



Department for
International Trade

Public consultation on the UK potentially seeking accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans- Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)

Summary of responses

18 July 2019

Contents

Foreword from the Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade	3
Introduction	5
Background	5
What we asked	7
This report	7
Overview of the responses	8
Consultation feedback	12
Consultation events	12
Engagement with Devolved Administrations, Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories	13
Engagement with Parliament	14
Summary of responses	16
General Themes	16
Overview of Priorities	19
Overview of Concerns	20
Analysis of responses by policy area	21
Summary of campaign responses	46
Next Steps	50
Annex A: Consultation Questions	52
Annex B: Demographics	60
Annex C: Glossary	64

Foreword from the Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade



The United Kingdom is on the cusp of a new era in our great trading history. For the first time in nearly 50 years, we will have the freedom to pursue an independent trade policy to build a stronger, fairer and more prosperous country, more open and outward-looking than ever before.

The Government, led by my Department for International Trade, has been preparing for the United Kingdom to have an independent trade policy after we exit the European Union. We have made great strides forward. We have opened 14 informal trade dialogues with 21 countries from the United States to Australia to the United Arab Emirates. We have also been working closely with our existing trading partners to ensure the continuity of European Union trade deals. The United Kingdom's trade with countries with which we are seeking continuity¹ accounted for £139 billion or 11 per cent of the United Kingdom's trade in 2018.²

We have already signed a number of these continuity agreements which replicate the effects of the existing agreements, as far as possible. This includes Switzerland, which is one of our key trading partners and worth 2.3 per cent³ of the United Kingdom's total trade. Other agreements have been signed with Israel, the Palestine Authority, Chile, the Faroe Islands, Eastern and Southern Africa, Caribbean countries, Iceland and Norway, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador.⁴ We have also agreed in principle an agreement with Korea which will be signed shortly. In addition to this, we have also signed Mutual Recognition Agreements with Australia, New Zealand and the United States. We will continue to work tirelessly to deliver the maximum possible continuity and certainty for when we leave the European Union.

In addition, we have made significant headway on the United Kingdom's future independent membership of the World Trade Organization: we have submitted our proposed commitments on goods and services; established our own independent trade remedies system (the Trade Remedies Authority); and published the Export Strategy and launched 14 working groups and a number of trade reviews with key partners.

The Government is determined to build a new economic relationship with the European Union. One which sees the United Kingdom leave the Single Market and the Customs Union to seize new trading opportunities around the world, while protecting jobs, supporting growth and maintaining security co-operation. We recognise that our Future Economic Partnership with the European Union will have considerable and immediate implications for the way the United Kingdom can develop its future trade policy, in terms of its trading agreements with the rest of the world. We will continue to listen and respond to our stakeholders' views on this as we develop our own independent trade policy in parallel with the direction of the future relationship negotiations with the European Union.

¹ This excludes Turkey (plus San Marino and Andorra) which is part of a customs union with the European Union, and excludes Japan, as the Economic Partnership Agreement only came into force on 1 February 2019.

² UK total trade: all countries, non-seasonally adjusted, October to December 2018.

³ UK total trade: all countries, non-seasonally adjusted, October to December 2018.

⁴ The trade continuity agreement with Iceland and Norway would only apply in a No Deal scenario. All others would apply after the proposed Implementation period as well.

An independent trade policy means we can negotiate trade agreements specifically tailored to the United Kingdom, building links with old friends and new allies, enabling the United Kingdom to take advantage of emerging sources of growth and to deepen ties with our established partners to create shared and sustainable growth.

In July last year, we launched consultations on new free trade agreements. The consultations demonstrated the United Kingdom's intention to seek free trade agreements with the United States, Australia and New Zealand, as well as the United Kingdom potentially seeking accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP, a plurilateral agreement with 11 existing members).

We have engaged fully with the devolved administrations, and consulted extensively with stakeholders across the business community, civil society, academia and the general public on priorities for trade negotiations to ensure we represent the interests of the whole of the United Kingdom in any future negotiation.

We have received 601,121 responses to the four consultations on future trade agreements. I would like to thank all those who took the time to contribute to this consultation. The Government is committed to an inclusive and transparent trade policy, so today, I am publishing a summary of the consultation responses we received across the four consultations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Liam Fox', with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox
Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade

Introduction

Background

1. As the United Kingdom (UK) leaves the European Union (EU), we will have an independent trade policy for the first time in nearly 50 years. This will give us the opportunity to forge new and ambitious trade relationships around the world, and to enter into new Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with other countries or groups of countries.
2. The Government remains committed to building a deep and special trading partnership with the EU, but through our new independent trade policy, we can also take advantage of shifts in the global economy: According to the IMF, 90 per cent of the world economic growth over the next five years is forecast to come from outside the EU⁵; and 54 per cent of the UK's exports of goods and services are now traded outside the EU⁶, compared with only 46 per cent in 2006.
3. Through negotiating FTAs, we can work with our trading partners around the world to break down barriers to trade in goods and services, ensure that UK businesses are treated fairly, and protect our right to regulate and maintain high standards, creating the conditions for individuals and businesses to prosper. Our ambition is to:
 - Increase economic growth and productivity, through increased trade and investment, promoting greater competition and innovation.
 - Provide new employment opportunities, including higher-skilled jobs, from greater specialisation, increasing wages and opportunity across the UK.
 - Deliver a greater variety of products for consumers at a lower cost while maintaining quality.

Why this Free Trade Agreement?

4. An early priority for the UK's independent trade policy is to potentially negotiate accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, commonly referred to as CPTPP. CPTPP is one of the largest free trade agreements in the world, including eleven countries on four continents (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam), collectively home to around 500m people, over 13 per cent of global GDP⁷ and accounted for £96 billion worth of UK trade in 2018 (7 per cent of total UK trade).⁸ CPTPP came into force on 30 December 2018, and existing members underlined their determination to expand the agreement with new members at CPTPP's commission meeting on 19 January 2019. If the UK were to accede to this agreement, it would be the second largest member by size of economy and the coverage of global GDP would be around 17 per cent.⁹

⁵ DIT calculations based on the IMF World Economic Outlook database, updated April 2019.

⁶ Source: ONS Balance of Payments 2019Q1.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/balanceofpayments/datasets/balanceofpayments>

⁷ Figure for 2018 trade. IMF World Economic Outlook, Nominal GDP for 2018, Current US Dollars.

⁸ UK total trade: all countries non-seasonally adjusted, October to December 2018.

⁹ IMF World Economic Outlook, Nominal GDP for 2018, Current US Dollars.

5. Securing continuity on existing trade agreements has been a priority for the UK, as we leave the EU, to secure a smooth transition for businesses and consumers. This includes existing EU trade agreements with a number of CPTPP member countries. However, CPTPP provides significant benefits beyond these agreements – in addition to its coverage of countries not covered by existing EU agreements.
6. As a modern trade agreement, CPTPP not only lowers or removes tariffs in goods (so lowering costs for consumers and exporters) but also reduces a range of non-tariff barriers to trade and investment (tackling regulatory barriers to trade in services, for example) and goes further than many existing FTAs in promoting agreed standards in areas such as labour and the environment. CPTPP is also likely to grow in the future. This growth could further enhance benefits for UK businesses operating in the region (as well as increasing benefits to UK consumers, through lower costs on imports).
7. Joining CPTPP would therefore deliver benefits to businesses and consumers, and potential CPTPP accession is an early trading priority when we exit the EU and operate an independent trade policy. In this context, the Department for International Trade (DIT) has been preparing for the start of potential accession talks with CPTPP member countries with the intention of the UK joining as a new member after we leave the EU.

A transparent and inclusive trade policy

8. As set out in the Trade White Paper *Preparing for our future UK trade policy* published in October 2017, the Government is committed to pursuing a trade policy which is inclusive and transparent. To ensure that any future FTA works for the whole of the UK, the Government is therefore committed to seeking views from a broad range of stakeholders from all parts of the UK. In July 2018, the Government published DIT's *approach to engagement for the pre-negotiation phase of trade negotiations* setting out its plan for pursuing new trade negotiations collaboratively by engaging with the widest range of stakeholder groups, as it takes forward its free trade agenda. For new FTAs, we have run broad open consultations. We will continue to engage as widely as possible as we look ahead to negotiations potentially starting soon.
9. On 20 July 2018, the Department for International Trade (DIT) launched four 14-week public consultations seeking views on potential FTAs with the United States (US), Australia, and New Zealand, and potential accession to the CPTPP. To support this, the Government ran a series of events around the UK to promote the consultations. All four consultations closed on 26 October 2018. This document sets out the findings from the responses received.
10. DIT welcomed feedback and comments from all interested parties to the consultations. Across the four consultations, the Government received over 600,000 responses including those submitted by campaigns. They have been analysed and are informing the Government's overall approach to the four potential future trade deals. The consultation feedback will also support the Government in meeting its commitment to delivering a UK trade policy which will benefit the UK economy, and businesses, workers, producers and consumers.
11. While many respondents welcomed the opportunities that an independent trade policy will bring as we leave EU, many respondents also mentioned the importance of the UK's future economic relationship with the EU. We recognise that the UK's future trade policy, including our ability to negotiate FTAs, will depend on the scope and substance of our future economic

relationship with the EU. While comments on the UK Government's vision for the Future Economic Partnership (FEP) with the EU were outside the scope of the questions asked in this FTA consultation, they have, however, been included in our analysis.

What we asked

12. Each consultation was based on a series of questions concerning the respondent's priorities and concerns regarding the relevant agreement. The questions were broad to ensure the consultation exercise was inclusive and would encourage participation from a wide range of stakeholders. We received responses from individuals, businesses, business associations, public sector bodies, trade unions and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The online survey covered a range of policy areas which are typically included in any comprehensive FTA.

These were:

Tariffs	Rules of Origin (RoO)	Customs Procedures	Services	Digital
Product Standards, Regulation and Certification	Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures	Competition	Government (Public) Procurement	Intellectual Property (IP)
Investment	Labour & Environment	Trade Remedies and Dispute Settlement	Small- and Medium-sized Enterprise (SMEs) Policy	Other

Respondents were also able to submit additional comments not related to the areas listed above. A full list of all the questions asked during this consultation is available in Annex A.

This report

13. This document is a summary of what respondents said in the *consultation on the UK potentially seeking accession to the CPTPP* (the consultation). The evidence provided from the responses to this consultation (as summarised in this document), will inform the Government's overall approach to our future trading relationship with CPTPP, including our approach to potentially seeking accession to CPTPP. As we look ahead to finalising our negotiating objectives, we will continue to actively consider the consultation feedback to inform this work. Decisions made as a result of this consultation will therefore be published alongside our negotiating objectives before potential negotiations start. This report, therefore, does not set out Government policy

with respect to future trade policy, but simply provides a summary of what consultation respondents have told us. The Government will take all responses to this consultation into account. A number of respondents raised points which fell outside the scope of this consultation. However, they have still been included in the statistical analysis.

14. We also received a large number of responses from outside the UK. The views provided in these responses will be analysed carefully and considered.
15. This document does not contain a list of the respondents or contain any personal or organisational details of the respondents. Their views are summarised in the following sections of this report but are not attributed to any individual respondent or business. The figures in this document refer to those who responded to the consultation, so should not be treated as statistically representative of the public at large.
16. The Government does not intend to publish any individual consultation responses it received. Many organisations have published their own responses independently.
17. DIT commissioned the research agency Ipsos MORI to analyse responses for all four consultations and produce statistical analysis with a summary of the overall findings. This analysis supplements the review of consultation feedback undertaken by the Government. Ipsos MORI developed a code frame to allow for systematic statistical analysis of the responses. The codes within the code frame represent a 'theme' based on an amalgamation of responses submitted and are intended to comprehensively represent all responses. The code frame and methodology, produced by Ipsos MORI, have been published alongside this report.

Overview of the responses

18. On the closure of the consultation on the UK's potential accession to CPTPP, the Government had received 149,968 responses, submitted via the online survey and by email or post.

Table 1: A breakdown of the overall response numbers

Total number of emails, letters and online survey responses received	149,968
Online survey responses	328¹⁰
Post	1
Emails [non-campaign]	81
Emails [campaign]	149,558

19. Respondents were categorised into one of the following five groups:

¹⁰ The total number of participants who completed an online response was 332 but only 328 were deemed as valid responses.

- **An individual** – Responding with personal views, rather than as an official representative of a business, business association or another organisation.
- **Business** – Responding in an official capacity representing the views of an individual business.
- **Business association** – Responding in an official capacity representing the views of a business representative organisation or trade association.
- **Non-governmental organisation (NGO)** – Responding in an official capacity as the representative of a non-governmental organisation, trade union, academic institution or another organisation.
- **Public sector body** – Responding in an official capacity as a representative of a local government organisation, public service provider, or another public sector body in the UK or elsewhere.

Online consultation portal

20. The Consultation Portal was hosted by Citizen Space (an online software tool) and contained an online survey with a total of 69 questions. This was tailored to each of the five respondent groups with additional questions for certain groups. The survey for each group asked what areas of an FTA respondents viewed as being priorities and concerns and offered respondents the opportunity to select from across 14 trade policy areas relevant to an FTA. Respondents were also given the opportunity to submit supplementary comments and to raise any other issues. In addition, business respondents and business organisations were asked to select their top priority area and top concern. Respondents could simply answer the online survey questions selecting from the 15 options for priorities and concerns with textboxes available for additional comments. While many respondents chose not to submit additional comments after filling in the questionnaire, these responses are still subject to the same analysis and will be taken into account in developing our policy.
21. Of the 69 questions, there were five general questions for all respondents to answer, 11 specific questions for individuals, ten specific questions for NGOs, 23 questions for businesses, 11 specific questions for business associations and nine specific questions for public sector bodies. See Annex A for the full list of questions asked.
22. Table 2 shows a breakdown of the number of Consultation Portal responses per respondent group.

Table 2: Total Consultation Portal responses broken down by respondent group

Respondent group	Number of responses
Individual	196
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	27
Business	62
Business association	36
Public sector body	7
TOTAL	328

Respondents' demographic profile

23. The online survey gave respondents the option to provide additional data about themselves or their organisation. This included questions such as their geographical location, age, gender, size of business and the number of businesses the business associations represent. Using this data, we have provided a detailed breakdown of respondents' profiles in Annex B.

Responses via email and post

24. Some respondents opted to submit their responses to the consultation via email. On request, questions from the Consultation Portal survey were made available to respondents. In this case, the majority of respondents submitted a letter with specific comments tailored to the needs and circumstances of their organisation. The table below (see table 3) shows a breakdown of the number of responses by respondent group. Over two thirds of the responses sent via email were from business and industry.

Table 3: Total number of email responses broken down by respondent group

Respondent group	Number of responses
Individual	11
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	11
Business	9
Business association	46
Public sector body	4
TOTAL	81

25. One response was submitted by post from an NGO.

Campaign responses

26. A number of campaigning groups organised and encouraged responses to the Consultation. 38 Degrees actively encouraged its members to respond with nearly 150,000 responses submitted.

Table 4: Breakdown of the number of campaign responses

Campaigning Organisation	Number of Responses	Title of Campaign
38 Degrees	145,905	<i>Submission to DIT's consultation on future trade agreements</i>
Global Justice Now	1,334	<i>TPP trade agreement: Respond to the public consultation</i>
War on Want	2,319	<i>Tell Liam Fox What You Think of TPP</i>

27. We have not categorised responses in any way other than how they were received. In the summary of responses section of this document, which summarises the detailed comments received by respondents, responses have been considered in the relevant policy area where they would be in a typical FTA.

Consultation feedback

Consultation events

28. As part of DIT's work to promote all four consultations, we held 12 'Town Hall' and roundtable events across the UK, seeking views from a broad range of stakeholders. Additionally, the Minister of State for Trade Policy, George Hollingbery MP, chaired a webinar (openly advertised on Twitter) with over 100 people registering. The webinar was specifically designed to discuss FTAs with specific relevance to how Small- and Medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) operate.

