



Updated Trade Policy Strategic Action Plan (TPSAP): Action Matrix (2014)

**Trade Policy Coordination Committee Meeting
(16 June 2015)**

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International Monetary Fund

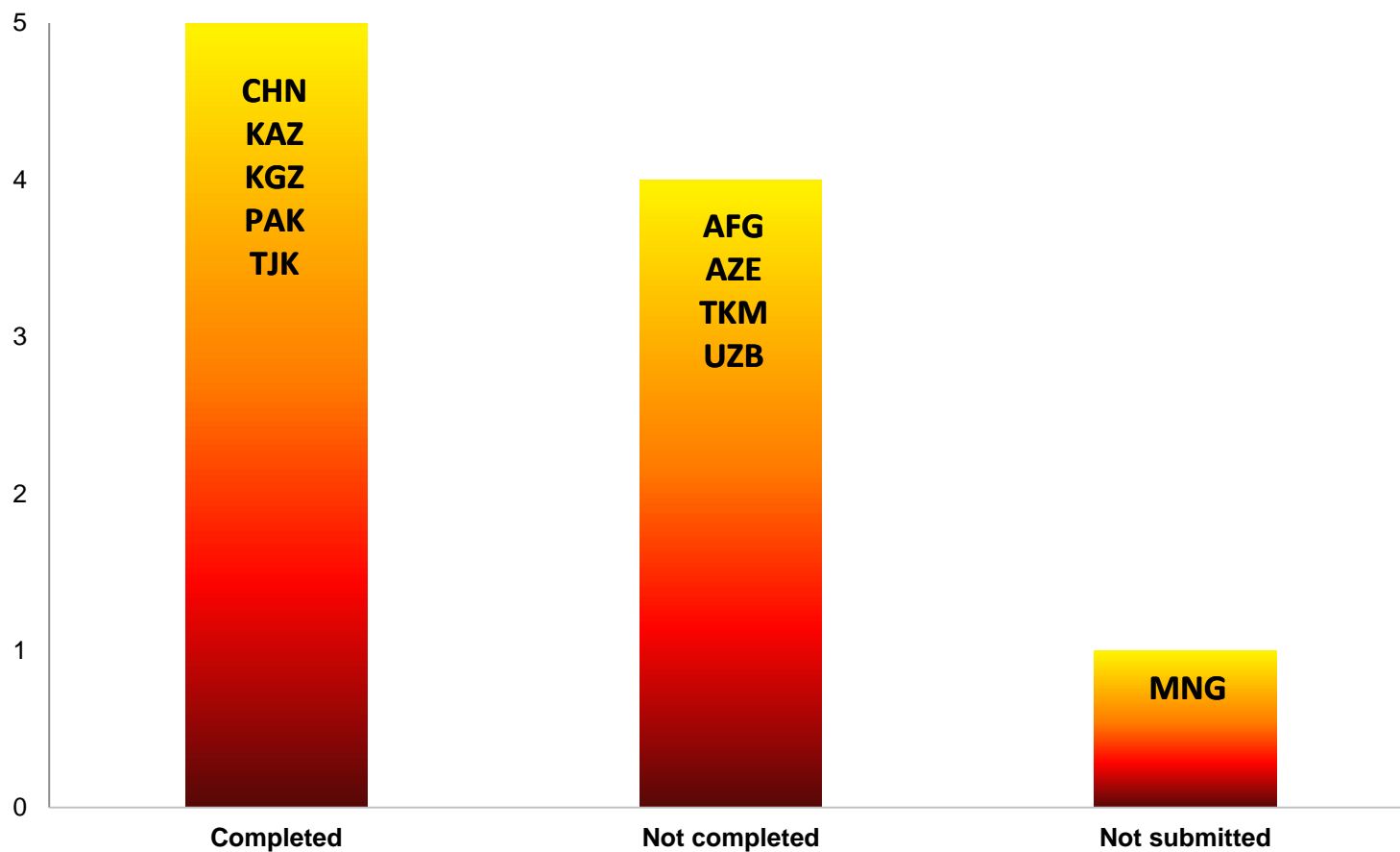
Monitoring progress under the updated TPSAP

- The policy action matrix builds on key objectives of the previous TPSAP (e.g. WTO accession, trade liberalization measures)
- Two new goals in the updated policy action matrix:
 - Reducing and rationalizing the trade-impeding impact of SPS (sanitary and phytosanitary) and TBT (technical barriers to trade) measures
 - Expanding trade in services
- Progress intended to be measured nominally in line with the refined DEfR methodology

