

# Macro WTO and Micro GPA Accessions: What is the Relationship?

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\*This presentation is made strictly in a personal capacity.

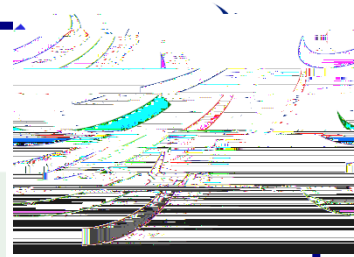
# Some premises

- o The benefit of trade liberalization lies not only in market access but also in the incentives provided for internal structural and legislative reform
- o **Government procurement matters a lot!:**
  - o For its own sake (15% plus of GDP; vital for infrastructure provision (roads/airports/ports) and socially important goods and services (hospitals/schools/medicines); and

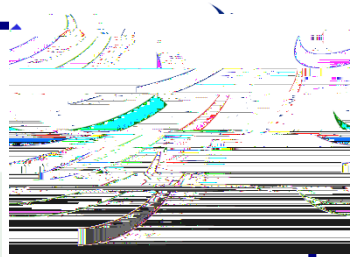
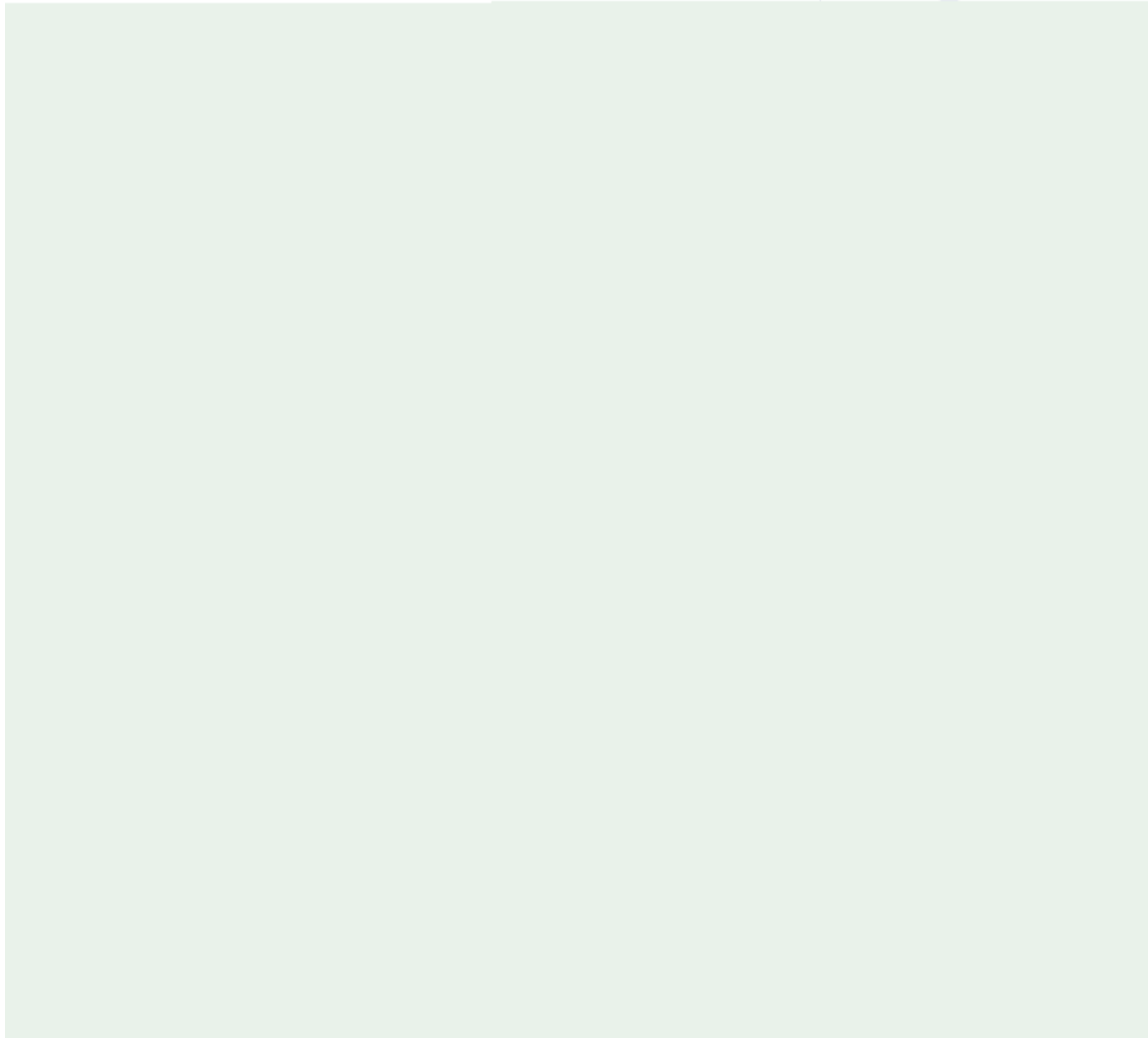
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# The entry into force of the revised GPA: overview & latest developments



