



---

**Committee on Agriculture**  
**Special Session**  
**Sub-Committee on Cotton**

**COTTON**

**BACKGROUND PAPER BY THE SECRETARIAT<sup>1</sup>**

*Addendum*

This addendum refers to and must be read in conjunction with document TN/AG/GEN/34/Rev.8 - TN/AG/SCC/GEN/13/Rev.8. It showcases in particular: Members' replies to the questionnaire on new or updated cotton-related policy developments (Annex 4); and information on cotton markets and policies from the trade policy review mechanism (Annex 5).

---

<sup>1</sup> 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. It has been prepared for information only and is not intended to provide any authoritative or official legal interpretation of the provisions of the WTO Agreements in general or in relation to any measure listed in this document.

**ANNEX 1****NOTES ON TARIFF RATE QUOTA COMMITMENTS FROM CHINA'S SCHEDULE**

1. Tariff quotas indicated in the third column are volumes for calendar year 2001. Tariff quota concessions will be implemented according to the date specified in the "implementation" column. The implementation column indicates the date (referring to 1 January of the year indicated) when the final quota quantity will be achieved. The tariff quota concessions are subject to equal annual adjustments (occurring on 1 January of each year), unless otherwise specified in the last column ("Other terms and conditions").
2. The People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "China") shall maintain its in-quota applied and bound rates (and, upon removal of the tariff-quota, its applied and bound rates) for HS 1514 (rape or colza (canola) oil and its fractions, whether or not refined, but not chemically modified) at a level equal to that for HS 1507 (soya-bean oil and its fractions, whether or not refined, but not chemically modified) and for HS 1205 (rape or colza (canola) seeds, whether or not broken).
3. The growth rate for the TRQ volume for canola (rapeseed) oil shall be no less than the growth rate for the TRQ volume for soybean oil.
4. An entity granted a tariff quota allocation (quota-holder) may engage in importation through state-trading enterprises and/or through entities possessing the right to trade other than state-trading enterprises, including direct importation by the quota holder, as indicated on documentation issued with the allocation or reallocation of the tariff quota quantities.
5. Application: All applications for an allocation of the tariff-quota will be submitted to the State Development and Planning Commission (SDPC). Specific conditions for applying for a tariff-quota allocation will be published in the official journal one month in advance of the application period, which will be from 15 October to 30 October.
6. Allocation:
  - a. The entire tariff-quota quantity established in Section I-B shall be allocated to end users by 1 January each year. Inquiries regarding tariff-quota allocations can be made to the SDPC, with responses provided within 10 working days. Any additional requirement for importation will be automatic under the terms of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. China shall equitably distribute allocations within each portion of the tariff-quota to ensure complete tariff-quota utilization and to establish a tariff-quota system that is open, transparent, fair, responsive to market conditions, timely, minimally burdensome to trade and reflects end user preferences.
  - b. In the first year, allocations to end users by the SDPC of the tariff-quota reserved for importation through state-trading enterprises shall be based on a first-come, first-served system or the requests of the applicants and their historical import performance, production capacity, or other relevant commercial criteria, subject to specific conditions to be published one month in advance of the opening of the application period so as to ensure an equitable distribution and complete tariff-quota utilization. In the first year, no less than 10% of the tariff-quota reserved for importation through state-trading enterprises will be allocated to new quota-holders.
  - c. In the first year, allocations to end users by the SDPC of the tariff-quota reserved for importation through entities other than state-trading enterprises shall be based on a first-come, first-served system or the requests of the applicants and their historical import performance, production capacity, or other relevant commercial criteria. No less than 10% of the tariff-quota reserved for importation through entities other than state-trading enterprises will be allocated to new quota-holders. This tariff-quota will be limited to entities that do not receive any special or exclusive rights or privileges, and will include allocations to joint ventures, wholly foreign-funded enterprises, and private enterprises.

- 
- d. Except in cases where tariff-quota is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, and in accordance with China's Schedule of Concessions and Commitments on Goods, a quota-holder that has imported under a tariff-quota shall, upon application, receive an allocation of the tariff-quota in the following year for a quantity no less than the quantity imported the previous year. For all methods of allocation, a quota-holder that does not import its full allocation under a tariff-quota will receive a proportional reduction in the tariff-quota allocation in the subsequent year unless the quantity is returned to the SDPC prior to 15 September. A quota holder that has failed to import its full allocation in two consecutive years and has returned that unused portion by 15 September shall have its quota allocated in the following year on the basis of its fill rate in the most recent year, and will not benefit from any additional reallocations until and unless there are no other applications. The means of calculating the penalty will be included in the TRQ regulation in force and publicly available, and will be applied in a consistent and equitable manner.
  - e. Allocations will be established for commercially viable shipping quantities and provisions will be made for partial shipments against a single tariff-quota allocation. All commercial terms of trade, including product specification, pricing, packaging, etc., will be at the sole determination of the importer and the exporter taking into full account the demands of the end user. Tariff-quota allocations will be valid for any item or mixture of items subject to the same tariff-quota.
  - f. Inquiries on the entities which received the allocation can be made to the SDPC which shall provide the information within 10 days.
7. Term: The tariff-quota for each product will be opened on 1 January each year, unless otherwise specified in the Schedule. Tariff-quota allocations will be valid for the calendar year.
  8. Reallocation:
    - a. In any year, if a quota-holder has not contracted for the total quantity by 15 September, it shall return the unused portion of the tariff-quota quantity to the SDPC for reallocation.
    - b. Applications for reallocation of the tariff-quota will be accepted by the SDPC from 1 September to 15 September and new allocations shall be assigned by 1 October. Specific conditions for applying for reallocation of tariff quotas will be published in the official journal one month in advance of the application period. Such allocations, which shall be to new applicants and to entities other than those returning quotas under sub-paragraph 8.A. above, will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Quota-holders allocated a share of the tariff-quota reserved for importation through entities other than state-trading enterprises may import through any entity that has a right to trade in any product as specified in Section 5 of China's Protocol of Accession.
    - c. Inquiries on the entities which received the reallocations can be made to the SDPC which will provide the information within 10 days.
    - d. In situations where goods have been shipped from their port of origin before 31 December of any year, but are entered after 31 December of that year, China shall extend the validity of the tariff quota documents and shall count such shipments against the tariff quota allocation for the year in which the tariff quota was initially allocated.

Consultations:

9. With a view to maintaining a transparent and open tariff quota system, upon request from any WTO Member, China shall consult with the Member on the administration of the tariff quota to ensure that the tariff quota will be allocated in a transparent, equitable and non-discriminatory manner and that the tariff quota will be fully utilized.

## Notes:

1. The share of the tariff-quota reserved for importation through state-trading enterprises is specified in column 7 of Section I-B. The remainder of the tariff-quota quantity is reserved for importation through any non-state trading enterprise possessing the right to trade in any product as set forth in Section 5 of China's Protocol of Accession.

In any year, if the quantity of the tariff-quota reserved for importation through state-trading enterprises has not been contracted for by 15 August, quota-holders will have the right to trade or to import through any entity with the right to trade any product under Section 5 of China's Protocol of Accession.

2. China shall ensure that the applied duty for soybean oil, rapeseed oil, palm oil, peanut oil, cottonseed oil, sunflower seed oil, and corn oil is no greater than the applied duty for any one of these oils or for any other vegetable oil. Of the vegetable oils subject to tariff quota (i.e., soybean oil, rapeseed oil, and palm oil), if the tariff-quota for any one oil is autonomously increased, the tariff-quotas for the other two will be increased commensurately. Beginning 1 January 2006, China will remove soybean oil, rapeseed oil and palm oil from Annex 2A of the Protocol of Accession and will grant the right to trade such oils to all individuals and enterprises.
  3. All quota holders, that have already fully used or contracted their tariff-quota allocations in any year by 15 September shall also be eligible for reallocation of tariff-quota from other quota holders that have returned their allocations.
-

**ANNEX 2****CHAPTER NOTES CONCERNING TRQ COMMITMENTS FOR COTTON FROM THE US SCHEDULE****"CHAPTER 52****COTTON**

Additional US Notes 1/

1. Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, the staple length of cotton shall be determined for all customs purposes by application of the Official Cotton Standards of the United States for length of staple, as established by the Secretary of Agriculture and in effect when the determination is to be made.

5. There shall be permitted entry an aggregate quantity of cotton, entered under the provisions of additional US notes 6 through 11, inclusive, to this chapter, of not less than the total quantity specified below.

	<b>Quantity (metric tonnes)</b>
1995	41,926.8
1996	48,850.4
1997	55,773.9
1998	62,697.5
1999	69,621.0
2000 and thereafter	76,544.6

An additional aggregate quantity of 10,000 metric tonnes is reserved for Mexico under this note.

The quantitative limitations established by this note may be administered through regulations (including licences) issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

1/ Note 1 and additional US notes 2, 3 and 4 to this chapter are omitted from this section and are in section II of this schedule. Additional US notes 5 through 11, inclusive, to this chapter are not in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

6. There shall be permitted entry an aggregate quantity of cotton, not carded or combed, having a staple length under 28.575 mm (1-1/8 inches) (except harsh or rough cotton, having a staple length under 19.05 mm (3/4 inch)), entered under subheading 5201.00.14 during the 12-month period beginning September 20 in any year, of not less than the total quantity specified below.

	<b>Quantity (metric tonnes)</b>
1995	8,495.05*
1996	10,837.45*
1997	13,179.85*
1998	15,522.25*
1999	17,864.65*
2000 and thereafter	20,207.05*

\* Of the quantitative limitation provided for in this note, access levels are reserved as follows for entry under the provisions of this note:

	<b>Quantity (kg)</b>		<b>Quantity (kg)</b>
Egypt & Sudan (aggregate)	355,532	Honduras	341
Peru	112,469	Paraguay	395
India & Pakistan (aggregate)	908,764	Colombia	56
China	621,780	Iraq	88
Brazil	280,648	British East Africa	1,016
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	215,512	Indonesia & Netherlands New Guinea (aggregate)	32,381

	Quantity (kg)		Quantity (kg)
Argentina	2,360	British West Indies (except Barbados, Bermuda, Jamaica, or Trinidad and Tobago)	9,671
Haiti	107	Nigeria	2,438
Ecuador	4,233	British West Africa (except Nigeria and Ghana)	7,259

The quantitative limitations established by this note may be administered through regulations (including licences and reallocation of unfilled quotas) issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

7. There shall be permitted entry an aggregate quantity of harsh or rough cotton, not carded or combed, having a staple length of 29.36875 mm (1-5/32 inches) or more but under 34.925 mm (1-3/8 inches) and white in colour (except cotton of perished staple, grabbotts and cotton pickings), entered under subheading 5201.00.24 during the 12-month period beginning 1 August in any year, of not less than the total quantity specified below.

	Quantity (metric tonnes)
1995	900.0
1996	1,000.0
1997	1,100.0
1998	1,200.0
1999	1,300.0
2000 and thereafter	1,400.0

The quantitative limitations established by this note may be administered through regulations (including licences) issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

8. There shall be permitted entry an aggregate quantity of cotton, not carded or combed, having a staple length of 28.575 mm (1-1/8 inches) or more but under 34.925 mm (1-3/8 inches) (except harsh or rough cotton, not carded or combed, having a staple length of 29.36875 mm (1-5/32 inches) or more and white in colour) but including cotton of perished staple, grabbotts and cotton pickings, entered under subheading 5201.00.34 during the 12-month period beginning 1 August in any year, of not less than the total quantity specified below.

	Quantity (metric tonnes)
1995	5,200.0
1996	6,460.0
1997	7,720.0
1998	8,980.0
1999	10,240.0
2000 and thereafter	11,500.0

The quantitative limitations established by this note may be administered through regulations (including licences) issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

9. There shall be permitted entry an aggregate quantity of cotton, not carded or combed, having a staple length of 34.925 mm (1-3/8 inches) or more, entered under subheading 5201.00.60 during the 12-month period beginning August 1 in any year, of not less than the total quantity specified below.

	Quantity (metric tonnes)
1995	25,500.0
1996	28,420.0
1997	31,340.0
1998	34,260.0
1999	37,180.0
2000 and thereafter	40,100.0

The quantitative limitations established by this note may be administered through regulations (including licences) issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

10. There shall be permitted entry an aggregate quantity of card strips made from cotton having a staple length under 30.1625 mm (1-3/16 inches), and lap waste, sliver waste and roving waste of cotton, all the foregoing the product of any country or are including the United States, entered

under subheading 5202.99.10 during the 12-month period beginning 20 September in any year, of not less than the total quantity specified below.

	<b>Quantity (kg)</b>
1995	1,835,427*
1996	2,135,427*
1997	2,435,427*
1998	2,735,427*
1999	3,035,427*
2000 and thereafter	3,335,427*

\* Of the quantitative limitation provided for in this note, access levels are reserved as follows for entry under the provisions of this note:

	<b>Quantity (kg)</b>		<b>Quantity (kg)</b>
United Kingdom	653,695	Japan	154,917
Canada	108,721	China	7,857
France	34,385	Egypt	3,689
India & Pakistan (aggregate)	31,582	Cuba	2,968
Netherlands	10,317	Germany	11,540
Switzerland	6,711	Italy	3,215
Belgium	5,830		

The quantitative limitations established by this note may be administered through regulations (including licences and reallocation of unfilled quotas) issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

11. There shall be permitted entry an aggregate quantity of fibres of cotton processed but not spun, entered under subheading 5203.00.10 during the 12-month period beginning 11 September in any year, of not less than the total quantity specified below.

	<b>Quantity (kg)</b>
1995	1,000
1996	1,300
1997	1,600
1998	1,900
1999	2,200
2000 and thereafter	2,500

The quantitative limitations established by this note may be administered through regulations (including licences) issued by the Secretary of Agriculture."

**ANNEX 3****EXCERPT FROM ANNEX 1 TO G/AG/N/USA/2/ADD.3 AND G/AG/N/USA/34/ADD.1  
NOTES FROM THE HARMONIZED TARIFF SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES****"36/ Short staple cotton**

from Additional US Note 5 to Chapter 52 of the HTSUS:

5. The aggregate quantity of cotton, not carded or combed, the product of any country or area including the United States, having a staple length under 28.575 mm (1-1/8 inches) (except harsh or rough cotton, having a staple length under 19.05 mm (3/4 inch)), entered under subheading 5201.00.14 during the 12-month periods from 20 September 1999, through 19 September 2000, inclusive, shall not exceed 17,864.65 metric tonnes or from 20 September 2000, through 19 September 2001, inclusive, shall not exceed 20,207.05 metric tonnes (articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included in the aforementioned quantitative limitation and no such articles shall be classifiable therein).

