

Global Business Statement

A call to revitalise the multilateral trading system at **MC14**



We, the undersigned business organisations from across the world, urge Ministers at the 14th Ministerial Conference (MC14) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to adopt a reform plan to revitalise the global trading system.

For 30 years, the WTO has provided the stability and predictability that enable businesses of all sizes to trade, invest, and create jobs around the globe. Its 166 Members represent 98% of global trade, and its rules underpin everything from customs procedures and product standards to intellectual property. Businesses rely on this framework every day to facilitate cross border flows of goods and services and operate with predictability in global markets.¹

Today, that foundation is under unprecedented strain. The rise of unilateralism, protectionism, and the inability of the WTO to address the challenges of the 21st century and level the playing field have undermined confidence in the global trading system. Analysis by Oxford Economics commissioned by ICC shows that the loss of a functioning WTO could permanently reduce developing economy GDP by over 5 percent. No country would be spared.²

Fragmentation is already a reality. The proliferation of regional and bilateral trade agreements has created a “spaghetti bowl” of overlapping rules that raise costs and uncertainty for business, particularly for MSMEs. These agreements facilitate commerce among subsets of countries, but they cannot replace a coherent and interoperable global trading system. International business needs a strong, reformed WTO to ensure the consistency and scale needed for trade to work for everyone.

MC14 offers a historic opportunity to meet this demand. We call on Ministers to **launch a time-bound reform round** of negotiations that restores the WTO’s capacity to negotiate, deliberate, and settle disputes, ensuring the global system remains relevant to twenty-first-century trade realities. If consensus is elusive, a coalition of willing Members should lead the way forward. Such reform must deliver tangible economic benefits: restoring business confidence, encouraging investment, strengthening competitiveness and creating jobs. Reform must allow plurilateral coalitions of WTO members to negotiate and implement agreements on new issues. It must also ensure structured private sector engagement as an integral part of the reform process, leveraging the expertise of businesses as the end users of the trading system. Above all, it must ensure that micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), the backbone of every economy, can trade and grow under stable, predictable, and transparent global rules.

As an immediate confidence-building step, we also urge WTO Members to commit to a standstill, refraining from any restrictive trade measures during reform negotiations and **renew the Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmissions**. Allowing the moratorium to lapse would inject new uncertainty into global markets and risk fragmenting digital trade just as e-commerce is enabling MSMEs to reach new markets.

Business stands ready to support governments in building a stronger, more transparent, and more predictable trading system, one that empowers enterprises to invest, creates employment, and drives prosperity in every economy.

Now is the time for leadership to revitalise the system that safeguards opportunity, jobs, and growth worldwide.

¹ [ICC \(2025\), The WTO's hidden value How the multilateral trading system delivers for business beyond tariffs](#)

² [ICC-Oxford Economics \(2025\), The impact on developing economies of WTO dissolution](#)

Sincerely,

- 1 International Chamber of Commerce
- 2 Advertising Association
- 3 Africa ICT Alliance - AfICTA
- 4 Ajman Chamber
- 5 Alaşehir Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 6 Alberta Chambers of Commerce
- 7 Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
- 8 American Chamber of Commerce - Qatar
- 9 Amman Chamber of Industry (ACI)
- 10 Antalya Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 11 Antalya Commodity Exchange
- 12 Argentine Chamber of Commerce and Services
- 13 Asociación Costarricense de la Cámara de Comercio Internacional
- 14 Asociación Mexicana de Agentes de Carga A.C.
- 15 Association for Competitive Technology
- 16 Association of South African Chambers
- 17 Associazione Italiana Commercio Estero - Italian Association of Foreign Trade (AICE)
- 18 Associazione Nazionale Centri di Assistenza Doganale (ASSOCAD)
- 19 Associazione Siciliana Operatori Spedizioni e Logistica
- 20 Athlone Chamber of Commerce
- 21 Auckland Business Chamber
- 22 Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 23 Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKÖ)
- 24 Aydin Chamber of Industry
- 25 Aydin Commodity Exchange
- 26 Aydın ticaret odası
- 27 Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 28 Ballyhaunis Chamber
- 29 Bandırma Ticaret Borsası
- 30 Bangladesh Association of Banks
- 31 Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA)
- 32 Barcelona Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Services and Navigation
- 33 Batman Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 34 Belgian Chambers
- 35 Board of Trade of Thailand