- o The revised GPA is now in force for 13 out of 15 Parties
  - o Latest country to submit its instrument of acceptance: Armenia.
  - o Only two countries missing: Switzerland and Korea.
- o Elements of the renegotiation:
  - o Revised textt greater flexibility/improved S&D provisions.
  - o Market access enhancement package valued at \$800 billion annually.
  - o Package of Future Work Programmes on issues such as SMEs and sustainability now being worked on.



# Accessions to the Agreement: Current Status and latest developments

- o 10 observers are in the process of acceding

Australia

Albania;

Jordan;

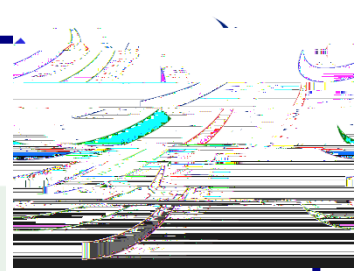
Moldova;

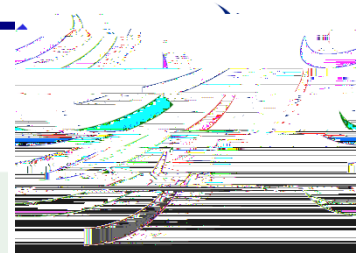
China;

Georgia;

Kyrgyz Republic;

Oman;





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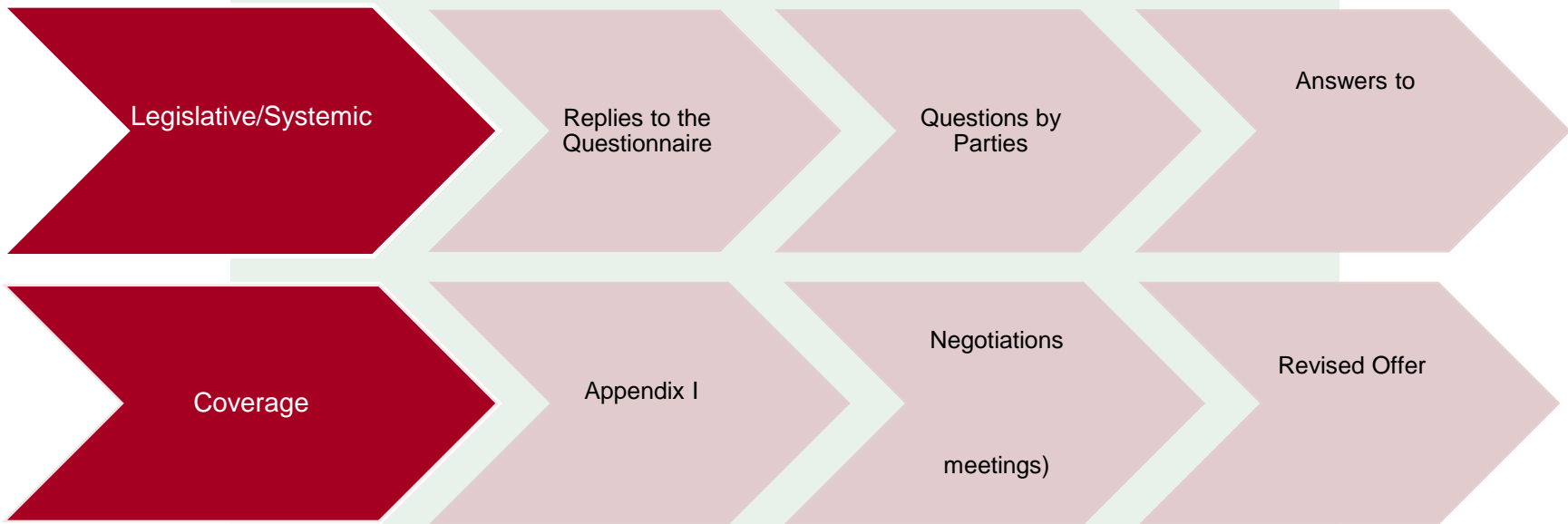
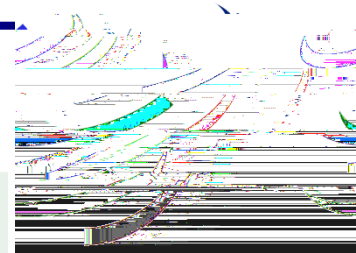
Who: Eligibility of any WTO Member to accede

