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MARKET ACCESS FOR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES OF EXPORT INTEREST TO LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT[1]

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[1] This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1. This Note, prepared by the Secretariat on an annual basis, provides an update on the trends in trade and market access conditions of the 47 least developed countries (LDCs). In addition to the standard coverage of the evolution of LDC trade in previous years, mainly during 2011-2019, the note also looks at the developments in LDC trade during the first half of 2020 to gauge the short-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

1.2. Data from 97 economies, which include most of LDCs' key trading partners, show that the value of LDC merchandise exports dropped by 21% during March-June 2020 year-on-year. Exports declined for more than two-thirds of LDCs with certain LDCs experiencing a particularly severe export slump compared to the LDC group's average. The two largest LDC exporters Angola and Bangladesh experienced sharp contractions in their top export destinations, i.e. Angola recorded a 46% decline in exports to China while Bangladesh's exports to the European Union (27) dropped by 30%.

1.3. The decline in the value of LDC merchandise exports (-16%) during the first six months of 2020 has been steeper than for world exports (-13%). At the product level, the drop of LDC exports has been greater for fuels and mining products (-26%) compared to clothing exports (-18%). LDCs' exports of agricultural products have been somewhat resilient with a decline of 1% in the first half of 2020.

1.4. The contraction in the LDCs' export volumes was less severe than the drop of export values, as the latter reflected the decline in energy prices. In the first half of the 2020, LDC export volumes were down 8.1% compared to 2019. Based on current GDP projections, Secretariat estimates point to a 6.8% decline of LDCs' merchandise export volumes in 2020, compared to a higher projected decline for the volume of world trade (-9.2%). However, these estimates are subject to a high degree of uncertainty since they depend to a large extent on the evolution of the pandemic.

1.5. The value of LDCs' services exports experienced a sharp decline in the first half of 2020, with preliminary estimates suggesting a year-on-year drop of around 38-40%. The sharp decline in overall services exports was driven by a slump in travel exports, which accounted for close to half of LDCs' services exports in 2019. LDCs' travel exports are estimated to have plummeted by 90-92% in the second quarter of 2020, and by 58-60% in the first half of 2020. These estimates might be subject to revision as new statistics become available.

1.6. In 2019, LDC exports of goods and commercial services declined by 1.5% compared to 2018 reaching a nominal value of USD 236 billion. Imports grew by 1.3% to reach USD 336 billion, exceeding the value of exports by USD 100 billion. This trade deficit is more than two times higher than the LDCs' trade deficit in 2011 (USD 41 billion).

1.7. The share of LDCs in world exports (goods and services) increased marginally from 0.95% in 2018 to 0.96% in 2019, mainly owing to positive export growth in commercial services. While the share of LDCs in goods exports remained somewhat static in 2019 (1.04%), their share in commercial services exports registered a marked increase from 0.67% in 2018 to 0.72% in 2019.

1.8. In 2019, LDCs' merchandise exports, partly due to decreases in prices for fuels and mining products, fell by 3.1% compared to 2018, while world exports declined by only 2.7%. The export structure of LDCs has seen a gradual decline of primary products, and a considerable increase in the share of clothing products. In 2019, fuels accounted for 26% of merchandise exports, down from 53% in 2011, while clothing products constituted 29% of exports, up from 13% in 2011. The share of agricultural products increased from 10% in 2011 to 13% in 2019.

1.9. With a nearly 21% share in LDC merchandise exports, Bangladesh has overtaken Angola (18%) to become the top LDC merchandise exporter in 2019; Myanmar (9%) and Cambodia (8%) were on third and fourth position. China was the top destination for LDC merchandise exports in 2019 (share of 28%), followed by the European Union (27) with a share of 22%. The top ten importers accounted for 84.5% for LDCs' total exports in 2019, slightly higher than the level of 2011 (83.4%).

1.10. In 2019, LDCs' exports of commercial services increased by a robust 10% to reach USD 43 billion. Travel remained the leading sector accounting for nearly 48% of LDCs' commercial services exports. Myanmar was the top services exporter, with a 15.5% share in LDCs' commercial services exports, followed by Cambodia (13.9%) and Ethiopia (10.4%).

1.11. LDCs continue to benefit from duty-free treatment provided by Members. New notifications on LDC market access, both in the areas of goods and services, have been limited. Since the last report, Kazakhstan and Montenegro submitted notifications on their respective LDC schemes, which they had been implementing since 10 October 2016 and 20 January 2016, respectively. While no additional Members has notified its preferential origin requirements for LDCs since the last report, the Russian Federation shared information on the preferential rules of origin of the Common System of Tariff Preferences of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) which entered into force on 16 January 2019.

1.12. No new notification under the LDC Services Waiver has been received since the last report. The number of notifications stood at 24 at the end of September 2020. The operation of preferences notified under the LDC Services Waiver was reviewed by Members in a dedicated session of the Council for Trade in Services on 29-30 October 2019.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1. This Note prepared by the Secretariat responds to paragraph 8 of the WTO Work Programme for the Least Developed Countries, which mandates annual reviews of market access for products originating from LDCs (WT/COMTD/LDC/11/Rev.1). It builds on previous Secretariat studies by updating the information on trends in LDCs' trade and market access conditions.

2.2. The Note is divided into three main chapters, in addition to the executive summary and the introduction. Chapter 3 shades a first insight on the developments of LDCs' trade during the first half of 2020 which was characterized by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, while Chapter 4 provides a description of the recent annual trends of LDCs' trade flows up to 2019, both in goods and commercial services. Chapter 5 contains information on trends in market access conditions for LDC exports, including duty-free market access for LDC products and recent initiatives undertaken by Members to improve market access for LDCs, mainly based on Members' notifications. The Note does not attempt to be comprehensive in covering all aspects that condition market access for LDC products. It should therefore be read in conjunction with previous Secretariat notes prepared on this topic, to gauge the different factors that determine market access for LDCs.

2.3. Despite improvements in the production of national data, the statistical coverage of LDCs remains incomplete. The Secretariat has been using reported national figures whenever available. In many instances, it was still necessary to rely on mirror statistics i.e. data reported by LDCs' trading partners. The disadvantage of using mirror data is that it does not allow taking into consideration trade among the LDCs, as well as trade with non-reporting developing economies.

2.4. The definition of geographical and other groupings in this report serves only statistical purposes; it does not imply an expression of opinion by the Secretariat concerning the status of any country or territory, the delimitation of its frontiers, nor the rights and obligations of any WTO Member in respect of WTO agreements.

3 LDCS' TRADE DEVELOPMENTS IN 2020

3.1. World trade plunged in the first half of 2020 as the global economy was shaken by the COVID-19 pandemic. The trade decline touched countries in all regions and at all levels of development, including LDCs.

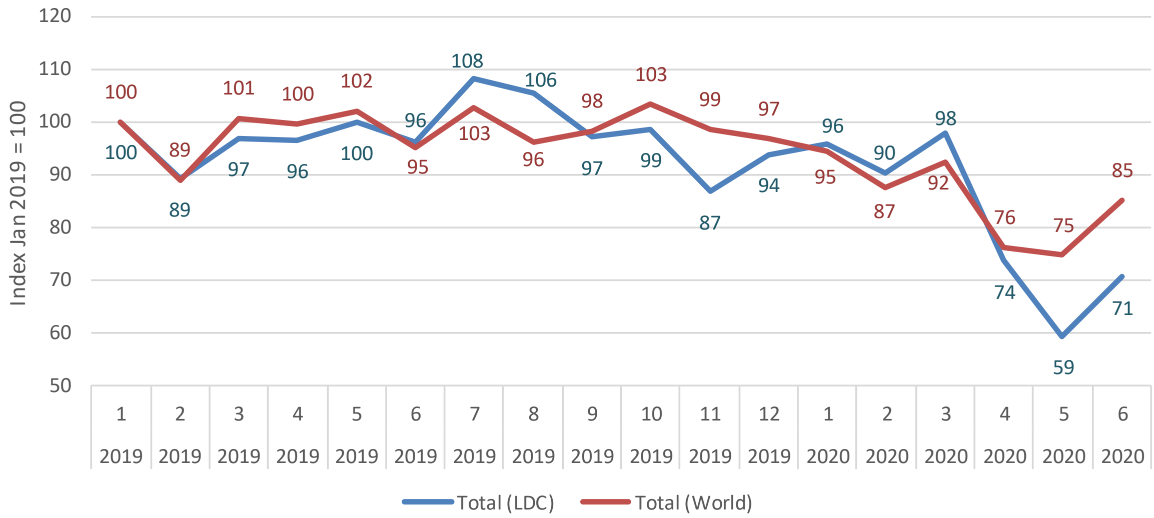
3.1 Merchandise Trade Values

3.2. Based on the reported monthly import data of 97 economies[2], which include the most important destination markets of LDCs, the value of LDCs' merchandise exports dropped to levels of 74% (April 2020), 59% (May 2020) and 71% (June 2020) in comparison to January 2019 (Chart 1). The LDCs registered a larger drop in their exports to these economies than respective exports by the world, in particular in May 2020.

3.3. Over the first half of 2020, this has resulted in a decrease in exports of LDCs to these economies by 16% year-on-year, compared to a 13% decrease of respective world exports. Also the LDCs' imports decreased during January-June 2020, even though the decline of 13% was slightly less severe than for exports (Annex Table 1). Nevertheless, the overall trade deficit of the LDCs improved by 7% year-on-year since in absolute terms the decline in import values was higher than that of export values.

Chart 1: Imports of 97 economies from World and from LDCs, January 2019 to June 2020

(Index of USD values, January 2019 = 100)



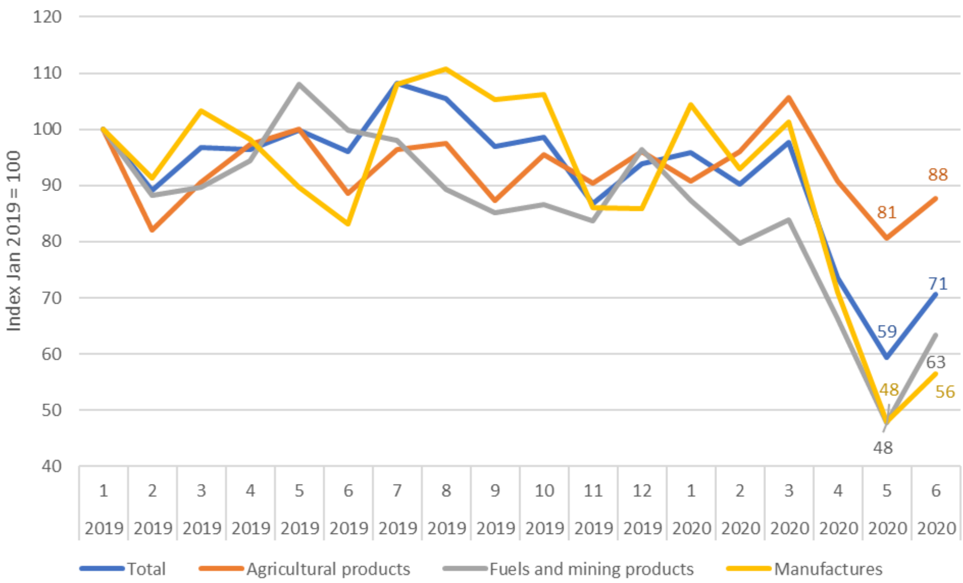
Source: Trade Data Monitor (importer data).

3.4. In the product level breakdown it shows (Chart 2) that the value of imports of fuels and mining products as well as of manufactures from LDCs dropped most during the COVID-19 pandemic; the 97 economies from the reporters sample imported fuels and mining products from the LDCs for less than half of the respective value of January 2019 in May 2020 and for 63% in June 2020. Manufactures imports from the LDCs went down by 52% in May 2020 compared to January 2019 and by 44% in June 2020. Imports of agricultural products from the LDCs showed some resilience, with levels of 81% in May 2020 and of 88% in June 2020.

[2] Albania; Argentina; Australia; Austria; Bahrain, Kingdom of; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Bulgaria; Canada; Chile; China; Colombia; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Estonia; Ethiopia; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Guatemala; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Korea, Republic of; Kosovo; Latvia; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Macao, China; Madagascar; Malaysia; Malta; Mauritius; Mexico; Montenegro; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Namibia; Netherlands; New Zealand; North Macedonia; Norway; Pakistan; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Qatar; Romania; Russia; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; Senegal; Serbia; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sweden; Switzerland; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; Turkey; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States; Uruguay; and Zambia.

Chart 2: Imports of 97 economies from LDCs, January 2019 to June 2020, by major product group

(Index of USD values, January 2019 = 100)



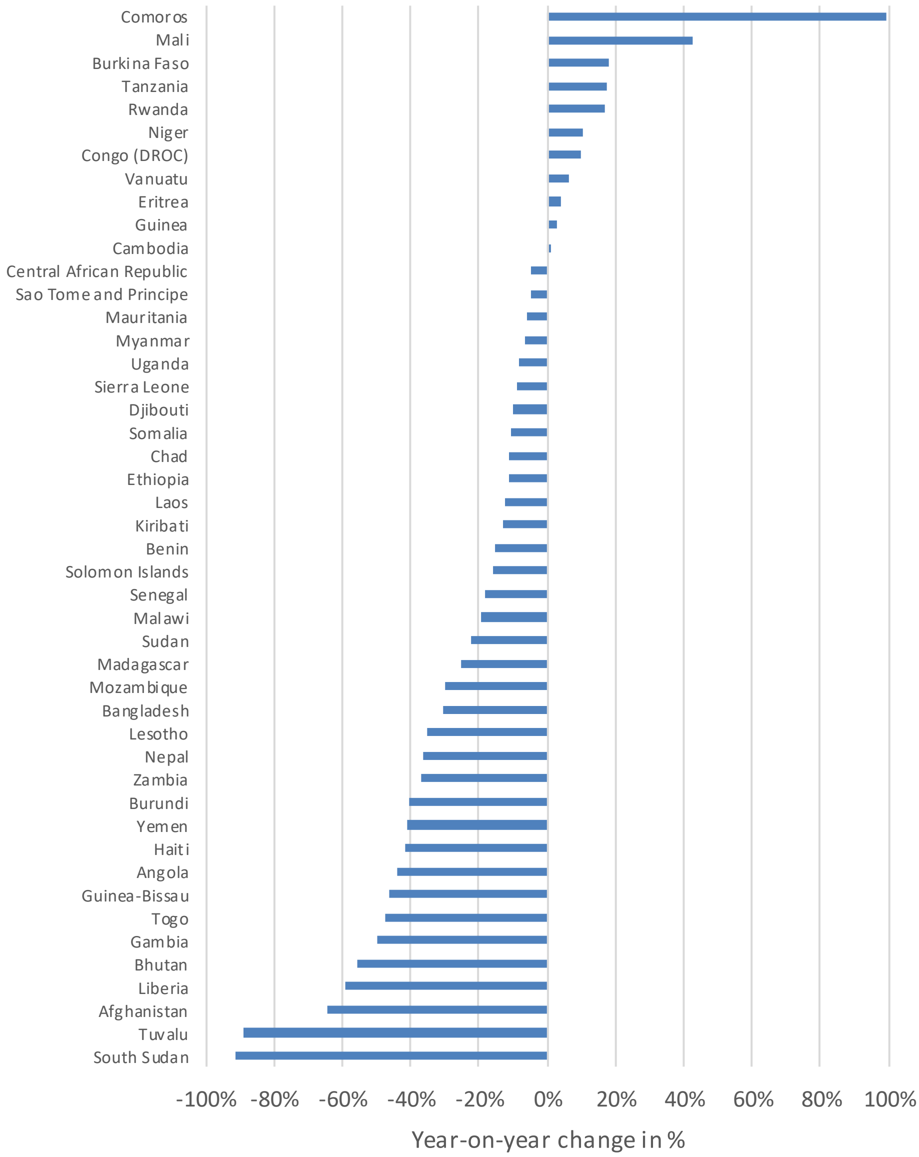
Source: Trade Data Monitor (importer data).

3.5. Chart 3 depicts the changes in the value of merchandise imports of the 97 reporters from the LDCs during the period of March to June 2020 in comparison to March to June 2019. Clearly, not all LDC members have been hit by the same degree by the effects of COVID-19 on world merchandise trade. Twelve out of the 47 LDC members showed even increases in exports to the 97 economies from the sample, ranging from +1% (Cambodia) up to +239% (Timor-Leste). For Timor-Leste, this was mainly resulted from reported imports of butanes and propane by Japan during May and June 2020. Burkina Faso exported especially gold to Switzerland during this period resulting in high export growth. The high export growth of Comoros was particularly influenced by imports of ships by Greece in June 2020. On the other hand, 35 out of the 47 LDCs showed decreases in their exports during these four months of 2020, ranging from -5% (Central African Republic) to -91% (South Sudan). South Sudan experienced strong declines in Chinese imports of fuels.

3.6. Annex Table 2 provides additional information on the year-on-year change in value of exports of LDCs to selected destination markets during March-June 2020. While LDCs' merchandise exports to all 97 economies fell by 23%, the drop was even larger for their exports to India (-46%), the United Kingdom (-32%), China (-28%), the European Union (-28%), the Russian Federation (-23%) and the United States (-23%). The decrease in exports was smaller for the markets of Japan (-19%), the Republic of Korea (-18%), Canada (-6%) and Thailand (-6%). The large decrease in LDCs' exports to India was driven by sharp drops in India's imports from Angola (-52%), Burkina Faso (-83%), Bangladesh (-61%) and Zambia (-49%), which had been the top LDC exporters to India during March-June 2019. The table furthermore reveals that the two largest LDC exporters Angola and Bangladesh experienced sharp contractions in their main markets, i.e. Angola saw a 46% decline in exports to China, and Bangladesh's exports to the European Union dropped by 30%.

Chart 3: Imports of 97 economies from LDCs, March-June 2020 vs. March-June 2019

(Year-on-year percentage change)



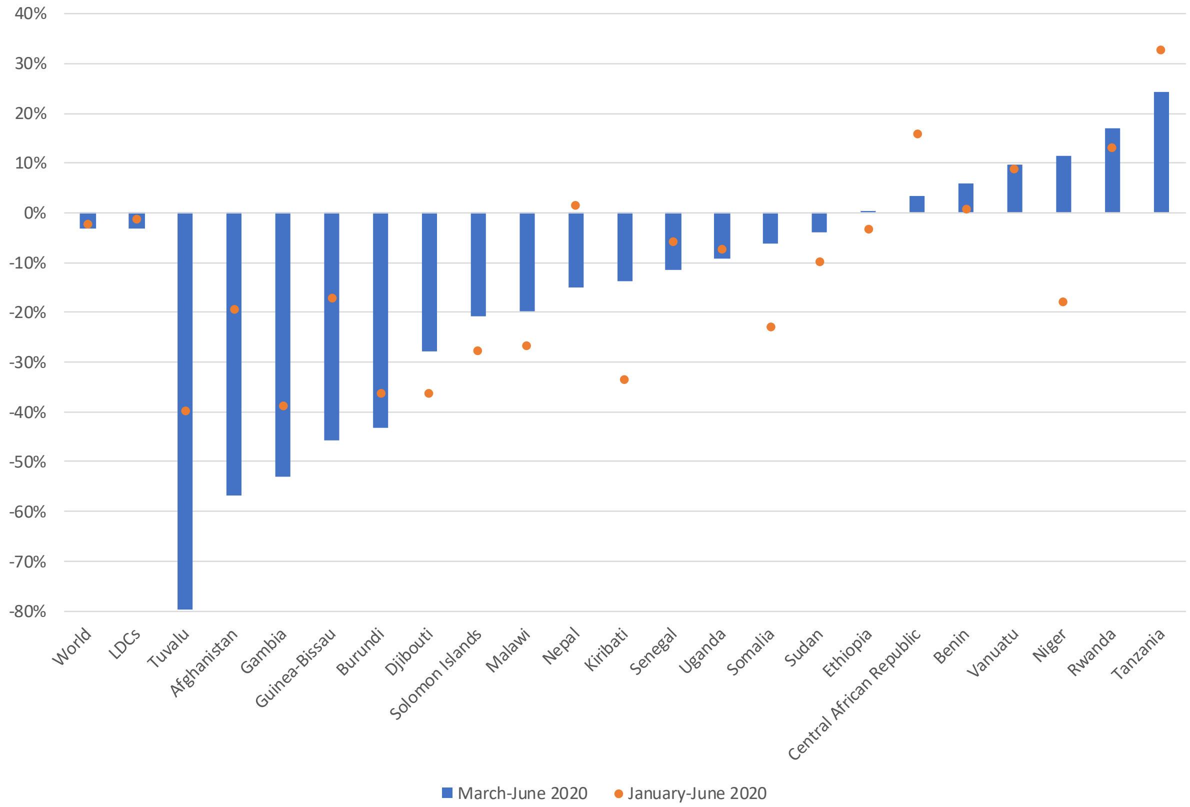
Source: Trade Data Monitor (importer data).

Note: For illustrative purposes, Timor-Leste is excluded as it registered a 239% increase during March-June 2020.

