WTO REFORM: WILL THERE BE A THIRD OPTION OTHER THAN A U.S. WITHDRAWAL AND A CHINA EXPULSION?

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ABSTRACT

With an aim to solve the recent crisis of the World Trade Organization (hereinafter “WTO”), this paper examines the present proposals, especially with regards to a United States withdrawal solution and a China expulsion solution. It concludes that neither of these proposals is sufficient nor feasible for solving the problem. Therefore, this paper advocates five principles for the future WTO reform: first, reform should follow a neutral reform agenda; second, the existing WTO rules should be fully taken advantage of; third, reform should prioritize the way out of the Appellate Body impasse; fourth, the Doha Round should continue to be accomplished; and fifth, new multilateral rules should be formulated to keep the WTO relevant.

KEYWORDS: WTO Reform, neutral reform agenda, existing WTO rules, Appellate Body, impasse, Doha Round

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