What: Terms to be agreed with existing Parties

How: Deposit with the Director -General of an instrument of accession, including agreed terms

When: Entry into force on 30th day afterwa 0 /MCID 35including agr

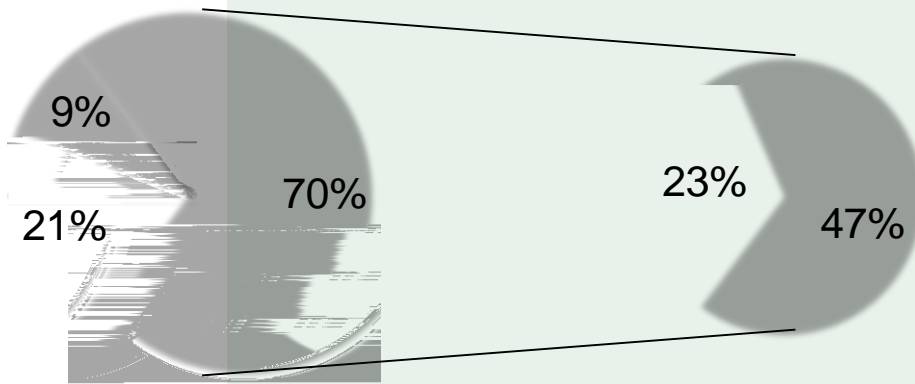
# GPA accession t





# The relationship between WTO accession and GPA accession: more detail

- o New WTO Members are likely to undertake GPA accession commitments of some sort.

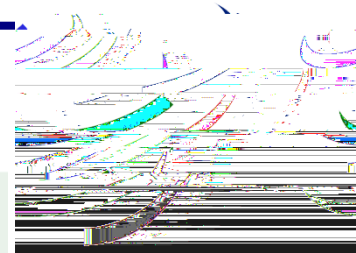


GPA accession not envisaged (7: Cambodia; Ecuador; Nepal; Samoa; Tonga; Vanuatu; Yemen)

GPA accession considered, but no commitment (3: Lao People's Democratic Republic; Viet Nam; Cabo Verde)

Accession complete (8: Armenia; Bulgaria; Croatia; Estonia; Latvia,

# The GPA: Why accede?



Legally ensured  
access to other  
3 D U W L H V ↑ S U R F X U H P H O W  
markets

Benefits of internal reform  
according to principles of  
integrity, transparency,  
and non-discrimination.  
Incentive for inbound FDI.

Double benefit: external and internal!

# Summary

- o New developments regarding revised GPA, accessions:
  - o The GPA Committee is very active! Positive results are being achieved! New accessions!
- o WTO accessions and GPA accession closely linked, though separate and distinct legal processes.
- o Both central to the success of the WTO!