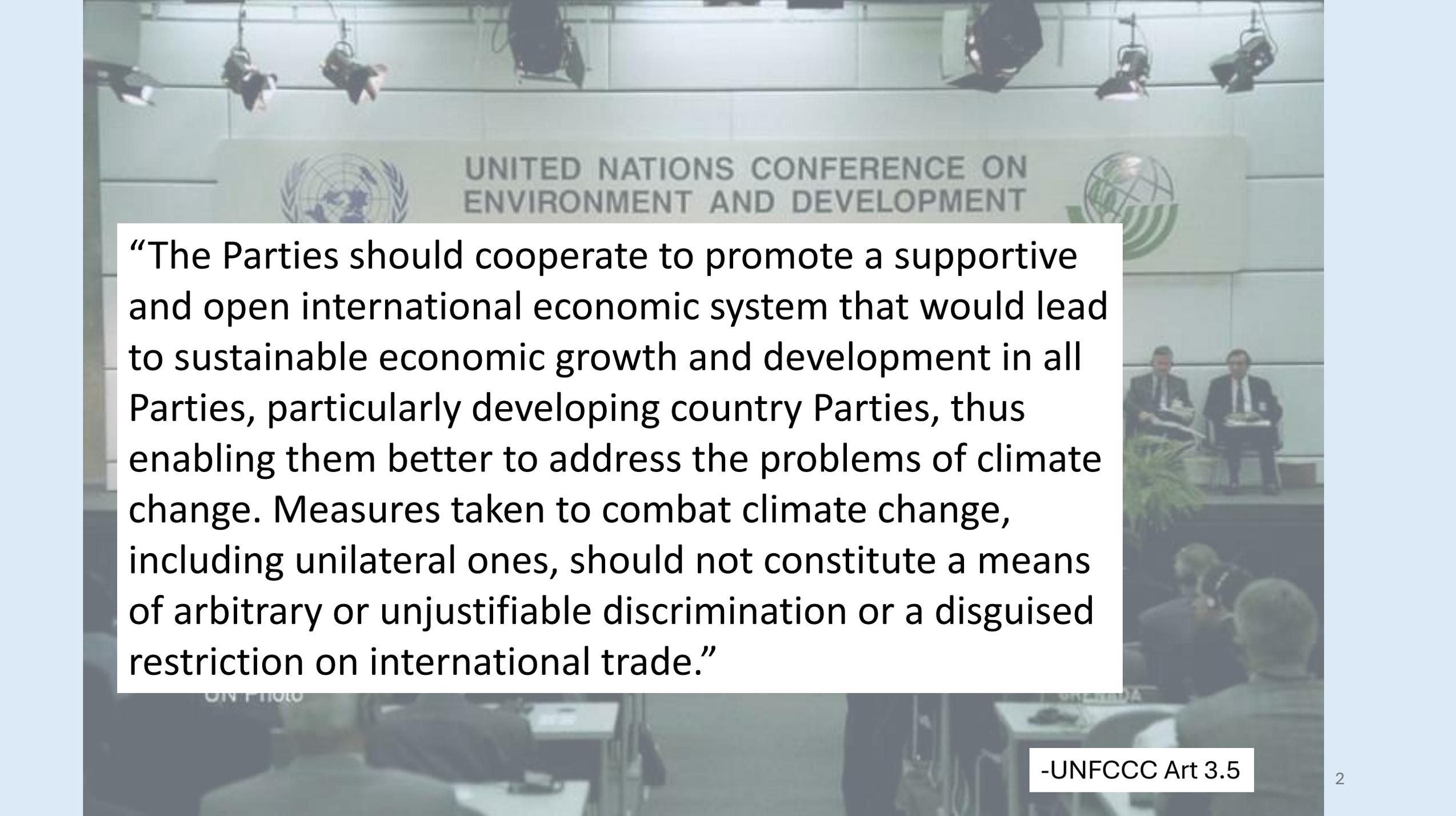


# Trade-Related Climate Measures: Trends, Challenges, Opportunities

Trevor Sutton

Second Global Dialogue on the Impacts of the  
Implementation of Response Measures

