

**EC Partner**

Yemen's Ministry of Industry and Trade

**Facts and Figures**

- EC contribution: € 7 million (93,3% of total)
- Project's duration: 2003 - 2010
- Several bilateral agreements already reached (EU, China, Canada, Australia, and Japan)



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# Trade

## Supporting Yemen's accession to the World Trade Organisation

*Yemen has not yet achieved the benefits of globalisation and is still marginalised from the world economy and international trade. Therefore, the government is seriously committed to integrate Yemen into the multilateral trading system and global economy through the accession to WTO and integration with neighbouring countries.*

Dr. Yahya Al-Mutawakel, Minister of Industry and Trade

**Context**

Yemen's accession to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is expected to happen shortly. At the beginning of the accession path, one of the major challenges for Yemen was the need to reform its regulatory system to be eligible for WTO membership. The EU supports the Ministry of Industry and Trade to build capacity to conduct the negotiation process in an efficient manner.

**Objectives**

- To build capacity of the Yemeni Ministry of Industry and Trade to proceed with fair negotiations to access the WTO
- To provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Industry and Trade to facilitate negotiations
- To promote awareness among the private sector and civil society

**Impact**

- The WTO Communication and Coordination Office at the Ministry of Industry and Trade fully equipped with IT system and office materials
- Capacity for the ministry's staff built by developing negotiations' skills
- A comprehensive trade policy review carried out
- Several bilateral agreements already reached and overall negotiations are progressing well.

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EuropeAid

### **Yemen's economic position will be strengthened through the accession to the WTO**

*"Accession to the WTO will cement the reform process in Yemen, strengthen Yemen's external economic position and enable Yemen's businesses to integrate into the Multilateral Trading System and global economy. The EU and the international community are keen to see Yemen as a member of the organisation by next year."*

Dr. Hamoud Al -Najar, Chief of the Communication and Coordination Office with the WTO



Fishing boat landing at Hodeida fishing harbour