

ICC Global Trade Update

9 July 2026

DISCLAIMER: Given the fast-moving trade policy environment, please ensure that latest developments have been taken into account in your operations and communications. This update is prepared exclusively for ICC members and National Committees. External sharing or publication is not permitted.

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United States of America

USMCA

- On 1 July, the US [announced](#) that it will not renew the USMCA in its current form following the joint review. The Agreement remains in force while discussions continue, and the US confirmed ongoing negotiations with Mexico and Canada, including a third bilateral round with Mexico during the week of 20 July. Canada [confirmed](#) that it will use the review to pursue discussions with the US on tariffs affecting Canadian steel, aluminium, autos and lumber. Businesses trading under USMCA preferences should monitor the negotiations and assess exposure to possible changes in rules of origin and sectoral coverage.

Section 301: Digital Services Taxes

- On 26 June, President Trump threatened a 100% tariff on goods from countries that impose digital services taxes on US companies, stating that it would apply immediately and override existing or pending trade agreements. This follows earlier threats against the UK and France over their digital services taxes in April and June, respectively. Any tariff would likely be imposed under Section 301, drawing on the investigation conducted during the first Trump administration. Businesses exporting to the US from jurisdictions with digital services taxes should assess their exposure.

De Minimis Suspension

- On 24 June, US Customs and Border Protection [issued](#) an interim final rule indefinitely suspending the de minimis exemption for imports valued at US\$800 or less arriving by all modes other than the international postal network. Such shipments must now move through standard CBP entry procedures and are subject to applicable duties, taxes and fees. A separate rule suspends de minimis treatment for postal shipments valued at US\$800 or less and establishes a new informal entry process for certain postal merchandise valued at US\$2,500 or less, with associated bonding and data requirements.
- The rules took effect on 24 June. Comments remain open until 24 July with a delayed compliance date of 22 October 2026 for certain requirements tied to the new postal informal entry process. Importers should confirm entry-type workflows, HTS classification, origin documentation, duty calculation and bonding arrangements for shipments that previously moved with little customs friction, while marketplaces and direct-to-consumer sellers should revisit landed-cost disclosures, return policies and supplier terms.

IEEPA Tariff Refunds

- CBP has [completed](#) the deployment of Phase 2 enhancements to the Consolidated Administration and Processing of Entries (CAPE) application in the ACE Secure Data Portal. Importers and authorised customs brokers may now include entries flagged for reconciliation (entry types 01, 02 and 06) for which a reconciliation entry has not been filed. As with Phase 1, eligible entries are limited to unliquidated entries and entries liquidated within 80 days of the CAPE declaration filing date. Importers that paid IEEPA tariffs should assess their eligibility under Phase 2 and file declarations to protect their refund position.

Section 232: Anthracite Coal

- The Commerce Department has [launched](#) a Section 232 national security investigation into imports of anthracite coal, a move that could lead to tariffs. The

investigation focuses on anthracite and metallurgical bituminous coal used in steel production and industrial processes, including whether they qualify as derivative steel articles under existing Section 232 tariffs. Commerce is seeking public comments on issues including domestic demand and production capacity, import concentration, foreign subsidies and predatory pricing, and the potential for foreign export restrictions. Businesses in steel and coal supply chains should consider submitting comments and reviewing sourcing arrangements.

AGOA Review

- USTR has [initiated](#) its annual review of country eligibility under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, even as AGOA heads toward expiration at the end of this year without Congressional action. USTR is seeking public comments and will hold a public hearing on 23 July. Businesses relying on AGOA preferences should consider participating in the review and prepare contingency plans for a possible lapse of the programme.

US-Uzbekistan

- On 25 June, the US and Uzbekistan [agreed](#) to an early harvest of trade commitments to strengthen the bilateral economic and investment relationship. Moody's raised Uzbekistan's sovereign rating by one notch the same day. Uzbekistan commits to eliminate or reduce tariffs on a wide range of US industrial goods and agricultural products, while the US commits to provide favourable consideration in tariff actions for Uzbekistan industrial goods and agricultural products, to the extent consistent with US law. Both sides will accelerate negotiations towards an Agreement on Reciprocal Trade and Investment.

Canada

Forced Labour Import Prohibition

- On 12 June, the Canadian government tabled [Bill C-35](#), An Act respecting the prohibition of the importation of goods produced by forced labour. The Bill would ban imports made wholly or partly with forced labour, create a list of suspected goods by producer and origin, shift the burden of proof to importers, and grant new administrative and enforcement powers to the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), with limited review of its decisions.

