

**STATUS OF MEETING COMMITMENTS MADE TO THE WTO
to be implemented during Period October 1999-February 2000¹
March 1, 2000**

A. WTO-Related Laws

As a condition for WTO accession, the GOJ committed to enact all remaining WTO laws during the Parliament Ordinary Session (November 1999 – February 2000) with the expectation that priorities will be provided to WTO-related laws as indicated in the fourth column of the table below.

All laws were enacted during the ordinary session except the Law on Import/Export, the Law on Food Control, the Law on Agriculture, and the Law on Plant Variety Protection. A decision has been made to have an extraordinary session late April/early May 2000 to enact these four remaining laws. Decisions (items 2-4) in section B have not yet been published. Our concerns re delays in the publications of decisions and enactment of laws were discussed with HE Dr. Halaiah.

The technical work connected with these laws has been completed. In addition to providing advice on moving the process forward, our main task has been focused on monitoring the enactment of these laws to address the introduction of any changes that may be contrary to the WTO requirements.

The Law on ratifying the WTO Protocol of Accession has been signed by the King. This law will come into effect 15 days after its publication in the official gazette.

The following is the status of all WTO-related laws

Law	Agreement(s)	Status	Target Date for approval by Parliament
1. Amendment to the Law on Trademarks	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published in the Official Gazette on November 1 1999. • Effective December 1, 1999 	
2. Law on Patents	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published in the Official Gazette on November 1 1999. • Effective December 1, 1999 	
3. Amendments to the Law on Copyrights	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published in the Official Gazette on October 2 1999. • Effective November 2, 1999 	
4. Amendments to the Customs Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs Valuation • Rules of Origin, GATT 1994 (article VIII) • TRIPS (border 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved by Senate 	November 1999

¹ A more detailed report will be provided soon outlining in a chronological order all commitments, including those to be implemented after February 2000, and specifying responsible ministries and state bodies for implementing these commitments

Law	Agreement(s)	Status	Target Date for approval by Parliament
	enforcement of intellectual property rights)		
5. Law on Trade Secrets/Unfair Competition	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved by the Senate 	November 1999
6. Law on Plant Variety Protection	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referred to Agriculture Committee in the Parliament Meetings are undergoing 	November 1999.
7. Law on Standards and Metrology	TBT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved by the Senate 	December 1999
8. Law on Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPS (Plant and animal) TBT (Seeds) Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referred to Agriculture Committee in the Parliament 	December 1999
9. Amendments to the Law on Public Health No. 21 of 1971	SPS (food)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective as result of enacting the Law on Food Safety 	December 1999
10. Law on Food Safety	SPS (food)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A food board has been proposed. AMIR is reviewing this proposal. The draft law was sent back to the Ministry of Health 	December 1999
11. Law on Industrial Design	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved By Senate 	January 2000
12. Law on Integrated Circuits	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved by Senate 	January 2000
13. Law on Geographical Indications	TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved by Senate 	January 2000
14. Law on Imports and Exports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GATT 1994 (Article I, III, and XI) Import Licensing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalized by Council of Ministers 	January 2000
15. Amendments to the Law on General Sales Tax	GATT Article III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved by Senate 	January 2000
16. Amendments Law on Unifying Fees and Taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GATT 1994 (Article VIII) Specific 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved by Senate 	January 2000

Law	Agreement(s)	Status	Target Date for approval by Parliament
	duties on calves and sheep <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2% fee of re-export		

The Agriculture Marketing Organization Law must be invalidated for non-conformity with the WTO. This has not yet been done.

B. WTO-related regulations, instructions, and decisions

Regulations	Agreement(s)	Status	Expected Adoption Date²
1. Decision on elimination of price control on import of fresh and chilled meat	GATT 1994 (Article III)	Published on January 13, 2000	October 1999
2. Decision on elimination of Jordanian Export Companies	SCM (Article 3)	Decision issued around Mid-December; not yet published	November 1999
3. Decision on elimination of restrictions on import of ewes/yearlings	GATT (Article XI)	Decision issued by the Minister of Agriculture; not yet published	November 1999
4. Decision on the elimination of fee (86.5 Fils) on each imported pack of cigarettes	GATT (Article III)	Decision issued and published in the newspapers on early March 2000	November 1999
5. Instructions on Implementing Customs Valuation (includes interpretive notes, software and interest)	Customs Valuation	Draft finalized and ready for adoption	Upon enactment of the Amendments to the Customs Law
6. Instructions on border enforcement of intellectual property rights	TRIPS	Finalized at the Customs Department with the Assistance of AMIR	Upon enactment of the Amendments to the Customs Law
7. Decree on TBT notification	TBT	Draft being finalized at JISM with the assistance of AMIR	Upon enactment of the Law on Standards and Metrology
8. Decree on SPS Inquiry Point and notification	SPS	Draft being finalized by Ministry of Agriculture	Upon enactment of the Law Agriculture and the Law on Food Safety
9. Regulations on Copyrights	TRIPS	Draft model regulations being discussed with the Ministry of Culture	January 2000
10. Regulations on	TRIPS	Draft model regulations being	Upon enactment

