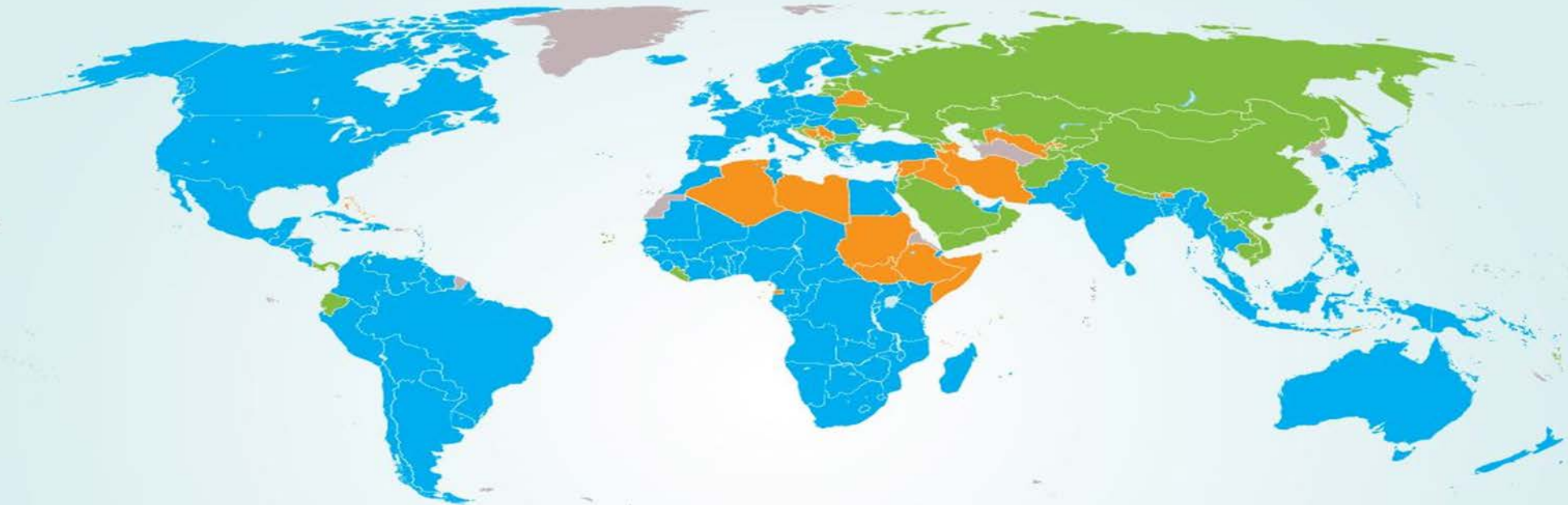
Maika Oshikawa

Director, Accessions Division, WTO

Outline

- I. Overview and Historical Context
- II. Objectives of WTO Accessions
- III. Accession Results – Market Access and Rules
- IV. Post-Accession – Participation of Eurasian Members in the Work of the WTO
- V. State of Play on On-going Accessions

WTO Accessions – General Overview



ORIGINAL WTO MEMBERS (128)

WTO MEMBERS WHICH NEGOTIATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XII (36)

ACCEDING GOVERNMENTS (22)

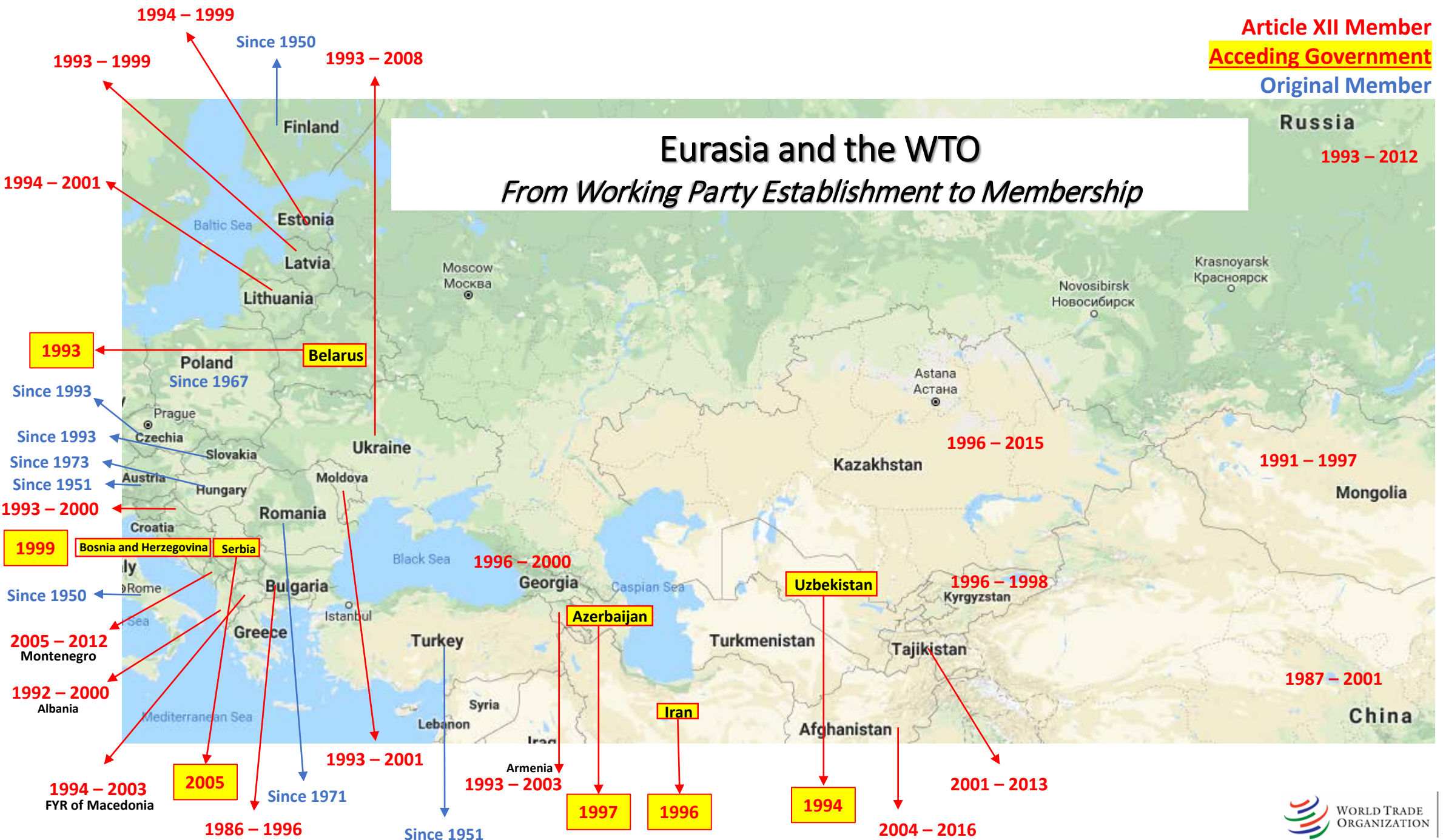
Ecuador	Lithuania	Cabo Verde
Bulgaria	Moldova, Republic of	Montenegro
Mongolia	China	Samoa
Panama	Chinese Taipei	Russian Federation
Kyrgyz Republic	Armenia	Vanuatu
Latvia	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Estonia	Nepal	Tajikistan
Jordan	Cambodia	Yemen
Georgia	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	Seychelles
Albania	Viet Nam	Kazakhstan
Oman	Tonga	Liberia
Croatia	Ukraine	Afghanistan

Algeria	Comoros, Union of the	Sao Tomé and Príncipe
Andorra	Equatorial Guinea	Serbia
Azerbaijan	Ethiopia	Somalia
The Bahamas	Iran	South Sudan
Belarus	Iraq	Sudan
Bhutan	Lebanese Republic	Syrian Arab Republic
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Libya	Timor-Leste
		Uzbekistan

Article XII Member
Acceding Government
Original Member

Eurasia and the WTO

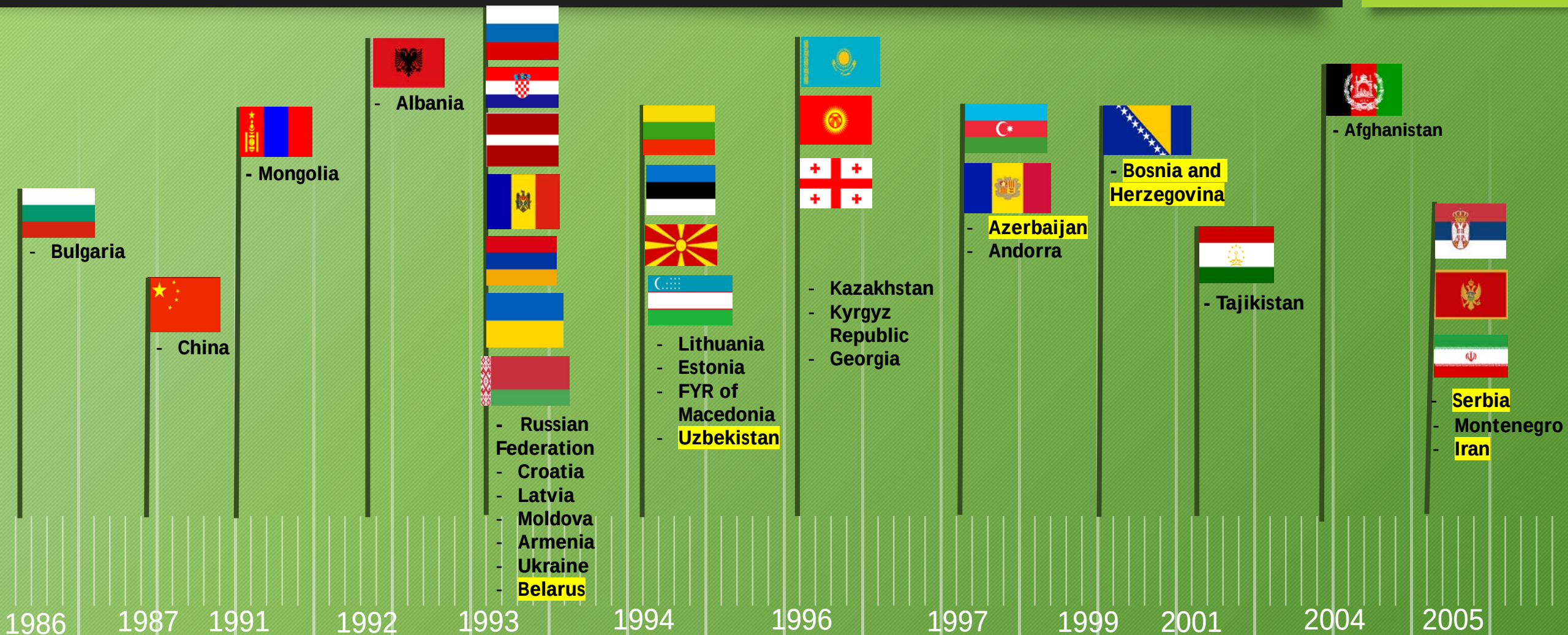
From Working Party Establishment to Membership



