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Raimondo - No Timetable for Added China Controls

The Administration is not operating on a timetable for releasing highly-anticipated new export control rules on cutting-edge technology, Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said Wednesday.

The focus instead is on getting the final rules right, so that US national security is protected but companies are not prevented from selling readily-available technology, she said at a program sponsored by the American Enterprise Institute. [READ MORE](#)

Raimondo: Three IPEF Pillars by November

Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said yesterday she is looking to finalize the three pillars of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework under her charge by November.

Ms. Raimondo has jurisdiction over the supply chains, anti-corruption and infrastructure and decarbonization pillars. US Trade Representative Katherine Tai is in charge of the trade pillar. [READ MORE](#)

Chips Defense Industrial Base Memorandum

The Commerce and Defense Departments announced yesterday that they have signed a Memorandum of Agreement to expand collaboration to strengthen the US semiconductor defense industrial base.

The agreement will increase information sharing between the departments to facilitate close coordination on the CHIPS for America's incentives program, ensuring that their respective investments position the United States to produce semiconductor chips essential to national security and defense programs. [READ MORE](#)

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TRADE POLICY

Lawmakers Target China's Role in IDB

A bipartisan group of lawmakers Tuesday introduced the Inter-American Development Bank Transparency Act, which would require the Treasury Department to inform Congress of PRC influence at the ... [READ MORE](#)

IDB Members Continue Regulatory Dialogue

Delegates from across the Americas convened July 21 to mark one year in their implementation of the Declaration on Good Regulatory Practices (GRPs), announced during the Summit of the Americas in June 2022.

The Inter-American Development Bank also joined the countries for an exchange focusing on best practices for inclusive consultations, and efforts to implement the related provisions of the Declaration. The countries also discussed upcoming opportunities for further engagement on GRPs, including in regional exchanges and at the WTO. [READ MORE](#)

African Trade Pact Extension Urged

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) has been in place for 23 years, enacted during the George W Bush Administration and since renewed to 2025. Monday, the USTR held the ... [READ MORE](#)

Treasury to Kenya for AML/CFT Talks

Brian Nelson, the Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, is set to make an official visit to Nairobi, Kenya, and Mogadishu, Somalia from July 24 to 29. The journey ... [READ MORE](#)

WTO UPDATE

WTO Advances EU's Olives Request, Adopts Panel Ruling for Japan; US

Objections Continue

The Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) has advanced the European Union's request to establish a compliance panel, seeking to verify whether the United States has adhered to an earlier panel ruling concerning US countervailing duties on Spanish ripe olives.

The United States continued to abstain from agreeing to a proposal to initiate the selection process for filling vacancies on the Appellate Body. This marks the 68th instance of such a blockade by the US. [READ MORE](#)

WTO - Call for "Action to Assist LDCs in Crisis"

Pakistan has proposed a draft decision for the World Trade Organization's next ministerial conference that calls for substantial "response measures" and the "needed space" with requisite policy tools for developing and least-developed countries to tackle unforeseen multiple crises arising from climate change and the worsening

international economy, WTD has learned.

Islamabad underscored the need for a “pro-active decision by WTO Members that would allow the needed space for developing countries and LDCs facing a crisis to respond expeditiously and with required policy tools to avoid deepening and spreading of the crisis.” [READ MORE](#)

WTO - African Group on Industrial Policies

World Trade Organization General Council Chair Ambassador Athaliah Lesiba Molokomme of Botswana is planning an informal meeting on September 26 to discuss two different forms of industrialization policies as proposed by the European Union on the one hand and the African Group on the other.

The African Group of more than 50 countries is calling for “policy space for industrial development,” making a case for rebalancing trade rules to promote industrialization and to address emerging challenges such as climate change, concentration of production and digital industrialization. [READ MORE](#)

WTO Dispute Settlement Reform Uncertain

The prospects for a robust dispute settlement system undergirding a strong enforcement pillar at the World Trade Organization appear grim given continued disagreements among members about reform, our ... [READ MORE](#)

WTO - Roadmap to MC 13

The Chair of the World Trade Organization's General Council, Ambassador Athaliah Lesiba Molokomme of Botswana, has laid out a comprehensive roadmap for the organization's 13th Ministerial Conference ... [READ MORE](#)

WTO - China takes Supply Chain Stand

China is calling for maintaining “the stability of global industrial and supply chains” at the World Trade Organization to ensure “an open, non-discriminatory and predictable Multilateral Trading System,” our correspondent reports.