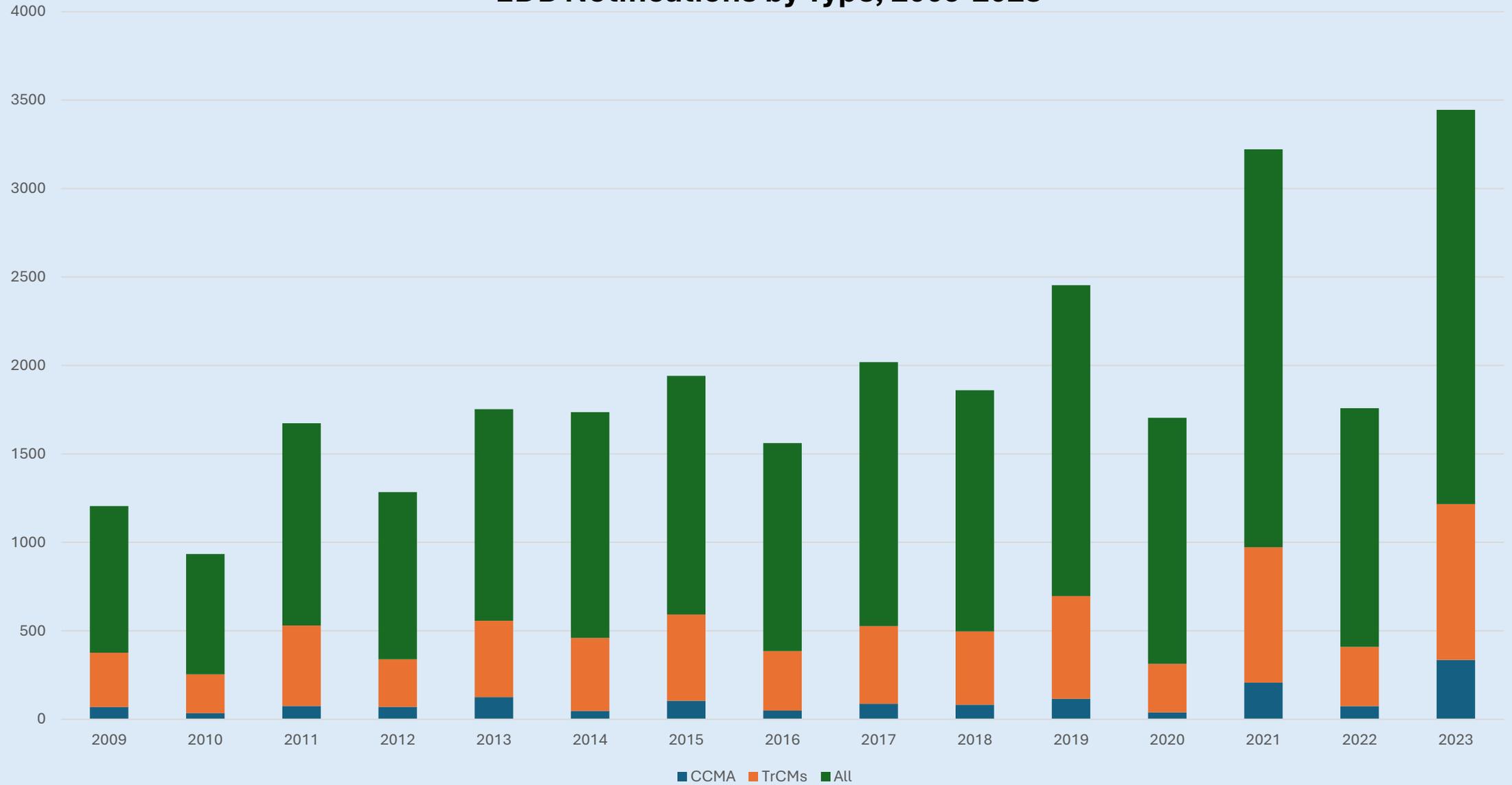
Istanbul, 29 September 2025

The background image shows a stage at a United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. At the top, several spotlights are visible. Below them, a banner features the United Nations logo on the left, the text "UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT" in the center, and a stylized globe logo on the right. In the foreground, two men in suits are seated on a stage, and the backs of several audience members' heads are visible in the lower part of the frame.

“The Parties should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to sustainable economic growth and development in all Parties, particularly developing country Parties, thus enabling them better to address the problems of climate change. Measures taken to combat climate change, including unilateral ones, should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.”

