



Trade in *Transforming Our World*: Options for follow-up and review of the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

IISD-ICTSD REPORT



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Foreword

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in September 2015 commits all United Nations Member States to an ambitious and wide-ranging set of objectives requiring an integrated approach to environmental, social, and economic development concerns. Its vision is nothing less than “transforming our world” and its structure and breadth send an important political signal about the interrelated nature of global challenges. This universal and integrated framework for public policy will only succeed with the active engagement of the private sector and civil society.

Trade and trade policy tools are referenced throughout the Sustainable Development Goals and even more fulsomely in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development. The many references reflect the important contribution trade is expected to make to objectives as diverse as ending hunger, the sustainable use of marine and terrestrial ecosystems, and ensuring healthy lives. How trade is managed and trade policy crafted will be crucial to the achievement of this new agenda for sustainable development.

The 2030 Agenda is not legally binding. Instead, implementation is the responsibility of all stakeholders. For this reason the follow-up and review process, allowing all to track progress towards full implementation of the 2030 Agenda commitments, including those on trade, will be essential to the framework’s success. Collecting the necessary information, interpreting and aggregating it at national, regional, and global levels will be a real challenge and must involve all major stakeholders. It follows that we must make optimal use of existing policy monitoring and review systems wherever possible, including those used in the trade-related institutions.

This paper draws on the experience of our two organisations in trade, sustainable development, and international governance to provide an overview of how and where the trade elements of the 2030 Agenda might best be reviewed. The paper maps where trade and trade policy are referenced, explicitly or implicitly, in the 2030 Agenda, identifying six clusters of commitments. It then suggests a range of indicators that could be used to measure progress against these commitments and shows how existing policy review mechanisms could be used to review and galvanise progress. The discussion in the text is supported by a detailed annex that provides a range of options for both measurement and review of the relevant elements. In identifying these options, the paper aims to inform discussions defining the follow-up and review mechanisms for the 2030 Agenda. It also aims to help the trade policy community identify and fulfil its important role in securing the vision of the 2030 Agenda and transforming our world. Lastly, the paper aims to provide a foundation for, and to prompt, further work in this area, including more detailed work on options for review mechanisms outside the World Trade Organization. We would particularly welcome reactions to this paper and further work by governments and experts in developing countries, whose perspectives we feel have been under-represented in the debate so far.

This paper was written by Alice Tipping, Senior Programme Officer at ICTSD, and Robert Wolfe, Professor of Policy Studies at Queen’s University and Senior Associate at IISD. Alice manages ICTSD’s work on the 2030 Agenda, while Robert works on follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at IISD.

We hope that you will find this study a useful contribution to your work.

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Executive Summary

Trade and trade policy are central to transforming our world, the objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Trade can make a crucial contribution to sustainable development objectives, including economic growth and poverty reduction, but requires a coherent policy framework that links helping businesses harness trading opportunities with managing the social, economic, and environmental impacts of trade. Ensuring policy learning about how trade can contribute to the 2030 Agenda requires robust follow-up and review of the new global framework.

The first aim of this paper is to map where trade-related elements are found in the 2030 Agenda. The second aim is to describe the architecture for follow-up and review that could support these commitments, and to map where it exists or could be built. The 2030 Agenda in itself will not cause anything to change, let alone ensure policy coherence, but the review process might.

The contribution of trade to the 2030 Agenda is diffuse, which means follow-up and review will be a challenge, but it need not be overly burdensome, and it will be useful. This paper presents options for how progress towards these trade-related commitments could be reviewed over the next 15 years. The process would provide information on progress based on inputs from governments, civil society, and international organisations. This information would be reviewed through self-assessment by states themselves, through peer learning by other governments at the regional level (for example in United Nations regional commissions), and at the global level in multilateral agencies and the High-Level Political Forum, the apex of the follow-up and review process. The point of these review processes is not “evaluation,” but the sharing of experiences as a way to facilitate learning and policy improvement.

The paper identifies six clusters of trade-related elements in the 2030 Agenda. These elements range from improving access to trade finance to strengthening the multilateral trading system. They include commitments to the reform of perverse subsidies to agriculture, fisheries, and fossil fuels, and to ensuring that regional trade and investment agreements are coherent with sustainable development. For each cluster, the paper identifies options for indicators, where the necessary data are already collected (if they are) and where progress against these political commitments could be reviewed. The analysis does not pretend to be exhaustive, but to provide a starting point for further discussion.

The paper then presents the information from another perspective, focusing on the potential roles of the various peer review mechanisms, summarised in Box 2. These mechanisms range from multilateral reviews, like the Trade Policy Review Mechanism of the World Trade Organization and UNCTAD’s voluntary policy peer reviews, to regional mechanisms that could review groups of states, like the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development or regional economic integration organisations like Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

The last part of the paper explains how the various reports could be brought together. Given the profusion of options for review mechanisms, an inter-agency task force on trade could provide an analytical synthesis of reporting and reviews useful for discussions at national, regional, and global levels on the interrelated effects and trade-offs between goals.



Box 1: Selected examples of possible indicators, sources of information, and review mechanisms*

Trade-related elements	Potential indicators and sources	Potential review mechanisms
Cluster 1: Subsidies and commodities trade		
Agricultural distortions	Agricultural subsidy levels	WTO and OECD agriculture committees
Fossil fuel subsidies	IEA, OECD, IMF data	OECD, IEA country reviews, G20, UNFCCC, TPRM
Fisheries subsidies	WTO notifications, OECD data	WTO SCM committee and OECD Fisheries committee
Cluster 2: Access to water, energy, medicines		
TRIPS flexibilities	Use of TRIPS flexibilities for health	WTO TRIPS Council
Water technology	Trade in related goods and services	WTO CTE, APEC Committee on Trade and Investment
Clean energy technology	Trade in related goods and services	OECD, IEA Environment, Energy country reviews, WTO Committee on Trade and Environment
Cluster 3: Economic diversification, global value chains, trade finance, and facilitation		
Economic diversification	LDCs' export diversification	WTO TPRM
Regional infrastructure, trade facilitation	WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement ratifications, implementation	WTO Trade Facilitation Committee
Access to trade finance, participation in GVCs	Draw on work by WTO, regional development banks, BIS WTO-OECD TiVA database	WTO Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance OECD Trade Committee
Environmental technologies for industry	Trade, tariffs on environmentally sound technologies	WTO CTE, TPRM APEC Committee on Trade and Investment
Transparent, sustainable government procurement	Membership of WTO Government Procurement Agreement	WTO Committee on Government Procurement, TPRM
Cluster 4: Illegal extraction and trade in natural resources, trade in hazardous chemicals and waste		
Environmentally sound management of wastes	UNEP Global Chemicals Outlook	Basel Convention Implementation and Compliance Committee, UNEP
Access and benefit-sharing regarding genetic resources	Permits submitted to Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House	Convention on Biological Diversity
Poaching, trafficking of wildlife	Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached, trafficked	IUCN World Conservation Congress, CITES, WTO Committee on Trade and Environment
Cluster 5: Multilateral trading system		
Increase Aid for Trade	WTO, OECD Aid for Trade data	Global Aid for Trade Review
Implement S&D in WTO	WTO Annual Report	WTO S&D Monitoring Mechanism
Strengthen multilateral trading system	WTO Bali, Nairobi packages implementation	WTO General Council, TPRM, Trade Negotiations Committee
Increase developing country exports	Developing country, LDC exports Average tariffs faced by LDCs	WTO CTD Sub-Committee on LDCs UNCTAD Trade and Development Commission
Cluster 6: Policy coherence for sustainable development		
Strengthen regional trade agreements	ADB regional economic integration indicator	UN Regional Commissions WTO Committee on Regional Trade Agreements
Policy space, investment agreements safeguards	UNCTAD World Investment Reports	UNCTAD Trade and Development Commission

* This table provides extracts from the more extensive material found in the Annex.



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Abbreviations

AAAA	Addis Ababa Action Agenda	IUU	illegal, unreported and unregulated (fishing)
ADB	Asian Development Bank	LDCs	least developed countries
AfDB	African Development Bank	LLDCs	landlocked developing countries
Ag-IMS	WTO Agriculture Information Management System	MDB	multilateral development bank
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation	MFN	most favoured nation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	MoI	means of implementation
BIS	Bank for International Settlements	MTS	multilateral trading system
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	NGO	non-governmental organisation
CPIA	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
CRTA	WTO Committee on Regional Trade Agreements	RTA	regional trade agreement
CTD	WTO Committee on Trade and Development	S&D	special and differential treatment
CTE	WTO Committee on Trade and Environment	SADC	Southern African Development Community
DDA	WTO Doha Development Agenda	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
DFQF	Duty-Free Quota-Free	SIDS	small island developing states
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	SME	small and medium-sized enterprise
EIF	Enhanced Integrated Framework	TFA	WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	TiVA	OECD-WTO Trade in Value Added
G20	Group of 20	TPP	Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement
GVCs	global value chains	TPR	WTO Trade Policy Review
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development	TPRB	WTO Trade Policy Review Body
ICTSD	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development	TPRM	WTO Trade Policy Review Mechanism
IAEG-SDGs	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators	TRIPS	WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
IEA	International Energy Agency	UN	United Nations
IFI	international financial institution	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
IAs	International investment agreements	UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
IISD	International Institute for Sustainable Development	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IMF	International Monetary Fund	UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
IP	intellectual property	VNR	Voluntary National Review
IPOA	Istanbul Plan of Action	WHO	World Health Organization
ITC	International Trade Centre	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature	WTO	World Trade Organization



Introduction

Trade and carefully designed trade policy can make a crucial contribution to supporting and integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental – that make up the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (“the 2030 Agenda”). Trade-related elements perfuse both pillars of the 2030 Agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development* (United Nations, 2015a), and the outcome document of the third Financing for Development (FfD) conference, the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* (AAAA).¹ Trade-related targets are included in at least 12 of the SDGs. Some are goal-specific, but others see trade as a cross-cutting “means of implementation” (MoI) relevant to the achievement of every goal. In order to realise this potential, trade and other policies must reinforce each other and not work at cross-purposes.

This approach of integrating trade across the development agenda framework makes sense: it reflects the fact that trade has to be part of a coherent policy framework for sustainable development. But trade experts see imperfections in the 2030 Agenda. The SDGs focus on expanding exports, not obtaining high quality imports. Although they recognise, if only implicitly, the importance of maintaining an open trade regime that would allow domestic firms access to low-cost inputs, they do not explicitly address the centrality of services in accessing global value chains (GVCs). The SDGs also devote insufficient explicit attention to things like trade costs that are important for participation in GVCs (Hoekman, 2015). The 2030 Agenda does recognise that with a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory, and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalisation (in the words of the AAAA, para. 79), trade can serve as an engine of economic growth, not least by encouraging long-term private and public investment in productive capacities. Trade can contribute to reducing poverty, the objective of

SDG 1, and promoting sustainable development.² According to the AAAA, with appropriate supporting policies, infrastructure, and an educated workforce, trade can promote employment, decent work, and women’s empowerment, reduce inequality, and contribute to the realisation of the SDGs. Trade can therefore contribute to the 2030 Agenda’s overall objective of “transforming our world,” advancing both human development and environmental protection.

