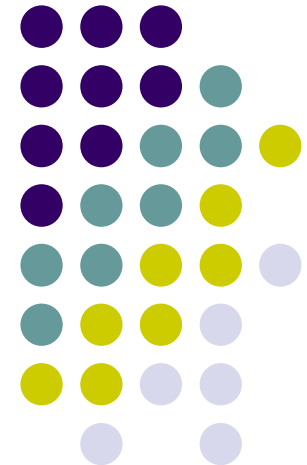


# Trade data and Trade Negotiations:

Examples of how trade data are essential tools to support  
Multi-lateral Trade Negotiations (MTN)

**Ninez Piezas-Jerbi**  
**World Trade Organization**





# Our Purpose

## ❖ **WTO mission:**

Develop global trade rules between nations to ensure that trade is open and flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible for the benefit of all.

## ❖ **Economic Research and Statistics Division (ERSD):**

Provide knowledge and insights on economic, policy, and statistical developments (“let data speak”)

### **Purpose of WTO international trade statistics:**

A tool to support:

- the development of our Members’ trade policy
- trade negotiations
- monitoring trade agreements, and
- settling trade disputes



# Trade Indicators and the work of the WTO

*(some examples)*



1. **Export Competitiveness**
2. **3-yr averages of exports/imports**
3. **Import statistics (value or volume)**
4. **Growth rates, shares, major destinations and origins**
5. **Trade to GDP, Value Added to GDP ratios**

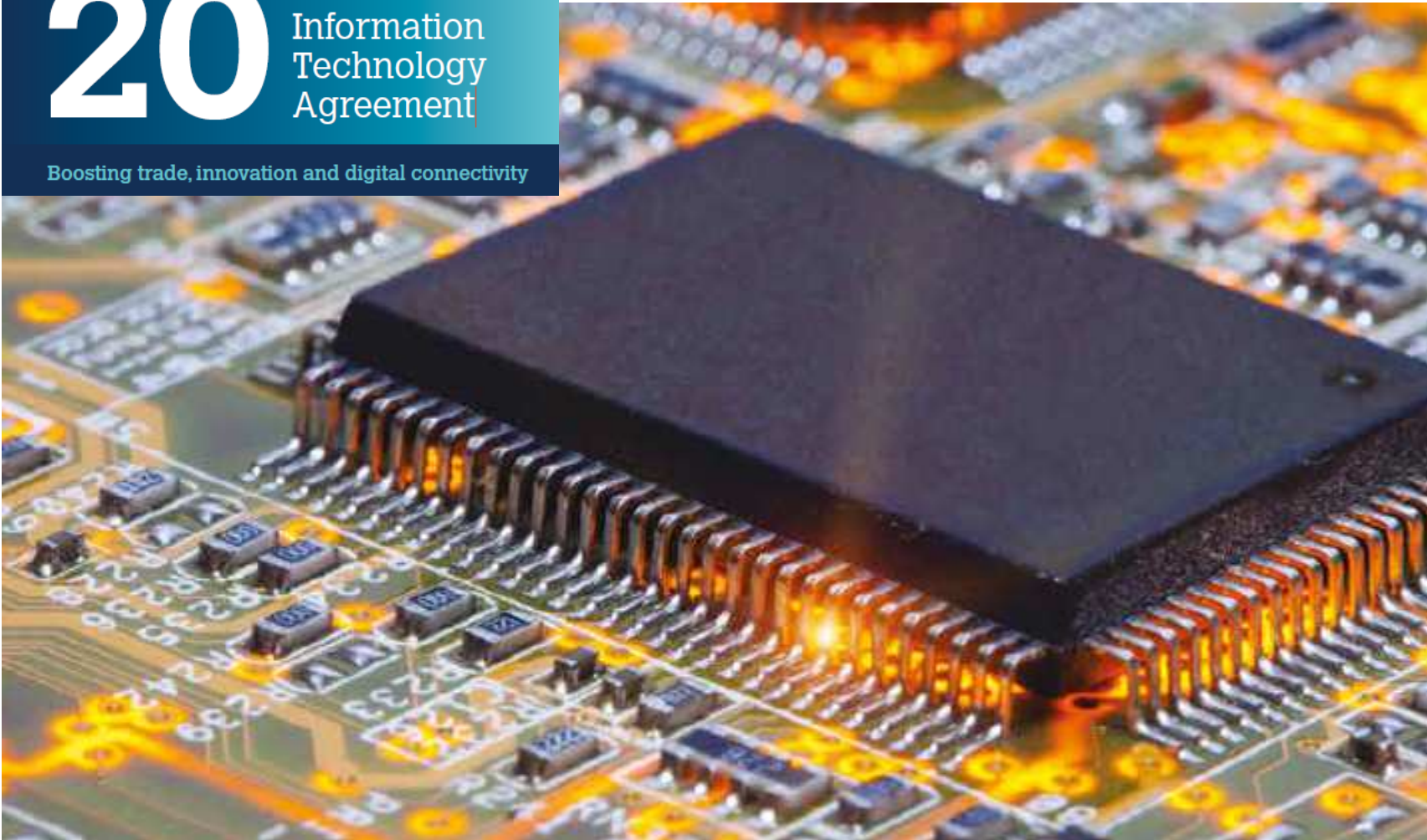
... fed into WTO committee papers, statistical publications, analytical papers, technical assistance and, at times, ad-hoc Member consultations