3.7. Export values of agricultural products have dropped relatively less compared to other sectors during the pandemic. LDCs' agricultural exports to 97 importing economies decreased by 3% year-on-year during March-June, and by 1% during the first half of 2020 (Chart 4). Nevertheless, a number of agriculture-dependent LDCs experienced big drops in their exports. For instance, exports of Tuvalu (-80%), Afghanistan (-57%), The Gambia (-53%), Guinea-Bissau (-46%) and Burundi (-43%) dropped by more than 40% during March-June. On the other hand, a few LDCs such as Tanzania (+24%), Rwanda (+17%), Niger (+12%), Vanuatu (+10%), Benin (+6%) and Central African Republic (+3%) registered an increase in their exports of agricultural products during March-June 2020.

Chart 4: Imports of 97 economies in agricultural products from selected exporters

(Year-on-year percentage change)



Source: Trade Data Monitor (based on import data of 97 economies)

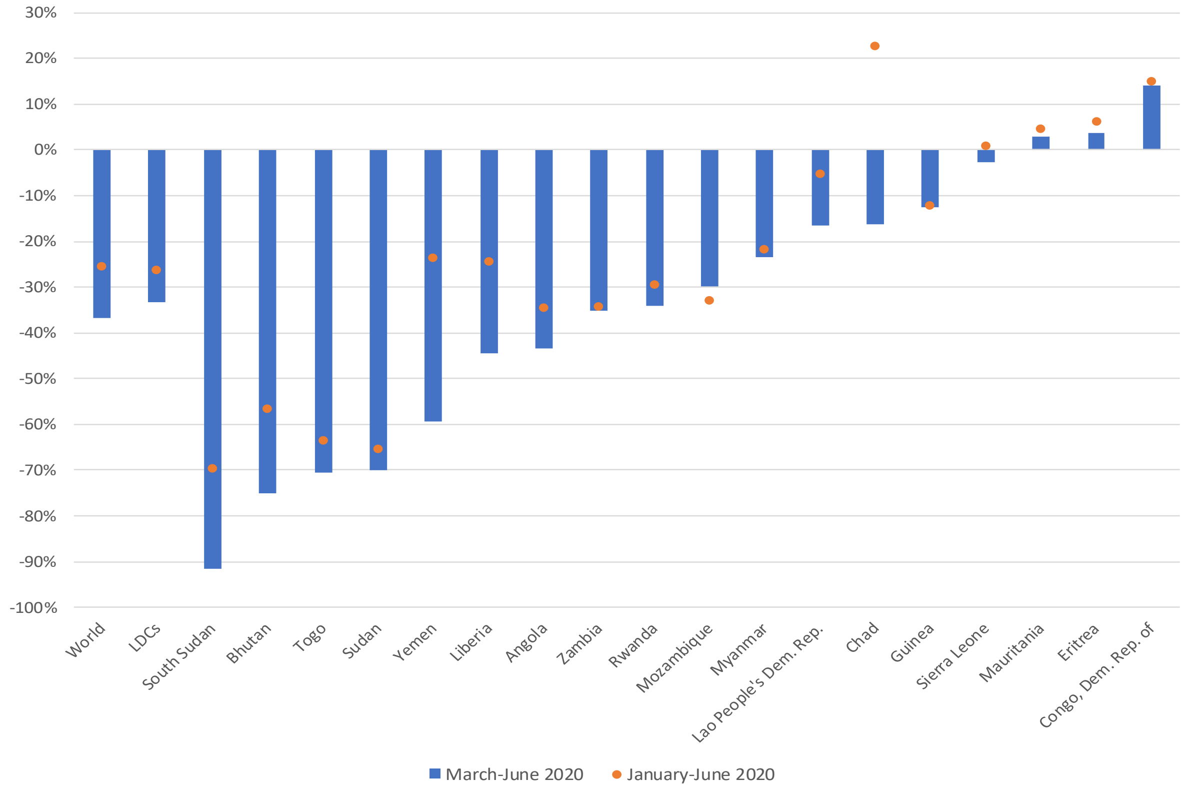
Note: Agricultural products accounted for at least 40% of total merchandise exports of selected LDCs to the sample of importers in 2019. For illustrative purposes, Comoros is excluded as it registered a 130% increase during March-June 2020.

3.8. The COVID-19 pandemic aggravated the decline in energy prices that had set in at the beginning of 2020. The value of LDCs' exports of fuel and mining products dropped by a third (33%) during March-June, and by more than a quarter (26%) in the first half of 2020 (Chart 5). During March-June, exports of fuels and mining products dropped by 70% or more for South Sudan, Bhutan, Togo and Sudan; by close to 60% for Yemen; by more than 40% for Liberia and Angola; and by 30% or more for Zambia, Rwanda and Mozambique.

3.9. The exports of clothing products, which dominate the LDCs' manufacturing exports, have also been hit hard by the pandemic. The value of LDCs' exports of clothing dropped by 28% during March-June 2020, and by 18% in the first half of 2020 (Chart 6). Nepal (-58%) has seen the biggest decline during March-June, followed by Lesotho and Haiti (each -49%). Madagascar (-33%) and Bangladesh (-32%), the biggest LDC clothing exporter, saw their exports drop by around a third.

Chart 5: Imports of 97 economies in fuels and mining products from selected exporters

(Year-on-year percentage change)

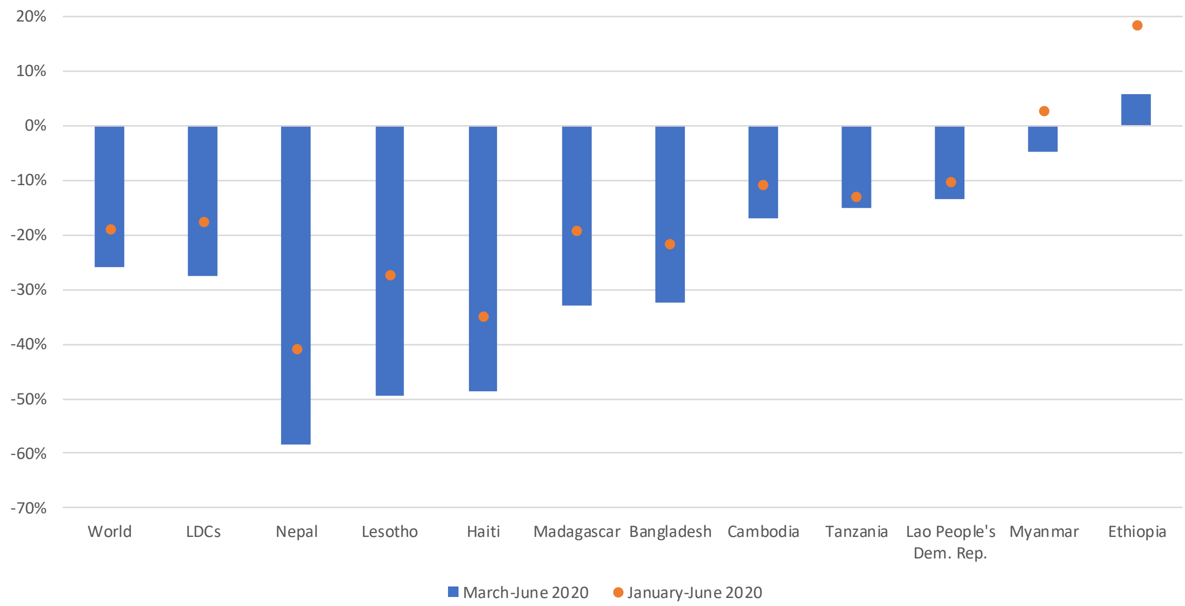


Source: Trade Data Monitor (based on import data of 97 economies)

Note: Fuels and mining products accounted for at least 30% of total merchandise exports of selected LDCs to the sample of importers in 2019. For illustrative purposes, Timor-Leste is excluded as it registered a 2,753% increase during March-June 2020.

Chart 6: Imports of 97 economies in clothing products from selected exporters

(Year-on-year percentage change)



Source: Trade Data Monitor (based on import data of 97 economies)

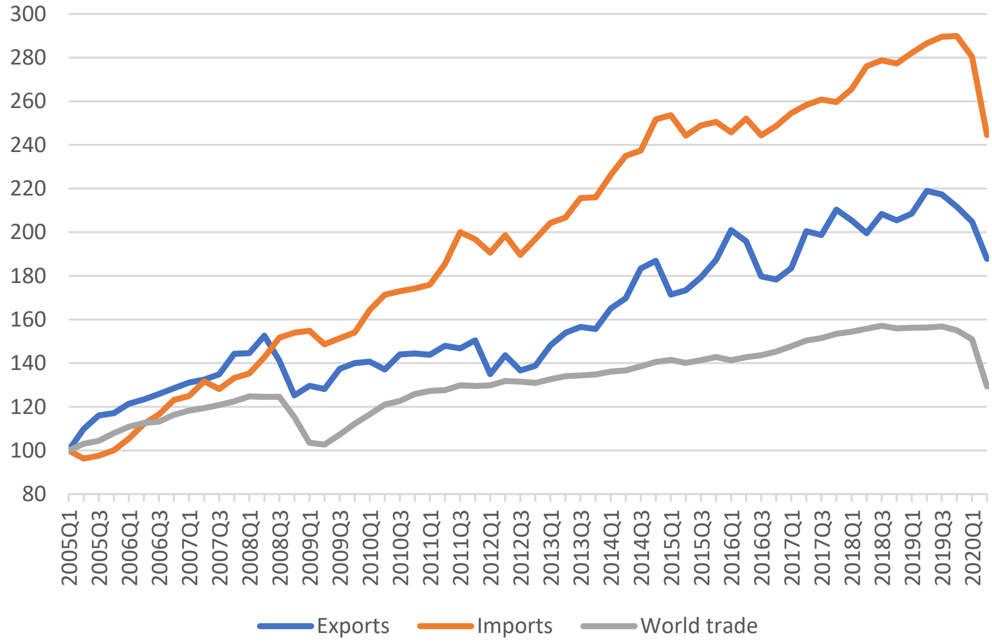
Note: Clothing products accounted for at least 2% of total merchandise exports of selected LDCs to the sample of importers in 2019.

3.2 Merchandise Trade Volume and Outlook

3.10. In the first half of 2020, the volume of world merchandise trade as measured by the average of exports and imports was down 3.4% year-on-year in the first quarter and 17.2% year-on-year in the second. On average, the volume of trade was down 10.2% in the first half of the year compared to 2019 (Chart 7).

Chart 7: Merchandise trade volume of least-developed countries, 2005Q1-2020Q2

(Volume indices, 2005Q1=100)



Source: WTO and UNCTAD.

3.11. Monthly statistics indicate that merchandise trade bottomed out in May before rebounding in June and July. Despite a partial recovery in June, the 14.3% quarter-on-quarter drop in the volume of world trade in Q2 was the largest on record. By comparison, trade only fell 10.2% in the first quarter of 2009, at the height of the financial crisis. Peak-to-trough declines were similar in both episodes (-17.6% during the financial crisis and -17.5% during the COVID-19 outbreak). Overall, both trade slumps are of similar magnitude, but the fall during the pandemic was more abrupt.

3.12. Contractions in volumes of LDC exports and imports in the first half of 2020 have only been slightly smaller than the overall decline in world trade. The volume of merchandise exports of LDCs was down 14.2% year-on-year in the second quarter, while the volume of LDC imports fell 14.7%. In the first half of the year, LDC export volumes were down 8.1% compared to 2019, while LDC imports were 7.7% lower. As shown in the previous section, the drop in LDCs' exports was larger in value terms (-16% to 97 economies), which mainly reflected the decline in energy prices (gas and oil) in the first half of 2020.

3.13. The performance of LDC exports during the COVID-19 pandemic resembles their record during the financial crisis, but the behaviour of LDC imports has been markedly different. The volume of LDC merchandise exports fell 14.2% from peak to trough in 2019-20 compared to 17.9% in 2008-09. The volume of LDC imports also fell sharply during the pandemic (-15.7% peak-to-trough), although they only registered a small decline during the financial crisis (-4.0%). The divergent performance of LDC exports and imports may be partly explained by the fact that financial crisis was mostly a demand-side shock while the pandemic hit both the demand and supply sides of the global economy. Demand-side effects include reduced consumption and investment while supply constraints were mostly in the form of lockdowns and travel restrictions.

3.14. The WTO recently issued an updated trade forecast (6 October 2020), which documented signs of a rebound in world trade while cautioning that recovery remains uncertain (Table 1). The organization now expects a 9.2% decline in the volume of world merchandise trade in 2020, followed by a 7.2% rise in 2021. Market-weighted real GDP growth is expected to shrink by 4.8% in 2020 before growing 4.9% in 2021. The projected trade decline for the current year is less than the 12.9% drop foreseen in the more optimistic of two scenarios explored in WTO's April trade forecast, but more negative outcomes are still possible if COVID-19 resurges strongly in the coming months.

3.15. The most recent WTO trade forecast did not include projections for LDCs, but aggregate export growth of these countries can be derived based on the expected evolution of global demand. If current GDP projections are realised, LDCs' export volumes could see a 6.8% decline in 2020, followed by a 7.6% rebound in 2021. Like the forecast for world trade, these estimates are subject to a high degree of uncertainty since they depend to a large extent on the evolution of the pandemic. Outcomes could be worse if the number of COVID cases and deaths continues to rise. However, there is also some upside potential, notably if an effective vaccine can be made available in the near future. Overall, risks to the outlook are considered to be mostly on the downside.

3.16. It should be noted that the trade volume indices and forecasts do not cover services trade, which has been more negatively affected by the pandemic than merchandise trade. Reduced spending on services, particularly in travel-related sectors, may have left consumers with unspent income that could be redirected toward purchases of goods. This may partly explain the smaller-than-expected decline in merchandise trade in the first half of 2020.

Table 1: Merchandise trade volume and real GDP at market exchange rates, 2012-2021

(Annual percentage change, %)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Merchandise trade volume										
World (average of exports and imports)	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.3	1.4	4.7	2.9	-0.1	-9.2	7.2
LDCs (exports)	0.9	6.7	1.5	1.9	5.6	7.2	4.1	-0.4	-6.8	7.6
Real GDP at market exchange rates										
World	2.3	2.4	2.8	2.8	2.4	3.1	2.8	2.2	-4.8	4.9
LDCs	4.4	5.5	5.9	3.7	3.9	4.9	5.0	4.8	-0.4	2.9

Source: WTO Secretariat for trade, consensus estimates for GDP.

Note: 2020 and 2021 are projections.

3.3 Services trade

3.17. According to preliminary Secretariat estimates, LDCs' services exports declined by around 13-15% in the first quarter and by 60-65% in the second quarter, resulting in a year-on-year drop of around 38-40% in the first half of 2020. The sharp decline in overall services exports was driven by a slump in LDCs' travel exports, which have dropped by 28-30% in the first quarter and by 90-92% in the second quarter, resulting in a 58-60% year-on-year drop in the first half of 2020. These estimates might be subject to revision as new statistics become available.

3.18. Travel restrictions implemented globally to fight the spread of COVID-19 significantly affect the ability of LDCs to export services. While international travel is vulnerable to local shocks such as natural disasters, political unrest, and health-related concerns, the COVID-19 pandemic is different from other health-related crises that hit LDCs in the past. It affects directly also outbound tourism. According to the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), global international tourist arrivals decreased by 25% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2020 and dropped 95% in the second quarter following suspension of international flights and worldwide lockdown measures.

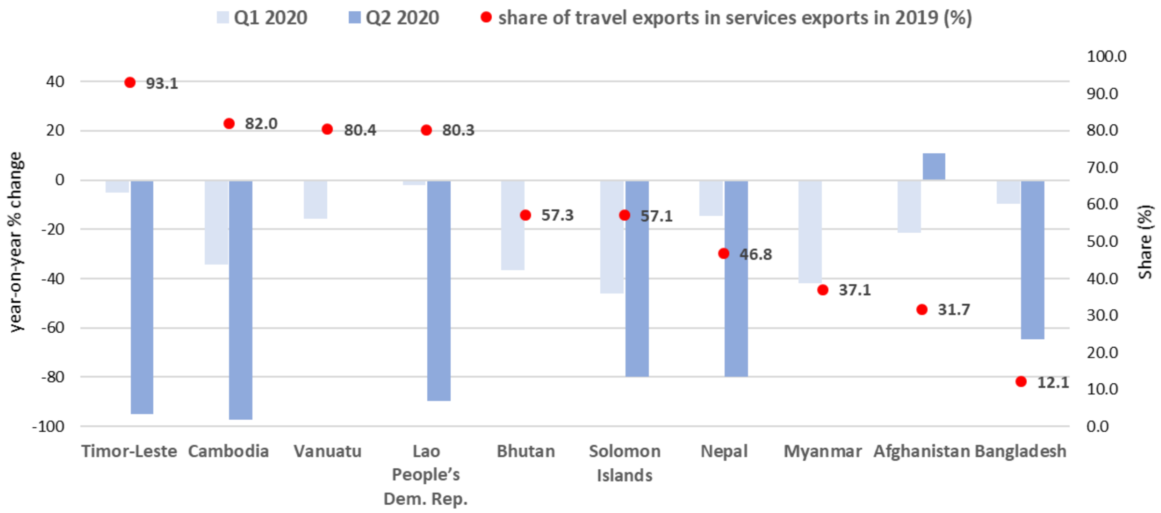
3.19. In Cambodia, the leading travel exporter among the LDCs, international tourist arrivals contracted on average by 65% in the first half of 2020, with arrivals from China, the top source market, down 79%. Tourist inflows however remained largely intra-regional (74% of total arrivals), with China continuing to account for the largest share of arrivals (23.3% from 47.4% in the same period of 2019), followed by Vietnam (15.2%), Thailand (13.6%), the Republic of Korea (4.4%), Japan (3.4%), and Lao People's Democratic Republic (2.9%). Other main source countries were the United States (4.5%), United Kingdom (3.7%), France (3.5%), and Germany (2.3%).[3] International business travel fell also 71%. Almost two-thirds of this smaller segment also originates from China. In July, international tourist arrivals to Cambodia were still 96% down compared with July 2019.

3.20. Myanmar, the second largest travel recipient, saw international visitor arrivals drop 66% year-on-year during January-July 2020.[4] Tourist arrivals from China, the main source country with a share of 37%, fell 72%, while arrivals from Japan and Thailand were both down 63%. Arrivals from Asia, making up for 84% of tourist arrivals in 2019, declined by 68% in the first seven months of the year. In the same period visitors from Europe, with a share of 9.5%, contracted by 45%.

3.21. LDCs in Asia were among the first to be affected by travel restrictions. In the first quarter, travel exports were already down 34% in Cambodia, 42% in Myanmar, and 37% in Bhutan, somewhat less in Bangladesh, Nepal, Timor-Leste and Lao People's Democratic Republic (Chart 8). Exports declined sharply in the second quarter in Cambodia (-97%). For a country that relies for 20% of its GDP on foreign travellers' expenditure, the impact is devastating. Although official statistics are not available yet for Myanmar, the estimated drop in travel receipts in the second quarter is expected to be in similar range as arrivals were down on average by 99% between April and July. Afghanistan was an exception, recording an increase in the second quarter of 2020.

Chart 8: Travel exports in selected LDCs in Asia, Q1-Q2 2020

(Year-on-year percentage change)



Source: IMF and national data. Economies are ranked on the basis of the share of travel exports in total services exports in 2019.

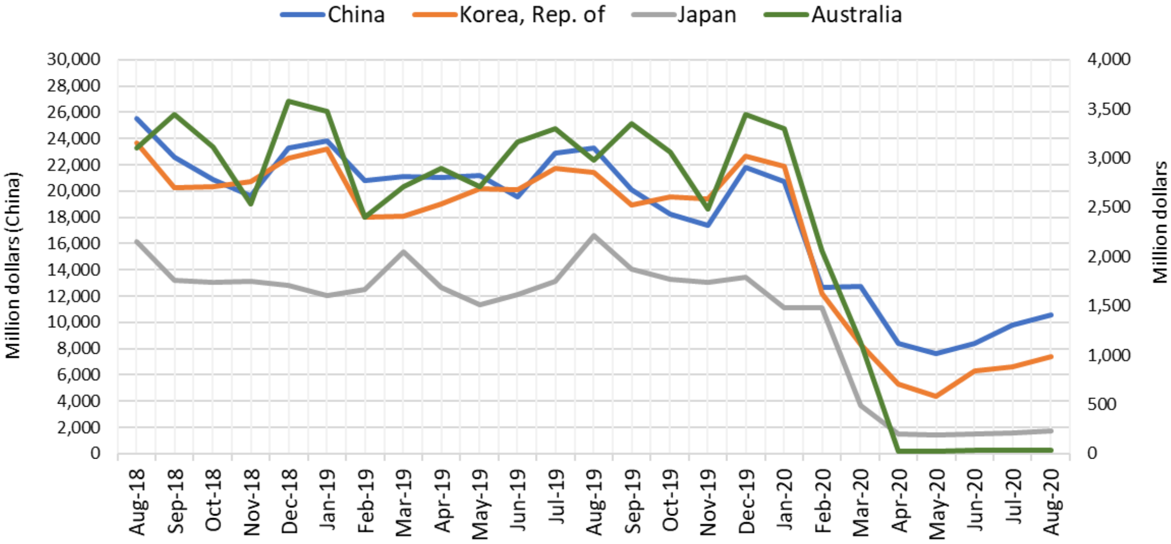
3.22. To a large extent, the recovery of tourism in LDCs in Asia will depend on the ability to fight the virus internally, just like for any other country, and on neighbouring Asian economies' propensity to travel abroad, as well as the lifting of travel restrictions. On a positive note, monthly data show that China's and the Republic of Korea's travel imports had their low point in May 2020 and started to rebound during June-August 2020 (Chart 9).

