

Chapter 6

Chinese Taipei

TARIFFS

High Tariff Products

* This particular case was included in light of the following concerns despite it being a trade or investment policy or measure that does not expressly violate the WTO Agreements or other international rules.

<Outline of the Measure>

Binding coverage was 100% when Chinese Taipei joined the WTO, and the current simple average final bound tariff rate on all products is 6.2%. It is 4.6% on non-agricultural products, but high tariffs exist on certain industrial products, such as motor vehicles for the transport of goods (maximum 25%), motorcars and small motor vehicles (maximum 17.5%), special purpose motor vehicles (maximum 30%), etc.

At the time of accession to the WTO in November 2002, Chinese Taipei's tariff rate quota system (See Part II, Chapter 5, 1, Functions of Tariffs) applied to motor vehicles, but this system was removed in 2011.

<Concerns>

High tariff rates themselves do not, per se, conflict with WTO Agreements unless they exceed the bound rates. However, in light of the spirit of the WTO Agreements of promoting free trade and enhancing economic efficiency, it is desirable to reduce tariff rates to the lowest possible rate.

<Recent Developments>

With the aim of expanding the number of items subject to elimination of tariffs on IT products, ITA expansion negotiations were launched in May 2012, and an agreement was reached in December 2015. Elimination of tariffs on 201 items started gradually in July 2016, and elimination of approximately 90% of tariffs on the subject items is planned to be completed by July 2019. By January 2024, tariffs on all 201 items will have been completely eliminated for 54 members (see 2. (2) "Information Technology Agreement (ITA) Expansion Negotiation" in Chapter 5 of Part II for details). As for Chinese Taipei, elimination of tariffs started in July 2016. For example, high tariff items for which tariffs are to be eliminated by Chinese Taipei include video recorders and players (14%), switching devices (12.5%), television receivers (10%), etc. Tariffs on all subject items including the above items will be eliminated gradually and will have been completely eliminated by 2021.

Trade in Services

Regulations in the Telecommunications sector

Refer to page 166 of the 2017 Report on Compliance by Major Trading Partners with Trade Agreements -WTO, FTA/EPA and IIA-.