



WTO ACCESSIONS NEWSLETTER

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WTO ACCESSION DEVELOPMENTS

± SECRETARIAT REPORT TO MEMBERS

Fifth Session of the Informal Group on Accessions (IGA) 28 May 2015.

Agenda:

- + Progress Report on Accessions in 2015 Focus **Afghanistan, Liberia and Kazakhstan**
- + Accession Working Parties under Maintenance **Azerbaijan**
- + Accession related developments² Expressions of interest in WTO accession **Somalia and Timor-Leste**
- + Accession Specific Technical Assistance and Outreach Activities 2015 Overview (Dushanbe & Nairobi)
- + WTO Director General's meeting with the Accessions Division

Chaired by the WTO Secretariat (Director of the Accessions Division)

Progress Report on Accessions in 2015 Focus Least Developed countries (LDCs)

Afghanistan: H.E. Mr. Homayoun Rasa, the newly appointed Minister of Commerce and Industries addressed a letter to WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo stressing his wish to finalize Afghanistan's accession. The IGA was informed that the draft Package, circulated in March 2014, would require technical updates to reflect developments in Afghanistan's legal and regulatory regime before the next Working Party meeting could be convened.

Liberia: The most recent cycle of meetings took place on 7 May 2015. At the May cycle of meetings, consultations were conducted in different formats by H.E. Mr. Joal Reiter, the Working Party (WP) Chairperson. Members and Liberia successfully concluded their review of Liberia's AGST supporting tables. The Secretariat chaired Plurilateral

Members were advancing well and were on pace. The WP Chairperson invited Members to submit their questions/comments by no later than 4 June 2015. Liberia was tasked to submit its revised Legislative Action F together with draft and newly

