



TRADE
FACILITATION



WCO IMPLEMENTING
WTO ATF

WCO Working Group on the Trade Facilitation Agreement

WCO Knowledge Academy
7 July 2014



WCO Working Group on the TFA

Policy Commission Meeting in Dublin, 9-11 December 2013

Decisions concerning TFA:

- Dublin Resolution on the TFA
- Letter to Members to engage in the national TF committees and to make available experts to deliver technical assistance for TFA implementation
- New Working Group on TFA

WCO Working Group on the TFA

First Meeting, 11-12 March 2014
Chairperson Ms. Gugu Treasure Dlamini (Swaziland)



WCO Working Group on the TFA

Terms of Reference - level of operation and reporting lines

Two levels:

- Policy matters – guided by and report to Policy Commission
- Technical matters – guided by and report to:
 - Permanent Technical Committee (substance)
 - Capacity Building Committee (technical assistance)

WCO Working Group on the TFA

Terms of Reference - membership

TFAWG is open to:

- WCO Members
- WCO Observers
- WCO Partner Organisations
- Private Sector
- Other entities where deemed appropriate

WCO Working Group on the TFA

Terms of Reference – purpose and scope

The TFAWG is to give advice on the full range of TFA issues to:

- Secretary General
- Policy Commission
- Permanent Technical Committee
- Capacity Building Committee

WCO Working Group on the TFA

Terms of Reference – key deliverables

The TFAWG is expected to:

- Analyse, prepare and evaluate relevant actions and measures in relation to practical aspects of meeting expectations arising from the WTO TFA.
- Submit timely reports to the PC, PTC and CBC that:
 - provide recommendations
 - Describe WCO activities for technical assistance and capacity building.
- Establish and maintain an annual work plan, including timelines.

WCO Working Group on the TFA

Terms of Reference – means of operation

The TFAWG means of operation:

- Customs members elect Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for a two-year term from among its Customs members.
- Outgoing Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson eligible for re-election, though rotation desirable, with Vice-Chairperson succeeding Chairperson.
- Working languages English and French, proposal to use Spanish as well.
- Dedicated (virtual) groups, if necessary.

WCO Working Group on the TFA

Terms of Reference – resources required

TFAWG meeting frequency and expected level of participation:

- Normally twice a year, SG may increase frequency.
- Length of sessions determined by number and complexity of agenda items.
- Delegates to TFAWG should have decision-taking authority in their respective Customs administrations

The WCO is ready to support the implementation of the TFA!