



1 December 2023

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General Council

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WORK PROGRAMME ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE

COMMUNICATION FROM AUSTRALIA; CANADA; CHILE; COSTA RICA; GEORGIA; HONG KONG, CHINA; ICELAND; ISRAEL; KOREA, REPUBLIC OF; LIECHTENSTEIN; MOLDOVA, REPUBLIC OF; MONTENEGRO; NORWAY; NEW ZEALAND; PARAGUAY; PERU; SINGAPORE; SWITZERLAND; SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, KINMEN AND MATSU; UKRAINE AND UNITED KINGDOM.

The following communication, dated 1 December 2023, is being circulated at the request of the above-mentioned delegations.

Since 1998, WTO Members have periodically taken decisions to carry on work under the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce and to continue their practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions. We are encouraged by the extensive exchanges under the Dedicated Discussions that have led to the reinvigoration of the Work Programme and we call on Members to uphold this elevated level of engagement. We take note of the intensified discussions on the moratorium and continued evidence-based exchanges, as we agreed in [WT/L/1143](#).

DRAFT MINISTERIAL DECISION

1.1. Recognizing the importance of maintaining certainty and predictability for business and consumers, we propose that the Ministerial Conference adopts the following decision:

1.2. We agree to continue the work under the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce, based on the mandate as set out in [WT/L/274](#). We instruct the General Council to identify and focus its work on a set of trade-related topics brought forward by Members, building on its work undertaken during the Dedicated Discussions.

1.3. We instruct the General Council to hold periodic reviews of the Work Programme in its sessions of July and December 2024 and July 2025 based on the reports that may be submitted by the relevant WTO bodies and report to the next session of the Ministerial Conference.

1.4. We agree to maintain the current practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions until the 14th Ministerial Conference.