These aspirations may be feasible, in theory, but ensuring that trade makes this contribution to sustainable development will take a concerted effort by many ministries within national governments, along with international organisations, civil society, and the private sector. It will require a coherent policy framework both to ensure businesses can take advantage of trade opportunities and also to manage the social and economic adjustments that can result from the competitive pressures of trade and the environmental impacts of changes in economic activity. Follow-up and review of the trade-related elements of the agenda is thus essential: the SDGs in themselves, and the trade-related elements, will not cause anything to change, let alone ensure policy coherence, but the review process might.

The contribution of trade to the 2030 Agenda is pervasive but diffuse, as shown in the Annex, which means follow-up and review will be a challenge. Unlike many aspects of the 2030 Agenda, international trade is covered by numerous bilateral, regional, and multilateral agreements, which have their own review mechanisms.³ Our first aim with this paper is to map where trade-related elements are found in the SDGs and AAAA, and where it can be reviewed. The analysis does not pretend to be exhaustive, but to provide a starting point for further discussion. Even a brief overview of where trade fits, in Box 1 above, shows the scope of the challenge.

¹ The UNGA resolution establishing 2030 Agenda incorporates the AAAA as an “integral part” of the 2030 Agenda (United Nations, 2015a, para. 40). This paper therefore looks at both the SDGs and the AAAA in its analysis of the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda.

² Although SDG 1 on ending poverty in all its forms does not contain explicit trade-related commitments, (with the possible exception of references to basic services, discussed below) many of the targets and indicators included in our analysis, such as the removal of distortions in agricultural markets or the reduction of trade costs, could contribute to the objectives of this key SDG.

³ On the complexity of the global trade and investment architecture and its relationship to other institutions of global governance, including the 2030 Agenda, see Deere Birkbeck and Botwright (2015).



FOLLOW-UP AND REVIEW OF TRADE IN THE 2030 AGENDA

Mechanisms for reviewing progress will be essential to the interconnected challenges of achieving the 2030 Agenda commitments. Having articulated the goals, states have to decide on whose agenda they should be placed. Follow-up mechanisms will enable the world to understand how things are working so that programme adjustments can be made. Review will also allow states to learn from the experience of others; and shed light on whether states are individually and collectively on track to meet their objectives.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda will require coherent systemic support, but most of the needed action on sustainable development is national, even local. In this sense, the new accountability paradigm is bottom-up not top-down. The great achievement of the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change is that governments agreed to provide information on what they are doing on climate change, and to allow public scrutiny of such action as well as collective review. The Paris Agreement requires governments to notify their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the UNFCCC Secretariat, along with the steps being taken to implement those NDCs. These notification processes provide an incentive for governments to act to fulfil the expectations created by the notification. Success will require robust surveillance of these notifications at the international level. This type of reporting is about effort not outcomes, but a review process should also ask if objectives are being met and how to identify necessary follow-up. Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda requires comparing what we have achieved when measured against our initial aspirations and comparing ourselves to our peers. Review should ask if we are meeting our own goals? Are we doing as well as similarly situated communities or countries? Are we trying as hard as we can? What can we learn from the achievements of others, and what can we learn from how others see us? Are we collectively doing enough to support each other in these efforts? What systemic follow-up is needed and from whom? These are the questions that countries, and the international community, should ask themselves.

The purpose of review mechanisms is, thus, to allow consideration of whether national law, policy, and implementation are consistent with each state's aspirations for achieving the SDGs. But the 2030

Agenda is also a universal agenda, in at least two senses: the goals address all countries, at all levels of development, and in many cases will require collective efforts to solve trans-boundary problems (like illegal trade). Regional and global as well as national review will be needed, therefore, because what happens in one part of the world has effects in others, and because of the interrelated effects and trade-offs among the goals. Global review is also needed because countries in different regions or at the same level of development may face similar challenges and, hence, have lessons to share.

The 2030 Agenda is complex with many moving parts – 17 SDGs, dozens of targets, hundreds of indicators monitored by dozens of international organisations, and hundreds of think tanks and NGOs. The most important place to review implementation of the SDGs will be at the national level, and it will already be a challenge to facilitate engagement by a range of actors at this level. Regional reviews will allow comparison of similar countries, taking advantage of existing review mechanisms. The task of the new UN (United Nations) High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development, therefore, is to identify obstacles to implementation of the 2030 Agenda and find ways to deal with them. Its role involves orchestration, (Abbott and Bernstein, 2015), providing incentives and a framework for everyone to participate, coordinating and encouraging the efforts of states, UN entities, business, NGOs – all the stakeholders who should be involved in the process.

Review should identify achievements and critical success factors, support countries in making informed policy choices, and mobilise the necessary means of implementation and partnerships. Mechanisms should build on existing platforms and processes, and be rigorous and evidence-based. We have looked for places where SDG-related data could be enhanced using existing reporting mechanisms, and where existing review mechanisms could continue to function as before, but with a stronger orientation to the 2030 Agenda. The essential objective is to ensure that the new system does not place an excessive burden on states. Our second aim in this paper, therefore, is to describe the architecture for follow-up and review, and to map where its elements exist or could be built. An overview of this part of the mapping, also based on the Annex, is found in Box 2 below.



Outline of the argument

In the first section of this paper, we discuss principles for thinking about review mechanisms, followed by a brief discussion in the second section of architectural options for review. The third section reports on a mapping exercise designed to show where trade figures in the SDGs and in the AAAA, global indicators endorsed in March 2016⁴ and possible supplementary indicators, and where the necessary data are already collected, if it is. The fourth section describes where trade-related follow-up and review mechanisms already exist, assessing where trade-related reporting can be discussed as a way to learn from the experiences of others, and benefit from the suggestions of peers. While they overlap, the focus of section 3 is on the clusters of goals; the focus of section 4 is on the organisations. Sections 3 and 4 draw on the same detailed mapping in the Annex, but use it in distinct ways. The profusion of options for review mechanisms suggests that some kind of analytical synthesis of reporting at a global level would be helpful. Without such an analytical synthesis, the vital contribution of trade to sustainable development may be obscured. The conclusion, therefore, suggests that an inter-agency task force could be responsible for aggregation of all the trade-related reports for the purposes of discussion of the interrelated effects and trade-offs between goals.

⁴ The 47th Meeting of the United Nations Statistical Commission endorsed a list of indicators for the SDG targets proposed by the IAEG-SDGs in its report of 19 February 2016 (United Nations 2016a).



1.0 Principles for Thinking about the Review Mechanism

The ultimate objective of follow-up and review, according to UN members, is “accountability to our citizens.” (United Nations, 2015a, para 74). The purpose is not a state giving an account of itself to foreigners, but a national process of learning; the government, business, civil society of a nation asking themselves whether as a country they are achieving their own objectives under the 2030 Agenda.

What principles and design considerations need to be taken into account in establishing mechanisms? This paper relies on an analytic framework developed by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) (Halle and Wolfe, 2015; see also Halle, Najam and Wolfe, 2014; IISD, 2014). It is based on questions to be asked in any analysis of a review mechanism (Mashaw, 2005). Asking these questions helps us to be sure that we have systematically considered all the salient factors. The questions are:

1. Who is to be reviewed;
2. By whom;
3. About what are they being reviewed;
4. Through what processes is the review to be conducted;
5. By what standards are the relevant policies and practices to be assessed;
6. What the potential effects of the review are, or why review; and,
7. Is the review feasible and practical?

We take these questions in order.

1. *Who is to be reviewed?*

Transforming our World, and the resolution creating the HLPF (United Nations, 2013), consistent with the universal nature of the SDGs, specifies that developed countries, developing countries, and relevant United Nations entities would be reviewed. In principle, all bodies with a trade-related mandate could be reviewed, from the World Trade Organization (WTO) to multilateral environmental agreements, like the Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).⁵ In practice the Secretary-General simply calls on other bodies to review their own working methods to ensure that they are supportive of the 2030 Agenda, although quadrennial comprehensive policy reviews (QCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system may well review the performance of UN entities.

2. *By whom?*

In this paper we look only at self-assessment by governments and international organisations, review by governments of the actions of other governments, and the role of international organisations in support of reviews. The HLPF will be the apex of a global network of review processes. It is an intergovernmental body, but civil society has access to all documents, has the right to submit documents, and can speak in plenary. Review at other levels is meant to be similarly open and participatory, although it can only happen in accordance with the usual practices of a country or international organisation.⁶

3 *About what?*

The objective is to assess overall progress towards sustainable development, and to know what more needs doing. For the purposes of this paper we have limited ourselves to mapping the trade-related objectives articulated in the SDGs and AAAA, as discussed in the next section. Universality does not preclude both a different substantive emphasis in reviews by country or region, and alignment of reviews with a country’s other international obligations. Countries will differ in which goals matter and where they put the emphasis in each cycle. In addition to national reports and reviews of entities, we see a need for review of progress towards aggregated goals expressed at the global level, and of the interrelated effects and trade-offs among goals.

⁵ This list might seem too expansive, but see paragraph 84 of *Transforming our World*: “We reaffirm that the HLPF... shall carry out regular reviews of progress in line with Resolution 67/290. Reviews will be voluntary, while encouraging reporting, and include developed and developing countries as well as relevant UN entities.” 67/290 para. 17 refers to “the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, including the World Trade Organization...”

⁶ People familiar with civil society involvement in organizations like the WTO (Halle, Wolfe and Beaton, 2011) may be surprised that consistent with UN Economic and Social Council Resolution 1996/31, based on Article 71 of the UN Charter, civil society has a significant role in the HLPF.



4. Through what process?

The process for review includes three transparency mechanisms: generating information, then communicating and reviewing it. The effectiveness of each one depends on the others.

The first *transparency mechanism* is voluntary reporting of new or changed national measures, and objective indicators of achievement. Information will be more useful if it is generated using a standard set of questions, or template, and if it is made publicly available in a searchable online database. Standardised data are essential for analysts, of course, but countries cannot see how they are doing if they cannot compare themselves to similar countries, and civil society cannot participate without the data.

The second *transparency mechanism* groups together a set of practices on how governments and international organisations report on their work. Rather than producing information, then, this type of transparency is more about communicating information and listening to the views of stakeholders, including public dissemination of draft reports, opportunity in good time to submit comments, and deliberative opportunities. These two transparency mechanisms correspond to the material in column 3 of the Annex, and are the primary focus of section 3 below.

Information is useless if nothing is done with it. The discussion of reports can be the most valuable part of the process; hence, an essential aspect of follow-up and review will be how states talk about their individual and collective implementation of the goals, including in some cases through some form of peer learning. This *third transparency mechanism* corresponds to the material in column 4 of the Annex, and is the focus of section 4.⁷ Such a review could be based solely on the data provided by the state being reviewed and perhaps supplemented with data provided by a third party (such as an international organisation or a non-governmental organisation – NGO). Alternatively, it could be based on a synthesis report drafted by an international organisation’s secretariat or a third party, which would allow broader comparative analysis. Some of the most effective review bodies involve national officials from a given domain, such as the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, where searching questions are often asked about a Member’s food safety practices

⁷ For a discussion of reporting, review, and dissemination as three generations of transparency, see Wolfe (2013).

by experts from food inspection agencies. Effective review mechanisms are expensive, time-consuming, and require specific expertise, and they also take time to establish. Making use of existing mechanisms as far as possible will be essential. We, therefore, suggest options for mechanisms for review of different trade-related elements, depending on where expertise on a particular issue appears to reside in the international system.

