



CHINA WTO ACCESSION INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME ALUMNI STORY

please tell us...



Where are you from, and what have you studied before joining the China Programme?

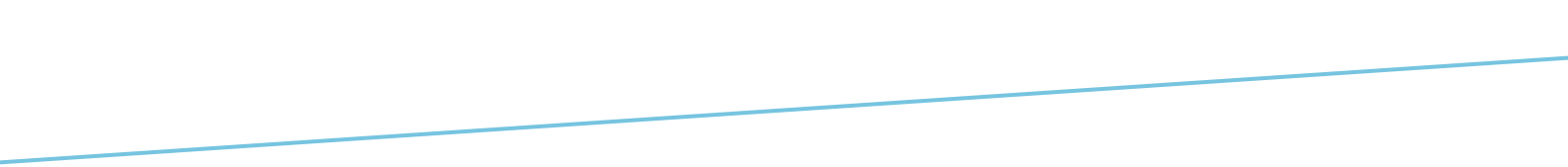
Born in Malawi, I spent part of my childhood in Kuwait, in the Middle East. Prior to joining the China Programme, I obtained a bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Bristol, and a master's degree in Law from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), specialising in Competition, Innovation, and Trade Law.

Why did you apply?

At university, my academic interests revolved primarily around economic law, and during my master's degree, I took an international trade law module where I was introduced to the exciting realm of WTO law and policy. Furthermore, coming from a developing country, Malawi, I have always had a strong interest in law and development. I wanted to work for an organisation that has been at the centre of an unprecedented period of global economic growth and development. I wanted to strengthen my existing knowledge of WTO law, as well as broaden my understanding of the world trade system, and better understand the dynamics of trade negotiations.

What kind of work were you assigned to during your internship?

During my internship, I worked on a wide variety of matters relating to trade law and policy. I supported the accession dossiers of Comoros, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Uzbekistan, Somalia, and South Sudan. For these, I was assigned a range of tasks, such as reviewing and analysing



domestic legislation, assisting in the facilitation of training and capacity building sessions, and assisting in the production of accession documentation.

I assisted with the production of accessions-related economic and trade research in the Middle East, and I was also heavily involved with the Accessions Division's Trade for Peace Programme. This entailed assisting in a number of editorial, training and capacity building projects, as well as helping facilitate the Trade for Peace course at the Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID).

Looking back, what do you think of your work experience at the WTO, and as participant of the China Programme?

I look back at my time at the WTO Secretariat, and the Accessions Division in particular, with immense gratitude. I joined at an opportune time, and was fortunate to witness the accessions of Comoros and Timor-Leste during my internship. The work was exciting, the team welcoming, and the experiences eye-opening. I was given a lot of responsibility, and gained valuable experiences during my time as a China Programme Intern. I trained with highly capable and experienced colleagues, who provided me with great support, creating an environment where I could thrive.

What have you done since?

I have since moved back to the UK, where I am about to begin training as a lawyer at an international law firm in London, getting exposure to corporate, commercial, antitrust/competition – and, hopefully, international trade – law!

Thank you!