-UNFCCC Art 3.5

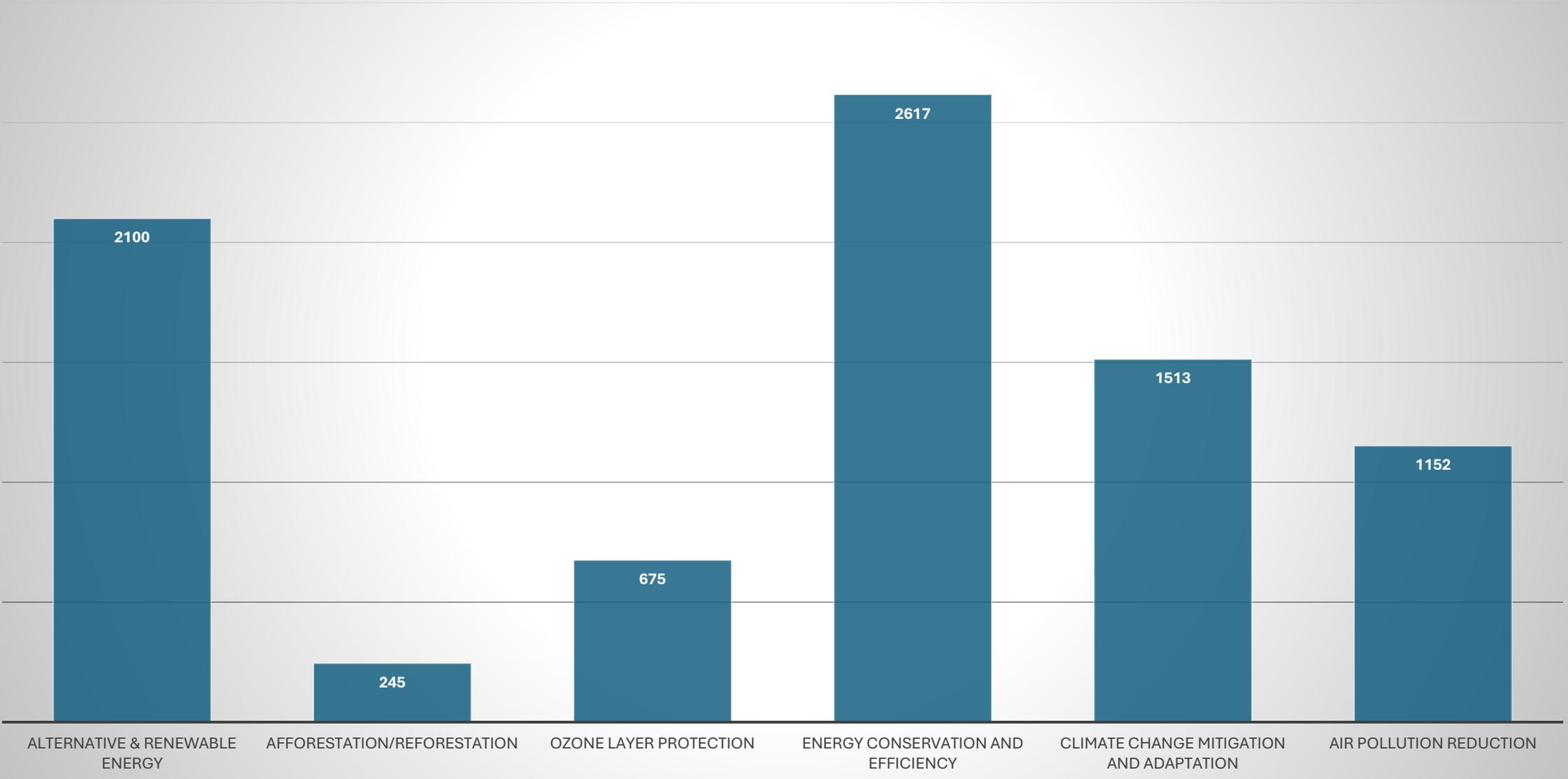
# EDB Notifications by Type, 2009-2023



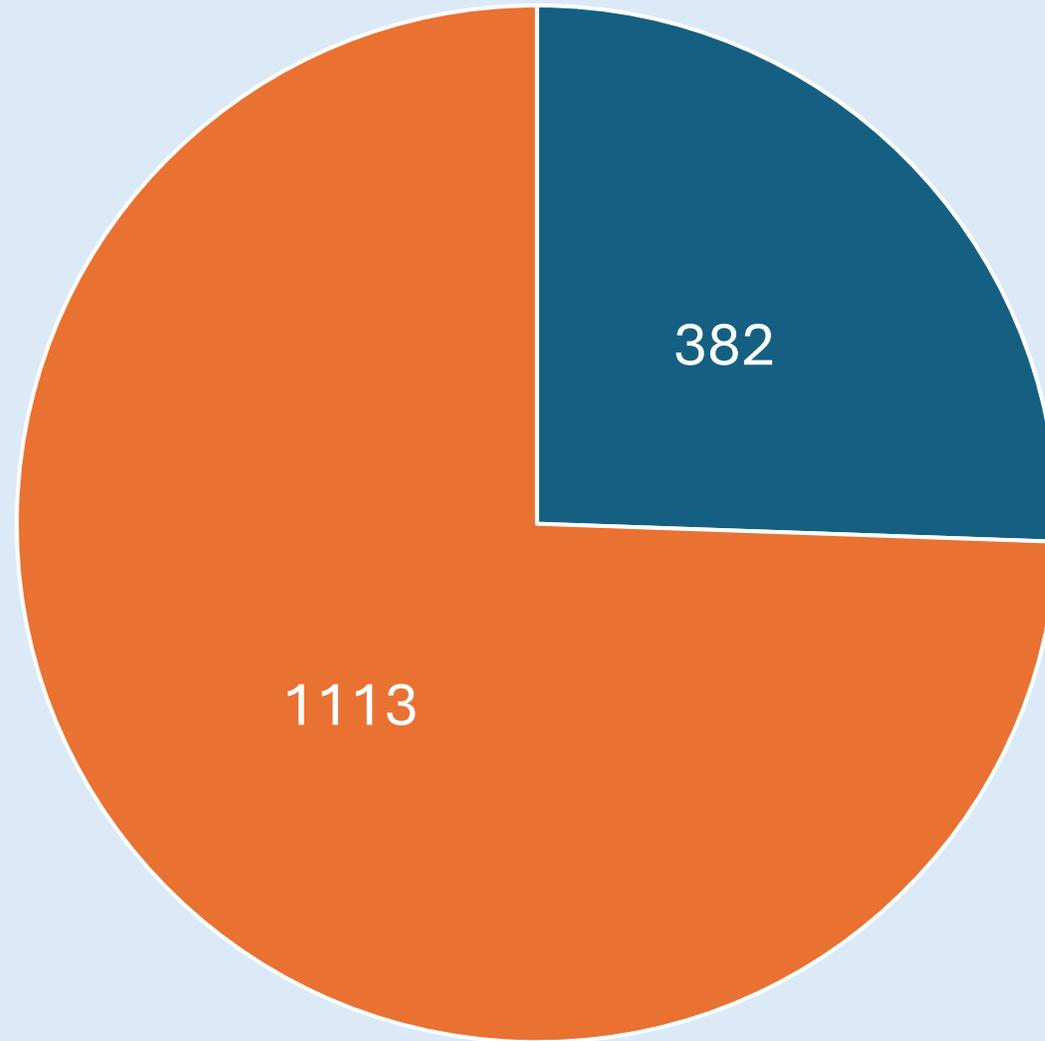
Source: WTO EDB

TrCMs refer to measures with objectives classified as (1) Alternative & Renewable Energy; (2) Afforestation/reforestation; (3) Ozone Layer Protection; (4) Energy Conservation and Efficiency; (5) Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; (6) Air Pollution Reduction