5. Criteria / Standard of assessment?

The 2030 Agenda sets out aspirational objectives, not legally “binding” obligations, hence choosing criteria for a review is delicate. It is one thing to ask if a government’s actions are consistent with its commitments under the SDGs both at home and internationally, but it is something else to be able to make causal connections between an action and a desired outcome. For example, AAAA paragraph 82 says, “We will **endeavour** to significantly increase world trade in a **manner consistent with the** sustainable development goals, including exports from developing countries, in particular from least developed countries with a view towards doubling their share of global exports by 2020 as stated in the Istanbul Programme of Action.” Experts will try to quantify the underlined promises, but the ones in **bold** are about the efforts of governments. Reviewing both efforts and outcomes will be important, though establishing causal connections from one to the other will be difficult, given the attribution problem of knowing if progress towards a goal would have happened anyway.

6. With what effects on agents?

Why review? As we said above, goals will not change the world but review might. The point of review is not “evaluation” or sanction, but assessment of progress as a way to facilitate learning. The desired effect on actors is to encourage movement towards sustainable development and to ensure follow-up on the SDGs and AAAA, including the means of implementation. Review mechanisms work best where actors have a clear sense of how the results will affect them, and a sense of how to use the results. The assumption is that information can change behaviour. When actors receive new information about themselves, become aware of alternatives, or perceive the social acceptability of particular norms, they may adopt new behaviours. The effects on states of review mechanisms sometimes include both social



pressure and learning about appropriate action, both of which can lead to a change in policy, but learning is a bigger incentive than criticism. States change policy not because they fear the consequences of failure to comply (although they might wish to avoid embarrassment for reasons of national pride), but because they have learned about successful action.

7. Feasibility and practicality

The review process for trade, let alone all the elements of the 2030 Agenda, will be complicated and data-dependent. The process will make big demands on the resources of both the governments and the international entities involved. The reporting burden on everyone concerned will be substantial. Countries will differ in the intensity of their participation in the review process given disparities in resources and capacity. If the burden is too high, governments will be unable to do it or will use the burden as an excuse not to report. If the governments and international organisations involved cannot satisfy the follow-up and review requirements, this could undermine the efficacy of the whole 2030 Agenda, which is why we focus on how to use existing review processes as far as possible.



2.0 Design Options for a Three-Level Review Process

The purpose of follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda is to promote accountability to citizens, support effective international cooperation in achieving the Agenda, and foster exchanges of best practices and mutual learning (United Nations, 2015a, paras 72 and 73). The architecture for follow-up and review will be based on the principles in paragraphs 72-89 of *Transforming our World*, with more details to be provided in a General Assembly resolution now being negotiated (United Nations, 2016b, hereafter zero draft) on the basis of recommendations released by the Secretary-General at the beginning of the year (United Nations, 2016c, hereafter, the Secretary-General; and see Halle and Wolfe, 2016). In this section, we sketch the main elements of the architecture based on the principles outlined in the first section of this paper. These elements will be developed in sections 3 and 4.

The 2030 Agenda will be achieved in our communities, not in New York; hence, national review is the foundation of follow-up and review. The aim should be to have a global exchange on national experience. National review has three dimensions: at the national level, in a region, and in New York.

The **first dimension** is the Voluntary National Review (VNR) as part of the HLPF, which ought to take place at least twice in the next 15 years (zero draft para 8) on the basis of a report by the country concerned. In preparing its report, a country has to be able to ask the questions relevant to its situation, and yet reports have to allow comparability so that others can learn. An annex to the Secretary-General's report suggests sensible guidelines for the voluntary reviews. More could be done, however, to link the work of the whole UN system to national implementation through the process of national follow-up and review. National review could be based on a publicly available government progress report complemented by contributions from civil society, academia, local government, the UN system, the private sector, and other actors.⁸ Consistent with the universal agenda, review could include what the country has been doing for itself and its contribution to the achievement of the SDGs and AAAA by other states.

As stressed above, the demands of the review process must not overburden states, especially least developed countries (LDCs); the national review should be kept simple enough not to be an excessive burden because it is the foundation of the bottom-up and universal 2030 Agenda. If national review crumbles, the whole review edifice might fail. Developing countries conducting a review will need help to synthesise and make sense of the vast amount of information. Periodic national reporting and review in many international organisations, such as the WTO, could be synchronised with the national review process both to reduce the burden on countries and to take advantage of work being done anyway.

Constant review prevents anybody from getting anything done, but reviews only every seven or eight years as implied by the zero draft might be too few, with the risk that the long time lapse between reviews might adversely affect progress towards the SDGs. That means that countries should always be reflecting on what they have achieved. This **second dimension of national review** implies that countries should be conducting their own reviews, with one of them timed to be the basis of its VNR, which implies doing one perhaps every four years, with full support from the UN system as needed.

Finally *Transforming our World* recognises (A/RES/70/1, para. 80) that peer learning at the regional level, the **third dimension of national review**, could be useful for creating a conversation among countries in similar circumstances, allowing for learning about successes and difficulties. We think the trade-related goals are especially suitable for consideration at the regional level, given the nature of many value chains, and the importance of regional agreements for trade. Such reviews might be helpful in aggregating and analysing national reviews, using existing strengths and the established review mechanisms in regional bodies, including regional economic integration organisations. Some of these organisations, like the OECD, have special capacity to review their members' contributions to achieving the SDGs (OECD, 2016). Regional economic organisations, like APEC, Caricom or SADC, could also work with multilateral trade organisations to strengthen and align measurement of regional trade. The regional forums on sustainable development also play an important role and could help bring together existing review mechanisms.

⁸ Voluntary national reviews could consider, for example, agricultural trade policy country studies such as Regúnaga and Tejada Rodríguez (2015), which is part of a series of reports by the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) on large agricultural trading powers.



Global assessment of progress towards the 2030 Agenda objectives in the HLPF will draw lessons from the national and regional reviews, and from a vast stream of other reporting, allowing for a review of how the system is working. The HLPF mandate provides for a thematic focus of each year's meeting, reflecting the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, hence the integrated nature of the SDGs, and the interlinkages between them (United Nations, 2015a, para 85). The zero draft recommends (para 4) the following themes for the first cycle, with related sets of goals to be reviewed in each year: 2017 – Ensuring food security on a safe planet by 2030; 2018 – Making cities sustainable and building productive capacities; and 2019 – Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness. Consideration of outcomes of the implementation of the AAAA, which could also involve trade, will be a separate part of the HLPF agenda each year.

The annual theme and set of goals to be reviewed could be the means to draw cross-cutting connections through the dizzying array of bodies and reports mentioned in the Secretary-General report. (The Annex to this paper shows just how many bodies and reports could be involved for trade alone.) Participants in the HLPF could not cope with dozens of reports landing on their desks with a thud each year, hence some form of analytic aggregation is going to be necessary as part of a holistic assessment of the 2030 Agenda. Trade as such may never be an annual theme for the HLPF, and yet it should be assessed globally in terms of its overall contribution, and the contribution of trade-related international organisations to achievement of the 2030 Agenda. In the conclusion, we discuss how a separate task force on the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda could help to prepare such inputs for the HLPF, including the contribution of trade to the means of implementation.



3.0 Mapping the Trade-Related Elements of the 2030 Agenda

This section maps trade-related elements across the SDGs and the AAAA, identifying initial and potential supplementary indicators of progress on each topic, where these data are already collected (if they are), and therefore in which forum progress against the various commitments could most easily be reviewed.⁹ Our analysis includes the global indicators endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission, where useful. These indicators will undergo further technical refinement in the months to come, but are expected to form the basis of global-level review efforts. We also identify possible additional supplementary indicators that governments and other actors could use to complement the global indicators in monitoring progress at national, regional, and global levels. A key challenge in the use of any of the indicators we suggest below will be establishing a base-line against which progress can be measured with a degree of consistency across different indicators and, importantly, between different monitoring bodies. Exploring how this could be done is beyond the scope of this paper, but could be a useful avenue for further work. Section 4 then focuses on the regional and multilateral institutions, summarising the kinds of contributions that could be made to the trade-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda by the various review mechanisms. For a brief summary of selected indicators and review mechanisms, see Box 1 above. The Annex sets out in more detail possible indicators and potential multilateral review mechanisms for the various trade-related elements across the 2030 Agenda.

Trade-related elements are integrated across the SDGs and the AAAA. In the SDGs, almost all of the trade-related targets are listed as “means of implementation:” targets whose achievement would support the realisation of other sustainable development targets. Several trade-related targets are listed as MoI for specific SDGs. For example, correcting and preventing restrictions and distortions in global agricultural markets is listed as a MoI target for Goal 2 on ending hunger and achieving food security. Other trade-related targets (for example,

around market access for least developed countries) are listed under Goal 17 on a global partnership for sustainable development, as a MoI that would support the achievement of the whole set of proposed SDGs. The AAAA includes all of the trade-related MOI targets in the SDGs, but also includes several other trade issues, such as trade finance, regional trade agreements (RTAs), and investment agreements that are useful complements to the SDG targets. This section will look at clusters of the more topic-specific elements, and then at the more systemic trade-related elements across the SDGs and AAAA.¹⁰

The *first cluster* of topic-specific trade elements relates to the reform of subsidies to agriculture (as part of a broad target on the removal of trade distortions in agricultural markets), fisheries, and fossil fuels, along with improved functioning of food commodity markets.¹¹ Indicators for the reform of agricultural subsidies granted by the advanced economies could include the producer support estimates of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Indicators that would cover OECD members as well as a wider group of countries could be based on WTO notifications. Options for reviewing progress could include the OECD Committee for Agriculture and the WTO Committee on Agriculture including its Sub-Committee on Cotton. Food commodity market functioning could be measured using an indicator of food price anomalies, perhaps supplemented by information drawn from the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) system of free market commodity prices, or the inter-agency Agricultural Market Information System. The UNCTAD Trade and Development Commission or Global Commodities Forum could be useful places to review the stability of food commodity prices, as could the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems.

⁹ We have also drawn on the first UN Inter-Agency Task Force report on follow-up and review of the AAAA (United Nations, 2016d) and a matrix prepared by the Technical Support Team (United Nations, 2015b) as sources of potential indicators and possible review mechanisms. For a review of the range of international agreements relevant to the SDG targets in the context of their follow-up and review, and specific analysis of the international agreements, including on trade, relevant to SDG 2 and SDG 10, see Casaly et al. (2016).

¹⁰ The SDGs and AAAA refer in several places to building sustainable tourism (e.g., SDG target 12.b), and to increasing access to basic services (like essential health services in SDG target 3.8, and target 1.4) and financial services (e.g., SDG target 5.a). These references in the 2030 Agenda appear to be more focused on domestic policy rather than international frameworks, and therefore are not included in our formal analysis. Notwithstanding, the broader connections between trade in services and the 2030 Agenda would be worth exploring.

¹¹ On agricultural subsidies: SDG target 2.b and AAAA para. 83; on fisheries subsidies: SDG target 14.6 and AAAA para. 83; on fossil fuel subsidies, SDG target 12.c and AAAA para. 31; on food commodity markets SDG target 2.c and AAAA para. 108.