United Kingdom

UK-EU Summit Postponed

- On 22 June, European Council President Antonio Costa announced that the planned 22 July UK-EU Summit would be postponed following Keir Starmer's resignation. A new summit date is unlikely before September, once the new government is in place and core elements of the expected deals on youth mobility, a sanitary and phytosanitary agreement and linking the EU and UK emissions trading systems have been broadly agreed.

UK-US Economic Relationship

- On 4 July, the House of Commons Business and Trade Committee [published](#) a report on the UK-US economic relationship, recommending the Government publish a roadmap for implementing the UK-US Pharmaceutical Agreement and assess progress against real-time metrics.

Steel Trade Measures

- The UK has [published](#) additional changes to its steel trade measures, which took effect from 1 July 2026, replacing the safeguard that expired on 30 June. The US has lodged an objection to the new measures at the WTO Committee on Safeguards (see World Trade Organization section below).

Deforestation Regulations

- The UK Government has [published](#) a policy paper outlining its approach to deforestation regulation, including the introduction of new legislation, having earlier [confirmed](#) it will consult later this year on new Great Britain deforestation rules using powers under the Environment Act and amendments to the UK Timber Regulation. The proposals would introduce mandatory due diligence requirements for businesses importing commodities linked to deforestation, including soy, palm oil, cocoa and rubber, with the GB regime aligning closely with the EU Deforestation Regulation requirements applying in Northern Ireland from 30 December.

UK-Malaysia Digital Trade Agreement

- On 22 June, the UK Government [announced](#) the launch of negotiations on a Digital Trade Agreement with Malaysia, aimed at reducing barriers to cross-border data flows, digital services and online trade. The talks reinforce the UK's broader effort to position itself as a services and digital trade hub while deepening ties with high-growth Indo-Pacific markets.

China

EU-China Trade and Investment Consultation

- On 29 June, Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic met Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao to discuss the EU-China trade relationship. The two sides [agreed](#) to launch a new EU-China Trade and Investment Consultation covering trade rebalancing, export controls, intellectual property and WTO reform, with officials tasked to deliver progress ahead of a ministerial meeting in autumn. The apparent easing of tensions does not preclude renewed trade disputes or the introduction of new trade defence measures. Separately, INTA Committee Chair Bernd Lange has [published](#) a paper outlining ten points for the European position on China.

UK-China JETCO

- On 2 July, the UK and China held the 15th UK-China Joint Economic and Trade Commission, reviewing progress on a Joint Feasibility Study for a potential bilateral Trade in Services Agreement and [agreeing](#) actions under the Bilateral Services Partnership to deepen cooperation in professional and business services. The meeting also covered market access barriers, WTO reform and rare earth export controls. The two sides agreed to establish a matchmaking platform for UK-China business services and a new industry-led Trade Booster programme to support UK exports to China.

Supply Chain and Export Control Measures

- China has announced [MOFCOM Announcement No. 24 \(2026\)](#) on Work Measures for Investigating the Security of Industrial Chains and Supply Chains, effective from 22 June, and [MOFCOM Announcement No. 26 \(2026\)](#) on strengthening supervision and improving the reporting mechanism for violations of export control regulations concerning dual-use items derived from strategic minerals, effective from 1 July.
- On 24 June, the Ministry of Commerce also launched a public reporting hotline and online portal for suspected breaches of export controls on strategic minerals, including rare earths. Reports may cover companies providing logistics, postal, customs declaration, financial or e-commerce services that facilitate unauthorised exports. Separately, China has reportedly [increased](#) scrutiny of indium export controls.

Response to US Restricted Company List

- MOFCOM published a [statement](#) criticising the US decision to add further Chinese companies to its list of Chinese military companies, accusing Washington of overstressing national security rationales and undermining supply chain stability. Beijing called for the measures to be revoked and warned of possible countermeasures. The exchange underlines the continued fragility of US-China trade relations despite the recent Trump-Xi Summit, with technology and defence-adjacent sectors remaining key pressure points.

Japanese Entities Added to Export Control List

- MOFCOM has [announced](#) the inclusion of 20 Japanese entities on China's Export Control List, citing their contribution to the enhancement of Japan's military capabilities. Japan strongly objects to the measures and has requested their withdrawal.