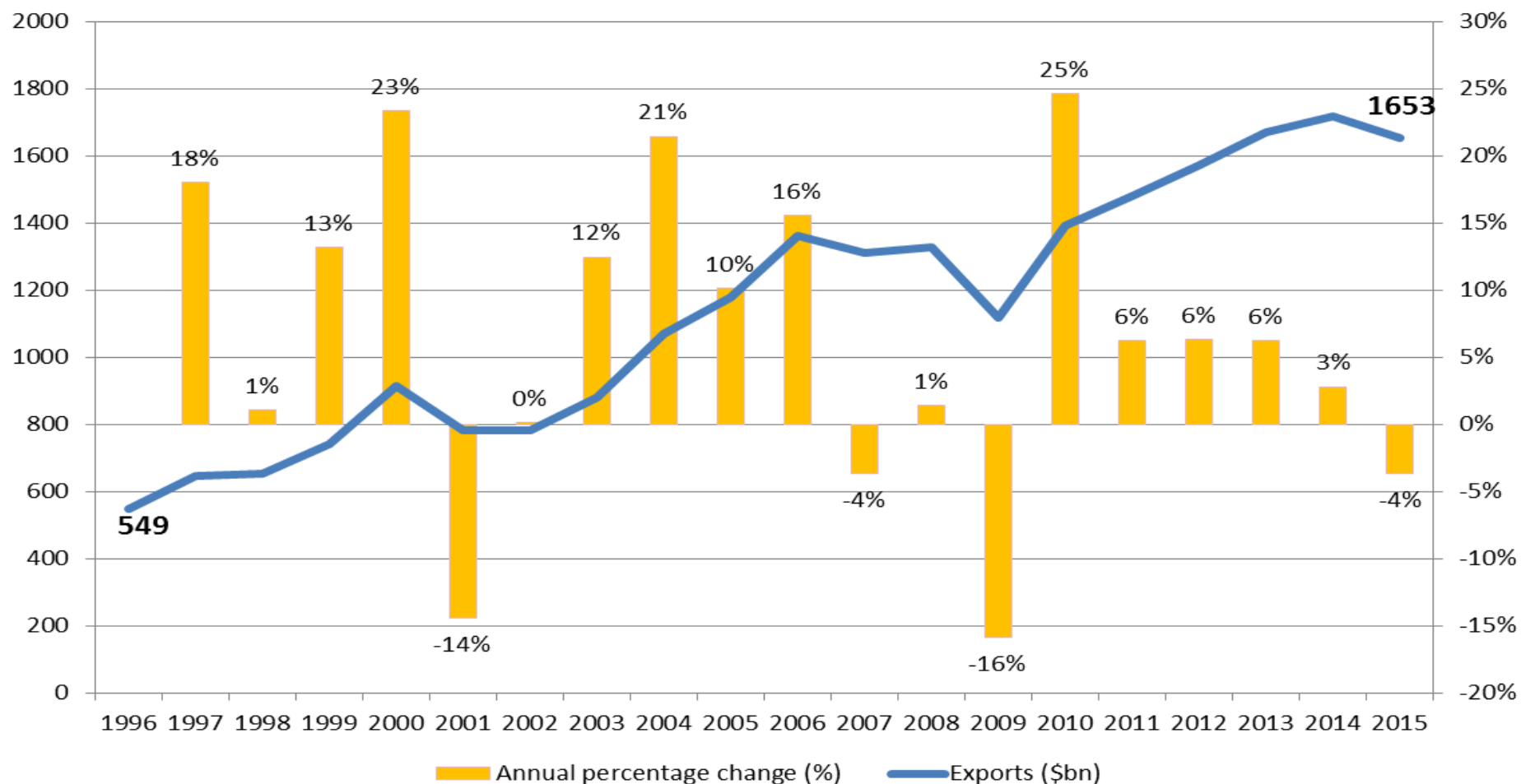
# Expansion of the ITA Agreement

**20** Years of the  
Information  
Technology  
Agreement

Boosting trade, innovation and digital connectivity



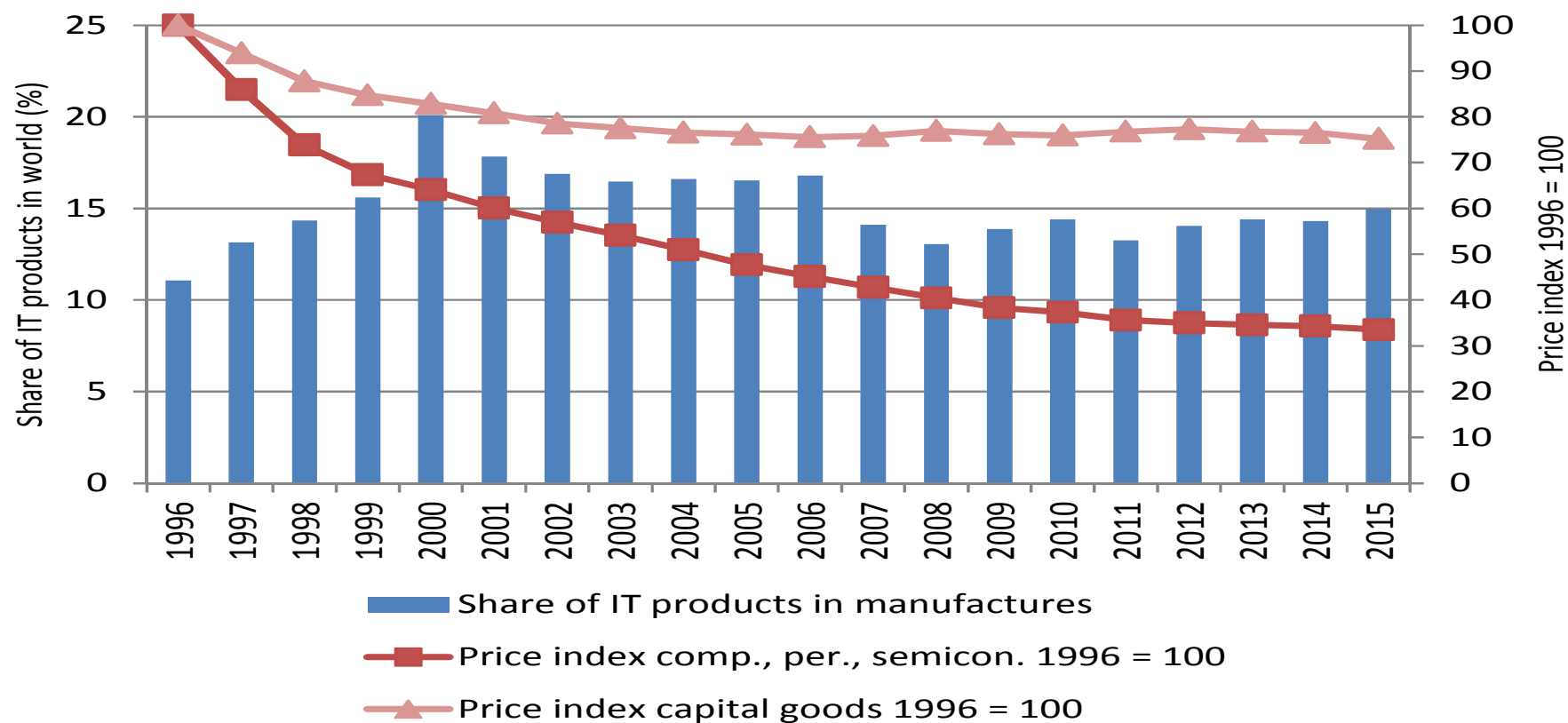
# The expansion of world exports of ITA products 1996-2015



