

Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Office of the United Nations and to the other International Organizations Geneva





G20 Priorities on Digital Trade

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1. Why eCommerce in G20?

G20 as discussion forum and incubator

• **G20 Antalya Summit**, November 2015, **G20 Leaders' Communiqué** (para. 24):

"We are living in an age of Internet economy that brings both opportunities and challenges to global growth."

• **G20 Hangzhou Summit**, September 2016:

G20 Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative





2. How is eCommerce adressed?

- Düsseldorf, 6 7 April 2017: G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Conference
- Specific trade issues: Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG):

Berlin, 6 - 7 February 2017

Berlin, 1 - 2 March 2017





3. What has been discussed in TIWG?

• Measuring digital trade

Presentation by OECD: Towards a G20 initiative on measuring digital trade: mapping challenges and framing the way forward

• International frameworks on digital trade

Discussion paper by WTO-Secretariat: e-commerce, WTO rules and regional trade agreements

• Development dimension of digital trade

Discussion paper by UNCTAD-Secretariat: The development dimension of digital trade





4. Düsseldorf Ministerial Declaration, April 2017

"Digital Ministers share the objective of promoting further inclusive growth and creating jobs through Digital Trade." (para. 20)

- G20 Members commit to work towards a common understanding and improved measurement of digital trade.
- G20 Members will engage constructively in WTO discussions relating to e-commerce with MC11 in mind and will remain constructively engaged in other international fora.
- G20 Members agree that digital trade has potential to boost inclusive growth and jobs ..., acknowledging that intensified and concerted action is needed to enhance the ability of developing and least developed countries ..., agree on the common goal to strive to adress the factors contributing to digital divides.





5. Düsseldorf G20 Priorities on Digital Trade (Annex paper 3)

Measuring Digital Trade

G20 Members welcome further work by the International Organizations ... to

- for the purpose of measuring digital trade, make proposals to responsible authorities for a common understanding of digital trade ...;
- identify both biases and gaps in measuring digital trade in statistics ...;
- suggest ways to address these challenges and propose any areas where early progress could be made ...

International Organizations are invited to present the result of their reflections and proposals for possible future work to the TIWG under the upcoming Argentinian G20 Presidency.





5. Düsseldorf G20 Priorities on Digital Trade (Annex paper 3)

International Frameworks on Digital Trade

- G20 Members follow through on the G20 Digital Economy and Development and Cooperation Initiative agreed in Hangzhou;
- G20 Members will engage constructively in WTO discussions relating to e-commerce with MC11 in mind;
- G20 members recognize that full implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement holds the prospect of enhancing the contribution ... of e-commerce;
- G20 members support that ... elements related to e-commerce may be included in the WTO trade policy review reports;
- G20 Members will remain pro-actively and constructively engaged in other international fora with responsibilities related to digital trade;
- G20 Members will cultivate transparent digital economy policy ... and share best practices;
- TIWG will keep digital trade prominently on its agenda with a view to reporting further under Argentina's G20 Presidency.





5. Düsseldorf G20 Priorities on Digital Trade (Annex paper 3)

Recognizing the Development Dimension of Digital Trade

G20 Members

- agree to further deepen discussion in the TIWG on the development dimension of digital trade;
- commit to continue to exchange best practices of digital trade policies ...
- welcome collaborative efforts, including under the auspices of the e-Trade for All Initiative ...
- invite relevant International Organizations ... to prepare a report to the TIWG under the upcoming Argentinian G20 Presidency.





Thank you for your attention!