3.23. By contrast, in Australia, a major tourism source market for LDCs islands in the Pacific, such as Vanuatu (52% in 2019) and the Solomon Islands (37%), travel imports were flat, similarly to Japan.

[3] Cambodia Ministry of Tourism "Tourism Statistics Report June 2020.
[4] Myanmar, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism www.tourism.gov.mm.

Chart 9: China, Republic of Korea, Japan, and Australia – Travel imports, August 2018-August 2020

(Volume indices, 2005Q1=100)



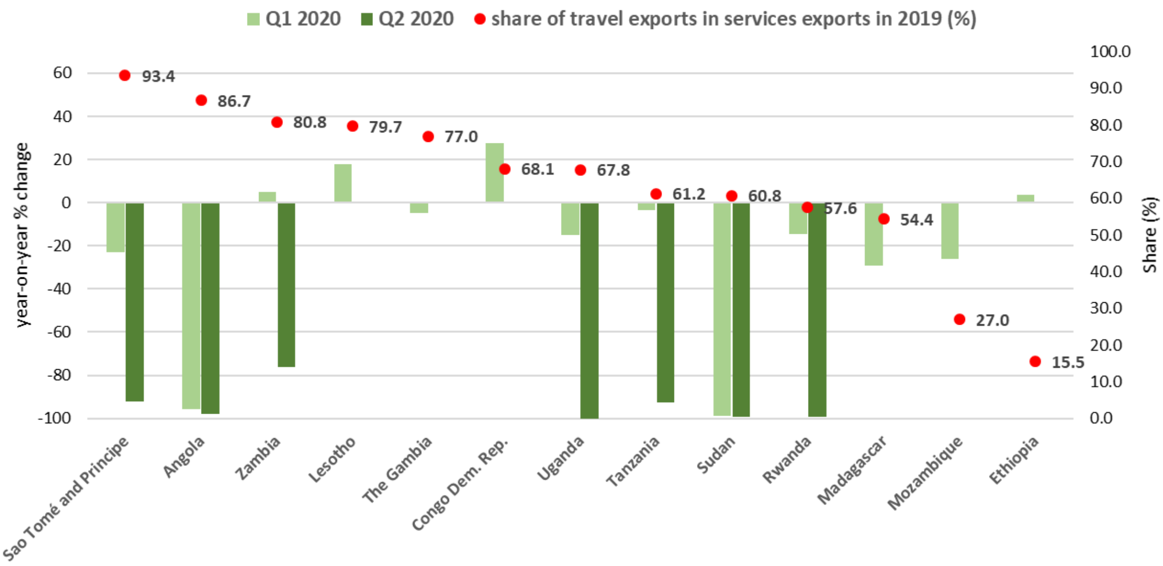
Source: National data.

3.24. Tourism is also mainly intra-regional for LDCs in Africa, accounting on average for at least 65% of all arrivals. However, European tourists, whose travel-related spending is higher, represent an important share for several LDCs, i.e. one third of total arrivals in Tanzania, almost half in Madagascar and two-thirds in Comoros. Following travel and transport restrictions and lockdown measures, foreign tourist arrivals to LDCs in Africa dropped. The UNWTO estimates an overall decline of 11.7% for the first quarter and 99.5% for the second quarter for Sub-Saharan Africa.

3.25. Only a limited number of African LDCs disseminate data on travel exports on a short-term basis but available statistics confirm the ravaging impact of COVID-19 on tourism and services exports overall. In Q2, travel exports were nil in Uganda following border closures, down 99% in Sudan, 98% in Angola, 92% in Sao Tomé and Principe and 76% in Zambia (Chart 10).

Chart 10: Travel exports in selected LDCs in Africa, Q1-Q2 2020

(Year-on-year change)

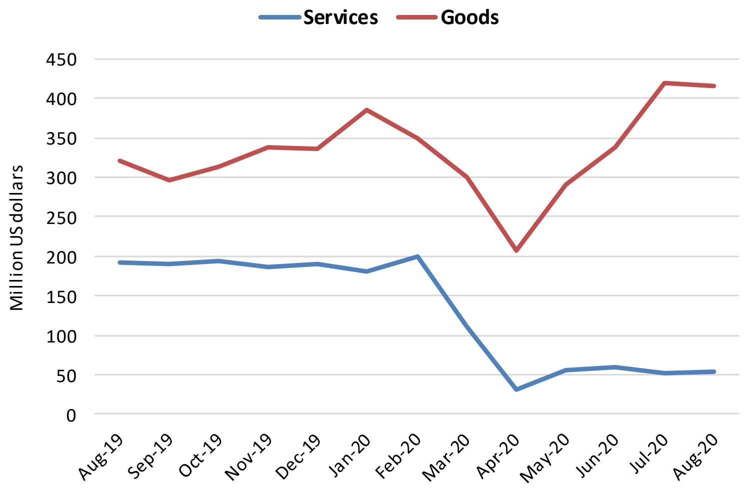


Source: IMF and national data. Economies are ranked on the basis of the share of travel exports in total services exports in 2019.

3.26. In Tanzania, overall services exports declined by 26% year-on-year in the period January-August 2020 as travel receipts dropped 36%. Travel receipts were still down 84% year-on-year in August.[5] In Uganda, between May and August services exports declined on average by 71%. While goods exports from the country rebounded quickly in June, services continued to lag behind through August (Chart 11).

Chart 11: Uganda's services and goods exports, August 2019 - August 2020

(Million US dollars)



Source: Balance of payments, Bank of Uganda.

3.27. For LDCs in Africa, which depend on European tourist inflows, the outlook for the tourism sector is bleak. As travel restrictions were gradually eased in May and June in Europe, travellers largely opted for domestic tourism or intra-regional travel. The resurgence of COVID-19 cases in Europe in August has put long-haul international travel on hold again.

3.28. As a result of declines in global travel demand, air transport operators in LDCs are suffering losses. According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), global revenues from air passenger transport will drop by 66% in 2020. Consumer sentiment towards air travel did not improve in recent months and forward booking for the last quarter of 2020 were down 78% year-on-year.[6] Uncertainty regarding quarantines in other countries in an effort to contain the virus are affecting airlines.

3.29. Services trade data for the second quarter of 2020 are not yet available for Ethiopia, the leading LDC transport exporter (a 32% share in LDCs' transport exports in 2019). However, its national airline lost USD 550 million just from January to April due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Built on the strategy of connecting Africa to the world, the airline has reconverted to domestic and regional flights, repatriation flights, and to cargo, like most airlines worldwide.

3.30. At present, air freight rates are 40-50% above their usual levels. Cargo has been essential to ship rapidly PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) and other medical products during the pandemic. IATA estimates that cargo will contribute 26% of global airline industry revenue in 2020, up from 12% in 2019. Nevertheless, international belly capacity is still scarce, and airlines have not been able to increase freighters capacity. Additional air cargo demand could come from e-commerce and the need to rapidly distribute a vaccine.[7] This offers export opportunities also for LDCs. For example, in Tanzania a new airfreight operator was recently set up to satisfy increasing cargo demand. This is expected also to increase goods trade and cut transportation costs especially for perishable products. Airplane belly capacity is often limited due to passenger transport in the peak season, while in the low season more expensive transport solution have to be found due to the reduced number of flights.[8]

[5] Bank of Tanzania "Monthly Economic Review 2020"

[6] IATA, "Covid 19 - Downgrade for global air travel outlook", report of the Chief Economist, 29 September 2020.

[7] IATA, Chart of the week: Air cargo not keeping up with export orders, 2 October 2020"

[8] The Citizen, "New air cargo carrier set to intensify competition" https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/ 2 July 2020.

3.31. Finding new opportunities in services exports is essential for LDCs. The COVID-19 pandemic has further stressed the LDCs' services sector dependency on foreign travellers' movement and expenditure. According to the UNWTO, the recovery of international tourism to 2019 levels is not expected before two-and-a-half to four years. Many local businesses in LDCs, predominantly MSMEs, will struggle to survive.

3.32. Notwithstanding the downturn of travel and transport services, some LDCs had registered positive growth in information technology and business services. Bangladesh saw its computer services exports increase by 13% and 10% in the first and second quarter of 2020. Uganda's exports of ICT services, essentially computer services, rose 96% and 39% in quarter one and quarter two.

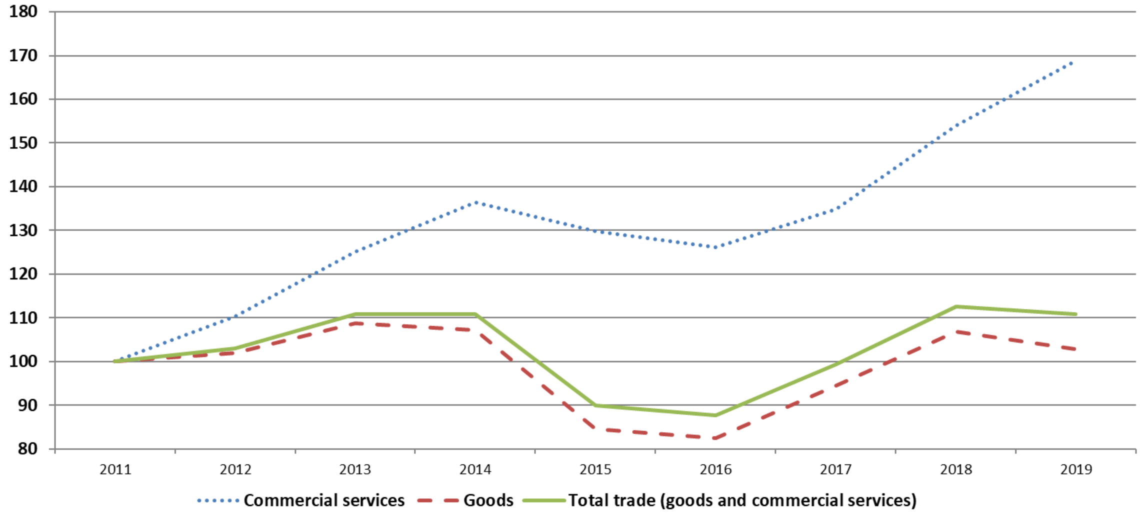
4 LDCS' TRADE PROFILE 2019

4.1 Trends in Goods and Commercial Services

4.1. LDC exports of goods and services increased at an average annual rate of 1.3% between 2011-2019, slightly less than the exports of other developing economies (+1.5% per year). During 2014 to 2016, low energy prices had a negative impact on LDCs' exports of goods, while LDC exports of services showed a more stable development during this period (Chart 12).

Chart 12: Evolution of LDC exports of goods and commercial services, 2011-2019

(Index, 2011 = 100; BOP/BPM6)



Source: WTO-UNCTAD-ITC estimates.

4.2. In 2019, LDC exports of goods and commercial services declined by 1.5% compared to 2018, reaching a nominal value of USD 236.2 billion. The LDCs' imports grew by 3.6% to USD 336.3 billion (see Table 2). After two years (2017 to 2018) of positive developments, LDCs' exports went back to negative growth in 2019, though at a lower rate than during 2015 and 2016. The negative growth was due to the negative development of goods exports (-3.7% in 2019), while commercial services exports registered a strong increase (+9.6% in 2019). In nominal terms, goods exports continue dominating services exports. LDC commercial services exports reached a value of USD 43.4 billion in 2019, which represented a share of only 18% of LDC goods and commercial services exports, up from 17% in 2018.

Table 2: Trends in LDC exports of goods and commercial services, 2011-2019

(Billion US dollars and percentage; BOP/BPM6)

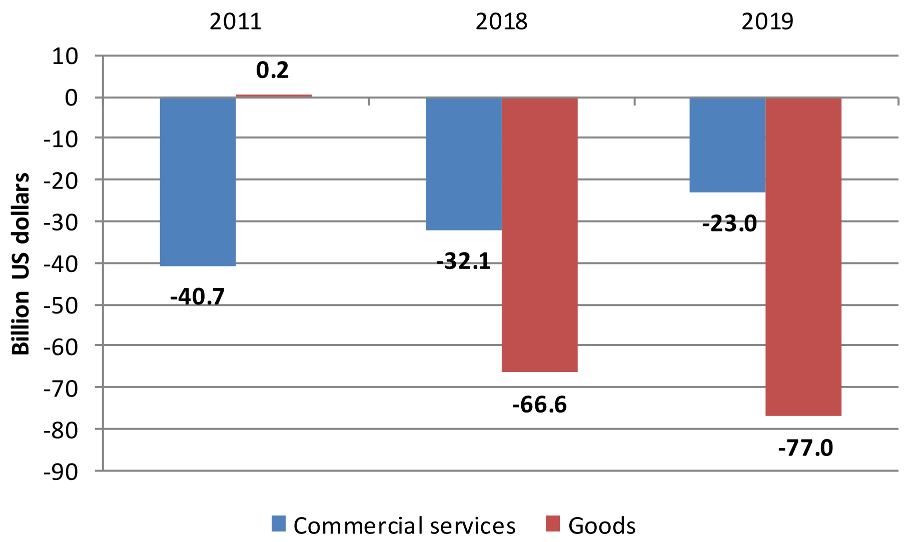
	Value (USD bn)			Annual percentage change (%)						
	2011	2018	2019	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2011-2019
Exports										
Total goods and commercial services	213.1	239.8	236.2	0.0	-18.8	-2.5	13.2	13.3	-1.5	1.3
Goods	187.4	200.2	192.8	-1.4	-21.2	-2.5	14.5	13.1	-3.7	0.4
Commercial services	25.7	39.6	43.4	9.2	-5.0	-2.8	6.9	14.2	9.6	6.8
Imports										
Total goods and commercial services	253.6	338.5	336.3	7.5	-9.9	-5.8	9.6	10.6	-0.7	3.6
Goods	187.2	266.8	269.8	7.0	-8.0	-4.8	10.6	11.5	1.1	4.7
Commercial services	66.4	71.7	66.5	8.8	-15.5	-9.2	6.1	7.4	-7.3	0.0

Source: WTO-UNCTAD-ITC estimates.

4.3. LDCs' overall trade deficit deteriorated from USD 99 billion in 2018 to USD 100 billion in 2019. Imports exceeded exports by USD 77.0 billion in the case of goods, and by USD 23.0 billion in the case of commercial services (Chart 13). LDCs' 2019 trade deficit was more than two times higher than in 2011 (USD 40.5 billion), when the trade balance of goods was slightly positive.

Chart 13: LDCs' total trade balance, 2011, 2018 and 2019

(Billion US dollars; BOP/BPM6)

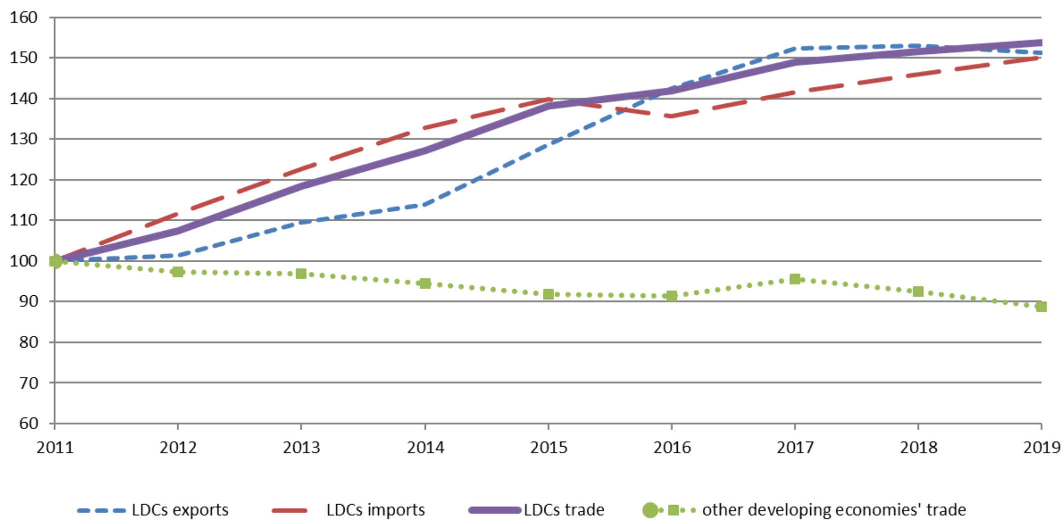


Source: WTO-UNCTAD-ITC estimates.

4.4. Chart 14 shows developments in the volume of merchandise trade for LDCs and other economies to give a picture of the physical level of trade. LDC merchandise exports fell by 1.1% in volume terms in 2019, while merchandise imports increased by 2.8%. Thus, LDCs' exports fell less in volume terms than in value terms (-3.1%), and imports increased more in volume terms than in value (+0.9%) – reflecting the impact of price developments on the nominal trade figures of LDCs' merchandise trade. In comparison to 2011, both export and import volumes increased by more than 1.5 times. LDCs' total trade volume (turnover, i.e. exports plus imports) increased by 1.3% in 2019 while the volume of total trade of other developing economies decreased by 4.0%.

Chart 14: Development in merchandise trade volume of LDCs and developing economies, 2011-2019

(Indices, 2011 = 100)



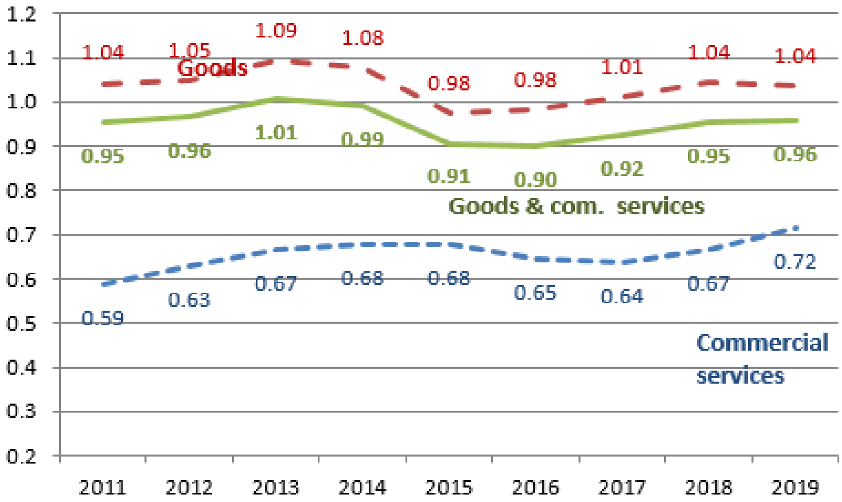
Source: WTO Secretariat. LDCs' data are computed based on deflators sourced from UNCTAD.

4.5. The development of the LDCs' share in world exports from 2011 to 2019 is shown in Chart 15. The share of LDCs in world exports of goods and commercial services increased slightly, from 0.95%

in 2018 to 0.96% in 2019. However, the share was still below the levels of 2013 and 2014, and only slightly higher than in 2011. In comparison to 2018, the share of exports of commercial services went up markedly – from 0.67% to 0.72% - while the share of goods remained at the same level as in 2018 (1.04%). The overall increase of LDCs' share in world exports in 2019 was thus solely linked to the positive trend in commercial services' exports.

Chart 15: LDCs' shares in world exports, 2011-2019

(Percentage shares; BOP/BPM6)



Source: WTO-UNCTAD-ITC estimates.

4.6. Table 3 shows the respective shares for total trade, exports and imports for all years since 2011 – including the values for world and LDC trade used for the calculation of the shares.