Source: WTO Secretariat, based on UN Comtrade and WTO estimates

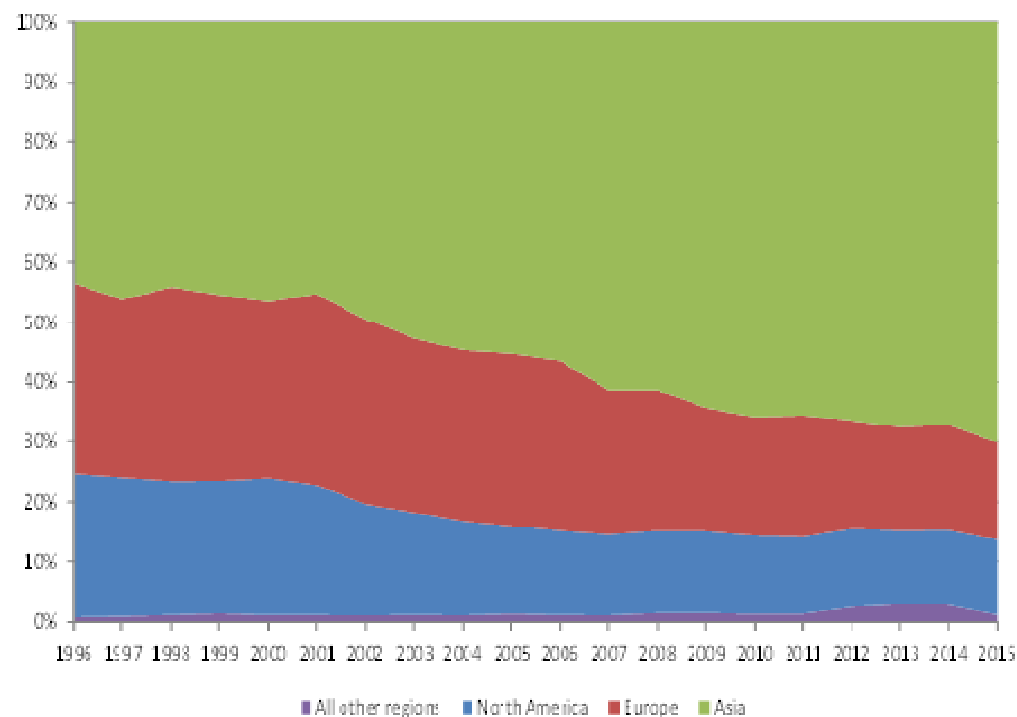
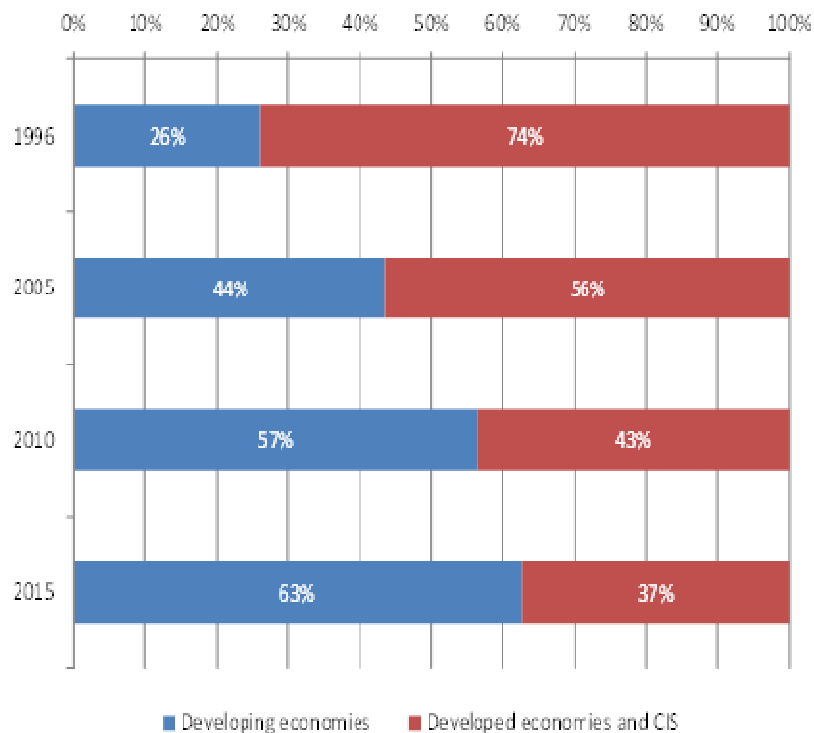
Regional workshop on International Merchandise Trade Statistics  
Suzhou, China (11-13 September 2017)

## Share of ITA products in exports of manufactures and price index of US imports of computers, peripherals and semiconductors



Source: WTO Secretariat, based on UN Comtrade, WTO estimates and US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