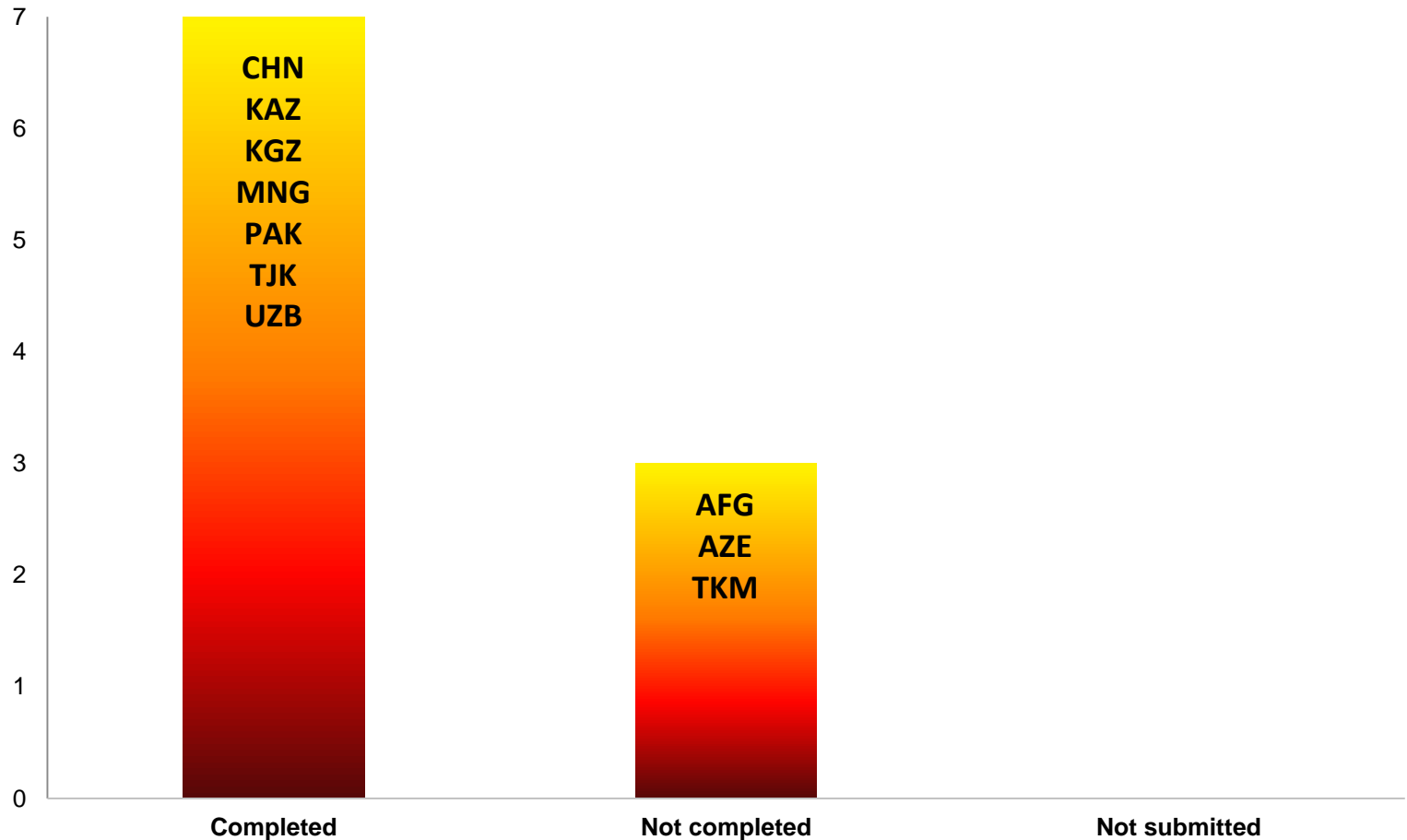
Preliminary summary of progress

- Some of the end-2014 action items reflect measures from the previous TPSAP
- Initial reporting shows mixed implementation, although in 6 of the 9 measures applied to all members, a majority of countries completed the action items
- More compliance with earlier measures, less so with new measures
- All member countries submitted the requested information!

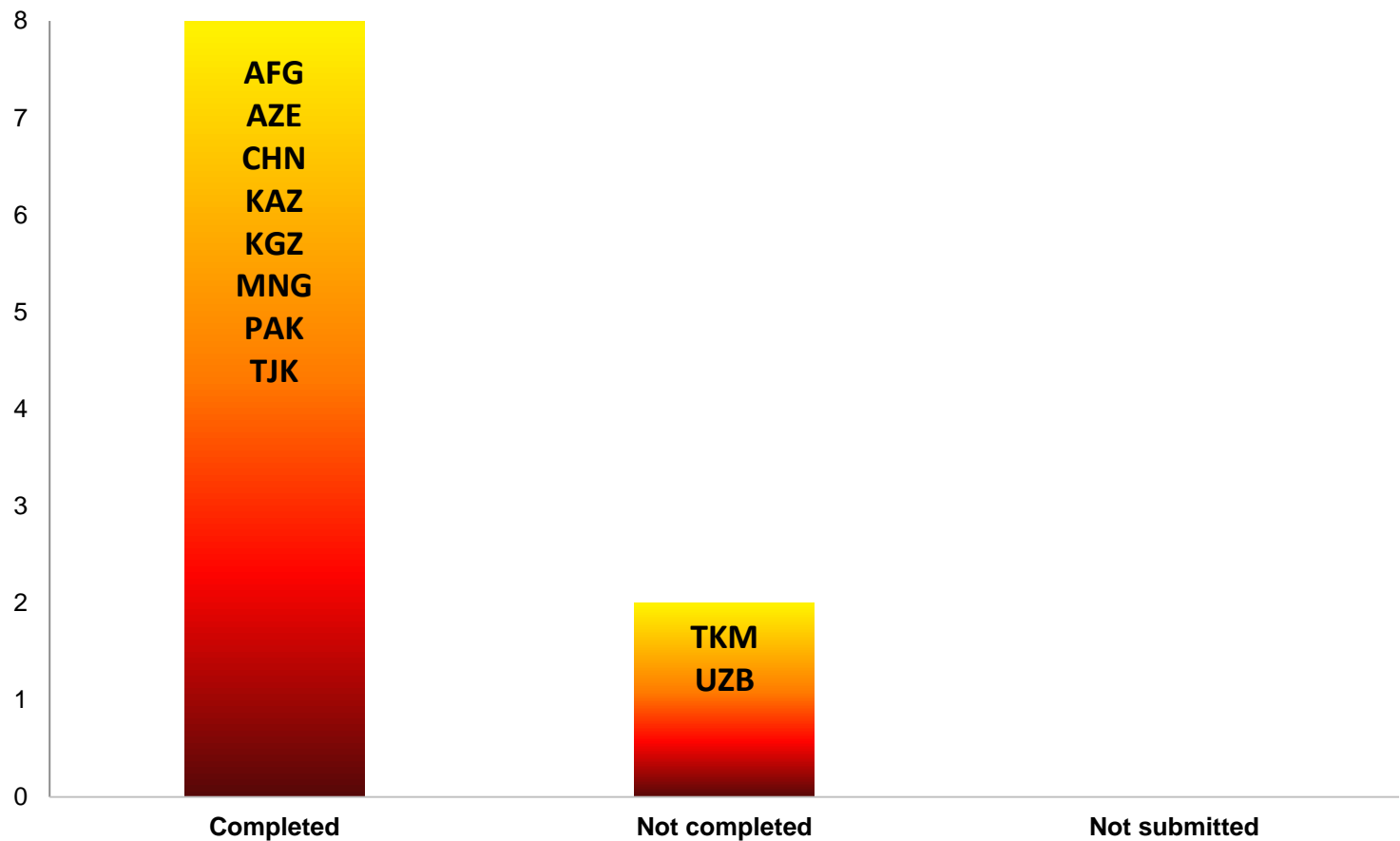
Action: Eliminate any remaining discrepancies between taxes applied to domestic production and imports that are not WTO compliant, by end-2014 or after WTO accession



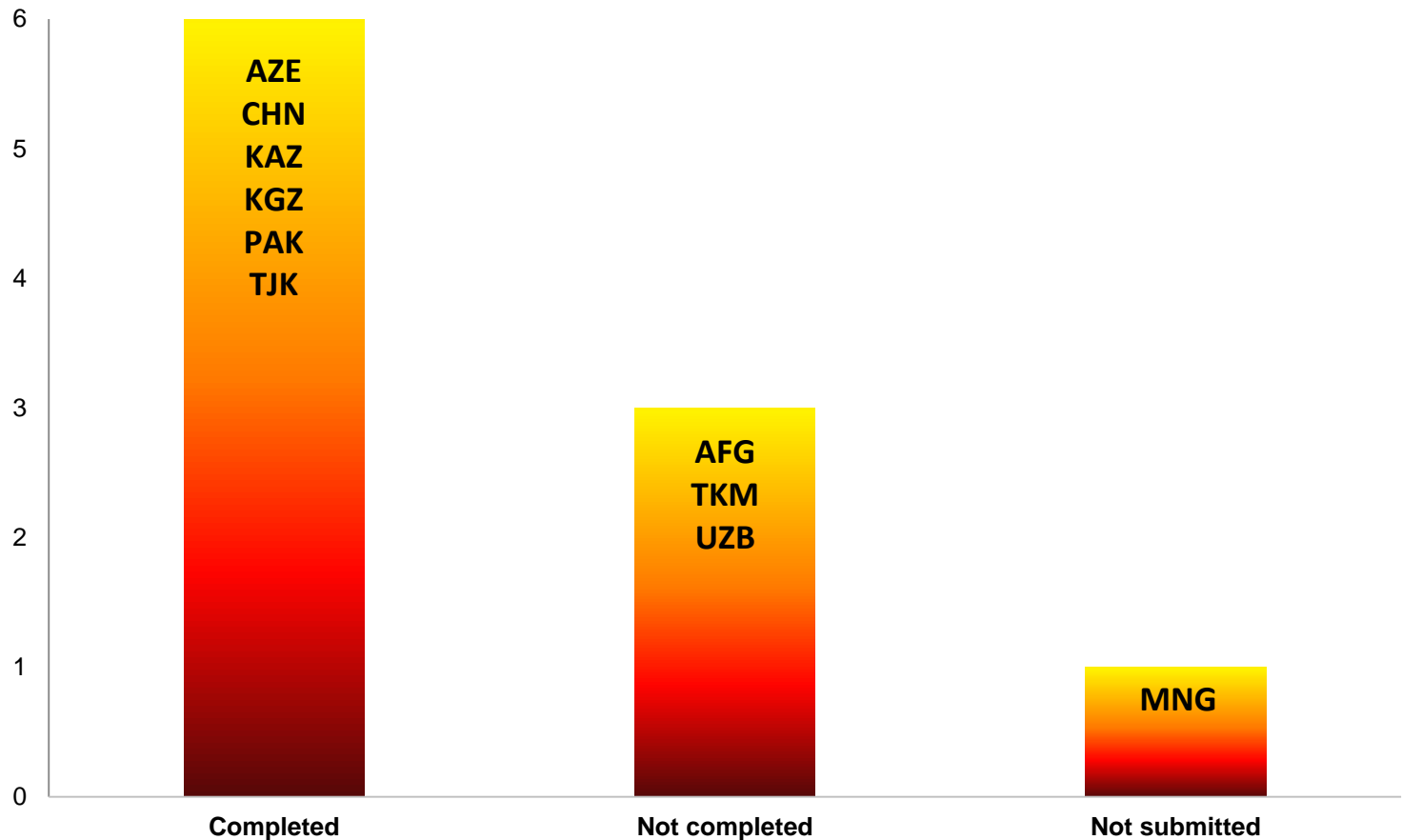
Eliminate, or incorporate into tariffs, all miscellaneous taxes and fees applied to imports that are not WTO compliant, by end-2014 or after WTO accession.



