

MARKET ACCESS (TRADE)

Target 8.A is the main trade-related target under MDG 8, and it is applicable to all developed and developing countries. Two other targets – **Targets 8.B and 8.C** – address the special needs of the least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

One of the main vehicles for advancing progress towards the commitment to develop further an open rule-based multilateral trading system that delivers more benefits to developing countries (Target 8.A) is the Doha Round of trade negotiations of the WTO. Any delay in completing the Round represents an obstacle to making progress against the Target. Even though repeated calls have been made at various forums, Member countries of the WTO are yet to agree on modalities that will help conclude the Round. In an attempt to restore confidence in the process and allow negotiations on the most intractable issues to continue beyond the end of the year, WTO members have shifted their focus towards finding a set of deliverables (of particular importance to LDCs) – an “early harvest” – at the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the WTO on 15 - 17 December 2011. In recent years, more emphasis has also been placed on addressing trade-capacity constraints of developing countries through the Aid for Trade initiative, and through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to the LDCs.

Name of Event/ Initiative	Commitments, targets and indicators	Gap
Millennium Summit , New York, 6-8 September 2000 – MDG-8	<p>Targets:</p> <p>8.A. Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system</p> <p>8.B. Address the special needs of the LDCs. Includes tariff- and quota-free access for LDC exports, etc.</p> <p>8.C. Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS)</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <p>8.6. Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed</p>	<p>A multilateral trade round that delivers real and substantial benefits to developing countries still to be concluded.¹</p> <p>Although the special needs of LLDCs and SIDS have not been addressed explicitly in the Doha Round negotiations, special provisions for "small, vulnerable economies" in the agricultural, non-agricultural, rules and trade facilitation negotiations have done so indirectly.</p> <p>No numerical targets were set. Indicator 8.6: A significant share of products from developing countries are imported duty-free quota-</p>

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	<p>countries, admitted free of duty</p> <p>8.7. Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries</p> <p>8.8. Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product</p> <p>8.9. Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity</p>	<p>free to developed countries, but 20 per cent of exports (excluding arms and oil) still faced tariff barriers in 2009. See 2005 WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Conference commitment below for more details.</p> <p>Indicator 8.7: Insufficient reduction in tariffs on developing country exports of agricultural products and textiles and clothing. With the exception of tariffs on agricultural products, tariff reductions since 2004 have been very small.</p> <p>Indicator 8.8: Agricultural support in OECD countries, as percentage of GDP, fell in 2010 to 0.85 per cent of GDP, following a small rise in 2009, continuing the downward trend set in since the 1990s. But in absolute terms, it remains high, reaching \$366 billion in 2010 and distorting trade. In particular, support to agricultural producers in OECD countries, which amounted to 18.3 per cent of gross farm receipts, has a strong adverse impact on production and trade of developing countries.</p> <p>Indicator 8.9: Although Aid for Trade commitments increased to \$40.1 billion in 2009, an increase of 60 per cent over the 2002-2005 baseline period, the annual rate of increase in 2009 was just 2 per cent. Commitments to LDCs and other low-income countries represented 49 per cent of the total. Need to ensure continued resource mobilization of Aid for Trade, enhanced predictability of Aid for Trade resources and greater alignment in the delivery of Aid for Trade with the priorities of developing countries contained within their national development plans and strategies.</p>