The SDG target on fisheries subsidies is not easy to interpret, but appears to involve: establishing a prohibition on subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing; eliminating subsidies to illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing; establishing a “standstill” on both of these kinds of subsidies; and recognition of the importance of S&D in the relevant WTO negotiations. The target therefore has two key elements to be measured: progress towards a subsidies prohibition, and progress towards eliminating (and not increasing) the harmful subsidies listed. The official global indicator for this target, which focuses on regulation to address IUU fishing, could be supplemented with measurement of progress towards the establishment of a prohibition on harmful subsidies. This indicator could most logically be reviewed in the WTO, where multilateral negotiations on the topic are underway. With respect to the second element, finding an indicator to measure fisheries subsidies that support overcapacity and overfishing or IUU fishing, and their standstill or elimination, has been very difficult. Data on these subsidies are scarce, and there is no international agreement on which transfers contribute to overcapacity and overfishing. Among the best data available are the OECD’s annual reports on government financial transfers to fisheries industries, which cover most OECD Member countries and five additional countries. WTO notifications under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures also provide some, albeit patchy, information. Academic work has provided a working definition of harmful subsidies and estimates (which could be complemented by data from national reports) for most major fishing nations (Sumaila et al., 2013), but this approach is still somewhat controversial. Options for reviewing progress in the removal of harmful fisheries subsidies (once defined) could include, for OECD Members, the OECD’s Fisheries Committee and, for others, the WTO’s Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. The Committee on Fisheries of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is another possibility, but does not currently seem to be active in this area. Both agricultural and fisheries subsidies targets could also be reviewed in the WTO’s Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM). The Environment Committee to be established under the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement (TPP), if it is ratified, could provide an opportunity to discuss progress against the fisheries subsidies obligations established in the TPP.

Definitional problems also bedevil the measurement of fossil fuel subsidy reform – the third kind of perverse subsidies in the 2030 Agenda. The relevant SDG target (12.c) uses similar language to the original Group of 20 (G20) Leaders’ rather ambiguous commitment to phase out “inefficient” fossil-fuel subsidies. Existing measurements of fossil fuel subsidies differ in their definitions and in their calculation method. Some overlap; some parts are significantly different. While the WTO definition of subsidies in general is aimed at improving the conditions of multilateral trade through disciplines on government policy, international organisations charged with action on fossil fuel subsidies (e.g., the OECD, International Energy Agency (IEA), or especially in the case of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)) have more latitude to use specific definitions of fossil fuel subsidies designed for analytic purposes to support a process of domestic reform (Casier et al., 2014). Options for reviewing progress in reform of fossil fuel subsidies, however defined, could include, at a regional level, OECD Environmental Performance Reviews, IEA Country Reviews, and the G20 Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform Peer Review Process. At the multilateral level, this review could potentially be done through voluntary reporting under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Benninghof, 2013). The WTO TPRM is well-equipped to draw on data from all these bodies, along with data from civil society.¹²

The *second cluster* of trade-related elements in the 2030 Agenda relates to international cooperation around technology for water and sanitation, clean energy, and access to medicines.¹³ Trade in goods and services is one potential avenue for the diffusion of environmental technologies. One possible measure of international cooperation around water and clean energy technology is therefore the level of trade in goods and services associated with water management and renewable energy supply and the tariff and non-tariff barriers associated with trade in relevant goods. Other possible measures include the number of trade remedy measures taken against clean energy technologies, on the grounds that these make the technologies more expensive (see Kasteng, 2014), and

¹² It has also been suggested that WTO members could establish a requirement for the disclosure and phase-out of fossil fuel subsidies (see Samans, Meléndez-Ortiz, Singh and Doherty, 2016)

¹³ On international cooperation around water technology, see SDG target 6.a; on energy technology, see SDG target 7.a, and on environmental technologies generally, see AAAA para. 120. On access to medicines, see SDG target 3.b and AAAA para. 86.



the local content requirements related to clean energy projects, which can also increase costs in the short term (see Kuntze and Moerenhout, 2013). Among the approaches to scoping environmental goods are the list developed by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies (APEC, 2012), the products considered in the negotiations under paragraph 31 (iii) of the WTO's Doha Round, the products in the plurilateral Environmental Goods Agreement negotiations, (Santana, 2015; Vossenaar, 2014) and a list developed by the OECD (OECD 2001). Even if measurement against a single global definition of environmental goods is not feasible, the forums where work is taking place are logical options for reviewing progress, including the WTO CTE, and at a regional level, the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment, the OECD Trade Committee or Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment, and OECD or IEA Country Reviews.

The significance of trade in supporting access to medicines presents a distinct set of policy challenges, linked in the SDGs and AAAA to the use of flexibilities provided under the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). While the WTO is probably the most logical mechanism for review of anything related to TRIPS, and governments' acceptance of amendments to it, the World Health Organization (WHO) also has a role in reviewing the intersection between trade and access to medicines and medical technologies (WHO, WIPO, and WTO, 2012). The potential contribution of trade to global health goes further, however, as most countries rely at least to some extent on imports of medical goods and services in providing health care. Measuring the contribution of trade to access to medicines could therefore go beyond intellectual property rules to encompass the impact of tariff and non-tariff barriers to imports of medicines, and access to medical services (Roberts, 2014).

A *third cluster* of trade-related elements in the 2030 Agenda includes related targets and commitments around economic diversification, links to global value chains (particularly for SMEs), sustainable industrialisation, trade finance, and trade facilitation.¹⁴ Economic diversification could be reviewed by examining a country's export diversification,

¹⁴ On economic diversification, see SDG target 8.2; on access to value chains, see SDG target 9.3 and AAAA para. 87; on use of environmentally sound technologies in infrastructure and industry, see SDG target 9.4; on facilitating trade, see AAAA para. 87. For simplicity, we use "global value chains" in our analysis to refer also to regional value chains.

and the diversification of its domestic market. UNCTAD's Voluntary Competition Policy Peer Reviews could provide a review mechanism for domestic competition policy, which supports domestic economic diversification. Assessing the extent of developing country participation in GVCs is a particular challenge (Estevadeordal, Blyde and Suominen, 2014). The OECD and the WTO have developed substantial databases measuring Trade in Value Added (TiVA) and participation in GVCs; they also measure trade in services, which is an essential element of participation in global value chains. Export diversification could also be reviewed within the TPR country reports.

The AAAA underlines the importance, not only of global value chains, but also of regional economic integration, transport infrastructure, and trade facilitation. Measuring the degree to which trade is facilitated could rely on Trade Facilitation indicators developed by the OECD, and ratification and implementation of the WTO's Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA). Reviews of ratification and implementation of the TFA could take place in the WTO's Trade Facilitation Committee. The Trade Facilitation Committee will also review the support provided to WTO members for the implementation of different commitments.¹⁵ Reviewing progress against the commitment to increased multilateral development bank investment in regional trade and transport infrastructure, would most logically take place through the institutions' own review mechanisms. The AAAA also underlines the importance of trade finance in helping countries to reap the benefits of trade. Trade finance is currently measured largely by regional development banks (the Asian and African Development Banks, in particular) and the Bank for International Settlements. The WTO's Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance and the Expert Group on Trade Financing could play important roles in reviewing efforts to improve access to trade finance, and its impact on trade by developing countries.

¹⁵ Section II of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation contains provisions that allow developing and least developed countries to determine on the basis of a self-assessment (subject to review in the Committee) when they will implement individual provisions of the Agreement, and to identify provisions that they will only be able to implement upon the receipt of technical assistance and support for capacity-building. Donor notifications of such support are also subject to review in the Committee. WTO (2013), Section II, subsections 6 and 10.



One issue is missing from the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda that belongs with this cluster. Hoekman (2015) argues that a reduction in trade costs is the most important goal for developing countries. An explicit target along the lines he suggests (for example, reduce trade costs for firms operating in low-income countries by X per cent) is not part of the 2030 Agenda, although many of the goals and targets are related to this objective. Measuring trade costs could, therefore, be a useful complement to the existing targets as part of a comprehensive approach to reviewing the trade elements of the agenda. An “outcome” indicator on trade costs, the data for which would need to be developed or adapted from existing sources, could be reviewed as part of the WTO TPRM.

A *fourth cluster* of trade-related elements in the SDGs and AAAA relates to the illegal extraction of and trade in natural resources and trade in hazardous chemicals and waste.¹⁶ This cluster is particularly interesting for two reasons: first, because data around illegal extraction and trade in natural resources often rely on estimates, and second because in many cases the data that are available and the review frameworks that exist sit outside the traditional trade system. UNEP plays a central role in addressing many of these issues and its Environment Assembly could contribute to monitoring or reviewing progress against a range of objectives. The Basel Convention monitors compliance with its rules on the transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes through its Implementation and Compliance Committee, which reports to the Convention’s Conference of the Parties. Basel could, therefore, be a useful follow-up and review mechanism for illegal trade in hazardous materials, although its membership is far from being universal. Similarly, the Meetings of the Parties of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer could be a useful follow-up and review mechanism. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) has much wider membership (181 Parties) but a narrow scope of application, focused on specific lists of endangered species. CITES’ Review of Significant Trade relies heavily on data provided by such NGOs as TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce). CITES also has a voluntary policy review initiative that is in some respects remarkably similar

to the WTO TPRM. Under Conference of Parties decisions 14.21 to 14.24 “exporting and importing countries are invited to carry out voluntary National Wildlife Policy Reviews in order to facilitate a better understanding of the effects of wildlife trade policies on the international wildlife trade.” The WTO CTE has been discussing the trade aspects of illegal logging and illegal fishing in recent years, drawing on the detailed experiences of developed and developing countries. Several regional trade agreements (e.g., the TPP) include commitments to address illegal trade in natural resources, although the strength of their institutions will probably define how useful they will be as forums for effective review.

Turning to the more systemic trade issues, the *fifth cluster* brings together references to the multilateral trading system under the WTO and references to increasing developing country exports, including through improved market access for least developed countries, and references to capacity-building, including Aid for Trade.¹⁷ While, for obvious reasons, the outcome of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference of December 2015 (the Nairobi Package) is not referenced in the 2030 Agenda, its implementation is an important part of the overall strengthening of the multilateral system. One of the most significant outcomes at Nairobi, agreement to eliminate agricultural export subsidies, is a crucial part of the implementation of SDG target 2.b. Many of the targets in this cluster already have relevant indicators and datasets in place that could be used to measure progress.

The increasing membership of the WTO provides a sense of how universal the multilateral system is, and information about the length of time accessions take should be relatively easy to gather within the organisation. Progress on the stalled WTO Doha Round and implementation of the 2013 Bali Package and 2015 Nairobi Package, including the Agreement on Trade Facilitation and LDC-specific issues (e.g., the degree of duty-free quota-free (DFQF) market access provided to LDCs, implementation of simple and transparent rules of origin (ROO) and of the LDC services waiver decision) and the removal of export subsidies in agriculture, would probably

¹⁶ On IUU fishing, see SDG target 14.4; on poaching and trafficking of wildlife, see SDG target 15.c. AAAA para. 92 references these SDG issues as well as illegal logging and mining and trafficking in hazardous waste and minerals.

¹⁷ On the multilateral trading system and the DDA, see SDG target 17.10 and AAAA paras 79, 80, and 83; on developing country exports and LDC market access, see SDG targets 17.11 and 17.12, AAAA paras 82 and 85; on Aid for Trade see SDG 8.a and AAAA para. 90; on capacity-building see SDG target 17.9 and AAAA para. 115.



most simply be measured within the WTO.¹⁸ Many of the LDC-related targets in the 2030 Agenda, including those on trade, are drawn from the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPOA), so reviews of progress against that framework could usefully support 2030 Agenda review and follow-up efforts.¹⁹ Also relevant for broad trade-related capacity-building in developing countries are the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) and the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement and Standards and Trade Development Facilities. The International Trade Centre (ITC) also plays an important role in measuring and supporting developing country producers' international trade.