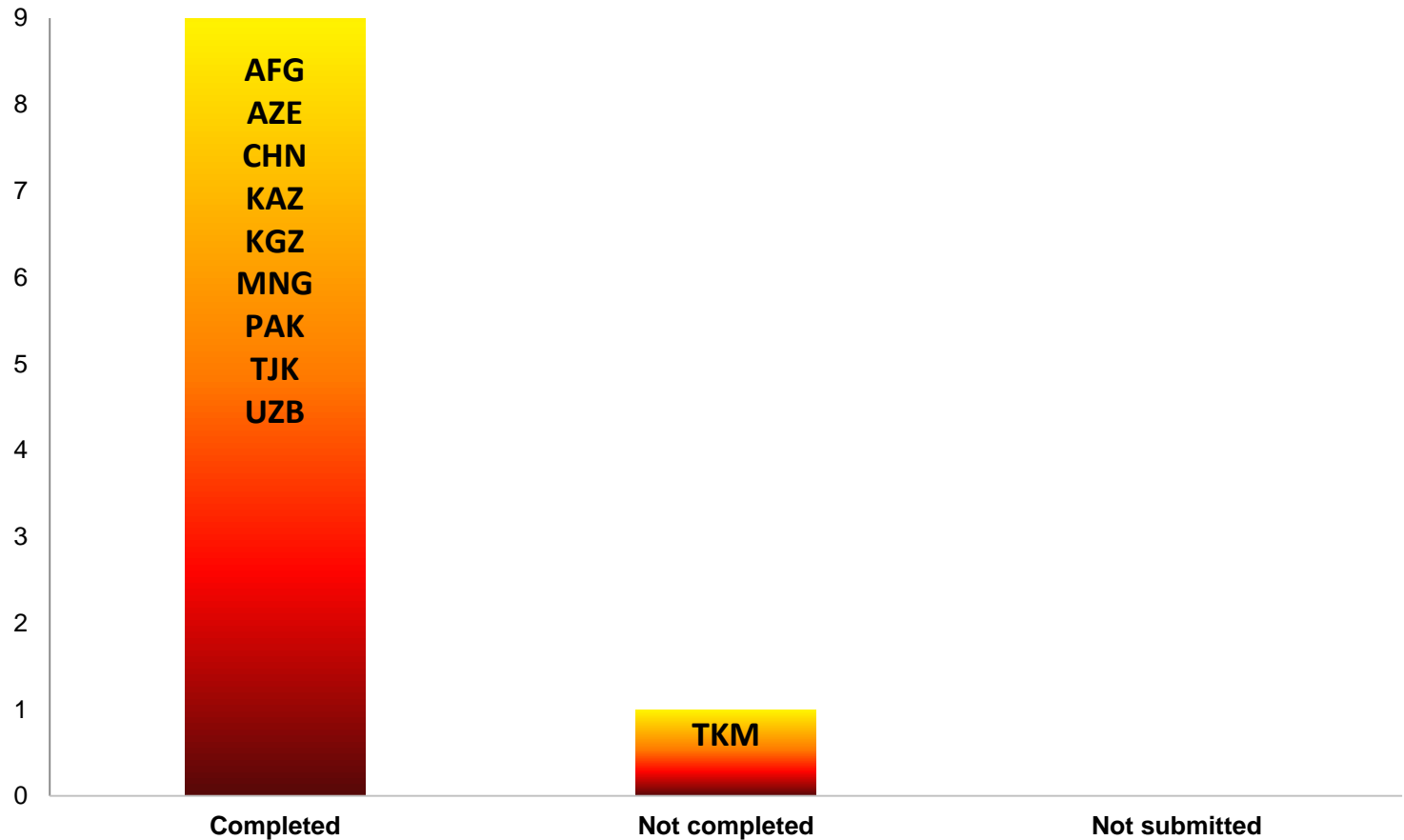
Reduce the average tariff (after miscellaneous taxes and fees included in the tariff and quantitative restrictions equivalents are included) to 10 or less, by end-2014 or after WTO accession



