OVERVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS IN THE COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE RELATING TO COVID-19

INFORMATION NOTE[1]

KEY POINTS:

- WTO members have submitted 225 COVID-19 related notifications to the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Committee), which comprises 46 per cent of all WTO notifications relating to COVID-19. The notifications mostly deal with the extraordinary and temporary streamlining of certification and related procedures and the introduction of new regulatory requirements for medical goods in response to the pandemic.
- WTO members referred to the pandemic in 54 specific trade concerns (STCs). The vast majority of which were not linked to COVID-19 related notifications or medical goods; rather, they addressed the significant impacts of the pandemic on members' economies.
- Several members shared their experience on COVID-19 related matters in the TBT Committee, including trade facilitating measures and regulatory flexibilities introduced during the pandemic, technical assistance and capacity building projects, development of standards and improved access to them, and the role of accreditation.

1 INTRODUCTION

This information note reviews the discussions held in the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Committee) relating to COVID-19 in the following five areas:

- COVID-19 related TBT notifications;
- discussions of COVID-19 in specific trade concerns (STCs) in the TBT Committee;
- members' exchange of experience on COVID-19 related matters in the TBT Committee;
- WTO Secretariat work relating to COVID-19 and technical barriers to trade (TBT);
- inputs from observers on COVID-19 related matters in the TBT Committee.

2 NOTIFICATIONS[2]

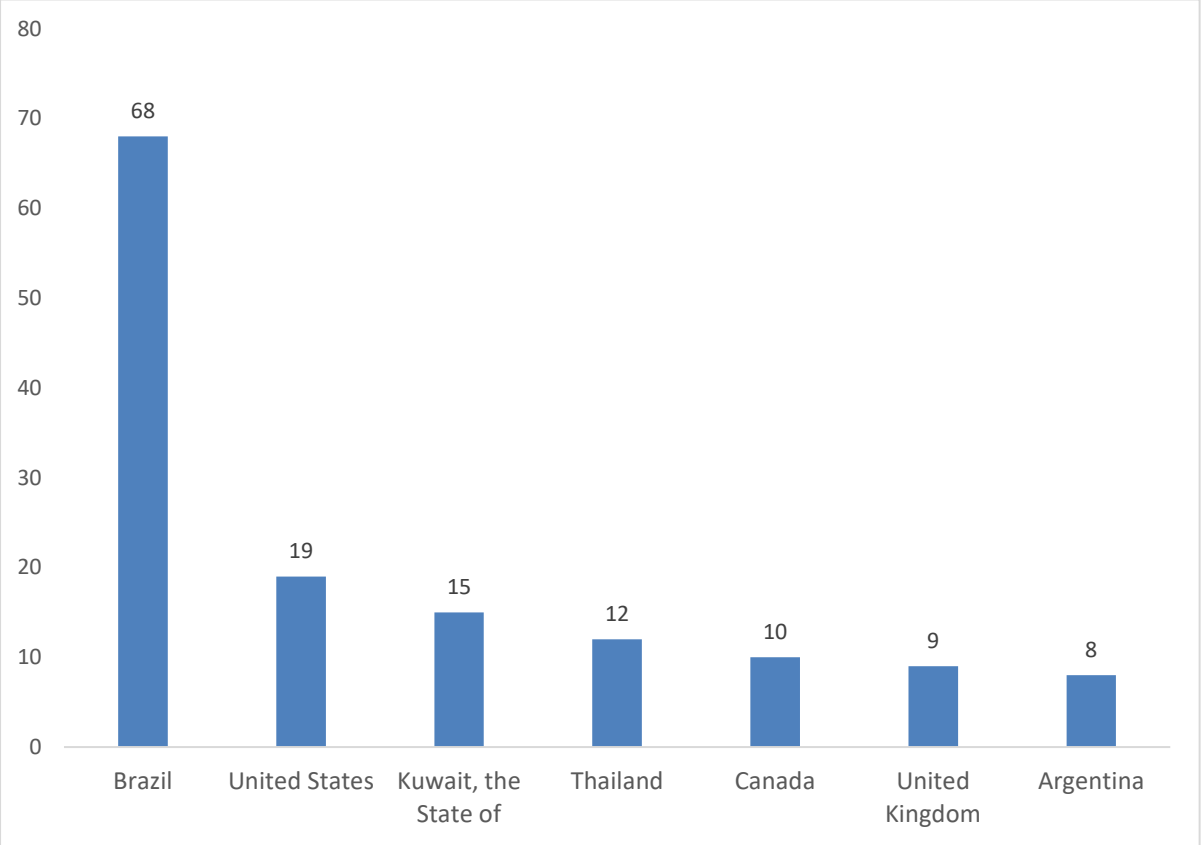
A total of 46 per cent of all notifications submitted by WTO members in response to COVID-19 were under the WTO's TBT Agreement (i.e. on technical regulations and conformity assessment

[1] This document has been prepared under the WTO's Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of WTO members or to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

[2] The information in Section 2 is from the WTO members' notifications on COVID-19. TBT notifications relating to COVID-19 can also be tracked through the search and alert functions on ePing (see also the information note on standards, regulations and COVID-19 and the actions taken by WTO members available at https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/standards_report_e.pdf).

procedures).[3] Overall, 34 members submitted 225 COVID-19 related notifications to the TBT Committee (see Chart 1 for the seven most active notifying members).[4]

Chart 1: Most active notifying members



Source: WTO Secretariat.

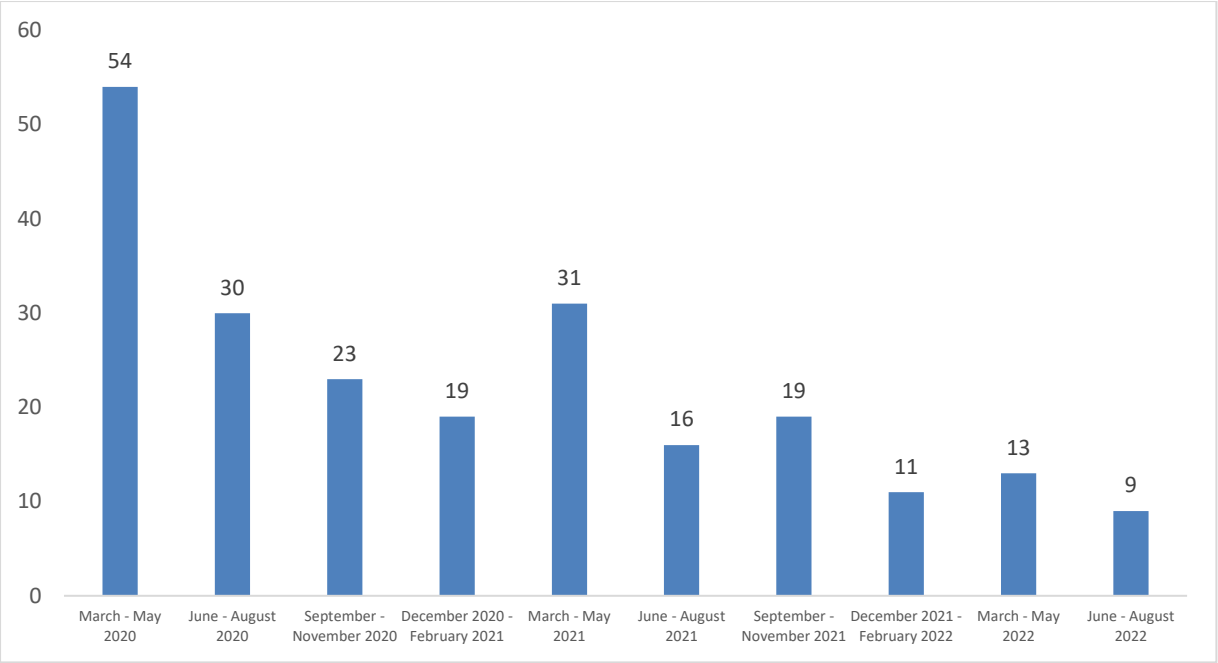
The notifications mostly deal with the extraordinary and temporary streamlining of certification and related procedures and the introduction of new regulatory requirements for medical goods in response to the pandemic. A full list of these notifications is given in the Annex.

Trends in submissions

The first COVID-19 related TBT notification was received on 16 March 2020.[5] The number of notifications peaked at 32 in April 2020. In 2020 members submitted, on average, 11 COVID-19 related notifications to the TBT Committee each month. By 2022, the average number of submitted notifications per month had fallen to four (see Chart 2).

[3] As of 21 September 2022. TBT notifications are classified as COVID-19 related if they contain any of the terms "coronavirus", "COVID", "SARS-COV-2", "nCoV" and "pandemic".
[4] This comprises 126 regular notifications, 92 addenda, five corrigenda and two revisions.
[5] See G/TBT/N/BRA/978.

