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The China Banking Regulatory Commission's (CBRC) guidelines for IT security equipment used in banks (e.g. for cash machines and smartcard chips) was raised as a new trade concern by the United States and supported by the European Union and Canada. The guidelines were issued in December 2014. The members concerned said that some of the requirements were technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures that appeared to go beyond the usual practice for the regulation of information and communication technology (ICT) equipment in the commercial banking sector. One such requirement relates to encryption and the disclosure of source code. China was asked, among other things, to provide the objective and rationale for the extension of the certification and testing requirements to ICT products. It was also important to provide for meaningful opportunity for comment from interested stakeholders, including through a notification to the TBT Committee.

China explained that the rapid development of global information technology and financial innovation had brought new challenges to the banking sector. It was necessary for all governments to strengthen security to protect public interests. China's guidelines, it said, were consistent with international practice and contributed to the stability of the global financial system. Moreover, in February 2015, the CBRC had published a notice online to answer the main concerns by interested parties.