

7 April 2020.7

much-needed clarity. Transparency is in the mutual interest of all WTO members, and it is a fundamental feature of the multilateral trading system as embodied in the WTO Agreements.

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is crucial to pool information within a multilateral platform to avoid duplication of efforts and to increase efficient collaboration. The WTO has the legal and practical tools, as well as the resources, to contribute to this goal. Th

WTO Agreements and transparency at home

The WTO Agreements also improve transparency in trade measures by requiring that WTO members publish domestically and in their own language(s) all new or modified laws, regulations and guidelines on any matter affecting trade, and make that information publicly available in such a way as to allow both domestic stakeholders and other members to be

Agreement on Trade - Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)
(https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/trips_e/trips_e.htm)

Notification requirement Any new laws or regulations, and amendments to existing laws or regulations, normally within 30 days of their entry into force.

As a complement, the TRIPS Council has asked WTO members to complete, and update as needed, a Checklist of Issues on Enforcement (WTO Official Documents IP/C/2 and IP/C/5 , available via <https://docs.wto.org/>).

Where TRIPS flexibilities are used at domestic level by means other than legislation, e.g. the grant of a Compulsory Licenses (CL), those are not to be notified, except where the CL is issued pursuant to the Special CL System under Article 31 of the TRIPS Agreement.

WTO members have also agreed to establish and notify Contact Points and to respond to requests for information about le3 (tp1)-1.3 (t3 (d) () 1.6 (3 (tp)-0.7 (ag)22 (e)1.7 (3 (ts)-6.6 ()