- 36 Bogotá Chamber of Commerce
- 37 Border-Kei Chamber of Business
- 38 Borderless Alliance
- 39 Bremen Chamber of Commerce - CCI for Bremen and Bremerhaven
- 40 British Chambers of Commerce
- 41 BusinessEurope
- 42 CAINCO Cámara de Industria Comercio Servicios y Turismo
- 43 Cámara de Comercio Exterior de Santa Fe
- 44 Cámara de Comercio, Industrias y Agricultura de Panamá
- 45 Cámara Nacional de Comercio, Servicios y Turismo de la Ciudad de México
- 46 Camera di commercio e dell'industria del cantone Ticino
- 47 Camera di Commercio Industria Artigianato e Agricoltura di Genova
- 48 Camera di Commercio Industria Artigianato e Agricoltura Riviere di Liguria
- 49 Camera di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura di Torino
- 50 Canadian Chamber of Commerce
- 51 Çanakkale Commodity Exchange
- 52 Çarşamba Ticaret Borsası
- 53 CCI Aix Marseille Provence
- 54 CCI Tuniso Française
- 55 Çerkezköy Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 56 Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Berlin
- 57 Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Southern Sweden
- 58 Chamber of Commerce of Spain
- 59 Chambre de Commerce et de l'Industrie du Burkina Faso (CCI-BF)
- 60 Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Sfax
- 61 Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie du Bénin
- 62 Chambre de commerce et d'industrie Paris Île-de-France
- 63 China Chamber of International Commerce
- 64 Circle of Global Business Women
- 65 Coalition of Services Industries
- 66 Computer & Communications Industry Association
- 67 Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI)
- 68 Confederation of Danish Industry
- 69 Confederation of Egyptian European Business Associations
- 70 Confederation of Swedish Enterprise
- 71 Confederazione Generale Italiana dei Trasporti e della Logistica (CONFETRA)
- 72 Consumer Technology Association (CTA)

- 73 Çorlu Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 74 Çorlu Ticaret Borsası
- 75 Council of Polish Global Entrepreneurs
- 76 County Carlow Chamber of Commerce
- 77 County Tipperary Chamber
- 78 County Wexford Chamber
- 79 Credimpex Italia
- 80 Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts
- 81 CropLife International
- 82 Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 83 Denizli Chamber of Industry
- 84 Denizli Commodity Exchange
- 85 Diyarbakır Ticaret Borsası
- 86 Drogheda and District Chamber
- 87 Dublin Chamber, Ireland
- 88 Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber
- 89 Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 90 East Sweden Chamber of Commerce / Östsvenska handelskammaren
- 91 Ekiti Chambers of commerce industry mines and Agriculture
- 92 Emirdağ Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 93 Eurochambres
- 94 European Services Forum
- 95 evofenedex
- 96 Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce
- 97 Federation of Enterprises in Belgium
- 98 Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce
- 99 Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (FPCCIA)
- 100 Federation of Small Businesses
- 101 Fethiye Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası - Fethiye Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 102 Fingal Chamber
- 103 Finland Chamber of Commerce
- 104 France Chimie
- 105 Fulda Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IHK Fulda)
- 106 Galway Chamber
- 107 Geneva Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Services
- 108 German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DIHK)
- 109 Global Shipping Business Network Limited

- 110 Handelskammaren Värmland
- 111 Handelskammer Hamburg - Hamburg Chamber of Commerce
- 112 Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 113 IHK Darmstadt Rhein Main Neckar
- 114 IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 115 Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)
- 116 Industrie- und Handelskammer zu Koblenz
- 117 Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
- 118 Iskenderun Commodity Exchange
- 119 Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development
- 120 Istanbul Chamber of Commerce
- 121 Italian Chamber of Commerce in Argentina
- 122 İzmir Chamber of Commerce
- 123 İzmir Commodity Exchange
- 124 Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 125 Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 126 Kayseri Chamber of Industry
- 127 Kayseri Commodity Exchange
- 128 Kayseri Ticaret Odasi
- 129 Keidanren - Japan Business Federation
- 130 Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI)
- 131 Keşan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 132 Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce
- 133 Kocaeli Chamber of Commerce
- 134 Kocaeli Chamber of Industry
- 135 Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 136 Kosovo Chamber of Commerce
- 137 Kozan Commodity Of Exchange
- 138 Krajowa Izba Gospodarcza Elektroniki i Telekomunikacji
- 139 Krajowe Zrzeszenie Producentów Rzepaku i Roślin Białkowych (KZPRiRB)
- 140 Kütahya Ticaret Borsasi
- 141 l'Afep (Association of large French companies)
- 142 Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI)
- 143 Laois Chamber Alliance
- 144 Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 145 Leathergoods And Footwear Manufacturers & Exporters Association of Bangladesh (LFMEAB)
- 146 Lima Chamber of Commerce