Table 5: Location, date and partner organisation of each event

Location	Date	Partner Organisation
Edinburgh	5 September 2018	The Scottish Council for Development and Industry
Manchester	21 September 2018	British American Business
Exeter	28 September 2018	Confederation of British Industry
Birmingham	1 October 2018	British American Business
Norwich	3 October 2018	Confederation of British Industry
Belfast	4 October 2018	Invest Northern Ireland
London	5 October 2018	Confederation of British Industry
Nottingham	8 October 2018	Geldards
Durham	10 October 2018	British Chambers of Commerce
Leeds	12 October 2018	Trades Union Congress
Cardiff	15 October 2018	British Chambers of Commerce
Reading	17 October 2018	Federation of Small Businesses
Webinar	22 October 2018	Federation of Small Businesses

29. The events were intended to encourage individuals and businesses from all parts of the UK to participate in the consultations. We partnered with leading business associations and other representative organisations to host these events with each event adapting to meet the needs and interests of the registered attendees. In total, there were over 300 attendees with a broad spectrum of trade policy interests.

30. The events were chaired by either the Secretary of State, a minister or a senior official from DIT. Leading country and policy team experts from the department were also available to answer questions. These events allowed us to hear first-hand from a range of experts from across business, trade unions, NGOs, consumer groups and other civil society representatives. Events were held under the Chatham House Rule, with comments not attributed to stakeholders. This facilitated an open and honest discussion. Feedback from attendees was positive with the events being reported as informative and valuable.
31. From these events, we gathered the following feedback to all four consultations:
- Appetite for engagement was high. Stakeholders valued the opportunity for a genuine dialogue with ministers and senior officials, an opportunity to exchange views, gather information and to be involved in the policy-making process.
 - Stakeholders welcomed the Government's commitment to an inclusive and transparent trade policy and asked for this transparency to continue throughout the negotiation process. They requested more digital content on trade to be made available, and for the Department to signpost main issues to assist them accessing pertinent information.
 - Levels of general knowledge of FTAs were mixed.
 - Many businesses were engaged but were open about the fact that the FEP with the EU and EU-Exit contingency planning was their main focus. This was consistently seen as the more immediate priority for business.
32. Understanding of FTAs varied across different stakeholder groups, with there being mixed levels of awareness about the impact of trade deals and their wider benefits to the general public. DIT recognises the need to raise awareness of future FTAs and their impact at both local and national level. The insights gained from these events will inform DIT's stakeholder engagement plans for any future stakeholder consultation exercises and for any future engagement during potential trade negotiations. The Government will continue to build upon its commitment to deliver an informed, inclusive and transparent trade policy.

Engagement with Devolved Administrations, Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories

33. As set out in the Trade White Paper *Preparing for our future UK trade policy* the Government is committed to ensuring the devolved administrations (DAs) have a meaningful role in trade policy after we leave the EU. To develop and deliver a UK trade policy that benefits businesses, workers and consumers across the whole of the UK we will take into account the individual circumstances of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Working closely with the devolved administrations to deliver an approach that works for the whole of the UK continues to be a priority for DIT.
34. During the consultation, we took steps to engage widely in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, including holding round tables in Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast.

35. The Scottish and Welsh Governments have provided views on the consultation related to the potential accession of the UK to the CPTPP agreement via written responses and during discussion with DIT ministers and officials. We welcome and thank both Governments for these views.
36. The Northern Ireland Civil Service has published technical data in relation to CPTPP and trade and discussed this data with DIT officials. We thank them for this information.
37. DIT will continue to actively engage with the devolved administrations regarding the UK's potential accession to CPTPP through a new DIT/DA Ministerial Forum and our regular Senior Officials Group and Policy Roundtables.
38. We recognise the interest in potential UK FTAs from the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories, including Gibraltar, and remain fully committed to engaging them as we develop our independent trade policy for the UK. The Secretary of State for International Trade made this commitment clear in his letter to the Chief Ministers of the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories at the launch of the consultations in July 2018. Discussions between DIT and the Crown Dependencies continue on a range of Trade Policy topics.
39. We will continue to seek views from the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories, including Gibraltar, during any potential future FTA negotiations to ensure that their interests and priorities are properly taken into account.

Engagement with Parliament

40. The Government is committed to providing Parliament with the ability to inform and scrutinise new trade agreements as we progress with developing our future trade policy. The Secretary of State for International Trade, Minister of State for Trade Policy and the Government's Chief Trade Negotiation Adviser held a briefing session on the FTA consultations, open to all Members of Parliament (MPs), on 12 September 2018. Twenty-four MPs attended, and the questions were wide-ranging, covering all four consultations. Comments sent to DIT by MPs on behalf of their constituents were also considered as part of our analysis of the consultation feedback. The House of Commons International Trade Committee also published a report on UK-US Trade Relations, to which the Government responded on 10 July 2018. We will consider the Committee's conclusions from its inquiry on Trade and the Commonwealth: Australia and New Zealand.
41. On 21 February 2019 there was a debate in Government time in the House of Commons on the four potential new FTAs. The purpose of this was to help the Government to understand parliamentarians' priorities for the new FTAs before formulating our negotiating objectives.
42. On 28 February 2019 we published a paper, *Processes for making a free trade agreement after the United Kingdom has left the European Union*, which sets out proposals on public transparency for future FTAs and the role of Parliament and the devolved administrations. This included confirmation that at the start of negotiations, the Government will publish its Outline Approach, which will include our negotiating objectives, and an accompanying Scoping Assessment, setting out the potential economic impacts of any agreement. The Government

stands by its commitment to ensure that Parliament has a role in scrutinising these documents so that we can widen the range of voices heard and ensure that as many views as possible are taken into account before commencing negotiations.

43. The Government plans to draw on the expertise and experience of Parliamentarians throughout negotiations, working closely with a specific parliamentary committee, or alternatively one in each House. We envisage that the committee would have access to sensitive information that is not suitable for wider publication and could receive private briefings from negotiating teams. This would ensure that the committee(s) was able to follow negotiations closely, provide views throughout the process and take a comprehensive and informed position on the final agreement.

Summary of responses

General Themes

Respondents across all stakeholder groups provided a wide range of comments on their priorities and concerns regarding potential accession to CPTPP. More detailed analysis can be found in the 'Analysis of responses by policy area' section. The summary below sets out the key themes raised within the five policy areas which received the greatest volume of substantive comments. We also received a large volume of campaign responses, not all of which included individual comments. These are summarised in the 'Summary of campaign responses' later in this document.

The UK's labour standards and environmental protections should be maintained

Across all stakeholder groups, respondents raised the need to maintain commitments to existing domestic or international levels of labour and environmental protections. This included a concern that potential accession to CPTPP should not lead to imports from CPTPP member countries which are produced or delivered to low environmental or labour standards. Respondents welcomed potential CPTPP accession facilitating workers' ability to travel between member countries but expressed concern that consideration must be given to protecting UK workers' rights, pay and labour conditions. Respondents also advocated continued civil society engagement on environmental standards during any negotiations, to help ensure (for example) that potential CPTPP accession would encourage sustainable business practices, supports the UK's renewable energy sector and does not increase the UK's carbon footprint.

There are overall benefits to the UK from lowering or removing tariffs through potential CPTPP accession, but there may be some industries that would be best supported by maintaining specific protections

Respondents were generally receptive to the possibility of potential CPTPP accession reducing or removing tariffs, commenting that this could result in lower prices to consumers and greater market access for businesses. Other respondents called for protection of sensitive products made in the UK (eg agriculture) and expressed concern over the potential impact of tariff liberalisation on certain UK industries and businesses. Some respondents questioned the additional benefits CPTPP accession could bring beyond existing tariff liberalisation under current EU FTAs with CPTPP member countries.

Potential CPTPP accession will bring opportunities for UK businesses, but the impact on the competitiveness of certain sectors should be considered

CPTPP is seen as an opportunity to potentially bring increased opportunities for exporters and greater choice for consumers. Some viewed it as a benchmark agreement in certain areas such as services, digital trade and telecommunications, which could be a positive driver for UK business growth. In the context of increased trade with CPTPP members as a result of UK accession, respondents emphasised the need to maintain the international competitiveness of UK producers or manufacturers, ensuring CPTPP does not cause job losses in certain sectors which could potentially become uncompetitive. Others highlighted concerns about the potential risk of UK businesses becoming vulnerable to unfair competition, with some respondents calling for investor protection provisions that do not restrict the government's ability to regulate in the public interest.

Finally, on specific measures on competition within the CPTPP agreement (including the application of competition law, the role of state-owned enterprises and the use of state aid and subsidies), some respondents stressed the importance of consistent policies and procedures for competition law and compliance across CPTPP countries with differing regulations and political systems.

The UK's existing product standards should be maintained if acceding to CPTPP

Respondents highlighted the importance of maintaining current high UK product standards whilst trying to achieve harmonisation or mutual recognition of standards, regulations and certification with CPTPP member countries. Some highlighted the opportunities of potential accession to the agreement allowing the UK to shape the development of overall higher product standards across CPTPP member countries, or even promote regulatory harmonisation worldwide. Others cited the need to ensure consumers do not lose out on existing rights, protections and choice. Further comments focused on the importance of continuing to align British standards to those applied in the EU to ensure minimal disruption to existing supply chains, with continued EU alignment and co-operation with bodies such as the European Medicines Agency (EMA).

The UK's existing health, safety and food standards should also be maintained if acceding to CPTPP

Respondents focused on the impact of potential CPTPP accession on UK health, safety and food standards, particularly in the quality of food imports from CPTPP member countries. Some commented that the potential UK accession to CPTPP might bring about higher SPS standards in CPTPP member countries. Others were concerned about imports of produce treated or grown with chlorine, hormones, antibiotics and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) under CPTPP. The future relationship with the EU was a key consideration, with comments questioning whether the UK under CPTPP would be able to continue EU SPS alignment and market access without additional administrative burden (especially for SMEs) or regulatory divergence. Further comments focused on whether existing EU SPS measures could be replicated within CPTPP member countries and to avoid the potential cost advantage that imported products could have over domestic suppliers. Others stressed the importance of not interfering with the UK's ban on the use of certain pesticides and the existing EU moratorium on Genetically Modified (GM) crops.

Other main themes

In addition to the principal issues highlighted above, a number of other key themes were reiterated through the consultation responses. A significant number of stakeholders raised the importance of protecting public services, with particular reference to the National Health Service (NHS); on this point in particular, the Government has made its position clear that decisions about public services will continue to be made by UK Governments, including the devolved administrations, and not future trade partners. On customs procedures, a number of respondents emphasised the need to keep both future EU and potential CPTPP trade as frictionless as possible, with simplified customs processes and procedures. The need to protect UK Intellectual Property (IP) standards was emphasised, especially for copyright protection, effective enforcement against IP theft and the recognition of geographical indications (GIs). On investment, respondents identified potential investment opportunities with CPTPP countries, and provided views on the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism under CPTPP, with many business and business association respondents providing supportive comments, but many individual and NGO respondents raised

concerns about the perceived impact of this mechanism on the right of states to regulate in the public interest. Other comments focused on the importance of the FEP with the EU in framing our approach to CPTPP, and the need for transparency and parliamentary scrutiny in future negotiations.

Overview of Priorities

Respondents who completed their consultation response via the online survey, were classified into different respondent groups (Individual, NGO, Business, Business Association and Public Sector Body) and asked a series of questions (set out in Annex A).

All respondent groups were asked what they wanted the UK Government to achieve through a potential accession to the CPTPP and which of the 14 policy areas provided (as set out below) best described the priorities outlined in their previous answer. Business and business association respondents were also asked what they wanted the UK Government to achieve by reference to the 14 policy areas, and were provided with a supplementary question, asking which of these policy areas is their top priority.

The table below shows the top three policy areas selected as a priority for each of the different respondent groups.

Table 6: Top priorities selected by different respondent groups

Type of respondent (Total number)	First most selected priority (Total selected by)	Second most selected priority (Total selected by)	Third most selected priority (Total selected by)
Individuals (174)	Tariffs 101	Competition 75	Product Standards, Regulation and Certification 72
Businesses (62)	Tariffs 13	Services 12	SMEs 8
Business Associations (33)	Tariffs 13	Product Standards, Regulation and Certification 6	Intellectual Property/Services 6
NGOs (19)	Product Standards, Regulation and Certification 12	Intellectual Property 11	Tariffs 9
Public Sector Bodies (6)	Tariffs 4	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures 3	Customs Procedures/ Intellectual Property/Rules of Origin/Product Standards, Regulation and Certification 5

Overview of Concerns

All respondent groups were asked what concerns they had about potential accession to the CPTPP and which of the 14 policy areas provided (as set out below) best described the concerns outlined in their previous answer.

Business and business association respondents were also asked about their concerns by reference to the 14 policy areas, and were provided with a supplementary question, asking which of these policy areas was their top concern.

The table below shows the top three policy areas selected as a concern for each of the different respondent groups.

Table 7: Top concerns selected by different respondent groups

Type of respondent (Total number)	First most selected concern (Total selected by)	Second most selected concern (Total selected by)	Third most selected concern (Total selected by)
Individuals (170)	Product Standards, Regulation and Certification 114	Labour and Environment 87	Rules of Origin 74
Businesses (62)	Tariffs 9	Services 8	Customs Procedures/SMEs 5
Business Associations (33)	Tariffs 10	Intellectual Property 6	Services/Product Standards, Regulation and Certification/Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures 3
NGOs (26)	Product Standards, Regulation and Certification 16	Intellectual Property 16	Government (Public) Procurement 9
Public Sector Bodies (6)	Rules of Origin 4	Competition 4	Services/Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures/Product Standards, Regulation and Certification 3

Analysis of responses by policy area

This section contains a detailed analysis of the free text comments submitted. The feedback has been summarised with reference to the 14 policy areas and other comments provided and grouped by respondent type: (1) Individuals (2) Businesses (3) Business Associations (4) NGOs (5) Public Sector Bodies. Please note that where respondent feedback from across these different groups reflected similar views, comments or issues highlighted might overlap. Technical terms can be found in the glossary located in Annex C.

Tariffs

Overall, as far as tariffs are concerned, respondents were generally receptive to potential CPTPP accession, highlighting this policy area as a priority, with many respondents perceiving potential CPTPP accession to lead to the lowering or removal of tariffs. Some respondents expressed concern that UK tariff reductions could increase competition and risk compromising the maintenance of high-level standards or protection of UK products and provide an unfair competitive advantage to third countries subject to lower standards. Further detail on standards is provided in the relevant section but is also considered here as referenced by respondents in relation to tariffs.

Individuals

Thirty-three individual respondents made comments referencing tariffs as a priority to the UK potentially acceding to the CPTPP. The majority of respondents welcomed a reduction or removal of tariffs resulting in lower prices to consumers and a greater market access. Two individuals raised concerns which included the perception that lowering tariffs by the UK for CPTPP members could have a potentially negative impact on less-developed countries. Some respondents focused in their comments on the risk of preferential access (granted now unilaterally by the UK) for products from developing countries being negated through potential accession to the CPTPP, due to preferential treatment given to similar products from CPTPP countries.

Businesses

Forty-five business respondents referenced tariffs in their comments as a priority. Most of these respondents were in favour of lowering or removing tariffs, perceiving it to be beneficial to the UK and CPTPP members. Some respondents highlighted the importance of tariff reductions benefiting countries equally. The need for market access to not be impeded by new non-tariff measures, with administrative requirements minimised was flagged as being important. Fifteen business respondents raised concerns about tariffs. One business had particular concerns about concessions on meat and dairy products being offered in a negotiation. Eighteen respondents called for tariffs to be eliminated, however, one respondent stated that tariffs should only be eliminated if SPS measures are materially equivalent which would help to avoid unfair competition (more comments on SPS are covered in the relevant section). A need to respect the WTO Pharmaceutical Tariff Eliminations Agreement was also raised by some respondents. A point repeatedly made was the potential for lower tariffs to increase competitiveness. Some respondents highlighted certain CPTPP member countries' proximity to China and the potential risk of mis-labelled lower-quality products making their way onto the UK market.

Business Associations

Forty-four business associations referenced tariffs as a priority, and the majority highlighted the potential for tariff-free trade through CPTPP. Some respondents asked for existing tariff levels set by the EU to be used by the UK, if we were to join CPTPP. Respondents from sectors including chemicals and spirits called for a complete elimination or reduction of tariffs. Mixed views were expressed by representatives from the meat industry, with some highlighting benefits from tariff liberalisation and others calling for protection (including through tariffs) of UK sensitive products. Respondents from the seafood industry had a wide range of views, with some highlighting the significant trade opportunities for UK exporters to CPTPP member countries and others concerned about the potential impacts of increased competition from CPTPP member countries for UK products. Twenty-three business associations raised concerns on tariffs, with comments focusing on the cost and affordability of products and the impact this would have on UK businesses being frequently raised.