Of the quantitative limitations provided for in this note, the countries listed below shall have access to not less than the quantities specified below:

	<b>Quantity (kg)</b>
Argentina	2,360
Brazil	280,648
British East Africa	1,016
British West Africa (except Nigeria and Ghana)	7,259
British West Indies (except Barbados, Bermuda, Jamaica, Trinidad, Tobago)	9,671
Chine	621,780
Colombia	56
Ecuador	4,233
Egypt & Sudan (aggregate)	355,532
Haiti	107
Honduras	341
India & Pakistan (aggregate)	908,764
Indonesia & Netherlands New Guinea (aggregate)	32,381
Iraq	88
Nigeria	2,438
Paraguay	395
Peru	112,469
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan (aggregate)	215,512

Other than as provided for in the country allocations above, articles the product of countries or areas who are not members of the World Trade Organization shall not be permitted or included in the quantitative limitations set forth in this note.

**37/ Harsh or rough cotton**

from Additional US Note 6 to Chapter 52 of the HTSUS:

6. The aggregate quantity of harsh or rough cotton, not carded or combed, the product of any country or area including the United States, having a staple length of 29.36875 mm (1-5/32 inches) or more but under 34.925 mm (1-3/8 inches) and white in colour (except cotton of perished staple, grabbots and cotton pickings), entered under subheading 5201.00.24 during the 12-month periods from 1 August 1999, through 31 July 2000, inclusive, shall not exceed 1,300.0 metric tonnes or from 1 August 2000, through 31 July 2001, inclusive, shall not exceed 1,400.0 metric tonnes (articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included in the aforementioned quantitative limitation and no such articles shall be classifiable therein).

Articles the product of countries or areas who are not members of the World Trade Organization shall not be permitted or included in the quantitative limitations set forth in this note.



**38/ Medium staple cotton**

from Additional US Note 7 to Chapter 52 of the HTSUS:

7. The aggregate quantity of cotton, not carded or combed, the product of any country or area including the United States, having a staple length of 28.575 mm (1-1/8 inches) or more but under 34.925 mm (1-3/8 inches) (except harsh or rough cotton, not carded or combed, having a staple length of 29.36875 mm (1-5/32 inches) or more and white in colour) but including cotton of perished staple, grabbots and cotton pickings, entered under subheading 5201.00.34 during the 12-month periods from 1 August 1999, through 31 July 2000, inclusive, shall not exceed 10,240.0 metric tonnes or from 1 August 2000, through 31 July 2001, inclusive, shall not exceed 11,500.0 metric tonnes (articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included in the aforementioned quantitative limitation and no such articles shall be classifiable therein).

Articles the product of countries or areas who are not members of the World Trade Organization shall not be permitted or included in the quantitative limitations set forth in this note.

**39/ Long staple cotton**

from Additional US Note 8 to Chapter 52:

8. The aggregate quantity of cotton, not carded or combed, the product of any country or area including the United States, having a staple length of 34.925 mm (1-3/8 inches) or more, entered under subheading 5201.00.60 during the 12-month periods from 1 August 1999, through 31 July 2000, inclusive, shall not exceed 37,180.0 metric tonnes or from 1 August 2000, through 31 July 2001, inclusive, shall not exceed 40,100.0 metric tonnes (articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included in the aforementioned quantitative limitation and no such articles shall be classifiable therein).

Articles the product of countries or areas who are not members of the World Trade Organization shall not be permitted or included in the quantitative limitations set forth in this note.

**40/ Cotton waste**

from Additional US Note 9 to Chapter 52 of the HTSUS:

9. The aggregate quantity of card strips made from cotton having a staple length under 30.1625 mm (1-3/16 inches), and lap waste, sliver waste and roving waste of cotton, all the foregoing the product of any country or area including the United States, entered under subheading 5202.99.10 during the 12-month periods from 20 September 1999, through 19 September 2000, inclusive, shall not exceed 3,035,427 kilograms or from 20 September 2000, through 19 September 2001, inclusive, shall not exceed 3,335,427 kilograms (articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included in the aforementioned quantitative limitation and no such articles shall be classifiable therein).

Of the quantitative limitations provided for in this note, the countries listed below shall have access to not less than the quantities specified below:

	<b>Quantity (kg)</b>
Belgium	5,830
Canada	108,721
China	7,857
Cuba	2,968
Egypt	3,689
France	34,385
Germany	11,540
Italy	3,215
India & Pakistan (aggregate)	31,582
Japan	154,917
Netherlands	10,317
Switzerland	6,711
United Kingdom	653,695

Other than as provided for in the country allocations above, articles the product of countries or areas who are not members of the World Trade Organization shall not be permitted or included in the quantitative limitations set forth in this note.

**41/ Cotton processed but not spun**

from Additional US Note 10 to Chapter 52 of the HTSUS:

10. The aggregate quantity of fibres of cotton processed but not spun, entered under subheading 5203.00.10 during the 12-month periods from 11 September 1999, through 10 September 2000, inclusive, shall not exceed 2,200 kilograms or from 11 September 2000, through 10 September 2001, inclusive, shall not exceed 2,500 kilograms (articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included in the aforementioned quantitative limitation and no such articles shall be classifiable therein).

Articles the product of countries or areas who are not members of the World Trade Organization shall not be permitted or included in the quantitative limitations set forth in this note."

---

**ANNEX 4****MEMBERS' REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON NEW OR UPDATED  
COTTON-RELATED POLICY DEVELOPMENTS**

1. Since the second dedicated discussion of the relevant trade-related developments for cotton of 28 November 2014, Members agreed that, in order to complement the revised background paper to be prepared by the WTO Secretariat and in advance of each dedicated discussion, a questionnaire would be sent to Members to seek updates, on a voluntary basis, on their recent cotton-related policy developments across the three pillars of Market Access, Domestic Support and Export Competition.<sup>1</sup> Members were also invited to provide an assessment of the impact (or anticipated impact), if available, of those new or updated policy developments.

2. Seven questionnaires were circulated, on 4 February 2015, 17 September 2015, 22 February 2016<sup>2</sup>, 13 September 2016, 28 March 2017, 10 October 2017 and 24 January 2018 respectively. The following table lists Members who have replied to those questionnaires. The replying Members who are among the 32 Members identified in paragraphs 12 and 13 of this paper as markets of interest to LDCs are identified in bold:

Members who replied to the previous questionnaires circulated on 4 February 2015, 17 September 2015, 22 February 2016, 13 September 2016, 28 March 2017 and 10 October 2017	Members who replied to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018
Argentina; <b>Australia</b> ; Benin; <b>Brazil</b> ; Burkina Faso; Chad; <b>China</b> ; <b>Colombia</b> ; Costa Rica; <b>Egypt</b> ; Ecuador; <b>European Union</b> ; <b>Hong Kong, China</b> ; Israel; Macao, China; Mali; <b>Mauritius</b> ; <b>Morocco</b> ; <b>New Zealand</b> ; <b>Pakistan</b> ; <b>Peru</b> ; <b>Russian Federation</b> ; <b>South Africa</b> ; <b>Chinese Taipei</b> ; <b>United States</b> and Uruguay	Argentina; <b>Brazil</b> ; Burkina Faso; <b>Colombia</b> ; Costa Rica; Ecuador; <b>European Union</b> ; Israel; Macau, China; <b>New Zealand</b> ; <b>Peru</b> and <b>United States</b>

3. Some Members provided a "nil" reply, i.e. they did not report any new or updated policy development across the three pillars of Market Access, Domestic Support and Export Competition. These Members are listed in the table below.

Members with a nil reply to the previous questionnaires circulated on 4 February 2015, 17 September 2015, 22 February 2016, 13 September 2016, 28 March 2017 and 10 October 2017	Members with a nil reply to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018
Australia; Ecuador; European Union; Costa Rica; Hong Kong, China; Macao, China; Mauritius; New Zealand; Pakistan; Peru; Chinese Taipei, Russian Federation; Uganda and Uruguay	Burkina Faso; Costa Rica; Ecuador; Israel; Macau, China and <b>New Zealand</b>

4. Non-nil replies are reproduced below. In cases where a Member has replied to more than one questionnaire, only the response to the latest questionnaire is listed. Responses to earlier questionnaires can be found in previous versions of the Secretariat's background paper.

<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 12 of the Chairperson report on the second dedicated discussion of the relevant trade-related developments for cotton (TN/AG/29 and TN/AG/SCC/3).

<sup>2</sup> The French and Spanish versions of the questionnaire were circulated on 8 March 2016.

**Reply from Argentina to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018 (original reply in Spanish)**

1. In order to achieve sustainable cotton production in our country, the Ministry of Agroindustry is continuing, through Law No. 27.233, to promote the establishment of new plant health agencies and to build up the existing agencies so that producers can be involved in the fight against cotton boll weevil (*Anthonomus grandis*, *Boheman*). In addition to the plant health agencies already set up in the province of Santiago del Estero, new ones have been created in the provinces of Chaco and Santa Fe and their legal status is currently being processed.
2. As mentioned before, the national Government supports the elimination of the export tax on cotton fibre. At the same time, in keeping with policies aimed at improving the quality of the country's products, further efforts are being made to incorporate the Cotton Fibre Quality Improvement Assistance Programme (PROCALGODON), created pursuant to Resolution No. 537/2008, in the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) certification. This should help to improve the quality of Argentine cotton and to achieve the commercial standards that the major textile brands require.
3. Also worth stressing is the progress made in the traceability programme and the High Volume Instrument (HVI) laboratory network set up to identify the quality and origin of the fibre, thereby facilitating access to international markets in keeping with the previously mentioned efforts.

**Reply from Brazil to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018**

With regard to the Director of the Agriculture and Commodities Division's invitation to Members, on the 24th January 2018, to provide updates cotton-related policy developments in view of the forthcoming ninth dedicated discussion, Brazil submits the following information (concerning the period between May 2017 and March 2018):

- Market Access:

Of the three tariff lines in heading 5201 (cotton, not carded or combed), the tariff line 5201.00.10 (not ginned) had its applied duty rate maintained at 6%.

The tariff line 5201.00.20 (merely ginned) had its applied duty rate kept at 6% as of 1 August. A zero duty TRQ of 75 thousand tonnes was established for the period from 18 February 2017 to 31 July 2017.

The tariff line 5201.00.90 (others) had its applied duty rate maintained at 6%.

- Domestic Support: from May 2017 to March 2018, there has been no domestic support provided to Brazilian cotton producers.
- Export Competition: from May 2017 to March 2018, no export subsidies have been granted to cotton.

**Reply from Colombia to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018 (original reply in Spanish)**

The WTO questionnaire requests information on any new or updated cotton-related policy developments.

**Market access:** In addition to the duty-free treatment granted by Colombia to its main cotton-supplying trading partners, the Colombian Government considered it viable to grant a 15,000 tonne import quota for 2018, at a zero tariff rate, for uncarded and uncombed cotton under tariff subheading 5201.00.30.00 for third countries with which trade agreements have not been concluded.

The quota was opened to help supply domestic industry in the quantities required for industrial consumption in 2018, even though the fibre included in this subheading is not produced in the country's cotton regions. This measure is pending approval and regulation.

**Domestic support:** Owing to the good performance of the cotton market and the high prices recorded in 2016-2017, the Colombian Government does not envisage implementing any support programme for producers, nor does it have any new or recent cotton-related instruments.

**Export competition:** Colombia did not apply any export competition measures.

**Reply from the European Union to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018**

In reply to the questionnaire of the WTO Secretariat of 24 January 2018 on new or updated cotton-related policy developments in advance of the ninth dedicated discussion on cotton, you will find in the table below the data on direct payment expenditures for cotton granted in accordance with Article 6.5 of the Agreement on Agriculture. No other cotton-related policy developments occurred in the EU during the reporting period.

<b>Description of Measure</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Payments based on fixed area and yields: Cotton (Title IV, Chapter 1, Section 6 of Regulation (EC) No 73/2009; from 2015, Title IV, Chapter 2 of Regulation (EU) No. 1307/2013)	216.9	221.7	247.3	245.8	242.3	231.8	244.0	243.9	233.8*

## **Reply from Peru to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018 (original reply in Spanish)**

### **I. MARKET ACCESS**

During the analysis period, Peru made no changes to its cotton-related policies concerning market access.

### **II. DOMESTIC SUPPORT**

#### **(a) Cotton Financing Programme**

##### **1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME**

Funding programme consisting of the provision of repayable loans to eligible cotton producers in the coastal region.

##### **2 OBJECTIVE**

Provision of loans to finance cotton farming for the purchase of inputs (seed, fertilizers and agrochemicals), machinery, labour, administrative costs and technical assistance.

##### **3 BENEFICIARIES**

Cotton producers on the Peruvian coast, through producer organizations (formally established cooperatives and/or associations), which, in addition, provide services relating to business management and technical assistance.

##### **4 DURATION**

April 2017-December 2017

##### **5 FORM OF BENEFIT**

The Temporary Funding Programme for Agricultural Inputs, financed with resources from the AGROPERU Fund through AGROBANCO, is intended for producer organizations in the Piura region, for the purchase of inputs (seed, fertilizers and agrochemicals).

AGROBANCO continued its funding programme at a preferential rate for cotton producers (Annual Effective Rate of 12%). The programme covered a farming area of 856 hectares and 393 beneficiaries, and served areas producing mainly the Pima, IPA 59 and Hazera cotton varieties.

In light of the unforeseen rains caused by the El Niño Costero phenomenon, AGROBANCO modified its funding plan in the department of Piura.

Funding is estimated to amount to S/4,000.00 per ha, with a maximum of 4 ha per producer (up to 6 ha for returning clients), and the total of loans is approximately S/2.55 million, distributed as follows:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount (in soles)</b>
Inputs and services: seed, fertilizers, agrochemicals	2,390.00
Labour	1,500.00
Technical assistance	110.00
Administrative costs	
Total	4,000.00



### **III. EXPORT COMPETITION**

Peru does not provide export subsidies for agricultural products, including cotton.