# TrCM Notifications by Objective 2009-2023

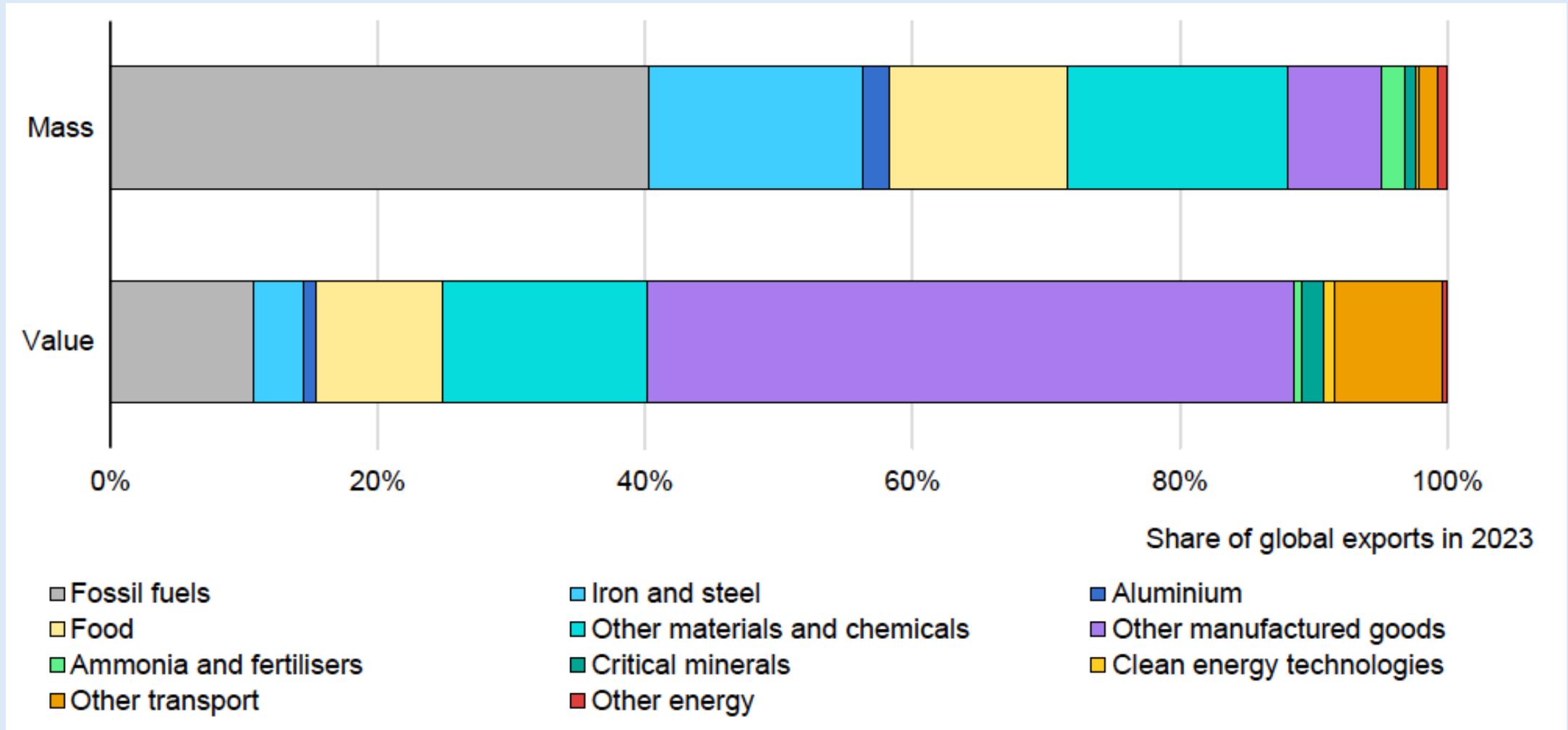


# Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption Notifications by Development Status in WTO, 2009-2023



■ Developing ■ Developed

## Shares of physical goods in global trade, 2023



Source: IEA ETP (2024)

# Types of climate measures with potential trade impacts

## Pricing mechanisms

- Border carbon adjustments
- Shipping levies
- Taxes
- Tariffs

## Support measures

- Procurement
- Subsidies schemes
- R&D funding

## Regulatory requirements

- Product and performance standards
- Labeling requirements
- Import restrictions
- Intellectual property

# Potential sources of conflict tension around TrCMs

- Fragmentated regulatory environment
- Enhanced compliance burdens
- Changes in market access
- Restructured investment flows
- Just transition pressures
- Barriers to technology transfer
- Absence of agreed-upon forums and principles for evaluation

# TrCM design considerations

- Transparency
- Arbitrary and unjust discrimination
- Sovereignty
- Equity
- Prevention
- Cooperation

# Initiatives to foster cooperation

- Climate Club
- BICFIT
- G20 Principles on Trade and Sustainable Development
- BRICS Laboratory for Trade, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development
- Coalition of Climate Ministers for Trade
- Integrated Forum on Climate and Trade