NGOs

Nine NGOs provided comments on tariffs referencing this area as a priority. Potential CPTPP accession was viewed positively because it would reduce tariffs, as well as remove non-tariff barriers and allow products to be treated equally across CPTPP member countries in qualifying for tariff-free treatment. Several respondents, representing the agriculture sector, viewed tariff reduction as being beneficial for UK companies exporting to CPTPP member countries. Products likely to benefit included prepared foodstuffs, vegetable products, hides and skins, sheep meat and live animal products. Five NGOs raised concerns on tariffs. These comments centred around the risk of lowering tariffs for so many countries resulting in increased costs, with the negative impact for consumers out-weighing the benefits. Concerns were also expressed around the impact of lowering of tariffs and non-tariff barriers with CPTPP member countries given the perceived lower standards of production to the UK, and thereby potentially triggering a 'race to the bottom'. Another risk flagged was the potential loss of domestic supply chains and the negative impact to domestic farming if UK products were to be replaced by cheaper imports.

Public sector bodies

Four public sector bodies prioritised tariffs in their comments, with comments focused on the potential benefits of tariff-free trade resulting from potential CPTPP accession negotiations. Flagged as important was the need for the UK to continue the existing or proposed low tariffs through current or potential future EU trade agreements (with Canada and Vietnam listed as examples). Two public sector bodies raised concerns on tariffs. Some respondents also questioned what additional benefits CPTPP accession might bring beyond the existing tariff liberalisation that the UK has under such EU trade agreements. The potential impact of tariff liberalisation on UK industries and businesses was also noted as a concern.

Rules of Origin (RoO)

Respondents highlighted as a priority the issue of compatibility with the future UK-EU relationship and pointed to the opportunity to simplify administrative processes around RoO. A minority of respondents from each group were of the view that businesses in non-CPTPP member countries might be able to circumvent RoO to gain preferential market access (through CPTPP member countries) to the UK. Comments were also raised by respondents in this section on GIs. However,

in a typical FTA, GIs are contained within the IP chapter and therefore we have considered the relevant comments in that section.

Individuals

One individual referenced RoO as a priority in their comments, calling for better availability of information on RoO. Specifically, they requested for more information regarding the potential impact on UK RoO that accession to CPTPP may have. Two individuals raised RoO as a concern, with the point made that after the UK's potential accession to the CPTPP, it would be difficult to determine the origin of certain products, such as steel, if they are imported from less regulated CPTPP economies.

Businesses

Twenty-five businesses referenced RoO as a priority in their comments. Respondents considered allowing for inputs to goods from any CPTPP member country to be treated as qualifying content. Preventing products being routed through non-CPTPP member countries was also mentioned. Eleven businesses suggested that minimising the complexity or regulation involved with compliance should be a priority in any potential trade deal; this included ensuring that the increasing administrative burdens around RoO are reduced. Twelve business respondents raised concerns around RoO and suggested that all RoO should either be scrapped or harmonised. Businesses stated that RoO would however, need to recognise goods as originating in the UK even if components were sourced from overseas. Alternatively, in order to qualify for preferential treatment, the businesses highlighted the need to have EU content recognised as qualifying, through expanded cumulation provisions.

Business Associations

Thirty business associations referenced RoO as a priority in their comments. Some of these respondents called for the future UK-EU relationship to be the biggest priority for the UK's position on RoO. These respondents were of the view that the EU's RoO should be the basis for any future UK FTA, especially given that many business association members' supply chains flow through the EU. Some respondents, in contrast, considered the CPTPP's model for RoO to be preferable as it is seen by respondents as simple and clear, not requiring certification by a government authority and allowing shipments of goods via ports in other CPTPP member countries or transshipment through non-member countries (eg Panama).

Seven business associations called for the UK to negotiate additional cumulation options in CPTPP, including diagonal cumulation with the EU, (ie which some respondents interpreted as products having components originating from the EU or being processed in the EU and exported by the UK could still enjoy preferential treatment within CPTPP). The point was made that high regional content requirements under CPTPP might make access to preferential treatment problematic. Thirteen business associations raised concerns on RoO, with respondents highlighting a concern over the potential extra administrative burden as a result of accession to CPTPP. They noted that navigating through RoO would be a steep learning curve for some businesses, particularly SMEs. Some respondents also flagged the need for harmonised and simplified RoO.

NGOs

Two NGOs provided comments on RoO as a priority. NGO respondents viewed CPTPP's RoO provisions as being an opportunity to lower costs of trade, simplify procedures and encourage the UK to be a part of broader global supply chains. Four NGOs raised concerns on RoO, with several respondents having specific concerns about the perception that Vietnam could potentially act as a conduit for Chinese goods to be imported into the UK. This was flagged as an important issue as it could potentially have a significant detrimental impact for UK sectors such as fashion and manufacturing.

Public sector bodies

Four public sector bodies provided specific comments on RoO in their comments, with two respondents specifically calling for retaining current RoO. Two public sector bodies raised concerns about RoO, with respondents concerned that the UK's RoO may no longer be aligned with the EU. The potential impact of RoO on the fishing industry was also raised as a concern by one respondent.

Customs Procedures

Keeping trade as frictionless as possible, both with CPTPP member countries and with the EU, was flagged as being a priority across the different respondent groups. The need for free movement of goods was flagged as a priority, with respondents calling for simplified customs processes and procedures that maintain food security and safety standards while reducing border delays, potentially by using digital technology.

Individuals

One individual referenced customs procedures as a priority in their comments. The respondent called for customs procedures to be harmonised with international standards. Two individual respondents raised concerns around the possibility of higher costs to consumers or businesses resulting from the potential CPTPP accession, and whether infrastructure in British ports could handle increased customs checks.

Businesses

Thirty-nine businesses viewed customs procedures as a priority in their comments. Business respondents commented on the importance of reduced friction at the border, focusing on the need to avoid friction costs for small shipments, have faster customs clearances, lower costs of certification or a system harmonised with existing EU arrangements. Prioritising friction-free trade with Europe ahead of potential CPTPP accession was a point repeatedly made. Some respondents sought assurances from the UK Government that under CPTPP there would be a better use of electronic (including online) customs procedures, using sustainable, transparent, secure and trusted trader schemes. Accepting existing EU certificates of origin and import/export declarations was flagged as important with respondents calling for behind-the-border reform for services, building on the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement. Fourteen businesses raised concerns on customs procedures, with 11 making points around the risk of increased administrative burdens and 'red tape'. Larger businesses raised concerns around the need to ensure UK compatibility with current rules and procedures under CPTPP with a focus on

standardising customs legislation, while minimising bureaucracy and reducing border delays across the whole supply base (including the EU).

Business Associations

Thirty-four business associations viewed customs procedures as a priority. Several of these respondents highlighted efficient border checks, reducing delays and complexity without impacting commercial agreements as being of paramount importance. Some respondents focused in their comments on transparency, harmonisation of CPTPP customs procedures and lower duty rates, with requests for minimal or no checks and limited paperwork. The importance of not causing knock-on consequences for product supply chains was flagged as an issue. Fourteen business association respondents raised concerns, including calls for minimum change, no divergence from EU rules and regulations, and building on the existing WTO provisions. Further points made included requests for customs procedures to keep pace with the evolution of innovative industries, and for fewer restrictions on UK businesses operating overseas.

NGOs

Two NGO respondents viewed customs procedures as a priority, with their comments focused on preserving the EU status quo and reducing friction at the border needing to be a top priority for the UK Government. Three NGO respondents raised concerns about customs procedures, referencing import conditions for food products within many CPTPP member countries, which they viewed as being restrictive and cumbersome. Some respondents said the procedures needed streamlining yet recognised countries' determination to set their own import rules. Other points made included that existing EU customs procedures should be improved or maintained before considering potential CPTPP accession.

Public sector bodies

No public sector bodies referenced customs procedures as being a priority in their comments. One public sector body raised concerns and commented on the potential for stringent customs procedures to limit or restrict trade.

Services

Overall, respondents highlighted various service-related priorities and concerns for sectors, such as digital, legal, environmental, financial and public services. Mutual recognition of professional qualifications (MRPQs) and visas were also raised as priorities and concerns in the context of provision of services. Relevant comments on public services, including the NHS, were raised in the consultation sections on Investment and Government procurement but have been considered in this section. Respondents were of the view that the benefits for financial services in CPTPP are limited; however, they noted that there might be potential value in signalling the importance of the UK to the region and encouraging more co-operation in financial services trade. Relevant comments on MRPQs, mobility and the visa system that were raised in the consultation section on labour and environment have been considered in this section.

Individuals

Five individual respondents considered services to be a key priority for potential CPTPP accession, perceiving potential opportunities in terms of establishing new relationships, increased inward

investment, increased trade in services and gaining greater market access. They viewed potential accession to CPTPP as an opportunity for the UK to enhance its presence and influence across Asia. Some respondents perceived potential accession to CPTPP to be an opportunity to make it easier for work and business-related travel between member countries. Fourteen responses from individuals expressed concerns regarding services, including the need to determine the UK's future relationship with the EU before considering potential accession to CPTPP. Several respondents also raised concerns over the potential impact on public services, including the NHS, as a result of possible accession to the CPTPP.

Businesses

Twenty-two business respondents referenced services as a priority for potential CPTPP accession. Respondents commented on the importance of addressing any barriers to the free movement of business professionals, and skilled and low-skilled workers. Greater recognition of professional qualifications was referenced by respondents as a measure which could support the movement of skilled workers. Six businesses raised concerns about services in their comments. Respondents identified concerns around free movement, including the need for MRPQs, flexibility of recruitment of overseas staff, and a relaxation of visa policies. Some business respondents identified concerns with cross-cutting services, such as digital, calling for harmonisation of rules and regulations to create a level playing field, as well as ensuring any agreement is as frictionless as possible for trade in services. One business identified that although there is little scope to change CPTPP, reducing the restrictions on senior management, increasing transparency and encouraging committee structures were strong interests of the financial sector. Some respondents called for the UK to focus its efforts on perceived insurance restrictions present in Asian markets. Moreover, businesses called for UK reinsurers to be allowed to compete on a level-playing field with local and state-owned reinsurers. One business respondent identified various market access issues relating to payments, including divergent approaches to storage, use of data, e-identity and reporting. In general, respondents were also unsure about whether more could be achieved with CPTPP member countries on a bilateral versus plurilateral basis, suggesting that the CPTPP market might not offer much benefit over and above the existing trading relationships.

Business Associations

Twenty-three business association respondents viewed services as a priority in their comments. Feedback included the perception that potential CPTPP accession would be beneficial by opening up a greater market accessible for services (eg consultancy, digital, logistics and financial services) within the region, identifying services as a key area of growth for the years to come. Another respondent noted that if financial (insurance) services had greater access to CPTPP markets, it could be beneficial to their exporters and investors. In relation to financial services, one business association identified areas of potential co-operation, particularly with Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries on sustainable financing and noted that London should be used as a platform for issuance.

Several respondents highlighted that some CPTPP member countries have numerous restrictions on insurance and reinsurance. Respondents were of the view that the UK's ability to address these barriers and reservations through potential accession to the CPTPP would be limited. The maintenance of foreign investment screening practices of CPTPP member countries was also raised as a concern, with the restrictions on banking licences by Malaysia and Vietnam highlighted as a particular issue.

Some business associations welcomed the opportunity for the movement of skilled (expert) workers within CPTPP member countries, but would like this to be made easier, facilitated by improved provisions on MRPQs. Ten business associations raised concerns as part of their responses, with many commenting that they wanted the UK to ensure the continuation of existing EU arrangements with regards to services (such as automotive or financial). One respondent asked for assurances that the UK's potential CPTPP accession would not have an impact on their ability to provide automotive services to the EU.

NGOs

Ten NGOs provided comments on services as a priority, focusing on the benefits of potential accession to a plurilateral trade agreement with a fast-growing market whose members are committed to trade in services, with an opportunity for MRPQs. Twelve NGOs raised concerns, with respondents stressing the importance of protecting public services, particularly the NHS, and maintaining the right of the UK Government to regulate and make decisions about the running of public services.

Public sector bodies

Three public sector bodies were of the view that services were a priority, and generally viewed potential accession to CPTPP as being beneficial. Public sector bodies' priorities included providing more opportunities for trade in services, such as financial services, through improving the ease of doing business. They identified the need to focus on financial and wider professional services' elements in potential accession negotiations, identifying Singapore, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei as potential opportunities for the UK (and particularly for London). Two public sector body respondents raised concerns about services, calling for assurance that future trade agreements would not have any adverse impact on public services, including the NHS. Some respondents raised protecting UK public services, particularly the NHS, as a priority and wanted them excluded from the scope of the CPTPP.

Digital

The most common digital theme raised in the feedback was data protection and data security measures between the UK and CPTPP. Respondents, in general, supported the prevention of data localisation and enabling cross border data flows.

The domestic approaches to data protection and cybersecurity by some CPTPP member countries were a concern for some respondents. All respondent groups made comments on the inclusion of CPTPP electronic commerce (e-commerce) chapter provisions. This included banning the imposition of customs duties on electronic transmissions. There was general support for global rather than national responses to the tax challenges of digitisation and for rules on digital goods not being a barrier to trade.

Respondents were supportive of CPTPP's e-commerce provisions, and provisions ensuring national treatment and increased market access for the digital sector as well as for a mutual recognition of qualifications and licenses. Telecommunications respondents called for a telecoms provisions to be advanced and comprehensive, as well as better market competition, and a reduction in data localisation. Market access challenges where businesses need to build new infrastructure, or where infrastructure needs to be upgraded were flagged as an issue in several comments. A number of comments focused on how an FTA might adversely affect the UK's AV

ecosystem, with one respondent making particular reference to the positive impact of the UK's Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) system to the success of UK businesses abroad.

In terms of the newspaper industry, there were calls for there be no unjustified restrictions on the cross-border publication dissemination of UK newspapers, in print and online, or news brands subscriptions and advertising services. The gaming sector emphasised the need to maintain frictionless trade with CPTPP member countries and break down barriers where these existed with partners. Respondents also raised the issue of online infringement, copyright, provisions on disclosure of source codes (trade secrets), anti-piracy measures and safe harbours, however, in a typical FTA, these are contained within the IP chapter and therefore we have summarised these comments in the IP section below.

Individuals

No individuals raised digital as a priority in their comments, however, one respondent was of the view that potential accession to CPTPP might increase opportunities for selling digital products and services, which might spur inward investment and create growth potential for SMEs active in this area. Six individual respondents raised concerns, including around the misuse of data (one comment) and data protection standards (three comments).

Businesses

Twenty-five business respondents prioritised digital in their comments, with 17 raising concerns. Many respondents commented on discrepancy between international standards on data handling and data protection and the need for greater alignment. One respondent noted that CPTPP provisions on international data transfers had been suspended. There was support both for provisions which ensured national treatment (equal treatment of domestic and international businesses) and increased market access for the digital sector. Comments were also made in support of CPTPP's existing e-commerce provisions which are aimed at ensuring the free flow of data, maintaining consumer protection laws and ensuring that privacy and other consumer protections can be enforced. Four respondents raised concerns on data protection. There was also a call for the Government to undertake a full impact assessment of the AV sector before entering potential CPTPP accession negotiations.

Business Associations

Nineteen business association respondents commented on digital as a priority, with calls for the UK and CPTPP member countries to be aligned with international standards on data handling and data protection. Fourteen business associations expressed concerns over digital, particularly on data protection. A few respondents highlighted specific examples of some CPTPP member countries' domestic approach to digital services being barriers to potential businesses. One business association highlighted that cross-border data flows are integral to core financial services business operations so should be a priority in potential accession negotiations. There was also a call for the Government to consult at a detailed sectoral level throughout the negotiation process. Moreover, two respondents thought there should be no custom duties on electronic transmissions.