Completed Accessions (36) and Ongoing Accessions (22)

Africa	Europe / CIS	Asia Pacific	Middle East	America
3	16	11	4	2
Cabo Verde*, 2008 Seychelles, 2015 Liberia*, 2016	Bulgaria, 1996 Kyrgyz Rep., 1998 Latvia, 1999 Estonia, 1999 Georgia, 2000 Albania, 2000 Croatia, 2000 Lithuania, 2001 Moldova, 2001 Armenia, 2003 FYR of Macedonia, 2003 Ukraine, 2008 Montenegro, 2012 Russian Federation, 2012 Tajikistan, 2013 Kazakhstan, 2015	Mongolia, 1997 China, 2001 Chinese Taipei, 2002 Nepal*, 2004 Cambodia*, 2004 Tonga, 2007 Viet Nam, 2007 Samoa*, 2012 Vanuatu*, 2012 Lao PDR*, 2013 Afghanistan*, 2016	Jordan, 2000 Oman, 2000 Saudi Arabia 2005 Yemen*, 2014	Ecuador, 1996 Panama, 1997
9	6	2	4	1
Algeria, 1987 Sudan*, 1994 Ethiopia*, 2003 Libya, 2004 Sao Tomé & Príncipe*, 2005 Comoros*, 2007 Equatorial Guinea, 2008 Somalia*, 2016 South Sudan, 2017	Belarus, 1993 Uzbekistan, 1994 Azerbaijan, 1997 Andorra, 1997 Bosnia & Herzegovina, 1999 Serbia, 2005	Bhutan*, 1999 Timor-Leste*, 2016	Lebanese Rep., 1999 Iraq, 2004 I.R. of Iran, 2005 Syrian Arab Rep., 2010	The Bahamas, 2001

Eurasian Accessions: Working Party Establishment - 1986 - 2005



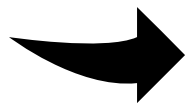
GATT/WTO Accession-related Activities in 1992-1997

1992	February	Russian Federation – observer status as successor state to USSR
	June	Albania, Estonia, Moldova and Turkmenistan - observer status
		Yugoslavia – suspension of GATT membership
	July	Armenia and Ukraine - observer status
		Slovenia – WP establishment
	September	Kazakhstan, Latvia and Lithuania - observer status
	October	Belarus - observer status
1993	December	Albania – WP establishment
	February	Azerbaijan - observer status
	May	Croatia - observer status
	June	Russian Federation – WP establishment
	September	Kyrgyz Republic - observer status
	October	FYROM - observer status
		Belarus and Croatia – WP establishment
1994	December	Armenia, Latvia, Moldova and Ukraine – WP establishment
	February	Lithuania – WP establishment
	March	Estonia – WP establishment
	June	Uzbekistan - observer status
	November	Georgia - observer status
	December	FYROM, Macedonia and Uzbekistan – WP establishment
1996	March	Kazakhstan – WP establishment
	April	Kyrgyz Republic – WP establishment
	July	Georgia – WP establishment
		Mongolia – accession package at GC
	October	Bulgaria – accession package at GC
	December	Bulgaria – WTO member (130 th - 1 December 1996)
1997	January	Mongolia – WTO member (131 st - 29 January 1997)
	July	Azerbaijan – WP establishment

Historical Context



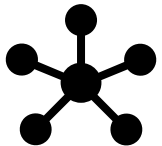
End of Cold War and independence: Dissolution of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia



Social, political and economic changes: transition from centrally-planned economy to free-market economy



Economic and financial difficulties and challenges of structural reforms



Desire to integrate into the world economy and participate in global governance

Expansion of GATT/WTO Membership

GATT Council, 12 July 1994 (C/M/273)

- **Management of Accession Negotiations** - Communication from Sweden on behalf of the Nordic countries (L/7487)

The representative of Sweden said that “the GATT system is presently facing a number of challenges. The most immediate one was the implementation of the Uruguay Round results. **Another challenge of utmost importance is the globalization of the GATT and the WTO.....** The multilateral trading system is on its way to becoming global in the real meaning of the term. More requests for accession are under consideration than ever before in GATT history. At present, 21 requests are under consideration and a number of other countries are likely to apply in the near future. The benefits that would result from this process would be of great importance to acceding countries, the present contracting parties and to the trading system as such. **But there is also a wider, partly political, perspective that should not be forgotten in this context. Many of the candidates for accession are countries in transition from centrally-planned to market-based economies.”**

Special Training Course to Guide Reforming Economies 1991 – 1994

- 3-month course organised by GATT Secretariat, financially supported by Switzerland
- Target: Senior officials from newly independent states in Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia

"It is vitally important that economic reform is reinforced and sustained by integration into the multilateral trading system. If we want the countries of Eastern and Central Europe to succeed in their efforts to establish market-oriented economies, they will need to be helped to create outward-looking trade regimes based on undistorted internal and external competition. The new training course is one attempt by GATT to lay the basis for such reform."

Mr. Arthur Dunkel, Director-General of GATT



Objectives of WTO Accessions (1)



*„ The accession to GATT 1947 is an important objective of the **reform programme** under way “*

Bulgaria’s WPR, para. 4.

*Strategic priorities are certainly Euro-Atlantic integrations, **stronger cooperation with the EU and the Region**, WTO and EU accession”*

Montenegro’s MFTR, pp. 1-2.

*„China's WTO accession would **increase its economic growth** and **enhance its economic and trade relations with WTO Members**. “*

China’s WPR, para. 4.



Objectives of WTO Accessions (2)



„ Members also noted that Kazakhstan played *an important role in trade flows on the Eurasian continent* and therefore *its membership would strengthen the Organization* and the world economy. “

Kazakhstan's WPR, para. 8.

„ Afghanistan viewed WTO membership as an essential element of *the effort to ... establish the environment for greater economic opportunities that would alleviate poverty in the country.* “

Afghanistan's WPR, para. 4.



„ It was clear that *the growing interdependence* of national economies, global integration of markets and linkage between trade flows and investment, *required the Russian Federation to adjust its trade, financial and investment legislation to WTO rules and disciplines.* “

Russian Federation's WPR, para. 5.



Objectives of WTO Accessions (3)



*“Mongolia’s accession to the WTO ... **would promote the country’s economic development, and help to attract foreign investment** and would also contribute to strengthening of the multilateral trading system.”* **Mongolia’s** WPR, para. 5.



*“The Government of Moldova is ready to make the changes required to bring domestic legislation and practices into compliance with the **WTO’s provisions.**”* **Moldova’s** MFTR, p. 4.

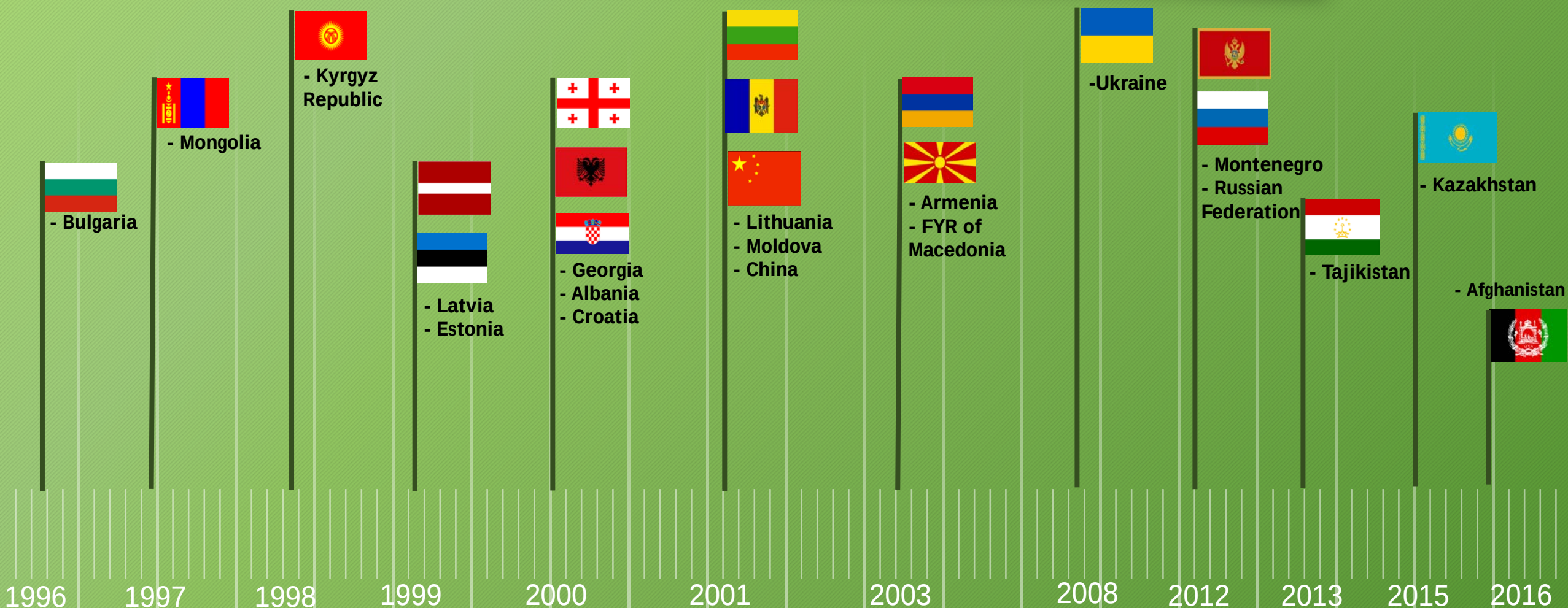


*“Fuller integration into the world economy, and **continuing diversification of Armenia’s economic relations with other countries,** were central planks of the Government’s reform efforts...”* **Armenia’s** WPR, para. 6.