Chart 2: Number of notifications submitted quarterly



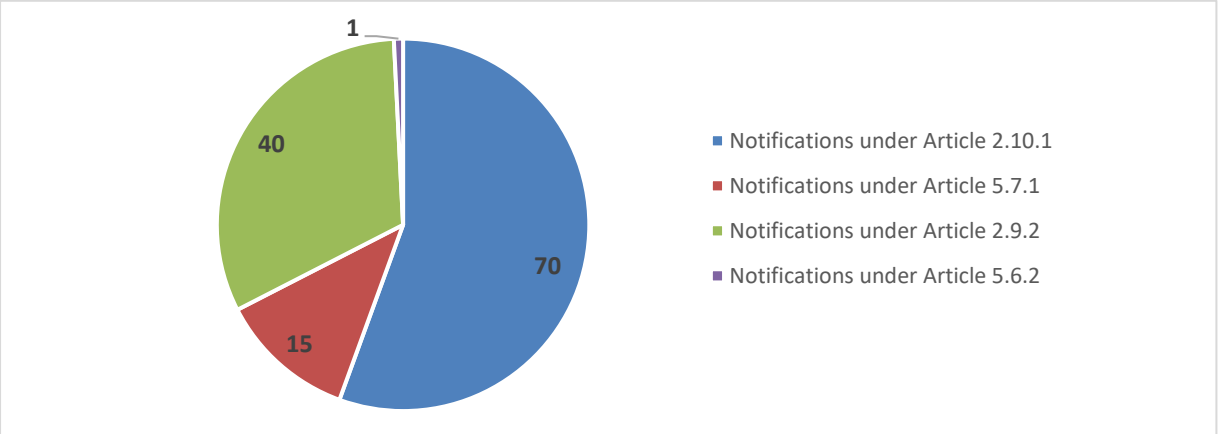
Source: WTO Secretariat.

Urgent notifications

The majority (66 per cent) of COVID-19 related notifications were submitted under the urgent notification provisions of the TBT Agreement[6] in response to the urgent problems of health the pandemic caused (see Chart 3).

Under these notification provisions, WTO members can adopt measures immediately without first notifying the measure in draft form or providing the usual 60-day comment period (or allowing the usual six-month transition period prior to entry into force).

Chart 3: Number of notifications per notification provision under the TBT Agreement



Source: WTO Secretariat.
Note: The TBT Agreements contains requirements on regular notifications (Article 2.9.2 for technical regulations and Article 5.6.2 for conformity assessment procedures) and urgent notifications (Article 2.10.1 for technical regulations and Article 5.7.1 for conformity assessment procedures).

[6] Namely, Articles 2.10.1 and 5.7.1.

Duration of measures

A substantial number of the notified measures were reported as temporary (generally applying for a period of six months or one year, or for the duration of the public health emergency). Members also tended to extend their trade facilitating measures beyond the initially notified period of application, in light of the continuing public health emergency.

Members generally did not notify the withdrawal of their temporary or emergency measures. According to members' notifications, however, at least 21 measures were supposed to expire by 30 April 2022.[7] In addition, some notifications indicated that the temporary measures were introduced for the duration of the pandemic, and were set to expire at the end of the public health emergency.

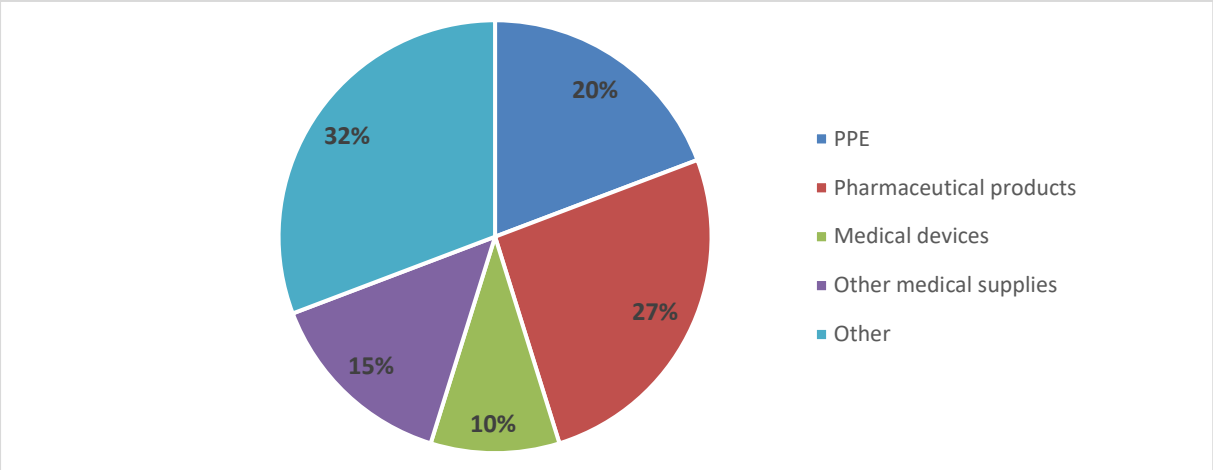
Product scope

The majority (68 per cent) of the COVID-19 related notifications covered regulations on medical goods, such as:

- personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g. masks, surgical gloves);
- pharmaceutical products (e.g. vaccines, antibiotics);
- medical devices (e.g. lung ventilator equipment, ultraviolet radiation emitting devices, vital signs monitors);
- other medical supplies (e.g. gauzes, hand sanitizers, flocked swabs).

Other notifications covered products not used for fighting the pandemic but which were important consumer goods (e.g. food) affected by the public health emergency (see Chart 4). Some notifications did not indicate a specific product scope.

Chart 4: Product scope



Source: WTO Secretariat.
Note: The total exceeds 100 per cent because more than one type of product can be mentioned in a notified measure.

[7] This number does not include temporary or extraordinary measures, the expiration of which was contingent on the duration of the public health emergency.

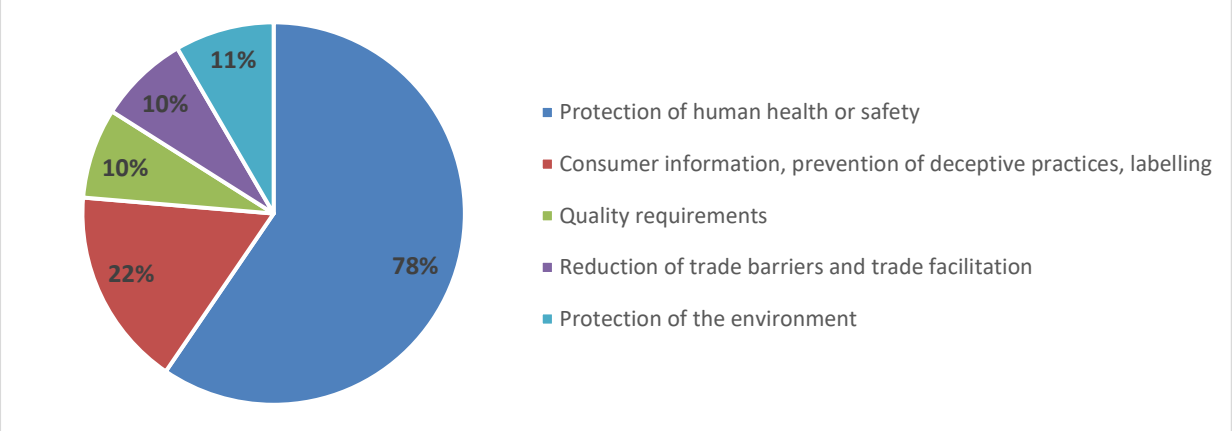
Legitimate objectives

The protection of human health or safety was the most frequently cited legitimate objective and was included in 78 per cent of notifications (see Chart 5). Other legitimate objectives included:

- consumer information, prevention of deceptive practices and labelling;
- protection of the environment;
- reduction of trade barriers and trade facilitation;
- quality requirements.

Some notifications indicated only one objective, while others contained a combination of two or more objectives.

Chart 5: Legitimate objectives



Source: WTO Secretariat.
Note: The total exceeds 100 per cent because more than one legitimate objective can be mentioned in a notified measure.

Description of notifications

Many notifications dealt with extraordinary and temporary procedures in response to the public health emergency brought on by the pandemic. The aim of such measures, among other goals, was to streamline or simplify certification and related procedures. To achieve this, members:

- suspended or relaxed authorization, certification procedures for PPE, other medical supplies (e.g. sanitizers, surgical gloves) and vaccines;[8]
- allowed the use of IT tools to conduct remote conformity assessment procedures (e.g. remote inspections of pharmaceutical manufacturers situated abroad);
- relied on regulatory cooperation by, for instance, accepting test results from internationally accredited laboratories.

In response to the pandemic, several members introduced new regulatory requirements for medical goods, including safety, quality and efficacy criteria (e.g. mandatory laboratory verification tailored to COVID-19 test kits, packaging and labelling technical specifications for hand-sanitizing solutions, information and marketing requirements for masks).

Sometimes members indicated in the notifications that they had introduced such technical requirements on an exceptional and temporary basis. Some of the new requirements responded to the fact that certain products used to tackle the pandemic had not previously been regulated (e.g. textile masks) or that domestic production had been initiated to reduce disruptions in supply. Some

[8] One WTO member also submitted several notifications relating to the market authorization process of COVID-19 vaccines.

members, on the contrary, allowed access to medical products that may not have fully met the regulatory requirements in place at the time.

Owing to the public health emergency and the related challenges for compliance, several members notified that they had postponed the entry into force of various regulations or had temporarily relaxed technical regulations (e.g. packaging and labelling requirements) for essential non-medical products (e.g. food).

