

FORUM: Group Of Twenty

QUESTION OF: Reducing trade barriers

THE GROUP OF TWENTY,

*Disturbed* that trade agreements do not always take into account the environmental consequences and that certain countries prefer to leave the Paris Accords and other international agreements rather than work together to come to a consensus beneficial to the majority,

*Mindful* that different nations from different economic backgrounds will have different outcomes in mind,

*Noting* that the European Union included sustainable development chapters in its trade agreements with Canada (CETA), Central America, Vietnam, and others

*Convinced* that trade barriers pose a threat to international relations and international trade ,

*Alarmed by* the rising amount of trade barriers and protectionist measures established by nations around the world,

Reaffirms the right to all sovereign nations to engage in non-exploitative international trade, assuring this right in means such as, but not limited to:

- a) The authorization of the creation of a board ensuring that infrastructural development is sufficiently in demand,
- b) The creation of a board ensuring the rates of interest on aid cannot exceed 10% P.A.

Endorses the addition of sustainable development clauses to all trade agreements between the EU and potential trade partners, such as:

- a. Protect human and labor rights by utilizing impact assessments during the negotiations process,
- b. Use the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with Canada (CETA) as a template of a trade agreement with the EU that also promotes sustainable development,
- c. encourages nations part of a free trade agreement to meet bi-annually in order to
  - i. Review parts of their free trade agreements to accommodate for their changing economies,

ii. Discuss how trade wars and high tariffs can hurt one another's economy, and how blocs can and should help one another to exit trade wars;

Encourages all nations to reduce trade barriers so trade agreements for Steel, Aluminum and Auto Mobile Parts can be made with countries such as but not limited to:

- a) Germany,
- b) Japan,
- c) South Korea;

Encourages all involved parties to organise a quarterly conference to discuss the current impact of trade barriers on LEDCs and possible limitations on harsh tariffs, quotas and other non-tariff barriers; (Russia)

Encourages all nations to introduce free trade agreements (FTA) on goods and services the country in question is unable to produce itself, this would:

- a) Cause no competition with local businesses,
- b) Provide necessary goods or services to countries in need; (Canada)

Recommends the instauration of a global 3,5% average tariff or lower on manufactured products to allow the reduction of Trade Barriers and the overall improvement of international relations, which would allow:

- a) An increase in trade,
- b) An improvement in quality of goods and services,
- c) Competition; (European Union)

Welcomes the PIAF plan to protect industries within a nation who are trying to compete on the foreign market and have high rates of volatility, which consists of:

- a. Promotes the pegging of certain currencies that have too high of a volatility, in order to promote foreign investment,
- b. Invites wealthier nations to invest in developing countries to help stimulate and stabilize the local economies by providing jobs,
- c. Affirms that agricultural sectors need to be protected within nations
  - i. Using financial support within nations whenever possible through subsidies
  - ii. Individual countries, regions or free trade zones can meet with the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Trade Organization for guidance,
- d. Facilitates partnerships with the International Labor Organization to help companies have a sustainable minimum wage for foreign companies that have factories in other countries since they do not always comply with pre-existing rules; (France)

Strongly advises all member states take an active and present role at trade organisations such as but not limited to WTO, in order to solve issues such as but limited to:

- a. the resolution of trade disputes,

- b. increasing financial support for developing countries especially those affected by trade barriers; (Russia)

Asks that the WTO, World Bank, and UN security Council work together to impose immediate sanctions on the USA and China if they do not immediately halt their politically motivated trade tariffs, and take the following actions to ensure a mutually beneficial solution to the impending trade war:

- a. Agree to a temporary truce with tariffs lowered to a pre trade-war level, and sustain them at that level for at least six months
- b. Agree to send 20 high ranking political members with their assisting aids, these high ranking would have to include the following ministers or their equivalent
  - i. Minister of Trade,
  - ii. Minister of Finance,
  - iii. Minister of foreign affairs and external relations
- c. Agree to decrease the number of tariffs that are related to national security
- d. Comply with the freedom of information acts that are internationally recognised by most international actors and states
- e. Immediately eliminate politically motivated subsidies that bring down the world prices and harm smaller economies;

Calls upon countries to take the four freedoms of trade into account, which are:

- a) Free movement of goods,
- b) Free movement of services,
- c) Free movement of capital,
- d) Free movement of people; (World Bank)

Draws the attention that certain countries have a monopoly in trading with certain other countries, therefore limiting the potential development of the nations involved:

- a. Proposing that countries have a cap on the percentage of a certain resource they can export to a nation relative to that nation's imports and exports,

- i. That percentage will be independent of the number of other resources the countries involved trade
  - ii. Keeping in mind that any nation cannot receive more than 45% of its imports from the same source, so as to protect national sovereignty and local businesses,
- b. Encourages nations to look for other ways to produce what they need, such as looking for renewable energies to be less dependent on oil,
- c. recommends that nations diversify their source of products to protect their sovereignty;  
(France)

Urges all G20 members to strongly consider lowering any tariffs or quotas or other forms of trade barriers that are considered to be damaging to the affected country, to be determined by an independent board, filled with people, such as but not limited:

- a) Economists,
- b) Country representatives

Requests the development of english as a lingua franca in order to increase global trade, particularly trade in services,

UK

*Deplores* the neo-imperialistic aims and practices of certain countries attempting to monopolise global trade;