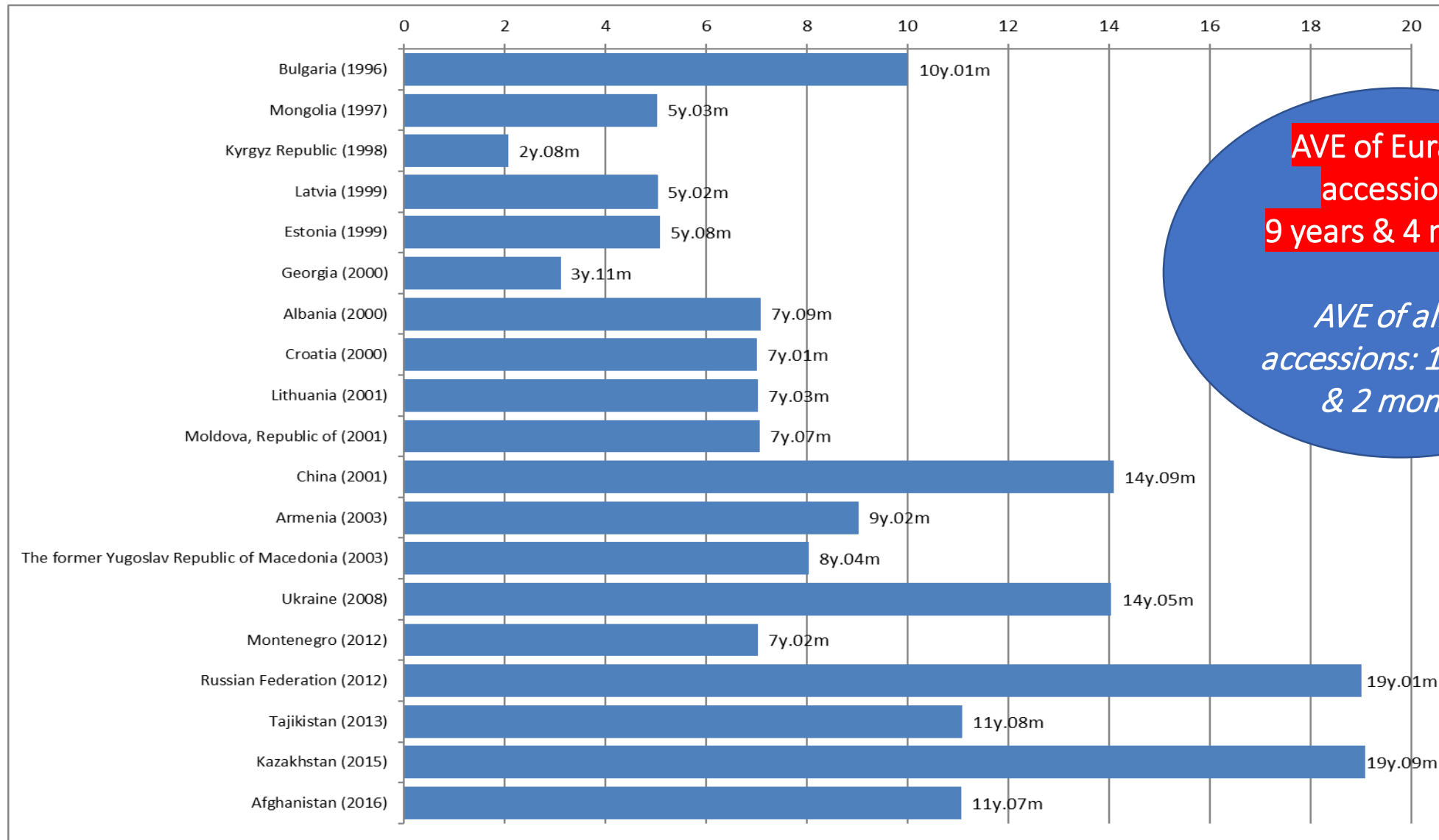


Eurasian Accessions: Timeline for Completion

1996 - 2016



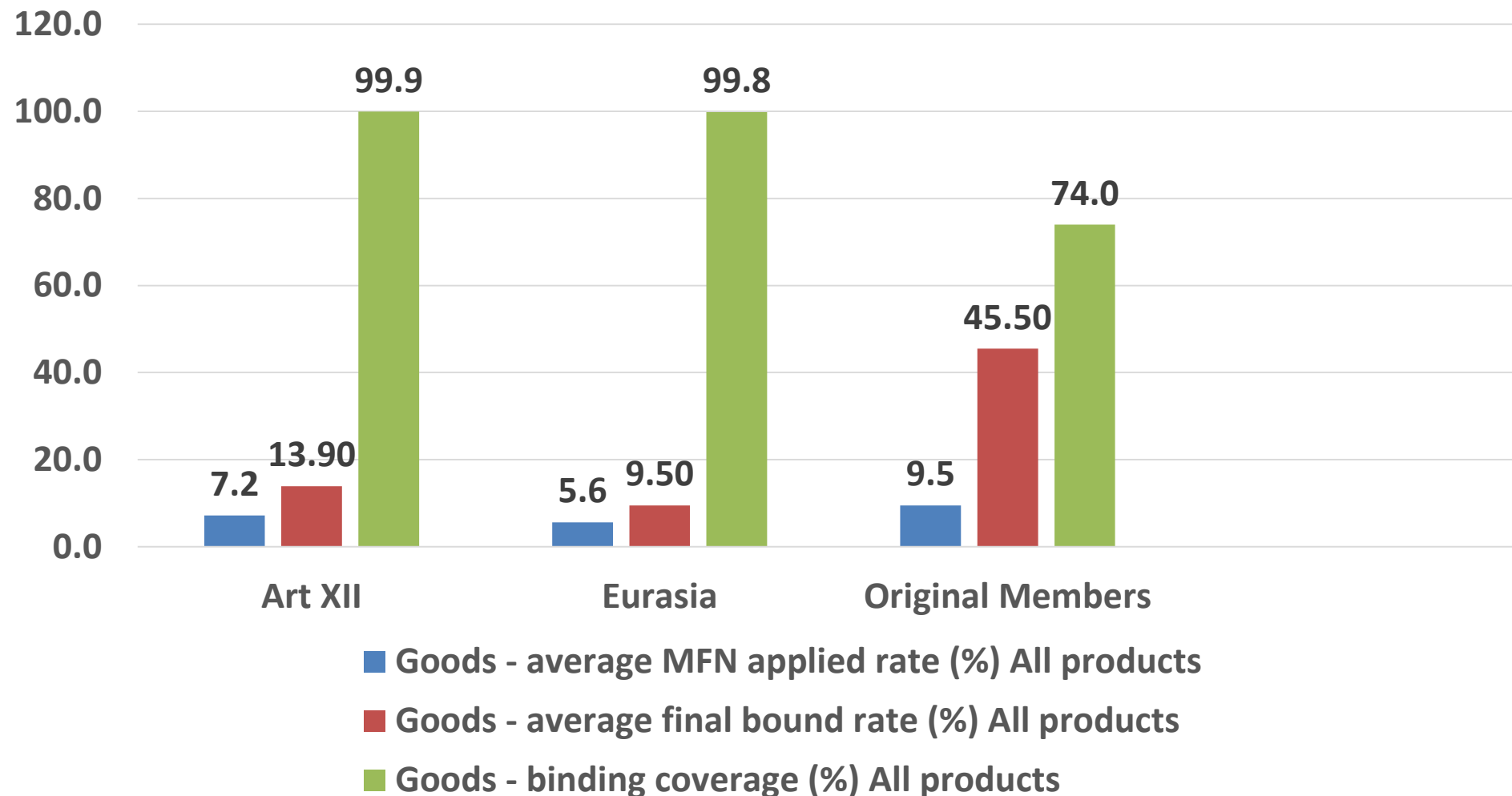
Length of WTO Eurasian Accession Process: from Working Party Establishment to Membership



**AVE of Eurasian
accessions:
9 years & 4 months**

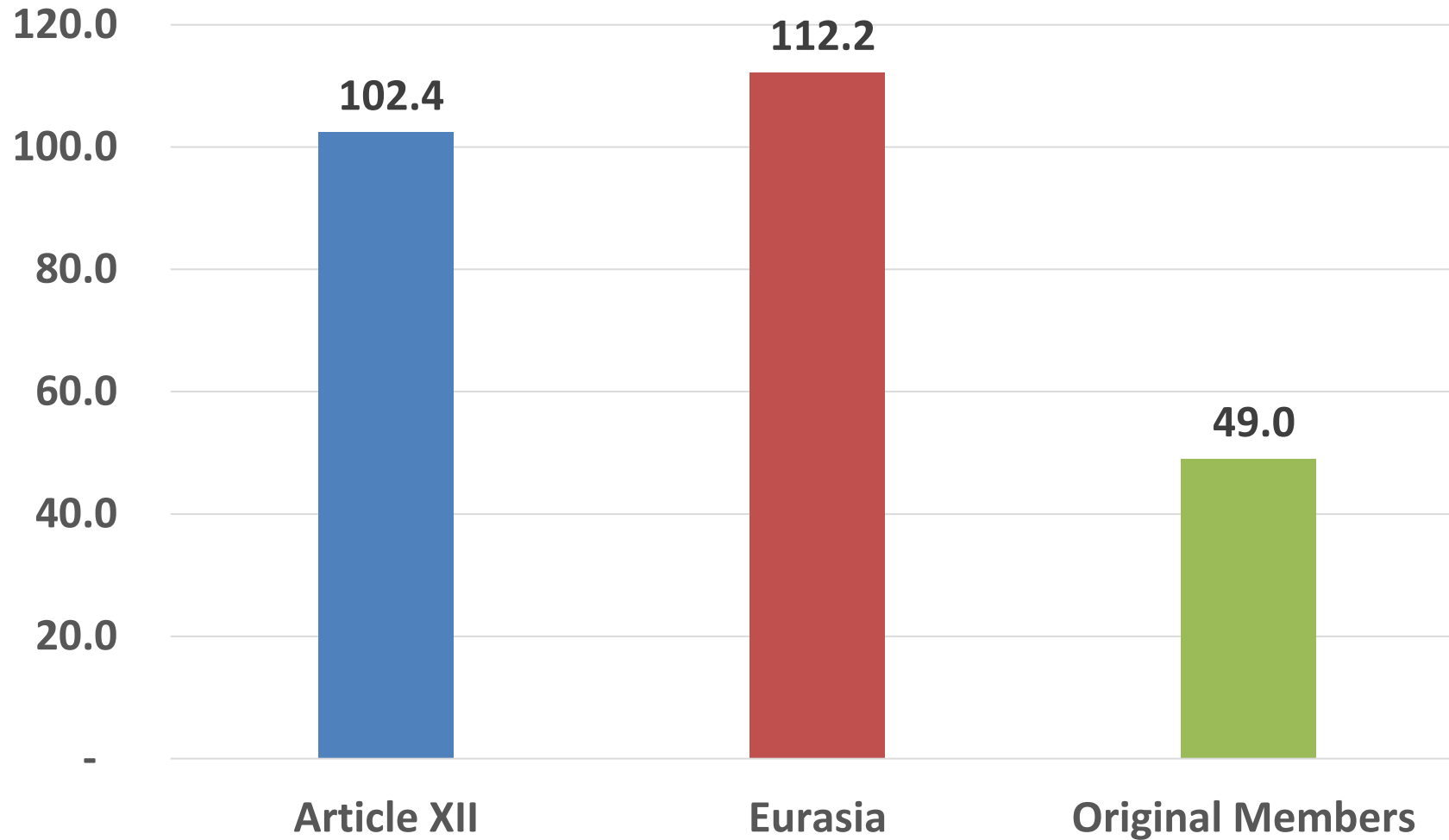
*AVE of all 36
accessions: 10 years
& 2 months*

