

What is WTO?

- The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an intergovernmental organization headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland that **regulates and facilitates international trade**. Governments use the organization to establish, revise, and enforce the rules that govern international trade in cooperation with the United Nations System.
 - The WTO is the world's largest international economic organization, with 166 members representing over 98% of global trade and global GDP.
- The WTO facilitates trade in goods, services and intellectual property among participating countries by providing a framework for negotiating trade agreements, which usually **aim to reduce or eliminate tariffs, quotas, and other restrictions**; these agreements are signed by representatives of member governments and ratified by their legislatures. It also administers independent **dispute resolution** for enforcing participants' adherence to trade agreements and resolving trade-related disputes. The organization **prohibits discrimination** between trading partners, but provides **exceptions for environmental protection, national security**, and other important goals
- People's Republic of China joined in 2001 after 15 years of negotiations

From Wikipedia

What is GATT?

- The GATT was first discussed during the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment and was the outcome of the failure of negotiating governments to create the International Trade Organization (ITO). It was signed by 23 nations in Geneva on 30 October **1947** and was applied on a provisional basis 1 January 1948. It remained in effect until 1 January 1995, when the World Trade Organization (WTO) was established after agreement by 123 nations in Marrakesh on 15 April 1994, as part of the Uruguay Round Agreements. **The WTO is the successor to the GATT, and the original GATT text (GATT 1947) is still in effect under the WTO framework, subject to the modifications of GATT 1994.**

From Wikipedia

What is TBT?

- The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade is an international treaty of the World Trade Organization. It was negotiated during the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and entered into force with the establishment of the WTO at the end of **1994**. The object **ensures that technical negotiations and standards, as well as testing and certification procedures, do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade**

From Wikipedia

- *The Agreement covers three types of measures: technical **regulations**, (international) **standards**, and **conformity assessment procedures***

TBT code of Good Practice

- Annex 3:
https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/tbt_e.htm#ann3
- 194 organizations from 144 countries/territories adhered (see <https://tbtcode.iso.org/list-of-standardizing-bodies.html>)
 - Despite the Textbook says “*Until December 2018, no Member has notified the acceptance of the Code of Good Practice by a nongovernmental body within its territory: the first ever private body accepting the Code is the US-based Calendaring and Scheduling Consortium “CalConnect”*”
 - ETSI, CEN and CENELEC (EU non-governmental entities)
 - UNI adhered (Italian non-governmental entity)