3 SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERNS[9]

Since the TBT Committee meeting in May 2020,[10] WTO members have referred to the pandemic in the discussions of 54 STCs. The vast majority of which have neither been linked to COVID-19 related notifications nor to medical goods. Instead, reference to COVID-19 in these discussions was linked to the significant impact of the pandemic on members' economies, in particular:

- difficulties in complying with regulatory requirements;
- difficulties in performing conformity assessment procedures;
- the overall impact on members' work in the areas of standards and regulations.

Difficulties in complying with regulatory requirements

Citing compliance difficulties due to the pandemic, many members requested postponement of the entry into force of new regulatory requirements, extensions to transition periods and more flexible timeframes to implement. Some members reported having extended enforcement dates of regulatory measures[11] to give businesses additional time to adapt to new rules and to enable members to focus on their response to the pandemic.

Difficulties in performing conformity assessment procedures

Members who raised STCs noted that the restrictions relating to the pandemic and the uncertainty of when they would be lifted had made conducting conformity assessment procedures burdensome and in some cases even impossible.

Members said it was difficult to meet the requirements for testing, on-site inspections and certification. Members tended to request that enforcing members temporarily relax certain aspects of proposed or adopted conformity assessment procedures, for example:

- exemption from factory visit requirements;
- exemption from in-country testing and certification requirements;
- suspension of the requirement to stamp and legalize documents submitted for registration by exporting factories.

COVID-19 was also cited by various members with regard to taking temporary, alternative trade facilitating measures, including:

- remote factory inspections;
- paper-based audits;
- authorization of qualified inspection bodies located in the exporting country to perform on-site factory visits;

[9] The information in Section 3 is from G/TBT/M/80, G/TBT/M/81, G/TBT/M/82, G/TBT/M/83, G/TBT/M/84, G/TBT/M/85 and G/TBT/M/86.

[10] STCs are classified as COVID-19 related if members' statements contain any of the terms "coronavirus", "COVID", "SARS-COV-2", "nCoV" and "pandemic".

[11] WTO members also cited the global health emergency when announcing logistical issues resulting in implementation delays of certain measures.

- acceptance of test results from third-party laboratories, third-party certification bodies of other members or recognized third-party certification experts instead of testing the products in a designated body in the importing country.

Some enforcing members reported the adoption of trade facilitating measures, such as the postponement of factory visit requirements to obtain conformity certificates, the use of remote assessment technologies to conduct conformity assessment procedures[12] or a reduction in the costs of performing such procedures.

Overall impact on members' work in the areas of standards and regulations

More generally, members cited the impact of COVID-19 on their work in the areas of standards and regulations in general (e.g. the lack of capacity to analyse draft regulatory requirements), which in some cases caused **delays in regulatory processes**. Members also stressed the challenges faced by developing countries in addressing the pandemic due **to the lack of financial and other resources**. Other members emphasized **the importance of international cooperation** for tackling COVID-19, including by the promotion of standards and regulations that facilitate rather than create obstacles to trade.

4 EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES[13]

Members discussed and exchanged experiences on COVID-19 related matters in the TBT Committee, including at:

- a thematic session on technical assistance and an informal meeting of the TBT Committee in 2020;
- the Ninth Triennial Review of the TBT Agreement in 2021;
- a thematic session on conformity assessment procedures in 2022.

Australia

Australia described the shift from on-site to remote assessment and the review of certification documents in response to the pandemic. Australia provided examples of programmes under the Asia-Pacific Metrology Programme, which aims to build scientific measurement capabilities and to support economies in the Asia-Pacific region to deal with the impact of COVID-19.

Brazil

Brazil described some of the temporary measures introduced in response to the pandemic, such as the simplification of documentation and registration procedures and the acquisition of pulmonary ventilators and in vitro diagnostic tests. The latter of which can be without the agency registration as long as the products are regulated and marketed in the jurisdiction of one of the members of the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF).

China

China described the measures taken to help manufacturers who export PPE. China has also taken steps to ensure the quality of exports by strengthening supervision, investigating any complaints and levying fines when appropriate.

China explained how accreditation facilitated the export of PPE during the pandemic. Following the outbreak of COVID-19, there had been fast, growing demand for PPE manufactured in China.

[12] Members welcomed decisions of certain enforcing members to conduct remote factory inspections in lieu of on-site inspections on account of the pandemic. Some members acknowledged that the temporary allowance of remote audits helps to facilitate safe and timely product approval and that remote auditing with IT technology can help to achieve the audit objectives.

[13] The information in Section 4 is from G/TBT/46 and G/TBT/GEN/306.

However, standards and conformity assessment procedures for PPE are not harmonized across countries.

Steps have been taken to ensure the availability of PPE during COVID-19, such as the European Commission's 2020 recommendation on conformity assessment and market surveillance procedures within the context of COVID-19.[14] It permits EU member states to import Chinese masks manufactured and tested according to Chinese standards – as long as testing laboratories are accredited by the China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (CNAS).

The CNAS has since cooperated with European Accreditation and published a list of accredited testing laboratories for PPE. This has helped EU authorities to gain confidence in CNAS accreditation.

European Union

The European Union described measures taken for medical devices in response to the pandemic. The European Union explained its conformity assessment requirements for PPE and the adjustments made because of COVID-19.

The European Union considered that exploring the lessons learned during the pandemic in the TBT Committee could help members better anticipate and address future challenges in this area and make the work of the TBT Committee more efficient and effective.

The European Union offered to share its experience and initiatives on topics such as the temporary adjustment of its regulatory framework and derogation possibilities, and the provision of guidance to manufacturers and conformity assessment bodies, among others. The European Union also shared the experience of the National Board of Trade Sweden of using digital platforms for capacity building activities during the pandemic.

United States

The United States outlined the partnerships supported by the US medical technology sector to assist the global response to the pandemic through regulatory convergence and implementation of the WTO's TBT Agreement. The United States presented the COVID-19 response and recovery angle of the implementation plan of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) – an example of a public–private partnership with the United States Agency for International Development.

In Ghana, ANSI aims to support the use of international standards in the production of PPE. At the global level, ANSI is to implement a COVID-19 Medical Device Regulatory Convergence Project, with work taking place in Africa, the Indo-Pacific and Latin America.

ASTM International held a no-cost workshop on fast tracking standards development to address PPE shortages due to the pandemic, covering topics such as:

- methods, guides and practices to address reprocessing of both single-use and reusable PPE;
- ways to produce and assess performance of medical devices that are in short supply;
- how existing standards helped or could better assist in addressing device shortages.

ASTM International has also made 28 key PPE standards publicly available for free, as well as a COVID-19 response guide on additively manufactured parts and materials for PPE.

The United States provided an overview of a new, voluntary conformity assessment programme for medical devices called the Accreditation Scheme for Conformity Assessment (ASCA) Pilot programme. Its aim is to enhance the United States Food and Drug Administration's confidence in test methods and results, promote a least burdensome approach to the development and review of medical devices and support international harmonization. The United States clarified that the ASCA

[14] See https://euratex.eu/wp-content/uploads/commission-recommendation-eu-2020403.pdf.

Pilot seeks to decrease the burden of individual, pre-market submission and to ensure that patients have timely and continued access to safe, effective and high quality medical devices.

The United States shared the perspective of the medical device industry on the importance of regulatory alignment, facilitating conformity assessment and using international standards to provide patients with prompt access to life-saving technologies.

5 WTO SECRETARIAT WORK[15]

The WTO Secretariat has assisted the TBT Committee in adapting its work to COVID-19 related restrictions, published COVID-19 information notes relating to TBT, and provided technical assistance and outreach activities.

Adapting to the pandemic

The Secretariat helped the TBT Committee to adapt and continue its work during the initial COVID-19 lockdown in 2020. The online tool eAgenda enables members to submit STCs and collaboratively build the agenda in real-time. The use of eAgenda enabled the TBT Committee to hold the 13-14 May 2020 meeting, on an exceptional basis, by written procedure focusing solely on STCs.

Information notes

The information note[16] on standards, regulations, COVID-19 and the actions taken by WTO members provides an overview of notifications to the WTO in 2020 under the TBT Agreement and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in response to the pandemic.

The information note[17] on trade-related bottlenecks and trade facilitating measures on critical products to combat COVID-19 is based on issues identified and proposed by stakeholders (including vaccine manufacturers) at various events and consultations convened by the WTO during 2021. Several bottlenecks identified by stakeholders relate to regulatory measures, such as those stemming from vaccine regulatory approval (for example, differences between countries in terms of regulatory frameworks, procedures and timelines add complexity for manufacturers and create delays in delivering vaccines).

Regulatory bottlenecks in trade in pharmaceuticals, diagnostics and other medical devices were also outlined (e.g. duplication of rigorous local testing and an unclear process for regulatory approval of diagnostics).

Stakeholders' suggestions on trade facilitating measures concerned regulatory approval, for example:

- enhancing regulatory reliance and harmonization;
- promoting cooperation between vaccine manufacturers and national regulatory authorities (and also among authorities);
- mutual reliance or recognition of good manufacturing practice inspections;
- regulatory flexibilities for approving new productions sites;
- managing post-approval changes;
- using e-labelling;
- conducting remote inspections.