Developing countries' participation in world trade could be measured using existing data from the ITC, UNCTAD, and the WTO on developing country and LDC exports and imports (by partner group and key sectors), including services, average tariffs faced by developing countries and LDCs in key sectors, and the degree to which developing and least developed countries use tariff preferences extended by import markets. Progress against all of these indicators could be reviewed in the WTO's Committee on Trade and Development and its Sub-Committee on LDCs. Levels of global protectionism and the openness of the trading system could be measured using average bound and applied tariff rates. Changes in levels of protectionism could be reviewed in several places, including the WTO's Trade Policy Review Mechanism (in Member reviews and its overall review report) and in peer reviews between members of the G20 group (building on reports by international agencies).

Through the over-arching Aid for Trade initiative, the WTO seeks to mobilise support for developing and least developed countries so that they can overcome supply-side and trade-related infrastructure constraints and benefit from enhanced market access opportunities.²⁰ The OECD maintains a database of information on Aid for Trade transfers per donor and per recipient. OECD and WTO should continue to produce biannual reports on these transfers.

The *sixth cluster* includes references to policy coherence at various levels, including between regional and multilateral trade rules and in domestic policy.²¹ Regional trade and investment agreements are mentioned explicitly only in the AAAA, which includes language on strengthening regional cooperation and trade agreements, and ensuring that trade and investment agreements do not constrain domestic sustainable development policies.²² This area in the context of the trade-related elements is one where UN regional commissions and regional economic integration organisations could play a particularly important follow-up and review role. Measuring regional integration could be done using indicators developed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) (Capannelli, Lee and Petri, 2009); the "depth" of regional trade agreements and their consistency with the multilateral trading system could be reviewed by the OECD with respect to the possible exclusionary effects on third countries of regional agreements among its Members, or through review in the WTO Committee on Regional Trade Agreements (CRTA). The consistency of investment agreements with sustainable development objectives and the multilateral trading system could also be reviewed as part of UNCTAD's Investment Policy Reviews. Measuring whether a domestic policy environment "enables" trade is not simple, but one potential indicator could be drawn from the World Bank's Country Policy and Institutional Assessments (CPIA), which assess a country's overall domestic policy environment. This indicator is currently used primarily in assessing very poor countries, but could perhaps be extended.

¹⁸ For a review of the potential of interlocking trade and finance to support LDCs' development in the post-2015 context, see Bhattacharya (2016).

¹⁹ See for example the work of the LDC IV Monitor (2014) and the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS).

²⁰ On the future role of Aid for Trade, building on the experience of the last decade, see Lammersen (2015).

²¹ On policy coherence generally, see SDG target 17.14; on domestic enabling environments and trade, see AAAA para. 88; and on consistency of regional and multilateral trade rules, see AAAA para. 87.

²² See AAAA paras 87 and 91.



4.0 Mapping Trade-Related Review Mechanisms

In the previous section we mapped the key trade-related aspects of the SDGs and AAAA, suggesting where to find data for each one and where that data might be reviewed. We now reverse the lens, mapping the most significant trade-related review mechanisms and discussing how their current – or potentially augmented – review functions could contribute to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. Generating the data for the indicators designed to provide an overall snapshot of the SDGs is not the same as ensuring that some body of states meeting under the auspices of an international organisation reviews whatever information is available to them. Indicators serve the process, but they do not explain themselves. What matters is how states learn, and that happens through discussion at all levels, both of specific elements of the agenda and of how they all fit together as a coherent whole. Box 2 is a list of the obvious places where review of different trade-related elements across the 2030 Agenda can take place. We discuss each one in turn.

1. World Trade Organization

The World Trade Organization is central to the daily life of the trading system, and it is central to reviewing the contribution of trade to the 2030 Agenda. The AAAA invites the WTO General Council to “consider how WTO can contribute to sustainable development.” At their last ministerial in Nairobi, ministers said (WTO, 2015a) that “We recognize the role the WTO can play in contributing towards achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, in so far as they relate to the WTO mandate, and bearing in mind the authority of the WTO Ministerial Conference.” The WTO’s website includes a short summary of some of the explicit and implicit connections between trade and the WTO and the SDGs, including connections between trade and growth and prosperity, ending hunger, dissemination of clean energy technologies, and sustainable tourism. So far, however, there has not been much public discussion about what the role of the WTO should be in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and in reviewing progress towards the Agenda’s objectives.²³ In this section we describe some ways in which the WTO could play the role that ministers recognised.

Formal rounds of negotiations and resort to the dispute settlement system are two traditional ways of thinking about the role of the WTO, but the third dimension of ongoing WTO work, which can be broadly grouped as transparency and accountability mechanisms, is the most important for follow-up and review (Wolfe, 2013). One way that WTO Members could enhance the work the Secretariat does for them is by asking it to facilitate an integrated discussion of the ways that those mechanisms could contribute to achieving the trade-related objectives of the 2030 Agenda. Such a role is consistent with the preamble of the WTO Agreement, which places all its objectives in the context of “allowing for the optimal use of the world’s resources in accordance with the objective of sustainable development, seeking both to protect and enhance the environment.” While this work arguably falls within the mandate of the bodies discussed below, it might make sense for the chair of the General Council to write to the chairs of all WTO bodies asking how they intend to internalise the SDGs in their work. Playing its part in advancing those elements of the 2030 Agenda relevant to its mandate represents an important opportunity for the WTO as an institution to become more involved in broader cooperation around development, which could support efforts towards policy coherence.

Many WTO bodies could contribute to follow-up and review. The WTO CRTA using its Transparency Mechanism could consider a horizontal review of sustainable development chapters in regional trade agreements. Such questions seem especially relevant in the case of the so-called mega-regionals, from which most developing countries are excluded. It could also consider whether trade and investment treaties constrain domestic policies for sustainable development. Ministers made an interesting advance in this direction at the 2015 Nairobi ministerial, instructing the CRTA “to discuss the systemic implications of RTAs for the multilateral trading system and their relationship with WTO rules.” (WTO, 2015a, para 28). The committee was previously reluctant to discuss cross-cutting issues (horizontal) as opposed to particular RTAs (vertical). The CRTA Secretariat (part of the Trade Policy Review division) prepares working papers which could inform the TPR reports.

²³ See: https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/coher_e/sdgs_e/sdgs_e.htm. Last accessed May 18, 2016. Roberts (2014) is a good summary of the SDGs issues for the WTO, but he generally underplays the role WTO bodies could play in follow-up and review.



Box 2. Principal options for review of trade-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda

1. WTO

- a. TPRB annual monitoring report
- b. Periodic TPR report on each Member
- c. *WTO Annual Report* (state of negotiations)
- d. *World Trade Report*
- e. Global Reviews of Aid for Trade
- f. Monitoring Mechanism on special and differential treatment
- g. Committee on Trade and the Environment
- h. Biennial Ministerial Conference

2. UNCTAD

- a. Trade and Development Commission
- b. Investment Policy Reviews
- c. Voluntary Competition Policy Review

3. World Bank

- a. Knowledge platforms

4. Regional organisations

- a. APEC, ASEAN, SADC
- b. UN Regional Commissions (e.g., UNECE, ECLAC)
- c. OECD (e.g., review of its Members in committees for Agriculture, Trade, and Fisheries; and in Environmental Policy Reviews)

The WTO Committee on Trade and Development (CTD) monitors several trade elements related to the 2030 Agenda. The S&D Monitoring Mechanism, which operates in dedicated sessions of the CTD, was created in 2013 to act as a focal point within the WTO to analyse and review the implementation of all special and differential treatment provisions with a view to facilitating integration of developing and least developed Members into the multilateral trading system (WT/L/920). The CTD also reviews implementation of the DFQF commitment undertaken as part of the Bali Package, and, through the Preferential Trade Arrangements Transparency Mechanism, collects information about non-reciprocal preference agreements and preference utilisation. The CTD Sub-Committee on LDCs conducts an annual review of market access provided to LDCs on the basis of a Secretariat report (WTO, 2014a). It also discusses technical assistance provided by the WTO to LDCs and capacity-building such as the EIF, and it monitors LDC accessions.

The most comprehensive body for trade-related peer review is the WTO Trade Policy Review Body (TPRB) since its analytic reports on individual countries

and on the trading system can draw on information from all other bodies, including non-state actors, with regular opportunities for discussion by all Members of the WTO. The main work of the TPRB is the discussion of the periodic Trade Policy Review reports on every Member. The four largest traders are reviewed every two years, the next sixteen every four years, and the rest every six years. The schedule could be aligned, if not perfectly, with the schedule of national reviews of the 2030 Agenda, ensuring that review of the trade-related aspects does not add to the reporting burden on governments, and allowing the national report to benefit from the results of peer review in the WTO.

The TPR process has two reports. The first is written by the government of the country concerned. The recent report by the Government of India (WT/TPR/G/313) covers such SDG-related topics as “Agriculture and food security,” “Infrastructure development,” “Ease of doing business,” “Reforms in foreign direct investment policy,” “Rationalising subsidies,” “Trade facilitation measures,” and the country’s preferential trade agreements. The second report is prepared by the Secretariat using a standard



template on the basis of interviews and exchanges with government officials, regular WTO notifications, reports by other international organisations and NGOs, and other sources of publicly available information. In the case of the recent Secretariat report on India (WT/TPR/S/313), it begins with sections on the “Economic environment” and on the “Trade and investment regime.” This section covers such things as engagement in the multilateral trading system, regional and preferential agreements, and foreign investment. Here the Secretariat could also ask the Member under review if it has integrated trade policy into the national sustainable development plan.

The section of the TPR on “Trade policies and practices by measure” covers not only tariffs, but several other aspects of trade policy that could be relevant to the 2030 Agenda, such as import and export prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing, including those necessary to implement CITES restrictions on wildlife trade. This section also covers tax incentives, explicit subsidies, competition policy, and price controls, including measures to ensure access to essential medicines, government procurement, and intellectual property rights. This section of the country TPR could take up Hoekman’s suggestion to provide aggregate information from a variety of sources on any reduction in trade costs (Hoekman, 2015). The TPRB then conducts a review of the Member’s trade policy based on the government and the Secretariat reports. Members ask questions and receive oral and written answers, which are later published along with the minutes of the meeting. The Chair of the TPRB issues concluding remarks.

The TPRB also provides the platform for discussions among WTO Members of the two monitoring reports produced by the WTO Secretariat each year (see, for example WTO, 2015b). These reports provide an overview of trends in the multilateral trading system over six and twelve month periods, in particular developments in the implementation of trade policies of Members. The reports also review the work of the WTO itself in such areas as compliance with transparency and notification provisions as well as trade concerns raised in meetings of WTO bodies. Section 2 is on “Recent economic and trade trends.” This part of the report could, for example, discuss such SDG-related issues as efforts to promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory, and equitable multilateral trading system, and

coherence between bilateral and regional trade and investment agreements and the multilateral system. This section could also draw on the outcome indicators developed by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) (see the Annex below, especially under Goal 17). While not explicitly mandated by the 2030 Agenda, an indicator on reduction of trade costs could be an area of work WTO Members could ask the Secretariat to explore.