NGOs

Three NGO respondents prioritised digital in their comments, with two pointing to the benefits of the CPTPP e-commerce provisions for businesses. One respondent was concerned about the potential for CPTPP accession to undermine the UK's Digital Charter. Four NGOs raised concerns and were of the view that CPTPP provisions on data protection will not ensure sufficient protection for UK citizens' personal data which could potentially undermine the UK's robust protections in this area. One NGO respondent called for the UK Government to ensure that protections granted by GDPR remain fully applicable in the UK following a potential accession to CPTPP. One respondent was concerned about the rise in data localisation requirements and potential transfer restrictions, particularly given the potential impact on e-commerce businesses.

Public sector bodies

One public sector body viewed digital as a priority, with their comments focusing on the opportunity to seek enhanced co-operation on digital aspects and use advanced technology. One public sector body raised concerns, including on cyber security and data localisation requirements in some CPTPP member countries. Comments highlighted the challenge that data localisation requirements pose to areas within the financial services sector, eg insurance services. One respondent also noted that data localisation will have a negative effect on the growth of sub-sectors, such as Financial Technology (FinTech).

Product Standards, Regulation and Certification

This policy area covers technical regulations, voluntary product standards and the procedures to ensure that these are met. Standards and measures to protect humans, animals and plants as well as to regulate food, animal and plant safety are discussed under the SPS section of this report.

The terms 'standards' and 'technical regulations' are used frequently in trade agreements when addressing 'technical barriers to trade'. While the word 'standard' is used informally to mean a level of quality or attainment, in the context of trade agreements 'standards' have a formal technical meaning. 'Standards' in this sense are voluntary documents developed through consultation and consensus which describe a way of, for example, making a product, managing a process, or delivering a service. While standards are voluntary, when cited in a regulation, their use can become compulsory. Standards are not set or controlled by the Government. 'Technical regulations' are mandatory requirements set out in the legislation and they are controlled by governments and legislators (Parliament in the UK). For regulated products and services, standards can be used to support compliance.

Respondents across all stakeholder groups highlighted as a priority the importance of maintaining current high product standards. Certain respondent groups, including individuals and businesses, flagged the potential for the UK to shape the global development of high product standards through the UK's accession to the CPTPP. Many respondents, notably businesses and business associations, saw opportunities for the UK to promote regulatory harmonisation worldwide post-EU exit, especially in the Asia-Pacific Region. Business representatives reiterated the importance of continuing to align British standards to those applied in the EU to ensure minimal disruption to existing supply chains. Continued alignment with European standards and EU regulations including future active participation with the EMA was flagged as a top priority for the pharmaceutical industry associations who responded. Relevant comments regarding standards and levels of

protection that were raised in the consultation section on labour and environment have been considered in this section.

Individuals

Seventeen individual respondents viewed this area as a priority, with the substantive comments focusing on the need to maintain current UK standards and regulations. Twenty-eight individual respondents raised concerns about product standards, regulation and certification, citing the need to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of consumers throughout potential CPTPP accession negotiations. Some respondents pointed to the UK's ability to lead and guide the development of higher product standards worldwide as an important opportunity post EU-Exit.

Businesses

Twenty-seven businesses referenced product standards, regulation and certification as being a priority in their comments, with six focusing on the potential harmonisation of standards. Fifteen businesses cited product standards, regulation and certification as being a concern for them. Several respondents were concerned about increased competition with goods produced to lower standards in CPTPP member countries. Businesses also expressed concern around whether DIT and other relevant UK Government Departments would have the resources available to support companies in navigating through partner countries' regulations.

Business Associations

Thirty-three business associations referenced this area as a priority in their comments, with many stressing the importance of continuing to align the UK's domestic product standards and regulations with those applicable in the EU to ensure minimal disruption to existing supply chains after EU-Exit. Eighteen businesses raised concerns in this area, with points including the feasibility of maintaining the UK's current high standards if there is a mutual recognition of standards, regulations and certification with CPTPP member countries.

NGOs

Nine NGO respondents viewed this area as a priority. Comments focused on the need for high standards to be maintained along with consumer protection and choice. The main concerns were around the impact that the UK's potential accession to CPTPP might have on standards, particularly in terms of environmental standards of production. NGOs also felt that under CPTPP, UK consumers could see their rights being diluted and likewise their protections and choice. Twelve NGOs raised concerns around standards, with the biggest concern raised by six NGO respondents on the potential impact on standards, with four comments around the need to protect UK consumer rights.

Public sector bodies

No public sector bodies raised product standards, regulation and certification as a priority in their comments. One public sector body raised concerns in this area, with their comment highlighting a lack of harmonisation of standards between the UK and CPTPP member countries.

Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures

This policy area covers standards and measures to protect humans, animals and plants as well as to regulate food, animal and plant safety. Voluntary product standards and the procedures to ensure that these are met are discussed under the product standards, regulation and certification section of this document.

The perceived risk of potential CPTPP accession leading to lowering of food standards was raised by all respondent groups either as a priority or a concern. Respondents were concerned that if the UK were able to continue alignment with the EU on SPS measures, issues could arise from discrepancy in SPS measures between the UK and CPTPP member countries.

Individuals

Fifteen individual respondents referenced SPS as a priority, and flagged food safety as being of paramount importance. Thirty-eight individual respondents expressed concerns on SPS, primarily over food safety and the potential for CPTPP accession to allow imports of produce treated or grown with chlorine, hormones, antibiotics and GMOs from CPTPP member countries.

Businesses

Twelve business respondents viewed SPS as a priority. The need for equivalence of standards and not allowing unfair advantage for imported products over domestic suppliers were highlighted in the responses. Eight businesses expressed concerns over SPS. Respondents were concerned around the competitiveness of UK suppliers compared to CPTPP member country suppliers, which were perceived by some respondents to be produced to lower SPS standards and regulations. Concerns were also raised by some respondents about simplified methods of adherence to SPS measures being used in CPTPP member countries (through pre-entry documentation and laboratory accreditation).

Business Associations

Twenty business associations provided comments referencing SPS as a priority. One respondent urged the UK Government to maintain high UK SPS standards and regulations and a continuous improvement of applied practices. Many respondents called for the UK Government to maintain these commitments under any future trade agreement. Some respondents were of the view that trade liberalisation with CPTPP member countries would be beneficial for UK businesses. A respondent from the veterinary sector commented about the establishment of veterinary protocols. Some respondents remarked that the UK's potential accession to CPTPP might bring about the enforcement of higher SPS standards and regulations in CPTPP member countries, but also recognised the risk of the UK importing lower-quality products.

Calls were made for the UK Government to exchange information with CPTPP member countries on the development of SPS measures, which might affect trade between the countries. The importance of replicating the existing EU's SPS agreements with CPTPP member countries (with for example, Chile, Mexico and New Zealand) came through in the feedback. Eighteen business association respondents raised concerns over SPS. Respondents were concerned around the future relationship with the EU and whether businesses wanting to adhere to EU standards would still be able to access the European markets. Further points made addressed the potential

additional administrative burden for businesses if the UK's SPS regulations no longer comply with those applicable in the EU.

NGOs

Eight NGOs referenced SPS as a priority in their comments with the focus on maintaining UK high food standards and health and safety standards. Sixteen NGOs raised concerns, with a recurring theme being the risk of divergence in regulatory approaches between the UK's precautionary principle (whereby food products and practices can be restricted if their use has potential, as yet unproven, negative impacts on human health), and the approach taken by CPTPP member countries whereby a product or practice must be proven unsafe for it to be banned. Specific concerns in this area related to the perception that CPTPP's SPS provisions might limit the UK's ability to deploy the precautionary principle, which could negatively impact public health and food quality. Further concerns focused on food safety, with some respondents being of the view that existing CPTPP member countries (particularly New Zealand and Australia) might be able to export "chlorine-washed chicken" and "hormone-fed beef" to the UK. Some respondents were also concerned that potential CPTPP accession could interfere with the UK's ban on the use of certain pesticides and the existing EU moratorium on GM crops.

Public sector bodies

Three public sector bodies viewed SPS as a priority in their comments with two respondents focusing on the need to maintain food standards. Four public sector bodies raised concerns, covering the implications of standards and regulations no longer being aligned with those applicable in the EU; the potential for businesses to have to run a two-track system; and burdens on SMEs, in particular.

Competition

Although the terms 'competition' and 'competitiveness' are sometimes used interchangeably, they have distinct technical meanings. Competition policy covers the rules and regulations concerning the way businesses operate within a market and the enforcement of such rules. Competition laws, for example, typically cover anti-competitive agreements between firms, abuse of a dominant position and merger control. Competitiveness refers to the general ability of a firm to operate in a market compared to other firms that operate in the same market, or the strength of a whole industry or economy relative to another.

Overall, most respondent groups elaborated on the impact of FTAs, including CPTPP, on competitiveness, not on competition policy or legal regimes. Respondents commented on the impact of the potential CPTPP accession on the competitiveness of UK products, with businesses and business association respondents providing comments on competition frameworks, legal regimes, potential barriers to market access and anti-dumping concerns.

Individuals

Eighteen comments were made by individual respondents on competition, which included respondents emphasising the importance of maintaining high standards for UK produce, especially food and drink. These were viewed as being vital for the health, safety and wellbeing of British consumers. Many respondents also called for the UK to maintain international competitiveness of

UK producers or manufacturers, with eight comments made on UK access to overseas markets. Concerns were raised by 28 individual respondents, including comments regarding increased international competition potentially leading to fewer jobs in some sectors and negatively impacting labour rights, with UK businesses becoming vulnerable to unfair competition.

Businesses

Twenty-one businesses in their comments prioritised competition, with many highlighting the importance of consistent policies and procedures regarding competition law and compliance. CPTPP is seen by respondents as an opportunity to become a benchmark agreement in services, digital trade and telecommunications. One respondent highlighted a need for the UK to remain aligned with, and to follow EU competition policy rules. Another respondent highlighted the need to address monopolistic practices and improve competition, eg by defining monopolies in CPTPP text. Ten businesses raised concerns on competition, including the potential for increased competition for UK businesses and the potential impact on UK markets for food and meat industries.

Business Associations

Thirty-two business association respondents identified competition as a priority, with calls for improved market access to certain CPTPP member countries through trade liberalisation. Some respondents suggested that terms of trade offered by the existing or future bilateral trade agreements with individual CPTPP member countries would be more beneficial for the UK from the point of view of competition policy. Thirty concerns were raised, regarding the need for properly regulated e-commerce and online companies being subject to competition law, the need to protect public healthcare services, and highlighting the lowering of environmental or food standards. Requests were also made for mutual recognition of standards, ensuring that imports comply with UK legislation and that UK exports are not subject to unfair practices within CPTPP markets. The latter should be addressed by effective trade remedies. Further concerns included the perception that CPTPP member countries have very different regulations and political systems that would make harmonisation of rules difficult.

NGOs

Nine comments were made by NGOs on competition, with comments on prioritising full equivalence of high environmental, animal welfare and social standards. According to the respondents, CPTPP should not be allowed to trigger a 'race to the bottom' in working conditions, including decent pay, and standards through increased competition faced by the food and farming industry. Nineteen NGOs also raised concerns on competition, with comments over the potential for job loss due to opening markets, as some sectors risk becoming uncompetitive.

Public sector bodies

Three public sector bodies provided comments on competition as a priority for potential CPTPP accession. Most comments were positive recognising the potential for bringing increased opportunities for exporters and greater choice for consumers. Respondents also highlighted potential impacts for domestic businesses, which might materialise as a result from opening up the UK market to additional competition. Respondents noted that such impacts should be fully understood, with mitigating measures developed to address any negative impacts. Five public

sector bodies raised concerns, including three comments on the perception that CPTPP should not be allowed to undermine key industries in the region by exposing producers to unfair competition from producers in countries that have lower food quality standards, labour laws and environmental standards.

Government (Public) Procurement

Overall, respondents welcomed the opportunity for greater market access for UK companies to government procurement contracts in CPTPP member countries, whilst requesting that opening the UK market would not jeopardise UK enterprises. Comments relating to public services, including the NHS (which emerged as a very high priority for all respondents) are noted in more detail in the Services section of this document. To note, the term 'public procurement' was used in the consultation, however, the term 'government procurement' is more commonly used in the international trade context and will be used henceforth.

Individuals

Five individuals commented on government procurement as a priority, with calls for UK public services to be protected. Nineteen individuals raised concerns in this area with the biggest concern, raised in 17 comments, being the potential impact on public services.

Businesses

Twenty-one businesses referenced government procurement as a priority in their comments. Points made included the promotion of high standards in government procurement, with open, fair and transparent rules supporting the interests of industry, commissioning public authorities and the general public. Respondents noted that this should be combined with the simplification of applications and procedures. A point was made around the benefits of one portal for all contracts to enable all eligible companies, including SMEs, to bid and to compete on a level playing field. Respondents were of the view that potential UK accession to the CPTPP could provide additional opportunities for UK companies abroad in several areas. Respondents asked for the UK Government to help them navigate through CPTPP member countries' public policy and regulatory frameworks on government procurement. Eight business respondents expressed concerns about the national interest considerations of other countries restricting access to procurement opportunities, particularly in the defence sector. There were also concerns raised regarding the perceived lack of accessibility to information (eg the lack of, or restricted access to, relevant information regarding the policies and regulatory framework of the partner country) and potential language and administrative barriers in CPTPP member countries.

Business Associations

Fourteen business associations viewed government procurement as a priority. Some respondents welcomed the inclusion of both goods and services in CPTPP procurement market access. Potential accession to CPTPP was seen to have an added value given that not all CPTPP countries are members of the WTO's Government Procurement Agreement (GPA). One business respondent, in particular, emphasised that removal of barriers to government procurement will create new business and employment opportunities and facilitate access to medicines for patients worldwide. There was feedback from specific sectors, eg railways, life sciences, food, financial and legal services (while noting that currently financial services are excluded from CPTPP scope and

only a few countries allow government procurement bids for legal services), advertising, marketing, and opinion polling, where UK companies have interest in CPTPP government procurement opportunities. Three business associations raised concerns, including comments requesting a level playing field domestically, given that UK companies face competition from foreign bidders in our relatively open domestic market but do not have a comparable access to third countries' procurement opportunities.

NGOs

Six NGOs raised comments on government procurement as a priority, and 11 raised concerns. Requests were made for government procurement procedures to be transparent and user-friendly, making it easier for UK businesses to understand which contracts are available for tender, the eligibility criteria, and the application process. Some respondents considered it important to have clauses in the agreement enabling the UK Government to prioritise purchases from domestic suppliers (eg food industry) to support development of local businesses, which respect workers' rights, decent working conditions and environmental protections. Such an approach was thought to facilitate the creation of 'decent' jobs locally and ensure provision of high-standard foods and other products to consumers. In this context, NGO respondents expressed concerns that the current CPTPP text does not allow for such an approach. Some respondents were of the view that the UK Government should advocate prioritising sustainable development in procurement and focus on areas, such as poverty eradication, tackling climate change and the elimination of modern slavery.

Public sector bodies

One public sector body referenced government procurement as a priority in their comments, while one public sector body commented on this area as a concern. The comments included calls to exclude public healthcare services as far as possible from requirements for competitive tendering or onerous procurement requirements, whilst adhering to WTO rules of fairness and transparency. NGOs also specifically raised concerns about the perceived threat of an FTA opening up public services, including the NHS, to bidders from other countries.

Intellectual Property (IP)

Overall, a recurrent theme from the feedback was the need to protect UK IP standards. Concerns raised across respondent groups included copyright protection, effective enforcement against IP theft and the recognition of GIs. The importance of the UK's membership of the European Patent Convention and other international IP agreements were also highlighted by respondents. Many respondents also called for the UK to negotiate stronger IP protection as part of its potential accession to CPTPP. Relevant comments on both GIs and copyright, source codes, safe harbours and algorithms were also raised in the consultation section on RoO and digital respectively but have been considered in this section.

Individuals

Five individual respondents viewed IP as a priority and four respondents viewed it as a concern in their comments. Concerns included the perception that certain CPTPP member countries have weaker IP protections than the UK. Some respondents suggested that if the UK were to join the agreement, it could push for stronger IP protection across the CPTPP trading bloc.

Businesses

Thirty-one business respondents referenced IP as a priority in their comments. The recurring theme from the feedback was the need for the UK to maintain its high standards on IP (five comments). Several business respondents expressed concerns that some of the CPTPP member countries have lower IP standards than the UK. Priorities included a need for robustness enforcement against the infringement of IP and efficient anti-piracy measures. Protection for innovation by the pharmaceutical industry was also highlighted as important. Some respondents argued for IP provisions that go beyond the WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). Other comments focused on the perception of inadequate copyright protections under CPTPP, with some respondents suggesting reinstating suspended copyright term provisions under CPTPP to guarantee a minimum of 70 years protection after an author or creator's death.