European Union

EU-US Trade Agreement Enters into Force

- The two regulations implementing the EU's tariff commitments under the EU-US Turnberry trade deal entered into force on 1 July, following the Council's final [approval](#) on 25 June and [publication](#) in the Official Journal on 30 June. The measures remove the remaining EU tariffs on US industrial goods, introduce preferential access for selected US seafood and non-sensitive agricultural products, and extend the suspension of duties on lobster imports. They also include safeguard and suspension mechanisms allowing the Commission to respond to significant import surges or suspend preferences if the US fails to respect its commitments.

Airbus-Boeing Truce Extended

- On 25 June, EU Member States voted to prolong the suspension of the EU's WTO-authorized retaliatory tariffs against US exports in the Airbus-Boeing dispute, avoiding a scheduled reactivation when the 2021 truce expires on 11 July. The EU countermeasures cover roughly US\$4bn of US exports, including aircraft, tobacco and spirits, and sit alongside the US's former US\$7.5bn Airbus-related retaliation within the US\$11.5bn package suspended under the 2021 Large Civil Aircraft framework. The duration of the new suspension remains subject to EU-US negotiations.

New Steel Trade Regime

- The European Commission has published Regulation (EU) 2026/1384, establishing the new EU steel trade regime that applies from 1 July 2026 and replaces the steel safeguard measures that expired on 30 June. On 30 June, the Commission [confirmed](#) the allocation of revised quotas: overall duty-free import quotas are reduced by 47% and tariffs on imports above quota are doubled to 50%. Thirteen FTA partners, including the UK, India, Brazil and South Korea, secured quota reductions of around one third on average after agreeing separate arrangements with Brussels, with the UK securing a tariff-free quota of 2.14 million tonnes. Japan and Vietnam declined such arrangements. Japan is threatening a WTO dispute over the measures, while Brazil has been highly [critical](#).

FDI Screening Regulation Published

- Regulation (EU) 2026/1386 on the [screening of foreign investments in the Union](#) has been published in the Official Journal. The new FDI Screening Regulation enters into force on 16 July 2026 and will generally apply from 16 January 2028, by which date Member States must align their national screening mechanisms with the new EU cooperation mechanism.

Non-Preferential Rules of Origin

- As of 1 July, two amendments [introduced](#) by Commission Implementing Regulation 2026/1422 to the Union Customs Code Implementing Regulation apply. For products subject to special non-preferential import arrangements, electronic certificates of origin issued in the ELAN system may now be used, with flexibility during the transition to full implementation. For goods originating in the US, a new Article 59a introduces a requirement for proof of direct transport or non-alteration before applying the adjusted customs duties and quotas under Regulation (EU) 2026/1455.

De Minimis Removal

- Following the introduction of a EUR 3 customs duty on eligible low-value consignments from 1 July, the Commission has [published](#) an updated Q&A with practical guidance. For instance, orders for different consumers cannot be grouped into a single consignment, qualifying AEOs may benefit from a 30% reduction in the reference amount for comprehensive guarantees covering distance sales, and national declaration systems must be configured to calculate the per-item duty.

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)

- On 6 July, the Commission [published](#) the Q2 EU CBAM certificate price of EUR 75.28.
- Norway and Iceland [aim to apply](#) the mechanism from 1 January 2027 through incorporation into the EEA framework. CBAM goods released for free circulation and already subject to CBAM in an EEA EFTA country will not be subject to CBAM again upon import into the EU, supported by the introduction of TARIC code Y423 from 2027. The Commission has also [updated](#) its guidance on CBAM emissions verification and the accreditation of verifiers, with the first verifiers expected to receive accreditation around September 2026.

Forced Labour Regulation

- The EU's Forced Labour Single Portal has [published](#) a list of resources, including guidelines on the scope of the Forced Labour Regulation, coordination between authorities across the EU and voluntary due diligence.

Export Controls and Related Developments

- The Commission has [published](#) its annual report evaluating export patterns of dual-use items from EU Member States, along with the annual [compilation](#) of national control lists maintained by Member States under the EU export control regulation. DG TAXUD has also published a paper on [AEO customs cooperation to detect, report and react to suspicious activities](#). Separately, the Financial Times [reports](#) that the EU is considering a 15% export duty on aluminium scrap.

