

# Belarus on the Road to the WTO

1992–2018



11 Gaziety "Prauda" Avenue, room 315,  
220116, Minsk, Belarus  
tel./ fax: +375 (17) 207 47 25  
website: <http://research.by/>  
e-mail: [research@research.by](mailto:research@research.by)

Belarus is in the negotiation process on the accession to GATT/WTO since 1993. During this time, all our neighboring countries joined this organization. Belarus, as the EAEU member, de-facto has been fulfilling the WTO obligations since 2012.

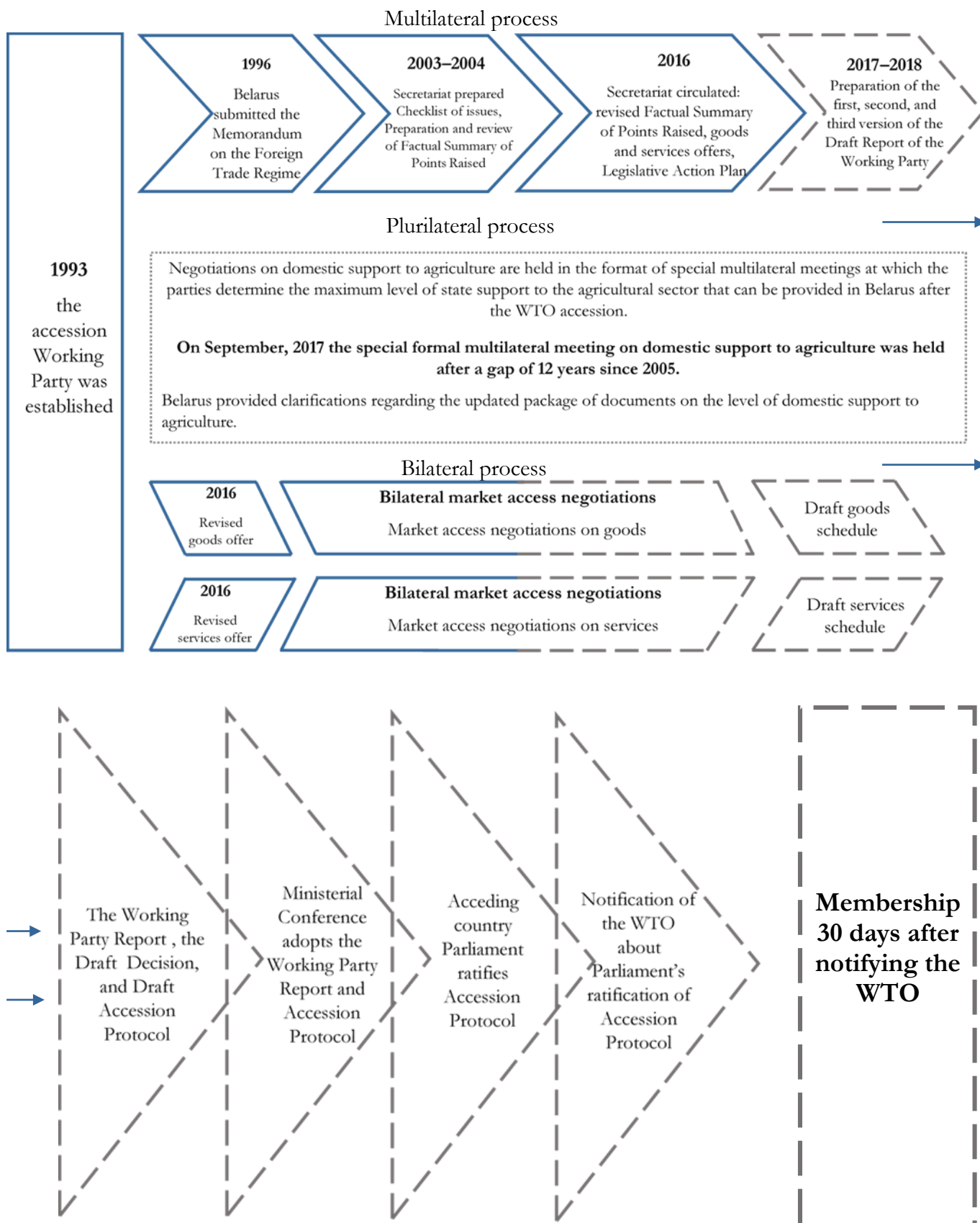
## Belarus holds its negotiations on joining the World Trade Organization in four major areas:

- 1) bringing the national legislation into compliance with the WTO multilateral treaties;
- 2) market access for goods;
- 3) market access for services;
- 4) domestic support to agriculture.

## On the road to the WTO



## Progress in negotiations on Belarus' accession to the WTO



Maika Oshikawa, Counsellor in the Accessions Division at the World Trade Organization, considers that Belarus will be able to join the WTO as earlier as 2020.

## Short summary of meetings of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus to the WTO

### 4th meeting of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus, January 2003

- Secretariat prepared Checklist of issues

### 5th meeting of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus, January 2004

- Member-countries of the Working Party adopted preparation of Factual Summary of Points Raised

### 6th meeting of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus, September 2004

- Decision was taken to develop the second draft of Factual Summary of Points Raised

### 7th meeting of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus, May 2005

- The second draft of Factual Summary of Points Raised was reviewed, review was pursued at informal meetings

### 8-th meeting of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus, January 2017

- Were agreed further steps in the negotiation process on the accession of Belarus to the WTO, including the preparation for the next meeting of the draft of one of the main documents - the Draft Report of the Working Party, i.e. moving to the final stage of the negotiation process for accession to the WTO

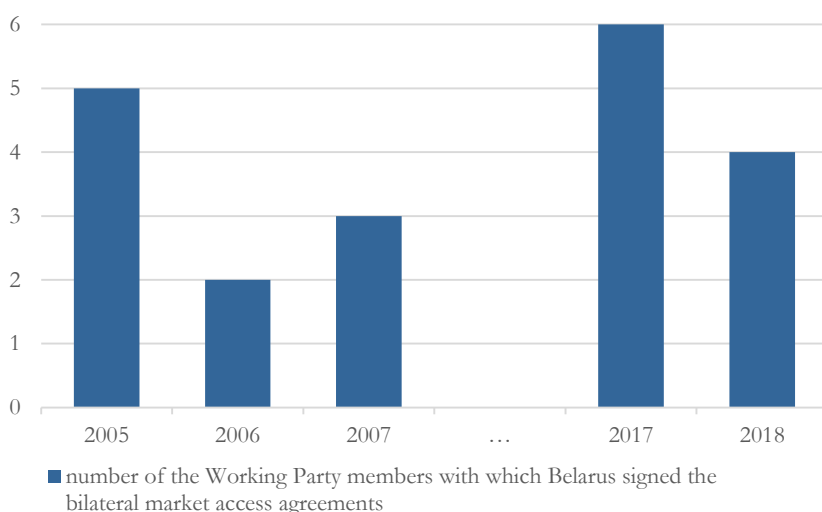
### 9th- meeting of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus, September 2017

- Agreement for transition to preparation of the second version of the Draft Report of the Working Party and reviewing it by the Working Party in the first quarter of 2018

### 10th meeting of the Working Party on the accession of Belarus, May 2018

- The Working Party reviewed the draft Report of the Working Party. It was detailed and substantive discussion on the issues of Belarus' economic policy, exports and imports regulation, technical barriers, SPS measures, trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights, trade in services. An agreement was reached to prepare the third version of the Draft Report of the Working Party

## Over the past two years much has been done



Belarus concluded **20** bilateral market access agreements

Belarus is in on- going bilateral negotiations with following interested Members: **Australia, Brazil, Canada, USA, Ukraine and the European Union.**