Nine business respondents raised concerns on IP, with some of them stating that the CPTPP text still leaves considerable discretion for countries to introduce and retain exceptions and limitations to IP infringement. CPTPP's suspended provisions in the IP chapter on legal remedies and safe harbours for internet service providers were also highlighted, with some respondents saying that they would not want to see these provisions reinstated as currently drafted. Further points highlighted as important included the accessibility for SMEs to use and enforce their IP abroad, issues with disclosing source codes for market access (the protection of trade secrets), and the extent to which other countries are recognising their obligations under international copyright treaties.

Business Associations

Thirty-six business associations viewed IP as a priority, highlighting the need to maintain UK standards on IP protection and emphasising the importance of the UK's FEP with the EU when considering IP in new trade agreements. Some business association respondents raised the importance of recognition of international IP treaties that the UK is party to, including compatibility with the European Patent Convention (EPC). CPTPP's IP chapter was seen by some creative industry respondents as being too permissive of exceptions and limitations to copyright, and some respondents stated that they would not want to see the reinstatement of suspended CPTPP provisions on legal remedies and safe harbours for internet service providers. Creative industry respondents also raised topics including reinstatement of suspended copyright term extension provisions of CPTPP to guarantee a minimum of 70 years protection after the death of the creator (six comments). Twenty-six business associations raised concerns on IP, particularly on the risk of counterfeit products entering the UK market.

NGOs

Eleven NGO respondents referenced IP as a priority in their comments. Some respondents had the perception that the UK's potential accession to CPTPP could help raise other CPTPP member countries' IP standards. Some respondents indicated the need for potential CPTPP accession to be compatible with the EPC. Thirteen concerns were raised, including the perception that certain CPTPP member countries' IP systems are weaker than UK standards. Further concerns stated that other countries do not implement Artists' Resale Rights and highlighted the need to protect the creative industry in future trade agreements. Other concerns included comments on access to affordable medicines for developing countries and interaction with patent protections. Some

respondents expressed concerns in relation to the forced disclosure of source codes or trade secrets in order for a company to gain market access to a country.

Public sector bodies

Four public sector bodies viewed IP as a priority in their comments, and two raised concerns. The need to safeguard and promote access to medicine at affordable prices was a point repeatedly made by respondents. There were concerns that UK producers could be exposed to unfair competition with businesses from CPTPP member countries with lower IP standards, alignment of regulations and respect for IP rights ownership. Two respondents raised concerns related to copyright standards and international copyright provisions.

Investment

Overall, responses were positive with many respondents identifying potential investment opportunities with CPTPP countries, with some respondents identifying specific sectors. Many respondents provided views on the inclusion of the ISDS mechanism provided for in CPTPP. These views varied, with many business and business association respondents providing comments in favour of investment protections and a supporting ISDS mechanism. These respondents were of the view that access to an ISDS mechanism is important to investors, as are the existence of clear and transparent investment rules in agreements. Individual and NGO respondents raised concerns about the impact of the ISDS mechanism included in CPTPP on the right of states to regulate in the public interest. Relevant comments on ISDS that were raised in the consultation section on trade remedies and dispute settlement are considered in this section. Comments were also raised by respondents in this section on public services, including the NHS; notably respondents called for the UK Government to protect public services from foreign investment. However, in a typical FTA, public services are contained within the services chapter and therefore we have considered relevant comments in the services section of this document.

Individuals

Six individuals viewed investment as a priority in their comments with one raising concerns. Four individual respondents called for CPTPP to encourage greater investment. Respondent's concerns focused on ensuring the protection of public services, including the NHS, from being forced into unrestricted open competitive tendering by investors from CPTPP member countries. Some expressed concerns that the current CPTPP text could restrict the Government's ability to protect, or even renationalise, public services. Several individual respondents expressed a related concern around the ISDS mechanism, with the perception that it could grant foreign investors too much power and restrict the rights of Government to regulate in the public interest. Other respondents were of the view that disputes should be brought to an established national or international court rather than to ad hoc arbitration. Other points made included that an investment chapter should guarantee balance in protection of interests of all parties.

Businesses

Twenty-three business respondents viewed investment as a priority and were of the view that CPTPP could facilitate inward and outward investment. Several business respondents prioritised transparency in investment rules and called for stable and predictable rules that ensure fair treatment of investors. Some respondents stated that investment protection provisions and access

to an investment dispute settlement mechanism was of paramount importance to them. It was also suggested that investors should be allowed to transfer their investment-related capital between the UK and partner countries. Other respondents expected the remaining barriers to investment, such as requirements related to performance, local content, nationality or residence (the latter related for example to local recruitment or the board of directors' appointments) to be removed and equal (national) treatment of investors ensured. Six business respondents raised concerns related to investment, including calls on the Government to provide information and advice to UK companies (eg about the partner countries' economic and regulatory environment) to facilitate their investment decisions. In their view, restricted access to important information may lead to mistaken investment decisions or increase investment-related risk. Some respondents highlighted concerns with potential political risks related to investment in some of the CPTPP countries.

Business Associations

Nineteen business associations prioritised investment in their comments. Their responses were in line with those from businesses (as above) on priorities, including calls for transparent and stable investment rules, fair treatment of investors and removal of the remaining barriers to investment. Some respondents recognised the opportunity in CPTPP to boost investment eg in infrastructure, manufacturing, renewable energy, services, AV sector, education and research and development. Respondents also welcomed investment in technologies, particularly for start-ups and SMEs. Some business associations expressed support for current provisions in the CPTPP investment chapter, including investment protections and the associated dispute settlement mechanism. Respondents noted that the guarantees associated with such investment protections could incentivise businesses to focus on the region.

Many respondents viewed ISDS positively as a dispute settlement mechanism, however, some qualified their view in that its potential inclusion should not restrict the Government's right to regulate and should be accompanied with clauses guaranteeing balance of interests of investors and the public. Some respondents suggested the CPTPP text might offer more protection for UK investors in CPTPP countries than the UK's relevant existing Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs). Seven respondents also expressed a concern that, due to the one-sided nature of the accession process, the UK would have very little leverage in potential accession negotiations. This was perceived as potentially limiting opportunities that could be secured for UK businesses in comparison to opportunities foreign businesses may have in the UK.

NGOs

Six NGO respondents prioritised investment in their comments with two raising concerns. As also stated by individuals (see above), the feedback noted the need to protect public services, including the NHS, from investors forcing the UK into unrestricted open competitive tendering for public services. Respondents emphasised the need to preserve the right of the UK Government to regulate in the public interest (eg regarding working conditions, environmental and food standards, public health and healthcare services). Some respondents suggested that CPTPP could encourage greater investment and support services sector, as well as research and development (R&D). Similarly to other respondent groups, two NGOs expressed a concern over the current CPTPP text (commonly referred to as a "negative list in provision of services"). Some respondents expressed further concerns that the current CPTPP text provided broad protections for investors, and that ISDS provisions could potentially undermine environmental protection measures. In their view, ISDS should be excluded from the trade agreement. In this context, some respondents

suggested mediation or insurance against potential political risks as an alternative method for resolving investment disputes. Some respondents were concerned about the potential for ISDS to introduce discrimination of domestic investors compared to foreign ones. There were also concerns around the high costs associated with investment arbitration, irrespective of the ruling. Several comments noted that New Zealand (a CPTPP member country) is against ISDS and has secured carve outs from it under CPTPP.

Public sector bodies

Two public sector body respondents prioritised investment, with none raising specific concerns. Respondents highlighted potential opportunities for UK companies to invest in CPTPP member countries. Some respondents did raise concerns around the perceived risk that investment protection clauses in CPTPP could potentially restrict the right of the Government to regulate, including in the area of public health. Therefore, the UK Government should ensure that any commitments made under CPTPP do not restrict that right. Moreover, provisions on investment protection should be transparent and balance the interests of investors and the public.

Labour and Environment

Overall, the key priorities which emerged from the responses include; the need to ensure CPTPP's labour and environment chapters have effective enforcement mechanisms, and the importance of involving civil society during potential negotiations. Concerns were raised over perceived differences in labour and environmental standards between CPTPP member countries and the UK, and the potential impact of UK's accession to the CPTPP on people and businesses, particularly highlighting concerns that the UK's high labour and environmental standards could be compromised. Respondents also commented on ensuring free movement of professionals between the UK and Australia and that MRPQs should be prioritised, however, in a typical FTA these are contained within the Services chapter so relevant comments have also been raised there. Respondents also submitted comments on human rights, public health and quality of life in this section. As these are social aspects of an FTA, relevant comments have been raised in the other issues section. In this section, respondents also commented on standards beyond labour and environment. These comments have been addressed in the standards section of this document.

Individuals

Twenty-eight comments were raised by individuals which referenced labour and the environment as a priority. Comments included setting out the need to maintain EU standards on labour and the environment while considering any new FTAs, including the CPTPP. Some responses focused on requests for the prioritisation of high environmental protections and labour rights and for these standards to be harmonised across trading partners. Some individual respondents noted there should be commitments on tackling climate change. Fifty-three individual respondents raised concerns in this area, with points repeatedly made around climate change given CPTPP member countries and the UK are geographically distant, meaning any increased trade between the nations could increase emissions and the UK's carbon footprint. Thirty-two individuals raised concerns about labour, with the main concern about the impact on workers' rights, which attracted 25 comments.

Businesses

Twenty-four business respondents referenced labour and environment as a priority in their comments. Most business respondents were of the view that it was important for the UK to maintain its high labour and environmental standards. One respondent suggested that a labour and environment chapter in FTAs should have an effective enforcement mechanism to ensure that trade deals do not have a negative impact on the environment or social standards. Another respondent saw this as an opportunity for the UK to lead on international co-operation, striving for high levels of labour and environmental standards. One business respondent encouraged the UK Government to explore ways in which FTAs can maintain high labour and environment standards. Eight business respondents raised concerns on labour and the environment. Regarding barriers to free movement of workers, two respondents commented on the increased complexity and bureaucracy of labour laws and regulations with one comment on the loss of skilled workers.

Business Associations

Thirty-one business associations viewed labour and the environment as a priority, with many of these respondents seeking assurance from the UK Government that potential accession to CPTPP would not lead to a 'race to the bottom' for workers' rights. Respondents were positive about the opportunity to build upon the existing CPTPP labour and environment chapters to encourage sustainable business practices in CPTPP countries and along supply chains. Eighteen business associations raised concerns with some of these respondents perceiving certain CPTPP member countries to have lower environmental and labour standards than the UK, which could potentially adversely affect competition. Business associations, in general, also advocated a level playing field under potential CPTPP accession.

NGOs

Nineteen NGO respondents referenced labour and the environment as a priority in their comments. Four respondents made comments about maintaining or improving workers' wages, with two comments suggesting that accession to CPTPP would facilitate the easier movement of workers. Twenty-one NGO respondents raised concerns with some respondents being of the view that there are insufficient provisions on the environment and climate change under CPTPP's existing environment chapter, with concerns about its enforcement mechanism. Concerns were raised about the impact on biodiversity, the UK's carbon footprint (due to increased travel of goods and services) and on climate change and renewable energy, as many respondents were concerned that the current CPTPP provisions are too weak. In line with feedback from business associations, NGOs also expressed concerns around increased imports of goods from some CPTPP countries perceived as not meeting UK or international standards and regulations on labour and the environment. Several trade union respondents had reservations about potential accession to CPTPP due to their concerns about the impact to workers' rights, jobs and UK domestic regulation.

Public sector bodies

Five public sector bodies provided comments referencing labour and the environment as a priority. One public sector body respondent suggested using potential accession to CPTPP as an opportunity to boost economic development and job creation in the UK. Four public sector body respondents raised concerns in relation to labour, which included concerns over the impact of potential CPTPP accession on workers' rights.

Trade Remedies and Dispute Settlement

Overall, respondents provided comments on state-to-state dispute settlement mechanisms and on trade remedies in the CPTPP trade agreement. Many comments were also provided by respondents in this section on ISDS mechanisms. However, in a typical FTA, ISDS is contained within the Investment chapter and therefore we have considered the relevant comments in that section. During the consultation, trade remedies and dispute settlement were combined in the same policy area, however in an FTA these are contained within different chapters, we have therefore separated the analysis of the feedback.

Five individuals raised comments on trade remedies and disputes settlement as a priority, while 24 individuals raised concerns related to these areas. Twenty-five businesses provided comments about trade remedies and dispute settlement as a priority, with two businesses raising concerns about these areas. Eighteen business associations raised trade remedies and dispute settlement as a priority, while 14 business associations raised these areas as a concern. Four NGOs raised comments on trade remedies and dispute settlement as a priority, while 16 NGOs raised concerns in these areas. Two public sector bodies raised priorities relating to trade remedies and dispute settlement, while two public sector bodies raised concerns.

The numbers above reflect those who have highlighted trade remedies and dispute settlement as a priority or concern. The detailed analysis below focuses on the specific comments received relating to either trade remedies or dispute settlement.

Trade Remedies

Individuals

No individual respondents provided specific comments referencing trade remedies as a priority in their response on potential UK accession to CPTPP.

Businesses

Four businesses specifically mentioned trade remedies. One business raised a concern about the accessibility of trade remedy applications to SMEs, and another business called for a low-cost dispute settlement mechanism in order to avoid expensive trade remedy cases for SMEs.

Business Associations

There were around 12 business associations that specifically mentioned trade remedies, and they provided a high level of detail on what they want to see in the CPTPP Trade Remedies chapter. Eight business associations called for the reaffirmation of obligations to WTO trade remedies law, and five called for provisions committing parties to applying the lesser duty rule and an economic interest test in calculating anti-dumping and countervailing duties.

Five business associations called for the inclusion of bilateral safeguard provisions which: (a) facilitate consultation between the parties before the imposition of a measure, (b) require compensation to be provided to the exporting party, or enables the exporting Party to suspend equivalent concessions, and (c) have recourse to the FTA's dispute settlement mechanism. Six business associations stressed the importance of having transparency provisions in CPTPP, such as notification requirements and information-sharing.

There was divided opinion on whether WTO trade remedies should be included in the FTA's dispute settlement mechanism or excluded (with recourse to the WTO dispute settlement mechanism instead). One business association expressed concern about the inclusion of Vietnam in CPTPP, stating that Vietnam is a big exporter of ceramic goods into the UK and may be used as a circumvention route for ceramic products from China that are subject to UK anti-dumping measures.

NGOs

For NGOs, there were six responses which specifically mentioned trade remedies. Four NGOs expressed concern that acceding to CPTPP would open up the UK market to increased levels of dumped goods, particularly Vietnamese goods incorporating cheap Chinese steel, tyres, cement and glass. Examples were given of Chinese steel manufacturers attempting to use Vietnam to circumvent EU remedy measures. There was also a concern from one NGO about potential accession to CPTPP resulting in the UK being exposed to unfair trading practices in the agricultural sector.

Public sector bodies

On trade remedies, one public sector body raised a concern about an increase in imports of bovine, porcine and ovine meats which could potentially lead to a decrease in UK production of these products.

Dispute Settlement

Individuals

Thirty-three responses were received from individual respondents referencing dispute settlement to be a priority in their comments. Five individual respondents provided specific, more detailed comments on state-to-state disputes mechanisms. Two were broadly positive with the remaining raising concerns around transparency and a potential impact on UK regulations.

Businesses

Seven businesses provided responses specific to state-to-state disputes. Feedback from business respondents included positive comments on the role of dispute settlement mechanisms and a need for its inclusion into the agreement. There was a concern raised about the prohibitive costs involved in dispute settlements for SMEs. One other respondent highlighted that strong legislation was preferable to FTA provisions for non-adherence. Transparency was also raised as an important consideration within dispute settlement generally.

Business Associations

There were 17 business associations that provided comments about state-to-state disputes specifically. Feedback highlighted the need for sector specific experience within arbitration panels, appropriate governance structures on subsidies, and the inclusion of anti-dumping, countervailing and global safeguard measures. The feedback also raised the importance of ensuring alignment with WTO rules and concerns that provisions in CPTPP could create problems for the UK's future trade agreement with the EU.