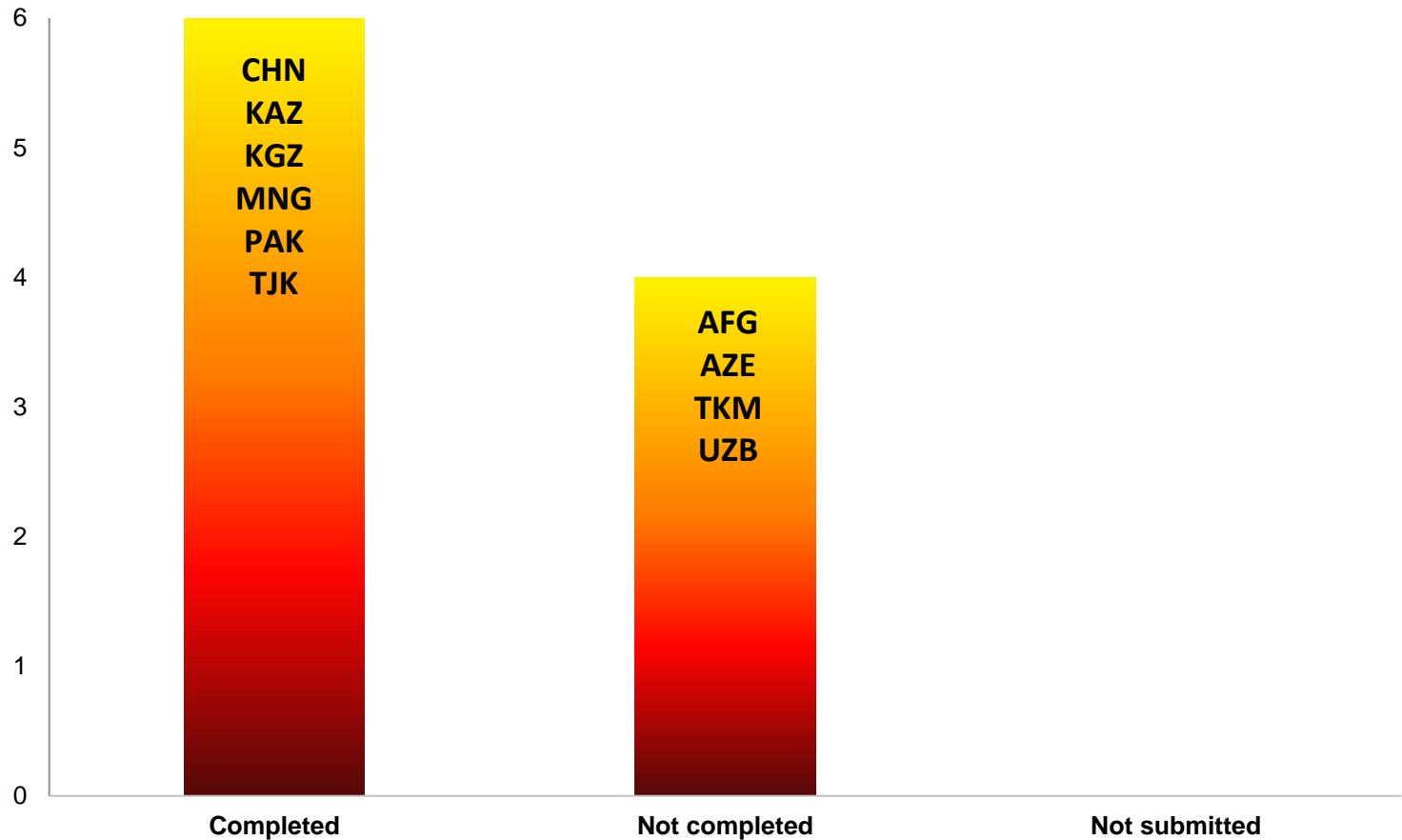
Tariff cuts implemented by end-2014 or after WTO accession should achieve the 20 percent cap (with only few exceptions for sensitive products)



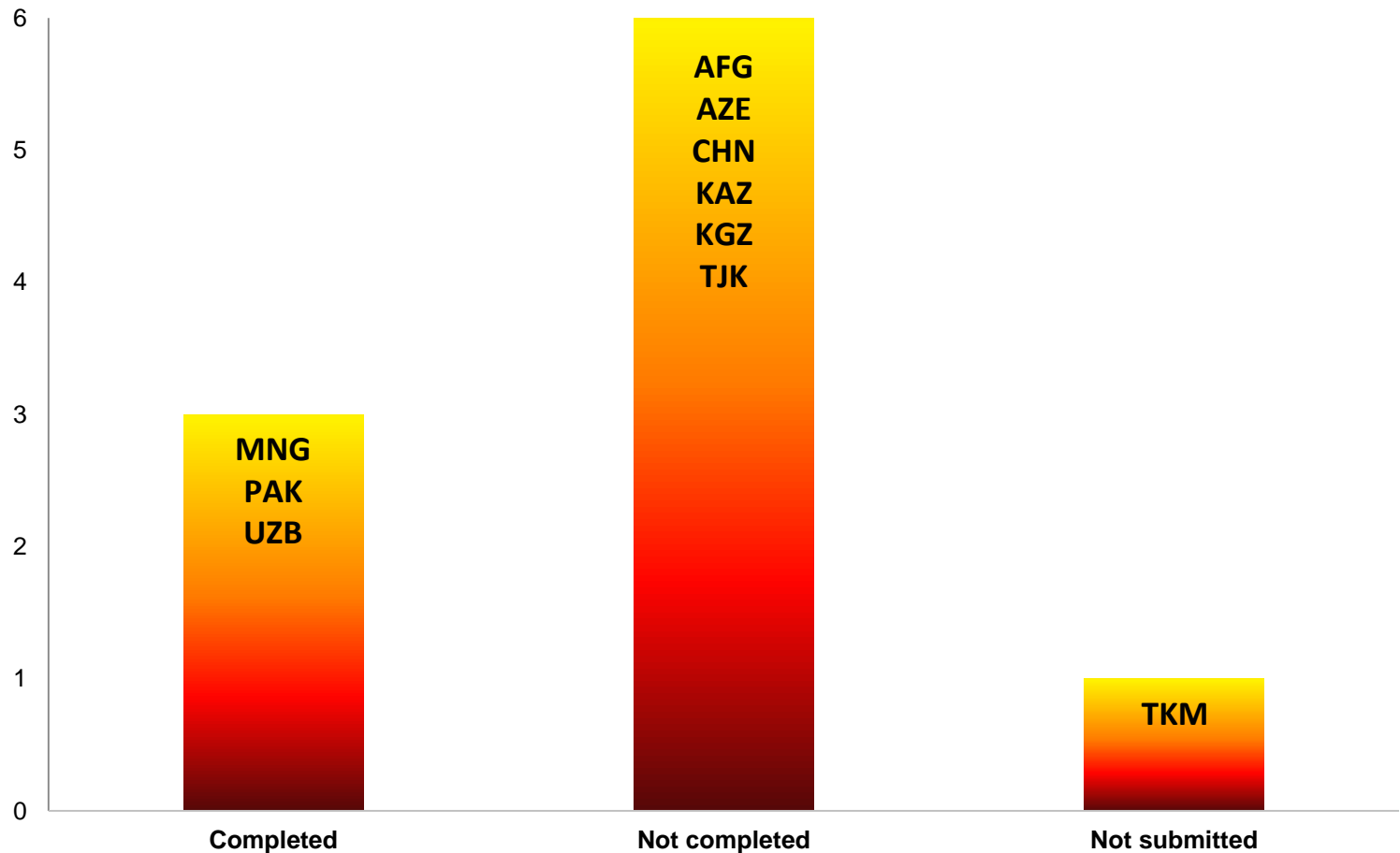
Eliminate or tariffy import quantitative restrictions and licenses that are not WTO compliant, by end of 2014 or after WTO accession.



