
RTAS CHARACTERISTICS IN TRADE IN SERVICES

Juneyoung LEE

Regional Trade Agreements Section/Trade Policies Review Division



1. Aims for the Session



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- Identifying RTA characteristic elements in trade in services, compared to GATS, with some examples from the region
- Familiarizing with Factual Presentation reports by the WTO Secretariat, involving parties from the region

2. Some Basics on GATS



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- Difference with trade in goods (tariffs vs. regulations)
- No obligation to liberalize unless scheduled
- Four modes of supply
- Positive list approach

3. Structural Characteristics in RTAs

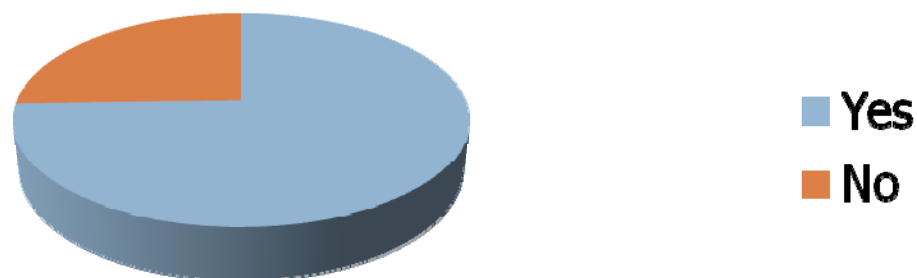


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- Usage of the CPC list to classify sectors
- Some sectors/modes are covered in separate Chapters, or annexes (e.g., financial, telecommunication services, modes 4)

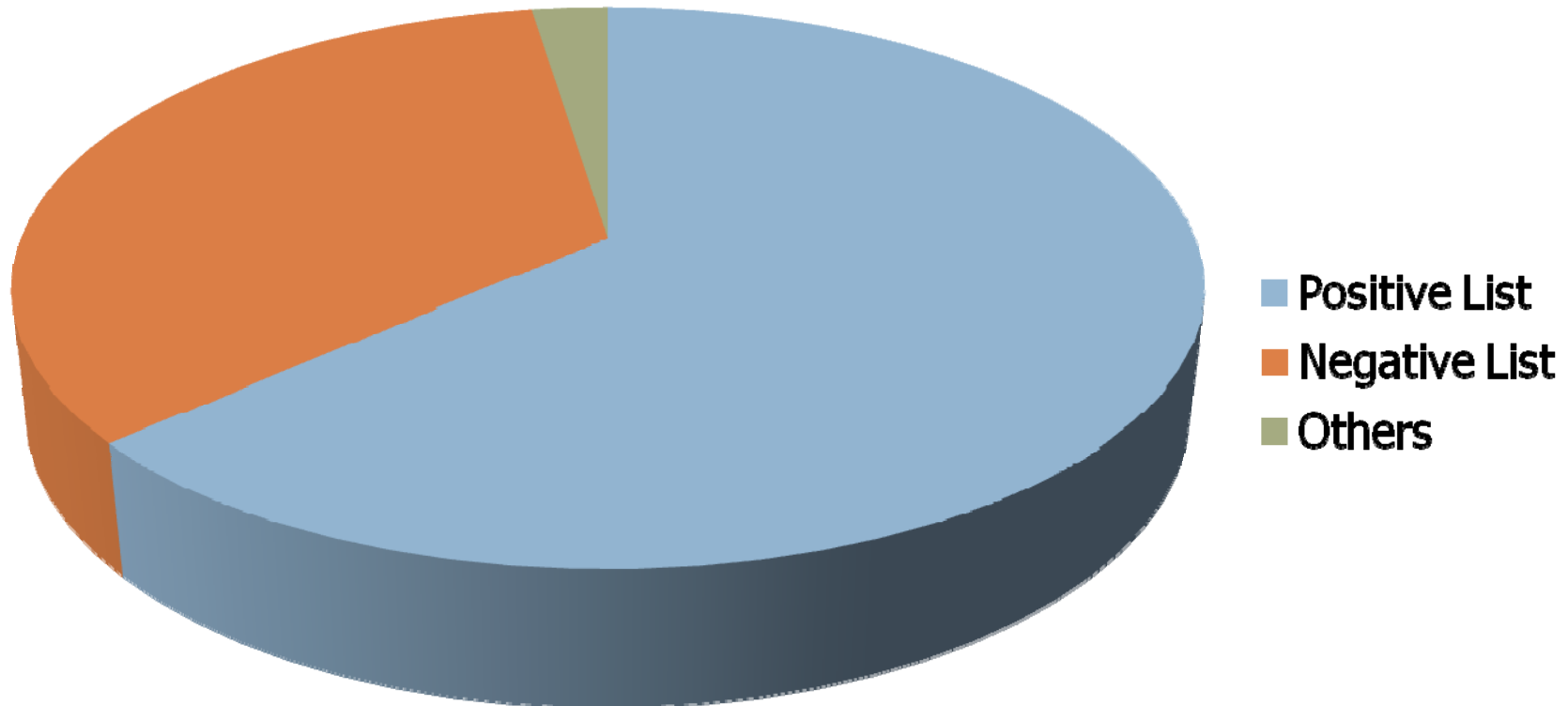
Separate Mode 4 chapter in Asian RTAs



25 July 2011, Bangkok, Thailand

4. Different Approaches in Liberalizing Services in RTAs – Asian economies

List Approach (as of July 2011)



25 July 2011, Bangkok, Thailand

**Examples of
Positive/Negative List
Approach – Hand Out**

5. Contextual Characteristics in RTAs



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General Exclusions/Scope

- Services supplied in the exercise of the government authority
- Subsidies or grants



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ial Characteristics in RTAs

liberalization

go beyond by adding new services
(lib-sectors) to liberalize compared to
commitments

and exactly same for some services as
WTO commitments

negotiations for additional services
negotiations for services chapter
partial relaxation of limitations

25 July 2011, Bangkok, Thailand

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