#### **Reply from the United States to the questionnaire circulated on 24 January 2018**

In March 2018, USDA announced an ad hoc program: the Cotton Ginning Cost-Share (CGCS) program, which provides a cost-share assistance payment to cotton producers for ginning costs. Through the CGCS program, eligible producers can receive a cost share payment in 2017/2018, which is based on a producer's past historical planting and 20% of the average ginning cost in each of the four production regions. The program is limited in scope by payment limits and other eligibility requirements for producers.

US cotton producers have faced four straight years of financial stress due to high input and infrastructure costs, leaving them more financially leveraged compared to other commodities. Cotton ginning is a necessary requirement for producers to market the lint for fiber and the seed for oil or feed. While the CGCS program makes payments to cotton producers for a portion of the cotton ginning costs, the benefits of the program will be felt by the broader rural communities and the cotton-related industries that depend on ginning.

The program estimates payments based on historical cotton plantings and is not connected to either current or future production. Sign-up for the US producers will begin 12 March 2018 and run through 11 May 2018.

The CGCS program will be notified as part of our notification for marketing year, 2017/2018, which will be submitted once data are complete.

**Reply from Angola to the questionnaire circulated on 28 March 2017**

In response to the Secretariat questionnaire, Angola is giving the following information:

**(1) Market access**

Cotton production in Angola is insignificant. In 2016, the production of cotton fibre (**lint**) was 640 tonnes. For 2017, cotton fibre production is estimated at 68 tonnes. Projected cotton fibre production for 2018 is 480 tonnes.

Prior to the rehabilitation of the national textile industry, the cotton produced was exported to Bangladesh. After the rehabilitation of the textile industry, the cotton produced in the country started to sell in the domestic market.

The national textile industry, composed of three spinning and weaving factories, has imported cotton from Greece and India to meet its needs. This picture will be change with the full re-launch of cotton production in the country. The estimated yearly need of the national textile industry is estimated at 24.000 tonnes of cotton fibre.

**(2) Domestic support**

In 2017 the Ministry of Agriculture took the first step towards the sustainable re-launch of cotton production in the country. This year 212 hectares of land were cultivated. The Ministry of Agriculture provided seeds and inputs and assisted with the preparation of land.

Banks in Angola are available to finance the cotton value chain, provided entrepreneurs submit feasible investment projects.

The Angolan Executive is committed to mobilizing financial resources for the relaunch of the cotton value chain.

**(3) Export competition**

Angola does not apply any export competition measures.

**Reply from Burkina Faso to the questionnaire circulated on 28 March 2017 (original reply in French)**

There have been no particular changes across the three pillars of market access, domestic support and export competition since the 26<sup>th</sup> round of the WTO Director-General's Consultative Framework Mechanism on Cotton. Burkina Faso's cotton-related policy developments are summarized in the following table:

Pillars	Cotton-related policy developments	Comments
<b>Market Access</b>	Nothing to report	Nothing to report
<b>Domestic Support</b>	Nothing to report	Nothing to report
<b>Export Competition</b>	Nothing to report	Nothing to report

By way of general comment on Burkina Faso's cotton sector, it is important to point out that for this 2017/2018 cotton season, the cotton will be grown from 100% conventional cotton seed.

**Reply from Benin to the questionnaire circulated on 13 September 2016 (original reply in French)**

Eager to bring about a significant expansion of the cotton sector in the framework of a public-private partnership, the Council of Ministers decided to revive the Framework Agreement between the State and the Cotton Trade Association (AIC). Accordingly, the agreement, which had been suspended on 23 September 2013, was renewed on 28 April 2016. A number of reforms undertaken by the Beninese Government have had a direct or indirect impact on the cotton sector through the three pillars of agriculture, i.e. market access, domestic support and export competition.

**(1) Market access**

One of the aims of the amending finance law adopted in July 2016 and the preliminary draft finance law of 2017 is to promote measures to stimulate private investment. Accordingly, since July 2016, **the registration formalities for the following documents are taxed at 0%:**

- deeds for transfer of movable and immovable property, in connection with the improvement of the business climate;
- credit agreements, in order to reduce the cost of credit transactions.

Measures were also taken to reduce harassment along the trunk roads.

Similarly, in connection with the transport of seed cotton from the self-managed markets to the processing plants, the Government decided to remove the rehabilitation of rural roads from the responsibilities relating to critical functions. The rehabilitation of dirt roads used for cotton is now the responsibility of the State.

**(2) Domestic support**

In connection with domestic support, the following new measures have been taken:

- Revival of the Framework Agreement between the State and the AIC. The introduction of **domestic price support mechanisms for producers** is now the responsibility of the sectoral trade associations in cooperation with the Ministry.
- Production and agricultural research capacity-building through the introduction, in July 2016, of an agricultural research contribution charged on exports of cotton seed and fibre and raw cashew nuts, at a rate of CFAF 10 per kilogram exported.
- Suspension by the Government of cotton subsidies (particularly in relation to inputs) as from the 2016-2017 season.

**(3) Export competition**

The introduction of a framework conducive to agro-industry is at the centre of the interim budget for 2016. A public/private partnership law will help to promote the processing industry and in particular the cotton spinning mills.

**Reply from Mali to the questionnaire circulated on 13 September 2016 (original reply in French)**

The following noteworthy developments have occurred since July 2016:

**(1) Market access**

Awareness-raising missions along major roads to reduce the number of checkpoints;

Fact-finding mission to assess the opportunities offered by Mauritania's Autonomous Port.

**(2) Domestic support**

Signing of a performance contract with the Compagnie Malienne des Textiles (COMATEX SA) for the sourcing of raw materials on preferential terms;

Payment of VAT abolished (exemption) on the purchase price of cotton seed for the crushing plants;

"1,000 tractors" programme: facilitated access to tractors in order to boost domestic production;

Signing of a protocol between the National Oil Mill and Cattle Feed Federation of Mali (FENAPHAB) and stakeholders in the livestock meat subsector in order to provide better access to oil cake and other cattle feed.

**(3) Export competition**

Mali does not grant any cotton export subsidies.

**Reply from Australia to the questionnaire circulated on 22 February 2016**

Cotton Research and Development	Research into improvements in cotton production	\$A 7.729 million for 2014-15	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water Resources (DAWR)
---------------------------------	---	-------------------------------	---

**Reply from Israel to the questionnaire circulated on 22 February 2016**

With regard to the Chairman's requests on cotton Israel would like to inform the Members of the following:

No new or updated cotton-related policy developments occurred in Israel in 2015.

**(1) Market access**

No changes in tariffs related to cotton were made during 2015.

**(2) Domestic support**

Israel's budgetary outlay for cotton in both thousand US\$ and thousand tonnes (marketing year, 1 October-30 September) for 2015 was zero.

Market price support, non-exempt direct payments, other product-specific support, product-specific EMS and product-specific AMS for cotton during 2015 were also zero.

**(3) Export competition**

Export subsidies for cotton were zero in 2015.

**Reply from South Africa to the questionnaire circulated on 22 February 2016****(1) Market access**

No changes were made to market access related policies in recent years.

All tariffs for cotton at the applied level are zero, with the exception of the following lines:

Product code	Product	Tariff
5201 0020	Ginned, but not further processed	ZAR 1.60/kg
5201 0090	Other	15%
5203 00	Cotton, carded or combed	15%

On the above tariff lines, a preference tariff of zero is applied for cotton origination in SADC countries and the EU in accordance with relevant Free Trade Agreements.

In recent years, an average in excess of 90% of South Africa's cotton imports originates from SADC countries. The suppliers of cotton in this regard are, in the main, LDCs.

**(2) Domestic support**

No changes were made to Domestic Support policies.

No AMS has been used on cotton for more than 15 years. Cotton production might indirectly benefit from Green Box expenditure.

**(3) Export competition**

No changes were made to EC policies.

South Africa did not make use of export subsidies since the year 2000.



**Reply from Chad to the questionnaire circulated on 4 February 2015 (original reply in French)**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Chad to the World Trade Organization (WTO) presents its compliments to the WTO Secretariat and, further to the Secretariat's correspondence of 4 February 2015 on relevant trade-related developments for cotton, has the honour to transmit herewith details of new cotton-related policy developments that have occurred in Chad since January 2014 in relation to the following three pillars:

**(1) Market access**

Chad has adopted an action plan with a view to substantially increasing production in its cotton sector. This will enable the country to boost exports to the main consumer countries, most notably Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Portugal and Germany.

**(2) Domestic support**

Despite a difficult budgetary situation, due to the fall in oil prices which has spread to other raw materials and which has played a significant role in slowing down the country's economic growth, the Chadian State has fought to maintain its cotton sector, which is of considerable economic and social importance for millions of Chadians. This support, which has a significant impact on priority sectors such as education and health, clearly demonstrates the Government's determination to do everything possible to ensure that this important sector does not disappear - something that would have disastrous consequences for Chad and its population. This support is consistent with Article 6.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture.

**(3) Export competition**

Chad continues to suffer the severe financial consequences of falling cotton prices due to the unfair competition that we are continuously denouncing at the WTO. If all cotton-producing countries were on an equal footing in the international market, Chadian cotton would be more competitive and the cotton sector would be making a profit instead of the successive losses recorded in recent years.

This is a moral issue within the WTO, and as WTO Members we are all responsible for finding a solution to this situation, which is unacceptable to countries like ours.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Chad to the World Trade Organization takes this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to the WTO Secretariat.

**Access to international markets**

The *Société Cotonnière du Tchad* (COTONTCHAD) exported 31,700 tonnes of fibre in 2014 and envisages export production of 52,000 tonnes of fibre in 2015, i.e. an increase of almost 50%. This significant increase is linked to the creation of a business plan that envisages a gradual increase in production to 120,000 tonnes of fibre by 2018.

This business plan was adopted by the Board of Directors, which includes representatives of the various Ministers responsible for agricultural policy in general and the development of the cotton sector in particular.

The increase in production has been possible thanks to the support the State has provided by selling inputs (fertilizer, insecticides and various other materials) to farmers to increase crop yields, and the increase in the purchase price paid to cotton farmers, which is set at 240 CFAF/kg for high-grade cotton.

Cotton is of considerable economic and social importance to Chad. The Chadian government has spared no effort to provide financial support to increase cotton production, since this sector provides a livelihood, both directly and indirectly, for almost 3 million people. The cotton sector is the only sector that brings large quantities of fresh capital into producing regions. It helps to settle the population, and COTONTCHAD SN, which is in charge of purchasing, ginning and marketing, funds village associations with a view to the construction of classrooms and family health clinics.

3756CF AF 20 billion in cash was distributed to farmers in 2014 for the purchase of seed cotton, and the company plans to provide CF AF 31 billion in 2015. In anticipation of the increase in production in the next two to three years, the Chadian State has committed itself, via the Development Bank of Central African States (BDEAC), to a long-term loan of approximately CF AF 30 billion for COTONTCHAD SN, so as to ensure the renewal and strengthening of logistics and industrial infrastructure.

Due to the lack of cotton processing infrastructure at national and regional level, COTONTCHAD SN exports 98% of its production abroad. The main consumer markets are Asian and European countries. Although there are no particular restrictions affecting Chad directly, certain domestic policies implemented by wealthier countries distort competitiveness. This means that certain mills, while appreciating the intrinsic qualities of Chadian cotton, refrain from buying our cotton when they compare its price with the local prices of their own production, which are driven down artificially. However, given the much appreciated quality of Chadian cotton, our sales remain steady, despite the fall in prices.

Listed below are the main consumers of Chadian cotton in 2014 and 2015:

#### Exports of Chadian Cotton By Country

COUNTRY	QUANTITY (TONNES)	
	2014	Projection for 2015
Germany	1,500	3,500
Portugal	2,550	5,200
Spain	700	1,300
Italy	200	900
India	8,300	9,500
Indonesia	3,380	5,800
Bangladesh	11,415	18,220
China	1,850	3,800
Malaysia	180	680
Thailand	500	600
Viet Nam	1,125	2,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,700</b>	<b>52,000</b>

#### State Domestic Support

In 2014, the Chadian State budgeted 6.9 billion to support farmers by subsidizing fertilizer. For 2015, it budgeted 6.69 billion. Of the amount for 2014, COTONTCHAD SN received 3.5 billion, although nothing has yet been paid out under the 2015 budget due to the country's current economic and financial situation, which is particularly difficult.

This support is consistent with the provisions of Article 6.2 on special and differential treatment for the promotion of agriculture and rural areas in low-income countries and the fight against poverty.

Despite a difficult budgetary situation, due to the drop in oil prices which has spread to other raw materials and which has played a significant role in slowing down the country's economic growth, the Chadian State has fought to maintain its cotton sector, which is of considerable economic and social importance for millions of Chadians. The State's actions, which have had an important impact on priority sectors such as education and health, clearly demonstrate the Government's determination to do everything possible to ensure that this important sector does not disappear - something that would have disastrous consequences for Chad and its population.

Cotton plays a pivotal role in our country's development. It is competitive. And yet it suffers from the effects of the massive cotton subsidies provided by certain countries, which have the effect of driving down prices on the international market.

For Chad, the time has come to move on from general statements and engage constructively in substantive discussions on the cotton issue. This belief forms the basis of its commitment and determination to continue negotiating with other C4 members at the WTO. Chad remains open to any initiatives that might help to find an acceptable solution to the cotton issue.

**Export Competition**

The massive support provided to farmers in the form of both production and operating subsidies by countries such as the United States and China and by the European Union constitute unfair competition and have been denounced for several years now by the C4 countries within the WTO framework. The least developed countries (LDCs) continue to suffer the severe financial consequences of falling cotton prices. If all cotton-producing countries were on an equal footing in the international market, African cotton would be more competitive and the cotton sector would be making a profit instead of the successive losses recorded in recent years.

Countries such as the United States and China have introduced mechanisms to help the C4 countries with a view to repairing the harm they have suffered, but these interventions amount to very little when compared with the hundreds of millions of dollars paid to their respective producers.

What is being demanded by the C4 countries in general, and by Chad in particular, is compliance with the WTO rules that condemn unfair competition and the artificial driving down of prices, rather than the rules on subsidies, which are already well defined and should be limited in terms of volume.

---

**Reply from China to the questionnaire circulated on 4 February 2015<sup>3</sup>**

First, China supports C-4's position and their request to solve their problem according to the Ministerial Decision on Cotton of December 2013 adopted at MC9. We also support the approach to solve the problem of cotton on the basis of the Agriculture Modalities of 2008 (TN/AG/W/4/Rev.4). We would continue to work together with all Members to find the solution to this issue.