[15] The information in Section 5 is from G/TBT/45, G/TBT/47, G/TBT/M/84, G/TBT/GEN/305, and the information notes available on COVID-19 and world trade.
[16] See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/standards_report_e.pdf.
[17] See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/bottlenecks_update_oct21_e.pdf.

Stakeholders also suggested enhancing the use of international standards, guidelines and regulatory cooperation arrangements[18], implementing good regulatory practices and data sharing for diagnostics and medical devices, and, as a general matter, promoting transparency and the sharing of information.

The information note[19] on developing and delivering COVID-19 vaccines around the world explains the COVID-19 vaccine lifecycle and explores how trade policy can play its part in ensuring the rapid roll-out of vaccines. It outlines the relevance of standards and regulations in developing and delivering COVID vaccines: TBT and quality assurance issues permeate every step of the vaccine lifecycle, from vaccine development, through approval, manufacturing, border clearance, to distribution to patients.

The information note[20] on how WTO members have used trade measures to expedite access to medical goods and services critical to COVID-19 describes the measures aimed at enhancing regulatory cooperation on standards for trade in goods. For example, some members supported economic operators by providing free access, or at a reduced cost, to standards relevant to producing medical goods essential to fight COVID-19.

Technical assistance

The Secretariat's technical assistance and outreach activities included dedicated segments on COVID-19, for instance:

- During the second quarter of 2020, the Secretariat delivered a series of five ePing refresher courses, focusing on how to track and receive alerts on COVID-19 related notifications.
- In July 2020, the Secretariat organized, in partnership with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, a workshop on good practices in notifying and tracking sanitary and phytosanitary measures and TBT measures relating to COVID-19.
- On 27 May 2021, the Secretariat organized a virtual roundtable on technical assistance for English-speaking countries in Africa. There were 70 participants from 19 countries, including participation from the WHO on COVID-19 and TBT and representatives from the African Organization for Standardization.

6 INPUTS FROM OBSERVERS[21]

Observers shared their experience on COVID-19 related matters at TBT Committee meetings held in 2020 and 2021. For example, the International Bureau of Weights and Measures produced material relating to COVID-19 and shared examples of metrological actions by its members in their response to the pandemic.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission agreed to establish a subcommittee to examine the impact of the pandemic on its work management, build resilience using modern tools and approaches and ensure its preparedness to deal with similar events in the future.

The Caribbean Community Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) proposed that its members consider a quality infrastructure as a way to respond to COVID-19 related challenges. CROSQ prioritized certain initiatives, such as: ensuring the accuracy of medical devices and measurements provided by conformity assessment bodies; and assisting with the accreditation of medical and trade analytical and metrology calibration testing laboratories.

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) informed that its Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO) had issued a statement on the pandemic and conformity assessment, highlighting that the ISO/IEC 17000 series of standards (commonly referred to as the CASCO

[18] For example, the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use, IMDRF and the Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme.

[19] See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/vaccine_report_e.pdf.

[20] See https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/services_report_16092020_e.pdf.

[21] The information in this section is drawn from G/TBT/M/84 and G/TBT/GEN/314.

Toolbox) provided confidence in the global conformity assessment system. In addition, CASCO created a dedicated online page collecting members' experience and resources in response to the COVID-19 crisis, focusing on maintaining business continuity and carrying out conformity assessment activities remotely.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) supported the adoption of two Economic Community of West African States standards on masks for non-sanitary use and hydro-alcoholic gels, assisted Ghana in developing national standards and productive capacity of masks and hand sanitizers, and helped the Philippines strengthen standards and conformity assessment for PPE and medical devices. UNIDO has also conducted a series of webinars on the importance of quality, standards and conformity assessment in tackling COVID-19.

7 BEST PRACTICES

As part of its workplan for 2022-2024, the TBT Committee agreed to examine and compile best practices for future pandemic preparedness, including streamlining conformity assessment procedures and enhancing international regulatory cooperation to facilitate trade in select essential medical goods like vaccines.[22] The Ministerial Declaration on the WTO Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Preparedness for Future Pandemics also encourages regulatory cooperation and instructs the TBT Committee to continue analysing lessons learned and challenges encountered during the pandemic.[23]

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The following is a non-exhaustive list of some types of trade-facilitating regulatory measures that were notified and discussed by members in the TBT Committee, as summarized above and compiled here for ease of reference.

- use of relevant international standards as a basis for technical regulations or standards on select essential medical goods, as well as relevant international standards, guides or recommendations as a basis for conformity assessment procedures associated with those measures;
- free or facilitated access to, standards relevant to producing select essential medical goods on a temporary or emergency basis;
- temporary or emergency suspension or relaxation of technical regulations for select essential medical goods;
- temporary or emergency suspension or relaxation of conformity assessment procedures for select essential medical goods during pandemics;
- temporary or emergency use of IT tools for conducting remote conformity assessment procedures (in instances when such an option is not already ordinarily available) for select essential medical goods during pandemics;
- recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results for select essential medical goods, including through reliance on accreditation;
- international regulatory cooperation on select essential medical goods;
- technical assistance to support the application of the above practices.

[22] G/TBT/46, paragraph 8.4.
[23] WT/L/1142, paragraphs 11 and 24.

ANNEX: NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications in the Annex are listed by member in chronological order. Products are classified into five categories:

(i) pharmaceutical products (e.g. vaccines, antibiotics);

(ii) medical devices (e.g. lung ventilator equipment, ultraviolet radiation emitting devices, vital signs monitors);

(iii) personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g. face masks, surgical gloves);

(iv) other medical supplies (e.g. gauzes, hand sanitizers, flocked swabs);

(v) other (e.g. food).

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Argentina					
G/TBT/N/ARG/309/Add.6 G/TBT/N/ARG/309/Add.8	19/06/2020 09/11/2020		Other (textile products, footwear)		Temporary suspension of the requirement to submit the Sworn Declaration of Product Composition in light of the COVID-19 health emergency Extension of the measure "for as long as the provisions of Necessity and Urgency Decree (DNU) No. 297/2020 and its amendments remain in effect"
G/TBT/N/ARG/115/Add.2	19/06/2020		PPE		Temporary suspension of Secretariat of Industry, Trade and Mining Resolution No. 896/1999 "Requirements to be met by equipment and articles of personal protection marketed in Argentina. Certification" and the amendments thereto, applicable to face masks in light of the COVID-19 health emergency

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/ARG/38/Add.15	25/08/2020		Other (safety auto parts and/or fittings)		Extension of the time-frames for the entry into force of the requirement for a type-approval certificate for safety auto parts and/or fittings to be obtained prior to the marketing of new safety auto parts and/or fittings intended for the replacement market (in light of COVID-19)
G/TBT/N/ARG/305/Add.3	25/08/2020		Other (lifts and lift components)		Extension and postponement of the implementation periods laid down in Annex II to Resolution No. 897/1999 of the former Secretariat of Industry, Trade and Mining and the amendments thereto in light of COVID-19
G/TBT/N/ARG/404 G/TBT/N/ARG/404/Add.1	14/09/2020 28/10/2020	5.6.2	Other (low-voltage electrical products)	Health emergency Consumer information, labelling Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety Protection of animal or plant life or health	Suspension of the former Secretariat of Industry, Trade and Mining Resolution No. 319/1999 and former Secretariat of Trade Resolution No. 169/2018 with respect to the time frames for monitoring systems and all monitoring records already issued for certificates, whose status is "regularized" and "in order", which have expired or are due to expire on or before 1 October 2020 Extension of the measure until 31 December 2020
G/TBT/N/ARG/146/Add.1	06/01/2021		Other (measuring instruments and apparatus)		Extension of the deadline for the periodic verification of regulated measuring instruments "for as long as the provisions of Necessity and Urgency Decree (DNU) No. 297/2020 and its amendments remain in effect"

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Botswana					
G/TBT/N/BWA/111	28/10/2020	2.9.2	Other medical supplies	Consumer information, labelling Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements Harmonization Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Requirements and methods of test for alcohol-based hand sanitizers
Brazil					
G/TBT/N/BRA/978 G/TBT/N/BRA/978/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/978/Add.2 G/TBT/N/BRA/978/Add.3 G/TBT/N/BRA/978/Add.4 G/TBT/N/BRA/978/Add.5	16/03/2020 12/06/2020 08/07/2020 15/12/2020 30/08/2021 21/04/2022	5.7.1	Other (conformity assessment activities)	Protection of human health or safety	Extraordinary conditions for execution of conformity assessment activities in countries affected by COVID-19 Revocation, amendments, postponement of the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/984 G/TBT/N/BRA/984/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/984/Add.2	18/03/2020 15/06/2020 19/10/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health	Extraordinary and temporary criteria and procedure for Good Manufacture Practice Guidelines for market authorization and post-market registration amendments of active pharmaceutical ingredients, medicines and health care products due to the international public health emergency Amendments to the measure

