

Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration

MINIMUM CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WTO BUDGET

Proposal by the Chairperson

1. The minimum contribution to the WTO budget amounts to 0.03 per cent, or CHF 36,330 on the basis of the current budget.
2. At present, 50 Members are assessed at this rate, including 28 of the 30 least-developed-country Members of the WTO.
3. The issue of the minimum contribution was addressed repeatedly at the meetings of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration in 1998. Following these meetings and in response to the requests from the LDC Members of the WTO, **it is proposed that the minimum contribution be reduced from 0.03 per cent to 0.015 per cent as from the budget for the year 2000 (in other words, from CHF 36,330 to CHF 18,165 on the basis of the 1999 budget).**
4. This reduction in the minimum contribution will in particular have the effect of **halving the contribution of 34 Members, comprising 25 LDCs** and nine other economies with small foreign trade shares, namely, Saint Vincent, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, Grenada, Dominica, Belize, and Antigua and Barbuda. The contributions of a further eight Members, including two LDCs, will be significantly reduced (by at least 0.006 per cent of the total budget, or at least CHF 7,266 for 1999).
5. The reduction in the minimum contribution from 0.03 per cent to 0.015 per cent also entails relatively minor upwards and downwards variations in contributions owing to a change in the rounding-off rules.
6. **The total cost of this halving of the minimum contribution amounts to CHF 773,829, or 0.6 per cent of the total budget of the WTO, on the basis of the 1999 budget.** Still on the basis of the 1999 budget, 87 per cent of this cost would be shared among the 28 biggest contributors to the WTO, according to the current scale of contributions.¹
7. The contribution of observers to the WTO amounts to half the minimum contribution of Members, i.e. currently 0.015 per cent. **It is proposed that this contribution be fixed at the level of 0.015 per cent.**

¹ On the basis of the 1999 budget, the changes in the contribution of each Member as a result of this proposal appear in the Annex.

ANNEX

Comparison of 1999 Scales of Contribution
(0.03% minimum and 0.015% minimum)

WTO Members	Difference from 0.03% to 0.015%		1999 WTO Contribution
	%	CHF	
United States of America	0.093	112,623	18,831,050
Japan	0.049	59,339	9,167,270
Germany	0.048	58,128	12,315,870
France	0.041	49,651	7,266,000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	0.031	37,541	7,193,340
Italy	0.030	36,330	5,982,340
Hong Kong, China	0.024	29,064	4,626,020
Netherlands, Kingdom of the	0.023	27,853	4,371,710
Belgium	0.022	26,642	3,536,120
Canada	0.022	26,642	4,735,010
Singapore	0.018	21,798	2,845,850
Spain	0.017	20,587	2,966,950
Korea, Republic of	0.014	16,954	3,003,280
Mexico	0.013	15,743	1,889,160
Austria	0.012	14,532	1,901,270
Sweden	0.011	13,321	1,755,950
Switzerland	0.011	13,321	2,034,480
Denmark	0.010	12,110	1,211,000
Malaysia	0.010	12,110	1,428,980
Norway	0.009	10,899	1,150,450
Turkey	0.009	10,899	956,690
Finland	0.008	9,688	896,140
Israel	0.007	8,477	641,830
Philippines	0.007	8,477	496,510
Chile	0.006	7,266	411,740
South Africa	0.006	7,266	653,940
Thailand	0.006	7,266	1,586,410
Indonesia	0.005	6,055	1,223,110
Ireland	0.005	6,055	920,360
Australia	0.004	4,844	1,634,850
Brunei Darussalam	0.004	4,844	48,440
Ecuador	0.004	4,844	108,990
Greece	0.004	4,844	399,630
Macau	0.004	4,844	72,660
Pakistan	0.004	4,844	217,980
Peru	0.004	4,844	157,430
Slovenia	0.004	4,844	217,980
Trinidad and Tobago	0.004	4,844	36,330
Guatemala	0.003	3,633	60,550
Malta	0.003	3,633	60,550