Accession Results: Market Access on *Goods*



Note: The statistics on “Original Members” are based on the latest certified Consolidated Tariff Schedules database and therefore include rectifications and modifications (i.e. ITA, ITA expansion, renegotiations).

Accession Results: Market Access on *Services*



Note: The statistics on “Original Members” are based on the WTO’s I-TIP Services database and therefore include rectifications and modifications to the original schedules.

WTO Accessions of former Soviet Republics

No	Year of Membership	Article XII Member or Acceding Gov't	Year of Working Party Establishment	Duration of accession process	ECONOMIC PROFILE 2016		
					Population (millions)	GDP (billions USD)	GDP per Capita (USD)
1	1998	Kyrgyz Republic	1996	2yr.08m	6.1	6.5	1 148
2	1999	Latvia	1993	5yr.02m	2.0	27.7	14,460
3		Estonia	1994	5yr.08m	1.3	23.1	18 233
4	2000	Georgia	1996	3yr.11m	3.7	14.2	4,012
5	2001	Lithuania	1994	7yr.03m	2.9	42.7	15,254
6		Moldova	1993	7yr.07m	3.5	6.8	1,992
7	2003	Armenia	1993	9yr.02m	2.9	10.5	3,640
AVE. 1998 – 2003				5yr.09m			
8	2008	Ukraine	1993	14yr.05m	45.0	93.3	2,476
9	2012	Russian Federation	1993	19yr.01m	144.3	1,280.7	10,946
10	2013	Tajikistan	2001	11yr.08m	8.7	6.9	944
11	2015	Kazakhstan	1996	19yr.09m	17.8	133.8	10,170
AVE. 2008 - 2015				16yr.02m			
12	On-going	Belarus	1993	25 th year	9.5	48.8	6,465
13		Uzbekistan	1994	24 th year	31.8	66.5	2,100
14		Azerbaijan	1997	21 st year	9.8	37.6	5,790
15	Potential	Turkmenistan			5.5	37.3	7,538

Accession Results for former Soviet Republics

No	Article XII Member	Date of Membership	Goods – average final bound rate (%)			Goods - binding coverage (%)	Number of services sub-sectors	Number of commitment paragraphs
			All products	AG products	Non-AG products			
1	Kyrgyz Republic	20/12/1998	7.5	12.7	6.7	100	136	29
2	Latvia	10/02/1999	12.7	34.6	9.4	100	121	28
3	Estonia	13/11/1999	8.6	17.5	7.3	100	103	24
4	Georgia	14/06/2000	7.4	13.2	6.5	100	125	29
5	Lithuania	31/05/2001	9.3	15.2	8.4	100	110	22
6	Moldova	26/07/2001	7.0	14.1	5.9	100	147	28
7	Armenia	05/02/2003	8.5	14.7	7.6	100	106	39
AVE. 1998 - 2003		n.a.	8.7	17.4	7.4	100	121	28.4
8	Ukraine	16/05/2008	5.8	11.0	5.0	100	137	63
9	Russian Federation	22/08/2012	7.7	11.5	7.2	100	122	163
10	Tajikistan	02/03/2013	7.9	10.1	7.6	100	111	40
11	Kazakhstan	30/11/2015	6.1	7.6	5.9	100	116	118
AVE. 2008 – 2015		n.a.	6.9	10.1	6.4	100	122	96
AVE. 36 accessions		n.a.	13.9	20.3	12.9	100	102	42.1

WTO Accessions of the Balkans and Others in Eurasia

No	Year of Membership	Article XII Member or Acceding Gov't	Year of WP Establishment	Duration of accession process	ECONOMIC PROFILE 2017		
					Population (millions)	GDP (billions USD)	GDP per Capita (USD)
Balkan Accessions							
1	1996	Bulgaria	1986	10yr.01m	7.1	153.1	21,700
2	2000	Albania	1992	7yr.09m	3.1	35.97	12,500
3	2000	Croatia	1993	7yr.01m	4.2	101.3	24,400
4	2003	FYR of Macedonia	1994	8yr.04m	2.1	30.9	14,900
5	2012	Montenegro	2005	7yr.02m	0.6	11.05	17,700
6	On-going	Serbia	2005	13 th year	7.1	105.5	15,000
7		Bosnia & Herzegovina	1999	19 th year	3.8	44.6	12,700
Other Eurasian Accessions							
1	1997	Mongolia	1991	5yr.03m	3.1	39.7	13,000
2	2001	China	1987	14yr.09m	1.4	23.16 trillion	16,700
3	2016	Afghanistan	2004	11yr.07m	34.1	69.55	2,000
4	On-going	Iran	2005	13 th year	5.5	37.3	7,538

Accession Results for Balkans and Others in Eurasia

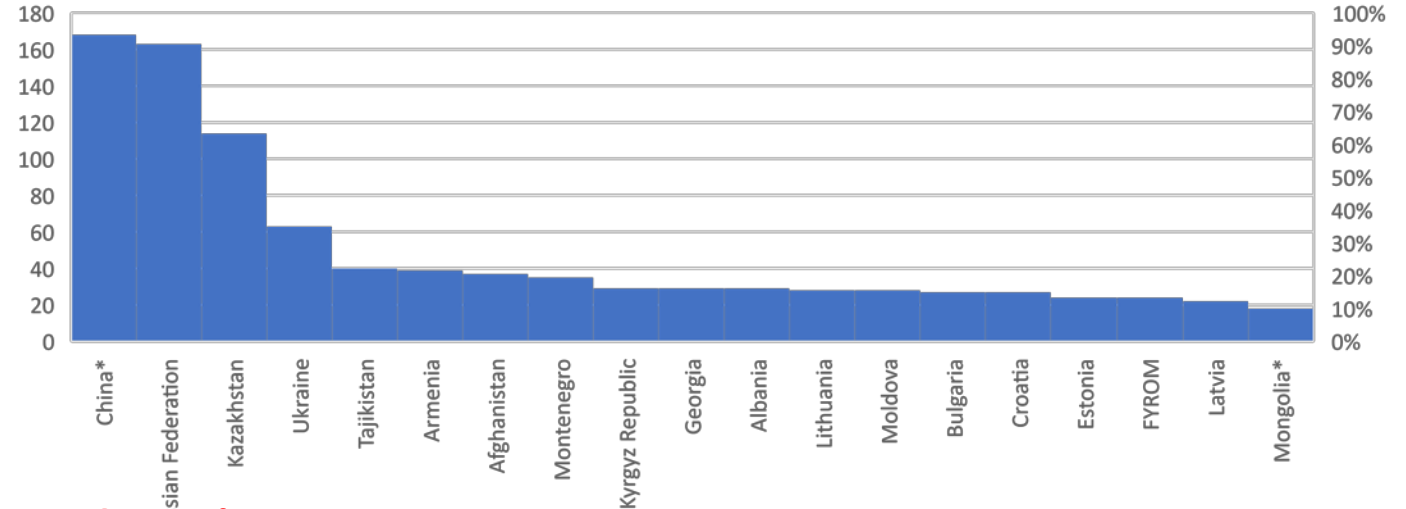
No	Article XII Member	Date of Membership	Goods – average final bound rate (%)			Goods - binding coverage (%)	Number of services sub- sectors	Number of commitment paragraphs
			All products	AG products	Non-AG products			
Balkan Accessions								
1	Bulgaria	01/12/1996	25.0	35.4	23.6	100	80	27
2	Albania	08/09/2000	7.0	9.5	6.6	100	108	29
3	Croatia	30/11/2000	6.3	11.5	5.5	100	127	27
4	FYR of Macedonia	04/05/2003	7.2	13.1	6.3	100	116	24
5	Montenegro	29/05/2012	5.1	10.8	4.3	100	132	35
Other Accessions in Eurasia								
1	Mongolia	29/01/1997	17.5	18.9	17.3	100	37	17 (+1)
2	China	11/12/2001	10.0	15.7	9.2	100	93	144 (+24)
3	Afghanistan	29/07/2016	13.5	33.6	10.3	96.7	104	37
AVE. 36 accessions		n.a.	13.9	20.3	12.9	99.9	102	42.1
AVE. Original members		n.a	45.5	65.4	34.0	74.0	49	n.a