Section 3 of the monitoring report covers “Trade and trade-related policy developments.” Some SDG-related topics are covered already in this section, for example, government support measures (subsidies), regional trade agreements, and government procurement. Others could be added using WTO databases in the Integrated Trade Intelligence Portal (I-TIP), reports from other international organisations, and data from NGOs, for example on fossil fuel subsidies (Casier et al., 2014). Other sections of the report cover trade financing, and Aid for Trade. This section could also consider the work of other review bodies mentioned in the Annex, below.

The section of the report on “Transparency of trade policies” already draws on the regular work of WTO committees (e.g., Regional Agreements, Agriculture, Market Access, TRIPS, Trade Facilitation, and Trade and Development), which could be expanded to include separate subsections on the aspects of a committee’s work relevant to the 2030 Agenda. For example, several SDG targets concern food and agriculture, including food price volatility. Review requires the kind of information available in the regular work of the Committee on Agriculture, and in its database, the Agriculture Information Management System (Ag-IMS). The annual monitoring report also summarises the year’s TPR reports. This section could explicitly pull out the 2030 Agenda-related aspects of all the country reporting – for example on import and export restrictions on wildlife trade. While the World Bank can track indices of improvements in things like transit times, the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee can avoid the attribution problem by tracking what all countries are doing to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement, and what donors are doing to help.

Other follow-up and review options exist within the WTO aside from the TPRM. Individual WTO bodies could commission review papers for discussion. For example, CTE could play a key role in the review of



trade-related SDGs and the AAAA, given its broad mandate and the fact that it is not linked to any WTO Agreement. In recent years, it has discussed the trade-related aspects of illegal logging, fossil fuel subsidies, energy efficiency, carbon footprinting, and environmental labelling, to list just a few. It could also monitor negotiations on green goods and services, and it could commission an annual report on the environmental dimension of trade-related SDGs, perhaps based on its database of all environment-related WTO notifications (the most recent is WTO, 2014b).

While not subject to discussion, the WTO *Annual Report*, which has sections on all WTO activities, including efforts to finish the Doha Round, could report on what the WTO has accomplished during the year on such things as access to medicines under TRIPS, and negotiations on environmental goods and services. The WTO might periodically devote an issue of its annual *World Trade Report* to an integrated view of trade and sustainable development.

Finally, given the diffuse nature of the potential options for review within the WTO, spread across a number of committees, Members could place as a standing item on the agenda of the biennial Ministerial Conference consideration of a synthesis report on the contribution of trade to achieving the SDGs. Such a broad review is important for a global assessment of progress, and the HLPF may not have sufficient time to devote to trade in most years.

2. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNCTAD has particular strengths in gathering and analysing data on national and global investment trends, and international investment agreements, as well as the particular interests of developing countries in trade policy. The main advantage of UNCTAD's existing peer review processes is that they are voluntary, therefore exemplifying national ownership of the process and imposing a more manageable burden on developing countries' public resources than regular mandatory peer reviews. In addition to the Trade and Development Commission, UNCTAD can contribute through Investment Policy Reviews, the Voluntary Competition Policy Review, and the Global Commodities Forum. Given the breadth of UNCTAD's membership, it provides a wide range of countries with the opportunity to have their policies

reviewed, to better inform the national process discussed in section 2 above. On the other hand, a wider review role could be enhanced by improvements to the organisation's institutional capacity and an increase in developed countries' relatively lower level of engagement in its work.

While the details of a process are yet to be determined, the UNCTAD Secretariat (UNCTAD, 2015) has begun to consider questions that could shape review of governments' trade and sustainable development policies, including:

- a How do governments achieve better coordination and coherence between policies and executive actions from different national ministries (for example, environment, finance, or trade) under one holistic development objective?
- b What projects do governments have in place to evaluate and monitor how trade contributes to inclusive development or to reduce inequalities, including those based on gender?
- c How do governments create and manage a participatory and inclusive policymaking process, particularly with a view to trade policymaking, in view of understanding and reflecting the socioeconomic and environmental concerns of different stakeholders?
- d What types of policy mix are available to achieve positive interaction between trade and socioeconomic transformation (e.g., increasing food security, empowering a marginalised group, narrowing the gender gap, decarbonising the economy, and raising educational levels)? What factors (social, economic, and/or environmental) can challenge the effectiveness of such a policy mix?

One of the first fruits of this stream of work is a book on how trade policy interacts with various factors that influence a country's sustainable development (UNCTAD, 2016).

3. World Bank

The World Bank could serve as an important source of data and analysis on the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda using its immense data collection and analysis capacity – many of the indicators referenced in the Annex build on the Bank's work. The Bank could play an important potential role in reviewing



international financial institutions' investments, for example in infrastructure, under the 2030 Agenda commitments. It could also play a role in convening national and global experts to develop cross-cutting global reviews of the place of trade in relation to particular objectives under the 2030 Agenda. This work could build on the existing system of knowledge platforms within the Bank.

4. Regional review

As we suggested above, aggregation and review at the regional level, creating a conversation among countries in similar economic or geographic circumstances, could provide a particularly rich environment for frank discussion, experience-sharing, and learning.

The *UN Regional Commissions* (notably United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)) are already thinking about their roles in supporting the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda, including through Regional Forums for Sustainable Development (United Nations 2015c). Many *regional economic integration* bodies (like APEC) already conduct reviews of Members' trade and trade-related policies, as does the African Peer Review Mechanism; like the UN regional commissions, they could potentially provide a good environment for further discussion of the contribution of those trade-related policies to sustainable development. A potential disadvantage of these organisations, however, is that not all of their secretariats have the capacity to support a follow-up and review process. The *regional development banks*, in concert with the World Bank, could also play a role in reviewing the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda. Data collection, analysis, and review may be easier to mobilise at the regional level, perhaps following the model of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in follow-up and conducting policy reviews at country level.

In this context we consider the *OECD* (as well as the *IEA*) to be a regional body since its membership is far from universal. But it will be invaluable in reviewing the progress of its members to achieving the 2030 Agenda.²⁴ Peer review is deeply embedded in the work of the OECD, drawing on the Secretariat's considerable capacity for data gathering and analysis.

For several of the trade-related elements of the SDGs
²⁴ The OECD review mechanism options build on the ideas set out in OECD (2015).

mapped above, in particular the elements related to agriculture, fisheries, and fossil fuel subsidies, OECD (and IEA) data is probably the most reliable available. Review of the coherence of Members' aid and trade policies will be especially important. The semi-annual Global Aid for Trade Review provides a regular forum for reviewing Aid for Trade flows, while the coherence of aid and trade policies could be reviewed at a regional level in the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) or in meetings of the OECD Policy Coherence for Development Focal Points. Members of the OECD may wish to create a mechanism for periodic peer review of each Member's national 2030 Agenda reports.

5. Conclusion: Bringing All the Reports Together

Our aim with this paper was to provide a summary of the many options for indicators, reports, and mechanisms that might be useful in follow-up and review of the implementation of the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda. The principles set out in section 1 above help to assess these options, but choices will depend on the objectives the reader wishes to pursue.

We have mentioned a great many reports in this paper. We conclude, therefore, by trying to sketch how they all fit together in the architecture described in section 2 above. The main thing to keep in mind is that in this networked approach, multiple reports will be prepared, and they will be used in more than one place. As the Secretary-General says, "It will be important to help the HLPF to derive political guidance from the multiple inputs it will receive. The secretariats... must work coherently to support effective global review." The report is silent, as is the zero draft, on how such coherence will be achieved. We see two nodal points.

First, the national review process every four years is fundamentally a self-assessment by the country concerned, but the national conversation envisaged by *Transforming our World* requires information. The review processes discussed above ought to be an invaluable source of such information on each country, if properly aggregated and synthesised. Developing countries conducting a review will need help to synthesise and make sense of them all. But country-based reporting is only one of the streams of follow-up and review that will culminate in the HLPF.



Second, achievement of the SDGs will also require a discussion at the global level, both of progress in individual countries and of regional successes, and a discussion of the interrelated effects and trade-offs. For example, reduction of distortions in world agricultural markets is linked to efforts to improve food security and sustainable agriculture; efforts to reduce fisheries subsidies can have an effect on efforts to reduce poverty. Given the plethora of data and options and places where trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda could be reviewed, the outcomes of these reviews, should they take place in different forums, would probably be most useful to the HLPF if they were analytically aggregated (Halle and Wolfe, 2016). Guidelines could be developed on how to synthesise international organisation reporting on goals or clusters of goals, or on the annual HLPF theme. If agencies also focused their annual reporting on the HLPF theme, that would minimise the duplication of work.

The HLPF declaration every year creates the opportunity for a political statement on the overall assessment of progress towards sustainable development, and new or emerging issues with long-term implications. Discussion of the role of trade should be a part of each annual declaration, but this will require a high-level synthesis of available information about trade and its contribution to that year's thematic review. In light of the inevitable complexity and distinct areas of expertise in each trade-related review forum, an additional option could be the creation of an inter-agency *Trade and the 2030 Agenda* group (perhaps building on the work that several trade organisations undertook as part of the UN Technical Support Team, or the UN Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity) to prepare both a synthesis report as needed for the national reviews; and an annual synthesis for the global level reviews. We showed in section 4 that while many UN entities have a trade-related role, the body with the most significant review capacity is the WTO. One option, therefore, is that the WTO could be asked to coordinate such a task force. The aim of such a thematic report on the trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda would be to keep attention on the trade policy “forest” as opposed to all the “trees.” As with all the other reports we have discussed, it should be a public document – the foundation for an open and participatory process for review and follow-up of the sustainable development agenda.



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Annex: Review mechanisms for trade-related elements of the 2030 Agenda

Cluster 1: Subsidies and food commodities trade

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture				
	2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round	83. In accordance with one element of the mandate of the Doha Development Agenda we call on WTO members to correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect.	IAEG-SDGs 2.b.1: Producer Support Estimate IAEG-SDGs 2.b.2: Agricultural export subsidies OECD Country Reviews of Agricultural Policies and Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation report (include producer support estimates) (Covers OECD members, Brazil, China, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Russia, South Africa, and Ukraine) Domestic and export subsidies (annual notified amounts) from WTO's Agriculture Information Management System (Ag-IMS) Tariffs and non-tariff measures in the agriculture sector (applied tariff levels, use of tariff-rate quotas, safeguards, and quantitative export and import restrictions) from WTO's Integrated Data Base, Ag-IMS WTO notifications and other sources (e.g., OECD)	OECD Committee for Agriculture WTO Committee on Agriculture, Sub-Committee on Cotton WTO TPR (Member and annual monitoring reports)
	2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility	108. We are concerned about excessive volatility of commodity prices, including for food and agriculture and its consequences for global food security and improved nutrition outcomes. We will adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and call for relevant regulatory bodies to adopt measures to facilitate timely, accurate, and transparent access to market information in an effort to ensure that commodity markets appropriately reflect underlying demand and supply changes and to help limit excess volatility of commodity prices. In this regard, we also take note of the Agricultural Market Information System hosted by FAO.	IAEG-SDGs 2.c.1) Indicator of food price anomalies (perhaps using FAO Indicator of Price Anomalies) Free market commodity prices, monthly [includes a variety of agricultural products including soybeans, maize, coffee, wheat, etc.] (UNCTAD) Agricultural Market Information System FAO Commodity Market Review and similar reports World Food Programme Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping Market Monitor	FAO Committee on Commodity Problems UNCTAD Trade and Development Commission OECD Committee for Agriculture UNCTAD Global Commodities Forum
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns				
	12.c Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities	31. We reaffirm the commitment to rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities.	IAEG-SDGs 12.c.1 Amount of fossil fuel subsidies, per unit of GDP (production and consumption), and as proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels OECD-IEA Inventory of Estimated Budgetary Support and Tax Expenditures for Fossil Fuels IEA World Energy Outlook fossil fuel subsidy estimates IMF energy subsidy estimates IISD Global Subsidies Initiative estimation of fossil fuel subsidies to producers	WTO Trade Policy Review (Annual report and Member reviews) UNFCCC (voluntary reporting) OECD Environmental Policy Reviews IEA Country Reviews G20 fossil fuel subsidy peer review process