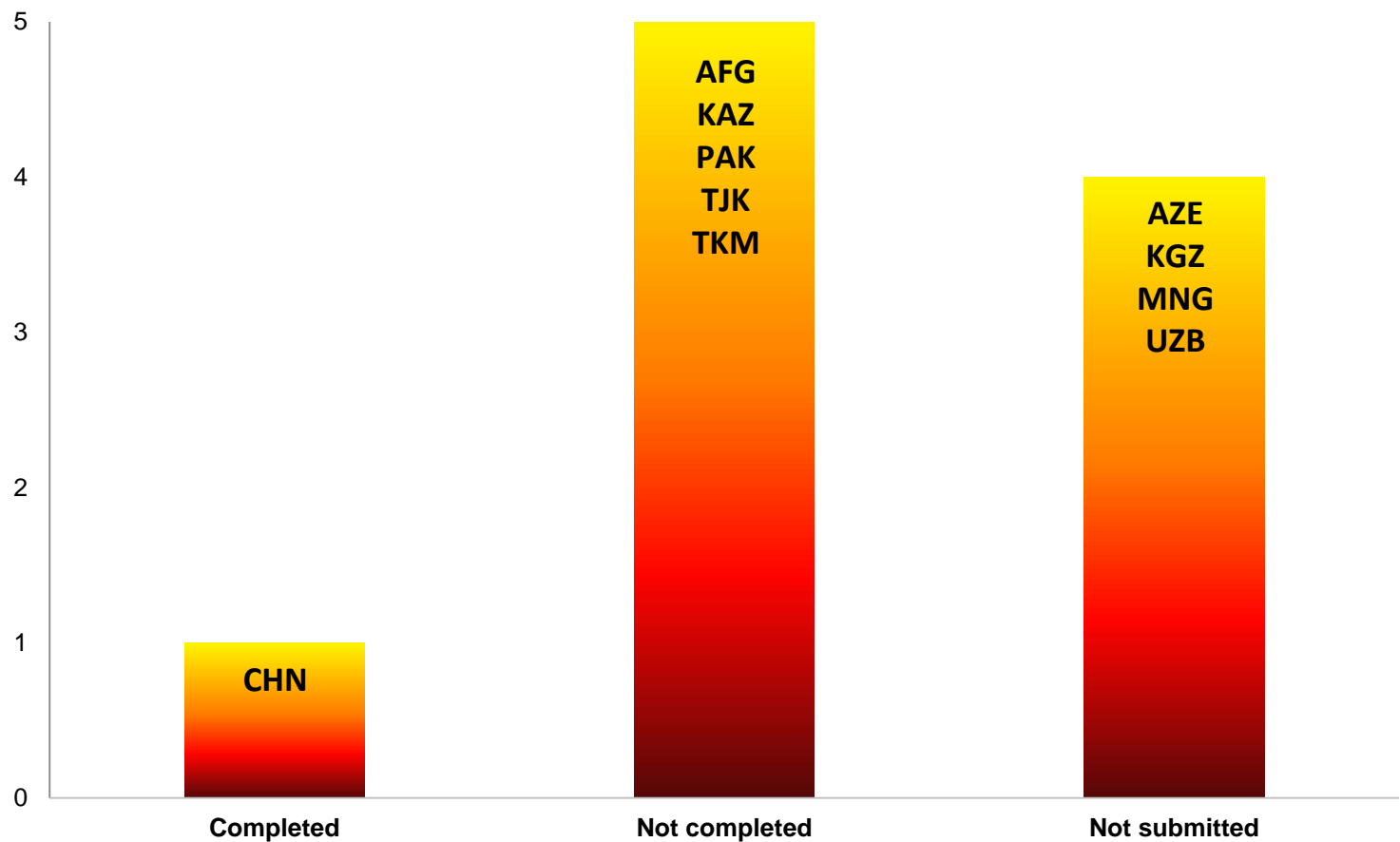
Formally acknowledge (regardless of WTO membership) the importance of WTO SPS and TBT agreements by end-2014.



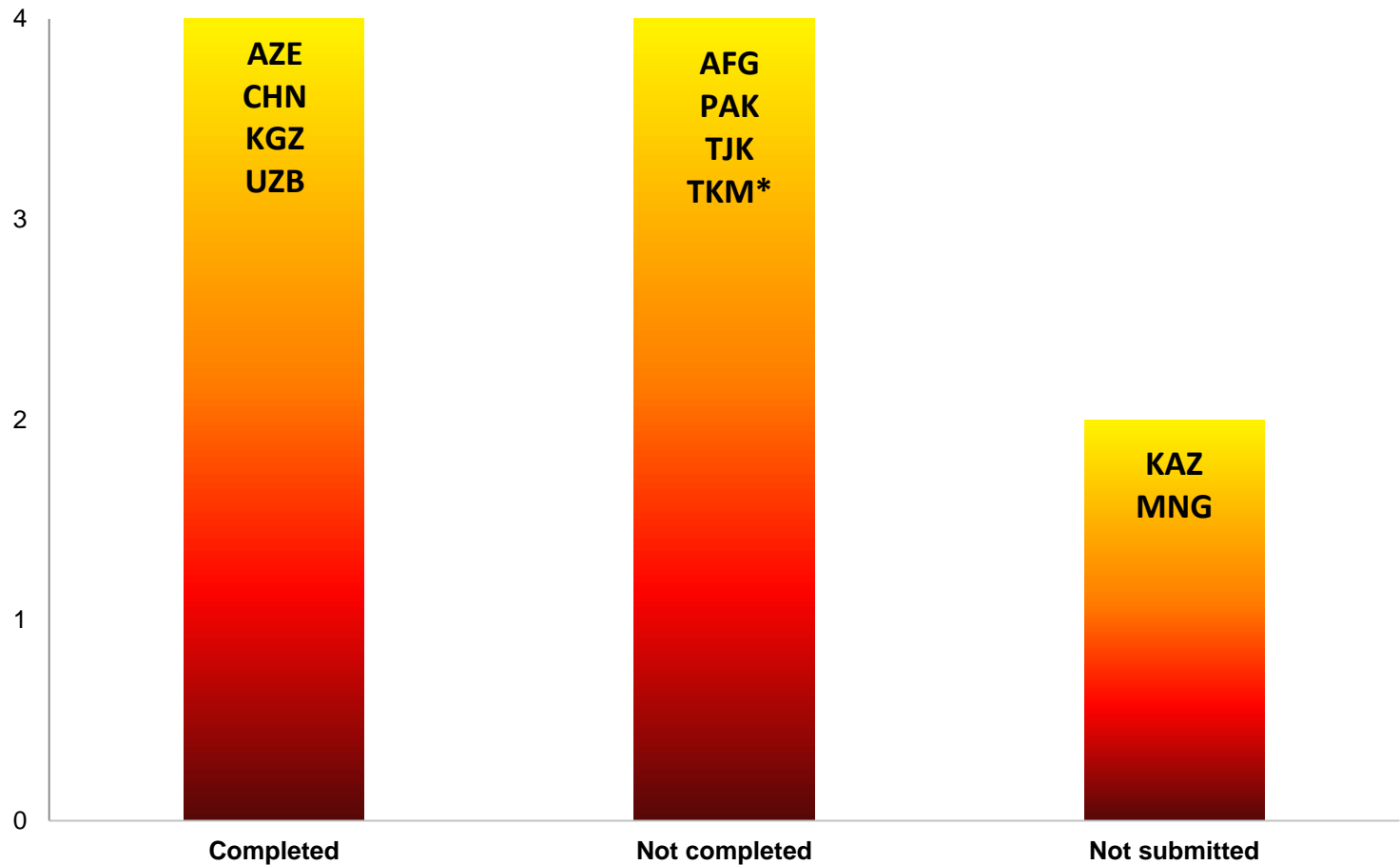
Form a National Joint Transport and Trade Facilitation Committee (NJC) permanent secretariats, with broad participation from the private and public sector, including line ministries, by end-2014



Conduct a Knowledge Sharing Workshop among CAREC member countries where WTO member countries discuss implementation and membership issues so new members and countries not yet WTO members can learn from the experiences, by end-2014



Participate in ADB's proposed training and technical assistance designed to assist CAREC countries to accede to, comply with and align customs procedures with the Revised Kyoto Convention



