

**Dispute Settlement Body Meeting  
(23 June 2025)**

**Hong Kong, China's intervention**

**Item 4. Appellate Body Appointments: Proposal by Afghanistan; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Australia; Bangladesh; Benin; Plurinational State of Bolivia; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Congo; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Cuba; Democratic Republic of Congo; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Eswatini; the European Union; Gabon; The Gambia; Ghana; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Honduras; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Israel; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Republic of Korea; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Lesotho; Liechtenstein; Madagascar; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Republic of Moldova; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Namibia; Nepal; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Pakistan; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; the Philippines; Qatar; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; South Africa; Switzerland; the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Tunisia; Türkiye; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; Uruguay; the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; Viet Nam; Zambia and Zimbabwe (WT/DSB/W/609/Rev.26)**

- We extend our appreciation to Colombia for its tireless efforts in presenting this important proposal on behalf of the co-sponsors. We refer to our previous statements on this matter.
- A fully functioning two-tiered dispute settlement mechanism is indispensable to maintaining the credibility, stability, and predictability of the rules-based multilateral trading system. Hong Kong, China shares the longstanding interest in seeing the Appellate Body restored.

- While we remain firmly committed to working towards this goal, we also recognize the essential role that the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement (MPIA) continues to play. The MPIA provides a practical and interim solution that preserves the right of appeal and ensures binding dispute resolution for participating Members. In this regard, we encourage Members that have not yet joined the MPIA to consider doing so. Participation in this arrangement is a meaningful step towards supporting the continuity and integrity of the WTO's dispute settlement function, and more broadly, the multilateral trading system itself.
- Last but not least, I would like to join others to bid farewell to departing colleagues and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.
- Thank you.

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