

Global Business Statement: Revitalising 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

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](#)

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.

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 Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 22 Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKÖ)
- 23 Aydin Chamber of Industry

- 24 Aydin Commodity Exchange
- 25 Aydın ticaret odası
- 26 Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 27 Ballyhaunis Chamber
- 28 Bandirma Ticaret Borsasi
- 29 Bangladesh Association of Banks
- 30 Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA)
- 31 Barcelona Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Services and Navigation
- 32 Batman Ticaret ve Sanayi Odasi
- 33 Belgian Chambers
- 34 Board of Trade of Thailand
- 35 Border-Kei Chamber of Business
- 36 Borderless Alliance
- 37 Bremen Chamber of Commerce - CCI for Bremen and Bremerhaven
- 38 British Chambers of Commerce
- 39 BusinessEurope
- 40 CAINCO Cámara de Industria Comercio Servicios y Turismo
- 41 Cámara de Comercio Exterior de Santa Fe
- 42 Cámara Nacional de Comercio, Servicios y Turismo de la Ciudad de México
- 43 Camera di commercio e dell'industria del cantone Ticino
- 44 Camera di Commercio Industria Artigianato e Agricoltura di Genova
- 45 Camera di Commercio Industria Artigianato e Agricoltura Riviere di Liguria
- 46 Canadian Chamber of Commerce
- 47 Çanakkale Commodity Exchange
- 48 Çarşamba Ticaret Borsasi
- 49 CCI Aix Marseille Provence
- 50 CCI Tuniso Française
- 51 Çerkezköy Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 52 Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Berlin
- 53 Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Southern Sweden
- 54 Chambre de Commerce et de l'Industrie du Burkina Faso (CCI-BF)

- 55 Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Sfax
- 56 Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie du Bénin
- 57 Chambre de commerce et d'industrie Paris Île-de-France
- 58 Circle of Global Business Women
- 59 Coalition of Services Industries
- 60 Computer & Communications Industry Association
- 61 Confederation of Danish Industry
- 62 Confederation of Egyptian European Business Associations
- 63 Confederation of Swedish Enterprise
- 64 Confederazione Generale Italiana dei Trasporti e della Logistica (CONFETRA)
- 65 Consumer Technology Association (CTA)
- 66 Çorlu Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 67 Çorlu Ticaret Borsası
- 68 Council of Polish Global Entrepreneurs
- 69 County Carlow Chamber of Commerce
- 70 County Tipperary Chamber
- 71 County Wexford Chamber
- 72 Credimpex Italia
- 73 Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts
- 74 CropLife International
- 75 Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 76 Denizli Chamber of Industry
- 77 Denizli Commodity Exchange
- 78 Diyarbakır Ticaret Borsası
- 79 Drogheda and District Chamber
- 80 Dublin Chamber, Ireland
- 81 Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber
- 82 Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 83 East Sweden Chamber of Commerce / Östsvenska handelskammaren
- 84 Emirdağ Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 85 European Services Forum

- 86 Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce
- 87 Federation of Enterprises in Belgium
- 88 Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce
- 89 Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (FPCCIA)
- 90 Federation of Small Businesses
- 91 Fethiye Ticaret ve Sanayi Odasi - Fethiye Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 92 Fingal Chamber
- 93 Finland Chamber of Commerce
- 94 Fulda Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IHK Fulda)
- 95 Galway Chamber
- 96 Geneva Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Services
- 97 German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DIHK)
- 98 Global Shipping Business Network Limited
- 99 Handelskammaren Värmland
- 100 Handelskammer Hamburg - Hamburg Chamber of Commerce
- 101 IHK Darmstadt Rhein Main Neckar
- 102 Industrie- und Handelskammer zu Koblenz
- 103 Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
- 104 Iskenderun Commodity Exchange
- 105 Italian Chamber of Commerce in Argentina
- 106 İzmir Chamber of Commerce
- 107 İzmir Commodity Exchange
- 108 Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 109 Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 110 Kayseri Chamber of Industry
- 111 Kayseri Commodity Exchange
- 112 Kayseri Ticaret Odasi
- 113 Keidanren - Japan Business Federation
- 114 Keşan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 115 Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce
- 116 Kocaeli Chamber of Commerce