World Trade Organization

WTO Reform

- General Council Chair Ambassador Clare Kelly (New Zealand) has circulated a framework document ([JOB/GC/REFORM/1](#)) restarting reform discussions under the General Council's authority, with dispute settlement reform continuing separately under the Dispute Settlement Body. Five facilitators have been appointed: Sumathi Balakrishnan (Malaysia) on foundational issues, Katsuro Nagai (Japan) on decision-making, Nthisana Motsete-Phillips (Botswana) on development, Elmer Schialer Salcedo (Peru) on level playing field issues, and Kairat Torebayev (Kazakhstan) on any new issues arising. The workstreams will run in parallel, with facilitators reporting through the Chair and an indicative calendar built around checkpoints at the December 2026 and February 2027 General Council meetings and a possible ministerial midway review in 2027.

China Proposal on Trade and Investment Integration

- China has circulated a proposal ([WT/COMTD/W/311](#)) at the Committee on Trade and Development arguing that WTO work should support trade and investment integration as a pathway to industrialisation in developing economies. The move follows members' failure at MC14 to incorporate the Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement into Annex 4 of the Marrakesh Agreement, and explicitly links investment to the development pillar of WTO reform. China proposes structuring discussions around members' policy experiences, gaps in existing WTO rules and development cooperation mechanisms, with the Secretariat compiling a compendium of members' practices as a first step.

Switzerland Non-Paper on Flexible Multilateralism

- Switzerland has circulated a non-paper, *Delivering through Flexible Multilateralism* ([WT/GC/REFORM/W/3](#)), proposing four categories of flexibility: flexible instruments such as voluntary best practices and comply-or-explain mechanisms; flexible pace through opt-in and opt-out clauses modelled on the Trade Facilitation Agreement; flexible platforms in the form of thematic dialogues on digital trade, the green economy and critical minerals; and flexible processes under which members would agree not to block decisions where their economic interests are unaffected. The initial reception among developing countries has been cool, with several envoys characterising the flexibility agenda as a repackaging of previously rejected proposals.

US Balance-of-Payments Surcharge

- The [Committee on Balance of Payments Restrictions](#) held consultations on 22 June on the 10% import surcharge adopted by the US to address its balance-of-payments deficit. Members heard a statement from the US, a statement from the IMF on the US balance-of-payments situation and a background note prepared by the WTO Secretariat. The US indicated the temporary measure is expected to expire on 24 July 2026.

Dispute Settlement Body

- At its meeting on 23 June, the [Dispute Settlement Body](#) agreed to a request from China for the establishment of a panel to review Indian measures affecting imports of solar cells, solar modules and information technology goods. The DSB Chair convened an informal discussion on dispute settlement reform after the meeting, at which the US blocked, for the 98th time, a request from 130 members to fill the Appellate Body vacancies.

Committee Round-Up

- **Government Procurement:** At its meeting on 24 June, the [Committee on Government Procurement](#) welcomed Uruguay as the 39th observer to the GPA 2012 and discussed accessions and implementation.
- **Information Technology Agreement:** The [ITA Committee](#) held a thematic session on 23 June on harnessing the ITA to enhance access to AI-enabling technologies, particularly for developing economies and LDCs.
- **MSMEs:** The [Informal Working Group on MSMEs](#) announced the 2026 Small Business Champions, held a thematic discussion on empowering small businesses to trade through AI, and welcomed Ghana as its 106th member.

- **Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures:** At its meeting on 24 to 26 June, the [SPS Committee](#) addressed a record number of SPS-related trade concerns and agreed to renew a mentoring system for SPS officials in developing and least-developed countries.
- **Regional Trade Agreements:** On 25 June, the [Committee on Regional Trade Agreements](#) reviewed five RTAs involving 17 members and heard presentations on trade and gender provisions in members' RTAs.

World Customs Organization

Harmonized System Committee

- The WCO has [published](#) the classification decisions from the 77th Session of the Harmonized System Committee, held in March 2026, which took effect from 1 June 2026. Businesses should check whether the new decisions affect the classification of their products.

Free Trade Agreements

CPTPP

- On 26 June, CPTPP ministers [agreed](#) to begin preparatory discussions with the UAE, Indonesia and the Philippines as potential future members, while reaffirming that accession decisions require consensus. Ministers confirmed that Costa Rica's accession process is nearing completion, directed officials to accelerate Uruguay's accession negotiations, and established a working group on rules of origin and customs enforcement.
- On UK accession, Mexico has ratified the UK's membership, in effect between the two countries from 22 June 2026, and Canada has completed its [ratification](#), due to enter into force on 1 September 2026. UK businesses trading with Mexico and Canada should review the preferential terms now becoming available.