NGOs

Four NGOs raised concerns about dispute settlement. Other concerns were also raised relating to CPTPP's provisions on ISDS (17 comments) which as mentioned above have been addressed in the investment section of this report, as well as concerns on workers' rights which are also covered within the section on labour and the environment. Other feedback argued that dispute mechanisms should go further than state-to-state dispute resolution on environmental matters to ensure the enforceability of environmental commitments.

Public sector bodies

The feedback from public sector bodies largely related to ISDS and the risks that this may restrict the ability of future governments to regulate in the public interest, though if included, should be transparent and equitable.

Small- and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) Policy

A recurring theme in the responses was the request for greater Government support and a streamlining of administrative processes. In general, this was due to concerns around SMEs' relative lack of resources compared to larger businesses.

Individuals

No individuals specifically raised SME policy as a priority in their comments however, one respondent was positive about the potential benefits of potential accession to CPTPP for SMEs given the greater market access they would have. However, they recognised the likelihood of larger businesses benefitting more substantially than smaller ones. Concerns were raised by two respondents about CPTPP potentially not making up for the UK leaving the EU in terms of creating opportunities for SMEs to export.

Businesses

Eighteen business respondents prioritised SMEs in their comments. Amongst these business respondents there was a strong call for greater support for SMEs. Several suggestions were made, including UK-themed stands at international trade shows; trade or research missions; greater financial support; information or guides on regulatory principles of CPTPP; and an online service that aggregates opportunities for SMEs. Access for SMEs to public procurement opportunities was flagged by many respondents as being an important issue. A lack of resource also led to requests from business respondents to reduce burdensome administrative processes. Eleven business respondents raised concerns on SME policy, with five comments focusing on the lack of support for SMEs and three on concerns that SME needs are not properly being considered. More generally, businesses highlighted SMEs' lack of resource and consequent inability to actively engage with DIT on issues like international trade. Other points were made around the tendency of trade agreements to focus on larger businesses at the expense of SMEs. Two respondents also stated that trade remedies often come too late to be beneficial to SMEs.

Business Associations

Eighteen business associations referenced SMEs as a priority in their comments. Some business associations recognised the opportunities for SMEs from potential UK accession to CPTPP. They

highlighted areas of good practice including streamlined RoO processes, dispute resolution and a standalone SME chapter. However, there was concern over the CPTPP's impact and compatibility with the future UK-EU relationship. Greater support for SMEs was a common theme in the feedback from business associations who repeatedly highlighted SMEs' lack of resources and difficulty with complex administrative processes. Feedback included requests for more help for SMEs looking to access government procurement contracts and recognition that enforcing IP rights can be costly and administratively difficult for SMEs. Six business associations raised concerns, which included the impact on SMEs in the farming industry in the UK and concerns over the fairness of the CPTPP agreement on SMEs.

NGOs

One NGO mentioned SMEs as a priority in their comments and highlighted the economic importance of SMEs calling on the Government to focus on the particular issues facing SMEs in any new FTA. Five NGO respondents raised specific concerns, such as the potential impact of UK unilateral implementation of grace periods on SMEs.

Public sector bodies

One public sector body commented on priorities for SME policy, with the organisation requesting access to resources and funding for SMEs. No public sector body raised any specific concerns around SMEs.

Other policy issues raised by respondents

Respondents submitted feedback to the UK's proposed potential accession to CPTPP outside the scope of the trade policy areas provided. Many of these comments referenced the importance of the FEP with the EU and the centrality of the EU in guiding our approach to CPTPP. Other feedback included: the gravity model of trade and cultural and historical ties with trade partners. Some respondents raised concerns over the need for transparency and parliamentary scrutiny of the negotiation process. Relevant comments on human rights, public health, quality of life and impact assessments that were raised in the consultation section on labour and environment have been considered in this section.

Individuals

Seventy-eight individual respondents raised other priorities in their comments. Thirty-one individuals prioritised the UK retaining close trade links with the EU as being more important than potential accession to CPTPP. Four respondents thought a trade agreement, including potential accession to CPTPP should be fair for all countries, while five considered economic growth and job creation as a priority. Fifteen respondents expressed concerns that the UK may not be able to negotiate a trade agreement that would be beneficial for the UK, while 15 were of the view that potential accession to CPTPP may have a negative impact on the UK's trade relations with the EU and other countries. Other comments included concerns raised on the gravity model of trade given CPTPP is geographically far away, and animal welfare.

Businesses

Forty-seven business respondents made comments on other priorities with several commenting on the FEP with the EU, with six emphasising the need to prioritise trade relations with the EU and five highlighting the need to maintain EU trade agreements the UK benefits from as a Member State. Three respondents called for negotiations to be fair, and that a trade agreement should be beneficial for all countries involved. Three respondents raised the question of timeline for negotiations and how much it takes to conclude a trade agreement. Four respondents were concerned that the UK may not be able to negotiate a beneficial trade agreement. Concerns were also raised by business respondents about whether CPTPP would be compatible with other FTAs, as well as that it may not compensate for the loss of trade with the EU (six respondents) and that CPTPP member countries are far away (three respondents).

Business Associations

Fifty-five business association respondents commented on other priorities. Points made included ensuring that CPTPP does not prejudice UK market access to the EU as this was highlighted by respondents as being a concern (15 respondents). Four respondents considered as more beneficial for the UK to accede to CPTPP rather than negotiate bilateral trade agreements with CPTPP member countries. Thirty-nine business association respondents raised concerns which included comments on animal welfare and DIT's ability or capacity to negotiate FTAs with the US, Australia, New Zealand and CPTPP all at the same time.

NGOs

Twenty-seven NGOs raised comments on other priorities. There was a wide range of issues with points made with regards to sustainable development, transparency (four respondents) and parliamentary scrutiny. Some NGO respondents expressed concern about the eroding of preferential access for developing countries into the UK market, due to tariff liberalisation between the UK and CPTPP countries. There was also recognition amongst NGOs that provisions across FTAs (including for example, labour rights, IP, and procurement and regulation of public) can have social impacts, that are likely to be gendered. Several respondents noted that women suffer a financial disadvantage in the labour market and raised concerns about trade liberalisation increasing the gender wage gap. Others raised concerns about the gendered-impacts of service liberalisation under CPTPP, noting that women are often less able to pay high fees for privatised services. Other points made included the need for trade and gender to be included as a provision in CPTPP. Some respondents called for the monitoring of gendered impacts over time, and for impact assessments to be conducted which cover issues including gender equality, human rights, labour rights, environment and the economic impacts of trade agreements.

Public sector bodies

Six public sector bodies made comments about other priorities, with two comments on the need for CPTPP to not compromise existing deals the UK has with the EU and other trading partners. Seven comments raised concerns on other issues. There were also single comments including the need to uphold British culture and values, the call to carry out impact assessments before UK accession to CPTPP, the need to involve the devolved administrations, to ensure that outcome of the negotiations will be fair for all countries involved and to make information about joining CPTPP readily available.

Summary of campaign responses

Three campaigning groups encouraged their members to submit a response to the CPTPP consultation.

38 Degrees

Submission to DIT's consultation on future trade deals

145,905 members submitted a response to the consultation. Of these, 52,396 respondents included specific individual comments in addition to the campaign's proposed template response.

The template response called for the protection of the NHS in future trade agreements, expressing concerns about allowing companies from other countries to deliver NHS (healthcare) services, and undermining the principles of the NHS, removing caps on how much money companies could charge to deliver NHS services and on the potential increase in the price of medicines. The template response asked for laws to be introduced to protect the NHS in future UK trade agreements.

38 Degrees

Additional comments

- Most additional comments made by 40,565 individuals commented on the need to protect the NHS. Respondents commented that the NHS should remain free at the point of use.
- 683 comments were raised with regards to EU-Exit, with some stating their desire to stay in the EU and 90 comments were raised regarding a second referendum.

Global Justice Now

TPP trade agreement: Respond to the public consultation

1,336 members submitted a response to the consultation. Of these, 1,335 respondents included specific individual comments in addition to the campaign's proposed template response.

The template response highlighted high-level concerns on the environment, human rights and economic growth. The response outlined specific concerns on ISDS, on developing country development, on food standards, on protecting public services, on data protection, on financial regulation and on agricultural production.

Global Justice Now

Additional comments

- There were 69 comments that a trade agreement with the CPTPP should not prioritise benefits to businesses. 62 comments outlined that the CPTPP agreement may potentially increase inequality and not benefit everyone equally. 30 comments were

raised on the impact on developing countries, with 34 comments concerning the potential impact on human rights. A total of 40 comments expressed opposition to joining the CPTPP member countries under any circumstances.

- 48 comments encouraged the protection of UK sovereignty from the CPTPP. 26 comments considered as a concern the potential power of companies to sue, overrule or influence the UK Government after potentially joining the CPTPP. 16 comments did not want to see multinational corporations have the ability to sue the UK Government through the ISDS.
- 31 comments mentioned the impact on food standards, with 11 considering the potential increase in hormone-fed or injected livestock as a concern. A further 23 comments considered the impact on UK agriculture and farming from the increased competition arising from cheap imports of low-quality food.
- In terms of the environment, there were 31 comments on the impact on sustainability and a further 13 comments which noted this as a consideration. 13 comments prioritised maintained or improved environmental standards in any future trade agreement with CPTPP countries, and an additional 13 raised this as a consideration. Ten comments were made on the potential impact on climate change and global warming of the UK potentially joining the CPTPP.
- Furthermore, 26 comments did not want to see any part of the NHS privatised as a result of a trade agreement, referring to the fundamental principles that the NHS is universal and free at the point of need.

War on Want

Tell Liam Fox What You Think of TPP

2,331 members submitted a response to the consultation. Of these, 321 respondents included specific individual comments in addition to the campaign's proposed template response.

The War on Want template response was identical to the Global Justice Now template response, as outlined above.

War on Want

Additional comments

- There were 64 comments stating that a trade agreement with the CPTPP should not prioritise benefits to companies, corporations, shareholders and countries. 71 individuals raised comments in opposition to the UK joining the CPTPP.
- 49 comments expressed that a trade agreement would increase inequality and not benefit society equally due to the corporate power associated with the CPTPP.
- A further 22 comments perceived the agreement to be detrimental to the UK, with 21 comments perceiving negative impacts on consumers, while 15 considered the potential impact on international development and developing countries.
- There were 25 comments that the NHS should be protected from public procurement. Related to this, there were 12 comments which considered the general potential impact on people's quality of life, health, wellbeing and welfare.

- There were 15 comments that considered the potential impact on food standards arising from an agreement with CPTPP countries. Specifically, this referred to the lowering of standards and regulations, lower quality of food and chlorinated meat.
- Ten comments considered the impact on environmental standards of an agreement that prioritised monetary profit over the people and planet. 14 comments concerned the potential negative impact on environmental sustainability.

We also received one petition on the consultation:

- ‘Don’t put our NHS up for Negotiation’ – 38 Degrees - 229,699 signatures. This echoed the issues raised above, calling for the “NHS is kept out of any future trade deals after Brexit”.

DIT recognises that respondents who elected to reply via a campaign hold strong views and opinions on the issues highlighted in those campaigns. For this reason, DIT has already made the following commitments:

- The Government will not compromise the high quality of British food or agricultural standards in any free trading relationship as part of CPTPP. We are committed to maintaining high standards on animal welfare and food safety after the UK leaves the EU.
- The NHS will never be privatised, and any future trade agreements will not change that.
- The Government will continue to ensure that decisions about public services, including the NHS, are made by the UK Governments, including the devolved administrations, and not our trading partners. Protecting the UK’s right to regulate public services is of the utmost importance. The UK’s public services are protected by specific exemptions and reservations in EU trade agreements and, as we leave the EU, the UK will continue to ensure that the same rigorous protections are included in trade agreements to which it is party.
- The Government will ensure that Parliament can inform the Government’s approach to negotiations and scrutinise new trade agreements.
- The Government will develop an inclusive and transparent future trade policy for the UK.

There were other issues raised by respondents, which were discussed in the Government’s White Paper *Preparing for our future UK trade policy*. For instance, the Government’s commitment to supporting developing countries to reduce poverty through trade, including through enhancing market access, tackling barriers to trade and promoting investment to allow better uptake of trading agreements was detailed in this White Paper. In other areas flagged by respondents as a concern, the Government is already undertaking work to address many of the issues identified. For

example, the Government is focused on promoting gender equality through trade, with activities planned to support these efforts.

Next Steps

The Government is carefully considering the points raised from the public consultations as it develops a new independent trade policy for the UK.

We recognise the importance of developing a trade policy that commands broad public support, with policy objectives that can be met while mitigating the concerns raised by respondents and maximising the benefits felt across UK society and its regions.

The public consultations attracted significant public interest. DIT was grateful to those who took the time to submit responses and attend events. We recognise the strength of feelings on some of the topics raised. The purpose and use of the response feedback gathered from this consultation will be to inform our overall approach to potential negotiations on UK accession to CPTPP. Decisions that are made as a result of this consultation will therefore be published alongside our negotiating objectives before potential negotiations begin. The Government also intends to keep views expressed by respondents in mind for future development and review of trade policy.

DIT worked closely with other government departments during the consultation period and subsequently to analyse the consultation feedback. Prior to potentially requesting formal commencement of negotiations on acceding to the CPTPP, the Government will publish its conclusions from this consultation. The Government has also made clear that an Outline Approach, setting out the UK's high-level negotiating objectives, will also be published before negotiations commence.

In preparation for the start of any potential negotiations, DIT is undertaking a programme of work helping to shape the UK's overall approach to negotiations; considering what organisational mechanisms and structures are needed to facilitate trade negotiations and engage effectively with stakeholders throughout. Suggestions made by respondents in this consultation and issues raised will be considered as part of this work.

We will explore ways in which we can build upon the consultation engagement activity. Plans are already in place to work with a range of experts and practitioners to help shape our future trade policy and realise opportunities across the UK. The membership of the Strategic Trade Advisory Group representing a cross section of interests and expertise from civil society, businesses, workers, consumers and academics was announced on 3 April and held its first meeting on 6 June. The group provides a forum for high-level strategic discussions on trade policy matters. The Minister for Trade Policy, George Hollingbery MP, has also announced the first wave of Expert Trade Advisory Groups that will be used to ensure that detailed expert knowledge is available on specific sector and thematic areas to contribute to our policy development at a technical level. The structure and membership of these stakeholder groups will evolve over time according to the needs of the UK's trade negotiations.

We will continue to engage and take into account views from devolved governments, business, civil society groups and consumers to ensure we build a trade policy that works for the whole of the UK.

We recognise there is strong public interest around issues raised in this consultation. The Government will continue to engage with stakeholders in order to understand their concerns and to

help develop UK trade policy. The Government will continue to promote the benefits of free trade and to raise public awareness on trade and inform consumers and businesses about the opportunities that reducing barriers to trade can bring, alongside the broader economic and social welfare gains.

Annex A: Consultation Questions

Provided below are the questions that were asked via the online portal on Citizen Space to the consultation on possible UK accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

Questions 1-5 were asked to all five respondent groups (Individuals, NGOs, Business, Business Associations and Public Sector Bodies). Different questions were then asked to each respondent group based on their answer to question 5, who they were responding as.

The answers to each question were either provided by a tick box or a free text box. A combination of a tick box and free text box was also used on multiple questions. These options have not been displayed below. Only the questions asked are provided.

An overview of the consultation, and a privacy and confidentiality section were also provided before the survey.

1. Do you consent for the voluntary information you provide in this consultation to be used as part of the Government's published consultation response?
2. Do you consent for the Department for International Trade, or organisation working on their behalf, to contact you regarding the responses you have given?

Who are you responding as?

3. What is your name (first name and surname)?
4. What is your email address?
5. Please tell us who you are responding as?
 - An Individual/Non-Governmental Organisation/Business/Business Association/
Public Sector Body

Individual

Individual – about you.

6. Where do you currently live (your main address)?
7. What was your age at your last birthday?
8. What is your gender?
9. To which of these ethnic groups do you consider you belong?
10. Are you a member, supporter or donor of an organisation with an interest in trade?
11. If you are a member, supporter or donor of an organisation with an interest in trade, has that organisation contacted you about UK potentially seeking accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)?

Individual – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – benefits.

12. What do you think would be the greatest benefits for you personally or the UK as a whole were the UK to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreements for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)?