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/988	26/03/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products Medical devices PPE	Protection of human health	Extraordinary and temporary criteria and procedure for the handling of petitions for the market authorization of individual protection equipment, lung ventilator equipment, and other medical devices identified as strategic, due to the international public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/989 G/TBT/N/BRA/989/Add.1	26/03/2020 13/10/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health	Exceptional criteria and procedure for the manufacturing and sale of antiseptic preparations and sanitizers without previous market authorization due to the international public health emergency Amendments to the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/990 G/TBT/N/BRA/990/Add.1	26/03/2020 23/09/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products Medical devices	Protection of human health	Exceptional and temporary criteria and procedure for the processing of petitions for the market and post-market authorization of medicines, biological products, and in vitro diagnosis products due to the international public health emergency Update of the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/991	30/03/2020	2.9.2	Other (conformity assessment activities)	Protection of human health or safety	Extraordinary conditions for regulated services within the scope of conformity assessment due to COVID-19
G/TBT/N/BRA/992 G/TBT/N/BRA/992/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/992/Add.2	30/03/2020 24/03/2021 21/04/2022	2.9.2	PPE	Protection of human health or safety	Temporary suspension (for 12 months) of the compulsory certification of surgical gloves and non-surgical procedure of natural rubber, synthetic rubber and synthetic rubber mixtures Changes to the measure Revocation of the measure

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/993 G/TBT/N/BRA/993/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/993/Add.2	30/03/2020 03/04/2020 12/06/2020	2.10.1	Medical devices	Protection of human health	Exceptional criteria and procedure for the manufacturing, import, and acquisition of medical devices identified as indispensable for the use in healthcare services due to the international public health emergency Re-publication of the measure Change of the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/996 G/TBT/N/BRA/996/Add.1	03/04/2020 03/05/2021	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health	Temporary and exceptional criteria and procedure for the sale of antiseptic preparations and sanitizers due to the international public health emergency Changes to the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1000	16/04/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety	Criteria for the import of products for in vitro diagnosis of COVID-19 during the public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/1017	11/06/2020	2.9.2	Medical devices	Protection of human health	Extraordinary and temporary technical requirements for the import, marketing, and donation of lung ventilators, vital signs monitor, infusion pump sets, oximetry machine, and used capnographs, indispensable for intensive care units, due to the international public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/1018	11/06/2020	2.9.2	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health	Extraordinary and temporary criteria and procedure for the handling of petitions of post-market authorization for formulas of enteral nutrition and infant formulas due to the international public health emergency

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1021	11/06/2020	2.10.1	Medical devices	Protection of human health or safety	Extraordinary and temporary submission procedure for clinical studies required to validate medical devices of Classes III and IV identified as essential to healthcare services, due to the international public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/861/Add.3	29/06/2020		Other (plastic materials and polymer coatings)		Amendments to the positive list of additives intended for elaboration of plastic materials and polymeric coatings in contact with food, among other measures, in order to extend the period for compliance with the defined requirements, due to the international public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/1032 G/TBT/N/BRA/1032/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/1032/Add.2	29/06/2020 01/02/2021 26/03/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health Protection of human health or safety	Temporary and extraordinary criteria for the application of exceptionalities to specific technical requirements of the Good Manufacturing and Import Practice of Medicinal Products and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, due to the international public health emergency Changes to the measure

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1048	27/07/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Extraordinary and temporary criteria and procedures for the application of exceptionalities to specific labelling requirements and drug leaflets due to the international public health emergency Exceptionalities refer to the temporary non-compliance with technical requirements of labelling and package leaflet of medicines, provided that they arise from reasons proven related to COVID-19 and that may, through documented risk management, have the effects of their non-compliance controlled
G/TBT/N/BRA/1058 G/TBT/N/BRA/1058/Add.1	06/08/2020 01/02/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Temporary opening of entrance and exit points of substances subject to special control, due to the international public health emergency Changes to the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1061 G/TBT/N/BRA/1061/Add.1	12/08/2020 20/10/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Control measures for certain medicines due to the international public health emergency Changes to the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1062	25/08/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Temporary requirements for the characterisation and risk verification of the decrease in the supply of medicines during COVID-19
G/TBT/N/BRA/1099 G/TBT/N/BRA/1099/Add.1	20/11/2020 08/08/2022	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Procedure for the continuous submission of technical data for the registration of COVID-19 vaccines Revocation of the measure

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/396/Add.12	30/11/2020		Other (festive or other entertainment articles)		Amendments to the use of the compulsory conformity identification seal due to COVID-19
G/TBT/N/BRA/1110	22/12/2020	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Temporary authorization of emergency use, experimentally, of COVID-19 vaccines in light of the public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/1112 G/TBT/N/BRA/1112/Add.1	04/01/2021 13/09/2021	2.9.2	PPE	Protection of human health or safety	Temporary and extraordinary requirements for the fabrication, importation and commercialization of PPE identified as priority for use at health services, due to the public health emergency Changes to the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1120 G/TBT/N/BRA/1120/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/1120/Add.2	18/01/2021 12/04/2021 30/04/2021	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Changes to the technical requirements for the execution of clinical trials with advanced therapy medicinal products Rectifications to the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1131	22/01/2021	2.9.2	Not applicable	Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Procedures for the qualification of national establishments for export and the transit of products of animal origin
G/TBT/N/BRA/1136	15/02/2021	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Public health emergency Protection of human health or safety	Exemption of market authorization and emergency use authorization and the procedure for the import and monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1149	19/03/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Regulating the temporary authorization for emergency use of vaccines Protection of human health or safety	Procedure and technical requirements for the application for temporary market authorization on an emergency basis of medicines and vaccines for COVID-19 in experimental character to tackle the national public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/1150	19/03/2021	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Procedure and technical requirements for the submission of temporary and exceptional market authorization application for the import and distribution of medicines and vaccines for COVID-19 to tackle the national public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/1154 G/TBT/N/BRA/1154/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/1154/Add.2 G/TBT/N/BRA/1154/Add.3 G/TBT/N/BRA/1154/Add.4 G/TBT/N/BRA/1154/Add.5 G/TBT/N/BRA/1154/Add.6	26/03/2021 09/04/2021 17/05/2021 08/06/2021 16/07/2021 12/08/2021 13/09/2021	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Exceptional and temporary technical requirements for the import of new medical devices and medicines identified as indispensable for the use in healthcare services due to the international public health emergency Amendments to the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1155 G/TBT/N/BRA/1155/Add.1	26/03/2021 19/07/2021	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Exceptional and temporary procedure for the market authorization on an emergency basis of certain hospital medicines used for the maintenance of patients' lives use in healthcare services to tackle the national public health emergency related to COVID-19 Changes to the measure

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1234	02/09/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Public health emergency Protection of human health or safety	Exceptional procedures and temporary for import of COVID-19 vaccines
G/TBT/N/BRA/1265 G/TBT/N/BRA/1265/Add.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/1265/Add.2 G/TBT/N/BRA/1265/Add.1/Corr.1 G/TBT/N/BRA/1265/Add.3	01/10/2021 15/12/2021 12/04/2022 25/05/2022 06/07/2022	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Extraordinary and temporary requirements for the import and use of human immunoglobulin, due to the international public health emergency Changes to the measure Extension of the measure
G/TBT/N/BRA/1268	06/10/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Extraordinary and temporary permission of the use of certain pharmaceutical products used in the treatment and prevention of COVID-19, from the remaining stock of clinical trials, due to the public health emergency
G/TBT/N/BRA/1306	03/02/2022	2.9.2	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety	Requirements and procedures for requesting market authorization, distribution, marketing and use of medical devices for in vitro diagnostics as a self-test for SARS-CoV-2 antigen detection
G/TBT/N/BRA/1346	11/04/2022	2.9.2	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety	Extraordinary and temporary criteria and procedures for the manufacturing and marketing of antiseptic preparations or workshop sanitizers without prior notice authorization and other measures in view of international public health emergency

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Canada					
G/TBT/N/CAN/609	14/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Temporary facilitation of the access to products that may not fully meet current regulatory requirements, in light of the unprecedented demand and urgent need for products that can help limit the spread of COVID-19
G/TBT/N/CAN/637	07/04/2021	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Maintaining access to COVID-19 drugs, while also providing adequate oversight Minimizing the burden to industry and reducing trade barriers, facilitating trade Protection of human health or safety	Temporary flexibilities in the authorization process, import and distribution of COVID-19 drugs for 12 months
G/TBT/N/CAN/451/Add.2	03/05/2021		Other (pre-packaged products)		Enforcement flexibility for the nutrition labelling regulations of the Food and Drug Regulations
G/TBT/N/CAN/641	06/05/2021	2.10.1	Medical devices	Regulating medical devices due to serious health and safety concerns and their common availability	Intention to develop Interim order that would bring certain ultraviolet radiation emitting and ozone generating devices under the Pest Control Products Act
G/TBT/N/CAN/648 G/TBT/N/CAN/648/Add.1	30/06/2021 13/08/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Amendment to the Natural Health Products Regulations to introduce four labelling requirements (a product fact table, labelling of food allergens, gluten and aspartame, clearly and prominently displayed label text, modernized contact information)