- 147 Make UK
- 148 Malkara Commodity Exchange
- 149 Middelburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 150 Morang Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 151 Mouvement des Entreprises de France (MEDEF)
- 152 National Association of Business Women Malawi
- 153 National Clothing Retail Federation (NCRF) of South Africa
- 154 National Federation of International Freight Forwarding Companies - Fedespedi
- 155 National Federation of Poultry Breeders and Egg Producers
- 156 National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC)
- 157 National Poultry Council – Chamber of Commerce
- 158 NECA's network of Entrepreneurial Women
- 159 New Zealand Chambers of Commerce
- 160 Norrbotten Chamber of Commerce
- 161 Northern KZN Chamber of Business
- 162 Nuremberg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 163 Organisation of Women in International Trade
- 164 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Ghana
- 165 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Lake Geneva - Switzerland
- 166 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Lilongwe
- 167 Organisation of Women in International Trade (OWIT) Nigeria
- 168 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Zimbabwe
- 169 Organisation of Women in International Trade, UK Chapter
- 170 Organization of Women in International Trade - Ottawa Chapter (OWIT-Ottawa)
- 171 Organization of Women in International Trade Brussels powered by IBA
- 172 Oslo Chamber of Commerce
- 173 Oudtshoorn Business Chamber
- 174 Pacific Basin Economic Council Limited
- 175 Papua New Guinea Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 176 Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 177 Pietermaritzburg & Midlands Chamber of Business
- 178 Polish Agricultural Federation (Polska Federacja Rolna)
- 179 Polish Association of Beef Cattle Breeders and Producers
- 180 Polish Chamber of Commerce
- 181 Polish Confederation Lewiatan
- 182 Polish-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce
- 183 Polski Związek Hodowców i Producentów Trzody Chlewnej (POLSUS)

- 184 Portuguese Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 185 Qatar Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- 186 Republic of Cameroon - Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Crafts
- 187 Samsun Ticaret Borsası
- 188 Samsun Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 189 Sanliurfa Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 190 Santa Catarina Industry Federation
- 191 Santiago Chamber of Commerce
- 192 scienceindustries - Swiss Business Association of Chemistry Pharma Life Sciences
- 193 Scottish Chambers of Commerce
- 194 Singapore Business Federation
- 195 Sivas Commodity Exchange
- 196 Sligo Chamber of Commerce
- 197 Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 198 Söke Commodity Exchange
- 199 South Dublin Chamber
- 200 Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce
- 201 Stockholm Chamber of Commerce
- 202 Tarsus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 203 Tatvan Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 204 Technology Industries of Sweden
- 205 Technology Trade Regulation Alliance (TTRA)
- 206 Tekirdag Ticaret Borsasi
- 207 Tekirdağ Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 208 The African Chamber of Trade and Commerce (ACC)
- 209 The Chambers of Commerce of Ireland
- 210 The Croatian Chamber of Economy
- 211 The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI)
- 212 The Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand (JFCCT)
- 213 The National Association of Employers – Pig Producers POLPIG
- 214 The Netherlands Polish Chamber of Commerce
- 215 The Thai Chamber of Commerce
- 216 The Youth Cafe (TYC)
- 217 Trade Partners Sweden
- 218 Türkiye Odalar ve Borsalar Birliği
- 219 U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- 220 Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

- 221 Union of African Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Agriculture and Professions
- 222 Union of Arab Chambers
- 223 Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises (BUSINESSMED)
- 224 US Council for International Business
- 225 Van Ticaret Borsasi
- 226 Vasterbotten Chamber of Commerce / Västerbottens Handelskammare
- 227 Venezuelan Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (CAVENPORTVE)
- 228 Voka Chamber of Commerce MK
- 229 Waterford Chamber of Commerce
- 230 West Sweden Chamber of Commerce / Västsvenska Handelskammaren
- 231 Westport Chamber
- 232 Wine Origins Alliance
- 233 World Spirits Alliance
- 234 Zamfara chamber of commerce Industry Mines and Agriculture (ZACCIMA)
- 235 Zile Ticaret Borsasi
- 236 Związek Pracodawców Business Centre Club