Table 3: LDCs and world trade in goods and commercial services, 2011-2019

(Billion US dollars and percentage; BOP/BPM6)

	Value (USD bn)									Annual percentage change
	2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2011-2019**
Total trade in goods and commercial services[a]										
World	22,054	22,420	23,062	23,498	20,908	20,490	22,589	24,783	24,355	1.2
LDC	467	497	542	565	488	466	518	578	573	2.6
Share in world	1.06	1.11	1.18	1.21	1.17	1.14	1.15	1.17	1.18	...
Total trade in goods [a]										
World	17,738	17,965	18,332	18,400	16,049	15,569	17,259	19,006	18,457	0.5
LDC	375	400	435	448	386	371	416	467	463	2.7
Share in world	1.06	1.11	1.19	1.22	1.20	1.19	1.21	1.23	1.26	...
Total trade in commercial services [a]										
World	4,315	4,455	4,730	5,098	4,859	4,921	5,330	5,777	5,898	4.0
LDC	92	98	107	117	103	95	101	111	110	2.2
Share in world	1.08	1.10	1.14	1.15	1.06	0.98	0.96	0.97	0.94	...
Goods exports										
World	17,979	18,237	18,642	18,674	16,236	15,752	17,475	19,185	18,629	0.4
LDC	187	191	204	201	159	155	177	200	193	0.4
Share in world	1.04	1.05	1.09	1.08	0.98	0.98	1.01	1.04	1.04	...
Commercial services exports										
World	4,390	4,519	4,819	5,170	4,930	5,018	5,451	5,949	6,066	4.1
LDC	26	28	32	35	33	32	35	40	43	6.8
Share in world	0.59	0.63	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.65	0.64	0.67	0.72	...
Goods imports										
World	17,498	17,693	18,023	18,127	15,862	15,386	17,044	18,827	18,285	0.6
LDC	187	208	231	247	227	216	239	267	270	4.7
Share in world	1.07	1.18	1.28	1.36	1.43	1.41	1.40	1.42	1.48	...
Commercial services imports										
World	4,240	4,390	4,641	5,027	4,788	4,824	5,208	5,605	5,731	3.8
LDC	66	69	75	82	69	63	67	72	66	0.0
Share in world	1.57	1.58	1.62	1.63	1.45	1.30	1.28	1.28	1.16	...

a World total trade is calculated as the average of world exports and imports, according to the BOP presentation (BPM 6). Total LDC trade in this table is approximated as the sum of their exports and imports. Total trade shares are calculated in relation to the corresponding world exports plus imports.

Source: WTO-UNCTAD-ITC estimates.

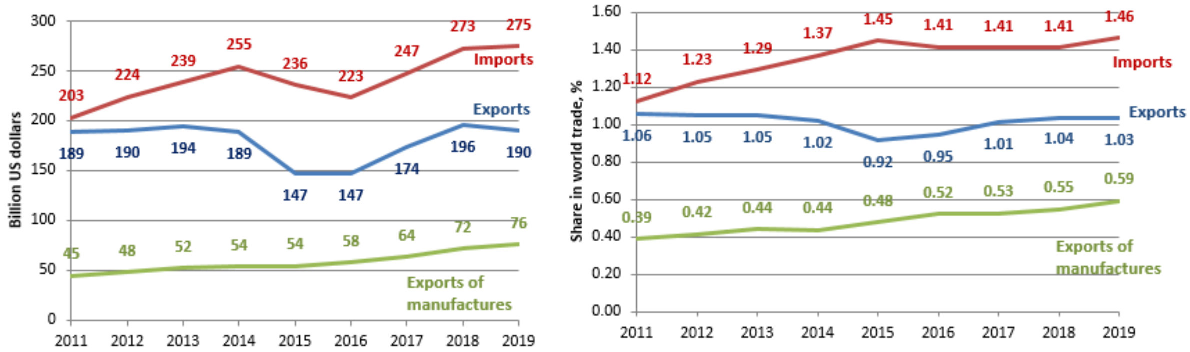
4.2 Merchandise Trade Developments[9]

4.2.1 Overall trend

4.7. LDCs' merchandise exports rose from USD 189 billion in 2011 to USD 190 billion in 2019 (Chart 16), corresponding to an average annual increase of 0.1% (compared to 0.3% for World exports). In 2019, LDCs' exports, partly due to a distinct decrease in prices for fuels and mining products, fell by 3.1% compared to 2018, while world exports declined by only 2.7%. Merchandise imports of the LDCs increased by 0.9%.

Chart 16: Merchandise trade of LDCs, 2011-2019

(Billion US dollars and percentages)



Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates.

4.8. The share of LDCs in world merchandise exports remained above 1% in 2019, declining slightly from 1.04% in 2018 to 1.03% in 2019 (Chart 16). The share of imports grew from 1.41% in 2018 to 1.46% in 2019. Among developing economies, the LDCs' share of exports remained stable at 2.39%, while it increased for imports (from 3.41% in 2018 to 3.56% in 2019). In manufacturing, the LDCs continued their positive trend, as their share in world exports of manufactures increased from 0.55% in 2018 to 0.59% in 2019.

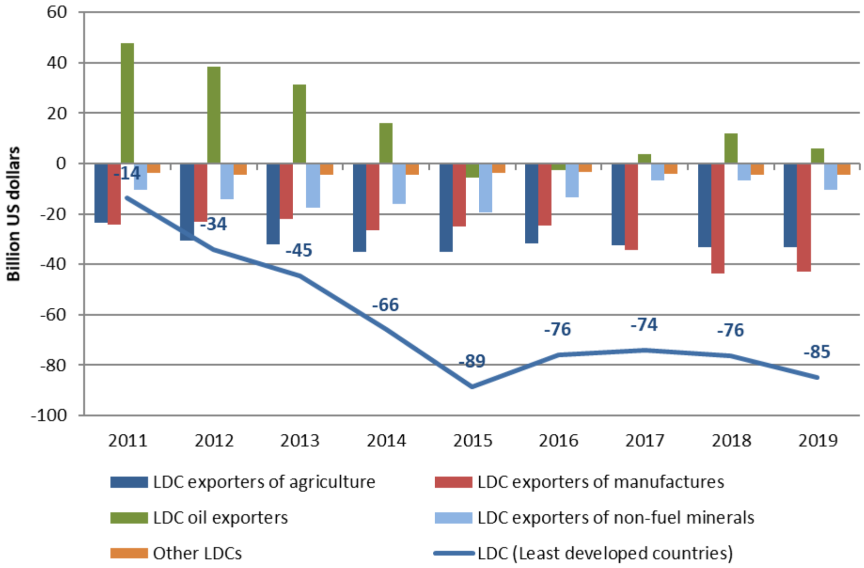
4.9. In 2019, the merchandise trade deficit of LDCs increased from USD 76 billion in 2018 to USD 85 billion but still remained below the record deficit of 2015 (USD 89 billion –Chart 17). The deficit in 2019 was mainly due to a decrease in LDC oil exporters' trade surplus (from USD 12 billion in 2018 to USD 6 billion in 2019) as well as an increase in the deficit of LDC exporters of non-fuel minerals (USD 10 billion in 2019 versus USD 7 billion in 2018). The deficits of agriculture and manufactures exporters stood at around the same levels as in 2018.

4.10. The economies with the highest trade surpluses in 2019 were Angola (+USD 20.6 billion), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (+USD 0.6 billion) and Chad (+USD 0.5 billion), while the LDCs with the highest trade deficits were Bangladesh (-USD 19.8 billion), Ethiopia (-USD 11.8 billion) and Nepal (-USD 11.3 billion).

[9] It should be noted that the definition of goods trade in merchandise trade statistics, which is mostly based on customs records, differs slightly from goods trade as measured in the balance of payments. Differences between Balance of Payments (BOP) (BPM6) and International Merchandise Trade Statistics are explained in the International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Compilers Manual, Revision 1 (IMTS 2010), Chapter XXIV Section B "Goods to be recorded differently in IMTS and BPM6/national accounts" (p. 250). (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/publications/seriesf_87Rev1_e_cover.pdf).

Chart 17: Merchandise trade balance of LDCs, 2011-2019

(Billion US dollars)

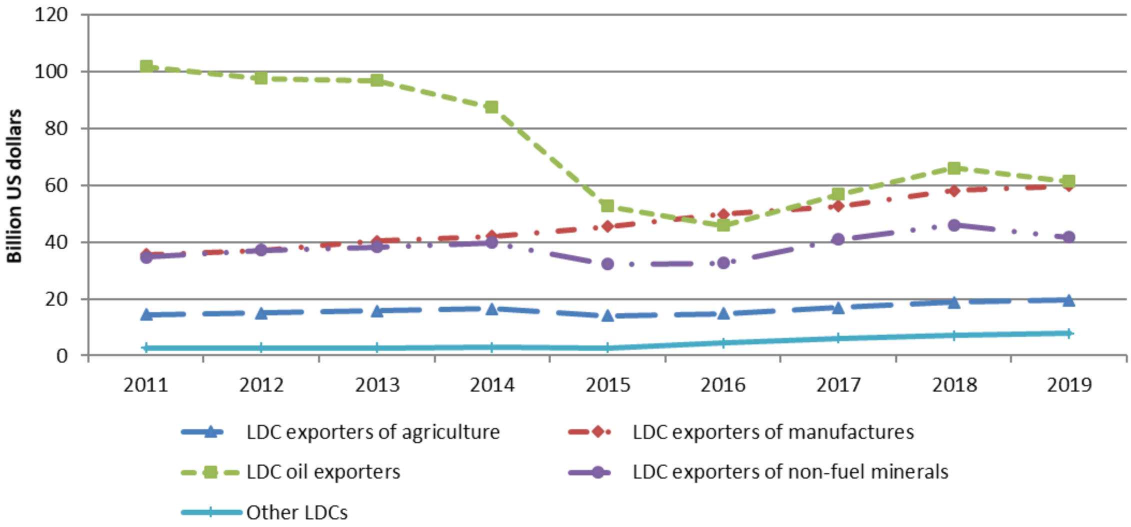


Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates.

4.11. Three out of five LDC exporter categories (Chart 18) recorded positive export growth in 2019, namely "other LDCs" (Djibouti, Senegal and Tuvalu; +8.9%), LDC exporters of agriculture (+3.5%) and LDC exporters of manufactures (+2.9%). In contrast, exports declined for LDC exporters of non-fuel minerals (-8.9%) and LDC oil exporters (-7.0%). Annex Table 3 provides details on the value and growth of exports and imports for individual LDCs.

Chart 18: Merchandise exports of LDCs by sub-grouping, 2011-2019

(Billion US dollars)



Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates.

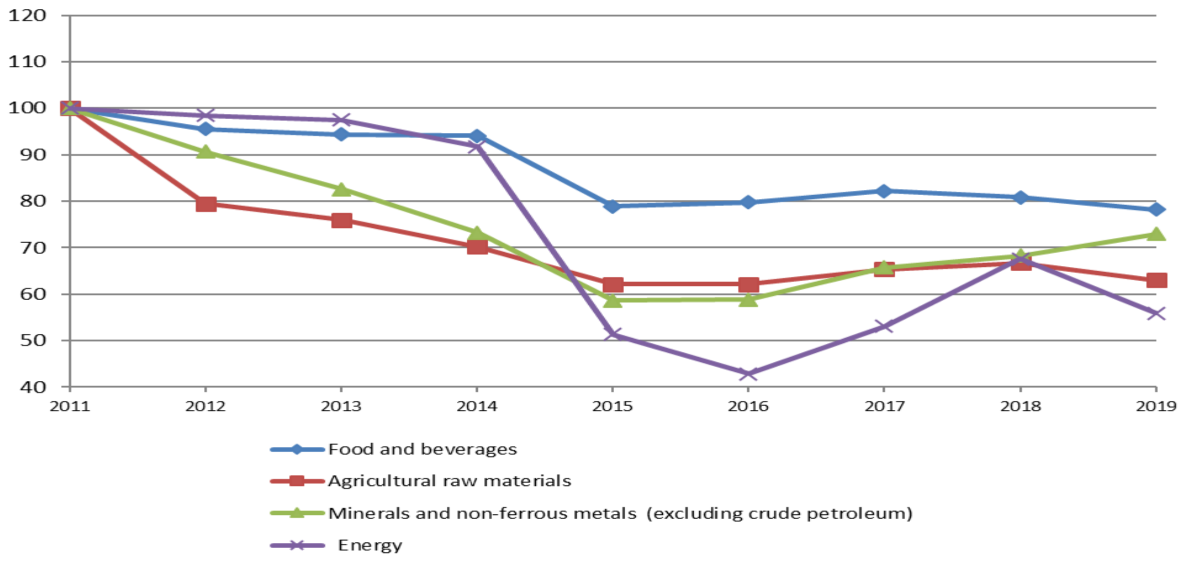
4.2.2 Commodity price movements

4.12. Exchange rates and commodity prices strongly influence nominal dollar values of international trade flows. As Chart 19 shows, the upward trend of energy prices of the two preceding years came to a halt in 2019. In 2019, energy prices dropped by 17.3% compared to 2018. Also, prices of agricultural raw materials (-5.4%) and food and beverages (-3.1%) dropped in 2019. Only minerals and non-ferrous metals increased in terms of prices (+6.8%).

4.13. The price levels of all product groups remained under the levels of 2011. In 2019, prices of food and beverages reached 78% of the level of 2011, while prices for minerals and non-ferrous metals stood at 73% of 2011's level. In the case of agricultural raw materials and energy, price levels were even lower, at 65% and 60% of their respective 2011 levels. Annex Table 4 provides trends in prices of commodities at a more disaggregated level.

Chart 19: Export prices of primary commodities, 2011-2019

(Indices, 2011 = 100)



Source: IMF.

4.2.3 Major LDC traders

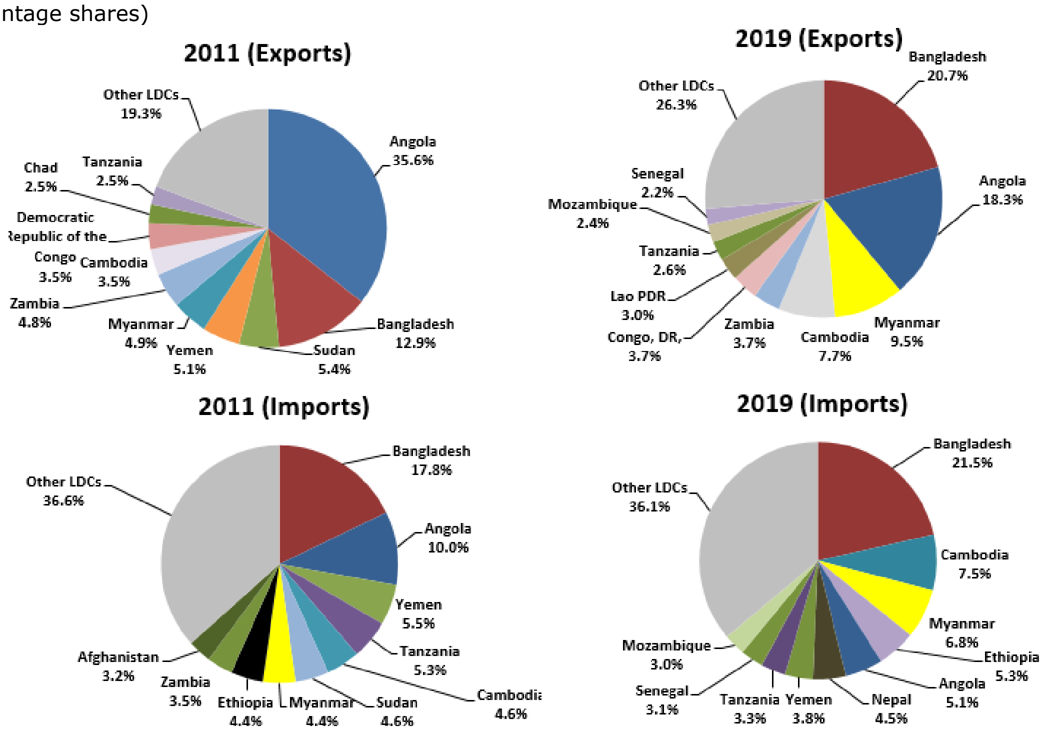
4.14. The top ten individual merchandise exporters and importers of the LDCs for both 2011 and 2019 are shown in Chart 20. While Angola was the top LDC exporter in both 2011 and 2018, it was overtaken by Bangladesh in 2019. Angola's share in 2011 was more than 35% but fell to 18% in 2019. Bangladesh's share increased from almost 13% in 2011 to almost 21% in 2019. Also, Myanmar (9%) and Cambodia (8%), which were on third and fourth place in 2019, have seen their shares in LDC merchandise exports increase significantly since 2011. While the top ten exporters represented more than 80% of LDCs' exports in 2011, this share went down to around 74% in 2019 – a slight decrease in terms of country concentration among the LDCs.

4.15. In 2011, the three leading importers were Bangladesh (share of 18%), Angola (10%) and Yemen (6%). Eight years later, the top three consisted of Bangladesh (22%), Cambodia (8%) and Myanmar (7%). Almost two thirds (64%) of LDC merchandise imports in 2019 were covered by the top ten importers (up from 63% in 2011). Hence, the country concentration for imports is not as high as for exports.

4.16. Among the top 15 LDC exporters (in terms of export value), the highest growth in exports in 2019 was recorded by Tanzania (+23%), Cambodia (+16%) and Senegal (+15%). The highest declines were observed for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (-37%), Zambia (-22%) and Angola (-15%).

Chart 20: Top ten LDC exporters and importers, 2011 and 2019

(Percentage shares)



Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates.

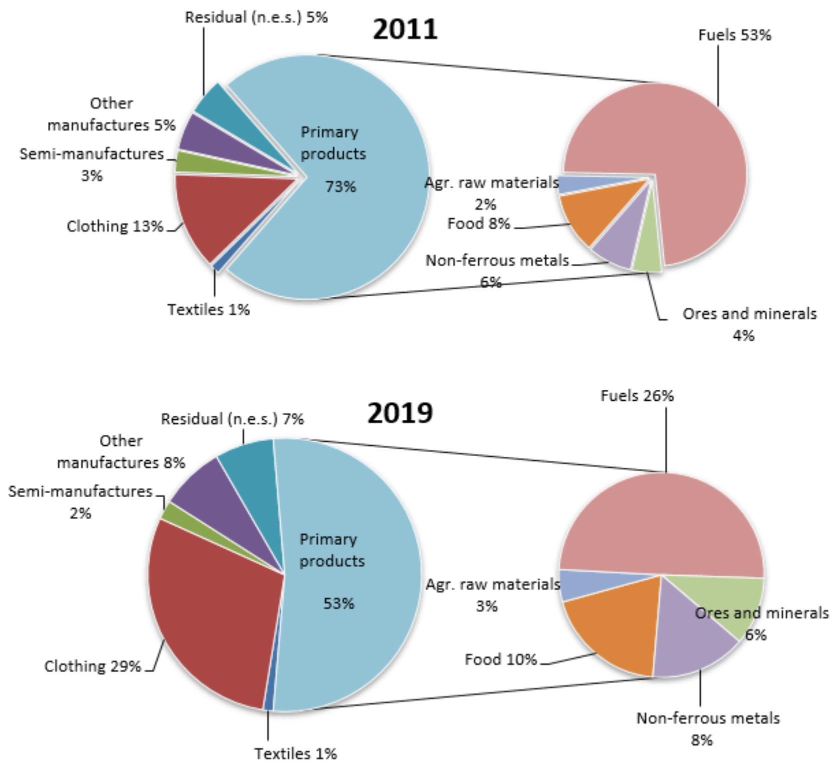
4.2.4 Trends in product composition and concentration of LDCs

4.17. Chart 21 depicts the evolution in the commodity mix of the LDCs between 2011 and 2019. The share of primary products in total exports of LDCs decreased from 58% in 2018 to 53% in 2019 – due to the lower value of fuel exports – and remained distinctly under the respective share in 2011 (73%).[10] The share of manufactured products increased from 22% in 2011 to 40% in 2019. This was mainly due to a higher share of clothing products in LDC merchandise exports, which increased from 13% in 2011 to 29% in 2019. The share of agricultural products (agricultural raw materials and food) in LDC exports increased from 10% in 2011 to 13% in 2019.

[10] These shares are derived from the WTO network of LDCs by product and destination compiled according to the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification (SITC). According to this classification, diamonds and non-monetary gold are not part of mineral products – as opposed to the Harmonized System (HS). As a result, the shares of fuels and mining product in total LDCs' exports derived from the LDC network differ from the shares of exporters of fuels and mining products presented in the annex of this report.

