

Services PTAs: An Overview

Trade in Services Division
World Trade Organization

Plan of the presentation

- Article V of the GATS
- General trends of services PTAs
- Implications for multilateralism

Article V: Conditions

- Substantial sectoral coverage (volume of trade, number of sectors, and modes)
- No a priori exclusion of modes, etc.
- Absence or elimination of substantially all discrimination “in the sense” of Article XVII (national treatment)
- Should facilitate trade among parties and not raise overall barriers vis-à-vis other Members
- If GATS specific commitments are affected, renegotiation according to Article XXI is required

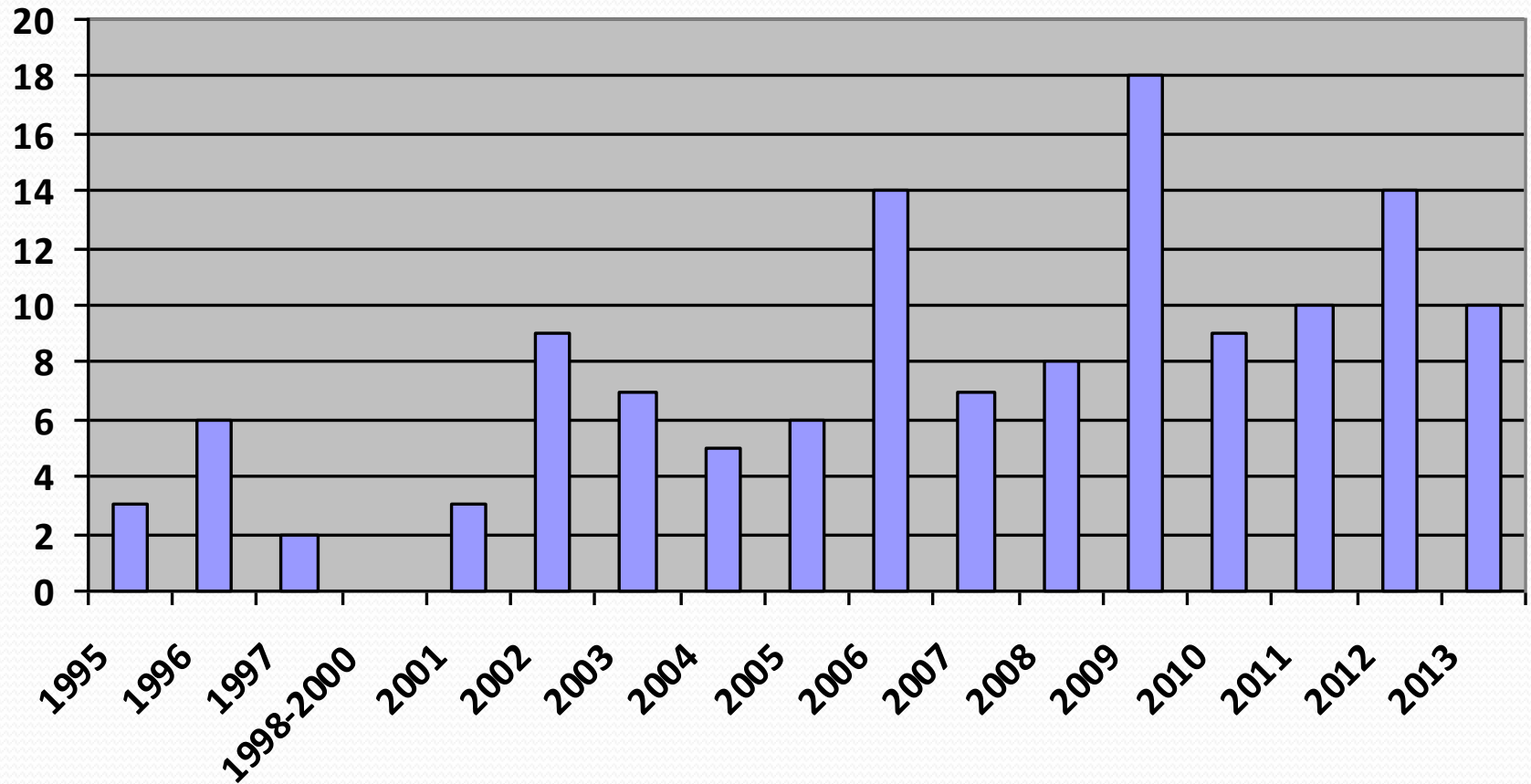
Article V: Flexibility

- Elimination of discrimination can be achieved over “a reasonable timeframe”
- Conditions are relaxed if developing countries are parties to the agreement
- Consideration may be given to the relationship with a wider process of economic integration
- However: No discrimination against established suppliers (juridical persons) of third countries, except for agreements among developing countries

Services PTAs are proliferating

- 11 WTO Members involved in services PTAs before 2000. More than 100 now.
- 5 services PTAs notified before 2000, more than 20 times that since 2000. By the end of 2013, 131 services PTAs notified (including 21 EU enlargement agreements).
- Still a small fraction of all PTAs notified, but common feature of PTAs involving developed countries
- Regional imbalance in participation to services PTAs

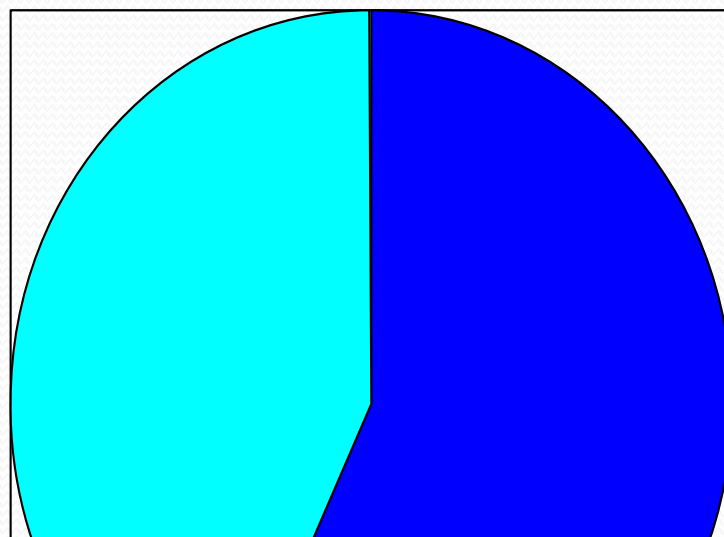
Notification of services PTAs



General Trends

- Most important trading Members are involved in this web, although no agreements link them
 - Most top exporters/importers of services are involved.
 - Main *demandeurs* in WTO negotiations all involved.
 - Also, services PTAs cover most WTO Members targeted by plurilateral requests

Services PTAs as part of all PTAs



预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_5372