² as committed to the WTO

Regulations	Agreement(s)	Status	Expected Adoption Date²
Integrated Circuits		finalized at MIT	of the Law on Integrated Circuits
11. Regulations on Imports and Exports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GATT 1994 (Article I, III, and XI) • Import Licensing 	Draft finalized at MIT; to be submitted to the Bureau of Legislation as soon as the law is enacted	Upon enactment of the Law on Imports and Exports
12. Instructions on Imports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GATT 1994 (Article I, III, and XI) • Agreement on Import Licensing 	Draft finalized at MIT and ready for adoption by the Ministry as soon as the new law is enacted.	Upon enactment of the Law on Imports and Exports and the adoption of Regulations on Imports and Exports
13. Regulations on Consular Fees	GATT 1994 (Article VIII)	Draft being finalized with MIT and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Upon accession
14. Instructions on the importation of live sheep and calves	GATT 1994 (Article XI)	Draft being finalized by AMIR and the Ministry of Agriculture	April 30, 2000
15. Regulations on Animal and Agricultural Products Fees	GATT 1994 (Article VIII)	Draft being finalized by AMIR and the Ministry of Agriculture	Upon enactment of the Law on Agriculture
16. Non-Jordanian Investment Regulations No. 39 of 1997	Service Negotiations	Draft prepared by IPC, MIT, and AMIR. Awaiting final IPC approval.	Upon accession

C. Other Commitments to be implemented before February 2000

Commitment	Status	Implementation Date
1. Table a request for observer status in the WTO Government Procurement Agreement (GPA) Committee	Draft letter submitted to the WTO Secretariat	End of November 1999
2. Provide a list of all products subject to mandatory standards in HS format	List submitted to the WTO Secretariat	End of December 1999
3. Tabling an entity offer for initiating negotiations of membership in the GPA	AMIR is providing assistance in conducting a survey of current procurement practices by the GOJ; letters were issued to all relevant state entities to provide information on procurement	Upon accession
4. Amend relevant laws and regulations to permit foreign firms including sole proprietorships to register as importers without limitation on equity or application of an economic needs test, including for branches of foreign firms permanently registered in Jordan	Draft being finalized with IPC (amendments to Article 3 of the Non-Jordanian Investment Regulations) The Higher Council of Investments approved the Draft March 21st 2000 Awaiting final IPC approval.	ASAP

D. Notification Commitments to be implemented before February 2000

Notification Requirement	Type of Measure	Deadline	Format	To Whom
1. Agreement on Agriculture, Article 18.2 – domestic support	Domestic support – Total Aggregate Measurement of Support	Upon accession	DS:1 and, as appropriate, Supporting Tables DS:1 to DS:9	Committee on Agriculture
2. Agreement on Agriculture, Article 18.3 – domestic support	Domestic support – new or modified exempt domestic support measures	Upon accession	Domestic Support Table DS:2	Committee on Agriculture
3. Agreement on Agriculture, Article 18.2 – export subsidies	Export subsidies-budgetary outlay and quantity reduction commitments; total exports	Upon accession	Export Subsidies Commitments Tables ES:1 and ES:2 and Supporting tables	Committee on Agriculture
4. Agreement on Preshipment Inspection, Article 5 – first time	Laws/regulations by which the Agreement is put into force for the Member concerned, as well as any other laws/ regulations relating to preshipment inspection	1 month after accession	No	Council for Trade in Goods
5. Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Article 25.1 annual; GATT 1994, Article XVI:1/ annual	Any subsidy as defined in ASCM Article 1:1 which is specific within the meaning of ASCM Article 2 as well as any other subsidy which causes increased exports or decreased imports within the meaning of GATT 1994, Article XVI:1	Upon accession	G/SCM/6	Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures
6. Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Article 28.1	Subsidy programmes which are inconsistent with the provisions of the ASCM	upon accession	PC/IPL/11 Annex 4	Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures

Notification Requirement	Type of Measure	Deadline	Format	To Whom
7. Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Article 29.3	Subsidy programmes falling within the scope of ASCM Article 3	upon accession	PC/IPL/11, Annex 5	Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures
8. Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures, Article 5.1	Trade-related investment measures (TRIMs) introduced 180 days or more before the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement which are inconsistent with the provisions of Article III or Article XI of GATT 1994 and not justified under exceptions to GATT 1994.	1 month after accession	G/TRIMS/1	Committee on TRIMs