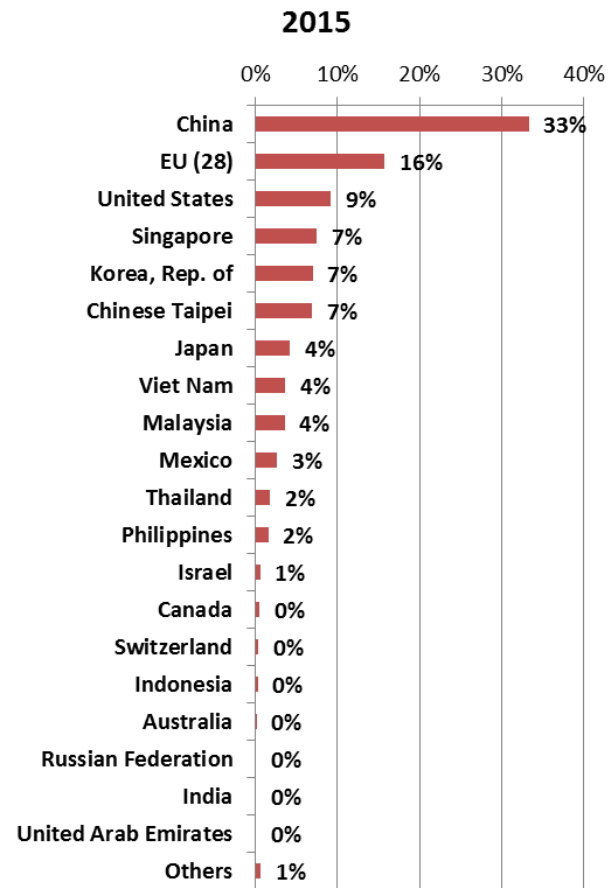
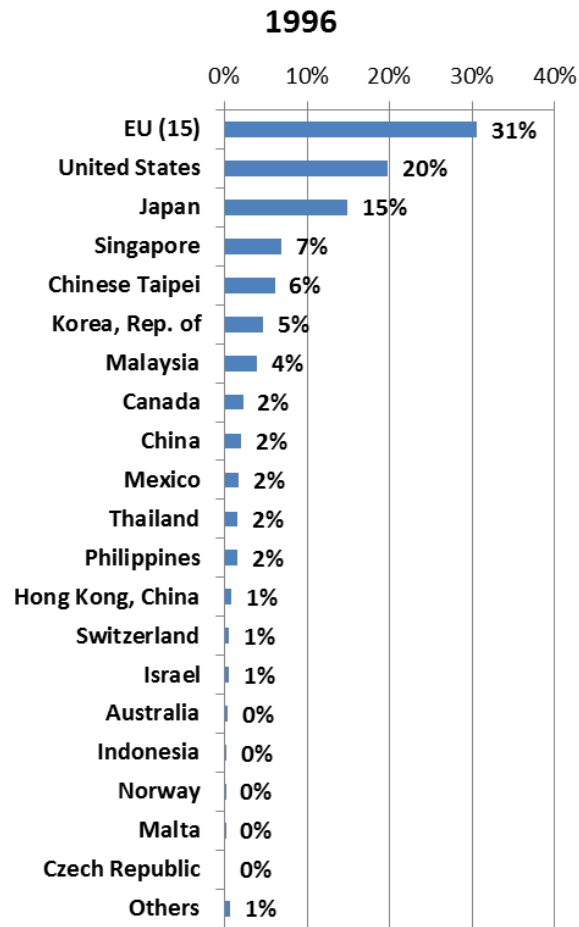
# Exports of ITA products by economic and geographic region



Source: WTO Secretariat, based on UN Comtrade and WTO estimates.



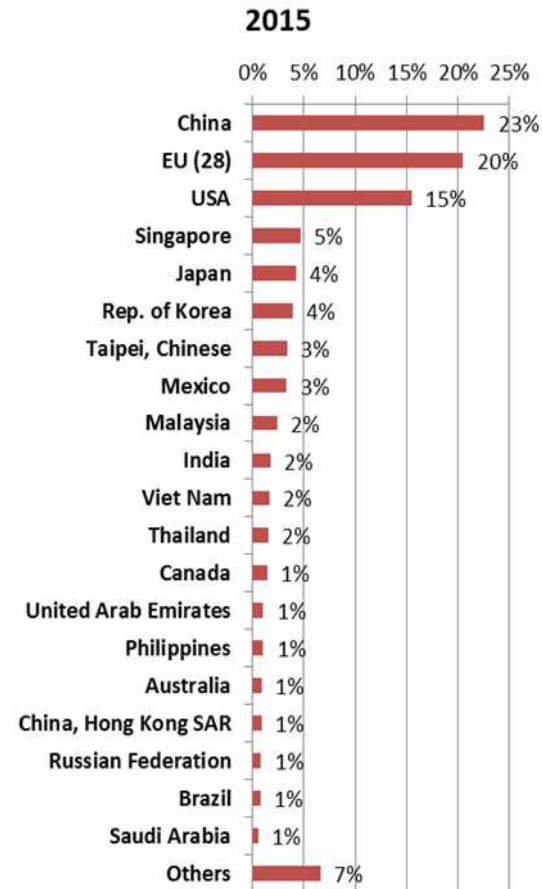
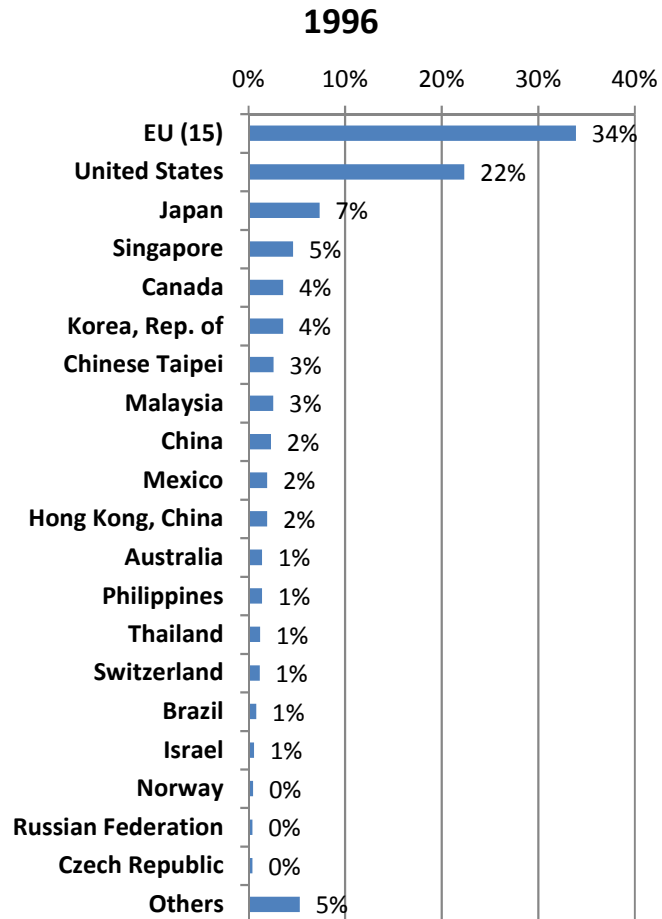
# Leading exporters of ITA products (share in world ITA products), percentage