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/CAN/656	10/12/2021	2.10.1	Medical devices	Regulating medical devices due to serious health and safety concerns and their common availability	Opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the intention to regulate ultraviolet radiation emitting devices and ozone generating devices
G/TBT/N/CAN/665	07/03/2022	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products Medical devices	Ensuring authorization of clinical trials for COVID-19 drugs and medical devices Reducing the burden associated with the 25-year records retention period for drugs and natural health products	Authorization pathway for clinical trials for drugs and medical devices related to the diagnosis, treatment, mitigation or prevention of COVID-19
G/TBT/N/CAN/656/Add.1	24/06/2022		Medical devices		Amendment to the Pest Control Products Regulations to continue the regulation of certain ultraviolet devices and ozone-generating devices, including the requirement that they be subject to safety and efficacy assessments and registration or authorization prior to entering the Canadian market
G/TBT/N/CAN/506/Rev.1/Add.1	08/07/2022		Other (food)		Changes to regulations on the labelling of pre-packaged food
China					
G/TBT/N/CHN/1358/Add.1	13/07/2020		PPE		Extension of the date of implementation for the national standard GB 2626-2019 "Respiratory protection - Non-powered air-purifying particle respirator" to ensure the stable supply of respirator products

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Colombia					
G/TBT/N/COL/253	27/01/2022	2.10.1	Other (diesel fuel, blends)	Proper functioning of the supply chain Protection of human health or safety Protection of animal or plant life or health Protection of the environment Quality requirements	Quality parameters and requirements for diesel fuel and its certain blends, with a view to protecting the environment and health and improving the quality of liquid fuels
Costa Rica					
G/TBT/N/CRI/190	14/12/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety	Product, packaging and labelling technical specifications for hand-sanitizing solutions
Côte d'Ivoire					
G/TBT/N/CIV/51	07/05/2021	2.9.2	PPE	Protection of human health and safety Environmental protection Quality requirements	Mandatory standards with regard to general specifications for single-use sterile rubber surgical gloves
G/TBT/N/CIV/52	07/05/2021	2.9.2	PPE	Protection of human health and safety Environmental protection Quality requirements	Mandatory standards with regard to general specifications for clothing for protection against infectious agents and medical face masks
Czech Republic					
G/TBT/N/CZE/250 G/TBT/N/CZE/250/Add.1	19/05/2020 22/09/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Prevention of sales at unacceptable prices and ensuring affordability of protective equipment Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection	Maximum prices for protective equipment

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Denmark					
G/TBT/N/DNK/104	11/11/2020	2.10.1	Other (live animals, animal husbandry and breeding)	Prevention of the spread of COVID-19 Protection of human health or safety	Temporary ban on keeping mink
Ecuador					
G/TBT/N/ECU/489	26/06/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Health emergency Consumer information, labelling Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety	Criteria for obtaining the mandatory sanitary notification for antibacterial cosmetic products containing alcohol and domestic hygiene products with disinfectant properties Control and surveillance of such products
G/TBT/N/ECU/495 G/TBT/N/ECU/495/Add.1	05/01/2021 06/01/2022	2.10.1	Other (product and company certification, conformity assessment)	Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety	Guidelines for the process of certification of products for human use and consumption subject to sanitary control and supervision, and of establishments engaged in the preparation, processing, packaging, storing, import, export, distribution and transportation of products for human use and consumption, during the COVID-19 health emergency Criteria for the sanitary control and supervision thereof Extension of the duration of the measure
Egypt					
G/TBT/N/EGY/268	21/09/2020	2.9.2	Other (food)	Food safety and consumer protection Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Temporary reduction in the percentage of consignments of imported food raw materials and final food products subjected to inspection

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
El Salvador					
G/TBT/N/SLV/208 G/TBT/N/SLV/208/Add.1	15/09/2020 11/05/2021	2.10.1	Other (IT, office machines)	Promoting and extending the use of electronic media to facilitate adoption and maintenance of measures to protect and preserve human life and health Protection of human health or safety	Technical requirements for the provision of electronic certification services Changes to the measure
G/TBT/N/SLV/209 G/TBT/N/SLV/209/Add.1	15/09/2020 30/04/2021	2.10.1	PPE	Protection of human life, health or safety	Technical requirements (including test methods) for the safety, quality and effectiveness of face masks for medical use Decision to maintain a measure in effect for an indefinite period
G/TBT/N/SLV/210 G/TBT/N/SLV/210/Add.1	18/11/2020 27/08/2021	2.10.1	Other (IT, office machines)	Protection and preservation of human life and health Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Technical requirements to be met by all national or foreign legal persons in order to be accredited to provide electronic document storage services and store electronic documents on their own behalf under the Electronic Signature Law Updates to the measure
European Union					
G/TBT/N/EU/738 G/TBT/N/EU/738/Add.1	08/09/2020 27/01/2021	2.9.2	Other (food products)	Negative impact of COVID-19 on organic operators	Deferral by one year of the date of entry into application of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic production due to COVID-19

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/EU/758	18/11/2020	2.10.1	Other (chemical substances)	Postponement of the latest application date and the sunset date for uses of the substance OPE for the research, development and production of certain medicinal products or certain medical devices or accessories to medical devices, in view of their use for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of COVID-19	Postponement of the latest application date and the sunset date for uses of the substance OPE for the research, development and production of certain medicinal products or certain medical devices or accessories to medical devices, in view of their use for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of COVID-19

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/EU/765	14/12/2020	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products Medical devices	The general objectives: • ensure a high level of human health protection • contribute to ensuring the smooth functioning of the EU internal market The specific objectives: • monitor and mitigate potential and actual shortages of certain medicinal products and medical devices • ensure timely development of medicinal products • ensure smooth functioning of expert panels for the assessment of certain medical goods The rationale for the proposal is based on the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for a strengthened framework for crisis preparedness Protection of human health or safety	A framework for and the means: • to prepare for and manage the impact of major events on medicinal products and of public health emergencies on medicinal products and on medical devices • to monitor and report on shortages of medicinal products and medical devices • to provide advice on medicinal products with the potential to address public health emergencies • to provide support for the medical device expert panels

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/EU/769	20/01/2021	2.9.2	Other (food products)	Postponement of the entry into force of the regulatory requirements due to COVID-19	Rules for control bodies and control authorities to apply for recognition under Article 33 (3) of Regulation 834/2007 by amending article 11 of Regulation 1235/2008 to set a deadline for phasing out the applications
G/TBT/N/EU/786	15/03/2021	2.9.2	Other (food products)	Prolonging temporary measures in relation to the production control and labelling requirements because of COVID-19	Prolongation of the temporary measures already established by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/977 and amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1667 due COVID-19
G/TBT/N/EU/845	18/10/2021	2.9.2	Medical devices	Ensuring a high level of safety and performance of devices by enhancing their oversight by notified bodies and, in the case of in-house devices, by setting uniform requirements on health institutions	Set of transition periods for in vitro diagnostic medical devices that are required to undergo conformity assessment procedures involving a notified body
Indonesia					
G/TBT/N/IDN/1/Add.4	15/04/2020		Other (wheat flour)		Temporary exclusion to the addition of fortifying substances for wheat flour due to COVID-19
G/TBT/N/IDN/70/Add.1	15/04/2020		Other (sugar)		Temporary suspension of mandatory national standard for white crystal sugar until the emergency of COVID-19 pandemic ends
Jamaica					
G/TBT/N/JAM/93	30/04/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Regulating instant hand sanitizers Protection of human health	Requirements for alcohol-based instant hand sanitizers

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Japan					
G/TBT/N/JPN/728	02/03/2022	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Establishing regulatory requirements	Addition of the standard for a vaccine product to be newly approved Amended fee, criterion and test sample quantity for National Release Testing
G/TBT/N/JPN/729	07/03/2022	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Establishing regulatory requirements	Addition of the standard for a vaccine product to be newly approved Amended fee, criterion and test sample quantity for National Release Testing
G/TBT/N/JPN/738/Add.1	21/06/2022		Other (WLAN System)		Shortening the comment period because medical care system immediately needs the WLAN network due to COVID-19
Kenya					
G/TBT/N/KEN/999 G/TBT/N/KEN/999/Add.1 G/TBT/N/KEN/999/Add.2	08/04/2020 01/09/2020 28/09/2020	5.7.1	Other (clothes, footwear)	National security Protection of human health or safety	Temporary suspension of importation of used garments and footwear
G/TBT/N/KEN/1013 G/TBT/N/KEN/1013/Add.1	05/08/2020 15/12/2020	2.9.2	PPE	Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Requirements for masks for general use
G/TBT/N/KEN/1217	11/02/2022	2.9.2	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Minimum requirements, testing methods and use of flocked swabs during the COVID-19 pandemic or any other emergency
Korea, Republic of					
G/TBT/N/KOR/896	26/05/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Protection of human health or safety	Expansion of the scope of use of surgical masks for the prevention of droplet transmission in daily life
G/TBT/N/KOR/899	08/06/2020	2.10.1	Other (waste plastic)	Protection of human health or safety	Intention to limit the import of certain waste plastics to promote the recycling of waste plastics

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/KOR/983	13/07/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Compensation of the inadequacies of the current operating system Protection of human health or safety Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Remote inspections of foreign pharmaceutical manufacturers/importers when the on-site inspections are not possible in a situation like the COVID-19 pandemic
G/TBT/N/KOR/1051	10/01/2022	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Amendment to the Regulation on Designation, and Approval Procedure and Method of Pharmaceutical Products for National Lot Release (including clarification of details of SARS-CoV-2 viral vector vaccines and other newly authorized pharmaceutical products subject to national lot release)
Kuwait, the State of					
G/TBT/N/KWT/533	14/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Harmonized nomenclature for typical components of respiratory protective devices
G/TBT/N/KWT/534	14/04/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Test method and the minimum requirements for bactericidal activity of chemical disinfectant and antiseptic products
G/TBT/N/KWT/535	14/04/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Test method for a product for hygienic handwash