UK-India FTA

- The Indian Ministry of Finance has issued detailed rules of origin under the Customs Tariff Act 1975, via [Notification No. 62/2026-Customs](#), to operationalise origin determination for goods traded under the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. The rules take effect on 15 July 2026, coinciding with the agreement's entry into force. Traders should review origin documentation and certification requirements ahead of that date.

EU-Indonesia

- The Commission has [put forward](#) proposals on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and the Investment Protection Agreement with Indonesia to the Council for signature and conclusion.

EU-Thailand

- The EU and Thailand [held](#) the ninth round of trade negotiations, advancing discussions on goods and services, digital trade, investment, intellectual property and customs cooperation.

EFTA

- On 22 June, EFTA held its [annual Ministerial meeting](#) in Reykjavik. Ministers welcomed the signing of the FTA with MERCOSUR, the EFTA-Singapore Digital Economy Agreement and the entry into force of the EFTA-India Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement, identified EFTA's agreements with Canada, Mexico and Korea as modernisation priorities, and committed to deepening engagement with partners including the Southern African Customs Union and the CPTPP.
- Separately, the EFTA States and Vietnam have [announced](#) the conclusion of negotiations on a comprehensive and modern free trade agreement.

Trade Remedies

UK Measures

- **US polyethylene:** On 1 July, the Trade Remedies Authority [initiated](#) an anti-dumping investigation into imports of linear low-density polyethylene from the US following an application from INEOS Olefins & Polymers UK.
- **Indonesian biodiesel:** The UK Government has [accepted](#) the TRA's recommendation to keep current duties on biodiesel from Indonesia in place.

EU Measures

- **BDO:** On 24 June, the Commission [imposed](#) definitive anti-dumping duties on imports of 1,4-Butanediol from China (105.6% to 113.7%), Saudi Arabia (52.4%) and the US (135.7% to 142.5%). BDO is a chemical intermediate used across pharmaceutical, battery, electronics and industrial manufacturing supply chains.

US Measures

- **Moroccan fertilisers:** President Trump is [temporarily suspending](#) countervailing duties on phosphate fertiliser from Morocco to ensure adequate supply. The suspension will continue for eight months or until the supply emergency ends.
- **Mexican tomatoes:** The International Trade Commission [determined](#) that changed circumstances do not warrant revocation of the existing anti-dumping order on fresh tomatoes from Mexico. The order continues, with a current anti-dumping rate of 17.09%.
- **Japanese cranes:** The ITC determined that a US industry is materially injured by imports of lattice-boom crawler cranes from Japan sold at less than fair value. Commerce will issue an anti-dumping duty order, with dumping margins ranging from 12.36% to 20%.

Indian Measures

- India has initiated anti-dumping investigations into imports of five products from China and other countries, following complaints from domestic manufacturers: moulded soda-lime glass vials; electric tractors in 6x4 and 4x2 axle configurations; cyanuric chloride; polyethylene terephthalate film above 100 microns; and carbon raiser made from anthracite coal.

ICC News & Publications

- **News:** [Joint business statement calls for enabling policy frameworks to accelerate inclusive AI adoption](#) (6 July 2026)
- **News:** [Strengthening dispute resolution in Ireland through ICC Arbitration](#) (3 July 2026)
- **News:** [ICC extends support for economic recovery in Syria](#) (2 July 2026)
- **News:** [Kosovo, Czech and Mongolian chambers join ICC Certificate of Origin Accreditation Chain](#) (1 July 2026)
- **News:** [ICC welcomes Friends of the Cali Fund commitment to collaborate with private sector](#) (26 June 2026)
- **News:** [ICC launches new platform to support digital trade adoption](#) (24 June 2026)

What We're Reading

- **From the WTO:** [World Tariff Profiles](#).
- **From the European Parliament Research Service:** [Monitoring the supply of critical raw materials in the EU](#).
- **From the UK Government:** [Latest UK Import Trends Monitor](#) and [Unlocking digital trade: behavioural insights into services trade](#).
- **From DCSA:** [The electronic bill of lading and the architecture of trust](#).
- **From the Congressional Research Service:** [USMCA Automotive Rules of Origin](#).

- **From noyb:** [US Supreme Court just blew up EU-US Data Transfers.](#)
- **From the World Bank:** [Technical and economic feasibility of smelting and refining of critical minerals in developing countries.](#)

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