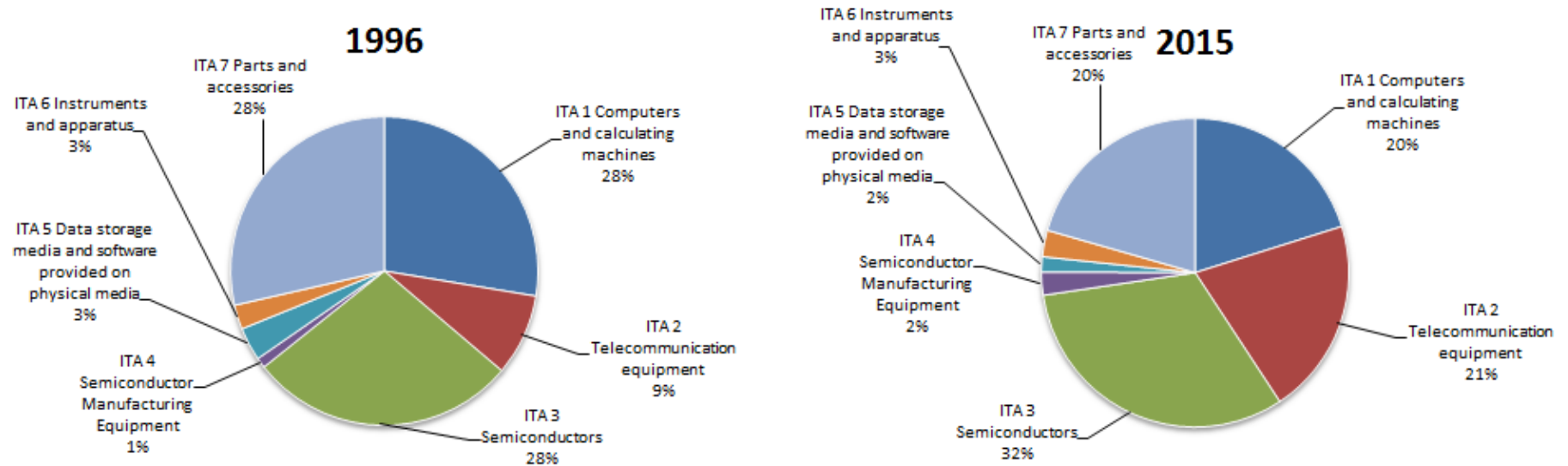
# Leading importers of ITA products (share in world ITA products), percentage





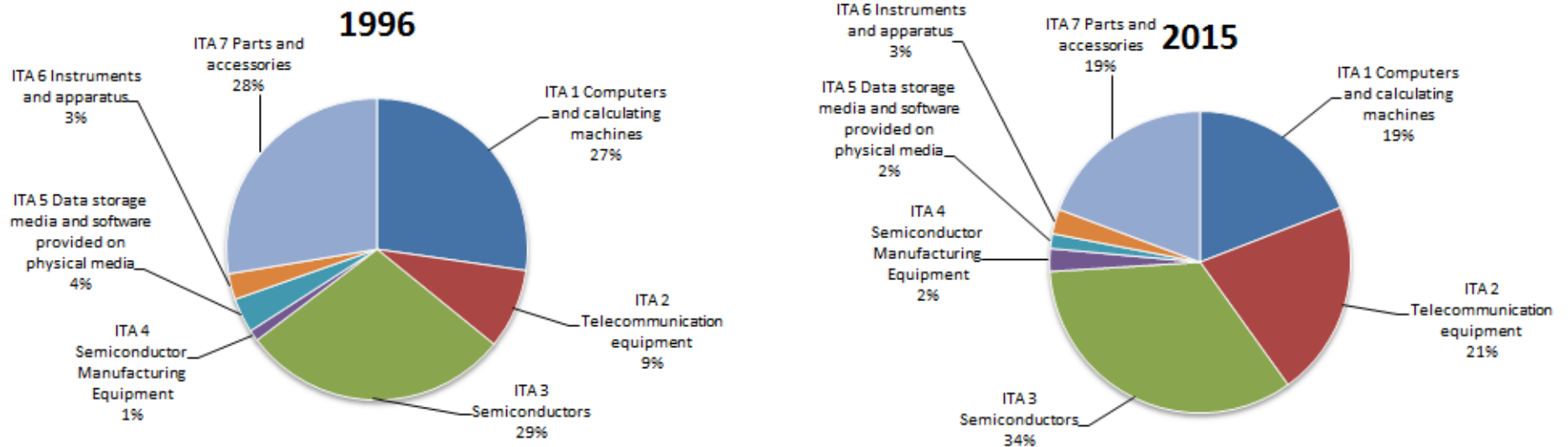
# World exports of ITA products, by product category

