

Mexico's Positions on Various Doha Files

1. Agriculture

With regard to Substantive Issues for Developed Countries in the Agriculture Negotiations:

1. Domestic support - Blue Box Headroom for the US

This issue relates to the maximum amount of blue box support which the US is allowed to provide for each product. The draft modalities text proposes that the landing zone will be between 110-120% the amount allowed under the Farm Bill 2002 for each product.

Mexico, as a G20 member, is of the view that the current modalities text provides too much flexibility for the US. Yet, it is prepared to work on the basis of the modalities text under the assumption that the principles mentioned above are observed.

2. Extra- Number of Sensitive Products for Developed Countries

Mexico, as a G20 member, may accommodate the needs of the countries requesting extra tariff lines on condition that they present compensation through additional tariff rate quota expansion.

3. New TRQ Creation:

Since the designation of sensitive products by developed countries is associated with compensation through expansion of tariff rate quotas, there is a point of difference among members as to whether (1) sensitive products should only be selected from tariff lines where there are tariff rate quotas or (2) new tariff rate quotas can be created for sensitive tariff lines.

In the view of Mexico, as a G20 member, the general principle is that no new TRQs can be created, and sensitive tariff lines can be only selected among TRQ tariff lines. Yet, some flexibility can be shown and new TRQs can be created under some conditions including the new TRQs should not exceed 1% of tariff lines and all new TRQs must be MFN.

2.Non-agriculture market access:

- Mexico will use coefficient $Z = 25$ with no attached flexibilities as it has been the main proponent of such a proposal.

3. Services:

Specific Commitments:

Requests and Offers: Mexico submitted its initial and revised offers which include both adding new commitments in new sectors, in addition to improvements in its original commitments.

Concerning the Plurilateral requests, Mexico has submitted five plurilateral requests to Egypt in the following sectors and modes of supply: construction services, computer and related services, distribution services, Maritime services, and Cross border supply (mode 3).

During the signaling conference, Mexico indicated that it will grant all WTO members the same treatment that is given to FTA partners with regard to all services sectors. it also changed the investment law to promote FDI and reduce the administrative burden on investment. it will as well make new commitments on advertising services, courier, telecom, construction services, and mode 4. Mexico requests countries to undertake commitments in mode 4 categories that are delinked to mode 3, telecom, audio-visual, professional, computer, and to eliminate MFN exemptions.

4.Trade and Environment:

Doesn't support the list, and don't have an opinion on the new climate change friendly products list

5.Rules:

Mexico belongs to the so called "the Friends of Anti-dumping Negotiations (FANs)" whose position is as follows:

- Oppose zeroing
- Have great number of proposals modifying principles and conditions. These include amendments to the definition of the concepts of product under consideration, like product and domestic industry; new rules governing the assessment of dumping, injury and causal link; a mandatory lesser duty rule; and, the introduction of a new requirement for the imposition of anti-dumping measures: the existence of public interest.
- Very Supportive of new procedural requirements that investigating authorities would have to comply with in the framework of investigations. These include additional publication and notification requirements; the obligation to provide prompt access to the public file and to allow for copies of all documents placed on that file to be made; stricter deadlines; and, the requirement to pay interests in the case anti-dumping duties are refunded.

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- Special and differential treatment provisions should be limited and conditional, doubts on the proposed language and implementation of some of the proposals of the African and ACP Groups.

6. Trade Facilitation:

- 1- implementation mechanism of trade facilitation commitments including key elements for technical assistance.(join with Japan)
- 2- Support Developing and LDCs in operationalize Special and Deferential Treatment.

7. Intellectual Property rights

- Brazil, EC, Switzerland and India: Submitted the position TN/C/W/52, which states that text based negotiations need to take place, in Special Sessions of the TRIPS Council and as an integral part of the Single Undertaking, to amend the TRIPS Agreement to (i) establish a register of geographical indications (GIs) for wines and spirits protected by any of the WTO Members; (ii) include a mandatory requirement for the disclosure of the country providing/source of genetic resources, and/or associated traditional knowledge for which a definition will be agreed, in patent applications; (iii) extend the additional level of GI protection currently granted to wines and spirits to all products, including the extension of the Register; and (iv) include CBD and GI issues in the Horizontal Modalities as part of the Single Undertaking through text based negotiations.
- Mexico is an opponent of this joint proposal.