WTO Accessions Results: Rules

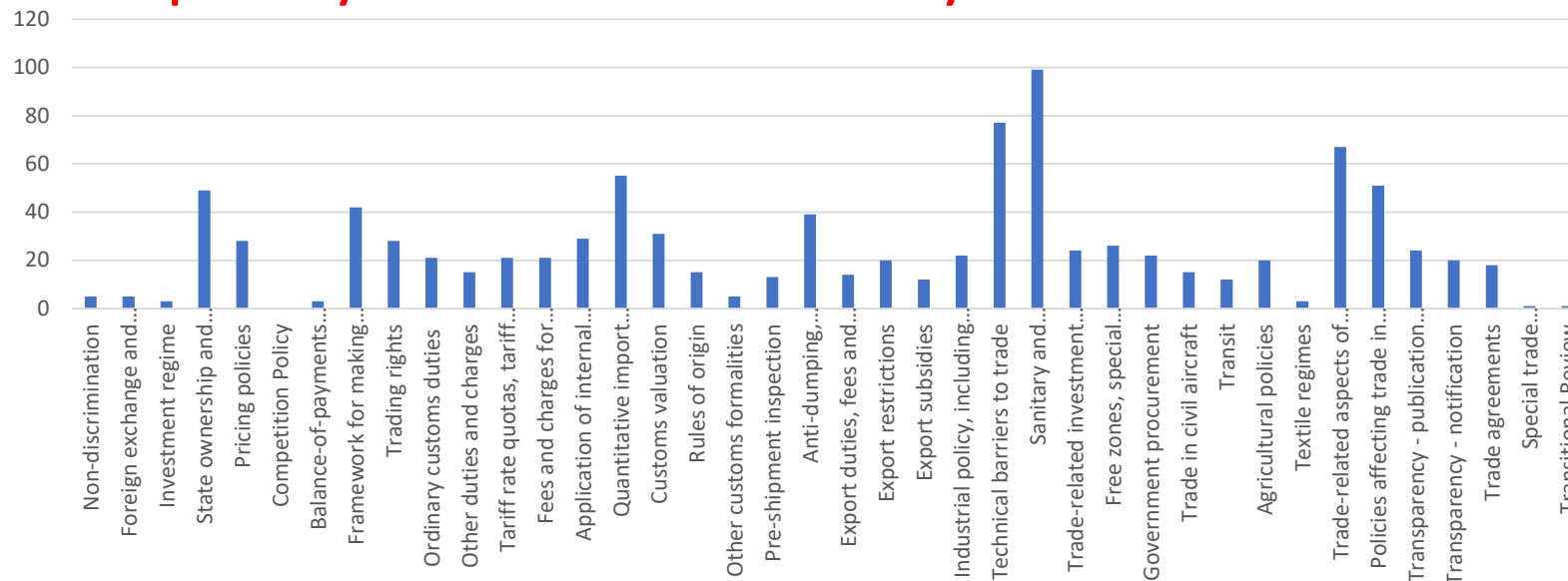
• Specificities:

- Bigger of number commitments in complex accessions
- More detailed commitments
- Supranational element:
 - CU/EAEU members
- “WTO-plus” commitments

Number of Commitments



Frequency of commitments by WPR Section:

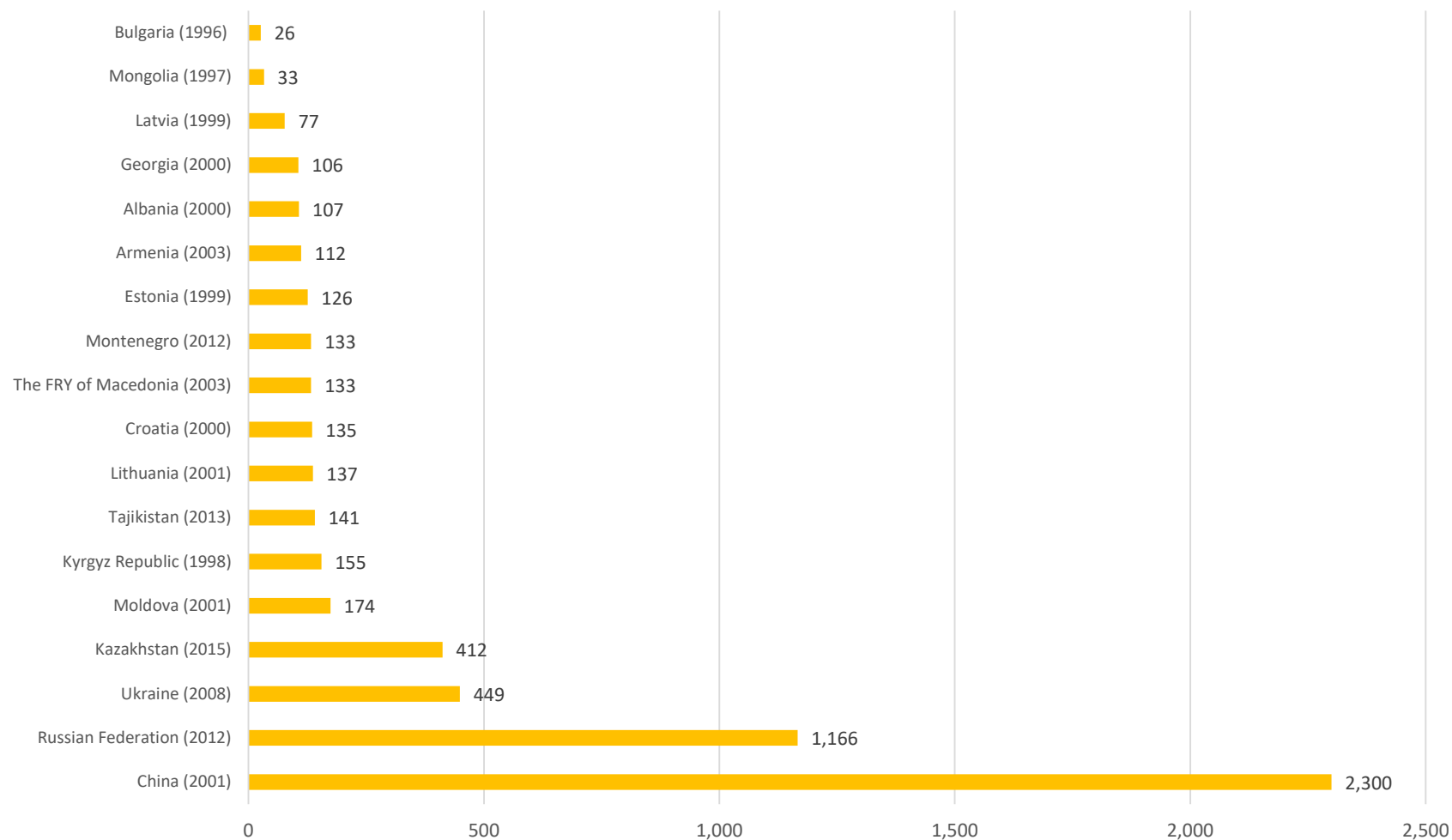


* Including commitments in the Accession Protocol

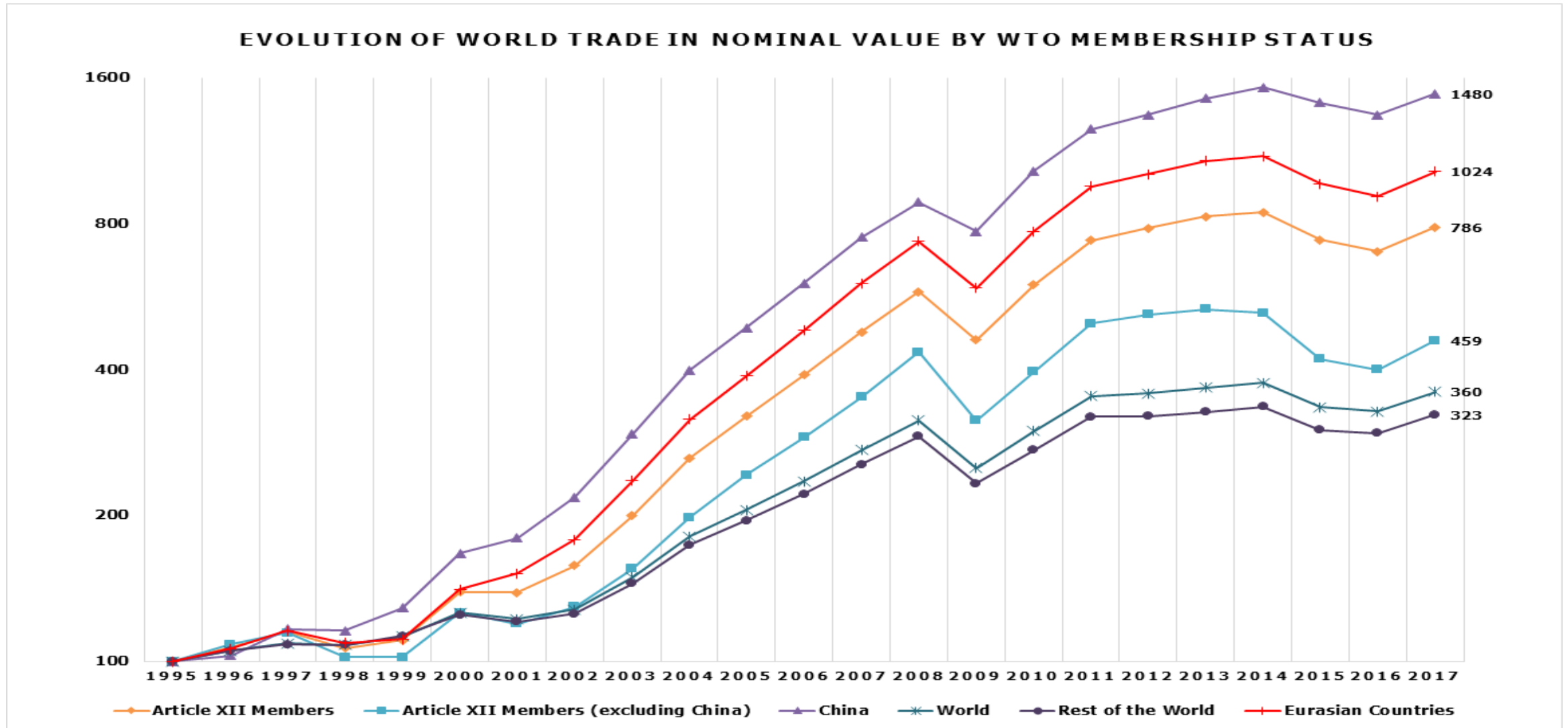
• Areas of focus:

- Privatization, STEs/SOEs
- Taxes, fees and charges
- Export Regulations
- SPS / TBT
- Subsidies, TRIMs
- Trade in Services
- Transit

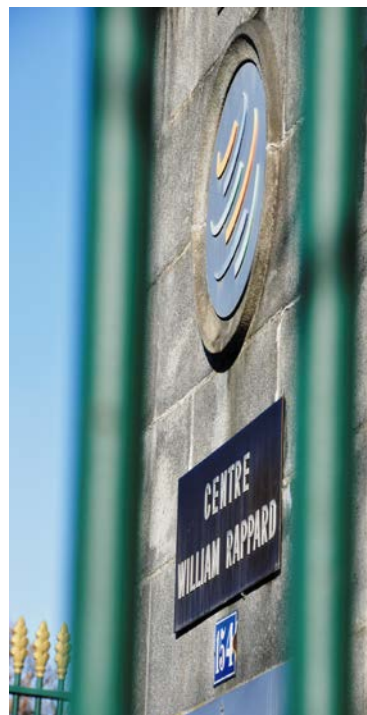
Legislation enacted during Accession



Accession Results: Trade Performance

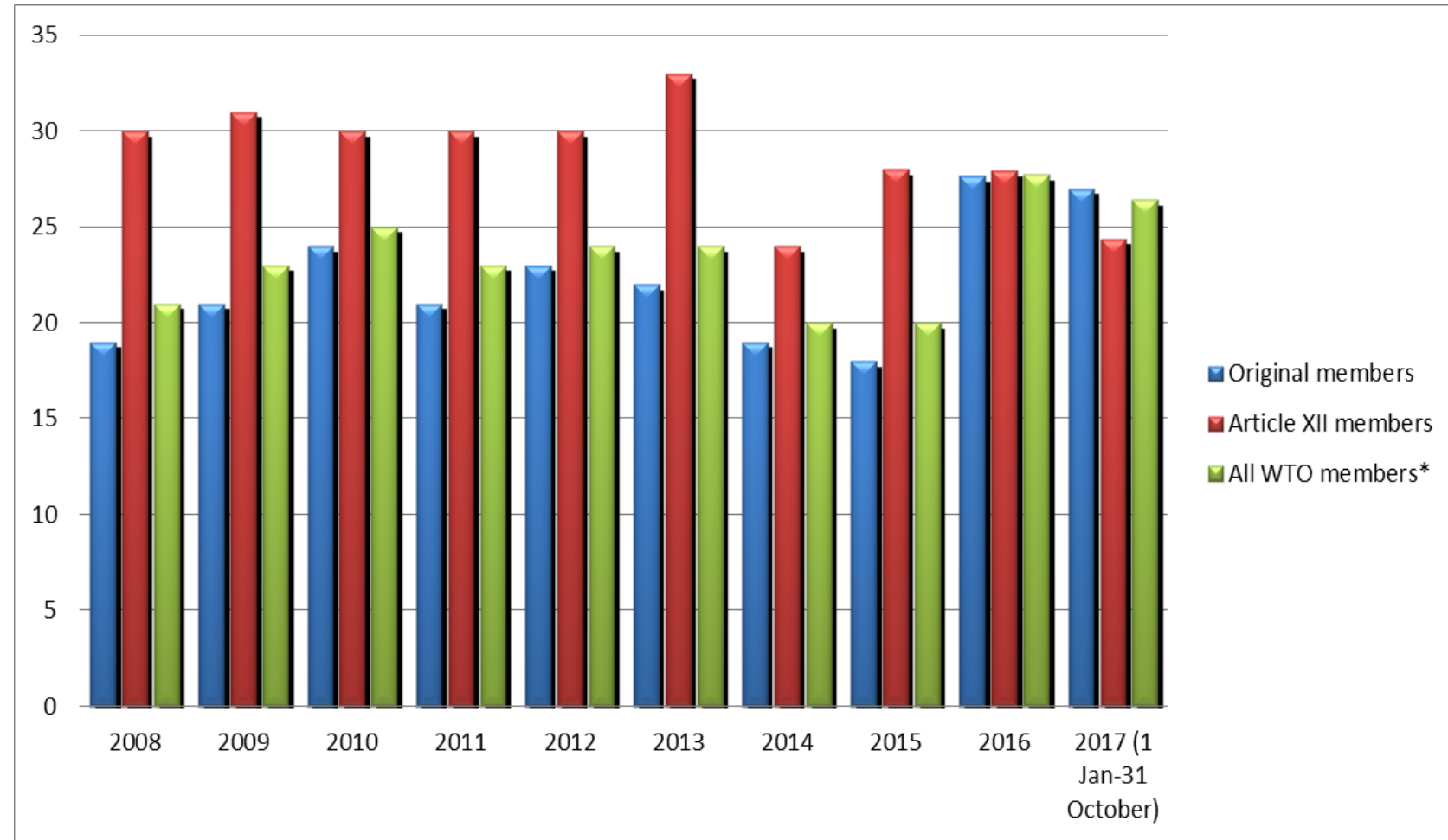


Post-Accession – Participation of Eurasian XII Members in the work of WTO



Post-Accession: Transparency

- All acceding governments, including from Eurasia, undertook commitments on “**Transparency**”, confirming:
 - ✓ To **publish** information on trade; and,
 - ✓ To **notify** the trade regime and new trade measures to the WTO Members.
- Overall, Article XII Members have good records of notifications among all WTO members



Average annual notifications

*This includes Original Members and Article XII Members.
Source: WTO Notifications database

Post-Accession: Dispute Settlement

- **35 disputes** cite Accession Protocols in the request for consultations
- **One-third (1/3) of Article XII Members** have been either complainant or respondent in a dispute settlement case
- **Eurasian members** are active users of in the Dispute Settlement system (left)
- **Eurasian members** have also been third parties to dispute settlement cases (right)

No.	Member	As complainant	As respondent
1	Armenia		1 dispute
2	China	19 disputes	42 disputes
3	Croatia		1 dispute
4	Kazakhstan		1 dispute
5	Moldova	1 dispute	1 dispute
6	Russian Fed.	7 disputes	8 disputes
7	Ukraine	7 disputes	4 disputes

No.	Member	Number of disputes
1	Afghanistan	1 dispute
2	China	149 disputes
3	Kazakhstan	15 disputes
4	Moldova	3 disputes
5	Russian Federation	47 disputes
6	Ukraine	19 disputes

Post-Accession: Participation in plurilateral agreements

Article XII Members with GPA commitments	GPA Parties	GPA Observers	GPA Accession Negotiations
Bulgaria, Mongolia, Panama, Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Estonia, Jordan, Georgia, Albania, Oman, Croatia, Lithuania, Moldova, China, Chinese Taipei, Armenia, FYR of Macedonia, Saudi Arabia, Viet Nam, Ukraine, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Seychelles, Kazakhstan, Afghanistan	Bulgaria (2007) Latvia (2004) Estonia (2004) Croatia (2013) Lithuania (2004) Chinese Taipei (2009) Armenia (2011/15) Moldova (2016) Montenegro (2015) Ukraine (2016)	Mongolia (1999) Panama (1997) Kyrgyz Republic (1999) Jordan (2000) Georgia (1999) Albania (2001) Oman (2001) China (2002) Saudi Arabia (2007) Vietnam (2012) FYR of Macedonia (2013) Russian Federation (2013) Tajikistan (2014) Kazakhstan (2016) Afghanistan (2017) Belarus - observer (2018)	Kyrgyz Republic (1999) Georgia (1999) Jordan (2000) Albania (2001) Oman (2001) China (2002) FYR of Macedonia (2013) Russian Federation (2013) Tajikistan (2014)
26, including all Eurasian accessions, out of 36 Article XII Members	6 out of 19 GPA Parties	16 out of 32 GPA Observers	9 out of 10 GPA Accessions

Post-Accession: Participation in joint initiatives

At MC11, Article XII Members from Eurasia joined the Joint Initiatives in:

✓ Micro-, Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs);

✓ Investment Facilitation for Development;

✓ Electronic commerce;

No.	Member	MSMEs	Investment Facilitation for Development	Electronic Commerce
1	Afghanistan	✓		
2	Albania	✓		✓
3	Armenia			
4	China	✓	✓	
5	Georgia			
6	Kazakhstan	✓	✓	✓
7	Kyrgyz Republic	✓	✓	
8	FYR of Macedonia	✓		✓
9	Moldova	✓	✓	✓
10	Mongolia			
11	Montenegro	✓	✓	✓
12	Russian Federation	✓	✓	✓
13	Tajikistan		✓	
14	Ukraine			✓
15	Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania as part of EU-28	✓	✓	✓
Total number of Joint Initiative participants		88 Members	70 Members	72 Members

Post-Accession: Chairmanship of WTO Bodies

Year	Committee	Chairperson	Originating from Article XII Member
2013	Council for TRIPS	Amb. Suescum	Panama
	SS TRIPS	Amb. Suescum Ad interim	Panama
	Committee on Import Licensing	Mr. Lu	China
	Council for Trade in Services	Amb. Al-Otaibi	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
	Committee on Safeguards	Mr. Ni	Chinese Taipei
	Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr. Fang	Chinese Taipei
	Committee on Import Licensing	Mr. Lu	China
	Working Party on State Trading Enterprises	Mr. Jimenez Torres	Ecuador
2014	Committee on Rules of Origin	Mr. Chen	Chinese Taipei
	Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology	Amb. Al-Otaibi	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
	Working Party on GATS Rules	Mr. Almoqbel	Saudi Arabia
	Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr. Wu	Chinese Taipei
	Working Party on State Trading Enterprises	Mr. Al-Saadi	Oman
2015	Council for Trade in Goods	Amb. Paparizov	Bulgaria
	Trade Policy Review Body	Amb. Paparizov	Bulgaria
	Committee on Customs Valuation	Mr. Liu	China
	Committee on Import Licensing	Miss Wu	Chinese Taipei
	Council for TRIPS	Amb. Al-Otaibi	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
	Committee on Trade in Financial Services	Ms. Maha Gabbani	Saudi Arabia
	Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr. Wu	Chinese Taipei
	Committee on Customs Valuation	Mr. Liu	China
	Committee on TRIMS	Mr. Al-Qatarneh	Jordan