Chart 21: Evolution of merchandise export structure of LDCs, 2011 and 2019

(Percentage shares)



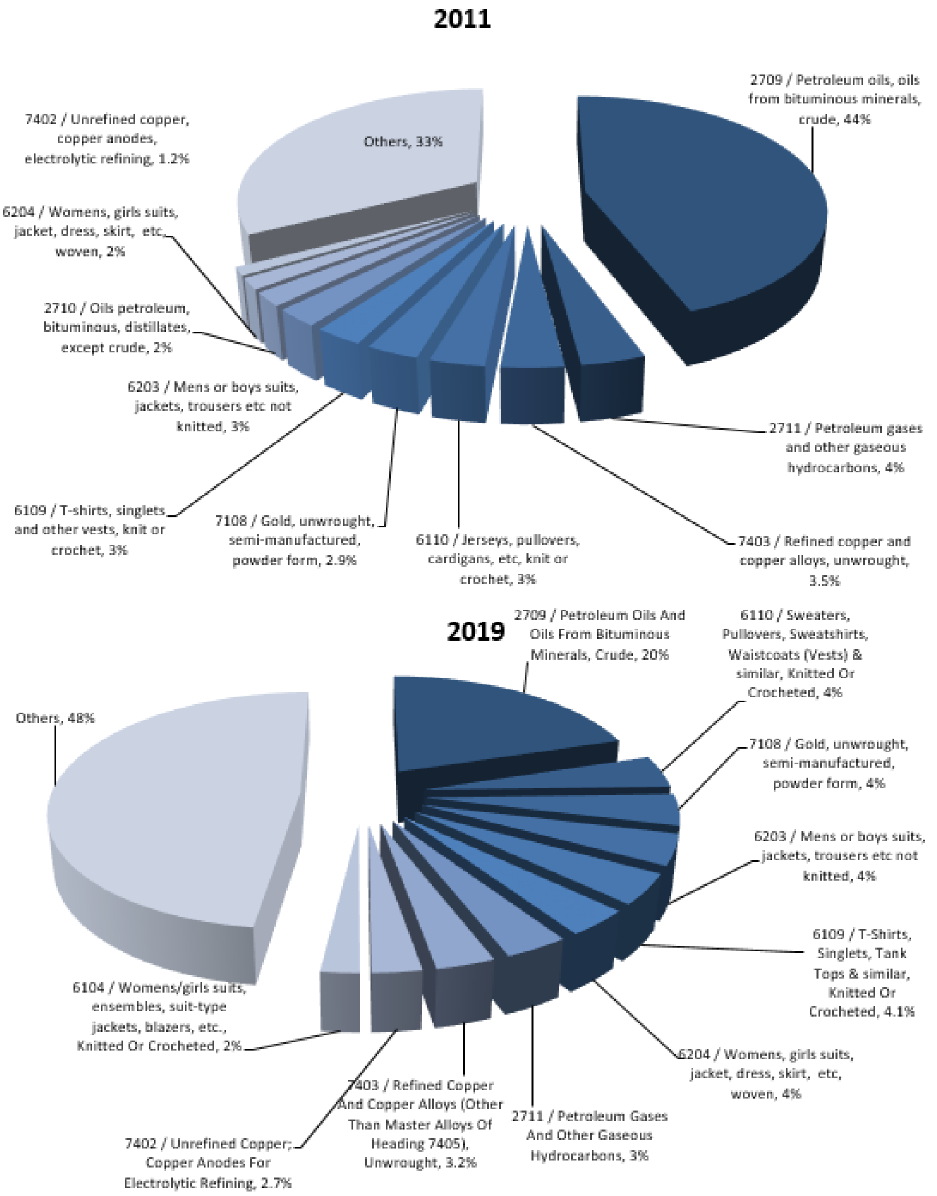
Source: WTO Secretariat (2011), WTO estimates based on Trade Data Monitor (2019).

4.18. The top ten products – and their respective shares – exported by LDCs between 2011 and 2019 are shown in Chart 22 (Annex Table 6 provides statistics on the top 50 export products). Back in 2011, petroleum products (HS 27.09, 27.11 and 27.10) clearly dominated exports with a share of half (50%) of LDC merchandise exports. In 2019, these three products accounted for only slightly less than one quarter (24%) of LDC exports. While crude petroleum (HS 27.09) was still the top export product, petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons (HS 27.11) fell from the second position in 2011 down to position seven in 2019. Petroleum oils, other than crude, (HS 27.10) was not even in the top ten products anymore in 2019 (position eight in 2011, position 31 in 2019). At the same time, the share of clothing products within the top ten increased from 10% in 2011 to 18% in 2019.

4.19. In 2011, gold was in fifth position with a share of 2.9% in LDC exports, eight years later it had jumped to the third position, increasing its share to 4.2%. Refined copper (HS 74.03) fell from the third position in 2011 (share of 3.5%) down to the eighth position in 2019 (share of 2.7%). Unrefined copper (HS 74.02) increased its share from 1.2% in 2011 to 2.7% in 2019 and moved from the tenth position in 2011 up to the ninth position in 2019.

Chart 22: Top ten products of LDC merchandise exports, 2011 and 2019

(Percentage shares with corresponding HS codes)



Source: UN Comtrade database (2011), Trade Data Monitor (2019); mirror data.

4.2.5 Major markets of LDCs

4.20. Table 4 shows LDCs' top ten markets by product groups for both 2011 and 2019 (Annex Table 5 shows trade statistics for a greater number of destination markets). China was the top destination for total LDC merchandise exports both in 2011 (share of 26%) and 2019 (share of 28%), followed by the European Union (27) with a share of 22% in 2019.[11] The top ten importers accounted for 84.5% of LDCs' total exports in 2019, more than in 2011 (83.4%).

4.21. In 2019, China was the main destination of LDCs' exports of agricultural products (share of 21% in LDCs' exports of this product) as well as fuels and mining products (share of 57%), while the European Union (27) was the main importer for LDCs' exports of manufactures (share of 37%). The European Union (27) was the second-most important destination for agricultural products and fuels and mining products. The United States was the top third destination market for overall LDC exports (share of 10%) and the top two destination for manufactured goods exports (share of 20%). The United Kingdom accounted for almost 5% of LDC exports of manufactures (top 3 destination for

[11] It should be noted that for analytical purposes, the description of trade trends distinguishes between the European Union (27) and the United Kingdom.

this product). India was on third position regarding LDC exports of agricultural products and of fuels and mining products. The top ten destinations accounted for 79.0% of LDC exports of agricultural products in 2019, for 92.7% of LDC exports of fuels and mining products and for 85.7% of exports of manufactures.

Table 4: LDCs' top ten export markets, 2011 and 2019

(Billion US dollars and percentage shares)

	Total trade		Agricultural products		Fuels and mining products		Manufactures	
	Value (USD bn)							
2011	China	51.0	EU (27)	5.5	China	46.5	EU (27)	17.2
	EU (27)	36.5	China	3.1	USA	18.6	USA	9.4
	USA	28.8	India	2.7	EU (27)	13.4	United Kingdom	3.7
	India	12.1	Viet Nam	1.1	India	8.1	Canada	1.8
	United Arab Emirates	6.8	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	1.0	Chinese Taipei	6.0	China	1.4
	Thailand	6.5	Japan	0.7	Thailand	5.7	Japan	1.4
	Chinese Taipei	6.2	USA	0.7	Japan	3.1	India	1.3
	Japan	5.3	Indonesia	0.7	South Africa	3.0	Congo	1.1
	United Kingdom	5.1	Thailand	0.7	Canada	2.6	Turkey	1.0
	Canada	4.9	United Kingdom	0.5	Korea, Rep. of	2.0	United Arab Emirates	0.7
	Top 10 markets	**163.2**	**Top 10 markets**	**16.7**	**Top 10 markets**	**108.9**	**Top 10 markets**	**39.0**
	All markets*	**195.6**	**All markets***	**23.3**	**All markets***	**119.7**	**All markets***	**46.1**
	Share of top 10:	*83.4%*	*Share of top 10:*	*71.6%*	*Share of top 10:*	*91.0%*	*Share of top 10:*	*84.6%*
	Value (USD bn)							
2019	China	53.6	China	5.5	China	43.1	EU (27)	28.3
	EU (27)	42.3	EU (27)	4.9	EU (27)	8.8	USA	15.8
	USA	18.7	India	3.4	India	6.6	United Kingdom	4.8
	India	13.6	Vietnam	1.5	Thailand	5.6	Japan	4.7
	Thailand	9.5	USA	1.2	South Africa	1.5	China	3.2
	Japan	6.3	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	1.1	USA	1.4	Canada	3.1
	Switzerland	6.3	Thailand	1.1	Namibia	1.3	India	2.2
	United Kingdom	5.3	Japan	0.8	Korea, Rep. of	1.1	Russian Federation	1.4
	Canada	3.5	Kenya	0.6	Japan	0.8	Korea, Rep. of	1.3
	Singapore	3.2	Pakistan	0.5	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	0.5	Thailand	1.2
	Top 10 markets	**162.3**	**Top 10 markets**	**20.7**	**Top 10 markets**	**70.6**	**Top 10 markets**	**66.0**
	All markets*	**192.0**	**All markets***	**26.2**	**All markets***	**76.1**	**All markets***	**77.1**
	Share of top 10:	*84.5%*	*Share of top 10:*	*79.0%*	*Share of top 10:*	*92.8%*	*Share of top 10:*	*85.6%*

* Aggregated export values for all markets may not coincide with total trade figures reported by LDCs.

Source: UN Comtrade for 2011, Trade Data Monitor (importer data) for 2019.

4.3 Services Trade Developments

4.3.1 Overall trend

4.22. In 2019, LDCs' exports of commercial services increased by almost 10% to USD 43.4 billion, continuing the positive trend from 2018 (+14%) and 2017 (+7%) (Chart 23). Since 2011, LDCs' services exports growth has been more rapid than in the rest of the world. As a result, the LDCs' share in global services exports increased from 0.59% in 2011 to 0.72% in 2019. Annex Table 7 provides trends in exports and imports of commercial services for individual LDCs.

Chart 23: LDCs' exports of commercial services, 2011-2019

(Annual percentage change and billion US dollars)

Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates in cooperation with ITC and UNSD.

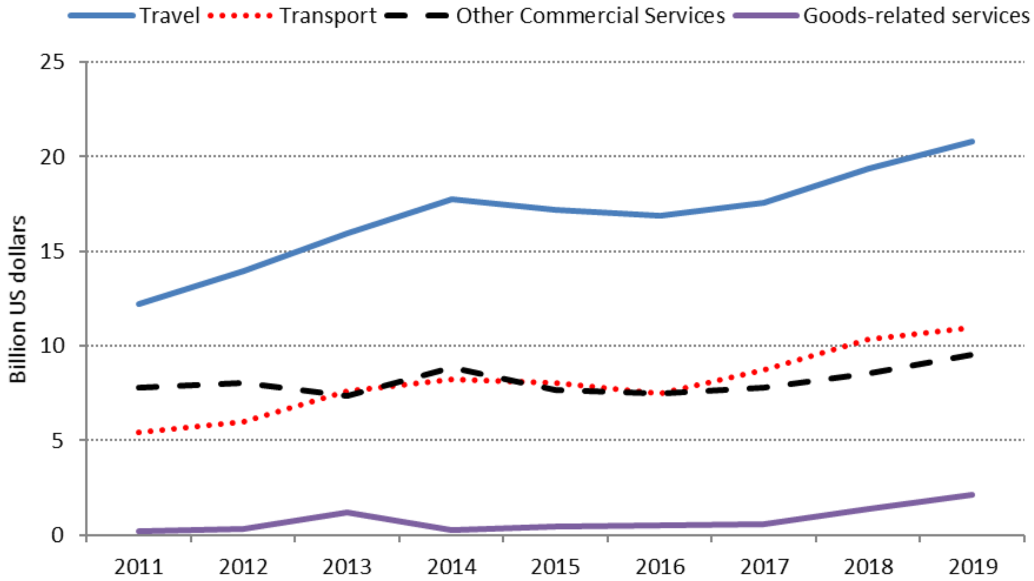
4.23. Chart 24 shows the trend in LDCs' exports by commercial services category. Transport exports rose by 6% to USD 11 billion in 2019, reflecting swift growth not only in Ethiopia (+9%), the LDCs' largest transport exporter, but also in Mozambique (+26%), The Gambia (+26%), and Cambodia (+15%). The LDCs' contribution to global transport exports exceeded 1%. Air transport, mainly of passengers, accounted for 40% of LDC's transport exports in 2019.

4.24. Travel exports, covering foreign tourists' expenditure in goods and services during their stay in LDCs, expanded by 7%, reaching USD 20.8 billion in 2019. Travel remains the leading service export sector for LDCs (47.9% of total commercial services), with a share in world exports of 1.4%. Tourism in LDCs is predominantly intra-regional. In 2019, dynamic growth was recorded in Cambodia (+13%), the main exporter, as well as in Uganda (+12%), Zambia (+10%), Malawi (+11%), Bangladesh (+10%) and in other countries. According to preliminary estimates, Myanmar's travel exports increased by over 50%.

4.25. In 2019, LDCs' exports of other commercial services increased by 12%, compared to a growth rate of 3% in the rest of the world, to reach USD 9.6 billion. LDCs' contribution to global exports of other commercial services rose from 0.26% in 2018 to 0.29% in 2019. Growth was led also in 2019 by LDCs in Asia which saw an increase of 18% in their exports. In LDC islands, growth slowed to 1% while in LDCs in Africa, other commercial services exports recovered, rising by 16% in 2019 after a 2% decline in 2018. At the sub-sectoral level, LDCs' highest participation in world exports were in construction (1.06%), for the first time exceeding 1%, telecommunications, computer and information services (0.36%), and other business services (0.33%). Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal and Senegal were the main exporters accounting together for 53.1% of the group's exports of other commercial services in 2019.

Chart 24: LDCs' exports of commercial services by category, 2011-2019

(Billion US dollars)

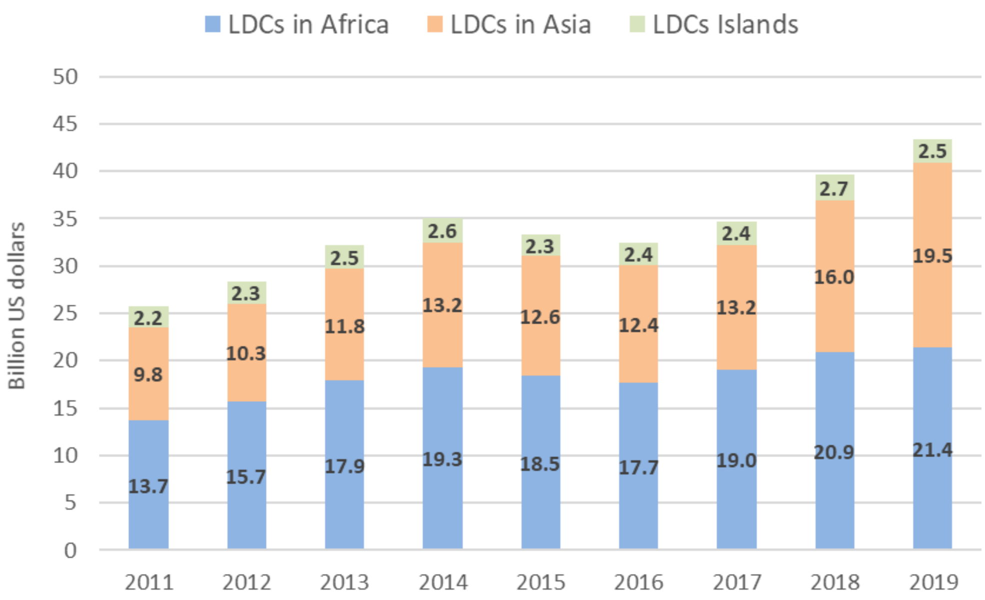


Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates in cooperation with ITC and UNSD.

4.26. In 2019, exports of LDCs in Africa continued to account for around half of LDCs' total commercial services exports, while the eight LDCs in Asia accounted for 44.9%. Exports of LDCs in Africa expanded by 3% but lagged behind LDCs in Asia (Chart 25) which continued to lead growth (+22%). In LDC islands, following a 12% growth in 2018, services exports contracted by 7% in 2019 due to a decline of travel exports (-12%), the most important export sector.

Chart 25: LDCs' exports of commercial services by LDC region, 2011-2019

(Billion US dollars)

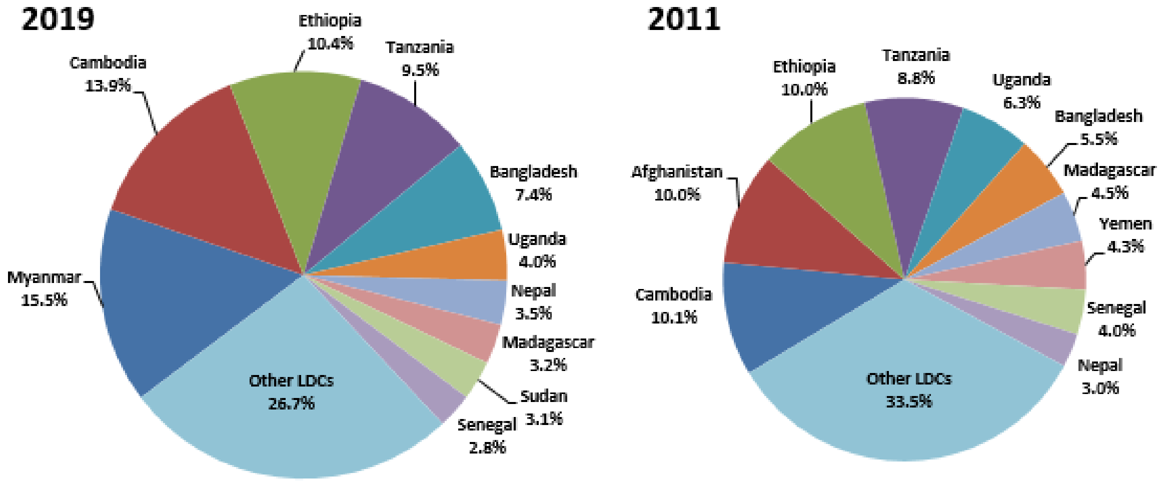


Source: WTO-UNCTAD-ITC estimates.

4.27. In 2019, LDCs' services exports remained concentrated within a few economies (Chart 26). Myanmar was the largest exporter, with a 15.5% share, followed by Cambodia (13.9%) and Ethiopia (10.4%). The top ten leading exporters accounted for 73.3% of the group's services receipts, almost a 7 percentage points increase in comparison to 2011. The share of other LDCs in total exports declined from 33.5% in 2011 to 26.7% in 2019, indicating that an increasing number of LDCs face challenges in integrating in global services markets.

Chart 26: Leading LDC exporters of commercial services, 2019 and 2011

(Percentage shares)



Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates in cooperation with ITC and UNSD.

5 MARKET ACCESS FOR PRODUCTS OF EXPORT INTEREST TO LDCS

5.1 Duty-free market access granted by selected Members

5.1. Table 5 provides statistics on duty-free market access accorded to LDCs by selected Members that have mostly notified LDC preference schemes to the WTO. The LDC schemes of Australia, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland provide full duty-free access to their beneficiaries. For Canada, Chile, the European Union and Japan, more than 97% of their tariff lines are free of duty for products originating from LDCs; China and India grant duty-free access on more than 94% of their tariff lines; and Iceland, Korea and Montenegro have a duty-free coverage of around 90% or higher.

5.2. Hong Kong, China; and Macao, China offer duty-free access to all products on an MFN basis and therefore to LDCs as well. In the case of Singapore, only 6 tariff lines out of 9,558 are dutiable on an MFN basis and less than 0.1% of LDC exports entering the Singaporean market are dutiable.

5.3. As part of the new GSP scheme in the context of the EAEU, Kazakhstan has significantly increased its duty-free access to LDCs, from 36.8% in 2017 to 62.4% in 2018; this was accompanied by an increase in imports. As a result, the import-weighted applied duty decreased from 1.0% in 2018 to 0.9% in 2019. In the case of Chinese Taipei, less than one tariff line out of three is duty free under its LDC scheme. However, over three quarter of imports from LDCs enter the market free of duty, resulting in an overall trade-weighted duty of 2.5%.

5.4. In 2018, LDCs exported the highest number of products (in terms of national tariff lines) to the European Union. Their export basket is also relatively diversified in Canada, Thailand and the United States. In dollar terms, some 60% of LDC exports were dutiable under the United States' GSP LDC scheme, with a trade-weighted average tariff of over 10%. However, eligible LDCs enjoy significant duty-free access to the United States under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA).