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/KWT/536	14/04/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Test method for a product for surgical handrub and handwash
G/TBT/N/KWT/538	14/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Testing particle filter penetration for respiratory protective devices
G/TBT/N/KWT/539	15/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Minimum requirements for filtering half masks as respiratory protective devices to protect against particles except for escape purposes
G/TBT/N/KWT/540	15/04/2020	2.10.1	Medical devices	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	General principles governing the biological evaluation of medical devices within a risk management process General categorization of medical devices based on the nature and duration of their contact with the body Evaluation of existing relevant data from all sources Identification of gaps in the available data Identification of additional data sets necessary to analyse the biological safety of the medical device Assessment of the biological safety of the medical device
G/TBT/N/KWT/541	15/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Terms and units of measurement for respiratory protective devices, excluding diving apparatus

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/KWT/542	15/04/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Test method for a product for hygienic handrub
G/TBT/N/KWT/543	15/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Characteristics and use of a standard atmosphere for conditioning, for determining the physical and mechanical properties of textiles and a standard alternative atmosphere that may be used if agreed between parties
G/TBT/N/KWT/544	15/04/2020	2.10.1	Medical devices	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Symbols used in medical device labelling
G/TBT/N/KWT/546	15/04/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Requirements and guidance on the enumeration and microbial characterization of the population of viable microorganisms
G/TBT/N/KWT/547	15/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	A laboratory test method for measuring the resistance of medical face masks to penetration by a splash of synthetic blood
G/TBT/N/KWT/548	15/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Environment and consumer protection Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Construction, design, performance requirements and test methods for medical face masks
G/TBT/N/KWT/549	27/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Protection of human health or safety Protection of the environment	Standard specifying particle filters for use as components in unassisted respiratory protective devices

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Mexico					
G/TBT/N/MEX/494 G/TBT/N/MEX/494/Add.1	07/04/2021 12/10/2021	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Requirements and health and commercial specifications to be met by the preparation, mixing, production and distribution processes for topical antiseptics Test methods for the verification of these specifications Extension for of the period of application of the measure for six months
G/TBT/N/MEX/495 G/TBT/N/MEX/495/Add.1 G/TBT/N/MEX/495/Add.2	20/04/2021 21/10/2021 31/05/2022	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety	Emergency amendment to Mexican Official Standard NOM249-SSA1-2010, Nutritional and medicinal sterile mixtures, and equipment for the preparation thereof, which facilitate the treatment and rehabilitation of patients, thus preventing an increase in and mitigating the high percentage of COVID-19 infection for this sensitive part of the population Extension of the period of application of the measure for six months Amendments to the measure

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Morocco					
G/TBT/N/MAR/30	27/05/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Consumer protection Ensuring fair competition and compliance with the technical requirements Prevention of deceptive practices Protection of human health or safety Harmonization	Specifications for non-woven fabric masks Design, structural, performance, packaging, marking and labelling requirements Certification requirements
G/TBT/N/MAR/31	26/06/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Consumer protection Ensuring fair competition and compliance with the technical requirements Prevention of deceptive practices Protection of human health or safety Harmonization	Specifications for reusable protective fabric masks for non-medical use Design, structural, performance, packaging, marking and labelling requirements Certification requirements

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Namibia					
G/TBT/N/NAM/2	23/04/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health and safety Consumer information, labelling Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of the environment Quality requirements Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade Cost saving and productivity enhancement	Alcohol-based hand sanitizers regulations Quality, safety, terminology, formulations packaging, marking or labelling requirements Requirements for a manufacturer/importer to meet the requirements of the NAMS/SANS 490 and the WHO recommendations for ethanol and/or isopropyl alcohol content and alcohol identification
Peru					
G/TBT/N/PER/120	03/04/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Protection of human health against COVID-19	Technical specifications for the manufacture of cloth face masks for community use
G/TBT/N/PER/128 G/TBT/N/PER/128/Add.1 G/TBT/N/PER/128/Add.2	14/01/2021 05/07/2021 12/07/2021	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Regulatory provisions on the conditional sanitary registration of medicines and biological products with phase III clinical studies
G/TBT/N/PER/131 G/TBT/N/PER/131/Add.1	06/05/2021 12/05/2021	2.10.1	PPE	Protection of human health, by reducing the spread of COVID-19 Protection of animal or plant life or health	Technical document and guidelines for the manufacture of reusable cloth facemasks for community use Amendments to the measure
G/TBT/N/PER/137	13/09/2021	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety	Regulatory provisions on the conditional sanitary registration of medicines and biological products with phase III clinical studies

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
Philippines					
G/TBT/N/PHL/253 G/TBT/N/PHL/253/Add.1 G/TBT/N/PHL/253/Add.2	04/06/2021 28/07/2021 17/03/2022	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Protection of human health or safety Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Interim guidelines on the renewal of cGMP clearance of foreign drug manufacturers during COVID-19 Extension of the measure for the duration of the public health emergency due to COVID-19 or of the state of national calamity, whichever ends later
G/TBT/N/PHL/267 G/TBT/N/PHL/267/Add.1	28/09/2021 01/07/2022	2.9.2	Pharmaceutical products	Streamlining regulatory review Protection of human health or safety Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Guidelines on facilitated registration pathways through abridged review or verification review of drug products
G/TBT/N/PHL/280 G/TBT/N/PHL/280/Add.1	11/02/2022 08/03/2022	2.9.2	Medical devices	Protection of human health or safety	Specific list of the different registrable IVDs based on the capacity of FDA-Common Services Laboratory and National Reference Laboratories Guidelines on the transition from the issuance of Special Certification to Certificate of Product Registration for COVID-19 test kits and on the revised technical requirements for the registration of COVID-19 test kit products
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of					
G/TBT/N/SAU/988/Add.1	17/03/2021		Other (laundry appliances)		Actions that will reduce the effects of the pandemic on manufacturers and suppliers ensuring compliance with the requirements of standard on Electrical Clothes Washing Machines

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Spain					
G/TBT/N/ESP/44 G/TBT/N/ESP/44/Add.1	05/02/2021 02/03/2021	2.10.1	PPE	Achieving greater levels of safety and trust Publication of the CEN Workshop Agreement CWA 17553:2020 on community face coverings Protection of human health or safety Consumer protection	Definition of the concepts of hygiene masks or community face covering Information and marketing requirements Capacity and equipment requirements for laboratories certifying the quality of these products
Switzerland					
G/TBT/N/CHE/244	14/04/2020	5.7.1	Other medical supplies	Control of an unforeseen danger Protection of human health or safety	Temporary general authorisation for placing certain disinfectants on the basis of alcohol or active chlorine on the market (until 31 August 2020)
G/TBT/N/CHE/245	16/04/2020	5.7.1	Pharmaceutical products Medical devices PPE	Protection of human health or safety Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Temporary exemptions from the authorisation requirements as well as import requirements for placing medicinal products on the market Temporary exemptions from the conformity assessment procedures for medical devices and personal protective equipment to ensure adequate supply during COVID-19

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G/TBT/N/CHE/246	24/04/2020	2.10.1	Other (foodstuffs)	Ensuring the availability of foodstuffs and human health Avoiding misleading consumers Consumer information, labelling Protection of human health or safety	Temporary relaxation of the labelling requirements for food products (for six months)
Chinese Taipei					
G/TBT/N/TPKM/422 G/TBT/N/TPKM/422/Add.1	30/06/2020 28/07/2020	2.9.2	PPE	Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Inspection and examination of imported medical masks
G/TBT/N/TPKM/457 G/TBT/N/TPKM/457/Add.1	28/05/2021 20/01/2022	2.9.2	Other (chemical substances, organic/inorganic compounds of precious metals, rare-earth metals, radioactive elements or isotopes, organic/inorganic chemicals, miscellaneous chemical products, plastics articles, chemical technology)	Reflecting the practice of chemical substances registration mechanisms and the stakeholders' opinions	Draft amendments to the Regulations of New and Existing Chemical Substances Registration
G/TBT/N/TPKM/466 G/TBT/N/TPKM/466/Add.1	23/09/2021 13/12/2021	2.9.2	Other (fire doors of buildings, fire-resistance of building materials and elements)	Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Postponement of the validity date of certificates for fire doors of buildings, considering that the industry needs more time to update certificates during the COVID-19 pandemic
G/TBT/N/TPKM/496 G/TBT/N/TPKM/496/Add.1	30/06/2022 25/07/2022	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety	Inspection and examination for imported COVID-19 antigen home/self-tests

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Thailand					
G/TBT/N/THA/383/Rev.5	04/05/2020		Other (conformity assessment)	Protection of human health or safety Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Issuing of a licence to import for sale the industrial products which are required by ministerial regulations to conform with the standards shall be granted for import per shipment only Exemption of conformity assessment
G/TBT/N/THA/569	04/05/2020	2.10.1	Pharmaceutical products Medical devices Other medical supplies	Protection of human health	Temporary criteria and procedures for market authorization of imported pharmaceuticals, medical devices, hazardous substances used in households and hand sanitizers during COVID-19
G/TBT/N/THA/570	04/05/2020	5.7.1	PPE Medical devices	Protection of human health	Temporary criteria for acceptance of Certificates of Free Sale assemble for granting market authorization of imported medical devices and PPE during COVID-19
G/TBT/N/THA/571	04/05/2020	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health	Temporary criteria for acceptance of documents (i.e., Certificates of Free Sale, Certificate of Analysis) assemble for granting market authorization of imported diagnostic test-kit used during COVID-19
G/TBT/N/THA/572	04/05/2020	5.7.1	Other (hazardous substances)	Preventing and controlling COVID-19	Operation guideline of the hazardous substances by using electronic media to facilitate the entrepreneurs about the operation of the hazardous substances during COVID-19

