

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86215-8 - The First Ten Years of the WTO, 1995-2005

Peter Gallagher

Frontmatter

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THE FIRST TEN YEARS OF THE WTO

This book was commissioned by the World Trade Organization (WTO) as a factual account of the first decade of its existence. It aims to cover the principal activities of the WTO as the successor to GATT and the steps taken to establish a global trading system.

PETER GALLAGHER is an independent trade analyst and consultant. He records here what might be regarded as the WTO's main achievements as well as describing the controversies that have arisen in its first ten years.

A useful reference book for policy makers, journalists, members of trade delegations and for everyone who requires a detailed understanding of the workings of the WTO.

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PREFACE

This book has been commissioned by the WTO as a factual account of its first ten years. It covers the principal activities of the organization over the period of its establishment as the successor of GATT and the embodiment of the global trading system. I have tried to identify the main threads of what has been an important achievement without trying to avoid the controversies. But this book is not a complete record: for that, the reader might want to refer to the Annual Reports of the Organization. These are available as free downloads from the WTO website www.wto.org, in the Resources section, under Publications. All WTO documents and publications referred to in this publication can be downloaded from the same website. The official documents, whose codes are provided in this text, can be found in the Documents online database of the WTO website.

I would like to acknowledge the help of the WTO Secretariat in the preparation of this book.

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this book, and any errors of fact or omissions, are the author's. They are not to be attributed to the WTO or to the Secretariat of the WTO.