Year	Committee	Chairperson	Originating from Article XII Member
2016	Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration	Amb. Ernstsone	Latvia
	Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance	Amb. Paparizov	Bulgaria
	Committee on Rules of Origin	Mr. Chang	Chinese Taipei
	Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr. Wu	Chinese Taipei
	Committee on Safeguards	Mr. Chen	China
	Committee on Specific Commitments	Mr. Han	China
2017	Committee on Trade and Environment	Amb. Aitzhanova	Kazakhstan
	Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions	Amb. Ulianovschi	Moldova
	Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology	Amb. Marić-Djordjević	Montenegro
	Committee on Import Licensing	Mr. Almuballi	Saudi Arabia
	Working Party on GATS Rules	Ms. Wu	Chinese Taipei
	Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr. Wu	Chinese Taipei
	Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	Ms. Baršauskaite	Lithuania
	Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices	Mr. Al-Nabhani	Oman
2018	Committee on Trade and Environment	Amb. Ms. Zhanar Aitzhanova	Kazakhstan
	Council for Trade in Services		
	Committee on Trade and Development	Amb. Mr. Diego Aulestia	Ecuador
	Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions	Amb. Mr. Tudor Ulianovschi	Moldova
	Committee on Trade Facilitation	Ms. Dalia Kadišiene	Lithuania
	Committee on Specific Commitments (subsidiary body of the Council for Trade in Services)	Mr. M. Nurbek Maksutov	Kyrgyz Republic
	Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Mr. Hsiao-Yin WU	Chinese Taipei

Post-Accession: Chairmanship of Accession Working Parties

WORKING PARTY ON THE ACCESSION OF:	CHAIRPERSON	FROM ARTICLE XII MEMBER:
<i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>	Ambassador Mr Atanas Papanizov	Bulgaria
<i>Lao People's Democratic Republic</i>	(1) Ambassador Yi Xiaozhun (2) Dr ZHANG Xiangchen	China
<i>Tajikistan</i>	Ambassador Mr Clyde Kull	Estonia



- **Chairing Working Parties** on the Accession of future Members

Post-Accession: Leadership and Contributions to the MTS

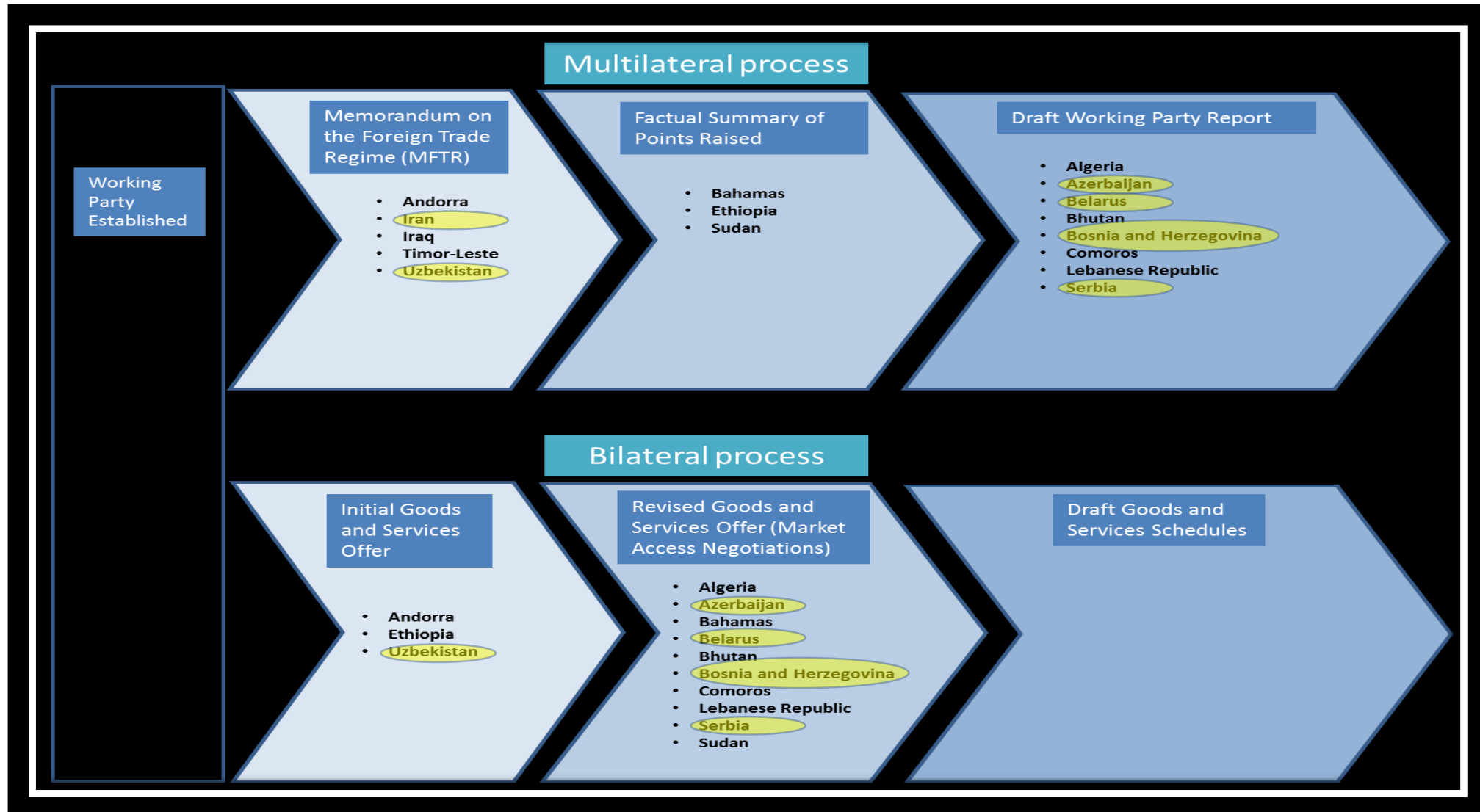


MC 12 to be hosted by **Kazakhstan**
g7+ WTO Accessions Group coordinated by
Afghanistan

Estonia and **Lithuania** contributing to
the **Global Trust Fund**
Kazakhstan hosting the **WTO Regional Trade Policy**
Course for CEECAC Region
China Programme - Accessions Interns, Round
Tables, TPR Follow-Ups, etc.



State of Play in Remaining Accessions in Eurasia



Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- ✓ WP Establishment: 15 July 1999
- ✓ WP Chair: Amb. Atanas Papparizov (Bulgaria)
- ✓ 13 WPMs to date: last meeting in Feb. 2018
- ✓ Recently, concluded bilateral negotiations with Brazil and the US

Next steps:

- Conclusion of outstanding bilateral market access negotiations
- Finalisation of the draft Working Party Report
- Final WPM by end of 2018?

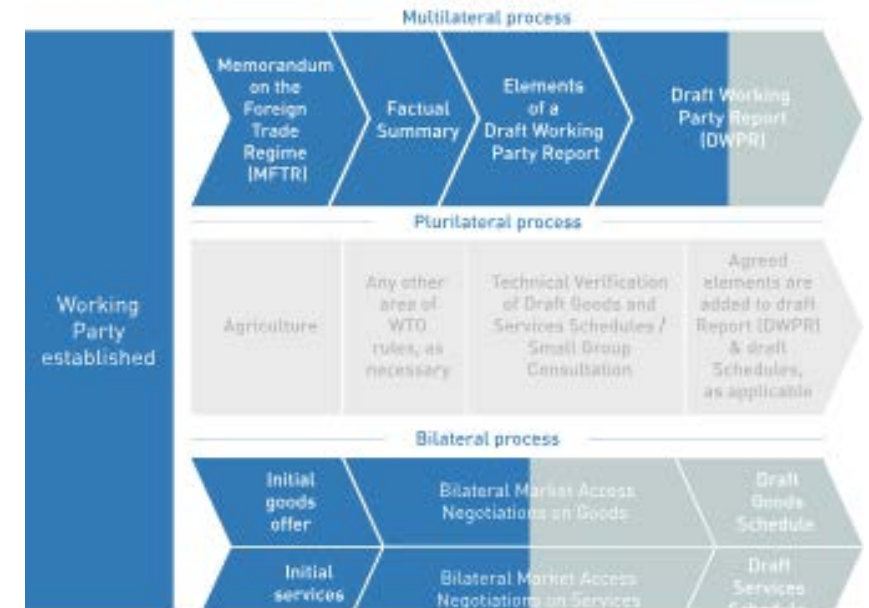


Serbia:

- ✓ WP Establishment: 15 February 2005
- ✓ WP Chair: Amb. Marie-Claire Swärd Capra (Sweden)
- ✓ 13 WPMs to date – last WPM in June 2013
- ✓ Letter from the Prime Minister to the WTO DG, indicating the commitment to resume with a view to an early conclusion
- ✓ Secretariat's missions to Belgrade, May & July 2018

Next steps:

- Circulation of updated documents (AGST, LAP & DWPR)
- Resumption of bilateral market access negotiations
- 14WPM in fall 2018?

