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The International Legal Procedure for the Accession of Sovereign Countries to the World Trade Organization

Nurboyev Jaloliddin Mamadievich

Denov Institute of Entrepreneurship and Pedagogy, Independent Researcher DSc

ABSTRACT

This article examines the emergence, development, and role of the World Trade Organization in the globalizing world economy.

Keywords: World Trade Organization, total exports, international trade, export volume, Export, Import, trade turnover, World Bank.

Introduction

WTO membership allows countries to develop their development strategies and trade policies within a more predictable and stable trading framework. In addition, membership in this organization ensures that participants participate in the discussion of important documents related to international trade and express their interests in their adoption. WTO membership should be seen as a key element in achieving national development policy goals. These goals should be clearly defined long before a country enters the negotiation process, and the terms of membership, i.e. special concessions and obligations in terms of foreign access to the goods and services market, should be clearly defined, and these policy parameters (agricultural and industrial subsidies, investment policies related to trade and intellectual property rights, etc.) should be commensurate with the obligations in WTO agreements.

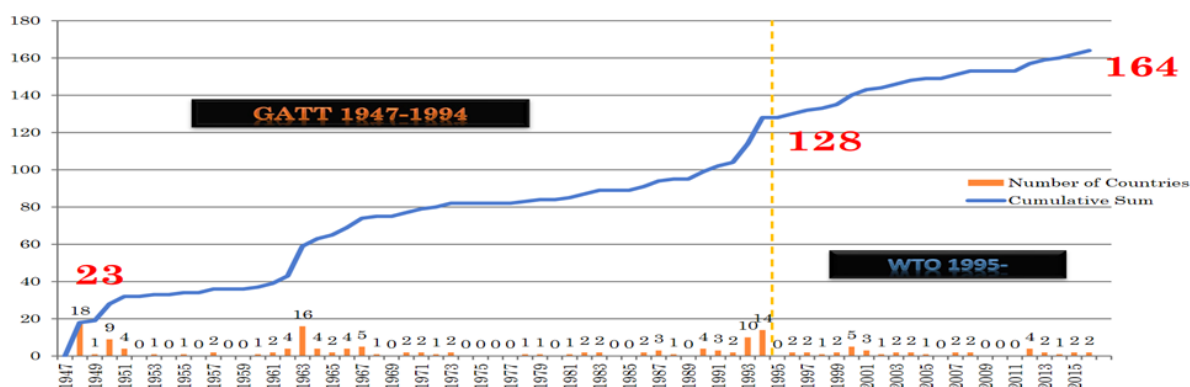
Analysis of relevant literature

On reasonable grounds, WTO membership is considered a long-term, difficult and complex process requiring a high level of preparation, which must be coordinated among state agencies in order to comply with national interests and effectively protect them [1]. For this reason, serious negotiations are held with WTO member countries. Such negotiations consider strategic and long-term issues that may affect the trade and political development of countries over the next few years [2]. In order to achieve the conditions for economic development, strengthening the financial system and achieving a balanced trade balance in accordance with the above-mentioned special agreements, candidate countries in WTO accession negotiations must determine the objectives during the negotiations based on a thorough analysis of their main economic strategies and policies and their proportionality to the norms and rules of the WTO. Below we can see the evolution of the number of members from GATT 1947 to the present day

[3]. This will be an important basis for starting negotiations. This document should also cover such issues as the role of foreign trade and major trading partners in the economy and the expected results from them for development; identify internationally competitive sectors of the economy that can expand the country's export potential; and draw attention to the need to protect the socially important sectors of the candidate country and the "nascent" industries [4]. The acceding country should make full use of its WTO observer status to conduct excellent preparatory work for accession negotiations. In particular, the participation of other countries in the meetings of the Working Group on accession to the WTO allows them to understand the complexity of such negotiations. At the same time, the country should focus on non-traditional methods of working with member countries, which are considered standard practice in WTO practice [5]. Accession negotiations require the creation of a responsible system for this process. Efforts should be made to establish an effective government mechanism that can facilitate and support accession negotiations, with coordination powers between government agencies and with legal and trade organizations [6].

Discussion

At the same time, it is important to prepare for the technical and logistical challenges of processing large amounts of documents and translating legislative documents into the official languages of the WTO. The diversity of institutions involved in trade policy makes coordination issues important. Coordination is important not only among government agencies, but also between them and the private sector. To this end, almost all candidate countries have established some form of coordination mechanism to deal with WTO accession issues. Private sector participation in accession matters can be important for several reasons. Identifying the interests of the private sector in the negotiations can be a useful contribution, including in terms of the sensitivity of economic sectors.



essential for countries, importers, and service providers to have access to other reliable, predictable, and growing markets. Market access rules are therefore a key aspect of WTO rules. There are various ways to restrict or prevent the entry of goods and services from other countries into a market, the main ones of which fall into two categories:

- Tariff barriers;
- Non-tariff barriers.

The category of tariff barriers mainly includes customs duties, i.e. rates. Tariff barriers are particularly important for trade in goods. They are of secondary importance for trade in services. The category of non-tariff barriers includes quantitative restrictions (e.g. quotas) and "other non-tariff barriers" (e.g. lack of transparency in trade regulations, unfair and arbitrary trade regulations, customs procedures, technical barriers to trade, and government procurement rules). Such "other non-tariff regulatory measures" are, of course, the largest and most diverse subcategory of non-tariff barriers.

The most common barrier to the entry of goods into the market is customs duties, also known as tariffs. A customs duty or tariff is a type of financial payment in the form of a tax levied on the import of goods. Access to the market is conditional on the payment of customs duties.

Customs duty rates can be specific, ad valorem or mixed. Specific customs duty rates for goods depend on the weight, volume or quantity of such goods (for example, a duty of 100 euros per hectoliter of vegetable oil or a duty of 3,000 euros for a vehicle).

Ad valorem customs duty rates depend on the value of the goods and are expressed as a percentage of the value of the imported goods (for example, the ad valorem duty rate on computers is 15 percent. In this case, the duty charged on a computer worth 1,000 euros is 150 euros).

Combined or mixed duty rates are calculated by adding or subtracting (in very rare cases) a specific duty rate from the ad valorem duty rates (for example, the duty rate for wool can be set at 10% of the value and 50 euros per ton, in which case the duty on three tons of wool with a ton value of 1000 euros will be 450 euros).

Conclusion

In conclusion, first of all, customs duties are a source of revenue for the state. This objective is not very important for industrial countries with a developed system of direct and indirect taxation. However, for many developing countries, customs duties are very important in terms of revenue for the country's budget. Unlike income taxes and sales taxes, customs duties are much easier to collect, since imports are easier to control and customs duties can be collected at only a few points of entry.

Secondly, customs duties are used to protect domestic products, since customs duties on imported goods allow the prices of domestic "similar" goods to be relatively lower, so that domestic products are somewhat protected from price superiority and competition from imported products. Thirdly, customs duties can be used to encourage the rational allocation of foreign exchange deficits. In order to encourage the use of foreign currency to import fixed assets (for example, industrial equipment) and, conversely, to ensure restrictions on the import of luxury goods (for example, expensive cars) in foreign currency, the state can apply low rates of customs duties in the first case, and high rates in the second. Thus, customs duties can serve as an instrument of economic development strategy.

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