

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 14, 2026

Director-General Okonjo-Iweala
World Trade Organization
Centre William Rappard
Rue de Lausanne 154
1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

Dear Director-General Okonjo-Iweala:

We write to express our serious concern regarding Taiwan's effective exclusion from the 14th Ministerial Conference in Cameroon.

Taiwan acceded to the WTO as its 144th Member in 2002 as "The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu" (or "Chinese Taipei"). Since that time, other WTO Members and the WTO Secretariat have respected Taiwan's status as a "Separate Customs Territory" with the same status as all other economies that have joined the WTO. This includes full and equal participation of its delegation at Ministerial Conferences. It is an improper infringement of Taiwan's right as a full WTO Member to force its delegates to choose between entering Cameroon for the Ministerial Conference on visas using the nomenclature "Taiwan, Province of China"— which implies that Taiwan is not a WTO Member in its own right — or missing the Ministerial Conference altogether.

In light of this, we urge you to answer the following questions:

1. How will the WTO Secretariat ensure that this incident does not set a precedent for future Ministerial Conferences?
2. Is the WTO Secretariat putting in place written guidelines to provide assurances that similar incidents undermining the rights of Members will not occur at future Ministerial Conferences?

We look forward to receiving your response by June 3, 2026, and welcome an opportunity to discuss this issue in more detail. We thank you for your efforts to lead the WTO through these consequential times and for your willingness to engage directly with the U.S. Congress on a range of important issues.

CC: The Honorable Jamieson Greer, United States Trade Representative

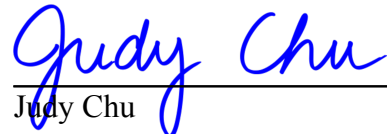
Sincerely,



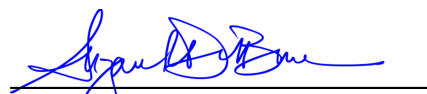
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress




Adrian Smith
Member of Congress




Judy Chu
Member of Congress



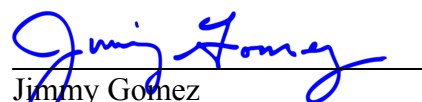
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress




Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress




Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



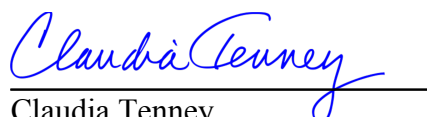
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress




Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



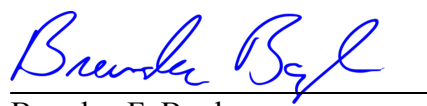
John B. Larson
Member of Congress




Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress




Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



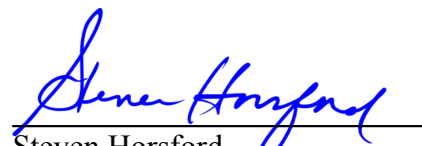
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



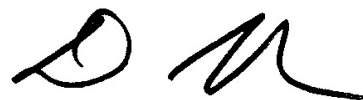
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



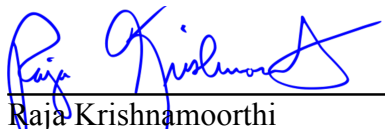
Dave Min
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Raja Krishnamoorthi
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Thomas R. Suozzi
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Michael V. Lawler
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