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/THA/573	04/05/2020	5.7.1	Other (hazardous substances)	Preventing and controlling COVID-19	Operation guideline of the hazardous substances by using electronic media to facilitate the entrepreneurs about the operation of the hazardous substances during COVID-19
G/TBT/N/THA/574	04/05/2020	5.7.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health	Characteristics of cosmetic products containing alcohol for hand sanitization that are not allowed to produce, import or sale
G/TBT/N/THA/583	17/11/2020	5.7.1	Other (industrial products)	Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Temporary fees exemption for conformity assessment bodies (until 30 April 2021)
G/TBT/N/THA/595 G/TBT/N/THA/595/Add.1	11/02/2021 02/03/2021	2.10.1	Other (hazardous substances)	Preventing and controlling COVID-19	Operation guideline of the hazardous substances by using electronic media to facilitate the entrepreneurs about the operation of the hazardous substance during COVID-19
G/TBT/N/THA/639	20/10/2021	5.7.1	Other (industrial products)	Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Temporary fees exemption for conformity assessment bodies (until 30 April 2022)
G/TBT/N/THA/640	20/10/2021	5.7.1	Other (industrial products)	Reducing trade barriers and facilitating trade	Temporary fees exemption for a licence and a substitution of licence

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Uganda					
G/TBT/N/UGA/1208	18/05/2020	2.10.1	Medical devices PPE	Controlling the spread of COVID-19 Consumer information, labelling Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Construction, design, performance requirements and test methods for medical face masks intended to limit the transmission of infective agents from staff to patients during surgical procedures and other medical settings with similar requirements
G/TBT/N/UGA/1209	18/05/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Controlling the spread of COVID-19 Consumer information, labelling Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Minimum requirements for filtering half masks as respiratory protective devices to protect against particles except for escape purposes
G/TBT/N/UGA/1210	18/05/2020	2.10.1	PPE	Controlling the spread of COVID-19 Consumer information, labelling Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Requirements, sampling and test methods for the non-medical face masks intended to reduce the risk of general transmission of the infectious agent

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Ukraine					
G/TBT/N/UKR/162 G/TBT/N/UKR/162/Add.1	01/04/2020 23/05/2022	2.10.1	PPE Medical devices	Protection of human health	Exceptional and temporary procedure for the processing of applications and issue of notices for placing on the market of certain PPE and medical devices, in respect of which the requirements of respective technical regulations are not met, but the use of which is necessary to protect health (due to COVID-19) Amendments to the measure to establish the possibility to recognize the results of conformity assessment, carried out by foreign accredited bodies, appointed by conformity assessment bodies in Ukraine for the period of martial law
United Kingdom					
G/TBT/N/GBR/39 G/TBT/N/GBR/39/Add.1 G/TBT/N/GBR/39/Add.2 G/TBT/N/GBR/39/Add.3	09/04/2021 03/06/2021 24/08/2021 20/10/2021	2.10.1	Other medical supplies	Protection of human health or safety	Requirement to validate all COVID-19 detection tests for human use made available for private sale Permitting certain COVID-19 test devices to remain on the market after 31 October without approval
G/TBT/N/GBR/34/Add.1	14/10/2021		Other (certain household and toilet articles, plastics)		Delayed entry into force of the restriction to the supply of single-use plastic straws, stirrers, and cotton buds to end users (due to COVID-19)

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G/TBT/N/GBR/42 G/TBT/N/GBR/42/Add.1	25/08/2021 23/11/2021	5.7.1	Other (range of products from machinery goods to recreational craft, lifts, PPE)	National security requirements Protection of human health or safety	Extension of the UK's acceptance of products meeting EU requirements and marking until 1 January 2023, for most goods covered by the new UK marking and conformity assessment regime which are being placed on the market in Great Britain (separate rules apply in Northern Ireland) Extension of the time frame in which the UKCA marking itself can be affixed using a label or accompanying document until 1 January 2024
G/TBT/N/GBR/44	29/11/2021	2.9.2	Other (consumer connectable products)	Protection of the security and privacy of UK consumers and digital infrastructure	A new regulatory scheme to ensure that consumer connectable products are more secure against cyber-attacks (including minimum cyber security requirements)

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G/TBT/N/GBR/49	23/06/2022	5.7.1	Other	Public safety National security	Allowing completed conformity assessment activities for CE marking undertaken before the end of 2022 to be valid for manufacturers to use as a basis for UKCA, for the duration of the certificate issued or until 31 December 2027 Allowing ongoing activities related to that completed conformity assessment activity to continue for the duration of the certificate issued or until 31 December 2027 Extension of current legislation allowing importer information and the Great Britain conformity marking (generally UKCA) to be added to products using a label or accompanying document, rather than being physically marked on the product itself, until 31 December 2025
United States of America					
G/TBT/N/USA/1602 G/TBT/N/USA/1602/Add.1	15/04/2020 31/08/2020		PPE	Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	Updated regulatory requirements used for testing and approval of air-purifying particulate respirators for use in the ongoing public health emergency
G/TBT/N/USA/1519/Add.3	28/04/2020		Other (tobacco)		Extension of the deadline for submissions required under the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act and the Comprehensive Smokeless Tobacco Health Education Act for cigarette and smokeless tobacco products, respectively

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G/TBT/N/USA/1432/Add.3	25/05/2020		Other (residential wood heaters, hydronic heaters and forced-air furnaces, air quality, domestic, commercial and industrial heating appliances)		Amendment to the Standards of Performance for New Residential Wood Heaters, New Residential Hydronic Heaters and Forced-Air Furnaces in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
G/TBT/N/USA/915/Add.2/Corr.1	15/07/2020		Other (equipment for children)		ASTM phone number and email
G/TBT/N/USA/771/Add.2/Corr.1 G/TBT/N/USA/771/Add.3	15/07/2020 04/08/2020		Other (infant carriers)		Delayed effective date of the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) mandatory standard for hand-held infant carriers, due to COVID-19 Email address of the CSPC
G/TBT/N/USA/623/Add.2/Corr.1	15/07/2020		Other (portable bed rails)		Correction of typographical errors Additional option for viewing the standard New contact information of the CSPC
G/TBT/N/USA/1042/Add.2/Corr.1	15/07/2020		Other (equipment for children)		CPSC phone number and email
G/TBT/N/USA/777/Rev.1/Add.1	02/09/2020		Other (hybrid and electric vehicles)		Deferral of the phase-in and compliance dates of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 141 (FMVSS 141), "Minimum sound for hybrid and electric vehicles." by six months
G/TBT/N/USA/1488/Add.2	21/09/2020		Other (pool, spa, domestic safety, protection against dangerous goods, equipment for entertainment)		Delayed effective date of mandatory standard for drain covers, due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/USA/1673	02/12/2020		PPE	Protection of human health or safety Quality requirements	In response to the nation's effort to control the spread of COVID-19, and to utilize resources more effectively, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is accepting and prioritizing certain applications to increase the supply of NIOSH approved particulate filtering (air-purifying) respirators and ensure quality products providing the intended protections are available
G/TBT/N/USA/1716 G/TBT/N/USA/1716/Add.1	12/04/2021 13/04/2021	2.9.2	Other (furniture)	Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection Protection of human health or safety	Codification in the Code of Federal Regulations of the statutory requirements for the flammability of upholstered furniture under the COVID-19 Regulatory Relief and Work from Home Safety Act
G/TBT/N/USA/1344/Add.2	18/05/2021		Other (portable electric spas, environmental body care equipment)		Update of the Appliance Efficiency Regulations to incorporate the test procedure reference and update the labelling design requirements for portable electric spas
G/TBT/N/USA/54/Add.2	17/09/2021		Other (upholstered furniture)		Withdrawal of the proposed rule on flammability standards for residential upholstered furniture
G/TBT/N/USA/1057/Rev.1/Add.3	03/11/2021		Other (chemicals, equipment for children)		Addition of five more chemicals to the list of high priority chemicals of concern in children's products
G/TBT/N/USA/1838	23/02/2022		Other (birch syrup and birch products, spices and condiments, food additives)	Consumer information, labelling	Good manufacturing practices and labelling requirements for the processing of birch syrup and birch products to be equal to maple syrup processing requirements

Notification	Date	TBT Agreement notification provision	Product coverage	Legitimate objective	Description of measure
G/TBT/N/USA/827/Rev.4	31/03/2022		Other (formaldehyde emissions, composite wood products)		Update of several voluntary consensus standards in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) formaldehyde standards for composite wood products regulations under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Addressing remote inspections for third-party certifiers required to conduct on-site inspections in the event of unsafe conditions such as the COVID-19 pandemic Certain technical corrections and conforming changes