

Tariff Structure

Most of the SSA countries are WTO members or are involved as WTO observers.¹⁰ Thirty-eight governments in SSA are WTO members, four have established accession working parties, and two others have requested accession working parties.¹¹ In addition, three governments have typically been granted observer status during ministerial conferences.¹²

Prior to the advent of the World Integrated Trade Solution database, tariff information for SSA was not readily available. Where tariff data are available, however, information can be inaccurate. Available information typically indicates high tariffs that likely hinder rather than facilitate trade. In addition to high tariffs, extra import charges, taxes, or fees are common, making the trade environment nontransparent.

Table 6-1
Aggregate governance index, selected sub-Saharan African countries, 1996 and 2002

2002 Rank	Country	1996	2002	Percent change
1	Botswana	74.56	74.21	-0.5
2	Mauritius	76.18	73.61	-3.4
3	South Africa	61.16	63.16	3.3
4	Namibia	72.55	62.65	-13.6
5	Madagascar	43.93	51.48	17.2
6	Ghana	45.63	48.69	6.7
7	Senegal	37.37	48.54	29.9
8	Malawi	33.44	36.94	10.5
9	Mozambique	27.52	36.94	34.2
10	Tanzania	24.39	33.24	36.3
11	Zambia	35.44	30.11	-15.0
12	Uganda	31.22	28.96	-7.2
13	Ethiopia	27.75	24.82	-10.6
14	Kenya	27.70	21.47	-22.5
15	Cameroon	13.60	18.30	34.6
16	Côte d'Ivoire	50.71	17.09	-66.3
17	Nigeria	8.10	11.17	37.9
18	Zimbabwe	42.51	8.99	-78.9
19	Angola	6.23	7.60	22.0
20	DROC	3.83	1.43	-62.7

Source: World Bank, *Governance Dataset*, July 2003, found at Internet address <http://www.worldbank.org>, retrieved Aug. 2004.

¹⁰ The following 10 SSA governments are not WTO members: Cape Verde, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles, Somalia, and Sudan.

¹¹ WTO accession working parties have been established for the following SSA countries: Cape Verde (July 2000), Ethiopia (February 2003), Seychelles (July 1995), and Sudan (October 1994). Equatorial Guinea (April 2002) and São Tomé and Príncipe (January 2001) have requested and have been granted observer status in the WTO, indicating each country's intention to begin the accession process within 5 years.

¹² The three countries are Comoros, Eritrea, and Liberia.