Cluster 1: Subsidies and food commodities (continued)

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development				
	14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation [Footnote: Taking into account ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations, the Doha Development Agenda and the Hong Kong ministerial mandate.]	83. We call on WTO members to also commit to strengthening disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Agenda and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration.	Progress in the adoption of a prohibition on certain forms of subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and over-fishing. IAEG–SDGs 14.6.1: Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Levels of government financial transfers to the fishing industry (OECD) WTO notifications of fisheries subsidies TPP notifications of fisheries subsidies (e.g., under Articles 20.16.10 and 11) Levels of “harmful” subsidies (as defined and measured/estimated by Sumaila et al, University of British Columbia)	Progress on prohibition on fisheries subsidies: WTO General Council (on basis of Rules negotiating group) Progress on standstill / elimination of subsidies: OECD Fisheries Committee WTO Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Committee WTO Trade Policy Review (drawing on external / NGO data, to produce more analytic work on subsidies) TPP Environment Committee UNCTAD Oceans Economy strategy, expert meetings FAO Committee on Fisheries APEC Oceans and Fisheries Working Group (and Trade and Investment Committee)

Cluster 2: Access to water, energy, and medicines

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages				
	3.b Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all	86. We reaffirm the right of WTO members in taking advantage of the flexibilities in the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and reaffirm that the TRIPS Agreement does not and should not prevent members from taking measures to protect public health. To this end, we would urge all WTO members that have not yet accepted the amendment of the WTO TRIPS Agreement allowing improved access to affordable medicines for developing countries to do so by the deadline of the end of 2015. We welcome the June 2013 decision to extend the transition period for all least developed countries.	Number of instances of use of TRIPS flexibilities for public health (WTO) Number of acceptances of TRIPS amendment (WTO) WHO's monitoring of trade and health issues (WHO) WIPO Database on Flexibilities in the Intellectual Property System	WTO TRIPS Council WIPO Committee on Development and IP WTO TPRM Roberts (2014) thinks more could be done, potentially around trade in services, technical barriers to trade, and sanitary and phytosanitary measures.
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all				
	6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies	See generally 120.	Trade in key water-related goods and services (new – perhaps OECD?) Tariffs and non-tariff barriers applicable to key water-related goods (new – perhaps OECD, APEC) Progress in the implementation of the Environmental Goods Agreement (when in force)	OECD Trade Committee OECD Environmental Policy Review OECD Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment WTO Committee on Trade and Environment WTO Trade Policy Review (including RTAs) APEC Committee on Trade and Investment



Cluster 2: Access to water, energy, and medicines (continued)

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all				
	7.a By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology	49. We will enhance international cooperation to provide adequate support and facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services to all developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States.	Trade in key clean energy-related goods and services (new – perhaps IEA, OECD?) Tariffs and non-tariff barriers applicable to key clean energy-related goods (new – perhaps IEA and WTO, APEC , OECD) Local content requirements relating to clean energy projects Trade remedy measures imposed on clean energy technologies Progress in the implementation of Environmental Goods Agreement (when in force) WIPO GREEN and patent landscape reports on renewable energy technologies REN21 Renewables Global Status report Bloomberg New Energy Finance reports UNFCCC Technology Mechanism	OECD Trade Committee OECD Environmental Policy Reviews OECD Green Investment Financing platforms WTO Committee on Trade and Environment WTO Trade Policy Review APEC Committee on Trade and Investment IEA Country Reviews, Low-Carbon Energy Technology Platform UNCTAD Investment Policy Reviews, Services Policy Reviews and National Green Exports Reviews Committees of regional trade agreements including clean energy technology commitments

Cluster 3: Subsidies and food commodities trade

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all				
	8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value-added and labour-intensive sectors	15. We stress the critical importance of industrial development for developing countries, as a critical source of economic growth, economic diversification, and value addition. We will invest in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development to effectively address major challenges such as growth and jobs, resources and energy efficiency, pollution and climate change, knowledge-sharing, innovation and social inclusion.	Developing country and LDC export diversification in terms of products and markets (World Bank - WITS , perhaps also ITC) Note: UN-COMTRADE provides data on trade flows that might be useful for monitoring this target and others. Exports of high technological content as a proportion of total exports (World Bank, UNIDO Industrial Development Report , and Competitive Industrial Performance Index) Cornell University , INSEAD , WIPO Global Innovation Index UNCTAD Information Economy Reports Labour-intensive exports as a proportion of total exports (new – maybe WTO and ILO?) Developing country and LDCs exports (by partner group and key sectors), including services (WTO International Trade Statistics) Trade in Value Added, services data (OECD-WTO) Trade costs indicator (Hoekman, 2015) WTO-World Bank indicators on trade costs that most affect the poor* Domestic market diversification (new – maybe World Bank?)	OECD Trade Committee WTO Trade Policy Review, Committee on Trade and Development UNCTAD Voluntary Competition Policy Peer Reviews, Services Policy Reviews UNCTAD annual Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Global Aid for Trade Review OECD Initiative for Policy Dialogue on GVCs, Production Transformation and Development

* *Work in progress* – see *World Bank Group and World Trade Organization (2015)*.



Cluster 3: Subsidies and food commodities trade (continued)

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation				
	9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all	87. Regional integration can also be an important catalyst to reduce trade barriers, implement policy reforms and enable companies, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, to integrate into regional and global value chains. We underline the contribution trade facilitation measures can make to this end. We urge the international community, including international financial institutions and multilateral and regional development banks, to increase its support to projects and cooperation frameworks that foster regional and subregional integration, with special attention to Africa, and that enhance the participation and integration of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, particularly from developing countries, into global value chains and markets. We encourage multilateral development banks, including regional banks, in collaboration with other stakeholders, to address gaps in trade, transport and transit-related regional infrastructure, including completing missing links connecting landlocked developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States within regional networks.	Ratification, implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement (WTO Annual report) Overall trade facilitation indicators (OECD) World Bank Logistic Performance Index World Bank Doing Business Index MDB level of investment in regional transport, trade infrastructure MDB independent evaluation group reports Reports to MDB Executive Boards on development effectiveness UN-OHRLLS follow-up of the Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024	WTO Trade Facilitation Committee OECD Development Assistance Committee OECD Trade Committee MDB Executive Directors
	9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets		Degree of developing country participation in global value chains (OECD) Trade in Value Added, including services data (OECD-WTO)	WTO Annual Trade Monitoring Report OECD Trade Committee UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Program OECD Development Assistance Committee
		43. We recognize that micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly those that are women-owned, often have difficulty in obtaining financing. 81. We acknowledge that lack of access to trade finance can limit a country's trading potential, and result in missed opportunities to use trade as an engine for development. We welcome the work carried out by the WTO Expert Group on Trade Financing, and commit to exploring ways to use market-oriented incentives to expand WTO-compatible trade finance and the availability of trade credit, guarantees, insurance, factoring, letters of credit and innovative financial instruments, including for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries. We call on the development banks to provide and increase market-oriented trade finance and to examine ways to address market failures associated with trade finance.	Regional development bank surveys of access to trade finance (e.g., ADB Trade Finance Survey , AfDB report on trade finance) MDB trade finance programs reach (e.g., International Finance Corporation Global Trade Finance Program) International Chamber of Commerce Global Survey on Trade Finance Bank for International Settlements Committee on the Global Financial System	WTO Working Group on Trade, Debt and Finance (reviews recommendations from Expert Group on Trade Financing) Multilateral, regional development banks' Governing Boards



Cluster 3: Subsidies and food commodities trade (continued)

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
	9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities	See generally 120.	Level of trade in key environmentally sound technologies (new – perhaps OECD?) Progress in the implementation of the Environmental Goods Agreement (when in force) Average tariff, non-tariff barriers on key environmentally sound technologies (OECD, APEC)	OECD Trade Committee OECD Environmental Policy Review OECD Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment WTO Committee on Trade and Environment WTO Trade Policy Review (including RTAs) APEC Committee on Trade and Investment UNCTAD Green Exports reviews
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns				
	12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities	30. We will establish transparent public procurement frameworks as a strategic tool to reinforce sustainable development.	IAEG-SDGs 12.7.1 Number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies and action plans UNEP Sustainable Public Procurement Programme Accessions to WTO Government Procurement Agreement	WTO Trade Policy Review (annual report and Member reviews) WTO Committee on Government Procurement

Cluster 4: Illegal extraction and trade in natural resources, trade in hazardous chemicals and waste

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns				
	12.4 By 2020 achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle in accordance with agreed international frameworks and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment	See para 92 below.	IAEG-SDGs 12.4.1: Number of Parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous and other chemicals and waste that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement Levels of illegal and illegal trade in hazardous wastes and chemicals (perhaps Basel Convention , Rotterdam Convention , Stockholm Convention , Minamata Convention , Montreal Protocol , Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management Secretariat , Interpol , OECD) UNEP Global Chemicals Outlook Report	International Conference on Chemicals Management Environmental Assembly of UNEP UNECE Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents Basel Convention Conference of the Parties, Implementation and Compliance Committee Rotterdam Convention Conference of the Parties Stockholm Convention Conference of the Parties Minamata Convention Conference of the Parties (when Convention enters into force) Montreal Protocol Meeting of the Parties
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss				
	15.6 Ensure fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources		IAEG-SDGs 15.6.1: Number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits. (from old IAEG-SDGs 15.6.1): Number of permits or their equivalents made available to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House established under the Nagoya Protocol of the CBD and number of Standard Material Transfer Agreements, as communicated to the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)	Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of the Parties, Compliance Committee of the Nagoya Protocol Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture UNCTAD Bio Trade Congress



Cluster 4: Illegal extraction and trade in natural resources, trade in hazardous chemicals and waste (continued)

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
	<p>15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products</p> <p>15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities</p>	<p>92. We also recognize that illegal wildlife trade, illegal unreported and unregulated fishing, illegal logging and illegal mining are a challenge for many countries. Such activities can create substantial damage, including lost revenue and corruption. We resolve to enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, trafficking in hazardous waste, and trafficking in minerals, including by strengthening both national regulation and international cooperation, and increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities. We will also enhance capacity for monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing vessels so as to effectively prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including through institutional capacity building.</p>	<p>IAEG-SDGs 15.7.1 (and 15.c.1): Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked</p> <p>Data from CITES and TRAFFIC, the World Customs Organisation and the UNODC (old IAEG-SDGs 15.7.1): IUCN Red List Index</p> <p>Levels of trade in illegally extracted natural resources (OECD):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife - Timber - Fish <p>Ratification and implementation of FAO Agreement on Port State Measures</p>	<p>IUCN World Conservation Congress</p> <p>CITES Conferences of the Parties, CITES Review of Significant Trade, National Wildlife Policy Reviews</p> <p>General Assembly of Interpol,</p> <p>Interpol Working Group on Wildlife Crime</p> <p>World Customs Organization</p> <p>UN Office of Drugs and Crime</p> <p>WTO Committee on Trade and Environment</p> <p>OECD Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems</p> <p>Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention</p> <p>Kimberley Process Working Group on Monitoring</p> <p>FAO Committee on Fisheries</p> <p>Committees of regional trade agreements including commitments on illegal trade in natural resources</p>