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Third UN Conference on the LDCs, Declaration and Programme of Action for the LDCs for the Decade 2001-2010 , 14-20 May 2001 (Brussels Plan of Action)	Aim at improving preferential market access for LDCs by working towards the objective of duty-free and quota -free market access for all LDCs' products in the markets of developed countries. See below for targets as renewed at the Fourth UN Conference on LDCs in the Istanbul Plan of Action.	No new numerical targets were set. For LDC market access, see above and below.
G-8 Genoa Summit , 20-22 July 2001	Confirmed pledge made at the Third UN LDC Conference to work towards duty-free and quota-free access for all products originating in the least developed countries.	No new numerical targets were set. For LDC market access, see above and below.
WTO Doha Ministerial Conference , 9-14 th November, 2001	Doha Development Agenda launched.	Doha Round still to be concluded.
G-8 Evian Summit , 1-3 June 2003	Committed to delivering on schedule, by end of 2004, the goals set out in the Doha Development Agenda.	Doha Round still to be concluded.
G-8 Sea Island Summit , 8-10 June 2004	Determined to finalize the framework to expeditiously complete the Doha Round by July 2004.	Doha Round still to be concluded.
2005 World Summit , New York, 14-16 September 2005	Work towards the objective, in accordance with the Brussels Programme of Action, of duty-free and quota-free market access for all LDCs' products to the markets of developed countries and towards implementing the Doha Round work programme.	No new numerical targets were set. For LDC market access, see above and below. Doha Round still to be concluded.
G-8 Gleneagles Summit , July 2005	Pledged to increase momentum towards concluding the Doha Round and reiterate commitment to DFQF market access to LDCs.	Doha Round still to be concluded. For LDC market access, see above and below.

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<p>WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Conference, 13–18 December 2005</p>	<p>Targets: Ensure the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect, to be completed by the end of 2013.</p> <p>Developed-country Members shall, and developing-country Members declaring themselves in a position to do so should:</p> <p>(a) (i) Provide duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis, for all products originating from all LDCs by 2008 or no later than the start of the implementation period</p> <p>(ii) Members facing difficulties at this time to provide market access as set out above shall provide duty-free and quota-free market access for at least 97 per cent of products originating from LDCs, defined at the tariff line level, by 2008 or no later than the start of the implementation period.</p> <p>(b) Ensure that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from LDCs are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access.</p> <p>Aid for Trade Initiative launched.</p>	<p>Agricultural support in OECD countries remains high.</p> <p>Most of the developed Members provide DFQF access to the LDCs, in line with Hong Kong targets. The remaining gap remains with a few Members which will implement DFQF as part of the overall outcome of the Doha Round. As a result, 20 per cent of exports from LDCs, in terms of value, still face tariff barriers.</p> <p>Concrete progress has been made in the simplification of rules of origin for LDC products, with a number of developed countries adopting flexible rules of origin criteria for LDC products.</p> <p>For Aid for Trade, see above.</p>
<p>G-8 St.Petersburg Summit, 15-17 July 2006</p>	<p>Reaffirmed commitments to the development dimension of the Doha Round and its conclusion, to the elimination of all agricultural subsidies by 2013, to provide DFQF market access to LDCs and reaffirmed commitments on Aid for Trade.</p>	<p>No new numerical targets were set.</p>
<p>G-8 Heiligendamm Summit, 8 June 2007</p>	<p>Committed to conclude the Doha Round and underline crucial role of Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework.</p>	<p>Doha Round still to be concluded. No new numerical targets were set for Aid for Trade.</p>

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Midterm Review of the Almaty Programme of Action , (Resolution A/RES/63/2), October 2008	Called upon landlocked and transit developing countries, donors, UN system, multilateral agencies and development partners to undertake a series of measures to speed up the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action.	See list of measures in document A/RES/63/2 . Related gaps are difficult to measure.
G-8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit , 8 July 2008	Committed to conclude the Doha Round.	Doha Round still to be concluded.
G-20 Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy in Washington, 15 November 2008	Committed to achieve a successful outcome of the Doha Round (strive to reach agreement on modalities that lead to a successful conclusion of the WTO's Doha Development Agenda with an ambitious and balanced outcome) and reject protectionism (refrain from raising new barriers to investment or to trade in goods and services, imposing new export restrictions, or implementing WTO inconsistent measures to stimulate exports within the next 12 months). Reaffirmed achievement of Aid for Trade pledges.	Doha Round still to be concluded. The WTO G-20 monitoring report shows that most G-20 governments have put in place more new trade restrictive measures over the six month period ending in April 2011 than in previous periods since the crisis. The commitment to roll back export restrictions has not been followed; in fact, new export restrictions are increasing. On the other hand, a number of measures have been introduced to facilitate trade, especially by reducing or temporarily exempting import tariffs on selected products and by streamlining customs procedures.
Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development , Doha, 29 November – 2 December 2008	Urgently re-engage and strive to reach agreement by the end of 2008 on modalities that lead to a successful and early conclusion to the Doha Round with an ambitious, balanced and development-oriented outcome; reconfirmed commitment to implement DFQF access to LDCs and to provide Aid for Trade.	Doha Round still to be concluded. For other market access commitments, see above.
G-20 London Summit , 2 April 2009	Reaffirmed the commitment made in November 2008 to a successful conclusion to the Doha Round and to reject protectionism. A commitment was made to rectify any such measures; this pledge was extended to the end of 2010.	Doha Round still to be concluded.