Second, China's cotton sector is subsistence farming.

China is among the largest cotton producers in the world. However, China's production is based on small-scale and subsistence farming, and the average acreage of cotton is 0.3 hectare per household. Moreover, China's cotton production is located remotely in the resource-poor and underdeveloped ethnic minority areas, serving as the only instrument for local livelihood security and poverty reduction.

After joining the WTO, China's cotton production has shown a declining trend; the cotton acreage has diminished from 4.8 million hectares in 2001 to 4.3 million hectares in 2013. The main reason for such a decline is the high production cost compared to the lower price of cotton caused by subsidies of the developed Members.

Third, China's cotton subsidies are at minimal low level.

China's agriculture support toolbox is short supplied compared to other WTO Members. It has no AMS including on cotton, no development box. China is only entitled to *de minimis*, for which the level is also lower than for other developing Members (8.5% versus 10%).

China's cotton support remains lower both in absolute terms and per capita terms. In absolute terms, China's cotton support is US\$480 million. In per capita terms per cotton farmer, China's cotton support is only just US\$16.

Fourth, China's cotton subsidy policy is a passive response.

China has been the victim to the cotton subsidies by the developed Members. Since its accession into the WTO, China's cotton imports surged from 113,000 tonnes to 4.2 million tonnes, while the cotton acreage actually diminished.

China's poor subsistence cotton farmers are over 30 million in household, and they will be forced out of jobs if the Government does not take the necessary actions. Therefore, the Chinese Government has no choice but to subsidize its poor cotton farmers to offset the subsidies and safeguard the livelihood of those poor farmers.

Fifth, China's cotton subsidy policy does not distort international trade.

China's temporary cotton reserve policy is designed to offset the turbulence of the volatile international market caused by the subsidies of developed Members. This policy does not create production distortion or trade distortion. On the production side, China's cotton production does not increase in a significant manner. On the import side, China's cotton import continues to increase from 2.8 million tonnes in 2010 to 4.2 million tonnes in 2013. If the import on cotton yarn is included, the cotton import will be increased from 4.1 million tonnes to 6.5 million tonnes, which provides strong incentives for all cotton producers and the developing ones in particular in the context of depressed global cotton prices. In addition, the cotton in stock is intended for domestic textile industry rather than for export, thus producing no distortion on international cotton market.

In the meantime, exports of Chinese textiles are still subject to tariff peaks, tariff escalations and other protectionist measures of developed Members, which the developed Members intend to ignore through the so-called recalibration exercise.

Sixth, China has made significant contribution to resolving the cotton issue.

---

<sup>3</sup> This reply was provided after the circulation of the second revision of this background paper and is included in document TN/AG/GEN/34/Rev.2/Add.1 – TN/AG/SCC/GEN/13/Rev.2/Add.1.

China has been the largest cotton importer, and its share in the global cotton import has been consistently more than 50%, which creates a lot of market access for the export developing Members.

China has been extensively importing a large amount of cotton from African cotton-producing Members, including the C-4. During the period 2001 to 2013, China's cotton imports from Africa increased from 3,700 tonnes to 442,000 tonnes.

On the development assistance side, China has been committed to providing technical and financial assistance to the C-4 to enhance their production and export capacity. China signed cooperation Communiqués with the C-4 members in 2011 and 2013, respectively, which cover the supplies of agriculture inputs, training courses, technology transfer, etc. In addition, China has also been providing various cotton-related assistance to the C-4 through bilateral channels.

#### **On the allocation of the cotton TRQ**

Regarding the allocation of TRQ of cotton, it is consistent with China's WTO commitment. Another related question is about the import exceeding the import quota. In addition to the 894,000 tonnes, we import more than the TRQ subject to the sliding duties.

#### **On China's domestic support notification**

Regarding the notification, China has just updated its domestic support notification up to 2010, and preparation for new notifications is underway.

#### **On China's cotton stock**

Regarding China's cotton stock, the stock is real, as we have imported more cotton than our obligation. We import cotton for textile processing, but we are facing a lot of difficulties in the textile sector as just mentioned. The other reason for the huge stock is that the price for cotton is distorted by the subsidies from developed Members.

**Reply from Egypt to the questionnaire circulated on 4 February 2015**

## 1. Applied tariffs on cotton versus bound tariffs (2015)

HS	Description	Applied tariff 2015 %	Bound Tariff %
5201.00	Cotton, not carded or combed	Free	5
5202.00	Cotton waste (including yarn waste and garnetted stock)		
5202.10	- Yarn waste (including thread waste)	5	5
	- Other:		
5202.91	-- Garnetted stock	5	5
5202.99	-- Other	5	5
5203.00	Cotton, carded or combed	5	5

## 2. Egyptian cotton trade

	2012		2013		2014	
	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (US\$ million)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (US\$ million)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (US\$ million)
Exports	86,775.62	197.07	67,097.50	136.69	37,313.53	89.90
Imports	16,412.16	44.47	4,833,833.36	170.41	76,436.45	175.94

## 3. Egyptian cotton production (in metric cantars, 1 metric cantar = 50 kg)

Year	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
production	3,685,927	2,164,949	1,880,564	2,482,198

## ANNEX 5

### INFORMATION ON COTTON MARKETS AND POLICIES FROM THE TRADE POLICY REVIEW MECHANISM<sup>1</sup>

1.1. At the second dedicated discussion of the relevant trade-related developments for cotton, Members agreed that, in order to complement the revised background paper to be prepared by the WTO Secretariat, the Secretariat would compile information related to cotton markets and policies contained in the most recent Trade Policy Review (TPR) reports.<sup>2</sup>

1.2. The Secretariat searched the most recent TPR reports available by Governments and by the WTO Secretariat for the 32 Members identified in paragraphs 12 and 13 of this paper. Information that met the following two criteria has been included in this Annex: (1) information relevant to cotton markets and policies; and (2) information not presented elsewhere in this background paper.

1.3. No relevant information was found for the following fourteen Members:<sup>3</sup> Bahrain, Kingdom of (April 2014); Canada (June 2015); Hong Kong, China (November 2014); Iceland (October 2017); Japan (March 2017); Kenya (November 2012)<sup>4</sup>; Korea, Republic of (October 2016); Malaysia (February 2018); Mexico (April 2017); New Zealand (July 2015); Russian Federation (September 2016); Norway (June 2018); Switzerland (May 2017) and Chinese Taipei (September 2014).<sup>5</sup>

1.4. For the remaining 18 Members, the relevant information found is presented below by Member. The date of the most recent TPR report available, as well as the type of report and the document symbol for the report, are indicated next to each Member. Except for Bangladesh and the United States, no relevant information was found in the most recent Government reports available for these 18 Members.

1.5. Information is listed along with the headings of the chapters from which it is extracted, and "..." represents information left out from a table, a paragraph or a chapter.

1.6. Information not directly linked to cotton markets and policies but which provides context for understanding the above-mentioned information may have also been included based on the Secretariat's own judgement and is without prejudice to information excluded from this Annex.

<sup>1</sup> The purpose of the Trade Policy Review Mechanism ("TPRM") is to contribute to improved adherence by all Members to rules, disciplines and commitments made under the Multilateral Trade Agreements and, where applicable, the Plurilateral Trade Agreements, and hence to the smoother functioning of the multilateral trading system, by achieving greater transparency in, and understanding of, the trade policies and practices of Members. Accordingly, the review mechanism enables the regular collective appreciation and evaluation of the full range of individual Members' trade policies and practices and their impact on the functioning of the multilateral trading system. It is not, however, intended to serve as a basis for the enforcement of specific obligations under the Agreements or for dispute settlement procedures, or to impose new policy commitments on Members (Annex 3 (A)(i) of the Marrakesh Agreement).

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 13 of the Chairperson's report of the second dedicated discussion of the relevant trade-related developments for cotton (TN/AG/29 and TN/AG/SCC/3).

<sup>3</sup> The date in brackets is that of the most recent TPR report available.

<sup>4</sup> Joint Trade Policy Review of the East African Community (EAC).

<sup>5</sup> The Secretariat report for the 2014 TPR (WT/TPR/S/302) is being revised therefore the report from the previous TPR (July 2010) was used and no relevant information was found.

**AUSTRALIA (MARCH 2015) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/312/REV.1)****"4. TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.2 Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries****4.2.2 Main policy developments****4.2.2.2 Domestic support measures**

Under its Carbon Farming Futures Program (2011-2017), Australia has implemented a Filling the Research Gap, Action on the Ground, Extension and Outreach Program, and related offset incentives.<sup>6</sup>

**APPENDIX TABLES****Table A1. 1 Merchandise exports, by product groups, 2010-2013**

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Total exports (US\$ billion)</b>	<b>212.5</b>	<b>270.1</b>	<b>256.6</b>	<b>253.7</b>
Total exports (\$A billion)	231.1	261.7	247.8	262.0
	( % of total)			
Total primary products	77.3	79.8	79.0	80.4
Agriculture	13.9	14.3	15.5	15.8
...	...	...	...	...
Agricultural raw material	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0
2631 Cotton (other than linters), not carded or combed	0.5	1.0	1.1	1.0
...	...	...	...	...

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data provided by the Australian authorities in SITC four-digit classification.

<sup>6</sup> ... Under the Action on the Ground funding programme, farmers and land managers undertake on-farm trials of abatement technologies, practices and management strategies to measure and demonstrate how they can reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions of methane and nitrous oxide or increase the sequestration of carbon in soil while maintaining or improving farm productivity. By March 2014, 89 multi-year grants worth up to \$A 44.29 million had received funding; these projects were trialling a diverse range of on-farm practices and management strategies, on more than 530 properties across the country. By April 2013, 24 projects valued at \$A 21.3 million were funded under the Extension and Outreach program supporting sector-specific projects, including the livestock, dairy, horticulture, cotton and grains industries (Department of Agriculture online information. Viewed at: <http://www.daff.gov.au/about/current-grants>; and Productivity Commission, 2013d).



**BANGLADESH (OCTOBER 2012) - GOVERNMENT REPORT (WT/TPR/G/270)****"II. RECENT ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE****Table 6. - Composition of Bangladesh's import**

Commodity	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
<b>Total import (c.i.f.)</b>	<b>14,746</b>	<b>17,157</b>	<b>21,629</b>	<b>22,507</b>	<b>23,738</b>	<b>33,657</b>
<i>Of which:</i>						
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Raw cotton	5.0%	5.0%	5.6%	5.7%	6.1%	8.0%
...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: Bangladesh Economic Review, 2012.

**III. TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

Since 2011 the Government has imposed export tax on bricks, tobacco and cotton waste in order to discourage production of tobacco and bricks on health and environmental reasons and discourage export of cotton waste to safeguard interests of growing local industry."

**Secretariat Report (WT/TPR/S/270/Rev.1)****III. TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE**

(1) Measures Directly Affecting Imports

**(iv) Tariffs and other charges****Table III.2 - Tariff structure, 2005/06 and 2011/12**

	MFN applied		SAFTA
	2005/06	2011/12	2011/12
...	...	...	...
<b>Memo:</b>			
WTO agriculture	18.0	17.8	13.1
...	...	...	...
Cotton	4.0	3.3	1.9
...	...	...	...

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data received by the Bangladeshi authorities.

(2) Measures Directly Affecting Exports

**(ii) Export taxes, charges, and levies**

In 2010/11, export duties were applied to tobacco and tobacco products (10%), cotton waste (25%), and ceramic building bricks (25%) in order to discourage production of these products. According to the authorities, brick production is not environmentally friendly and tobacco production occupies land needed for essential crops. Duty on the export of cotton waste is intended to encourage the use of cotton waste in Bangladesh.

**IV. TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR**

(2) Agriculture

**(b) Food security****Table IV.4 - Developments in domestic support to agriculture, 2002-07**

(US\$ million)

	2002/03	2004/05	2006/07
<b>Total domestic support (I+II+III)</b>			
...	...	...	...
<b>II. Measures exempt from the reduction commitment - "Green Box"</b>			
General services	52.4	95.5	75.1
(i) Research and development of non-rice crops, (fruit, vegetables, spices) except sugar cane, jute, cotton, and tea	9.32	10.9	23.6
...	...	...	...
(iv) Research and development of cotton	0.35	0.36	0.2
...	...	...	...

Source: Notification from Bangladesh, G/AG/N/BGD/3, 4 May 2011 covering FY2002/03, 2004/05 and 2006/07.

**BRAZIL (JULY 2017) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/358)****4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries****4.1.4 Domestic support****4.1.4.1 Agricultural/rural credit****4.1.4.1.1 Minimum price guarantees**

During the review period, Brazil maintained unchanged its 1966 policy of guaranteed minimum prices (PGPM), an important pillar of its agricultural policy. The basic element of this policy remains the regionally-set minimum guaranteed prices which cover a broad range of crops from rice, wheat, maize, cotton, and soybeans, to regional crops like cassava, beans, açaí, guaraná, and sisal, as well as a few livestock products like cow and goat milk and honey (Table 4.6).<sup>7</sup> On the basis of these minimum guaranteed prices, the government implements several price support mechanisms (Table 4.6), including direct government purchases (AGF); premiums to commercial buyers who pay minimum prices to supply producers (PEP, VEP); and public and private options contracts backed by private risk premium options (COV, PROP, PEPRO). In addition to these programmes, producers receive various reduced-interest marketing loans which enable them to withhold the sale of a product in anticipation of a higher market price (FPPG, FEPM and FEE below). The state-owned CONAB (Section 4.2.2) operates both the AGF set by the MAPA Secretary of Agricultural Policy (SPA) for commercial and small-scale farms, and the equivalent programme set by the SEAD for small-scale agriculture (PAA, Section 4.2.4.3) as well as the minimum prices programme for family farms (GPAF programme). ...