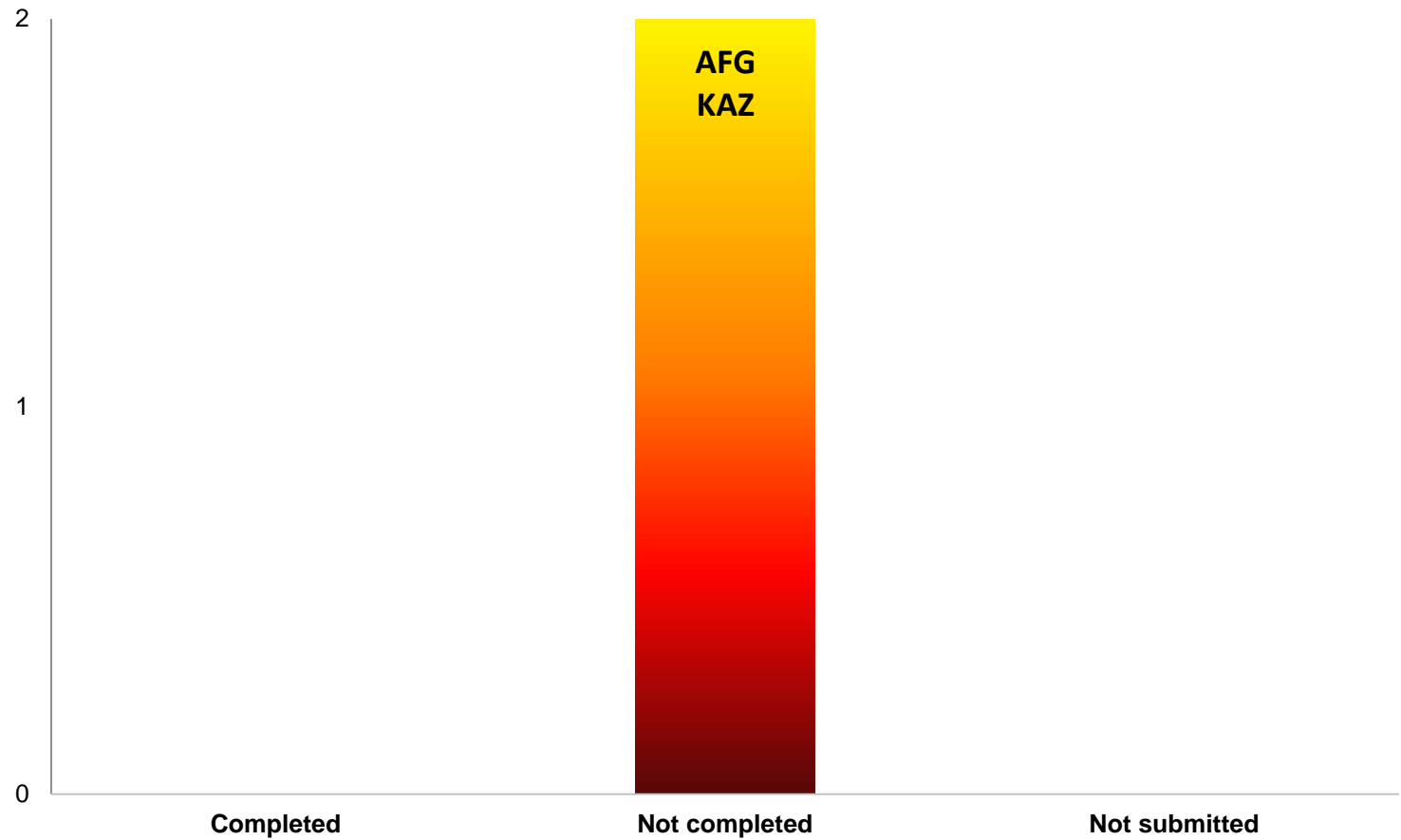
* Currently under implementation.

A summary of (universally) applied measures

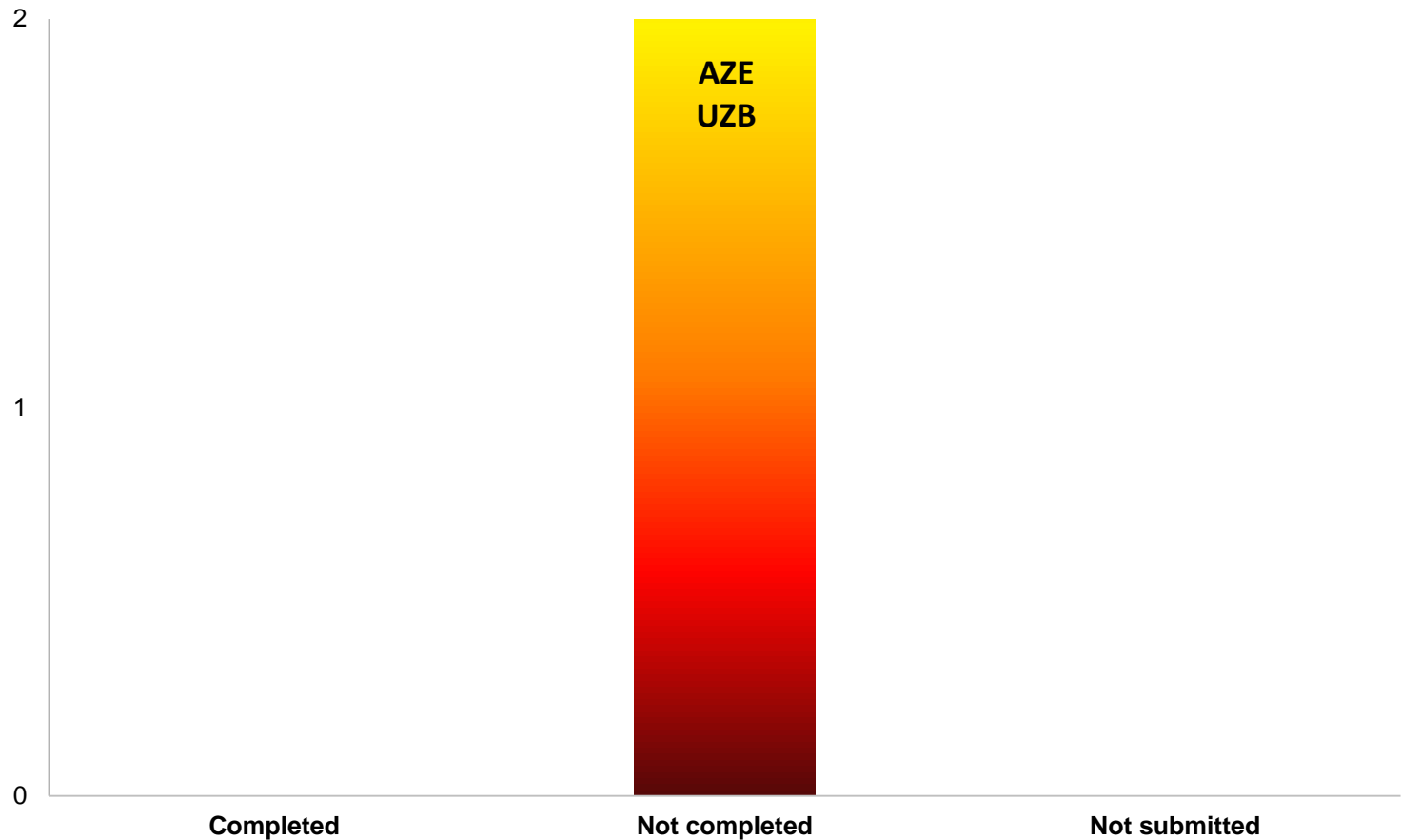
Actions (by end-2014)	AFG	AZE	CHN	KAZ	KGZ	MNG	PAK	TJK	TKM	UZB
Eliminate discrepancies between taxes applied to domestic production and imports	Not completed	Not completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Not submitted	Completed	Completed	Not completed	Not completed
Eliminate, or incorporate into tariffs, all miscellaneous taxes and fees applied to imports	Not completed	Not completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Not completed	Completed
Reduce the average tariff (after miscellaneous taxes and fees and quantitative restrictions equivalents are included) to 10 or less	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Not completed	Not completed
Tariff cuts implemented by end-2014 or after WTO accession to achieve the 20 percent cap (with only few exceptions for sensitive products)	Completed	Not completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Not submitted	Completed	Completed	Not completed	Not completed
Eliminate or tariffy import quantitative restrictions and licenses that are not WTO compliant	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Not completed	Completed
Formally acknowledge the importance of WTO SPS and TBT agreements	Not completed	Not completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Not completed	Not completed
Form a National Joint Transport and Trade Facilitation Committee (NJC) permanent secretariat	Not completed	Not completed	Not completed	Not completed	Not completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Not submitted	Completed
Conduct a Knowledge Sharing Workshop among CAREC members on WTO accession and implementation issues	Not completed	Not submitted	Completed	Not completed	Not submitted	Not submitted	Not completed	Not completed	Not completed	Not submitted
Participate in ADB's training and TA on complying with and aligning customs procedures to the Revised Kyoto Convention	Not completed	Completed	Completed	Not submitted	Completed	Not submitted	Not completed	Not completed	Not completed	Completed