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	<p>In addition, the G-20 members pledged to notify promptly the WTO of any protectionist measures, to promote and facilitate trade and investment, to minimize any negative impact of their domestic policy actions on trade and investment.</p> <p>Target: G-20 members pledged to ensure availability of at least \$250 billion over the next two years to support trade finance.</p>	<p>Increase in protectionism. See above.</p> <p>In the first year after the initiative, additional trade financing of \$170 billion was mobilized. The trade finance market has improved considerably since the second quarter of 2009. Yet, low-income countries in particular, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, continue to face difficulties in accessing affordable trade finance.</p>
<p>UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, New York, 24-26 June 2009</p>	<p>Reiterated commitment to an early conclusion to the Doha Round that places the needs of the developing countries at the center, to implement DFQF access to LDCs, to the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, to the elimination of export and other trade distorting agricultural subsidies, and to meeting existing aid for trade pledges.</p> <p>Undertake efforts to resist protectionist tendencies and rectify any protectionist measures already taken.</p>	<p>Doha Round still to be concluded.</p> <p>For other market access commitments, see above.</p> <p>Increase in protectionism. See above.</p>
<p>G-8 Summit of L'Aquila, 8-10 July 2009</p>	<p>Reaffirmed the pledges made at the G-20 summits in Washington and London, including the commitments to successfully conclude the Doha Round in 2010 and to resist and rectify any protectionist measures (pledged by G-8 and the leaders of Australia, Indonesia and Republic of Korea). G-8 countries committed to meet their Aid for Trade commitments.</p>	<p>Doha Round was not concluded in 2010.</p> <p>Increase in protectionism. See above.</p>
<p>G-20 Pittsburg Summit, 24-25 September 2009</p>	<p>Reaffirm commitments to bring the Doha Round to a successful conclusion in 2010 and resist and rectify protectionist measures.</p>	<p>Doha Round was not concluded in 2010.</p> <p>Increase in protectionism. See above.</p>

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G-8 Muskoka Summit , 25-26 June 2010	Renewed the commitments to successful conclusion of the Doha Round and to resist protectionist measures.	Doha Round still to be concluded. Increase in protectionism. See above.
G-20 Toronto Summit , 26-27 June 2010	Renewed for a further three years, until the end of 2013, the commitment to refrain from and rectify protectionist measures. Reiterated commitment to conclude the Doha Round as soon as possible and committed to maintain momentum for Aid for Trade.	Increase in protectionism. See above. Doha Round still to be concluded.
UN High-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs (MDG summit) , New York, 20-22 September 2010	Reaffirmed commitments to expeditiously conclude the Doha Round, to resist and rectify protectionist measures, to implement DFQF access for LDCs, to further implement Aid for Trade, and to eliminate all agricultural export subsidies by end of 2013.	Doha Round still to be concluded. Increase in protectionism. See above. For other market access commitments, see above.
G-20 Seoul Summit , 11-12 November 2010	Reaffirmed commitments to promptly bring the Doha Round to a successful conclusion, recognizing that 2011 is a critical window of opportunity; to resist all forms of protectionist measures until the end of 2013; to make progress towards DFQF market access; to support trade facilitation and measures to increase availability of trade finance. Target: Pledged to “at least maintain, beyond 2011, Aid for Trade levels that reflect the average of the last three years (2006 to 2008)”.	Doha Round still to be concluded. For other market access commitments, see above. Increase in protectionism. See above. Aid for Trade commitments in 2009 reached \$40.1 billion, while the average of commitments over the 2006 to 2008 period was \$32.5 billion (in 2009 prices). In 2009, G-20 members have maintained overall support for aid for trade at 2006-2008 levels.
Fourth UN Conference on the LDCs, Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 , 9-13 May 2011 (Istanbul Programme of Action)	Targets: (a) Doubling the share of LDCs’ exports in global exports by 2020, (b) Make substantial efforts for an early and successful conclusion of the Doha Round with an ambitious, comprehensive, balanced and development-oriented outcome.	LDCs’ share in world exports was less than 1 per cent in 2009. Doha Round still to be concluded.