At the concluding day of the WTO’s General Council meeting Tuesday, China – in a veiled hit at the United States – called on WTO members to adopt “a responsible attitude” for strengthening cooperation and for restoring the stable operation of global industrial and supply chains as soon as possible, and promote steady recovery of the world economy.” [READ MORE](#)

POLITICS OF TRADE

Sen. Wyden Slams "Cattle Laundering"

Senate Finance Committee Chair Ron Wyden, D-Ore., requested in a new letter that Lear Co., the nation’s largest car seat manufacturer, explain how it oversees leather supply chains in Brazil to prevent the illegal importation of goods made with forced labor or deforestation.

The letter comes as part of Wyden’s ongoing inquiry into forced labor in auto supply chains. Wyden has written to major automakers and their tier 1 suppliers regarding evidence of parts made with forced labor in Xinjiang, China, as

part of his investigation into the effectiveness of customs enforcement regarding forced labor. In June, he held a Finance Committee hearing investigating how cattle supply chains contribute to Amazon deforestation. [READ MORE](#)

GOP Senators Fight Buy American Waiver

Four Republican senators want to overturn a new rule that would waive Buy American requirements for electric vehicle charging stations.

The senators, led by Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla) have introduced a joint resolution, under the Congressional Review Act, to overturn the rule, saying it paves the way for the use of Chinese products. [READ MORE](#)

COOL Act Clears Committee in Senate

The Senate Commerce Committee approved legislation (S 1421) that would mandate country-of- origin labeling for products sold online.

The Country of Origin Labeling Online Act passed a vote of 16 to 11, with all committee Democrats voting in favor of the bill, along with two Republican se [READ MORE](#)

IRA Domestic Content Guidance Hit

US steel producers and workers are warning that recent Administration guidance on rules for implementing the domestic content bonus credit requirements for solar and other renewable energy electricity generation projects under the Inflation Reduction Act could harm domestic producers by allowing the use of foreign steel.

In a letter to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, the groups noted that the Treasury Department's guidance would allow firms to still qualify for the 10 percent tax credit even if imported steel is used. [READ MORE](#)

Finance Plans Taiwan Tax Bill Action

The leaders of the Senate Finance Committee announced that the panel will mark up tax legislation to strengthen economic ties with Taiwan when Congress returns in September from the August recess. ... [READ MORE](#)

House Passes Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 1684, the Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act. The bill would require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ... [READ MORE](#)

TRADE SECURITY

China Backing Russian War Effort - ODNI Report

China is providing crucial support for Russia's war effort in Ukraine by helping the Kremlin evade Western sanctions and is likely supplying Moscow with key technology, according to a new US intelligence report.

China has dramatically expanded its purchase of Russian oil, gas and other energy exports since Moscow invaded

Ukraine in February last year and used its financial system to allow Russia “to conduct transactions unfettered of Western interdiction,” said the assessment released Thursday by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). [READ MORE](#)

Sanctions Compliance Note Issued

Justice, Commerce and the Treasury Department issued a joint compliance note focusing on the voluntary self-disclosure policies that apply to US sanctions, export controls and other ... [READ MORE](#)

WORTH NOTING

OFAC's New Video Series: "Introduction to OFAC"

OFAC has released the first episode of its “Introduction to OFAC” web series, a series of short videos created to provide viewers with a high-level introduction on the fundamentals of OFAC and sanctions implementation.

The first episode introduces viewers to OFAC and its place within the U.S. government, as well as its history, mission, and relationship with the public. [READ MORE](#)

EXIM Announces 2023 Annual Conference, Opens Registration

The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) announced today that its 2023 Annual Conference – “Create Locally, Export Globally” – will take place October 19-20 at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. Registration is now open. [READ MORE](#)

AD/CVD Pending Publication

Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Investigations, Orders, or Reviews: Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Mexico by the International Trade Administration scheduled for publication ... [READ MORE](#)

AD/CVD Recently Published

Rebar, Citric Acid, Corrosion Resistant Steel, Passenger Tires, Forged Fluid End Blocks, Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet, Certain Softwood Lumber. [READ MORE](#)