**Table 4.6 Price support programmes, 2014/2015 and 2015/2016**

<b>Price support programme/description</b>	<b>Use/cost</b>
<b>Policy of Guaranteed Minimum Prices (PGPM)</b> Regulated by Decree No. 57,391 of 12 December 1965 and Decree-Law No. 79 of 19 December 1966. The PGPM fixes minimum guaranteed prices annually for some of Brazil's main crops. Prices are promulgated by the National Monetary Council (CMN) through Portarias. Portaria No. 854 of 20 August 2014 fixes minimum prices for a number of products for the 2014/15 summer harvest. When determining minimum prices, the CMN takes into account production costs in the different regions, as well as several factors affecting domestic and international market prices. The PGPM is implemented through credit lines (EGF and LEC); and commercialization instruments (AGF, PEP, VEP, PEPRO, COV and PROP; see below). ...	Products benefited by PGPM in the 2014/15 were cotton, corn, orange and edible beans. The only product benefited by PGPM in 2016 was wheat.
<b>Premium for Product Outflow (PEP)</b> The CONAB grants an equalization premium to wholesalers who agree to pay farmers a reference price. The premium is determined in public auctions and generally reflects the difference between the reference price and the market price. In addition to guaranteeing minimum prices for producers, the PEP is used to shift the supply of agricultural products across regions, so as to avoid shortages and prevent the accumulation of stocks. In theory, all products included in the PGPM can participate in the PEP; however, the programme has been used for only a few products so far, mainly cotton, corn, wheat, sisal, beans, rice, and wine.	The programme did not support any products in 2014/15 crop year. The programme supported only wheat in 2016 (47,791 tonnes, R\$8.8 million).
<b>Agricultural Products' Sale Option Private Premium (PEPRO)</b> This scheme offers producers and cooperatives the possibility to sell their product at a premium, equal to the difference between reference and market prices, fixed through an auction. In contrast to the PEP, premiums are paid directly to producers.	In the 2014/15 crop year, the programme supported only cotton (R\$2.4 million and 905,278 tonnes), corn (R\$256 million and 5,803 million tonnes) and oranges (R\$47.1 million and 850,383 tonnes). In 2016, the programme supported only wheat (404,886 tonnes, R\$108 million)

<sup>7</sup> OECD (2016), *Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2016*, 16 June. Viewed at: [http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/agriculture-and-food/agricultural-policy-monitoring-and-evaluation-2016\\_agr\\_pol-2016-en](http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/agriculture-and-food/agricultural-policy-monitoring-and-evaluation-2016_agr_pol-2016-en); USTR (2016), *2016 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers*. Viewed at: <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/reports-and-publications/2016/2016-national-trade-estimate>.

With 9% and 8.7% inflation in 2015 and 2016 respectively (Table 1.2), regional minimum guaranteed prices were kept constant between 2014/15 and 2015/16 for basic and domestic wheat, cotton, Arabica coffee, maize, sorghum, jute, rubber and cocoa.<sup>8</sup> They were increased by about 7% for cassava, ... In 2016/17 minimum guaranteed prices were raised as follows: 9% for rice; 18% for cotton...

**Table 4.7 - PGPM operations, 2013-16**

(R\$ million)

		2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Disbursement (purchase)</b>					
AGF	Total	79	84	0	0
	...	...	...	...	...
COV	Total	1,395	0	0	0
	...	...	...	...	...
PEP	Total	0	0	0	9
	...	...	...	...	...
PEPRO	Total	484	631	15	69
	Cotton	0	244	0	0
	...	...	...	...	...
Total		1,958	715	15	78

**Table 4.8 - Budget allocated to family farming programmes and measures, harvest year 2012/13**

Programme	Description	Budget
...	...	...
Price Guarantee Programme for Family Farming (PGPAF)	An indexation of the credit taken out by family farmers under the PRONAF, through which the price is fixed when the credit is granted. Upon repayment of the PRONAF's credit, if the price of the product financed has decreased, the farmer benefits from a discount from the amount due, equivalent to the difference between the product's market price and the price set in the programme's index. The limit for the PGPAF bonus per farmer is R\$7,000 each year. The programme covers 49 products, including corn, cotton, rice, milk, and oranges.	R\$90 million
...	...	...
<b>Total budget</b>		<b>R\$35.3 billion</b>

...

<sup>8</sup> OECD (2016), *Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2016*, 16 June. Viewed at: [http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/agriculture-and-food/agricultural-policy-monitoring-and-evaluation-2016\\_agr\\_pol-2016-en](http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/agriculture-and-food/agricultural-policy-monitoring-and-evaluation-2016_agr_pol-2016-en).

**CHINA (JULY 2016) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/342/REV.1)****Summary**

...

Government-set prices are currently applied to refined oil products, natural gas, certain medicines, and some services. Products classified as important central reserve materials (grain, cotton, sugar, filature silk, crude oil, processed oil, and chemical fertilizers) are no longer subject to government-set prices....

...

**3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.2 Measures Directly Affecting Exports****3.2.3 Export prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing****Table 3.11 Products subject to export quotas and licensing, 2015-16**

Products	Type of management	Comment
<b>Goods subject to quota and licensing</b>		
Rice, maize, wheat, cotton, coal	Export quota (licensing)	The quota is allocated by the NDRC and MOFCOM The licence is issued by MOFCOM
...	...	...

Source: MOFCOM GACC Joint Announcement No. 76 of 2015. Viewed at: <http://wms.mofcom.gov.cn/article/zcfb/q/201512/20151201225345.shtml> (in Chinese only); and information provided by the Chinese authorities.

**3.3 Measures Affecting Production and Trade****3.3.5 State trading and state-owned enterprises****3.3.5.1 State trading**

In 2015 China submitted a new and full notification regarding state trading enterprises to the WTO.<sup>9</sup> The legislation regulating state trading has not changed since 2014, nor have the reasons for maintaining this practice or the products subject to it. State trading remains in place to: ensure a stable supply and price of the products concerned; safeguard food security; and protect exhaustible and non-recyclable natural resources, and the environment.

Imports subject to state trading administration comprise: grain (including wheat, maize, and rice), sugar, cotton, chemical fertilizers, tobacco, crude oil, and processed oil (Table 3.17). They can be imported (and exported) only by authorized enterprises, in accordance with Article 11 of the Foreign Trade Law. ... Non-state trading enterprises that have obtained trading rights through registration may engage in the importation of part of the quota of products subject to tariff-rate quotas (grain, cotton, sugar, and certain chemical fertilizers), and of crude and processed oil. The NDRC (in the case of grains and cotton) and MOFCOM (for the other products) issue on a yearly basis the criteria for an enterprise to acquire trading rights for these products, the volumes they can import and the allocation method. No information was provided on the quantities imported under state trading.<sup>10</sup>

**Table 3.17 Imports under state trading, 2013-15**

Product	HS Code	Percentage of TRQ allocated to state-trading enterprises		
		2013	2014	2015 <sup>a</sup>
...	...	...	...	...
Cotton	5201.00.00; 5203.00.00	33	33	33
...	...	...	...	...

a Provisional.

Source: WTO documents G/STR/N/10/CHN-G/STR/N/15/CHN, 19 October 2015; and data provided by the authorities.

<sup>9</sup> WTO documents G/STR/N/10/CHN-G/STR/N/15/CHN, 19 October 2015.

<sup>10</sup> WTO documents G/STR/N/10/CHN-G/STR/N/15/CHN, 19 October 2015.

Exports subject to state trading and the enterprises in charge of trading these products also remain unchanged since the last Review. In 2015, exports subject to state trading were rice, maize, cotton, coal, crude and processed oil, tungsten ore and products, antimony ore and products, silver and tobacco (Table 3.18). According to the authorities, the volume of exports subject to state trading is determined taking into account market signals and so are export prices; there is no government intervention.<sup>11</sup> According to the authorities, export allocation amongst state-trading enterprises is also based on market principles.

**Table 3.18 Export products subject to state-trading arrangements, 2014-15**

Product (HS code)	Enterprises
...	...
<b>Cotton</b> 5201.00.00; 5203.00.00	Chinatex Cotton Import & Export Corporation; Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Cotton and Jute Import & Export Co; Xinjiang Yin Long International Agricultural Co. Ltd (since 2012); and China National Cotton Reserve Corporation.
...	...

- a MOFCOM online information. Viewed at:  
<http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/b/c/200404/20040400210082.html>.
- b State Council online information. Viewed at:  
[http://www.gov.cn/gongbao/content/2004/content\\_62767.htm](http://www.gov.cn/gongbao/content/2004/content_62767.htm).
- c China reserves the right to use state trading.
- d MOFCOM online information. Viewed at:  
<http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/b/e/200411/20041100306546.shtml>.

Source: Information provided by the Chinese authorities and WTO documents WT/STR/N/10/CHN-WT/STR/N/15/CHN, 19 October 2015.

## 4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR

### 4.1 Agriculture

#### 4.1.3 Policy instruments

##### 4.1.3.1 Border measures

##### 4.1.3.1.1 Measures affecting imports

...

... In-quota and out-of-quota rates have not changed; they are both *ad valorem*, with the exception of the out-of-quota rate for a type of cotton (HS 52.01.00.00). Out-of-quota imports of this type of cotton may be subject to a sliding duty that depends upon the price of cotton, but that cannot exceed 40% (i.e. the bound rate for cotton). Under this system, China fixes a threshold price (RMB 15/kg in 2015). If the price of imports is equal to or higher than the threshold price a specific duty of RMB 0.57/kg is levied; if the import price is lower than the threshold price, an *ad valorem* rate based on the formula applies.<sup>12</sup> Out-of-quota rates for other products are in most cases equal to bound rates.

The NDRC is responsible for allocating TRQs for grains and cotton, and MOFCOM allocates the rest. Some products subject to TRQs (i.e. grains, cotton, sugar, and chemical fertilizers) are also subject to state trading. In these cases, part of the quota is allocated to state-trading enterprises and another part to other enterprises. Historically, the fill rate of TRQs has been low; however, this changed in 2013 and 2014 for products such as sugar, wool and cotton (Table 4.2).

**Table 4.2 Tariff rate quotas and their utilization, 2013-14**

(Tonnes, unless otherwise indicated)

Products	Out-of-quota rates (%)	In-quota rates (%)	Tariff quota quantity	In-quota imports (2013)	In-quota imports (2014)
...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton (2 lines)	40	1	894,000	894,000	894,000

Note: Number of tariff lines in brackets refers to the 2015 tariff schedule.

Source: WTO document G/AG/N/CHN/30, 2 February 2016; and Ministry of Finance (2015), *Customs Tariff of Imports and Export of the People's Republic of China*, 2015.

<sup>11</sup> WTO documents G/STR/N/10/CHN-G/STR/N/15/CHN, 19 October 2015.

<sup>12</sup> The variable rate is calculated according to a formula, which may be viewed in: Ministry of Finance (2015), *Customs Tariff of Import and Export of the People's Republic of China 2015* (The Legal Texts), Beijing, p. 442.

**4.1.3.2 Internal measures****4.1.3.2.1 Support measures**

...

...The Subsidy for Promoting Superior Strains and Seeds scheme introduced in 2002 to improve the quality of seeds and livestock covers: cotton, maize, rice and wheat throughout China, and soya beans, rapeseed, cotton, potatoes, highland barley and peanuts, in specific areas of the country....

...

**4.1.3.2.2 Price controls and marketing**

...

In 2014, China stopped its stockholding programme for cotton. This programme resulted in an increase in the domestic price of cotton paid to farmers to above international prices, and led farmers to sell most of their production to the State.<sup>13</sup> As a result, state reserves increased to levels beyond annual domestic demand, which triggered a reform of the policy. The former system was replaced, on a pilot basis in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region, by a mechanism that sets a target price for cotton; this price was RMB 19,800 per tonne in 2014 (RMB 19,100 per tonne in 2015).<sup>14</sup> Through the new mechanism, if the market price falls below the target price, the central government provides a subsidy to cotton farmers, the amount of which depends on the land farmed (which is given a weight of 60% in the calculation of the subsidy) and the amount of cotton sold for processing in the domestic market (a weight of 40%).<sup>15</sup> In 2015, the cotton subsidy was extended to nine other provinces.<sup>16</sup> However, it is not clear what form of subsidy applies in these provinces, it seems that a target price has also been established.<sup>17</sup>

...

<sup>13</sup> Imports and exports of cotton are subject to state trading.

<sup>14</sup> Cotton Target Price Reform Pilot in Progress. Viewed at: [http://www.sdpc.gov.cn/zcfb/zcfbtz/201404/t20140415\\_607179.html](http://www.sdpc.gov.cn/zcfb/zcfbtz/201404/t20140415_607179.html).

<sup>15</sup> The Interim Measures on Administration of Fund for Xinjiang Cotton Target Price Reform Pilot Subsidy. Viewed at: [http://www.xjjh.gov.cn/zwgk/xzfxgkml/czxx/cdxm/f59e4d28\\_2d31\\_4af8\\_8efd\\_36930fff8166.htm](http://www.xjjh.gov.cn/zwgk/xzfxgkml/czxx/cdxm/f59e4d28_2d31_4af8_8efd_36930fff8166.htm).

<sup>16</sup> These are: Shandong, Henan, Hebei, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Gansu, Anhui and Tianjin. Viewed at: [http://www.cncotton.com/sy\\_59/gnmh\\_1388/rdxw/201511/t20151120\\_554754.html](http://www.cncotton.com/sy_59/gnmh_1388/rdxw/201511/t20151120_554754.html).

<sup>17</sup> Henan online information. Viewed at: <http://www.1633.com/policy/zhuanti/view-10680508-1.html>; Hebei online information. Viewed at: <http://www.tuliu.com/read-11746.html>; Hubei online information. Viewed at: <http://www.texindex.com.cn/Articles/2015-3-24/330704.html>; Hunan online information. Viewed at: <http://www.hn315.gov.cn/business/htmlfiles/hnzjj/s42/201510/32546.html>; Jiangsu online information. Viewed at: [http://www.jscz.gov.cn/pub/jscz/xxqk/gkml/201505/t20150528\\_75680.html](http://www.jscz.gov.cn/pub/jscz/xxqk/gkml/201505/t20150528_75680.html); and Jiangxi online information. Viewed at: [http://www.jxdpc.gov.cn/departmentsite/jmc/tztq/qztz/201502/t20150205\\_115865.htm](http://www.jxdpc.gov.cn/departmentsite/jmc/tztq/qztz/201502/t20150205_115865.htm).

## COLOMBIA (JUNE 2018) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/372)

### SUMMARY

...

...Colombia promotes the use of Price Stabilization Funds (FEPs) in order to deal with fluctuations in world prices for certain agricultural products. The resources for these funds come from parafiscal charges, mainly charges levied on producers which remain outside the national budget and are reinvested by the private sector in programmes of benefit to the activity from which they are sourced. In 2017, there were FEPs for cotton, sugar, cocoa, meat, milk and products thereof; and palm oil.