Table 5: Duty free market access under LDC schemes in selected Members, 2018

Market	Sector	LDC duty scheme					Imports from UN-LDC countries[b] (million USD and percentage)		
		Number of tariff lines		Number of tariff lines with imports from LDC beneficiaries[a]					
		Dutiable	Duty free (%)	Total	Dutiable under MFN	Dutiable under LDC scheme	TOTAL	Duty free (%)	Weighted applied duty[c]
Armenia[d]	**Total**	**6,438**	**43.9**	**351**	**330**	**296**	**21.3**	**51.0**	**0.6**
	Ag	731	71.1	29	23	2	10.6	99.0	0.2
	Non-Ag	5,707	36.2	322	307	294	10.8	4.0	5.9
Australia	**Total**	**0**	**100.0**	**1,114**	**703**	**0**	**1,046.3**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	0	100.0	167	56	0	51.2	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	0	100.0	947	647	0	995.1	100.0	0.0
Canada	**Total**	**105**	**98.6**	**2,386**	**1,002**	**4**	**3,021.6**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	105	92.7	399	130	4	130.8	99.9	0.0
	Non-Ag	0	100.0	1,987	872	0	2,890.8	100.0	0.0
Chile	**Total**	**41**	**99.5**	**719**	**719**	**0**	**185.7**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	41	97.2	35	35	0	1.8	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	0	100.0	684	684	0	183.9	100.0	0.0
China[f]	**Total**	**293**	**96.6**	**1,634**	**1,438**	**181**	**42,295.7**	**97.2**	**0.8**
	Ag	76	93.5	158	148	31	1,638.8	64.4	14.5
	Non-Ag	217	97.1	1,476	1,290	150	40,657.0	98.5	0.2
European Union	**Total**	**18**	**99.8**	**5,021**	**3,801**	**6**	**45,491.8**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	0	100.0	857	657	0	3,899.2	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	18	99.8	4,164	3,144	6	41,592.6	100.0	0.0
Hong Kong, China	**Total**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,319.8**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	-	-	-	-	-	44.0	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	-	-	-	-	-	1,275.7	100.0	0.0
Iceland	**Total**	**736**	**91.8**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Ag	736	63.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Non-Ag	0	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
India[d]	**Total**	**676**	**94.1**	**1,612**	**1,556**	**190**	**10,449.9**	**94.9**	**1.6**
	Ag	344	77.0	295	277	88	3,343.3	91.2	4.7
	Non-Ag	332	96.7	1,317	1,279	102	7,106.6	96.7	0.1
Japan	**Total**	**204**	**97.8**	**1,128**	**711**	**24**	**6,160.8**	**98.4**	**0.1**
	Ag	69	96.4	190	121	2	420.4	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	135	98.2	938	590	22	5,740.5	98.3	0.1
Kazakhstan	**Total**	**4,586**	**62.4**	**582**	**548**	**449**	**76.9**	**28.5**	**0.9**
	Ag	797	70.5	42	36	0	6.4	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	3,789	60.1	540	512	449	70.5	22.0	1.3
Korea, Republic of	**Total**	**1,232**	**89.9**	**1,630**	**1,433**	**183**	**3,076.6**	**90.8**	**1.4**
	Ag	702	59.3	228	220	97	162.8	73.0	15.3
	Non-Ag	530	95.0	1,402	1,213	86	2,913.7	91.8	0.7
Kyrgyz Republic	**Total**	**5,040**	**58.7**	**205**	**200**	**189**	**4.5**	**0.9**	**12.2**
	Ag	1,300	51.9	8	7	2	0.0	99.8	0.0
	Non-Ag	3,740	60.6	197	193	187	4.5	0.3	13.1
Macao, China	**Total**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**23.2**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	-	-	-	-	-	4.6	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	-	-	-	-	-	18.6	100.0	0.0
Montenegro[e]	**Total**	**679**	**92.9**	**452**	**401**	**13**	**11.2**	**98.7**	**0.1**
	Ag	211	89.9	28	20	2	0.0	84.5	0.1
	Non-Ag	468	93.7	424	381	11	11.2	98.7	0.1
Morocco	**Total**	**18,021**	**1.3**	**408**	**408**	**380**	**257.1**	**30.7**	**7.8**
	Ag	2,424	5.9	60	60	44	103.3	64.2	1.5
	Non-Ag	15,597	0.6	348	348	336	153.7	8.2	12.1
New Zealand	**Total**	**0**	**100.0**	**1,085**	**709**	**0**	**159.6**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	0	100.0	133	59	0	27.2	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	0	100.0	952	650	0	132.4	100.0	0.0
Norway	**Total**	**0**	**100.0**	**1,101**	**315**	**0**	**524.2**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	0	100.0	229	80	0	31.4	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	0	100.0	872	235	0	492.8	100.0	0.0

Market	Sector	LDC duty scheme					Imports from UN-LDC countries[b] (million USD and percentage)		
		Number of tariff lines		Number of tariff lines with imports from LDC beneficiaries[a]					
		Dutiable	Duty free (%)	Total	Dutiable under MFN	Dutiable under LDC scheme	TOTAL	Duty free (%)	Weighted applied duty[c]
Russian Federation[d]	**Total**	**7,307**	**37.1**	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ag	1,034	61.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Non-Ag	6,273	29.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Singapore	**Total**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**919.4**	**99.9**	**0.0**
	Ag	-	-	-	-	-	150.2	99.4	0.0
	Non-Ag	-	-	-	-	-	769.2	100.0	0.0
Switzerland	**Total**	**0**	**100.0**	**1,599**	**1,323**	**0**	**5,286.7**	**100.0**	**0.0**
	Ag	0	100.0	284	216	0	168.7	100.0	0.0
	Non-Ag	0	100.0	1,315	1,107	0	5,118.0	100.0	0.0
Chinese Taipei	**Total**	**6,318**	**30.8**	**741**	**557**	**506**	**908.2**	**77.0**	**2.5**
	Ag	1,154	23.3	97	63	62	57.8	43.8	6.8
	Non-Ag	5,164	32.3	644	494	444	850.4	79.3	2.2
Tajikistan[e]	**Total**	**10,553**	**3.7**	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ag	2,455	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Non-Ag	8,098	4.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thailand	**Total**	**3,135**	**71.0**	**2,491**	**1,884**	**732**	**8,011.7**	**93.3**	**1.0**
	Ag	333	75.7	244	213	60	591.6	85.1	1.7
	Non-Ag	2,802	70.3	2,247	1,671	672	7,420.1	94.0	0.9
Turkey[d]	**Total**	**3,223**	**80.5**	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ag	2,249	19.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Non-Ag	974	92.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	**Total**	**1,972**	**82.2**	**2,177**	**1,421**	**650**	**17,895.4**	**40.3**	**10.3**
	Ag	272	85.8	279	177	3	1,120.3	98.8	0.1
	Non-Ag	1,700	81.5	1,898	1,244	647	16,775.1	36.3	11.0

a Beneficiaries are countries eligible to the national LDC scheme; some UN-LDC countries may be excluded.
b 47 LDCs as listed by the UN in 2018. Full utilization of LDC schemes is assumed when calculating the share of duty-free imports and the trade-weighted applied duty.
c Excludes *non-ad valorem* duties.
d 2016.
e 2017.
f China has submitted data on preferences for 2017 for three different groups, i.e.(i) 35 LDCs; (ii) Benin, Myanmar and Timor-Leste; and (iii) Bangladesh. The data for the number of tariff lines for the LDC preference relate to the group of 35 beneficiaries. Information on LDC imports assume full preference utilization for all beneficiaries.

Source: WTO-Integrated DataBase (IDB).

5.2 Utilization of preferential market access granted to LDCs

5.5. This section discusses to what extent LDC exports in terms of value enter markets duty free and make use of preferences granted. Chart 27 presents a decomposition of LDC exports into four duty categories for importing preference-granting Members which have submitted import data to the WTO Secretariat.[12] The first category is the share of imports from LDCs that enters the market MFN duty free. The second category comprises the share of imports from LDCs that makes use of any preferential import scheme, either LDC-specific schemes or other preferential trade arrangements, available to LDC exporters. These two categories together can be referred to as "utility ratio", the proportion of total imports subject to no – or a reduced level of – tariff duties. The third category covers imports that are eligible for preferential treatment but are not utilizing the granted preferences. These products enter henceforth paying MFN duties. Finally, some Members exclude certain products from DFQF market access; the corresponding share of imports is presented as the fourth category in the chart.

[12] The analysis is based on import data submitted to the WTO Secretariat through the Preferential Trade Arrangements (PTA) Transparency Mechanism (WT/L/806). For further information on measuring utilization of preferential tariffs and data limitation, please consult the World Tariff Profiles 2018, pp. 211-221 (https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/world_tariff_profiles18_e.htm).

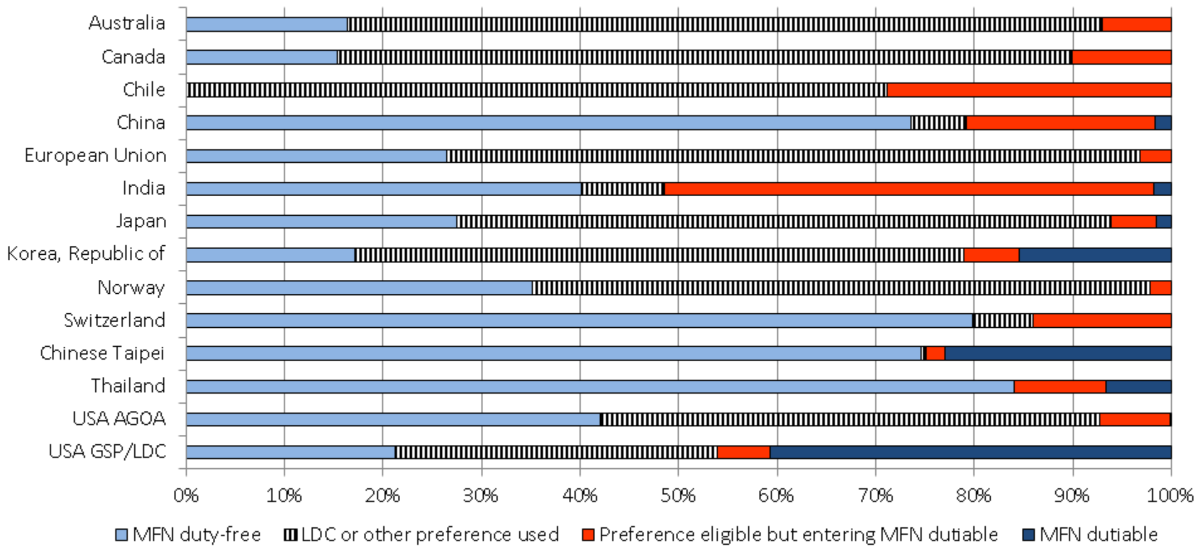
5.6. The predominant share of LDC exports enter developed markets duty free. For example, Canada's imports statistics reveal that in the year 2018, 90% of imports from LDCs entered the Canadian market duty free, i.e. 15% entered MFN duty free and 75% entered duty free by using a preferential trade arrangement. The data also reveals that some 10% of imports paid MFN duties, despite being eligible to preferential duty-free rates. Import data from Japan offer a similar picture: 28% of imports from LDCs entered MFN duty free, in addition 66% made use of Japan's preferential tariff arrangements for LDCs, and around 5% of imports from LDCs did not make use of preferential treatment despite being eligible. The data also shows that around 2% of LDC exports to the Japanese market were not covered by the LDC scheme and hence were subject to MFN duties. The data for Switzerland shows a large proportion of imports from LDCs that are MFN duty free, i.e. 80%, and additional 6% of imports enjoying preferential market access. About 14% of LDCs products exported to Switzerland are not capable of utilizing the granted preferences.

5.7. The utilization of preferential market access by LDCs is similar for other developed markets, including Australia, European Union, Norway and the United States: the share of imports eligible for preferential treatment but entering MFN dutiable is lower than 10%. In the case of the United States' GSP-LDC scheme, the relatively higher share of MFN dutiable imports from LDCs reflects that a significant amount of imports takes place in products that are not covered by its GSP scheme for LDCs. In the case of AGOA, around 93% of imports from LDC beneficiaries enter the United States duty free.

5.8. Data from developing Members present a more diverse picture. Imports from LDCs entered China, Chinese Taipei and Thailand to a large extent on an MFN duty-free basis. Chile and India show a large proportion of imports that were eligible for preferential tariff treatment but where LDC exporters did not take advantage of it. The data also reveal for example that 23% of Chinese Taipei's LDC imports and around 15% of Korea's LDC imports were not covered by preferences and therefore subject to MFN duties.

Chart 27: Imports from LDCs by duty category, 2018 (or latest available year)[13]

(Percentage shares)



Source: WTO Integrated Database, September 2020.

Note: While Table 5 assumes full utilization of preferences, Chart 27 distinguishes which imports have used preferences and which not.

[13] The analysis is based on import data submitted to the Secretariat for the 2018; data for Norway refers to the year 2017, data for China refers to the year 2016 and data for India to the year 2015.

5.3 Recent initiatives to improve market access for LDCs

5.9. Regarding market access in goods, Annex Table 8 provides a non-exhaustive list of major non-reciprocal preferential market access schemes undertaken by Members in favour of LDCs. It updates the previous year's information based on Members' notifications at the WTO as well as submissions made to WTO's Integrated Data Base (IDB).[14] The table does not include regional or bilateral initiatives under which, too, LDCs receive preferences.

5.10. Since the last report, two new notifications related to DFQF market access have been received. In February 2020, Montenegro notified its DFQF scheme, which it has been implementing since 20 January 2016 (WT/COMTD/PTA2/N/1). The duty-free coverage offered by Montenegro to LDCs under this scheme is 93.5%. In October 2020, Kazakhstan submitted a notification (WT/COMTD/PTA3/N/1) on its GSP scheme, including the sub-scheme for LDCs, which it has been implementing in the context of the EAEU since 10 October 2016. The duty-free coverage offered by Kazakhstan to LDCs under this scheme is 62.9%.

5.11. As has been reported in the past, most of the developed Members grant either full or nearly-full DFQF market access. Developing Members, namely Chile, China, India, Republic of Korea, Chinese Taipei and Thailand have made notifications concerning their respective DFQF schemes for LDCs. Most of them grant a significant degree of DFQF market access to LDC products, and a number of them have reached nearly-full DFQF coverage for LDCs. The review of DFQF implementation continues to be a standing item on the agenda of the Committee on Trade and Development.

5.12. Members continue to work towards making progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Decision on Preferential Rules of Origin for LDCs (WT/L/917/Add.1). At the meeting of the Committee on Rules of Origin (CRO) on 5 March 2020, the Russian Federation presented the revised preferential rules of origin of the Common System of Tariff Preferences of the EAEU, which entered into force on 16 January 2019 and aim at implementing the provisions of the Nairobi Ministerial Decision.[15] The rules, *inter alia*, allow beneficiary LDCs to use non-originating materials up to 50%, which would be gradually increased to 60% by 2025. Since the last report, no additional Member has submitted a notification on preferential origin requirements for LDCs using the new notification template (G/RO/84). Most (20) preference-granting Members already notified their preferential origin requirements.[16]

5.13. Table 6 provides the list of Members that have submitted notifications of their preferential treatment to services and services suppliers of LDCs under the LDC Services Waiver.[17] Since the last report, the number of notifications has remained the same, standing at twenty-four (24) at the end of September 2020. The operationalization of the Services Waiver remains a standing agenda item of the Council for Trade in Services (CTS). The operation of preferences notified under the LDC Services Waiver was reviewed by Members in a dedicated session of the CTS on 29-30 October 2019.[18] Members also discussed technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives aimed at building the LDCs' services-supply capacity and increasing their participation in services trade.

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[14] Armenia, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Turkey have submitted data to WTO's IDB, but are yet to make a notification pursuant to the PTA Transparency Mechanism (WT/L/806).

[15] The Minutes of the meeting of the CRO on 5 March 2020 are contained in document G/RO/M/74.

[16] Notifications are submitted under the document series G/RO/LDC/N/*. Armenia and Iceland are yet to notify their preferential origin requirements for LDCs.

[17] See 2011 Decision on the Services Waiver (WT/L/847), and subsequent Decisions taken at the Bali (WT/L/918) and Nairobi Ministerial Conferences (WT/L/982) in 2013 and 2015, respectively.

[18] Document S/C/M/140 contains the report of the dedicated session of the CTS.

Table 6: Notifications under the LDC Services Waiver

Notifying Member	Date of notification	References
Australia	29-May-15	S/C/N/805
Brazil	04-Nov-15	S/C/N/839
Canada	14-Dec-15	S/C/N/792/Rev.1
Chile	08-Oct-15	S/C/N/834
China	22-Jul-15	S/C/N/809
European Union	16-Nov-15	S/C/N/840
Hong Kong, China	24-Jul-15	S/C/N/810
Iceland	09-Oct-15	S/C/N/835
India	29-Sep-15	S/C/N/833
Japan	31-Jul-15	S/C/N/820
Korea, Rep. of	10-Jul-15	S/C/N/808
Liechtenstein	30-Nov-15	S/C/N/841
Mexico	20-Aug-15	S/C/N/821
New Zealand	28-Jul-15	S/C/N/813
Norway	25-Jun-15	S/C/N/806
Panama	4-May-17	S/C/N/890
Singapore	24-Jul-15	S/C/N/812
South Africa	02-Dec-15	S/C/N/853
Switzerland	30-Jul-15	S/C/N/819
Chinese Taipei	24-Jul-15	S/C/N/811
Thailand	17-Feb-16	S/C/N/860
Turkey	14-Jun-16	S/C/N/824/Rev.1
United States	03-Sep-15	S/C/N/825
Uruguay	12-Jan-16	S/C/N/857

Source: WTO Secretariat.

ANNEX

Annex Table 1: Exports, imports and trade balance of LDCs during January-June 2020

(Million US dollars and year-on-year percentage change)

	Exports		Imports		Trade balance	
	Value	% change	Value	% change	Value	% change
LDCs (47)	79,085	-16%	115,035	-13%	-35,951	7%
Afghanistan	353	-30%	2,126	-12%	-1,773	8%
Angola	12,278	-35%	3,320	-20%	8,958	-39%
Bangladesh	16,628	-20%	21,251	-20%	-4,623	21%
Benin	255	-18%	1,399	-51%	-1,144	55%
Bhutan	109	-34%	468	15%	-358	-48%
Burkina Faso	1,618	17%	1,127	-12%	491	385%
Burundi	33	-33%	157	-10%	-124	1%
Cambodia	10,375	6%	10,106	-13%	269	114%
Central African Republic	36	7%	125	25%	-90	-35%
Chad	663	24%	452	12%	210	63%
Comoros	39	28%	107	-18%	-68	33%
Congo, Dem. Rep. of	3,775	12%	2,755	-13%	1,020	387%
Djibouti	75	-11%	2,238	2%	-2,163	-2%
Eritrea	169	6%	173	29%	-4	-117%
Ethiopia	1,268	-2%	3,792	-2%	-2,524	2%
The Gambia	47	-38%	684	-4%	-638	0%
Guinea	2,404	-3%	2,200	10%	204	-57%
Guinea-Bissau	21	-19%	133	-16%	-112	16%
Haiti	455	-30%	1,498	-4%	-1,043	-15%
Kiribati	31	-33%	77	114%	-45	-517%
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	2,644	-5%	2,578	-14%	65	130%
Lesotho	458	-14%	527	-27%	-69	63%
Liberia	380	-48%	5,330	-17%	-4,950	13%
Madagascar	1,432	-24%	1,314	-17%	118	-59%
Malawi	338	-22%	566	-16%	-229	7%
Mali	1,086	33%	1,777	8%	-691	17%
Mauritania	1,428	-4%	1,209	-20%	219	771%
Mozambique	2,038	-29%	4,388	-9%	-2,350	-23%
Myanmar	8,387	-1%	12,140	-3%	-3,752	8%
Nepal	363	-23%	3,390	-32%	-3,027	33%
Niger	292	-11%	651	8%	-359	-30%
Rwanda	154	10%	536	-2%	-382	6%
Sao Tome and Principe	12	6%	47	-3%	-35	5%
Senegal	1,257	-11%	4,217	-16%	-2,961	18%
Sierra Leone	286	-7%	462	-18%	-176	31%
Solomon Islands	287	-24%	166	-33%	121	-7%
Somalia	57	-26%	1,328	0%	-1,270	-1%
South Sudan	273	-70%	257	23%	16	-98%
Sudan	1,090	-24%	3,472	13%	-2,382	-44%
Tanzania	1,807	22%	4,193	-4%	-2,386	17%
Timor-Leste	61	384%	257	9%	-196	12%
Togo	487	-41%	4,156	-21%	-3,669	18%
Tuvalu	6	-66%	23	-35%	-18	5%
Uganda	597	-6%	1,570	-7%	-973	8%
Vanuatu	74	7%	97	-15%	-23	49%
Yemen	632	-13%	4,559	-3%	-3,927	2%
Zambia	2,526	-35%	1,634	-29%	892	-43%

Source: Trade Data Monitor (based on monthly mirror data of 97 reporters).