## Exports



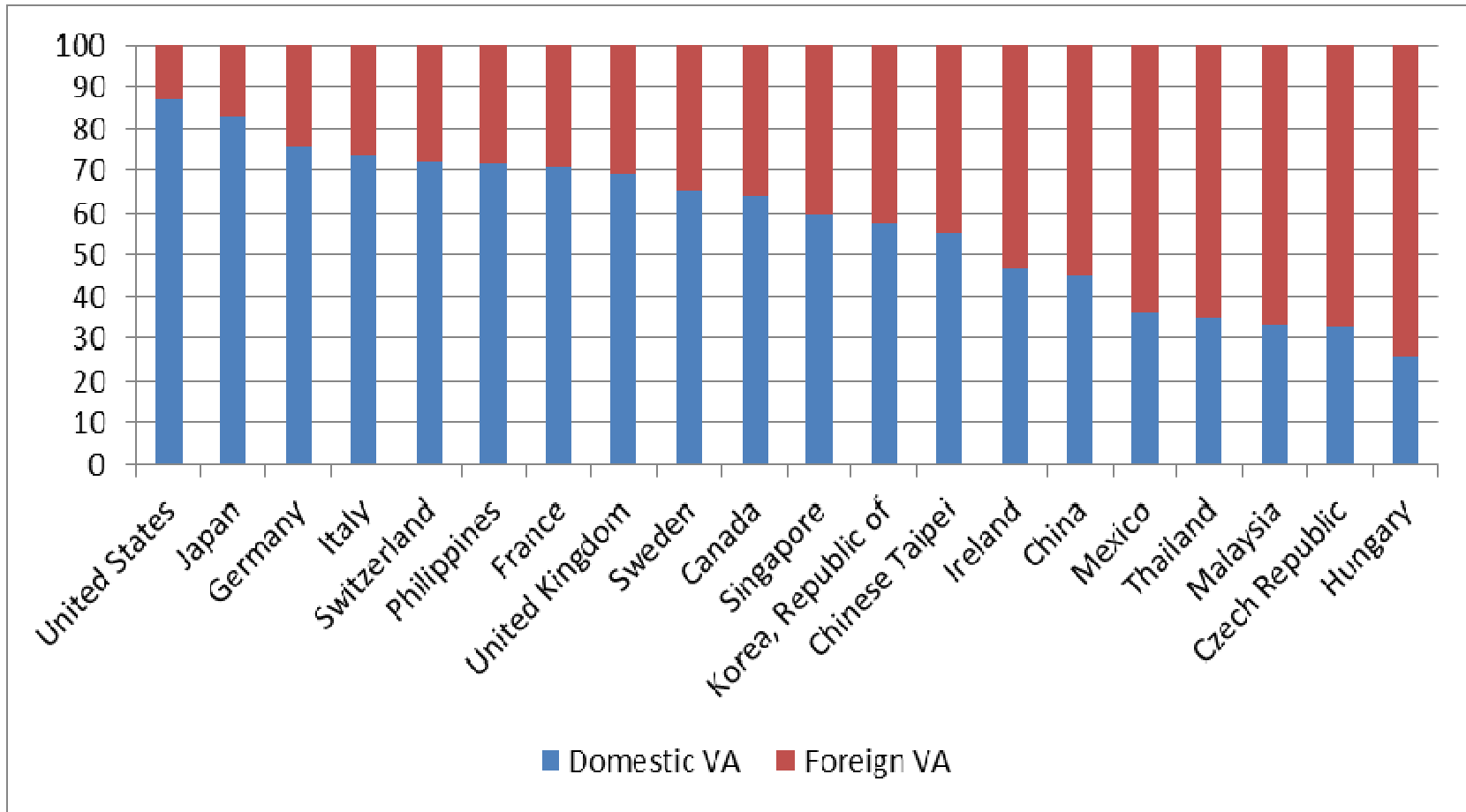
# World imports of ITA products, by product category

## Imports





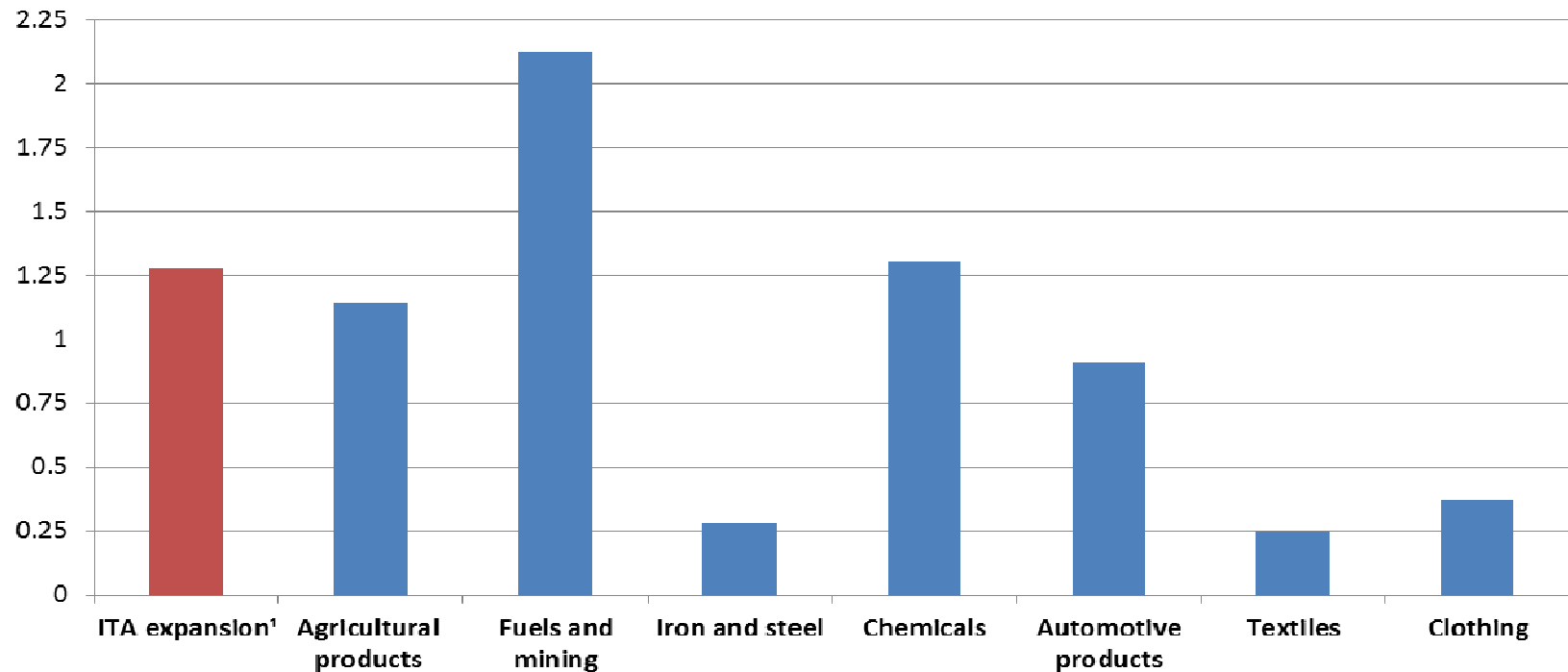
## Domestic and foreign value added content in exports of computer, electronic and optical equipment, major exporters, 2011