...

### 3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE

#### 3.1 MEASURES DIRECTLY AFFECTING IMPORTS

##### 3.1.3 TARIFFS

##### 3.1.3.5 TARIFF CONCESSIONS

...

Given the insufficient level of domestic cotton production and in order to boost the textiles and clothing sector, through Decrees No. 2.530 of 12 December 2014 and No. 1.347 of 22 August 2016 the Government temporarily authorized the use of zero tariff quotas on cotton imports for a specified number of tonnes according to industry needs. ...

...

### 4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR

#### 4.1 AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

##### 4.1.3 DOMESTIC SUPPORT, SUBSIDIES AND OTHER SUPPORT SCHEMES

...

Colombia makes use of price stabilization mechanisms in order to deal with fluctuations in world prices for certain agricultural products. The Price Stabilization Funds (FEPs), created by Law No. 101 of 1993, are intended to guarantee producers' incomes, regulate domestic production, and prevent price speculation, in addition to promoting agricultural exports. The resources for these funds come from parafiscal charges: these are charges levied on producers which remain outside the national budget and are reinvested by the private sector in programmes of benefit to the activity from which they are sourced. In 2017, there were FEPs for cotton, sugar, cocoa, meat, milk and products thereof; and palm oil.<sup>18</sup> Each FEP has a Steering Committee, composed of producers and officials from the National Government, which establishes the methodology for calculating a reference price based on the most representative international market quotation for each product. Producers and/or exporters make "transfers" to the respective FEP when the market price falls below the reference price, or receive compensation from the FEP when the price is above the reference price.

...

Pursuant to Article 7 of Law No. 101 of 1993, the Government may provide selective and temporary incentives or support to producers, for agricultural production, protecting rural income and maintaining peace. In this context, the *Guaranteed Minimum Price* (PMG) scheme for cotton protects Colombian farmers' incomes from fluctuations in international prices by offering

<sup>18</sup> The FEP for cotton, which is managed by the Colombian Cotton Confederation (CONALGODON); the FEP for centrifugal sugars, molasses obtained by extracting or refining sugar, and sugar syrups, managed by the Colombian Sugar Cane Growers' Association (ASOCAÑA); the FEP for cocoa, managed by the National Federation of Cocoa Growers (FEDECACAO); the FEP for promoting the export of meat, milk and products thereof, managed by the Colombian Cattle Breeders' Federation (FEDEGAN); and the FEP for palm kernel oil, palm oil and fractions thereof, managed by the National Federation of Palm Oil Producers (FEDEPALMA).



compensation for the price differential between market prices (New York Exchange) and a minimum guaranteed price per tonne of lint. In 2016, the MADR allocated Col\$8,920 million of resources to protect growers' incomes by granting indemnities to cotton farmers in respect of the two harvests in 2016, for a total of 12,968 tonnes of lint marketed. The PMG policy agreed with the Government expired in 2017 and the scheme ceased to operate. ...

#### **4.1.4 FINANCING AND INSURANCE**

##### **4.1.4.5 OTHER FINANCING SCHEMES**

In addition to the loan programmes implemented by FINAGRO and the support given by the FAG, the sector is supported by other schemes, too, such as the Agricultural Development Fund and the Agricultural Solidarity Fund (FONSA).

FONSA, created by Law No. 302 of 1996, partially amended by Law No. 1.731 of 2014, is an MADR fund, administered by FINAGRO, whose purpose is to provide economic support to small-scale agricultural producers and fishermen to tackle and partially or fully alleviate their debts when in the course of their activities they encounter crisis situations which severely affect crops or the quality, volume and marketing of agricultural products. Law No. 1.694 of 2013 and its regulations in Decree No. 355 of 2014 expanded the scope of the Fund to encompass instances of significant and sustained variations in prices of agricultural products or inputs that cause severe and sustained falls in income for producers. Up to 2017, producers of cotton, cocoa, coffee, sugar cane, bulb onion, beans, milk, maize, oil palm and potatoes benefited from FONSA on account of falling prices.<sup>19</sup>

...

---

<sup>19</sup> Under Law No. 1.731 of 2014, for the purposes of FONSA small producers are considered to be natural persons: (a) whose total assets do not exceed 250 SMLMV; (b) no less than two thirds of whose income stems from agricultural and/or fishing activity or who have at least 75% of their assets invested in the agricultural sector. Medium-sized producers for FONSA purposes are natural persons with total assets not exceeding 700 SMLMV. MADR (2017), *Memorias al Congreso de la República, 2016-2017*. Viewed at: [https://www.minagricultura.gov.co/planeacion-control-gestion/Gestin/MEMORIAS%20AL%20CONGRESO%20DE%20LA%20REPUBLICA/Memorias\\_al\\_Congreso\\_de\\_la\\_Republica\\_%202016\\_2017.pdf](https://www.minagricultura.gov.co/planeacion-control-gestion/Gestin/MEMORIAS%20AL%20CONGRESO%20DE%20LA%20REPUBLICA/Memorias_al_Congreso_de_la_Republica_%202016_2017.pdf).

**EGYPT (FEBRUARY 2018) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/367)****SUMMARY**

...

...It has also discouraged the production of crops that use water intensively, such as cotton and sugar. ...

...

**3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.1 MEASURES DIRECTLY AFFECTING IMPORTS****3.1.5 ANTI-DUMPING, COUNTERVAILING, AND SAFEGUARD MEASURES****3.1.5.3 SAFEGUARDS**

...

Since its last TPR in 2005, Egypt has initiated 14 safeguard investigations, imposed provisional measures in all of them and final safeguard measures on three products: blankets, steel rebar, cotton and mixed yarns (Table 3.19). Although few final measures were adopted, the application of provisional measures could have acted as a deterrent to trade.

**Table 3.19 Safeguard measures imposed, 2005-June 2017**

Product	Countries concerned	Domestic legal instrument	Imposed duties (c.i.f. basis)	Notification	Situation as at 30 June 2017
...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton and mixed yarns (other than sewing threads)	All	Ministerial Decree No. 19/2009	25% of c.i.f. value for a period of one year or not less than US\$1/kg		Duties eliminated by Decree 336/2009
Woven cotton or mixed yarns	All	Ministerial Decree No. 20/2009	25% of c.i.f. value for one year period or not less than US\$1/kg		Duties eliminated by Decree 336/2009
...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton and mixed yarns (other than sewing threads)	All	Ministerial Decree 736/2011 (provisional) Ministerial Decree No. 589/2012 (definitive)	3.33 LE/kg for 200 days (provisional)  LE 3.48 kg from 18/7/2012 until 30/12/2012, and LE 3.13/kg from 31/12/2012 until 30/12/2013, and LE 2/kg from 31/12/2013 until 30/12/2014	G/SG/N/6/EGY/5, 5 December 2011;  G/SG/N/7/EGY/5/Suppl.1, 24 September 2012  G/SG/N/7/EGY/4 G/SG/N/11/EGY/4, 9 January 2012  G/SG/N/6/EGY/6 G/SG/N/7/EGY/5 G/SG/N/11/EGY/3, 5 March 2012  G/SG/N/8/EGY/6 G/SG/N/10/EGY/6 G/SG/N/11/EGY/5, 20 July 2012  G/SG/N/8/EGY/6/Corr.1 G/SG/N/10/EGY/6/Corr.1 G/SG/N/11/EGY/5/Corr.1, 8 August 2012	Duties expired on 30/12/2014
Woven cotton or mixed yarns	All	Ministerial Decree No. 116/2012 (provisional)	10% of c.i.f. value and not less than LE 3.33/kg	G/SG/N/6/EGY/5, 5 December 2011 G/SG/N/7/EGY/5/Suppl.1, 24 September 2012	Duties eliminated by Decree 693/2012

Product	Countries concerned	Domestic legal instrument	Imposed duties (c.i.f. basis)	Notification	Situation as at 30 June 2017
				G/SG/N/7/EGY/4 G/SG/N/11/EGY/2, 9 January 2012  G/SG/N/6/EGY/6 G/SG/N/7/EGY/5 G/SG/N/11/EGY/3, 5 March 2012  G/SG/N/8/EGY/6 G/SG/N/10/EGY/6 G/SG/N/11/EGY/5, 20 July 2012  G/SG/N/8/EGY/6/Corr.1 G/SG/N/10/EGY/6/Corr.1 G/SG/N/11/EGY/5/Corr.1, 8 August 2012	
...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: Ministry of Trade and Industry and WTO notifications.

#### 4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR

##### 4.1 AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

##### 4.1.1 AGRICULTURE

##### 4.1.1.1 MAIN FEATURES

...

Table 4.2 describes land use by crops between 2005 and 2016. The use of land for the production of wheat has increased, by some 12%, and so has the use of land for the production of maize, by 14.4%, while for sugar beet it has risen by more than 235%. On the other hand, land dedicated to the production of sugar cane has remained stable, while there has been a decline in areas used to grow rice mainly in order to rationalize the use of irrigation water. The land use for cotton has also declined.

**Table 4.2 Land use by crop, 2005-16**

(Thousand feddans<sup>a</sup>)

Crop	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton	657	536	575	313	284	369	520	333	287	369	241	131

a 1 feddan is equivalent to 0.42 hectares.

Source: Information provided by the authorities.

Table 4.3 describes the evolution of the production of the most important agricultural crops in Egypt between 2005 and 2016. As can be seen, the production of sugar beet has almost quadrupled during the period; the production of wheat has increased by 15%, and the production of meat, fruit and vegetables has also followed an upward path. However, during the period, Egypt has experienced a decline in the production of some traditional crops such as cotton and rice.

**Table 4.3 Agricultural outputs, 2005-16**

('000 tonnes)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton lint	202	602	222	364	95	137	181	109	94	113	160	114
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: Information provided by the authorities

**Table A3.1 Egypt's notifications to the SPS Committee, 2005-November 2017**

Agency responsible	Legal basis	Description	Date	Notification
...	...	...	...	...
CAPQ		Import requirements of cotton lint	5 January 2011	G/SPS/N/EGY/42
...	...	...	...	...

Note: GOVS stands for General Organization for Veterinary Services; CAPQ stands for Central Administration of Plant Quarantine; EOS stands for Egyptian Organization for Standardization; MALR stands for Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation and NFSA stands for National Food Safety Authority.

Source: Ministry of Trade and Industry and WTO notifications.

**EUROPEAN UNION (JULY 2017) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/357)****4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.1 Agriculture****4.1.1 Trade****4.1.2 Agricultural policies****4.1.2.1 Domestic support****4.1.2.1.1 Direct payments*****Voluntary coupled support***

...

In addition to voluntary coupled support, the EU provides for payments for cotton in Greece, Spain, and Bulgaria (Table 4.5).<sup>20</sup>

**Table 4.5 - Crop-specific payments for cotton**

	Area ha	Fixed yield tonne/ha	Payment €/ha
Bulgaria	3,342	1.2	2015: 584.88
			2016 and onward: 649.45
Greece	250,000	3.2	234.18
Spain	48,000	3.5	362.15

Source: Regulation (EU) No. 1307/2013, Article 58.

<sup>20</sup> Regulation (EU) No. 1307/2013 also provides for payments in Portugal but there is no production in Portugal, and no payments are made.

**INDIA (JUNE 2015) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/313/REV.1)****2 TRADE AND INVESTMENT REGIME****2.2 Trade Policy Formulation and Objectives****2.2.2 Trade policy goals**

...

... During the period 3 July 2009 and 31 March 2013 export restrictions were placed on wheat flour and exports of cotton were subject to prior registration of contracts with DGFT. ...

...

**3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.1 Measures Directly Affecting Imports****3.1.5 Other charges affecting imports****Table 3.5 Summary analysis of India's import charges, 2014-15**

	No. of lines	Effective applied rates (MFN)		Total duty rate, incl. extra charges <sup>a</sup>	
		Average (%)	Range (%)	Average (%)	Range (%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,481</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>0-150</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>0-537.5</b>
HS 01-24	1,609	37.7	0-150	46.2	0-537.5
HS 25-97	9,872	9.0	0-100	25.3	0-186.1
<i>By WTO definition</i>					
Agricultural products	1,496	36.4	0-150	46.1	0-537.5
...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton	11	2.7	0-30	3.3	0-36.1
...	...	...	...	...	...

Note: Calculations exclude specific rates and include the *ad valorem* part of alternate rates.

Source: WTO calculations, based on data provided by the Indian authorities; and Big's Easy Reference Customs Tariff, 2014 (35<sup>th</sup> edition).

**3.1.9 Import prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing****3.1.9.3 Import surveillance**

India does not maintain any mechanism to monitor imports of items that are considered to be sensitive; such a mechanism was discontinued by April 2012.<sup>21</sup>

**3.2 Measures Directly Affecting Exports****3.2.4 Export prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing****3.2.4.2 Export licensing and quotas**

...

On 8 December 2014, the previous requirement that exports of cotton and cotton yarn required an export authorization registration certificate (EARCs) issued by the DGFT was abolished.<sup>22</sup>

...

**4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.1 Agriculture****4.1.1 General policy framework****4.1.1.3 Internal measures**

<sup>21</sup> At the end of March 2012, there were 415 sensitive items (based on HS eight-digit classifications). These included milk and milk products, fruits and vegetables, pulses, poultry, tea and coffee, spices, food grains, edible oils, cotton and silk, marble and granite, automobiles, parts and accessories of motor vehicles, products produced by small-scale industries, and other products (bamboos, cocoa, copra, and sugar).

<sup>22</sup> DGFT Notifications Nos. 102 and 103, 8 December 2014.

**Table 4.3 Minimum support prices, 2010-15**

(Rs per quintal)

Minimum support prices (MSPs)	2010-11	2014-15
...	...	...
Cotton (medium staple)	2,500	3,750
...	...	...

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics online information. Viewed at: [http://eands.dacnet.nic.in/msp/MSPStatement\(2014.29.10\).pdf](http://eands.dacnet.nic.in/msp/MSPStatement(2014.29.10).pdf); and information provided by the Indian authorities.

