

**Dispute Settlement Body Meeting
(23 May 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)

- Hong Kong, China (HKC) thanks Colombia for presenting this proposal, which has the support of 130 Members.
- An effective dispute settlement system is the backbone of the WTO. It is essential to ensuring the credibility, stability, and predictability of the multilateral trading system – a system that HKC deeply values and is determined to protect and uphold.
- While the Appellate Body remains paralyzed, the Multiparty Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement (MPIA) has served as a pragmatic and

credible alternative, offering Members who have joined the MPIA access to an impartial and binding appeal mechanism. This initiative exemplifies how WTO Members can come together, even in times of crisis, to safeguard the rule of law in international trade. We welcome Malaysia's announcement today to become the newest participant to the MPIA and encourage other interested Members to join the MPIA before the Appellate Body resumes its operation.

- Thank you.