Source: OECD-WTO TiVA database



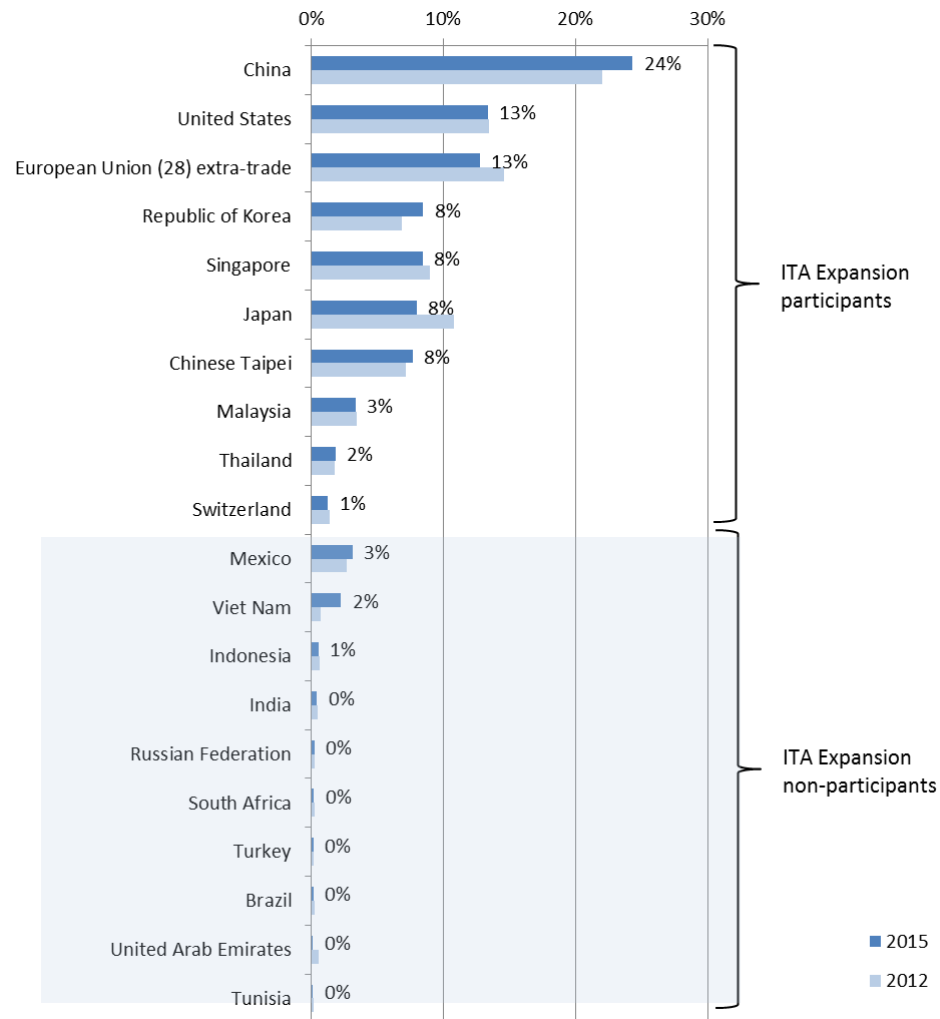
## Exports by ITA Expansion participants of ITA Expansion products, 2012-2015 (US\$ billion)



<sup>1</sup> Exports by participants to the ITA expansion negotiations.  
Excluding EU-intra trade and excluding re-exports of Hong Kong, China.  
Source: WTO Secretariat based on UN Comtrade database.