**INDONESIA (APRIL 2013) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/278/REV.1)****3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.1 Measures directly affecting imports****3.1.6 Contingency measures****3.1.6.2 Safeguard measures****Table 3.10 Safeguard activity, 2007-12**

Product	Investigation initiation	Investigation outcome
...	...	...
Cotton yarn (other than sewing thread)	25.06.2010	Imposition on 06.06.2011 of safeguard measures for three years: Rp 40,687 per kg (06.06.2011 to 05.06.2012); Rp 38,144 per kg (06.06.2012 to 05.06.2013); and Rp 35,601 per kg (06.06.2013 to 05.06.2014). Certain tariff lines as well as 105 developing countries are excluded from the safeguard measure
Woven fabrics of cotton	25.06.2010	Imposition on 23.03.2011 of safeguard measures for three years: Rp 116,800 per kg (23.03.2011 to 22.03.2012); Rp 109,500 per kg (23.03.2012 to 22.03.2013); and Rp 102,200 per kg (23.03.2013 to 22.03.2014)
...	...	...

Source: Notifications to the WTO Committee on Safeguards; and additional information provided by the authorities.

**APPENDIX TABLES****Table A1.4 Merchandise imports by product group, 2007-11**

(US\$ million and %)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total imports (US\$ million)	74,473.4	129,244.1	96,829.2	135,663.3	177,435.6
	(% of total)				
Total primary products	47.4	38.1	34.6	35.3	39.2
Agriculture	14.1	10.3	11.7	11.5	12.6
...	...	...	...	...	...
Agricultural raw material	3.5	3.0	2.8	3.1	3.2
2631 Cotton (other than linters), not carded or combed	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0
...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: UNSD Comtrade database, SITC Rev.3.



**MAURITIUS (OCTOBER 2014) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/304/REV.1)****APPENDIX TABLES****Table A1. 3 Merchandise imports by product group, 2007-13**

(US\$ million and %)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total (US\$ million)	3,901	4,670	3,725	4,402	5,159	5,772	5,398
	(%)						
Total primary products	40.7	45.9	40.7	43.4	46.9	45.5	47.0
Agriculture	21.3	23.5	23.9	23.1	24.2	23.5	24.2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Agricultural raw material	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.2	3.0	2.0	2.2
2631 Cotton (other than linters), not carded or combed	0.9	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.5	0.8	0.8
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: UNSD Comtrade database, SITC Rev.3.

**Table A3. 1 VAT-exempt supplies, 2013**

Item
...
Cotton of headings 52.01, 52.02 and 52.03
...

Source: Value Added Tax Act 1998 (Consolidated Version with amendments to 1 September 2013), First Schedule. Viewed at:  
[http://mra.gov.mu/download/VATAct\\_Proclamation\\_38\\_2013.pdf](http://mra.gov.mu/download/VATAct_Proclamation_38_2013.pdf)  
[http://mra.gov.mu/download/VATAct\\_Proclamation\\_38\\_2013.pdf](http://mra.gov.mu/download/VATAct_Proclamation_38_2013.pdf)

**MOROCCO (FEBRUARY 2016) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/329)****4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.1 Agriculture and agro-industry****4.1.1 Overview****Table 4.2 Main imports of agricultural products, 2008-2014**

(US\$ million)

<b>Products</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Total imports	42,322	32,882	35,379	44,263	44,790	45,186	46,035
Agriculture	5,191	3,809	4,197	5,797	5,773	5,042	5,811
% of total	12.3	11.6	11.9	13.1	12.9	11.2	12.6
<b>Main products</b>							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
HS 5201 Cotton, not carded or combed	76	49	71	123	79	71	73
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Note: Agriculture by WTO definition.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on data from the UNSD Comtrade database; statistics from the Moroccan Foreign Exchange Board for 2014.

**PAKISTAN (MARCH 2015) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/311/REV.1)****3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.3 Measures Directly Affecting Exports****3.3.1 Registration, documentation, clearance, inspection, and minimum prices**

The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) under the Ministry of Commerce succeeded the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) in 2006 and has pursued a more holistic strategy with respect to global trade development compared to its predecessor. ...

...

Export contract registration with TDAP remains a requirement for export of cotton. ...

**3.3.3 Export prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing****3.3.3.2 Export licensing and restrictions****Table 3.8 Exports subject to certain conditions**

	HS Code	Item/goods	Condition/procedure/formalities
...	...	...	...
10	5201.0000	Cotton	(i) Export contract registration with TDAP and classification certificate issued by the Pakistan Cotton Standards Institute
...	...	...	...

Source: Export Policy Order 2013, Ministry of Commerce.

**4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.2 Agriculture****4.2.3 Key sub-sectors****4.2.3.1 Crops****Table 4.2 Area and production of important crops, 2009-14**

(Area "000" hectares and production "000" tonnes)

Crops	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton <sup>a</sup>	3,106	12,913	2,689	11,460	2,834.5	13,595.0	2,878.8	13,030.7	2,805.7	12,769.0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

a Cotton production is in thousand bales (375 lbs per bale).

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.

**4.2.3.1.4 Cotton**

Pakistan is the fourth largest cotton producer in the world. Cotton is cultivated by around 1.6 million farmers, mostly with smallholdings of less than five hectares. Yields have been largely stagnant for the last several years. Cotton is exported as a raw material, but also provides an essential input to the domestic textiles industry.

The Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC), a semi-autonomous body in the Ministry of Textile Industry has as an objective to improve the sector's productivity. Its annual budget of PRs 500 to 600 million is funded by a cess payable by the mills. Support prices for cotton were abandoned in 2008. Export contracts on cotton must be registered, with exports being subject to mandatory quality inspection and certification.

Exports of raw cotton amounted to US\$217 million in 2013, whereas exports of cotton yarn amounted to US\$2.2 billion. Pakistan also imports high-quality cotton, to blend with domestic cotton and to produce quality fabrics; imports amounted to US\$757 million of raw cotton and

US\$151 million of cotton yarn in 2013. The average MFN tariff on cotton imports is 3.8%, with tariffs ranging from 1% to 10%.

## APPENDIX TABLES

**Table A1.2 Pakistan's merchandise imports by group of products, 2007-13**

(US\$ billion and %)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total imports (US\$ billion)	32.59	42.33	31.58	37.54	43.58	43.81	43.78
	(% of total)						
Total primary products	43.2	53.1	47.2	51.2	53.7	53.9	52.2
Agriculture	13.9	16.8	15.6	17.9	16.9	14.9	14.5
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2631 Cotton (other than linters), not carded or combed	2.7	2.8	1.5	2.0	1.9	1.3	1.7
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: UNSD, Comtrade database (SITC Rev.3).

**PERU (NOVEMBER 2013) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/289/REV.1)****3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.1 Measures affecting imports****3.1.7 Anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard measures****3.1.7.2 Safeguards**

...

During the review period, Peru initiated only one investigation, in 2009, with a view to the application of a general safeguard measure to imports of cotton yarn (HS 5205 and 5206)<sup>23</sup>, although this ended without any measure being applied.<sup>24</sup>

...

**APPENDIX TABLES****Table A1.2 Merchandise imports by product, 2007-2012**

(US\$ million and %)

Description	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	(US\$ million)					
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,368</b>	<b>29,953</b>	<b>21,814</b>	<b>30,030</b>	<b>37,747</b>	<b>42,157</b>
	(% of imports)					
Total primary products	31.7	30.8	27.6	27.4	28.7	26.8
Agriculture	12.0	11.4	12.4	12.0	11.9	11.4
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Agricultural raw materials	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.4
2631 Cotton (other than linters), not carded or combed	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: WTO Secretariat estimates based on data obtained from the Comtrade database (SITC Rev.3) and the Peruvian authorities for 2012.

<sup>23</sup> WTO document G/SG/N/6/PER/2 of 25 March 2009.

<sup>24</sup> WTO document G/SG/N/9/PER/2 of 2 November 2009.

**SOUTH AFRICA (NOVEMBER 2015) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/324/REV.1)<sup>25</sup>****3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.3 Measures affecting production and trade****3.3.2 Competition policy and price controls****3.3.2.2 Price control**

In general, prices in South Africa are market-determined. Guideline prices, for agricultural products subject to levies, continue to be determined under the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act (Act No. 47 of 1996), to ensure that the levy does not exceed 5% of the actual price. Guideline prices are determined for the wine industries, milk and dairy products, as well as cotton lint.

...

**4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.1 Agriculture****4.1.2 Policy**

...

Levies continue to apply to the export and/or production of the following products: ..., cotton, ...

---

<sup>25</sup> Trade Policy Review of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU).

**THAILAND (NOVEMBER 2015) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/326/REV.1)****3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.4 Other Measures Affecting Production and Trade****3.4.4 Competition policy and consumer protection****3.4.4.2 Price controls**

... Its Central Commission on Prices of Goods and Services (CCP) in the DIT has the authority to set out: the goods and services subject to price controls; controls for their sale or purchase prices; and, procedures and conditions relating to the display of prices. ...

... The CCP Monitoring List remains divided into three categories (Table 3.7): the Sensitive goods and services whose prices are monitored daily because they are expected to increase in the near future; the Priority Watch goods and services that are monitored twice a week; and the Watch goods and services that are monitored twice a month. ...

**Table 3.7 - Products and services subject to monitoring, April 2015**

List	Products
	<b>Goods</b>
Sensitive	...
Priority Watch	...
Watch	... 82. Absorbent cotton ...161. Cotton wool ...
	<b>Services</b>
...	...

Source: Department of Internal Trade online information. Viewed at:  
<http://www.dit.go.th/en/backoffice/uploadfile/255610011351485115749.pdf> and  
<http://www.dit.go.th/en/backoffice/uploadfile/255610011147057425749.pdf>.

**4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.2 Agriculture and Food Processing****4.2.2 Trade**

...

In value terms, major imports are soya bean oil cakes, soya beans, food preparations and cotton (Table 4.4). The main sources of soya bean oil cakes and soya beans are Brazil, Argentina and the United States; of food preparations, the United States, Singapore and China; and of cotton, the United States, Australia, Brazil, and Mali. ...

**Table 4.4 - Imports of selected agricultural products, 2008-14**

HS code		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5201 - Cotton, not carded/combed	US\$ million	715.3	484.6	729.6	1,120.0	748.9	734.2	676.3
	'000 tonnes	435.9	349.7	383.7	319.2	305.8	344.9	322.3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Note: WTO definition of agriculture used.

Source: UNSD Comtrade database.

**TURKEY (MARCH 2016) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/331)****3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.1 Measures Directly Affecting Imports****3.1.8 Contingency measures****3.1.8.1 Anti-dumping and countervailing measures**

...

... One anti-dumping investigation has been initiated ex officio with respect to the United States on cotton. ...

...

Over the review period, there has been considerable anti-dumping activity. Since the beginning of 2012, 25 new investigations have been initiated and 14 new measures have been imposed; many of these have affected more than one WTO Member (Table A3.2). Additionally, various existing anti-dumping measures have been extended (Table A3.3). Since 2012, a concern has been raised by the United States in a meeting of the Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices about Turkey's investigation on cotton.<sup>26</sup>

**Table A3.2 - New anti-dumping investigations initiated and measures imposed or terminated, 2012-15**

Products concerned	Exporter(s) affected	Status
...	...	...
Cotton (HS 5201)	United States	Initiation of investigation on 18 October 2014
...	...	...

Source: WTO document WT/TPR/OV/W/9, 3 July 2015 and information provided by the authorities.

**3.1.8.2 Safeguard measures**

...

Since the beginning of 2012, Turkey has launched five safeguard investigations. At mid-October 2015, two of these were still ongoing, definitive safeguard measures had been imposed on another two, and one investigation was completed with no definitive measure imposed. Existing safeguard measures were extended in eight cases; and of these, one expired in 2014 (footwear) and two expired in 2015 (matches and motorcycles) (Table A3.4). On 31 December 2012, ahead of schedule, Turkey terminated the safeguard measure on cotton yarn. ...

Over the review period, Turkey has responded to questions posed by India in the WTO Committee on Safeguards regarding certain aspects of determination of serious injury in the context of Turkey's notifications on polyethylene terephthalate and certain types of cotton yarn.<sup>27</sup> ...

...

**Table A3.4 - Safeguard investigations initiated and measures imposed or extended, 2012-15**

Date original investigation published in the <i>Official Gazette</i>	Product(s) subject to investigation	Imposition of safeguard measure	Extension of safeguard measure
...	...	...	...
21.10.2008	Cotton yarn Turkey terminated this measure as of 31 December 2012.	15/7/2008-14/7/2011 Application of variable duty with liberalization annually: 1st period: 20% max. US\$1/kg-min. US\$0.35/kg; 2nd period: 19% max. US\$0.95/kg-min. US\$0.33/kg; 3rd period: 18% max. US\$0.90/kg-min US\$0.31/kg. Various developing countries excluded.	15/7/2011-14/7/2014 Application of variable duty with liberalization annually: 1st period: 10% max. US\$0.85/kg-min US\$0.29/kg; 2nd period: 9% max. US\$0.80/kg-min US\$0.26/kg; 3rd period: 8% max. US\$0.75/kg-min US\$0.23/kg. Various developing countries excluded.
...	...	...	...

Source: Turkey's notifications to the WTO Committee on Safeguards.

<sup>26</sup> WTO document G/ADP/M/48, 6 August 2015.

<sup>27</sup> WTO documents G/SG/Q2/TUR/6/Rev.1, 11 May 2012 and G/SG/Q2/TUR/6, 4 May 2012.



### 3.1.9 Standards and other technical requirements

#### 3.1.9.4 Controls at the border

...

In 2011, Turkey started pilot implementation of a risk-based trade control system, TAREKS, to carry out safety checks on imported and exported goods on the basis of risk. Consequently, since January 2012, conformity assessment of certain imported goods (toys, medical devices, telecommunication products, personal protective equipment, batteries and accumulators, construction products, and shoes) and as of August 2012, transactions related to cotton controls have been taken under the scope of TAREKS. ...

TAREKS introduces a new risk assessment understanding and emphasizes the control of "risky" products while leaving behind the era of checking each product at each arrival at customs. TAREKS reduces bureaucratic procedures as well as the number of documents to be submitted during the control process and replaces the paper documentation. It also contributes to effective traceability and market surveillance schemes.

Quality checks for agricultural products are also part of the control process pursuant to Communiqué No. 2015/21 on Commercial Quality Controls on Certain Agricultural Produce at Export and Import Stage. In accordance with the Communiqué No. 2012/25, cotton is also subject to commercial quality controls at export and import stages and in the domestic market as well. See Section 3.2.4.2 for details on the export quality control of agricultural products.