- 117 Kocaeli Chamber of Industry
- 118 Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 119 Kosovo Chamber of Commerce
- 120 Kozan Commodity Of Exchange
- 121 Krajowa Izba Gospodarcza Elektroniki i Telekomunikacji
- 122 Krajowe Zrzeszenie Producentów Rzepaku i Roślin Białkowych (KZPRiRB)
- 123 Kütahya Ticaret Borsasi
- 124 l'Afep (Association of large French companies)
- 125 Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI)
- 126 Laois Chamber Alliance
- 127 Leathergoods And Footwear Manufacturers & Exporters Association of Bangladesh (LFMEAB)
- 128 Make UK
- 129 Malkara Commodity Exchange
- 130 Middelburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 131 Morang Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 132 Mouvement des Entreprises de France (MEDEF)
- 133 National Association of Business Women Malawi
- 134 National Clothing Retail Federation (NCRF) of South Africa
- 135 National Federation of International Freight Forwarding Companies - Fedespedi
- 136 National Federation of Poultry Breeders and Egg Producers
- 137 National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC)
- 138 National Poultry Council – Chamber of Commerce
- 139 NECA's network of Entrepreneurial Women
- 140 New Zealand Chambers of Commerce
- 141 Norrbotten Chamber of Commerce
- 142 Northern KZN Chamber of Business
- 143 Nuremberg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 144 Organisation of Women in International Trade
- 145 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Ghana
- 146 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Lake Geneva - Switzerland
- 147 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Lilongwe

- 148 Organisation of Women in International Trade (OWIT) Nigeria
- 149 Organisation of Women In International Trade (OWIT) Zimbabwe
- 150 Organisation of Women in International Trade, UK Chapter
- 151 Organization of Women in International Trade - Ottawa Chapter (OWIT-Ottawa)
- 152 Organization of Women in International Trade Brussels powered by IBA
- 153 Oslo Chamber of Commerce
- 154 Oudtshoorn Business Chamber
- 155 Pacific Basin Economic Council Limited
- 156 Papua New Guinea Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 157 Pietermaritzburg & Midlands Chamber of Business
- 158 Polish Agricultural Federation (Polska Federacja Rolna)
- 159 Polish Association of Beef Cattle Breeders and Producers
- 160 Polish Chamber of Commerce
- 161 Polish Confederation Lewiatan
- 162 Polski Związek Hodowców i Producentów Trzody Chlewnej (POLSUS)
- 163 Qatar Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- 164 Samsun Ticaret Borsası
- 165 Samsun Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 166 Sanliurfa Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 167 Santa Catarina Industry Federation
- 168 scienceindustries - Swiss Business Association of Chemistry Pharma Life Sciences
- 169 Scottish Chambers of Commerce
- 170 Singapore Business Federation
- 171 Sivas Commodity Exchange
- 172 Sligo Chamber of Commerce
- 173 Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 174 Söke Commodity Exchange
- 175 South Dublin Chamber
- 176 Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce
- 177 Stockholm Chamber of Commerce
- 178 Tarsus Chamber of Commerce and Industry

- 179 Tatvan Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 180 Technology Industries of Sweden
- 181 Technology Trade Regulation Alliance (TTRA)
- 182 Tekirdag Ticaret Borsasi
- 183 Tekirdağ Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası
- 184 The African Chamber of Trade and Commerce (ACC)
- 185 The Chambers of Commerce of Ireland
- 186 The Croatian Chamber of Economy
- 187 The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI)
- 188 The Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand (JFCCT)
- 189 The National Association of Employers – Pig Producers POLPIG
- 190 The Netherlands Polish Chamber of Commerce
- 191 The Thai Chamber of Commerce
- 192 The Youth Cafe (TYC)
- 193 Trade Partners Sweden
- 194 Türkiye Odalar ve Borsalar Birliği
- 195 U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- 196 Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 197 Union of African Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Agriculture and Professions
- 198 Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises (BUSINESSMED)
- 199 US Council for International Business
- 200 Van Ticaret Borsasi
- 201 Vasterbotten Chamber of Commerce / Västerbottens Handelskammare
- 202 Venezuelan Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (CAVENPORTVE)
- 203 Voka Chamber of Commerce MK
- 204 Waterford Chamber of Commerce
- 205 West Sweden Chamber of Commerce / Västsvenska Handelskammaren
- 206 Westport Chamber
- 207 World Spirits Alliance
- 208 Zile Ticaret Borsasi
- 209 Związek Pracodawców Business Centre Club