13. Which of the areas of the CPTPP agreement best describes the benefits that you have outlined above? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas plus Other. The respondent was able to select all that apply).

Individual – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – concerns.

14. What concerns, if any, do you have about the UK potentially joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and why?
15. Which of the areas of the CPTPP agreement best describes the concerns that you have outlined above? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas plus Other. The respondent was able to select all that apply).

Individual – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

16. Is there anything else that you would want to say about the UK's future trade and investment relationship with the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries or about the UK potentially joining the CPTPP?

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) – about you.

6. What is the name of the organisation (eg trade union, interest group, charity or academic institution) you are responding on behalf of?
7. Which area does your organisation represent?
8. How many members does your organisation represent in total?
9. Does your organisation have a presence in, or operate in, one or more of the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam)? If yes, please select all CPTPP member countries that apply.

NGOs – Questions about the UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

10. Have any of your members been in contact with your organisation about the UK joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)?

NGOs – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – benefits.

11. What does your organisation think would be the greatest benefits for individuals/sectors that you represent, or the UK as a whole, were the UK to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and why?
12. Which of the areas of the CPTPP agreement best describes the priorities that you have outlined above? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas plus Other. The respondent was able to select all that apply).

NGOs – The UK’s future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – concerns.

13. What concerns, if any, does your organisation have about the UK potentially joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and why?
14. Which of the areas of the CPTPP agreement best describes the concerns that you have outlined above? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas plus Other. The respondent was able to select all that apply).

NGOs – The UK’s future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – other comments.

15. Is there anything else that you would want to say about the UK’s future trade and investment relationship with the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries or about the UK potentially joining the CPTPP?

Businesses

Businesses – about you.

6. What is the name of your business?
7. What is your Company Number with Companies House?
8. Is your business a subsidiary of a company whose headquarters are based outside the UK?
9. If your business is a subsidiary of a company whose headquarters are based outside the UK, in which country is your parent company’s headquarters?
10. Approximately how many employees are currently on your business’s payroll in the UK across all sites?
11. Does your business currently employ people in one or more of the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam)? If yes, please select all CPTPP countries that apply.
12. In what sector does your business predominantly operate in?

Businesses – Exporting, Importing and Investment.

13. Which of the following has your business done or tried to do outside the EU in the last 12 months?
14. Which of the following has your business done or tried to do in one or more of the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam) in the last 12 months?
15. If you said you did not try to export to, import from or invest in countries outside the EU, or specifically to one or more of the existing CPTPP member countries, is this something that you would like to do in the future?
16. Exports – If you selected “Yes, I would consider in the future” to exporting to any CPTPP member country – please select all that apply below:

17. Exports – If you selected “Already do this” for exporting to any CPTPP member country – please select all that apply below:
18. Imports – If you selected “Yes, I would consider in the future” to importing from any CPTPP member country – please select all that apply below:
19. Imports – If you selected “Already do this” for importing from any CPTPP member country – please select all that apply below:
20. Investment – If you selected “Yes, I would consider in the future” to investing in any CPTPP member country – please select all that apply below:
21. Investment – If you selected “Already do this” to investing in any CPTPP member country – please select all that apply below:
22. If you said you have (or attempted to) export to, import from, or invest in countries outside the EU, or specifically to one or more of the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries, did you get assistance from the UK Government in any form?
23. What existing government or business association-led initiatives, if any, support you in doing business with one or more of the existing CPTPP member countries?

Businesses – The UK’s future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – benefits.

24. What do you think would be the greatest benefits for your business were the UK to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)? The options below are structured around the content of the existing CPTPP agreement. Where possible please provide information on the importance of this issue to your business.
 - Tariffs – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Rules of Origin – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Custom Procedures – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Product Standards, Regulation and Certification Information – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Services Trade – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Digital – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Competition – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Public Procurement – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Intellectual Property – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Investment – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Social, Labour and Environment – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Trade Remedies and Dispute Settlement -- What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) Policy – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Other - What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?

25. Which of these areas is your top priority? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas, plus Other and Don't Know. The respondent could select only one).

Businesses – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – concerns.

26. What would be your concerns, if any, about the UK joining the Comprehensive and Progressive agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)? The options below are structured around the content of the existing CPTPP agreement. Where possible please provide information on the importance of this issue to your business.

- Tariffs – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Rules of Origin – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Custom Procedures – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Product Standards, Regulation and Certification Information – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Services Trade – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Digital – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Competition – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Public Procurement – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Intellectual Property – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Investment – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Social, Labour and Environment – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Trade Remedies and Dispute Settlement -- What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) Policy – What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?
- Other - What would your business's concerns be, if any, in this area?

27. Which of these areas is your top concern? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas, plus Other and Don't Know. The respondent could select only one).

Businesses – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership – other comments.

28. Is there anything else that you would want to say about the UK's future trade relationship with the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries or about the UK potentially joining the CPTPP?

Business Association

Business Association – about you.

6. What is the name of the trade association or businesses representative organisation that you are responding on behalf of?
7. What business area does your organisation represent?
8. How many businesses does your group represent in total?
9. Do you have a presence in, or operate in, one or more of the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam)? If yes, please select all CPTPP member countries that apply.

Business Association – Exporting, Importing and Investment.

10. What existing UK Government or regional / business group-led initiatives, if any, have your members told you support them in doing businesses with one or more of the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam)?

Business Association – Questions about the UK's potential future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

11. Have your members been in contact with your organisation about the prospect of the UK potentially joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)?

Business Association – The UK's potential future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – benefits.

12. What does your organisation think would be the greatest benefits were the UK to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and why? The options below are structured around the typical content of a free trade agreement. Where possible please provide information on the importance of this issue to your organisation/your members.
 - Tariffs – What would you think are the benefits in this area?
 - Rules of Origin – What would you think are the benefits in this area?
 - Custom Procedures – What would you think are the benefits in this area?
 - Product Standards, Regulation and Certification Information – What would you think are the benefits in this area?
 - Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Services Trade – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Digital – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Competition – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Public Procurement – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Intellectual Property – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?

- Investment – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Social, Labour and Environment – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Trade Remedies and Dispute Settlement – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) Policy – What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
 - Other - What would you want the Government to achieve in this area?
13. Which of these areas is the most important benefit? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas, plus Other and Don't Know. The respondent could select only one).

Business Association – The UK's future trade relationship with the United States – concerns.

14. What would your organisation's concerns be about the UK potentially joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)? The options below are structured around the typical content of a free trade agreement. Where possible please provide information on the importance of this issue to your business.
- Tariffs – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Rules of Origin – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Custom Procedures – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Product Standards, Regulation and Certification Information – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Services Trade – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Digital – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Competition – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Public Procurement – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Intellectual Property – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Investment – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Social, Labour and Environment – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Trade Remedies and Dispute Settlement – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) Policy – What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
 - Other - What concerns, if any, do you have in this area?
15. Which of these areas is your main concern? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas, plus Other and Don't Know. The respondent could select only one).

Business Association – The UK's potential future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – other comments.

16. Is there anything else that your organisation would want to say about the UK's future trade and investment relationship with the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries or about the UK potentially joining the CPTPP?

Public Sector Bodies

Public Sector Bodies – about you.

6. What is the name of the public sector body you are responding on behalf of?
7. What area does your public sector body represent?
8. Does your public sector body have a presence in, or operate in, one or more of the current Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam)? If yes, please select all CPTPP member countries that apply.

Public Sector Bodies – Questions about the UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

9. Have any of your members been in contact with your public sector body about the prospect of the UK potentially joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)?

Public Sector Bodies – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – benefits.

10. What does your public sector body think would be the greatest benefits were the UK to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and why?
11. Which of these areas of the CPTPP agreement best describes the benefits that you have outlined above? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas plus Other. The respondent was able to select all that apply).

Public Sector Bodies – The UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – concerns.

12. What concerns, if any, does your public sector body have about the UK considering seeking accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)?
13. Which of these areas of the CPTPP agreement best describes the concerns that you have outlined above? (the survey listed the 14 policy areas plus Other. The respondent was able to select all that apply).

Public Sector Bodies – the UK's future trade relationship with the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – other concerns.

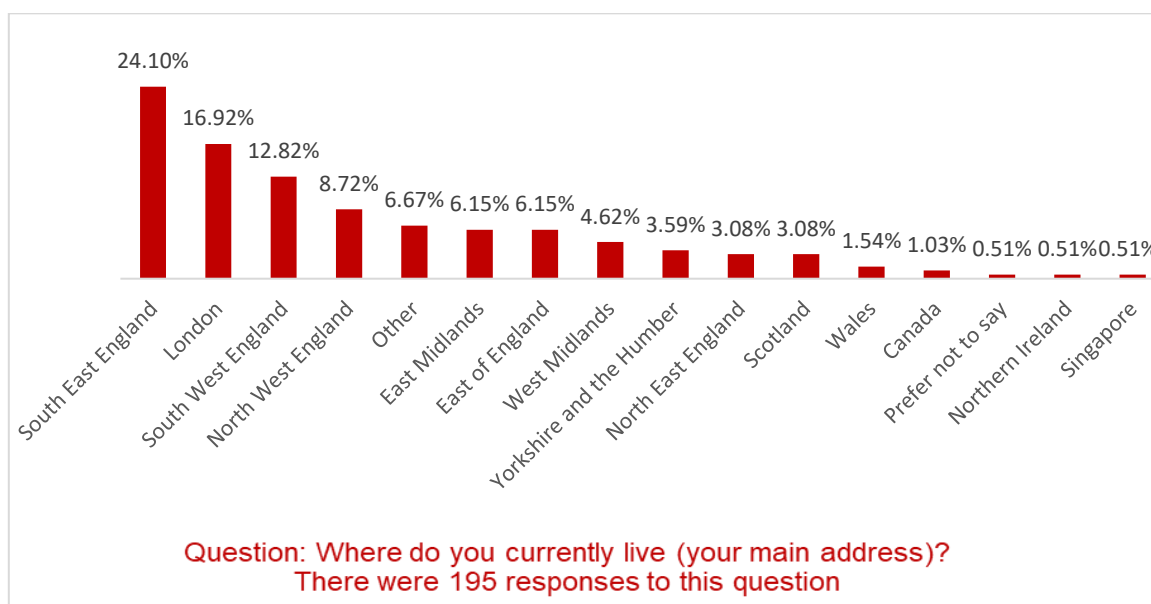
Is there anything that your organisation would want to say about the UK's future trade and investment relationship with the existing Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) member countries or about the UK potentially joining CPTPP?

Annex B: Demographics

Individual respondents' demographic profile

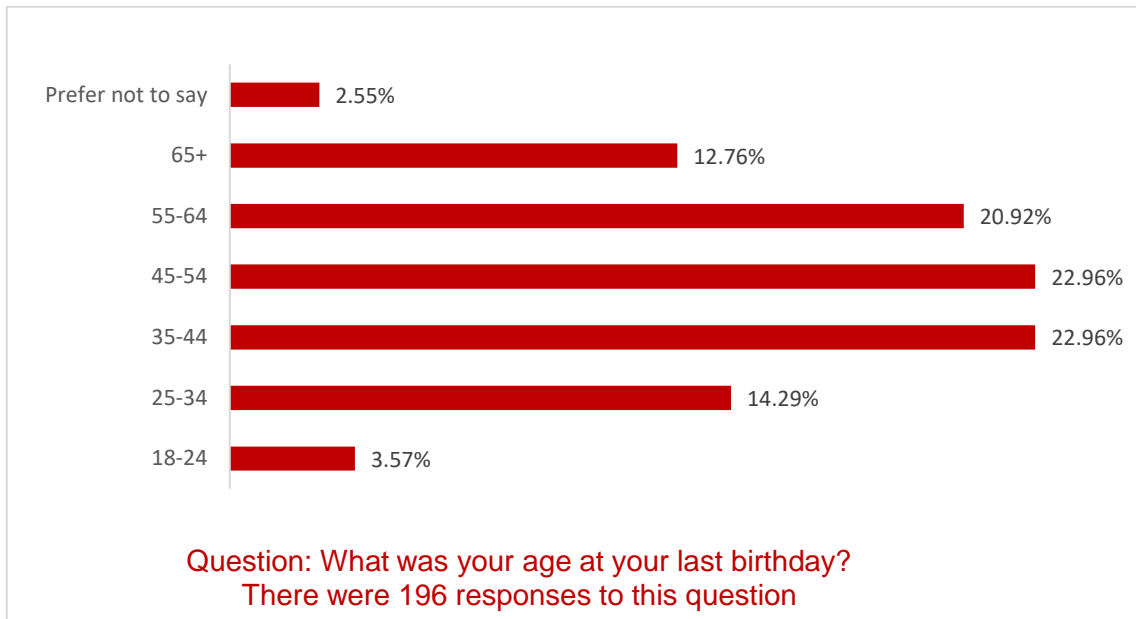
1. The geographical location of respondents varied with responses received from across the UK. Participation levels were highest in the South East of England, with nearly one in four (24.10 per cent) responses coming from this region. See Figure 1 for an overview of the respondents' location.

Figure 1: Location of individuals who responded to the consultation online



2. The age of respondents to the Consultation Portal varied with nearly a fifth (17.86 per cent) of respondents being under 35 years old and 12.76 per cent being over 65 years old. See Figure 2 for a breakdown of the ages of respondents.

Figure 2: Age of individuals who responded to the consultation online



3. Around a quarter (26.80 per cent) of responses online were female and seven in ten (71.13 per cent) were male. The reason for the lower response rate from women is unclear and the Government has identified a need to review our engagement strategy to ensure any future consultations have greater participation from women. The Government is committed to creating a framework for trade that supports female exporters and upholds gender equality.

Table 8: Gender of individuals who responded to the consultation online

Gender Group	Percentage of Responses
Male	71.13%
Female	26.80%
Other	0.00%
Prefer not to say	2.06%

Question: What is your gender?
There were 194 responses to this question

Organisation respondent profile

Figure 3. Total number of members that the NGO represents



4. Over two thirds (66.66 per cent) of NGOs that responded online had more than 1,000 members. Just over one tenth (11.11 per cent) of NGOs has 250 members or less.

Figure 4. Number of UK employees per business



5. Over one third (37.10 per cent) of businesses who responded online had 0-9 employees. Around 16 per cent (16.13 per cent) of businesses had 5,000 or more employees.

Figure 5. Proportion of businesses the business associations represent



6. Just under half (47.22 per cent) of businesses associations who responded online represented 251 or more businesses.

Annex C: Glossary

This glossary contains general descriptions of some commonly used trade and investment terms. Some of the terms have meanings that vary within different areas of trade and investment, or between different trade and investment agreements. The descriptions in this glossary are intended to provide a general approximation of these meanings and therefore will not always align with legal definitions or references in legal texts; or with the meaning of these terms in a particular context or area of trade.

Term	Definition/Description
Accession	Means to join or become a part of – eg accession to an international trade agreement by new members, accession to an international organisation or a state's accession to a multilateral treaty already negotiated and signed by other states.
Anti-dumping duty	Under WTO rules, countries can counteract the practice of 'dumping' by imposing additional duties on imported goods found to be 'dumped' and causing injury to domestic producers, after having conducted a domestic investigation (see also Dumping below).
Applied tariffs/Applied rate	Duties that are actually charged on imports of goods. These can be the same, below, but not above, the bound rates (see also Bound Tariffs/rates).
Artist's Resale Rights	The Artist's Resale Right (ARR) is a specific form of copyright, which gives the author of an original work of art the entitlement to royalties each time one of their works is sold through an art market professional (such as an auction house or art gallery). This royalty has the same duration as copyright; life or the author plus 70 years.
Bilateral agreement	An agreement negotiated between two sides. One or both sides could be made up of multiple states, eg the EU-CARIFORUM FTA which has more than 40 parties.
Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)	An agreement between two states in which each state affords certain protections to the other state's investors and their investments. This normally includes an obligation not to discriminate or expropriate without compensation. Investors may be provided with a right to enforce these provisions through Investor-State Dispute Settlement, ISDS (defined below). Modern FTAs often include a separate Investment chapter which will have similar provisions.
Bound Tariffs (also known as bound rates)	The maximum rate of duty (ie tax) that can be applied by a WTO Member to an imported product from another WTO Member. Each WTO member has a goods schedule in which it sets out its commitment to these most favoured nation rates.