	Completed
	Not completed
	Not submitted

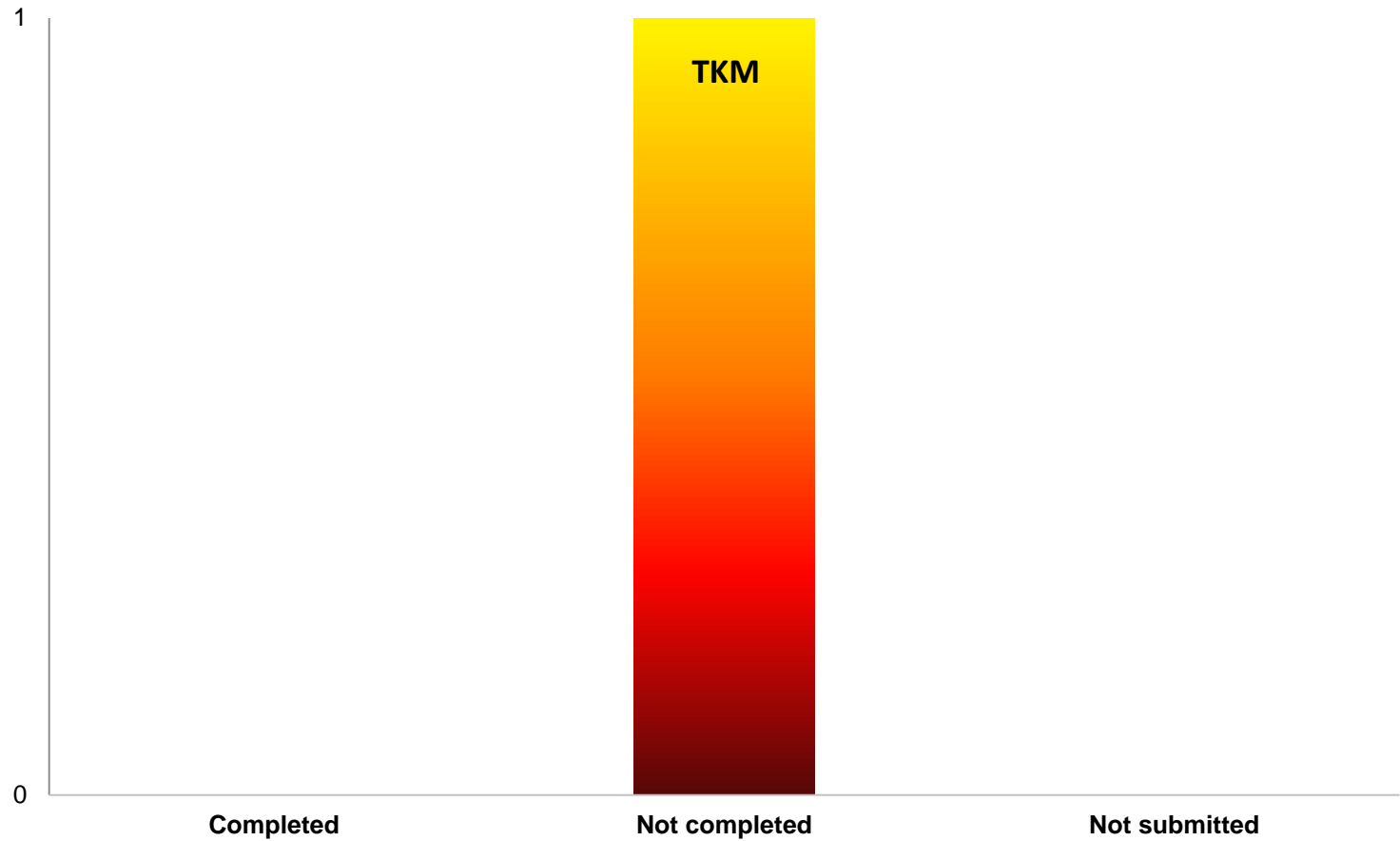
For Afghanistan and Kazakhstan: become a WTO member by end-2014



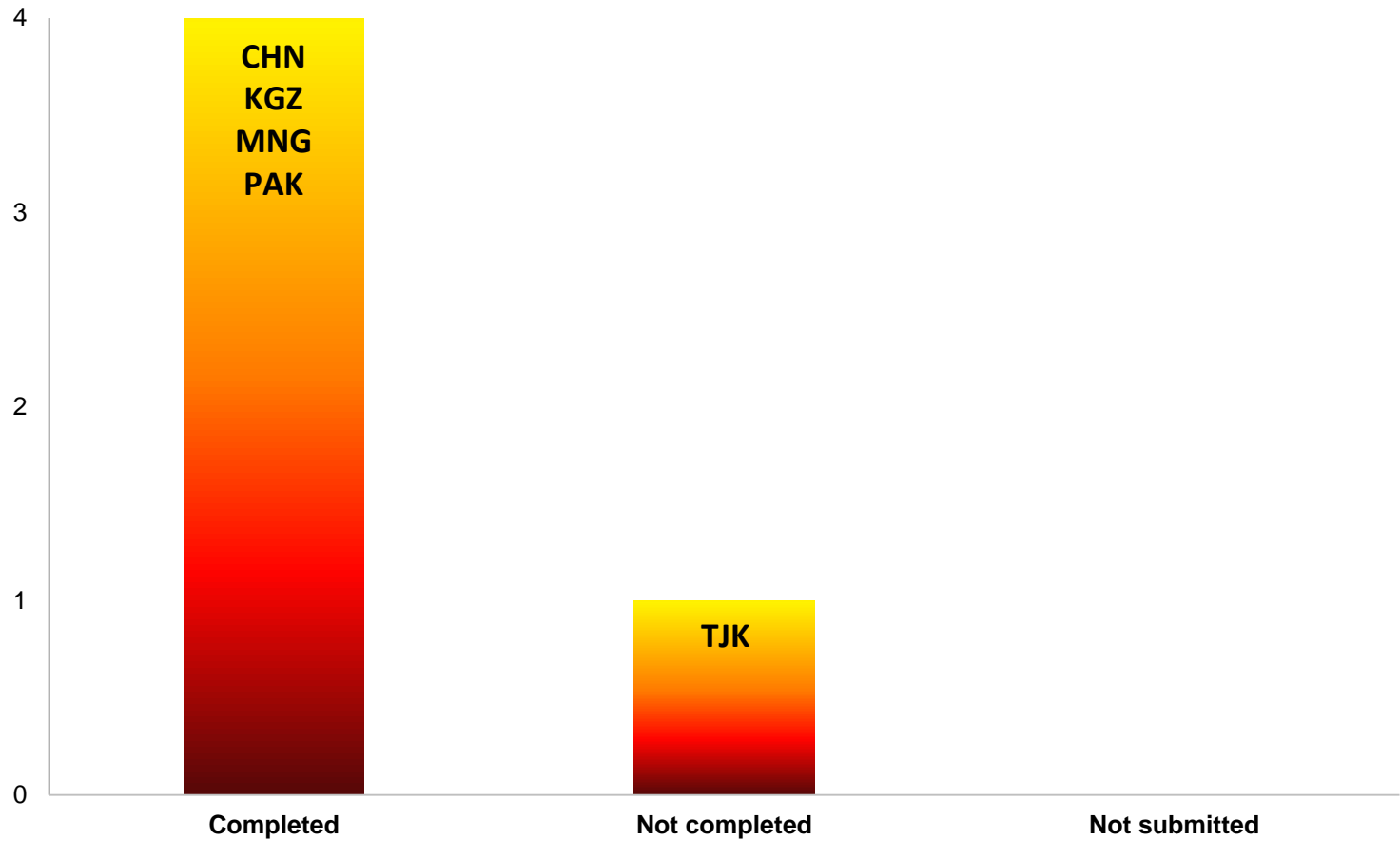
For Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan: conduct negotiations at the WTO, implement WTO consistent legislation and institutional changes to achieve WTO membership in a timely manner