Annex Table 2: Change in exports of LDCs by destination market, March-June 2020 vs. March-June 2019

(Year-on-year percentage change)

Exporter	Percentage change in exports to selected destination markets									
	All (97 markets)	Canada	China	EU27	India	Japan	Korea, Rep. of	Russian Fed.	Thailand	United Kingdom	United States
World	-17	-25	-8	-20	-47	-11	-12	-10	-16	-23	-17
LDCs	-23	-6	-28	-28	-46	-19	-18	-23	-6	-32	-23
Afghanistan	-64	7	13	-53	-62	-81	4392	-55	-72	-43	-78
Angola	-44	-100	-46	-62	-52	-60	1137		145	-94	-66
Bangladesh	-31	-38	-34	-30	-61	-25	-9	-29	-63	-35	-33
Benin	-15	-58	-82	-18	53		-98	1976	-100	2268	-51
Bhutan	-55	520	1198	-21	-57	-42	187		-63	267	-57
Burkina Faso	18	1706	-43	-63	-83	-4	194	-99	-85	498	4
Burundi	-41	-75	-50	-40	-100	40	356	20	-34	-85	-76
Cambodia	1	-25	-16	-19	-26	-2	-2	-23	-31	-22	11
Central African Republic	-5	-52	26	-39	-69	-94	-67	-24	...	248	-69
Chad	-11	-45	-32	3210	-100	-83	294	239	...	-75	-96
Comoros	99	1179	1581	120	373	-5	77		1378	522	44
Congo, Dem. Rep. of	10	-42	27	-24	-28	1162	-9	-87	-34	-52	45
Djibouti	-10	238	-	61	-55	...	-30	1985	-81	-43	-60
Eritrea	4	-78	103	-18	...	1405	-90	-29	2	...	177
Ethiopia	-11	44	9	9	-70	-19	23	-21	-98	-78	-17
The Gambia	-50	-84	-84	-29	-3	134	18	1494	-29	-20	63
Guinea	3	32	-16	12	-9	-89	8	20	-89	-74	108
Guinea-Bissau	-46	-89	-100	-19	-72	...	-7	...	...	...	-70
Haiti	-42	-25	-41	-24	-7	-24	-32	-36	66	-27	-44
Kiribati	-13	-70	-77	-		-31	-16		-6	...	-64
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	-12	-38	-20	26	-32	-16	15	42	-10	21	-50
Lesotho	-35	-16	-92	-19	...	-67	137	-100	-88	-24	-34
Liberia	-59	-44	-64	-51	31	-100	-63	23	-52	-94	-30
Madagascar	-25	2	-30	-7	-74	-7	-34	-4	263	-12	-32
Malawi	-20	-54	71	-32	-82	-64	11	-9	-92	43	-63
Mali	43	9	-24	-6	-55	4	1014	-93	-58	203	-81
Mauritania	-6	-	20	-46	-47	60	-57	-73	366	135	-14
Mozambique	-30	83	-11	-25	-40	-70	-71	6	33	-78	-48
Myanmar	-6	-3	-12	-9	74	0	-13	2	-12	-16	31
Nepal	-37	-56	-80	-52	-36	-50	-3	-7	-60	-58	-19
Niger	11	-	13	-91	1913	-53	-65	-78	-11	-37	65
Rwanda	17	-43	-14	1	-13	-45	-28	-15	-64	41	10
Sao Tome and Principe	-5	62	7134	11	...	...	3841	-24	-79	228	-65
Senegal	-19	-11	13	-39	-40	-37	-35	-29	-93	5	-32
Sierra Leone	-9	-16	7	-12	-31	-70	39	15	67	-45	18
Solomon Islands	-16	122	-11	1	-47	-89	17	...	-41	-45	-39
Somalia	-10	-69	-50	-21	-76	24	-74	12743	-56	-99	-40
South Sudan	-91	-38	-90	-86	-97	...	...	-41	262	-50	-100
Sudan	-22	-86	2	-10	-50	-27	-54	34	-56	-12	688
Tanzania	17	36	96	-4	-19	-37	14	-21	-43	-33	-38
Timor-Leste	239	-84	232	-63		8018	148	...	-99	-87	-46
Togo	-47	49	-19	-73	-46	-64	2	7876	6	-93	103
Tuvalu	-89	...	999	-94	...	-82	...	...	-74	-78	-61
Uganda	-8	-51	3	2	44	-16	-42	21	425	-28	8
Vanuatu	7	-67	-40	-41	...	-14	-60	-99	182	-69	-46
Yemen	-41	-49	-47	-84	-72	157	-3	-100	233	-35	-11
Zambia	-37	395	-26	-45	-49	-88	-80	-55	-71	-21	-92

... Not available.
- Not applicable.

Source: Trade Data Monitor (based on monthly mirror data of 97 reporters).

Annex Table 3: Merchandise exports and imports of LDCs by selected country grouping, 2019

(Million US dollars and percentage)

	Exports					Imports				
	Value	Annual percentage change				Value	Annual percentage change			
	2019	2011-19	2017	2018	2019	2019	2011-19	2017	2018	2019
LDCs	**190,242**	**0.1**	**17.8**	**13.1**	**-3.1**	**274,985**	**3.9**	**10.9**	**10.2**	**0.9**
Exporters of agricultural products	**19,545**	**3.9**	**14.4**	**11.3**	**3.5**	**52,881**	**4.8**	**-5.0**	**5.8**	**5.7**
Afghanistan	975	12.7	30.8	13.4	10.2	7,330	1.5	16.0	-2.3	-1.0
Benin	3,363	11.5	24.9	50.8	0.6	4,116	8.6	21.6	25.2	-5.9
Burkina Faso	3,391	4.4	14.6	13.2	4.2	5,230	10.2	16.7	12.3	19.2
Burundi	180	4.8	38.0	4.9	-0.2	887	2.1	22.6	5.1	11.8
Central African Republic	154	-2.6	22.2	11.8	-2.0	616	9.0	22.4	24.0	1.8
Comoros	49	8.4	25.2	9.5	17.1	224	-2.6	14.7	9.7	-18.8
Ethiopia	2,761	-0.5	8.4	-10.5	2.1	14,554	6.3	-4.1	-2.9	-4.9
The Gambia	130	4.0	12.6	15.2	6.7	494	4.8	42.8	9.6	-17.8
Guinea-Bissau	223	-1.0	22.7	-0.2	-34.3	314	3.4	26.3	-2.2	10.4
Kiribati	12	4.5	45.0	-46.3	49.3	132	4.6	-4.3	-7.3	8.3
Liberia	528	4.7	28.2	44.3	2.2	869	-2.3	-16.4	5.0	-24.0
Malawi	859	-6.1	-13.5	-1.6	-1.2	2,897	2.2	15.3	9.8	3.6
Rwanda	1,166	12.2	42.5	7.6	4.0	2,703	3.6	-0.7	9.2	10.6
Sao Tome and Principe	13	1.7	11.2	5.7	-21.1	148	1.2	5.5	0.9	-0.4
Solomon Islands	461	1.2	14.3	13.9	-19.0	590	2.9	26.0	5.2	-1.9
Somalia	470	-1.3	6.8	2.1	-2.1	1,240	0.4	7.3	1.7	4.2
Timor-Leste	154	35.9	17.1	92.7	239.7	591	8.0	1.4	-6.2	13.6
Togo	1,135	-0.5	-1.9	6.3	5.1	2,139	-0.3	-17.1	12.9	1.1
Uganda	3,472	6.1	16.9	6.4	12.5	7,518	3.7	15.9	20.3	11.7
Vanuatu	48	-4.1	-6.9	35.0	-23.9	290	-0.6	-12.2	-5.5	-17.2
Fuel exporters[a]	**61,453**	**-6.1**	**24.0**	**16.4**	**-7.0**	**55,388**	**0.3**	**9.7**	**2.5**	**2.1**
Angola	34,726	-7.9	25.5	17.8	-14.8	14,127	-4.4	10.9	9.2	-10.6
Bhutan	594	-1.6	9.2	5.7	-1.9	981	-0.8	2.6	1.8	-6.3
Chad	2,616	-7.3	13.9	34.2	-18.1	2,067	-5.7	-21.5	2.7	4.0
Myanmar	18,110	8.8	17.3	20.4	8.4	18,607	9.5	22.6	0.5	-3.9
Sudan	3,973	-11.1	32.5	-15.0	14.0	9,199	0.0	9.9	-14.1	17.2
Yemen	1,434	-21.3	89.7	10.0	5.6	10,407	-1.0	-7.9	15.8	26.7

	Exports					Imports				
	Value	Annual percentage change				Value	Annual percentage change			
	2019	2011-19	2017	2018	2019	2019	2011-19	2017	2018	2019
Manufacture exporters	**59,860**	**6.7**	**5.9**	**10.3**	**2.9**	**102,584**	**7.0**	**17.2**	**16.8**	**0.8**
Bangladesh	39,337	6.1	2.7	9.5	0.2	59,094	6.3	18.0	14.5	-2.3
Cambodia	14,700	10.3	12.0	12.6	15.7	20,720	10.5	15.5	22.4	18.5
Haiti	1,200	5.8	-0.6	10.1	11.3	4,447	5.0	13.6	24.0	-7.8
Lesotho	1,014	-1.8	16.6	18.8	-16.9	2,057	-2.4	13.2	5.8	-7.7
Madagascar	2,640	6.5	26.4	9.2	-15.1	3,927	3.8	23.8	10.6	-3.3
Nepal	968	0.6	6.7	5.9	23.1	12,340	10.0	15.8	22.9	-2.9
Exporters of non-fuel minerals[b]	**41,604**	**2.3**	**25.8**	**12.4**	**-9.7**	**52,016**	**1.8**	**3.6**	**10.4**	**-1.3**
Congo, Dem. Rep. of	6,800	0.4	42.6	40.3	-37.0	6,200	1.5	2.1	30.6	-3.1
Eritrea	744	7.1	33.6	14.8	11.2	1,148	2.4	7.3	3.8	7.8
Guinea	3,851	13.2	90.3	-13.4	-3.2	3,497	6.5	-21.3	-2.8	3.3
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	5,764	12.9	14.8	8.7	8.9	6,252	12.7	5.5	8.8	1.4
Mali	3,565	5.2	2.5	23.7	-0.5	4,764	4.5	5.8	10.2	0.9
Mauritania	2,480	-1.3	23.0	11.4	29.2	2,874	1.9	10.2	27.2	7.9
Mozambique	4,550	3.0	42.0	6.1	-9.2	7,653	2.4	10.4	20.9	10.2
Niger	1,174	-0.8	16.9	-0.3	-2.3	2,299	0.6	13.8	16.9	0.8
Sierra Leone	661	8.3	-9.1	-2.3	19.4	1,502	-1.7	21.8	4.1	11.0
Tanzania	4,967	0.6	-8.6	-1.7	22.9	8,601	-2.8	0.0	-11.1	4.0
Zambia	7,047	-3.0	25.6	12.8	-22.0	7,225	0.1	9.6	18.5	-23.7
Diversified and others[c]	**7,781**	**14.5**	**40.7**	**16.2**	**8.9**	**12,116**	**8.2**	**32.0**	**13.2**	**3.6**
Djibouti	3,606	58.0	82.6	11.4	2.4	3,943	29.1	53.7	0.8	9.5
Senegal	4,175	6.4	13.2	21.2	15.2	8,143	4.1	22.8	20.0	0.9
Tuvalu	0	-9.8	-8.3	-26.8	-28.1	29	0.9	13.1	-5.1	15.5
World[d]	18,395,411	0.3	10.6	9.9	-2.7	18,803,616	0.5	11.1	10.4	-2.8

a Includes exporters of electricity (Bhutan).
b Includes exporters of gold (normally classified in n.e.s. according to the UN Standard International Trade Classification) and diamonds (normally included in manufactures according to the UN classification).
c Includes exporters without a clear specialization in a specific category of goods.
d Excluding re-exports of Hong Kong, China; including EU-intra trade.

Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates.

Annex Table 4: Indices of Market Prices for Non-Fuel and Fuel Commodities, 2016-2020 Q1

(Indices 2016 = 100, in terms of US dollars)[a]

	2016	2017	2018	2019			2020
				Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Non-Fuel commodities	**100**	**106**	**108**	**109**	**110**	**109**	**111**
Agriculture	**100**	**103**	**102**	**99**	**97**	**99**	**100**
Food	**100**	**104**	**103**	**100**	**98**	**100**	**102**
Cereals	100	101	115	111	108	108	114
Wheat	100	102	130	115	107	111	121
Maize	100	97	103	111	107	105	105
Rice	100	103	104	102	105	102	114
Barley	100	104	107	113	117	115	112
Oats	100	128	130	150	139	154	146
Sorghum	100	104	108	105	98	105	106
Vegetable oils	100	101	95	88	89	95	94
Soybeans	100	99	94	88	89	93	90
Palm oil	100	101	88	76	77	95	100
Rapeseed oil	100	106	101	99	106	110	106
Soybean melt	100	100	107	97	94	95	94
Sunflower oil	100	94	89	86	90	91	91
Olive oil	100	114	98	80	78	73	69
Soybean oil	100	102	91	85	87	96	92
Meat	100	110	107	119	111	115	107
Beef	100	108	103	114	115	135	114
Swine meat	100	109	100	126	109	94	92
Poultry	100	119	127	122	126	142	139
Lamb	100	113	118	118	99	98	101
Seafood	100	105	103	100	89	90	99
Fish	100	104	105	106	88	90	103
Shrimp	100	106	99	90	91	89	93
Sugar	100	89	70	70	67	73	78
Free market	100	87	68	68	64	71	75
United States	100	101	92	96	93	96	96
Vegetables (tomato)	100	112	111	100	113	108	120
Non-Citrus fruit (apple)	100	107	118	110	116	105	101
Oranges	100	91	89	61	60	58	60
Groundnuts and tree nuts	100	108	114	108	106	102	106
Bananas	100	107	115	114	113	113	118
Dairy products (milk)	100	108	99	109	119	131	113
Legumes (chickpea)	100	78	56	60	57	59	55
Fishmeal	100	82	95	92	85	86	91
Beverages	100	95	88	82	83	88	88
Coffee	100	102	89	82	84	88	88
Arabica	100	93	84	80	84	91	93
Robusta	100	110	94	83	84	86	83
Cocoa beans	100	70	79	81	80	85	88
Tea	100	126	104	91	90	97	94
Agricultural raw materials[b]	**100**	**105**	**107**	**105**	**99**	**98**	**99**
Timber[b]	100	98	104	102	103	102	103
Hardwood	100	96	99	96	94	96	96
Sawnwood[b]	100	95	99	95	91	95	95
Logs[b]	100	97	98	99	101	100	100
Softwood	100	100	108	106	110	107	109
Sawnwood[b]	100	98	106	108	112	108	109
Logs[b]	100	104	116	101	103	101	110
Cotton	100	113	123	110	98	101	100
Rubber	100	122	95	112	97	94	96
Wool	100	118	149	143	124	111	108
Fine	100	129	150	140	114	109	106
Coarse	100	107	149	146	133	113	109
Hides	100	92	79	54	48	52	53
All fertilizers	**100**	**97**	**112**	**115**	**110**	**100**	**103**
Nitrogen	100	100	124	124	120	104	113
Phosphate	100	102	120	106	95	83	85

	2016	2017	2018	2019			2020
				Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Potassium	100	87	88	108	108	108	100
All metals	**100**	**112**	**116**	**123**	**129**	**126**	**128**
Base metals	100	122	130	140	139	130	127
Copper	100	127	134	126	119	121	116
Iron ore	100	122	120	174	174	149	155
Aluminium	100	123	131	112	110	110	105
Nickel	100	109	137	128	163	160	132
Zinc	100	138	140	132	113	114	102
Molybdenum	100	111	163	192	186	153	154
Uranium	100	83	93	94	96	95	93
Lead	100	124	120	101	109	109	99
Tin	100	112	112	110	96	93	91
Cobalt	100	219	286	126	122	137	127
Precious metals	100	102	102	106	119	121	130
Gold	100	101	102	105	118	119	127
Silver	100	100	92	87	100	101	99
Platinum	100	96	89	85	89	92	92
Palladium	100	142	168	226	250	293	373
Energy	**100**	**124**	**158**	**136**	**123**	**127**	**104**
Spot crude[c]	100	124	157	153	141	143	116
Natural gas	100	116	147	89	78	89	66
Netherlands TTF	100	132	182	98	76	94	72
LNG – Northeast Asia[d]	100	97	132	65	62	76	50
Henry Hub	100	119	127	103	96	97	77
Coal	100	133	157	112	99	109	112
Australian, export markets	100	134	162	122	102	100	102
South African export markets	100	131	152	102	95	118	122
Propane	100	158	181	115	92	103	77

a Weights based on 2014-2016 average world export earnings.
b Provisional.
c Average Petroleum Spot Price (APSP). Average of U.K. Brent, Dubai, and West Texas Intermediate, equally weighted.
d Argus Media Group.

Source: IMF commodity prices.

Annex Table 5: Imports from LDCs by major markets and product groups, 2011-2019

(Million US dollars and percentage)

Regions* and major markets	All Commodities					Agricultural products					Fuels and mining products					Manufactures				
	Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change		Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change		Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change		Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change	
	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019
Africa	**9,664**	**8,083**	**100**	**-21**	**-2**	**1,771**	**2,527**	**31**	**-1**	**5**	**5,800**	**3,549**	**44**	**-36**	**-6**	**2,043**	**1,990**	**25**	**-8**	**0**
South Africa	3,761	2,474	100	-25	-5	259	273	11	7	1	2,981	1,527	62	-34	-8	521	673	27	-7	3
Mali (2017)	1,045	1,137	100	...	1	62	87	8	...	6	739	763	67	...	1	244	286	25	...	3
Egypt	664	867	100	-2	3	205	423	49	11	9	438	372	43	-11	-2	21	72	8	-20	16
Kenya (2010)	341	853	100	-2	11	178	555	65	-8	13	51	64	8	-3	3	112	233	27	23	9
Zambia	1,442	556	100	-68	-11	22	22	4	52	0	1,153	366	66	-75	-13	267	166	30	-40	-6
Côte d'Ivoire	414	481	100	-28	2	337	387	80	-10	2	15	36	7	-79	12	58	58	12	-13	0
Ghana	320	351	100	13	1	147	144	41	-10	0	8	113	32	101	40	166	93	27	-1	-7
Morocco	91	322	100	25	17	75	116	36	-7	6	1	132	41	132	95	15	74	23	-4	22
Nigeria (2018)	553	220	100	...	-18	181	137	62	...	-4	34	49	22	...	6	339	31	14	...	-29
Malawi (2018)	233	202	100	...	-2	89	80	40	...	-2	13	16	8	...	3	130	105	52	...	-3
Tanzania (2018)	170	174	100	...	0	74	72	41	...	-1	45	20	11	...	-11	51	83	47	...	7
Sudan (2018)	284	170	100	...	-7	46	97	57	...	11	139	3	2	...	-43	56	70	41	...	3
Senegal	75	99	100	-10	4	3	21	21	5	29	34	54	54	-27	6	38	14	15	-10	-12
Ethiopia	172	92	100	-6	-8	24	47	51	58	9	132	33	35	-18	-16	16	12	14	-55	-3
Mauritius	98	85	100	-2	-2	70	65	77	-4	-1	18	0	0	92	-42	11	20	23	6	8
Americas	**36,552**	**24,965**	**100**	**5**	**-5**	**955**	**1,531**	**6**	**-3**	**6**	**23,305**	**2,741**	**11**		**-23**	**11,764**	**20,339**	**81**	**17**	**7**
North America	34,139	22,946	100	4	-5	877	1,479	6	-4	7	21,299	1,629	7	-55	-27	11,435	19,484	85	18	7
United States	28,763	18,746	100	3	-5	725	1,249	7	-6	7	18,581	1,393	7	-60	-28	9,376	15,793	84	19	7
Canada	4,919	3,477	100	14	-4	112	228	7	20	9	2,583	236	7	38	-26	1,782	3,012	87	12	7
Mexico	456	723	100	7	6	40	2	0	-90	-30	135	0	0	-100	-100	277	680	94	11	12
South and Central America	2,413	2,020	100	20	-2	78	52	3	5	-5	2,006	1,112	55	*41*	-7	329	855	42	1	13
Brazil	759	678	100	-5	-1	28	14	2	-21	-9	544	407	60	-4	-4	186	257	38	-6	4
Uruguay	7	444	100	15	67	1	2	0	3	5	1	416	94	14	107	5	27	6	19	24
Chile	738	407	100	117	-7	1	16	4	46	41	706	197	49	-	-	32	194	48	10	25
Peru	726	194	100	88	-15	1	3	2	19	26	713	69	36	6,411	-25	13	122	63	22	32
Colombia	31	147	100	14	21	6	8	6	-2	3	0	0	0	-96	-12	25	139	94	18	24
Argentina	44	79	100	-8	8	6	1	1	4	-19	0	22	28	-	67	37	56	71	-34	5
Costa Rica	11	26	100	3	12	1	0	0	18	-32	3	0	0	-	-81	7	26	100	3	18
Ecuador	62	23	100	-31	-12	17	6	25	30	-13	39	0	0	-100	-100	7	17	75	-40	13
El Salvador	20	14	100	-7	-4	13	1	7	-31	-27	0	0	0	-100	-	7	13	93	-4	9
Guatemala	3	7	100	4	9	3	2	25	128	-6	0	0	0	-100	-100	1	5	75	65	31
Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep. of (2018)	11	0	100	...	-54	1	0	0	...	-100	0	0	0	...	-100	10	0	100	...	-54

Regions* and major markets	All Commodities					Agricultural products					Fuels and mining products					Manufactures				
	Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change		Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change		Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change		Value		Share of total	Annual percentage change	
	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2019	2019	2011-2019
Asia and Pacific	**88,291**	**94,072**	**100**	**0**	**1**	**9,591**	**13,146**	**14**	**13**	**4**	**72,676**	**58,391**	**62**	**-9**	**-3**	**5,803**	**15,926**	**17**	**7**	**13**
China	51,001	53,608	100	-2	1	3,061	5,543	10	22	8	46,503	43,095	80	-6	-1	1,438	3,199	6	11	11
India	12,063	13,313	100	-6	1	2,698	3,311	25	17	3	8,056	6,359	48	-16	-3	1,272	2,206	17	-3	7
Thailand	6,498	8,590	100	7	4	652	1,041	12	2	6	5,688	5,077	59	-12	-1	159	1,101	13	-9	27
Japan	5,278	6,273	100	1	2	731	788	13	-4	1	3,131	756	12	-25	-16	1,363	4,708	75	9	17
Singapore	1,064	3,205	100	246	15	243	111	3	-34	-9	588	514	16	109	-2	178	607	19	23	17
Korea, Rep. of	2,751	2,835	100	-8	0	230	410	14	10	8	2,019	1,095	39	-29	-7	503	1,325	47	13	13
Australia	457	1,330	100	23	14	49	103	8	39	10	15	198	15	161	38	326	1,026	77	11	15
Malaysia	700	1,156	100	7	6	495	348	30	7	-4	159	423	37	14	13	43	381	33	0	32
Hong Kong, China	450	870	100	1	9	148	261	30	2	7	25	9	1	151	-12	276	596	68	0	10
Pakistan	585	859	100	-9	5	367	546	64	-2	5	192	291	34	-16	5	25	22	3	-45	-2
Chinese Taipei	6,230	770	100	-15	-23	133	123	16	2	-1	6,005	411	53	-30	-28	91	234	30	16	12
Indonesia	1,049	751	100	-57	-4	701	357	47	-14	-8	275	156	21	-87	-7	72	220	29	21	15
Philippines	93	347	100	65	18	62	185	53	116	15	19	2	1	-69	-24	9	160	46	36	43
New Zealand	71	165	100	4	11	20	20	12	-41	0	2	5	3	489	10	48	140	85	12	14
Europe and CIS	**38,479**	**51,549**	**100**	**-11**	**4**	**6,131**	**5,425**	**11**	**-15**	**-2**	**13,724**	**9,223**	**18**	**5**	**-5**	**18,258**	**31,541**	**61**	**-18**	**7**
EU (27)	36,501	42,296	100	-15	2	5,504	4,858	11	-15	-2	13,397	8,795	21	4	-5	17,236	28,294	67	-20	6
Switzerland	426	6,280	100	19	40	146	155	2	-5	1	0	0	0	-11	-26	278	1,115	18	10	19
United Kingdom	5,110	6,092	100	0	2	518	415	7	2	-3	886	38	1	-87	-33	3,682	5,630	92	4	5
Norway	262	769	100	46	14	28	75	10	9	13	20	188	24	323	32	214	507	66	23	11
CIS	1,290	2,203	100	5	7	454	337	15	-25	-4	306	240	11	11	-3	530	1,626	74	14	15
Russian Federation	1,002	1,707	100	13	7	350	235	14	-1	-5	192	100	6	22	-8	460	1,371	80	15	15
Ukraine	209	340	100	5	6	57	73	21	-7	3	109	120	35	-2	1	43	147	43	20	17
Kazakhstan	31	72	100	-7	11	12	5	7	-21	-10	4	20	28	67	20	15	47	65	-20	16
Belarus	46	59	100	-63	3	34	23	39	-82	-5	0	0	0	15	-	12	36	61	8	14
Azerbaijan	1	21	100	16	42	1	2	7	44	5	0	0	0	-	-	0	20	92	14	85

* Regional totals are based on the information available and may not coincide with aggregated trade figures.
... Not available.
\- Not applicable.

