



EXPRESS DELIVERY INDUSTRY WELCOMES THE OUTCOME OF THE WTO'S MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The three members of the Global Express Association (GEA) welcome the adoption of the 'Geneva Package' by the 12th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation and the renewed commitment to strengthen the multilateral rules-based system. An open and stable international trading system is essential for efficient global supply chains.

We are glad to see that the Conference recognizes the vital role that services play in the world economy. Logistics and distribution services have played a vital role during the pandemic, yet a lot more can be done to allow logistics companies to provide the full range of their services globally. The "Geneva package" should be the stepping stone to the relaunch of services market access negotiations.

We are also glad to see that Ministers recognize the importance of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) in fighting the pandemic. The WTO has a powerful and proven tool in this Agreement. However, WTO members must build on today's outcome by increasing capacity building so that all members can implement the Treaty ambitiously and quickly. This would ensure that the TFA yields its full potential by lowering trade costs, alleviating supply chain congestion, and helping micro, small, and medium sized enterprises reach global markets more easily. The express industry stands ready to advise the WTO and its members with its first-hand experience on the ground.

Finally, GEA members encourage the WTO membership to advance the existing Joint Statement Initiatives on e-commerce, MSMEs and domestic regulation and urge that participating members re-energize those efforts in the lead-up to the next Ministerial Conference.

Geneva, 17 June 2022

The Global Express Association represents the three leading express delivery carriers: DHL, FedEx, and UPS.