## 4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR

### 4.1 Agriculture

#### 4.1.2 Production

Hazelnuts are the largest earner for the fruit and nut category (Table 4.1).

**Table 4.1 - Major crop production, 2010-14**

	Production value (TL million)					(% of total)	
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 <sup>a</sup>	2010	2014 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Crop production (total)</b>	<b>80,038</b>	<b>88,979</b>	<b>87,947</b>	<b>92,453</b>	<b>97,988</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Raw materials used in textiles, of which:	2,642	4,883	2,758	2,941	3,467	3.3	3.5
Cotton (raw)	2,642	4,883	2,758	2,941	3,467	3.3	3.5
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

a 2014 data is provisional.

Sources: Turkstat, Agricultural Structure (production, price, value) Publication; Turkstat, The Summary of Agricultural Statistics Publication.

### 4.1.3 Trade

#### 4.1.3.1 Overview

...

Over the past five years, imports of raw materials and exports of processed goods have increased in parallel: as imports of cotton, wheat, and tobacco increased, exports of textiles, flour and confectionary, and tobacco products also increased. ...

...

**Table 4.3 - Exports of agricultural products, 2010-14**

(US\$ million)

		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	<b>Total exports</b>	<b>113,979</b>	<b>134,915</b>	<b>152,537</b>	<b>151,803</b>	<b>157,715</b>
	<b>Total agriculture exports</b>	<b>11,899</b>	<b>14,350</b>	<b>15,105</b>	<b>16,707</b>	<b>17,635</b>
	of which					
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1512	Sunflower-seed, safflower or cotton-seed oil	103	341	418	496	790
...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: UNSD Comtrade.

...

**Table 4.4 - Imports of agricultural products, 2010-14**

(US\$ million)

		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	<b>Total imports</b>	<b>185,541</b>	<b>240,839</b>	<b>236,544</b>	<b>251,661</b>	<b>242,224</b>
	Total agricultural imports	9,865	13,477	12,599	13,398	14,554
	of which					
5201	Cotton, not carded or combed	1,720	1,850	1,275	1,681	1,750
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1512	Sunflower, safflower or cotton-seed oil	274	629	988	919	1,201
...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: UNSD Comtrade.

The main source of imports also depends on the product: in 2014, the United States was the main supplier of cotton (HS 5201); ...

**4.1.4 Support programmes****Table 4.8 - Main measures of agricultural support, 2011-14**

(TL million)

	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Producer support estimate (PSE)</b>	<b>27,022.51</b>	<b>26,041.07</b>	<b>31,385.15</b>	<b>33,888.92</b>
...	...	...	...	...
<b>Deficiency payments:</b>	2,434.49	2,736.55	2,639.91	2,689.09
Cotton premium	792.27	1,123.69	1,037.21	1,075.23
...	...	...	...	...

Source: OECD, PSE.

**5 APPENDIX TABLES****Table A2.1 - Turkey's Involvement in Dispute Settlement Cases, 1 January 2012 – 1 December 2015**

Subject	Respondent/ complainant/ appellant	Request for consultation received	Status (as at 30 October 2014)	WTO document series
<b>Panels</b>				
Turkey as a respondent:				
Turkey – Safeguard Measures on Imports of Cotton Yarn (other than Sewing Thread)	Turkey/India	13-Feb-12	Consultations requested	WT/DS428
...	...	...	...	...

Source: WTO Secretariat.

**UNITED STATES (DECEMBER 2016) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/350/REV.1)****2 TRADE AND INVESTMENT REGIME****2.3 Trade Agreements and Arrangements****2.3.2 Preferential agreements****2.3.2.2 Unilateral preferences****2.3.2.2.1 Generalized system of preference (GSP)**

Under the GSP programme, the United States grants duty-free treatment to certain products originating in least developed countries (LDCs) and eligible developing countries. ...

The GSP Subcommittee reviews and amends the list of goods eligible for GSP treatment annually on its own initiative or following petitions. Only interested parties may submit petitions to modify the GSP product list.<sup>28</sup> During the period under review, certain cotton, cotton products and travel and luggage goods made in LDCs<sup>29</sup> have been added to the preferential list.<sup>30</sup> ...

...

**3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE****3.1 Measures Directly Affecting Imports****3.1.5 Other charges affecting imports****3.1.5.1.4 Agriculture fees**

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), part of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), collects Agriculture Quarantine Inspection (AQI) fees which it shares with CBP under an agreed allocation. In addition, fees are collected for veterinary and laboratory services (Table 3.4).

...

**Table 3.4 - Agricultural fees, applicable from 28 December 2015**

Fee	Legal reference	Reason	Amount of fee
...	...	...	...
Cotton Imports Assessment	Cotton Research and Promotion Act of 1989 7 CFR 1205	Cotton research, promotion, consumer information	Varies according to the product and HTS number
...	...	...	...

Source: CPB online information. Viewed at: [http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/userfee0407\\_3.pdf](http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/userfee0407_3.pdf) and [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/business-services/user\\_fees/aqi\\_user\\_fees](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/business-services/user_fees/aqi_user_fees); and information provided by the authorities.

**4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR****4.1 Agriculture****4.1.1 Main features**

...

<sup>28</sup> An interested party is any party with a significant economic interest in the subject matter of the request, or any other party representing a significant economic interest that would be materially affected by the action requested, such as a domestic producer of a like or directly competitive article, a commercial importer or retailer of an article eligible for GSP or for which GSP eligibility is requested, or a foreign government.

<sup>29</sup> AGOA beneficiaries are also accorded preferences for such travel and luggage goods.

<sup>30</sup> USTR online information, "Results of the 2014/2015 GSP Limited Product Review" and "Outcomes of the 2015/2016 GSP Annual Review". Viewed at: <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/Results-of-the-2014-2015-GSP-Limited-Product-Review.pdf>, and <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/Outcomes-2015-2016-GSP-Annual-Review.pdf>.

**Table 4.1 - Value of US production, 2008-15**

(US\$ billion and %)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% of total <sup>a</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>318.3</b>	<b>284.5</b>	<b>334.9</b>	<b>379.5</b>	<b>396.6</b>	<b>394.3</b>	<b>405.2</b>	<b>382.5<sup>b</sup></b>	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton	3.0	3.8	7.3	7.0	6.3	5.2	5.1	3.9	1.0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

a Percentage of total for the year 2015, except for crops total (excl. horticulture) where the percentage is for the year 2014.

b Provisional data.

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service Online.

Viewed at: <https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov/#A18C7854-5C8F-360C-9973-AFC9D13A0EFA>; USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service online information, "Poultry - Production and Value", different bulletins.

Viewed at: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1130>; and OECD Stats, Agriculture Policy Indicators, 2016 Monitoring and Evaluation: Reference Tables.

The United States exports significant portions of its agricultural production, particularly of soybeans, maize, wheat, cotton, and chicken. ...

**Table 4.2 - US and world production and trade of selected commodities, 2008/09-2015/16**

('000 tonnes, unless otherwise indicated)

	Marketing year	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
...									
<b>Cotton (thousand 480 lb. bales)</b>									
Production	United States	12,825	12,183	18,102	15,573	17,314	12,909	16,319	12,870
	% of world	11.8	11.8	15.4	12.2	14.0	10.7	13.7	13.3
Exports	United States	13,261	12,037	14,376	11,714	13,026	10,530	11,246	9,500
	% of world	43.8	33.8	41.3	25.5	28.0	25.7	31.7	26.3
...									

Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution database.

Viewed at: <http://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/psdQuery.aspx>

#### 4.1.2 The 2014 Farm Act

##### 4.1.2.1 Overview

...

**Table 4.4 - The 2014 Farm Act, main programmes**

	Programme title	Essential elements
<b>Commodity programmes</b> Producers with base acres choose between PLC or county-based ARC for each covered commodity or farm-based ARC for all covered commodities on the farm	...	...
	Marketing Loan Program	Maintained <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coupled to current prices and production</li> <li>Loan rates unchanged, except for potential downward adjustment of upland cotton loan rate</li> </ul>
<b>Crop insurance</b>	Federal Crop Insurance Program (permanently authorized)	Maintained; new subsidized insurance programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO)</li> <li>Stacked Income Protection Plan for producers of upland cotton (STAX)</li> </ul>
<b>Export credit guarantees</b>	Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102)	Maintained; amendments include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum tenor reduced to 24 months</li> <li>Flexibility given to the US Secretary of Agriculture to adapt the programme pursuant to the 2014 Memorandum of Understanding Related to the Cotton Dispute (WTO/DS267) between the United States and Brazil</li> </ul>
...	...	...

Source: WTO document WT/TPR/S/307/Rev.1, 13 March 2015; and information provided by the authorities.

#### 4.1.2.5 Crop Insurance

... Today, the federal crop insurance programme allows participants to insure against losses on some 130 crops, including the five major crops (maize, cotton, grain/sorghum, soybeans, and wheat), minor crops, and specialty crops (fruit, vegetables, nursery crops, and tree nuts). ...

...

#### 4.1.2.6 Cotton

The 2014 Farm Act does not authorize historical acreage planted with upland cotton to be enrolled in PLC or ARC. Instead, a new Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX) provides coverage for losses of up to 20% of the expected county revenue. STAX may be purchased on its own or in conjunction with other crop insurance (companion policy).<sup>31</sup> Indemnities are triggered under STAX when area revenue falls below 90% of the expected level and may increase to cover a maximum of 30% of the expected revenue or the maximum loss level under the companion policy. In addition, the grower may increase (or decrease) the effective coverage under STAX by choosing a multiplier (protection factor) that may range from 80% to 120%. The premium subsidy rate, i.e. the share paid by the Federal Government, is 80%. Nevertheless, cotton farmers have been reluctant to sign up to STAX.

Although upland cotton is excluded from the ARC and PLC, former upland cotton base became "generic acres" under the ARC and PLC programmes, and growers with generic acres have the option to plant those acres to other crops that are eligible for ARC and PLC. Thus far, some 2.2 million generic acres planted to covered commodities have received ARC and PLC payments totalling US\$149.3 million (by 20 May 2016), primarily for peanuts (US\$87.6 million), maize (US\$39.8 million), and long grain rice (US\$14 million).

#### 4.1.4 Levels of support

...

**Table 4.8 - Total producer support estimate and single commodity transfer values for selected commodities, 2008-15**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Producer support estimate</b>								
US\$ million	29,954	31,535	30,774	32,684	35,993	29,020	43,572	38,785
PSE as % gross farm receipts	8.6	10.1	8.6	8.0	8.5	6.9	10.0	9.4
<b>Single commodity transfers</b>								
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Cotton</b>								
US\$ million	1,313	252	339	813	591	529	908	836
SCT as % gross farm receipts	30.1	6.2	4.4	10.4	8.6	9.4	15.2	17.2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: OECD Stats.

Among the main commodities tracked by the OECD, the highest single commodity transfers (as a percentage of gross farm receipts) are provided to sugar, milk, and cotton. ...

...

<sup>31</sup> Examples of such policies are Yield Protection, Revenue Protection, Revenue Protection with the Harvest Price Exclusion, and any Area Risk Protection insurance policy.

## VIET NAM (SEPTEMBER 2013) - SECRETARIAT REPORT (WT/TPR/S/287/REV.1)

## 4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR

## 4.2 Agriculture

## 4.2.2 Trade

Table 4.2 - Exports and imports of agricultural, 2005-11

HS 2002			2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Imports</b>									
	<b>TOTAL (not including rubber)</b>		<b>2,404</b>	<b>2,850</b>	<b>4,066</b>	<b>5,819</b>	<b>5,757</b>	<b>7,849</b>	<b>10,052</b>
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5201	Cotton, not carded or combed	'000 tonnes	106	176	202	291	295	349	320
		US\$ million	163	214	259	456	385	661	1,037
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: UNSD Comtrade.

## 4.2.3 Policies

## 4.2.3.2 Domestic policies

...

Product-specific plans set out objectives and general policies for some crops and other agricultural products...<sup>32</sup> Similarly, the Cotton Development Master Plan for 2015-20 sets targets for areas (in this case, an increase in area planted) and states that assistance will be provided through low-interest loans and improved infrastructure.<sup>33</sup>

...

## APPENDIX TABLES

Table A1. 2 - Merchandise imports by product group, 2007-11

(US\$ million and %)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total imports (US\$ million)	62,764.7	80,713.8	69,948.8	84,838.6	106,749.9
	% of total				
Total primary products	27.5	29.0	25.5	26.5	28.3
Agriculture	9.4	9.8	10.8	12.1	12.4
...	...	...	...	...	...
2631 Cotton (other than linters), not carded or combed	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.8	1.0
...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: UNSD Comtrade database, SITC Rev.3.

<sup>32</sup> USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (2012a).<sup>33</sup> USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (2012b).

**Table A3. 3 - Preferential tariff averages for selected product groups, 2013**

Description	No. of lines	MFN applied (%)	ATIGA <sup>a</sup> (%)	AK FTA <sup>b</sup> (%)	AC FTA <sup>c</sup> (%)	AANZ FTA <sup>d</sup> (%)	AI FTA <sup>e</sup> (%)	AJ CEPA <sup>f</sup> (%)	VJ EPA <sup>g</sup> (%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,558</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.6</b>
HS 01-24	1,594	17.4	2.8	10.5	4.7	13.5	15.5	14.3	14.5
HS 25-97	7,964	9.0	1.8	6.9	4.1	7.2	7.8	6.5	6.2
<b>By WTO category</b>									
WTO Agriculture	1,298	17.4	3.4	10.4	5.4	12.6	15.1	13.8	14.0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton	5	6.0	0.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	6.0	3.0	3.3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

a ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (Circular No. 161/2011/TT-BTC).

b ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (Circular No. 163/2011/TT-BTC).

c ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (Circular No. 162/2011/TT-BTC).

d ASEAN-Australia New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (Circular No. 44/2012/TT-BTC).

e ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement (Circular No. 45/2012/TT-BTC).

f ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (Circular No. 20/2012/TT-BTC).

g Viet Nam-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (Circular No. 21/2012/TT-BTC).

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from the Ministry of Finance, Circular No. 193/2012/TT-BTC and Circular Nos. as in footnotes (a) to (g).