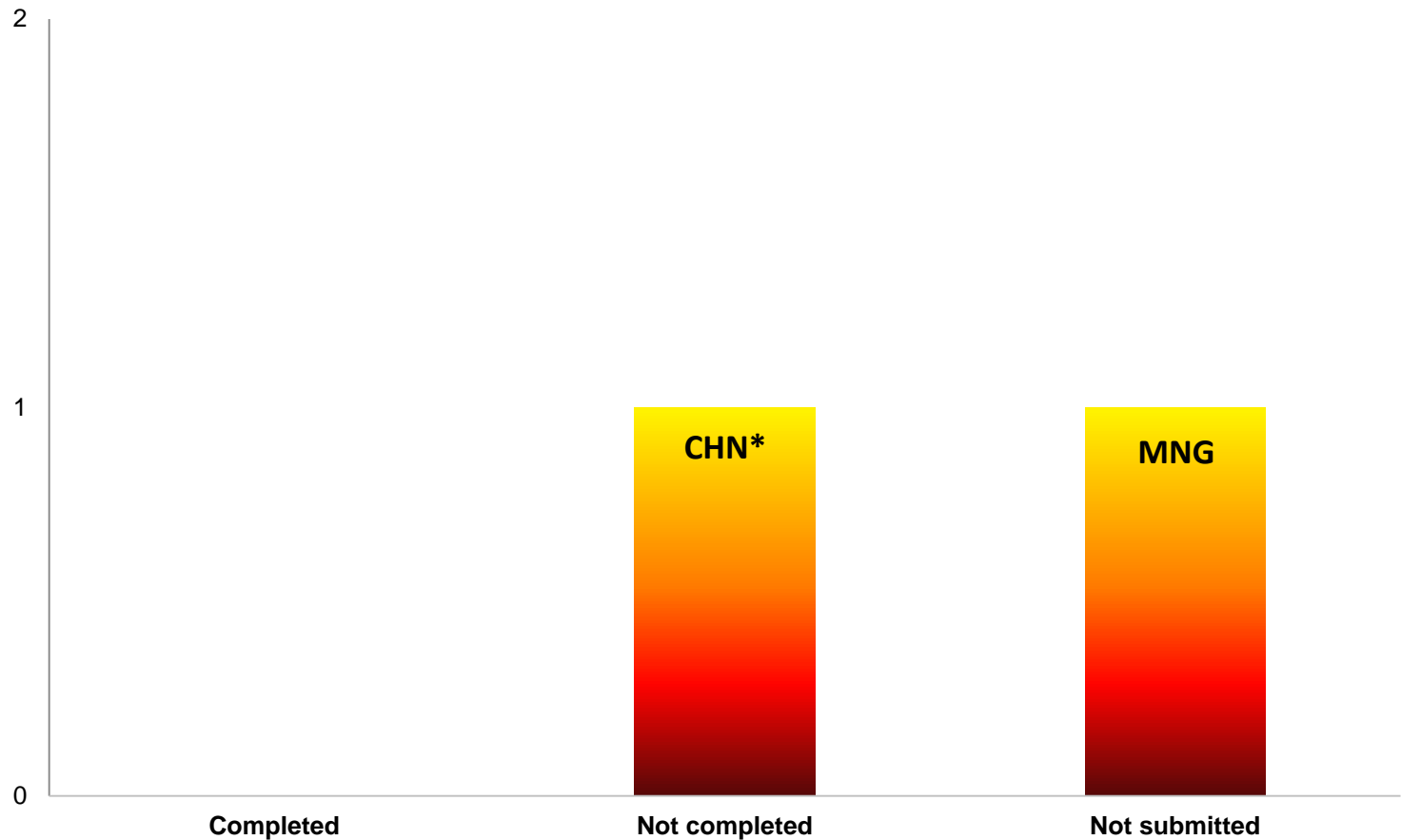
For Turkmenistan: continue to study the issues associated with WTO accession.



For current WTO members: implement their commitments as scheduled



For the PRC and Mongolia: participate in ADB's technical assistance project on the control of animal diseases.



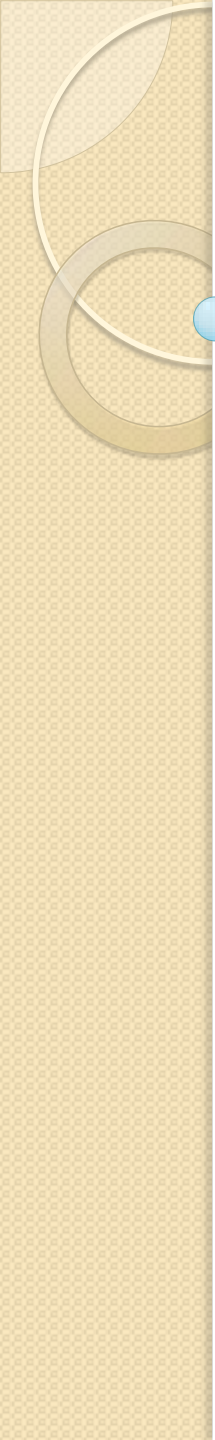
* Currently in stage II.

Takeaways (I)

- Initial reporting of progress is mixed
- More compliance with earlier measures, less so with new measures
- Important to sustain the strong response rate, with all member countries providing the requested information

Takeaways (II)

- Recognize that implementation of policies in the new areas is more challenging than the simple removal or reduction of traditional trade barriers (e.g. tariffs)
- Need a stock taking exercise on (i) the degree of TBT and SPS measures in place and (ii) existing bottlenecks to the expansion of trade in services
- Close collaboration with, and assistance from IFIs and donors is vital to ensuring successful implementation of the updated action plan



THANK YOU!