Cluster 5: Multilateral trading system

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
8. Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all				
	<p>8.a Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries</p>	<p>90. We will focus Aid for Trade on developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries. We will strive to allocate an increasing proportion of Aid for Trade going to least developed countries, provided according to development cooperation effectiveness principles. We also welcome additional cooperation among developing countries to this end.</p>	<p>IAEG-SDGs 8.a.1 Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements</p> <p>Enhanced Integrated Framework</p> <p>Aid for Trade by individual recipient (WTO/OECD)</p> <p>Aid for Trade by individual donor (WTO/OECD)</p>	<p>WTO Trade and Development Committee</p> <p>Global Reviews of Aid for Trade</p> <p>OECD Policy Dialogue on Aid for Trade</p> <p>OECD Development Assistance Committee peer reviews</p>
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries				
	<p>10.a Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements</p>	<p>84. Members of the WTO will continue to implement the provisions of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with WTO agreements. We welcome the establishment of the monitoring mechanism to analyse and review all aspects of the implementation of specific special and differential treatment provisions, as agreed in Bali, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational as well as facilitating integration of developing and least-developed WTO members into the multilateral trading system.</p>	<p>IAEG-SDGs 10.a.1: Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero-tariff</p> <p>(MDG Indicator) perhaps also disaggregated by other groups, e.g., Small Island Developing States</p> <p>WTO Annual Report, Secretariat updates on S&D provisions in WTO agreements</p>	<p>WTO Committee on Trade and Development</p> <p>WTO S&D Monitoring Mechanism</p>



Cluster 5: Multilateral trading system (continued)

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels				
	16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance	103. We will take measures to improve and enhance global economic governance and to arrive at a stronger, more coherent and more inclusive and representative international architecture for sustainable development, while respecting the mandates of respective organizations.	WTO accessions as listed in the WTO Annual Report, Director General's Annual Report on Accessions. Degree of developing country participation in RTAs (UNCTAD, WTO) Reports of IFIs, regional bodies involved in trade and investment.	WTO General Council WTO Committee on Trade and Development, Sub-Committee on LDCs WTO Committee on Regional Trade Agreements WTO Trade Policy Review Mechanism UNCTAD Trade and Development Board
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development				
	17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries	46. We resolve to adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries	IAEG-SDGs 17.5.1: Number of countries that adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries UNCTAD Investment Promotion Agency Observer	UNCTAD Investment Policy Reviews (can be supplemented by other sources) UNCTAD World Investment Forum
	17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed	120. We will encourage the development, dissemination and diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed. <i>See generally 120-123</i>	Average applied tariffs and non-tariff barriers imposed on environmental goods (OECD, APEC) Progress in the implementation of Environmental Goods Agreement (when in force)	OECD Trade Committee OECD Green Investment Financing Platforms OECD Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment OECD Environmental Policy Reviews IEA Country Reviews IEA Low-Carbon Energy Technology Platform WTO Committee on Trade and Environment WTO Trade Policy Review APEC Committee on Trade and Investment
	17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation	115. We call for enhanced international support and establishment of multistakeholder partnerships for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, African countries, and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals.	Levels of Aid for Trade expenditure (North-South, South-South, and triangular) (WTO/OECD) Levels of support provided for implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (possibly WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility data) OECD Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation monitoring framework and Report International Trade Centre	WTO Trade and Development Committee WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and Standards and Trade Development Facilities APEC and other regional economic integration bodies UNEP Trade and Environment Hub Enhanced Integrated Framework



Cluster 5: Multilateral trading system (continued)

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
	17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda	[The AAAA in paras 79-83 stresses the importance of the multilateral trading system, including completion of the Doha Development Agenda, the implementation of the Bali Package and implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, and combatting protectionism]	<p>IAEG-SDGs 17.10.1 Worldwide weighted tariff-average (from WTO-UNCTAD-ITC databases)</p> <p>Tariff and non-tariff barriers faced by developing country exporters (Market Access Map-ITC)</p> <p>Data on non-tariff measures (UNCTAD, WTO, ITC, WITS - World Bank)</p> <p>Average tariffs faced by developing countries and LDCs by key sectors (MDG indicator covers developing countries)</p> <p>WTO Trade Monitoring Report, WTO World Trade Report (periodically)</p> <p>Progress towards conclusion of the DDA (WTO Annual Report)</p> <p>WTO Bali and Nairobi packages implementation (e.g., agriculture export subsidies, LDC services waiver)</p> <p>Global bound vs applied tariff rates</p> <p>Number of protectionist measures listed in OECD, UNCTAD, WTO reports to the G20</p>	<p>WTO Trade Policy Review</p> <p>UNCTAD Trade and Development Commission</p> <p>OECD Trade Committee</p> <p>WTO General Council, WTO Trade Negotiations Committee, specific Committees per decision (e.g., Committee on Agriculture for agricultural export subsidies, Trade in Services Council for LDC services trade preferences)</p> <p>G20</p>
	17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020	82. We will endeavour to significantly increase world trade in a manner consistent with the sustainable development goals, including exports from developing countries, in particular from least developed countries, with a view towards doubling their share of global exports by 2020 as stated in the Istanbul Programme of Action.	<p>IAEG-SDGs 17.11.1: Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports</p> <p>Developing country and LDCs' exports and imports (by partner group and key sectors), including services (UNCTAD, WTO, ITC)</p> <p>Preferences utilisation by developing and least developed countries in their exports to developed countries</p> <p>WTO Preferential Trade Agreements Transparency Mechanism</p> <p>Preferential tariff margins for LDCs (UNCTAD)</p> <p>Average tariffs faced by developing countries and LDCs by key sectors (MDG indicator covers developing countries)</p> <p>Simple average applied MFN and bound tariff rates (all products) (WTO)</p> <p>WTO Trade Monitoring Report (standing section?)</p> <p>UNCTAD Least Developed Countries Reports</p> <p>Trade restrictions in the services sector (possibly from updated World Bank Services Trade Restrictions Database)</p> <p>UN Secretary-General and agency reports on implementation of IPOA for LDCs, Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs, SAMOA Pathway for SIDS and UN Monitoring Mechanism for commitments to Africa</p> <p>LDC IV Monitor (IPOA implementation)</p>	<p>WTO Committee on Trade and Development, Sub-Committee on LDCs</p> <p>WTO General Council</p> <p>OECD Trade Committee</p> <p>UNCTAD Trade and Development Commission</p> <p>WTO Trade and Development Committee</p> <p>WTO Sub-Committee on LDCs</p> <p>Reviews of implementation of Programmes of Action for LDCs and LLDCs (facilitated by UN-OHRLLS), for SIDS and for Africa</p>
	17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access	85. We call on developed country WTO members and developing country WTO members declaring themselves in a position to do so to realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all products originating from all least developed countries, consistent with WTO decisions. We call on them to also take steps to facilitate market access for products of least developed countries, including by developing simple and transparent rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries, in accordance with the guidelines adopted by WTO members at the Bali ministerial conference in 2013.	<p>IAEG-SDGs 17.12.1: Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries, and small island developing States (perhaps disaggregated by type of product)</p> <p>WTO Database on Preferential Trade Agreements</p> <p>Preferential tariff margins for LDCs (UNCTAD)</p> <p>Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty (MDG indicator)</p> <p>LDC IV Monitor (IPOA implementation)</p>	<p>WTO Committee on Trade and Development, Sub-Committee on LDCs</p> <p>WTO Committee on Rules of Origin</p>



Cluster 6: Policy coherence for sustainable development

Goal	Trade-related SDG targets	Trade-related elements of Addis Ababa Action Agenda	Potential indicators and sources of information	Potential review mechanisms
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls				
	5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.	6. We reiterate the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies. 90. Recognizing the critical role of women as producers and traders, we will address their specific challenges in order to facilitate women's equal and active participation in domestic, regional and international trade.	Measurement of women's participation in trade could begin with disaggregation of trade-related economic data (e.g., employment in export-oriented sectors) by gender.	WTO Trade Policy Review Mechanism WTO Committee on Trade and Development
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development				
	17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence 17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development	9. At the same time, national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance. 88. Recognizing that international trade and investment offers opportunities but also requires complementary actions at the national level, we will strengthen domestic enabling environments and implement sound domestic policies and reforms conducive to realizing the potential of trade for inclusive growth and sustainable development.	CPIA trade rating – Trade. Assesses how well a country's policy framework fosters trade in goods (World Bank) (data is mainly for International Development Association countries but could perhaps be extended) World Bank reports (Global Economic Prospects, Global Monitoring Report with IMF) IMF World Economic Outlook report and databases IMF Article IV Consultation Staff Reports UNCTAD Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development Regional UN economic commissions and economic integration organisations UN Economic and Social Council Special high-level meetings with the World Bank, IMF, WTO, and UNCTAD (annual)	WTO Trade Policy Reviews (Members) IMF Article IV Consultations UNCTAD Competition, Investment Policy Peer Reviews OECD Policy Coherence for Development Focal Points Meetings African Peer Review Mechanism (African Union)
		87. We recognize the significant potential of regional economic integration and interconnectivity to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development, and commit to strengthening regional cooperation and regional trade agreements. We will strengthen coherence and consistency among bilateral and regional trade and investment agreements, and to ensure that they are compatible with WTO rules.	Degree of regional economic integration (regional integration indicator by ADB, regional integration index by AfDB with AU Commission and UNECA) Number of "deep" or "expansive" regional trade agreements and MTS consistency (OECD) Consistency of investment agreements with MTS, sustainable development objectives (UNCTAD World Investment Report) UNCTAD Investment Policy Monitor, IIA and ISDS navigators. OECD Environment and RTAs reports WTO Transparency Mechanism and Regional Trade Agreements Information System WTO CRTA Secretariat reports (Degree of consistency with sustainable development policies could be examined in WTO CRTA Secretariat reports)	UN Regional Commissions' Forums on Sustainable Development Regional economic integration organisations' Trade committees (e.g., APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade meetings) WTO Trade Policy Review (and monitoring report, section on RTAs) WTO Committee on Regional Trade Agreements UNCTAD Investment Policy Reviews. World Investment Forum UNCTAD Trade and Development Board OECD Trade Committee, Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment
	17.15 Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development	91. The goal of protecting and encouraging investment should not affect our ability to pursue public policy objectives. We will endeavour to craft trade and investment agreements with appropriate safeguards so as not to constrain domestic policies and regulation in the public interest. We will implement such agreements in a transparent manner. 9. We will respect each country's policy space and leadership to implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments.	UNCTAD International Investment Agreement work UNCTAD World Investment Reports UNCTAD Investment Policy Monitor	UNCTAD Trade and Development Commission UNCTAD Investment Policy Reviews WTO Trade and Development Committee WTO CRTA

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