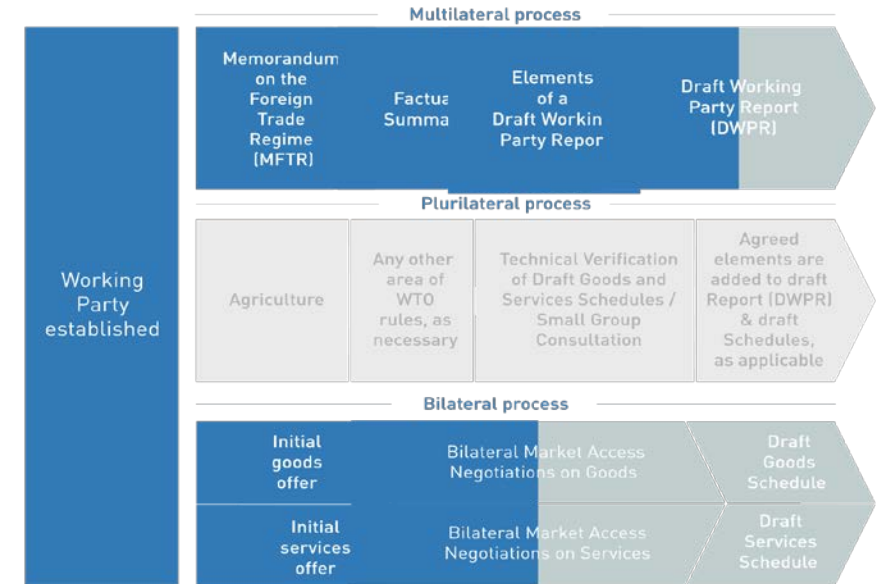


Belarus

- ✓ WP Establishment: 1993
- ✓ WP Chair: Amb. Kemal Madenoğlu (Turkey)
- ✓ No formal WPMs between 2005 and 2016 (only informals)
- ✓ Resumption in 2017: 8WPM in January 2017; 9WPM in September 2017, and most recently 10WPM in May 2018
- ✓ Market Access: 18 bilateral agreements concluded, to date

Next steps:

- Preparation for 11WPM in early 2019
- Conclusion of bilateral market access negotiations

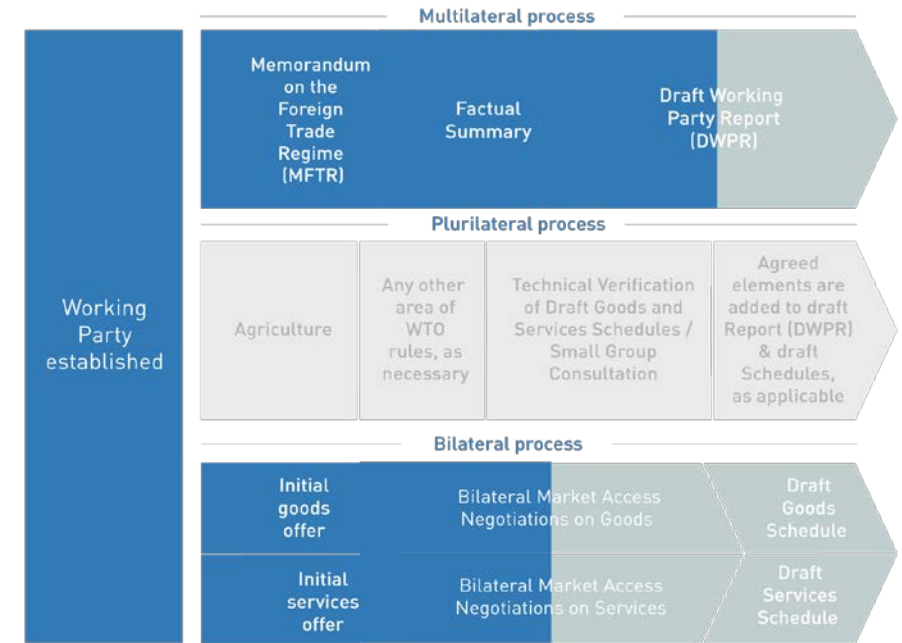


Azerbaijan

- ✓ WP Establishment: 1997
- ✓ WP Chair: Amb. Walter Werner (Germany)
- ✓ 14 WPMs to date: last WPM held in July 2017
- ✓ Chair's visit: June 2018

Next steps:

- Circulation of updated negotiating inputs (Q&As, LAP, DWPR)
- Conclusion of bilateral market access negotiations
- 15WPM in 2019?

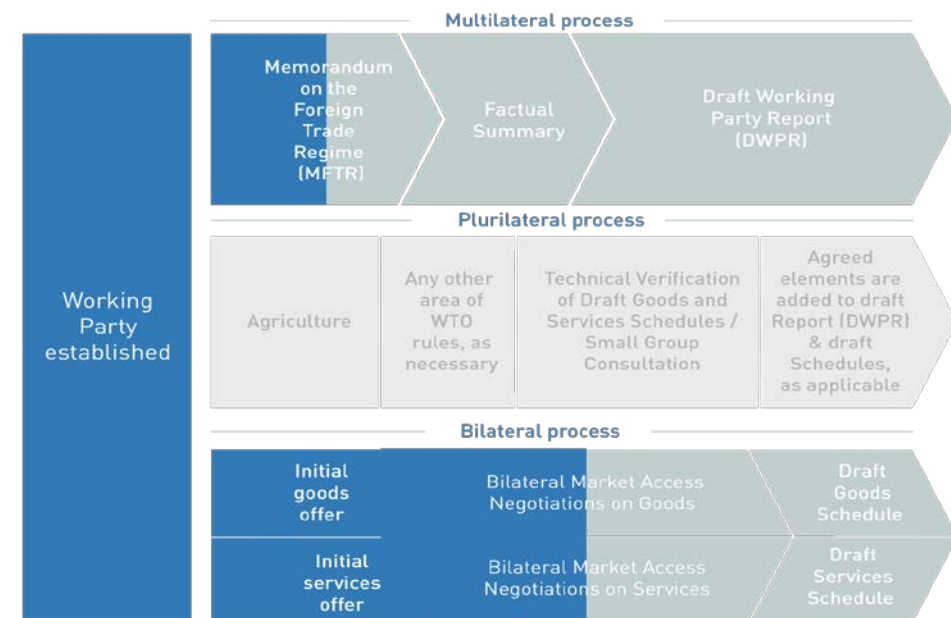


Uzbekistan

- ✓ WP Establishment: 1994
- ✓ WP Chair: Amb. PAIK Ji-ah (Korea)
- ✓ 3 WPMs held to date: no activity since 2005
- ✓ March 2018: Minister's letter to the DG, conveying the Government's decision to resume the accession process
- ✓ Secretariat's visit to Tashkent: May 2018

Next steps:

- Submission of a full set of updated documentation (MFTR, LAP, MA offers, all questionnaires and checklists, legislation)
- 4WPM in 2019

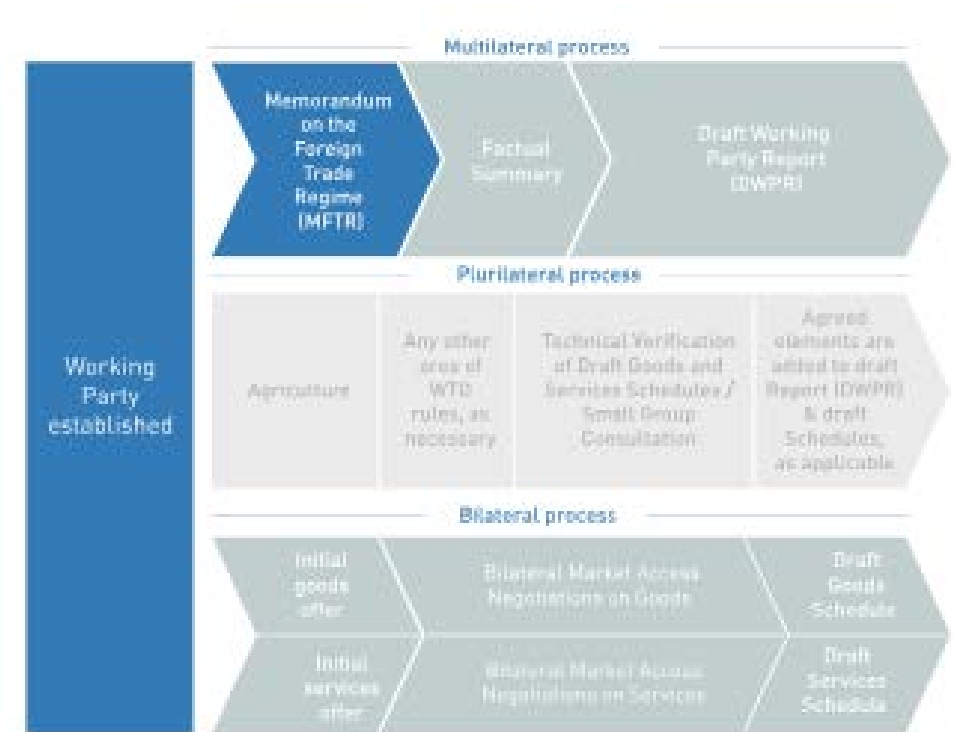


Iran

- ✓ WP Establishment: 2005
- ✓ WP Chair: under consultation
- ✓ No WPM held to date

Next steps:

- Consultation on WP Chairmanship
- Preparation of updated documentation



ANNUAL REPORT

WTO ACCESSIONS

2017

Annual Report by the Director-General



Trade Multilateralism in the Twenty-First Century Building the Upper Floors of the Trading System Through WTO Accessions

Edited by Alexei Kireyev and Chiedu Osakwe



CAMBRIDGE



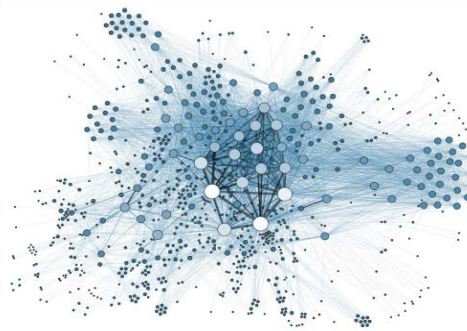
A Handbook on Accession to the WTO

Peter John Williams



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N° 87 — August 2018 — Summer Edition

WTO ACCESSIONS NEWSLETTER

...subsidizing, enlarging and strengthening the rules-based multilateral trading system

WTO Accessions Developments – Secretariat Report to Members

2018 Strategic Focus



Accessions Strategic Objectives
On 26 July, the Secretariat released its 2018 Strategic Focus. The report outlines the Secretariat's priorities for the year, including the accession of new members to the WTO. The report also highlights the Secretariat's efforts to support existing members and to promote the benefits of the multilateral trading system.



State of Play – LDCs
On 26 July, the Secretariat released its 2018 Strategic Focus. The report outlines the Secretariat's priorities for the year, including the accession of new members to the WTO. The report also highlights the Secretariat's efforts to support existing members and to promote the benefits of the multilateral trading system.



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Accessions Division with Mr. Arif Hussain,
former Director (1995-2008)
17 September 2018

Accessions Division with Mr. Chiedu Osakwe,
former Director (2009-2016)
19 April 2018