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	Actions by LDCs and their development partners include resisting protectionist tendencies and rectifying trade-distorting measures, addressing non-tariff measures, implementation of DFQF market access, enhanced support for Aid for Trade and the EIF.	No concrete commitment on duty-free, quota-free market access for all products from all LDCs No concrete numerical target of financial and technical assistance for trade capacity building in LDCs.
G-8 Deauville Summit , 26-27 May 2011	Reaffirmed commitment to bring Doha Round to a conclusion, by exploring all negotiating options.	Doha Round still to be concluded.
1 A summary of progress in the Round is presented below this table.		

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Progress in Doha Round negotiations and the development agenda

In various international fora, Heads of State and Ministers have reaffirmed that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth. The fundamental strategy of the Doha Round has been to increase trading opportunities for developing countries by lowering trade barriers, particularly in developed markets. G-20 leaders have set a target to conclude the negotiations by end of 2010, which was not achieved. After almost ten years of negotiations, serious gaps in position still stand in the way of concluding the Doha Round. Differences among WTO members regarding tariff reductions in industrial products – classified as non-agricultural market access (NAMA) – are the most immediate cause of the impasse. Furthermore, only limited progress has been made in the negotiations on agriculture and trade in services. The failure to reach an agreement on the Doha Round represents a major delivery gap in strengthening the global partnership for the MDGs.

In an attempt to restore confidence in the process and allow negotiations on the most intractable issues to continue beyond the end of the year, WTO members have shifted their focus towards finding a set of deliverables—an “early harvest”—at the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the WTO (MC8), to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 15 to 17 December 2011. Finding consensus on the nature and scope of a “deliverables” package, as well as on a work plan to follow MC8, is by no means certain.

Aid for Trade (AfT)

AfT resources committed to assist developing countries have increased significantly over the period 2005-2009, increasing by 60 per cent over the 2002-2005 baseline period. But the annual rate of increase in 2009 slowed to 2 per cent. In 2009, Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia received the bulk of the resources. The allocation of AfT across regions and countries remains concentrated. AfT to LDCs and other low-income countries represented 49 per cent of total with \$12.2 billion to LDCs and \$7.4 billion to other low-income countries. Viet Nam was the largest recipient, followed by India, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Uganda. The OECD and WTO's monitoring and evaluation framework for AfT is based on the OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS) which provides proxies for AfT interventions, as well as self-assessment questionnaires and case stories. The Advisory Group on Aid for Trade, convened by OECD and WTO, is continually examining how this CRS monitoring system may be improved to better track trade related interventions and the delivery of support to developing countries, in particular the LDCs. In 2011, 146 self-assessment questionnaires were received by developed and developing countries, regional banks and international and regional organizations while 275 case stories were submitted by developed and developing countries including LDCs, South-South providers, international and regional organizations, academia, civil society and the private sector. The lessons from these questionnaires and case stories provided the basis of the Third Global Review of Aid for Trade which was focused on showing results. The Third Global review, which took place from 18-19 July 2011, reaffirmed the importance of continued resource mobilization, effective mainstreaming, private sector engagement, regional integration and the aid effectiveness agenda. The Review provided inputs for the 2012-2013 Work Programme on Aid for Trade which is currently under preparation.