Business Representative Organisation (BRO)	An administrative body who acts for or on behalf of businesses they represent. Usually runs a membership programme.
CE marking	A certification mark on products traded on the extended Single Market in the European Economic Area (EEA). 'CE' signifies that the product has been assessed and meets the EU's safety, health and environmental protection requirements.
Commercial presence	In the services trade context, refers to having an office, branch or subsidiary in a foreign country. It refers to mode 3 supply of services (see also Mode of supply for services).
Common market / single market	This is a deeper level of economic integration than an FTA. It is a free trade area established between states to give free movement of goods (without tariff and quotas), services, capital and labour between them.
Competition	Ensuring businesses are treated fairly in each other's markets, including the application of competition law, the role of state-owned enterprises and the use of state aid and subsidies.
Competitive Tendering	Competitive tendering is a procurement method where firms bid for the right to run a service or gain a certain contract.
Conformity Assessments	Tests on goods and services to see if they meet the standards required by the country they are to be sold in. In the UK, these tests are carried out by various assessment bodies accredited by the UK Accreditation Services (UKAS).
Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF)	A recognised international trading term (see Incoterms) meaning the value of goods, including insurance of the goods and transport to the point where they are lifted over the ship's rail at the port of importation. The equivalent for transport other than sea is CPT (cost paid to).
Countervailing Measure (CVM)	Additional duties that WTO rules authorise countries to impose on imported goods to offset state subsidies received in the country of export after having conducted a domestic investigation and establishing that the subsidised imports are causing injury to the domestic industry.
Crypto-assets	Crypto-assets or 'cryptocurrency' are cryptographically secured digital representations of value or contractual rights that can be stored, transferred or traded electronically eg Bitcoins.
Cumulation	When determining the origin of goods for customs purposes, this means the capacity to include materials and/or processing from other countries as qualifying content in determining if an imported good is an 'originating good' and consequently qualifies for preferential tariff treatment.

Customs authority	<p>A government body that administers laws and regulations relating to goods crossing a border, particularly import, export, movement and storage of goods. This can be by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collecting duties and taxes. 2) Controlling import & export of restricted goods, eg animals, and weapons. <p>In the UK, Customs functions are undertaken by HM Revenue & Customs and Border Force.</p>
Customs Duty	A charge imposed by a country on the import or export of goods.
Customs procedures	Processes and procedures applied by customs authorities to control the export, import and transit of goods. Their improvement and simplification may lower costs and facilitate trade.
Customs union	Distinct from agreements on regulatory alignment, or single market regulatory integration, a customs union treats two or more countries as a single customs territory, eliminating duties and most other restrictive measures on substantially all trade in goods between its members, and collectively applying substantially the same duties and other measures to trade in goods from third countries.
Designation of Origins	See Geographical Indications.
Dispute settlement	The term is commonly used in reference to the formal state to state mechanism for resolving disputes where one or more parties consider that there has been a breach of obligations under the relevant international trade agreement and it has not been possible to resolve the dispute informally.
Distortion	This refers to a situation in which prices and production are higher or lower than levels that would usually exist in a competitive market.
Domestic support	Where a country acts to maintain producer prices at levels above those dominant in international trade.
Dumping	Dumping occurs when goods are exported at a price less than their 'normal value', generally meaning they are exported for less than they are sold in the domestic market or are sold in export markets below the cost of production. WTO rules authorise action to counteract the practice of dumping when dumped imports are shown to cause injury to domestic producers (see Anti-Dumping Duty).
Duty-Free Quota-Free (DFQF) access	This refers to preferential market access for goods, free of import duties or quotas. DFQF on a lasting basis for all "least developed countries" or "LCDs" is included as a target in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. DFQF can be offered

	unilaterally to developing countries, under the WTO 'Enabling Clause'.
Economic Operator Certification	Documentation for the authorisation of a party involved in the international movement of goods in whatever function that has been approved by a national customs administration.
Electronic commerce (e-commerce)	Production, advertising, sale and distribution of products via telecommunications networks.
Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) / Green Goods	A proposed agreement being negotiated by a group of WTO members seeking to end tariffs for environmentally beneficial products.
European Patent Convention	The European Patent Convention is a multilateral treaty finalised in 1973 establishing the European Patent Organisation, an intergovernmental organisation (non-EU body) that grants European patents.
Excise Duty	A tax or duty on the manufacture of goods. Excise applies in the UK to goods which contain alcohol, mineral oils or tobacco. The charge to excise is payable on purchase or importation.
Ex works	A recognised international trading term (see Incoterms) meaning the value of goods at the point that they left the factory without the addition of any transport, insurance or other costs.
Fair dealing	'Fair dealing' is a UK concept and relates to limited situations set out in UK legislation where the use of a work, protected by copyright, does not require permission or a licence from the rightsholder so long as the use is also considered 'fair'. There is no statutory definition of fair dealing - it will always be a matter of fact, degree and impression in each case.
Fair use	'Fair use' is a defence against a claim of copyright infringement in the US. It constitutes any copying of copyrighted material done for a limited and 'transformative' purpose, such as to comment upon, criticise or parody a copyrighted work.
Financial Technology (FinTech)	Providing or enabling financial services using software and modern technology
Food security	Refers to a situation where the nutritional needs of a country or population are met consistently.
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)	Investment by an entity in a foreign operation, or establishment of a new operation in another country ("greenfield investment"). Foreign Direct Investment implies significant control of the operation by the foreign entity.
Free circulation	A customs status relating to goods which have had all the taxes and duties paid, are not subject to any other restriction or

	prohibition and can therefore move freely within the relevant customs territory.
Free Trade Agreement (FTA)	A treaty among two or more countries to form a free trade area. This means having zero tariffs (or reduced tariffs) and reducing other regulatory restrictions on trade in substantially all goods and/or services.
Free trade area	Describes territories that have liberalised trade between them in most areas of trade in goods (similar arrangements for trade in services are known as economic integration agreements). Each participating territory applies its own independent trade policy with territories that are not part of the free trade area.
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services, a WTO agreement governing trade in services.
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, a WTO agreement governing trade in goods.
Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)	Measures applied by developed countries granting unilaterally preferential (reduced or nil rate) tariffs to imports from developing countries.
Geographical Indications (GIs)	An identification of a product from a particular country, region or locality where a given quality, reputation or another characteristic of the product is essentially attributable to the place where it is produced. For instance, 'Cornish Pasty', 'Welsh Lamb', 'Scotch Whisky' or 'West Country Farmhouse Cheddar Cheese' are UK GIs.
Government procurement	Procurement by government or other public entities of goods and services from the private sector. This usually covers both goods and services, and purchasing, leasing and acquiring by other commercial means.
Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)	A plurilateral WTO agreement, currently among 19 parties, covering the procurement of goods and services by governments and other public authorities.
Gravity model of trade	The prediction of joint trade flows based on the economic sizes and distance between two states. GDP measurements are often used to measure economic size.
Green Finance	Financial instruments or investments in environmental and sustainable projects and infrastructure
Harmonized System (HS)	Forms the basis of how most countries describe and classify goods for the purpose of applying customs tariffs. A system, managed by the World Customs Organisation, that gives different categories of goods a 6-digit number so their characteristics can be recognised and understood.

Import Entry Transaction Fee	The payment charged to process and risk assess imported goods.
Import licensing	Administrative procedures requiring the submission of an application or other documentation (other than those required for customs purposes) to the relevant administrative body as a prior condition for importation of goods.
Import quota	A trade restriction that sets a limit on the quantity of a good that can be imported into a country. Import quotas are generally prohibited by the GATT, other than in limited circumstances.
Incoterms	International commercial terms that are standard terms developed by the International Chambers of Commerce and in common use that define the responsibilities of the seller and the buyer for the sale and delivery of goods. Examples include ex works, FCA (free carrier), CIF (cost insurance and freight), DDU (delivered duty unpaid) and DDP (delivered duty paid).
Intellectual Property (IP)	Creations of the mind, such as inventions, literary and artistic works, designs, and symbols, names and images used in commerce. These creations are protected by law by a variety of intellectual property rights such as patents, copyright, trade marks, design rights and geographical indications.
Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)	A mechanism that allows a foreign investor to bring legal proceedings and seek compensation from a state, if the state has breached its obligations under a Bilateral Investment Treaty (defined above) or an Investment chapter in an FTA. The legal proceedings are usually brought via an arbitration process that is independent of each state's domestic courts.
Inward Processing Relief (IPR)	A customs procedure that allows goods to be temporarily imported duty-free on the condition that they are to be processed and re-exported.
Labour and Environment	In the context of a trade agreement, protection of workers and the environment, consistent with international commitments of a country.
Market access	Conditions set by governments to control which goods or services can or cannot enter their domestic market.
Mode of supply of services	This describes how international trade in services is supplied and consumed, with mode 1: cross - border supply (eg a user in country A receives services from abroad through its telecommunications or postal infrastructure); mode 2: consumption abroad (eg nationals of country A travel or move to country B as tourists, students, or patients to consume the services); mode 3: commercial presence (eg the service is provided within country A by a locally-established affiliate, subsidiary, or representative office of a foreign-owned and controlled company in country B); and mode 4: movement of

	<p>natural persons (eg a national of country B provides a service within country A as an independent supplier (like a consultant or health worker) or employee of a service supplier (like a consultancy firm or construction company)).</p>
<p>Most Favoured Nation (MFN)</p>	<p>A non-discrimination principle enshrined in many WTO rules that prohibits a WTO member from treating some WTO members more favourably than others. The MFN obligation requires each WTO member, in its trade with all other WTO members, to give the best (“most-favoured”) treatment that it accords in trade with any other WTO member. If, for example, a country lowers tariffs on goods from India, it must also do so on similar goods from Argentina. Exceptions to the MFN principle exist under WTO law, such as in the form of Customs Unions, Free Trade Agreements, Generalized System of Preferences and certain trade remedies.</p> <p>FTAs often contain their own MFN commitments between the treaty partners.</p> <p>Bilateral Investment Treaties also include MFN obligations to investors and their investments from each participating state (party). Under MFN, a host state may not treat an investor from a BIT party less favourably than it does a foreign investor from another country.</p>
<p>Multilateral agreement</p>	<p>An agreement among several countries. At the WTO, multilateral agreements normally refers to agreements reached by all WT members.</p>
<p>Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRAs)</p>	<p>An international agreement by which two or more countries agree to recognise one another's conformity assessments (see conformity assessments above).</p>
<p>Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications (MRPQ)</p>	<p>Enables individuals to have their professional qualifications recognised in a state other than the one in which the qualification was obtained.</p>
<p>National Treatment</p>	<p>A non-discrimination principle enshrined in many WTO rules that prohibits a WTO member from treating imported goods or foreign services and services suppliers less favourably than domestic goods or services and services suppliers in its domestic market. The national treatment obligation helps ensure imported goods and services are not unfairly disadvantaged compared with their domestic counterparts. Such obligations may also be included in FTAs between the country parties.</p> <p>Bilateral Investment Treaties also usually contain provisions that parties should not discriminate between domestic and foreign investments.</p>

Natural persons	Refers to people, as distinct from juridical persons such as companies and organisations.
Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) or Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs)	Any policy that restricts exports or imports other than a simple tariff.
North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)	North American Free Trade Agreement, comprising Canada, Mexico and the US. This FTA may be replaced by the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).
Outward Processing Relief	A customs procedure that allows goods to be temporarily exported for processing with goods in another country and then re-imported. On re-importation the element that constitutes the original exported goods in the final imported product are imported free from duty.
PBS	Professional and business services
Plurilateral agreement	An agreement between more than two parties. At the WTO, plurilateral agreements typically refer to agreements reached by several, but not all, WTO members.
Products standards, regulations and certification	<p>'Standards' are documents developed through consultation and consensus which describe a way of, for example, making a product, managing a process, or delivering a service. Compliance with standards is not mandatory. Typically, they are not set or controlled by government or legislators but can be used by legislators to establish a basis for compliance with the law. The term 'standard' is also used informally to refer to a level of quality or attainment.</p> <p>'Regulations' are legal requirements. In the context of international trade, the term 'Technical Regulations' is used frequently in trade agreements when addressing 'technical barriers to trade'. Technical Regulations are mandatory requirements set out in law – they are controlled by governments and legislators.</p> <p>Certification is the provision by an independent body of written assurance (eg a certificate) that the product, service or system in question meets specific requirements.</p>
Protected Geographical Indications	See Geographical Indications.
Quantitative Restrictions (QRs)	Specific limits on the quantity or value of goods that can be imported (or exported) during a specific time period).
Red tape	Excessive regulation or rigid conformity to formal rules that is considered redundant or bureaucratic and hinders or prevents action or decision-making. In trade relations, it imposes an administrative burden on economic operators that will frequently involve additional costs and may have the effect of limiting trade.

Regional Trade Agreement (RTA)	A free trade agreement between a group of countries. Although originally used to describe such agreements when concluded among countries that shared common borders or were located within the same region, it is now often used more generally. For example, in mega-regional free trade agreements such as the CPTPP, the parties do not all border each other.
Regional Value Content (RVC)	A percentage that indicates to what extent a good is produced in the producer's local region. This can be affected by the origin of the good's components or materials.
Regulatory Data Protection	A period during which Company B cannot refer to data produced by Company A to support B's marketing authorisation for a pharmaceutical (generic) or agrochemical (eg a pesticide) drug. This authorisation is a requirement for the generic drug to reach markets.
Rules of Origin (RoO)	Rules used to determine where goods are "from", for example, where they have been produced or had substantial work done to them. This is used in determining appropriate tariff rates, access to preferential trade arrangements or application of trade sanctions.
Safeguard Measures	Actions taken to protect a specific industry from an unexpected build-up of imports. They are generally governed by Article 19 of GATT and the Agreement on Safeguards.
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)	Measures to ensure that food is safe for consumers, and to prevent the spread of pests or diseases among animals and plants.
Schedule	In WTO context, this is a WTO member's list of commitments to other WTO members regarding how much market access it is prepared to offer and its bound tariff rates.
Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises	Businesses with fewer than 250 employees.
Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME) Policy	Policy designed in a way which supports Small- and Medium-Sized businesses.
Special and Differential Treatment	WTO agreements contain special provisions which give developing countries special rights and allow other members to treat them more favourably than non-developing members.
Supply chain	The sequence of processes involved in the production and distribution of a good.
Sustainable Development	Development that meets the needs of the present generations without compromising the ability of future ones to meet their own needs. It contains three pillars: economic development, social development and environmental protection.

Tariff binding	A commitment by a country not to increase a customs duty beyond a specified level. (See Bound Tariffs).
Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ)	The application of a higher tariff or tax on certain goods once an agreed quota (amount) of imports is reached.
Tariffs	Refers to customs duties on imports of goods, levied either as a percentage of value or on the basis of a formula (eg 10 per cent or £7 per 100 kg).
Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)	These are regulations, standards, testing and certification procedures applied to imports and exports which could obstruct trade. The WTO's TBT Agreement aims to ensure that these do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade.
Trade liberalisation	The removal or reduction of restrictions or barriers to trade.
Trade remedies	Measures which allow WTO members to operate a safety net and protect domestic industry from injury caused by unfair trading practices or from injury caused by surges in imports. They are taken in response to subsidies, dumping and import surges. These usually take the form of additional duties on those imports.
Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)	The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership is a proposed trade agreement between the European Union and the United States.
Treaty	A treaty is an agreement under international law between states or international organisations.
WTO	The World Trade Organization.
WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs)	The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) is the principal WTO agreement on intellectual property (IP) rights and applies to all WTO members. It covers key types of IP, including copyright, trade marks, geographical indications and patents and provides for the minimum standards of IP protection that each member needs to provide.
WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement	The WTO agreement which aims to simplify, modernise and harmonise procedures and controls governing the movement of goods across borders by WTO members.

The Department for International Trade (DIT) helps businesses export, drives inward and outward investment, negotiates market access and trade deals, and champions free trade.

Legal disclaimer

Whereas every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this document is accurate the Department for International Trade does not accept liability for any errors, omissions or misleading statements, and no warranty is given or responsibility accepted as to the standing of any individual, firm, company or other organisation mentioned.

Copyright

© Crown Copyright 2019

You may re-use this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence.

To view this licence visit:

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information in the material that you wish to use, you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holder(s) concerned.

This document is also available on our website at gov.uk/dit

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at

enquiries@trade.gov.uk.