LDC

WTO Members	Difference from 0.03% to 0.015%		1999 WTO Contribution
	%	CHF	
Papua New Guinea	0.003	3,633	48,440
Bahrain	0.002	2,422	96,880
Bangladesh	0.002	2,422	108,990
Brazil	0.002	2,422	1,005,130
Colombia	0.002	2,422	302,750
Cyprus	0.002	2,422	72,660
Dominican Republic	0.002	2,422	121,100
Ghana	0.002	2,422	36,330
Hungary	0.002	2,422	351,190
Mauritius	0.002	2,422	48,440
Uruguay	0.002	2,422	72,660
Cameroon	0.001	1,211	36,330
Costa Rica	0.001	1,211	72,660
Czech Republic	0.001	1,211	581,280
Jamaica	0.001	1,211	60,550
Luxembourg	0.001	1,211	266,420
Morocco	0.001	1,211	193,760
Slovak Republic	0.001	1,211	242,200
Argentina	0.000	0	581,280
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.000	0	48,440
European Communities	0.000	0	-
India	0.000	0	884,030
Kenya	0.000	0	60,550
Namibia	0.000	0	36,330
Paraguay	0.000	0	60,550
Poland	0.000	0	690,270
Venezuela	0.000	0	423,850
TOTAL	0.639	773,829	

ANNEX

Comparison of 1999 Scales of Contribution
(0.03% minimum and 0.015% minimum)

WTO Members		Difference from 0.03% to 0.015%		1999 WTO Contribution
		%	CHF	
	Bulgaria	(0.001)	(1,211)	133,210
	El Salvador	(0.001)	(1,211)	48,440
	Gabon	(0.001)	(1,211)	48,440
	Liechtenstein	(0.001)	(1,211)	36,330
	New Zealand	(0.001)	(1,211)	363,300
	Panama	(0.001)	(1,211)	157,430
	Portugal	(0.001)	(1,211)	775,040
	Sri Lanka	(0.001)	(1,211)	108,990
	United Arab Emirates	(0.001)	(1,211)	629,720
	Egypt	(0.002)	(2,422)	314,860
	Nigeria	(0.002)	(2,422)	230,090
	Qatar	(0.002)	(2,422)	72,660
	Romania	(0.002)	(2,422)	205,870
LDC	Tanzania	(0.002)	(2,422)	36,330
	Tunisia	(0.002)	(2,422)	169,540
LDC	Zimbabwe	(0.002)	(2,422)	48,440
	Angola	(0.003)	(3,633)	72,660
	Côte d' Ivoire	(0.003)	(3,633)	84,770
	Honduras	(0.003)	(3,633)	36,330
	Kuwait	(0.003)	(3,633)	290,640
	Botswana	(0.004)	(4,844)	48,440
	Congo	(0.004)	(4,844)	36,330
	Cuba	(0.004)	(4,844)	60,550
	Iceland	(0.004)	(4,844)	48,440
LDC	Bolivia	(0.006)	(7,266)	36,330
	Zambia	(0.006)	(7,266)	36,330
	Senegal	(0.007)	(8,477)	36,330
	Fiji	(0.011)	(13,321)	36,330
	Barbados	(0.012)	(14,532)	36,330
	Nicaragua	(0.012)	(14,532)	36,330
	Swaziland	(0.012)	(14,532)	36,330
LDC	Uganda	(0.012)	(14,532)	36,330
	Antigua and Barbuda	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	Belize	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Benin	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Burkina Faso	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Burundi	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Central African Republic	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Chad	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Djibouti	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330

	WTO Members	Difference from 0.03% to 0.015%		1999 WTO Contribution
		%	CHF	
	Dominica	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Gambia	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	Grenada	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Guinea	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Guinea-Bissau	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Guyana	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Haiti	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	Kyrgyz Republic	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Lesotho	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Madagascar	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Malawi	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Maldives	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Mali	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Mauritania	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	Mongolia	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Mozambique	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Myanmar, Union of	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Niger	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Rwanda	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	St. Kitts and Nevis	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	Saint Lucia	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Sierra Leone	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Solomon Islands	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Suriname	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
LDC	Togo	(0.015)	(18,165)	36,330
	TOTAL	(0.639)	(773,829)	121,100,000