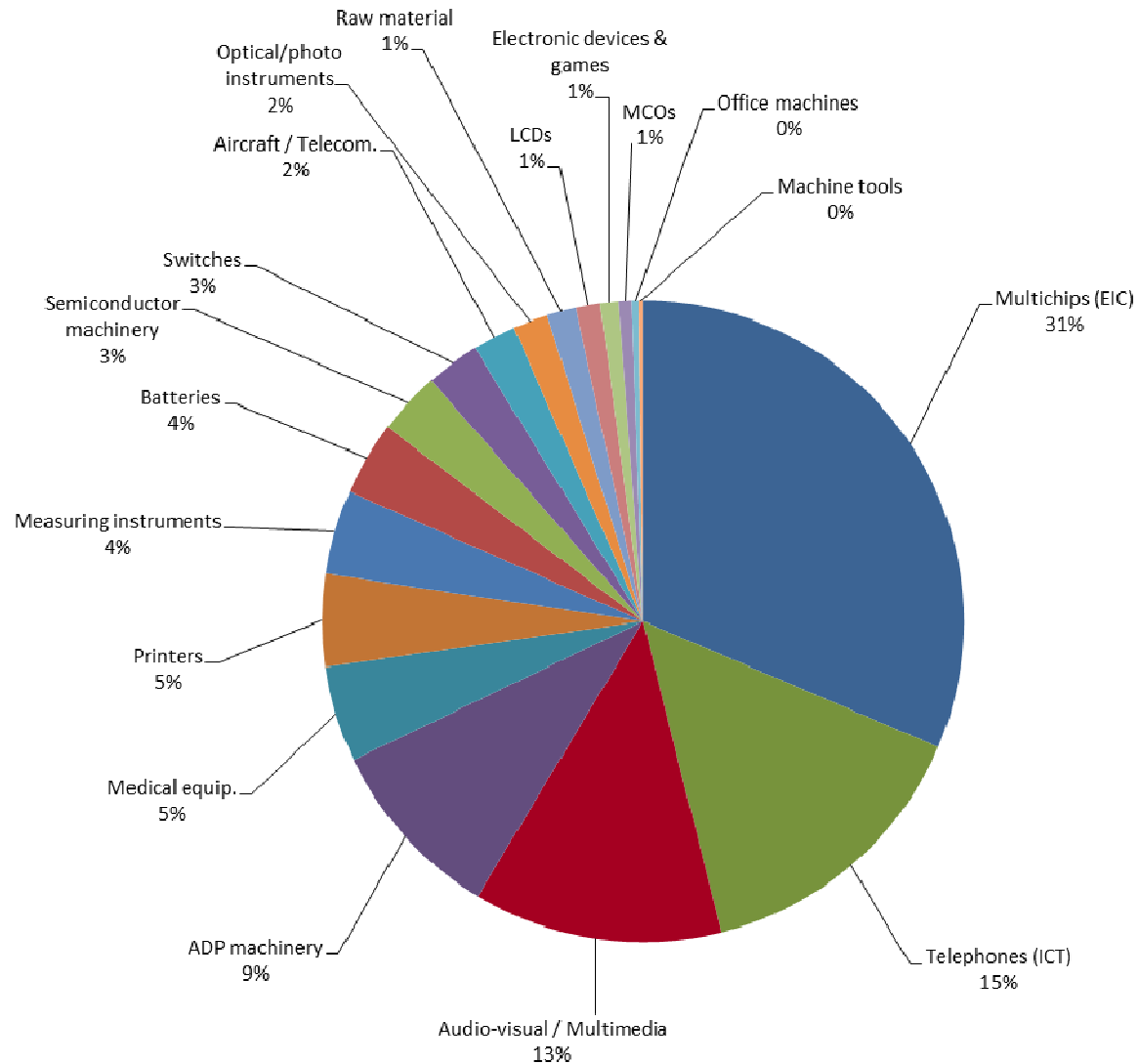


# Top 10 exporters of ITA Expansion products (participants/non-participants) (percentage share in world exports\*)

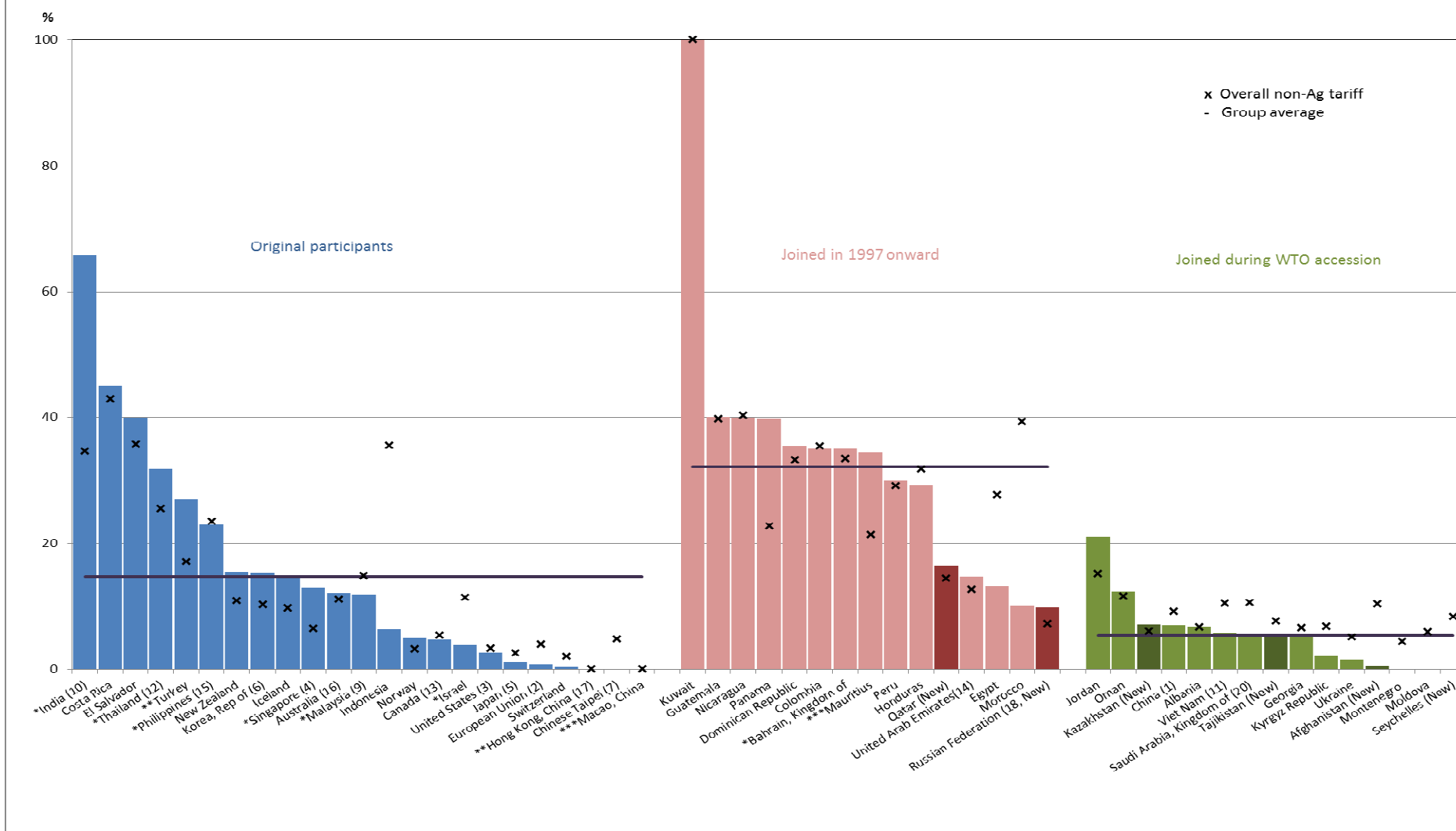




# World exports of ITA expansion products by aggregated product groups, 2015 (percentage share in world\*)



# Overall average bound tariffs on non-agricultural products and average initial bound tariffs on ITA products



Source: WTO Secretariat, based on Integrated Data Base (IDB) data.





## Some conclusions derived:

- ❖ **Trade in ITA products almost ... since 1996, changing trade patterns in terms of main traders and products. Developing countries' share is now at .. per cent of exports...Semiconductors are the largest ITA product group, followed by computers and telecom equipment.**
- ❖ **Many finished electronic products are produced in global production networks This makes the elimination of tariffs and other barriers to trade, as well as good infrastructure services and trade facilitation, ever more important.**
- ❖ **The Trade Facilitation Agreement and the liberalization of ICT help to develop digital trade. The smooth functioning of it requires strengthened global governance.**



# A similar exercise hoped for the EGA

## Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA)

WTO members are engaged in negotiations seeking to eliminate tariffs on important environment-related products that help achieve environmental and climate protection goals: *(ex. wind turbines and solar panels)*

- generating clean and renewable energy,
  - improving energy and resource efficiency,
  - controlling air pollution,
  - managing waste,
  - treating waste water,
  - monitoring the quality of the environment, and
  - combatting noise pollution.
- 
- The benefits of this new agreement will be extended to the entire WTO membership

# Thank You!



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