

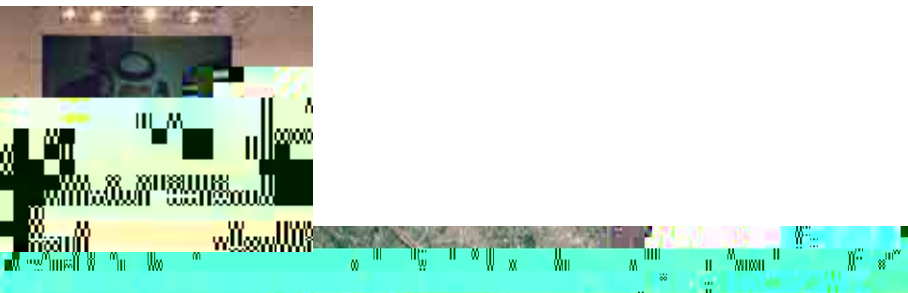


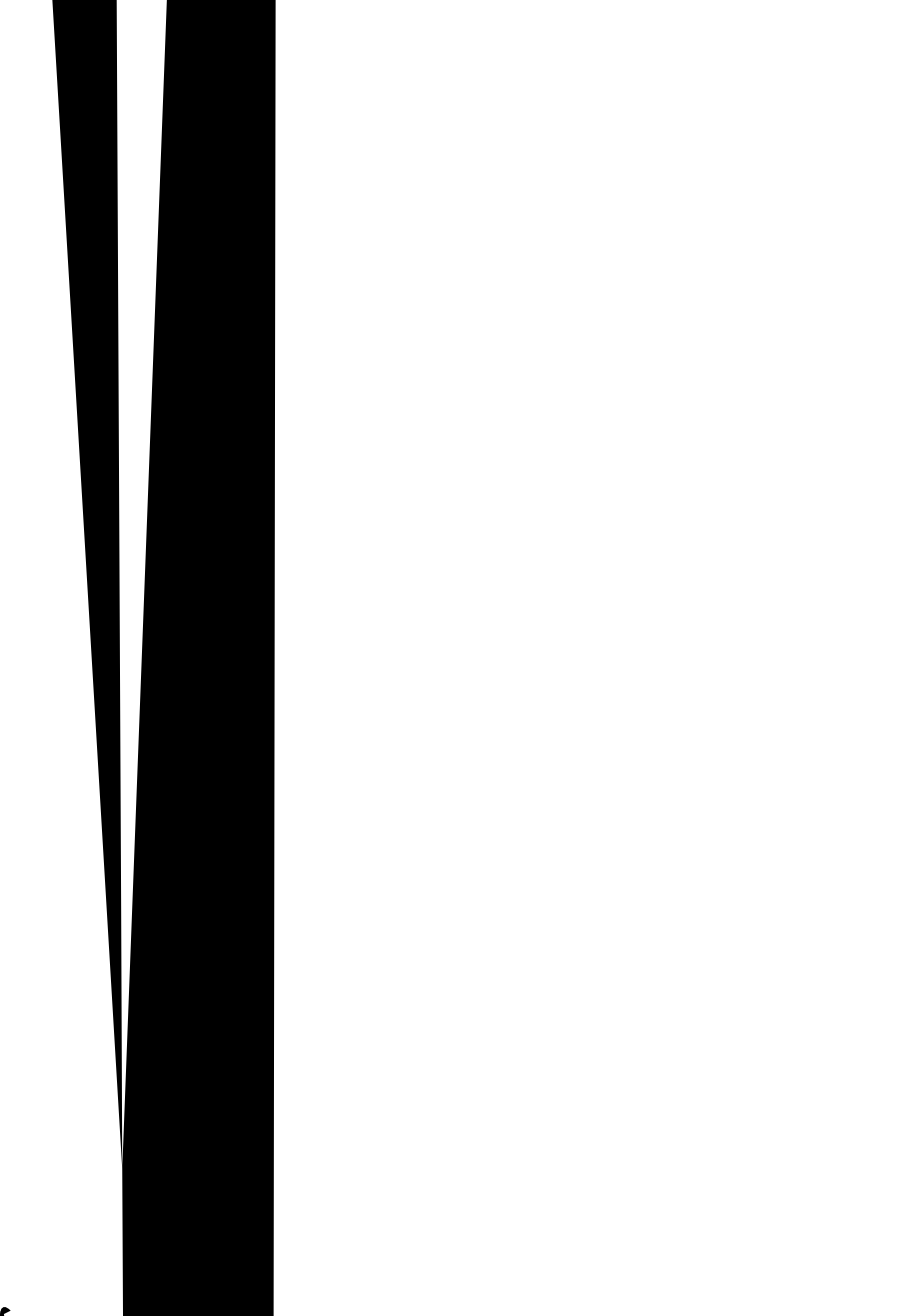


THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM—PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

The World Trade Organization came into being in 1995. One of the youngest of the international organizations, the WTO is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) established in the wake of the Second World War.

So while the WTO is still young, the multilateral trading system that was originally set up under GATT is well over 50 years old.









- L / . . . : Geneva, Switzerland
- E / . . . : 1 January 1995
- C / m . . . : Uruguay Round negotiations (1986-94)
- M / . . . : 160 countries (on 26 June 2014)
- B . . . : 197 million Swiss francs for 2013
- . . . : 640
- H / . . . : Roberto Azevêdo (Director-General)
- F. :
 - Administering WTO trade agreements
 - Forum for trade negotiations
 - Handling trade disputes
 - Monitoring national trade policies
 - Technical assistance and training for developing countries
 - Cooperation with other international organizations