Source: UN Comtrade database and Trade Data Monitor.

Annex Table 6: Top 50 exported products of LDCs in 2019

(Million US dollars and percentage shares)

HS (4 digits)	Product description	Value (USDmn)		Annual percentage change (%)	Share in LDC total exports (%)		LDCs' share in world exports (%)	
		2011	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2011	2019
2709	Petroleum oils and oils from bituminous minerals, crude	86,761	38,346	-9.7	44.4	20.2	5.3	3.6
6110	Sweaters, pullovers, sweatshirts, waistcoats (vests) and similar articles, knitted or crocheted	6,032	8,243	4.0	3.1	4.3	11.2	14.7
7108	Gold (including gold plated with platinum), unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form	5,727	7,989	4.2	2.9	4.2	2.7	2.7
6203	Men's or boy's suits, ensembles, suit-type jackets, blazers, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches, etc. (no swimwear), not knitted or crocheted	4,961	7,806	5.8	2.5	4.1	12.0	19.0
6109	T-Shirts, singlets, tank tops and similar garments, knitted or crocheted	5,319	7,787	4.9	2.7	4.1	15.0	19.2
6204	Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, suit-type jackets, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, etc. (no swimwear), not knitted or crocheted	3,066	6,755	10.4	1.6	3.6	5.7	12.0
2711	Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons	7,101	6,641	-0.8	3.6	3.5	1.7	2.3
7403	Refined copper and copper alloys (other than master alloys of heading 7405), unwrought	6,881	6,077	-1.5	3.5	3.2	9.2	10.9
7402	Unrefined copper; copper anodes for electrolytic refining	2,280	5,100	10.6	1.2	2.7	24.2	50.6
6104	Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, suit-type jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, etc. (no swimwear), knitted or crocheted	1,636	3,964	11.7	0.8	2.1	8.1	14.5
2606	Aluminium ores and concentrates	750	3,341	20.5	0.4	1.8	18.2	48.2
6205	Men's or boys' shirts, not knitted or crocheted	2,173	2,933	3.8	1.1	1.5	14.0	22.6
7112	Waste and scrap of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal; other waste and scrap containing precious metal principally use for recovery	25	2,501	78.1	0.0	1.3	0.1	8.6
4202	Travel goods, vanity cases, binocular and camera cases, handbags, wallets, cutlery cases and similar containers, of various specified materials	45	2,278	63.2	0.0	1.2	0.1	3.4
1207	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits nesoi, whether or not broken	862	2,112	11.8	0.4	1.1	21.1	40.8
8105	Cobalt mattes and other intermediate products of cobalt metallurgy; cobalt and articles thereof, including waste and scrap	658	2,079	15.5	0.3	1.1	23.2	45.3
2716	Electrical energy	947	1,887	9.0	0.5	1.0	2.6	6.3
6202	Women's or girls' overcoats, raincoats, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets) and similar articles, not knitted or crocheted, nesoi	446	1,834	19.3	0.2	1.0	3.0	9.3
6403	Footwear, with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of leather	911	1,780	8.7	0.5	0.9	1.7	3.3

HS (4 digits)	Product description	Value (USDmn)		Annual percentage change (%)	Share in LDC total exports (%)		LDCs' share in world exports (%)	
		2011	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2011	2019
6201	Men's or boys' overcoats, raincoats, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets) and similar articles, not knitted or crocheted, nesoi	638	1,736	13.3	0.3	0.9	5.4	10.9
901	Coffee, whether or not roasted or decaffeinated; coffee husks and skins; coffee substitutes containing coffee	2,194	1,658	-3.4	1.1	0.9	6.1	5.5
2701	Coal; briquettes, ovoids and similar solid fuels manufactured from coal	131	1,650	37.2	0.1	0.9	0.1	1.3
2601	Iron ores and concentrates, including roasted iron pyrites	1,904	1,634	-1.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1
7103	Precious and semi-precious stones (no diamonds), not strung, mounted etc.; ungraded precious and semi-precious stones (no diamonds) strung for transport	949	1,606	6.8	0.5	0.8	17.9	19.3
6108	Women's or girls' slips, petticoats, briefs, panties, nightdresses, pyjamas, negligees, bathrobes and similar articles, knitted or crocheted	746	1,605	10.1	0.4	0.8	6.8	14.9
6103	Men's or boys' suits, ensembles, suit-type jackets, blazers, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (no swimwear), knitted or crocheted	357	1,423	18.9	0.2	0.7	7.8	16.3
2603	Copper ores and concentrates	2,035	1,407	-4.5	1.0	0.7	3.9	2.4
6111	Babies' garments and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	620	1,370	10.4	0.3	0.7	8.2	19.5
6105	Men's or boys' shirts, knitted or crocheted	1,151	1,338	1.9	0.6	0.7	13.7	17.0
2710	Petroleum oils & oils from bituminous mins (other than crude) & products therefrom, nesoi, containing 70% (by weight) or more of these oils; waste oils	3,801	1,318	-12.4	1.9	0.7	0.4	0.2
7102	Diamonds, whether or not worked, but not mounted or set	1,839	1,278	-4.5	0.9	0.7	1.2	1.3
2401	Tobacco, unmanufactured (whether or not threshed or similarly processed); tobacco refuse	1,604	1,277	-2.8	0.8	0.7	12.7	12.4
4403	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sapwood, or roughly squared	2,177	1,254	-6.7	1.1	0.7	11.7	7.5
713	Leguminous vegetables, dried shelled	1,183	1,180	0.0	0.6	0.6	13.9	15.8
303	Fish, frozen, excluding fish fillets and other fish meat without bones; fish livers and roes, frozen	1,277	1,138	-1.4	0.7	0.6	5.4	5.0
1006	Rice	415	1,136	13.4	0.2	0.6	2.1	6.9
6404	Footwear, with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of textile materials	225	1,119	22.2	0.1	0.6	1.3	2.6
6206	Women's or girl's blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses, not knitted or crocheted	552	1,062	8.5	0.3	0.6	4.1	7.7

HS (4 digits)	Product description	Value (USDmn)		Annual percentage change (%)	Share in LDC total exports (%)		LDCs' share in world exports (%)	
		2011	2019	2011-2019	2011	2019	2011	2019
6210	Garments, made-up of fabrics of felt or non-wovens and garments of textile fabrics (not knitted etc.) rubberized or impregnated, coated etc. with plastics	302	1,057	17.0	0.2	0.6	3.5	11.1
7601	Aluminium, unwrought	1,651	1,036	-5.7	0.8	0.5	2.9	1.9
6107	Men's or boys' underpants, briefs, nightshirts, pyjamas, bathrobes, dressing gowns and similar articles, knitted or crocheted	390	1,003	12.5	0.2	0.5	6.8	14.9
905	Vanilla	71	861	36.5	0.0	0.5	57.3	73.3
306	Crustaceans, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, etc; smoked; in shell, cooked by steam or boiling water; flours, meals & pellets for human consumption	958	852	-1.4	0.5	0.4	4.8	3.0
5201	Cotton, not carded or combed	1,501	815	-7.3	0.8	0.4	6.2	7.5
6212	Brassieres, girdles, corsets, braces, suspenders, garters and similar articles and parts thereof, whether or not knitted or crocheted	209	810	18.4	0.1	0.4	2.0	7.3
6402	Footwear, with outer soles and uppers of rubber or plastics, nesoi	195	799	19.3	0.1	0.4	0.7	2.8
307	Molluscs, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, salted or in brine; smoked; flours, meals and pellets, fit for human consumption	478	780	6.3	0.2	0.4	4.2	6.3
4001	Natural rubber, balata, gutta-percha, guayule, chicle and similar natural gums, in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strip	1,029	759	-3.7	0.5	0.4	2.6	5.6
2609	Tin ores and concentrates	162	726	20.6	0.1	0.4	27.6	62.5
6211	Track suits, ski-suits and swimwear, not knitted or crocheted	0	716	-	0.0	0.4	0.0	6.4

- not applicable.

Source: UN Comtrade database (2011), Trade Data Monitor (2019) [importer data based on available reporters].

Annex Table 7: Exports and imports of commercial services of the LDCs, 2019

(Million dollars and annual percentage change)

	Exports					Imports				
	Value	Annual percentage change				Value	Annual percentage change			
	2019	2012-2019	2017	2018	2019	2019	2012-2019	2017	2018	2019
LDCs	**43,409**	**6**	**7**	**14**	**10**	**66,453**	**-1**	**6**	**7**	**-7**
Afghanistan	600	-15	-29	98	-3	1,211	-5	15	13	-9
Angola	559	-5	38	-36	-11	8,219	-13	6	-24	-16
Bangladesh	3,207	13	13	31	8	9,526	9	9	16	-1
Benin	395	-1	2	50	-19	648	2	-10	11	-15
Bhutan	144	6	11	13	-20	211	2	1	15	-10
Burkina Faso	491	3	7	11	-3	1,457	3	10	10	-3
Burundi	21	8	-2	41	-13	189	0	18	1	-12
Cambodia	6,027	10	14	20	15	3,161	11	13	11	5
Central African Republic	53	17	12	32	-1	431	10	11	53	0
Chad	319	3	18	4	3	2,100	-1	79	13	3
Comoros	100	7	14	23	-4	104	0	13	12	-1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	110	-10	-30	50	24	2,150	1	-15	73	-19
Djibouti	758	25	2	7	6	589	22	42	-20	6
Eritrea	246	-5	13	1	-1	140	5	12	23	-18
Ethiopia	4,536	9	19	38	1	4,151	2	-4	22	-32
The Gambia	229	6	-1	45	17	114	6	-7	-17	12
Guinea	132	-2	-1	99	27	955	3	7	6	19
Guinea-Bissau	36	8	58	17	-3	160	12	89	7	-3
Haiti	395	-3	-15	36	-40	911	2	2	15	-20
Kiribati	8	-8	4	-30	-2	54	0	-15	-10	-3
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1,101	9	-7	18	20	1,274	8	9	3	11
Lesotho	28	-4	-46	-3	-5	436	0	18	4	-6
Liberia	9	-23	-29	-53	-8	235	-11	11	-8	17
Madagascar	1,381	1	9	3	8	1,069	-2	12	5	-6
Malawi	172	8	26	17	7	317	7	20	13	3
Mali	469	6	3	10	-4	1,355	4	5	5	-3
Mauritania	135	1	-41	-15	19	600	-7	24	-8	-6
Mozambique	923	2	49	19	18	2,775	-7	-5	46	-36
Myanmar	6,735	28	1	19	51	3,444	13	15	18	2
Nepal	1,512	10	30	7	2	1,691	10	29	11	-5
Niger	221	18	12	10	-2	1,066	4	21	11	-1
Rwanda	705	10	21	-1	8	948	13	1	1	-2
Sao Tome and Principe	43	14	-13	3	-41	54	12	-2	-1	-8
Senegal	1,213	2	7	7	0	1,948	6	13	12	19
Sierra Leone	224	4	-63	4	116	464	-2	-14	3	19
Solomon Islands	122	1	17	3	-12	215	2	3	-5	13
Somalia	415	...	5	3	2	1,555	...	9	2	5
South Sudan	169	...	10	-28	20	811	...	-9	37	6
Sudan	1,353	7	18	-15	-9	1,298	-6	-1	-20	22
Tanzania	4,104	6	7	5	3	1,882	-3	-7	5	-9
Timor-Leste	76	14	25	6	-7	320	-5	-29	9	-7
Togo	607	6	6	11	3	508	2	7	8	10
Tuvalu	5	4	-3	1	78	15	-7	21	8	-5
Uganda	1,752	-2	-17	16	9	2,653	1	2	24	5
Vanuatu	395	4	5	14	8	156	1	3	0	3
Yemen	162	-27	-49	-16	22	1,415	-7	-15	4	10
Zambia	1,014	0	-2	10	6	1,473	2	6	14	-9
Memorandum item:										
World	**6,065,637**	**4**	**9**	**9**	**2**	**5,730,627**	**4**	**8**	**8**	**2**

... Not available.

Note: Data include preliminary estimates for 2019.

Source: WTO-UNCTAD estimates in cooperation with ITC and UNSD.

Annex Table 8: Major multilateral non-reciprocal LDC preference schemes undertaken by Members, 2020 or latest available year[a]

Preference granting Member	Description	Duty-free tariff line coverage (and major exclusions)[b]	References
Armenia (2016)	Duty-free treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 6 April 2016	43.9% (electrical machinery, chemicals, iron and steel products, alcoholic beverages)	IDB
Australia	Duty- and quota-free entry for LDCs Entry into force: 1 July 2003	100%	WT/COMTD/N/18
Canada	GSP – Least-developed Countries' Tariff Programme (LDCT) Entry into force: 1 January 2000. Extended until 31 December 2024.	98.5% (dairy and other animal products, meat, meat preparations, cereal products)	WT/COMTD/N/15 WT/COMTD/N/15/Add.1 WT/COMTD/N/15/Add.2 WT/COMTD/N/15/Add.3
Chile (2019)	DFQF scheme for the LDCs Entry into force: 28 February 2014	99.5% (cereals, sugar, milling products)	WT/COMTD/N/44 WT/COMTD/N/44/Add.1/Rev.1 WT/COMTD/PTA/2/1
China (2017)	Duty-free treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 1 July 2010	96.6% (chemicals, transport vehicles, machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical machinery, paper)	WT/COMTD/N/39 WT/COMTD/N/39/Add.1/Rev.1 WT/COMTD/N/39/Add.2
European Union	GSP – Everything But Arms (EBA) initiative Entry into force: 5 March 2001	99.8% (arms and ammunition)	WT/COMTD/N/4/Add.2 WT/COMTD/N/4/Add.4 WT/COMTD/N/4/Add.5 WT/COMTD/N/4/Add.6 WT/COMTD/N/4/Add.7
Iceland (2018)	GSP – Tariff preferences for the world's poorest countries Entry into force: 29 January 2002	91.8% (meat, food preparations, vegetables, dairy and other animal products, plants and trees)	WT/COMTD/N/17 WT/COMTD/N/17/Corr.1
India (2016)	Duty-Free Tariff Preference Scheme (DFTP) Entry into force: 13 August 2008	94.1% (plastics, coffee and tea, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, food residues)	WT/COMTD/N/38 WT/COMTD/N/38/Add.1
Japan	GSP – Enhanced duty- and quota-free market access Entry into force: 1 April 2007. Extended until 31 March 2021	97.8% (fish and crustaceans, footwear, milling products, cereal products, sugar)	WT/COMTD/N/2/Add.14 WT/COMTD/N/2/Add.15 WT/COMTD/N/2/Add.16
Kazakhstan (2019)	GSP – Tariff Treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 1 January 2010	62.9% (vehicles, machinery, beverages, articles of iron and steel)	WT/COMTD/PTA3/N/1
Korea, Republic of	Presidential Decree on Preferential Tariff for LDCs Entry into force: 1 January 2000	89.9% (fish and crustaceans, mineral fuels, oil seeds and oleaginous fruits, wood products, vegetables)	WT/COMTD/N/12/Rev.1 WT/COMTD/N/12/Rev.1/Add.1
Kyrgyz Republic	Duty-free treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 29 March 2006	57.6% (motor vehicles, meat products, wine, sugar)	IDB
Montenegro	Duty-free treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 20 January 2016	93.5% (fish and crustaceans, alcoholic beverages, meat and dairy products)	WT/COMTD/PTA2/N/1
New Zealand	GSP – Tariff Treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 1 July 2001	100%	WT/COMTD/27

Preference granting Member	Description	Duty-free tariff line coverage (and major exclusions)[b]	References
Norway	GSP – Duty- and quota-free market access Entry into force: 1 July 2002	100%	WT/COMTD/N/6/Add.4 WT/COMTD/N/6/Add.5 WT/COMTD/N/6/Add.5/Corr.1 WT/COMTD/N/6/Add.6
Russian Federation	GSP scheme in the context of the Eurasian Economic Union between Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation Entry into force: 10 October 2016	61.2% (transport vehicles, machinery and mechanical appliances, beverages, iron and steel products, electrical machinery, meat products, articles of wood)	WT/COMTD/PTA1/N/1
Switzerland	GSP – Revised Preferential Tariffs Ordinance Entry into force: 1 April 2007	100%	WT/COMTD/N/7/Add.3 WT/COMTD/N/7/Add.4 WT/COMTD/N/7/Add.5
Chinese Taipei	Duty-free treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 17 December 2003	32.1% (machinery and mechanical appliances, chemicals, electrical machinery, fish and crustaceans, plastics)	WT/COMTD/N/40 WT/COMTD/N/40/Corr.1
Tajikistan (2017)	Duty-free treatment for LDCs Entry into force: 25 October 2003	3.7% (Duty-free access includes machinery, glass products, petroleum products)	IDB
Thailand	DFQF scheme for the LDCs Entry into force: 9 April 2015	71.0% (transport vehicles, electrical machinery, machinery and mechanical appliances, iron and steel products, apparel and clothing)	WT/COMTD/N/46
Turkey (2019)	GSP Entry into force: 31 December 2005	78.7% (iron and steel products, fish and crustaceans, food preparations, meat, oil seeds and oleaginous fruits)	IDB
United States	GSP for least-developed beneficiary developing countries (LDBDC). The Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 (Title II) authorizes GSP until 31 December 2020 and makes GSP retroactive to 1 January 2019.	79.7% (apparel and clothing, cotton, fibres, footwear, dairy and other animal products)	WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.4 WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.7 WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.8 WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.9
	African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Entry into force: 18 May 2000. Extended until 30 September 2025 (Title I)	97.0%	WT/COMTD/N/1/Add.3 WT/L/970 (Decision) WT/L/1073 (Government report)

Preference granting Member	Description	Duty-free tariff line coverage (and major exclusions)[b]	References
United States	Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) Entry into force: 1 October 2000. Extended until 30 September 2025 (Title III)	Duty free for most products, including textiles and apparels. The Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement (HOPE) Act of 2006 provided new trade benefits, especially of apparel imports from Haiti. The HOPE II Act of 2008 enhanced duty-free treatment for qualifying apparel imports from Haiti. The Haiti Economic Lift Program (HELP) Act of 2010 provided duty-free treatment for additional textile and apparel products from Haiti.	WT/L/1070 (Decision) WT/L/1063 (Government report)

a This table represents a non-exhaustive list of non-reciprocal multilateral market access initiatives undertaken in favour of LDCs.

b Based on data submitted to WTO IDB. The duty-free tariff line coverage can slightly differ with the one shown in Table 5 due to different reference years. Major exclusions refer to HS Chapter descriptions.

Source: WTO Secretariat.