



WTO Trade Facilitation Needs Assessment Project & Notification Process



Today

1. Needs Assessments

1. Introduction
2. Guide
3. Process
4. Results

2. Notification

3. WTO TA

4. Role of WCO

A national trade facilitation “self-assessment” is...

- 5-day workshop
- designed to identify specific national needs and priorities
- administered by the WTO Secretariat
- facilitated by 3 experts
- attended by all relevant stakeholders (public and private sector)



Self Assessment

Objectives

- Determine overall compliance level
- Identify special and differential treatment needs
 - When measures will be implemented (ABC)
 - Estimated extra time needed
 - Technical assistance needs
- Prepare for notification and implementation process
- In good position to approach donors

Overview

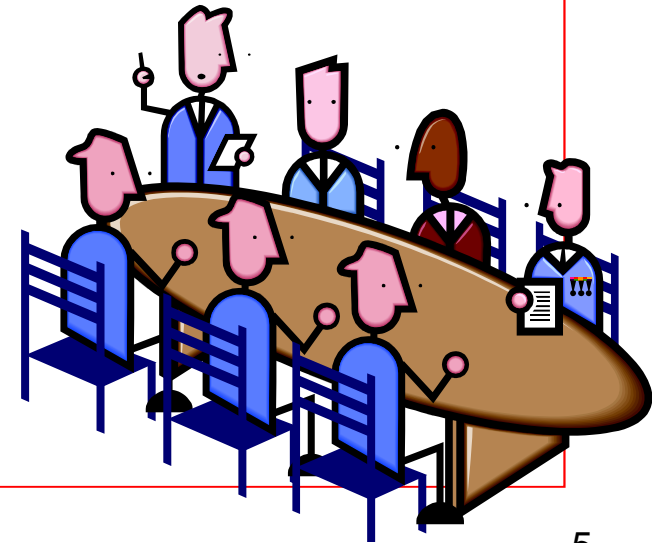
🌍 94 Self-assessments (2007-2010)

🌍 75?? 2013 - now (update & 1st time)

🌍 WTO Members & Observers

🌍 Upon request

🌍 Funded by trust fund



WHERE is assessment conducted?



National- in your country



Who participates?

- Stakeholders (45 max)
- Geneva delegate covering TF
- Facilitators- customs/WTO TF experts





Stakeholders – about 35

- Geneva delegate
- Customs (**5 or 6 or more!**)- specialists in procedure, policy, law
- Implementing agencies (Agriculture, Quarantine, Food safety, Standards, Port Authority and Airport Authority, etc.)
- Attorney General/ Legal Department (legal reform, appeal)
- Ministry of Trade/Commerce
- Ministry of Transport
- Foreign Affairs (negotiations)
- Economy and Finance (trade flow, controls budget)
- IT and Information ministries
- National donor coordinator
- Private sector (big/small, importer/exporter, carrier, cargo forwarders and owner, Chamber of Commerce, shippers association, cargo forwarders association, main industries, etc.)



Facilitators

WTO Secretariat

Annex D organizations

National customs/WTO TF experts

In-country aid projects





Role Facilitators

- work with the coordinators to oversee the process
- assist participants to use the Guide
- assist participants to understand TF measures
- facilitate the discussions (keep discussions on track, make sure discussions are recorded in the charts, push to keep on a time schedule, etc.)
- provide guidance but remember this is their assessment so don't impose your views. There is no one right way to implement the measures



National Needs Assessment Agenda

Opening Ceremony

Day 1: Presentations

- Background WTO TF

- Donor coordinator

- Needs Assessment Guide & Process

- Divide into working groups

Day 1-4: Needs assessment in working groups

Day 4: Review of initial assessment in plenary

Day 5: analyze results & present to high-level
officials and invited guests in closing ceremony

Certificates

Trade Facilitation Agreement

Preamble

Section I:

❖ 12 articles of technical measures

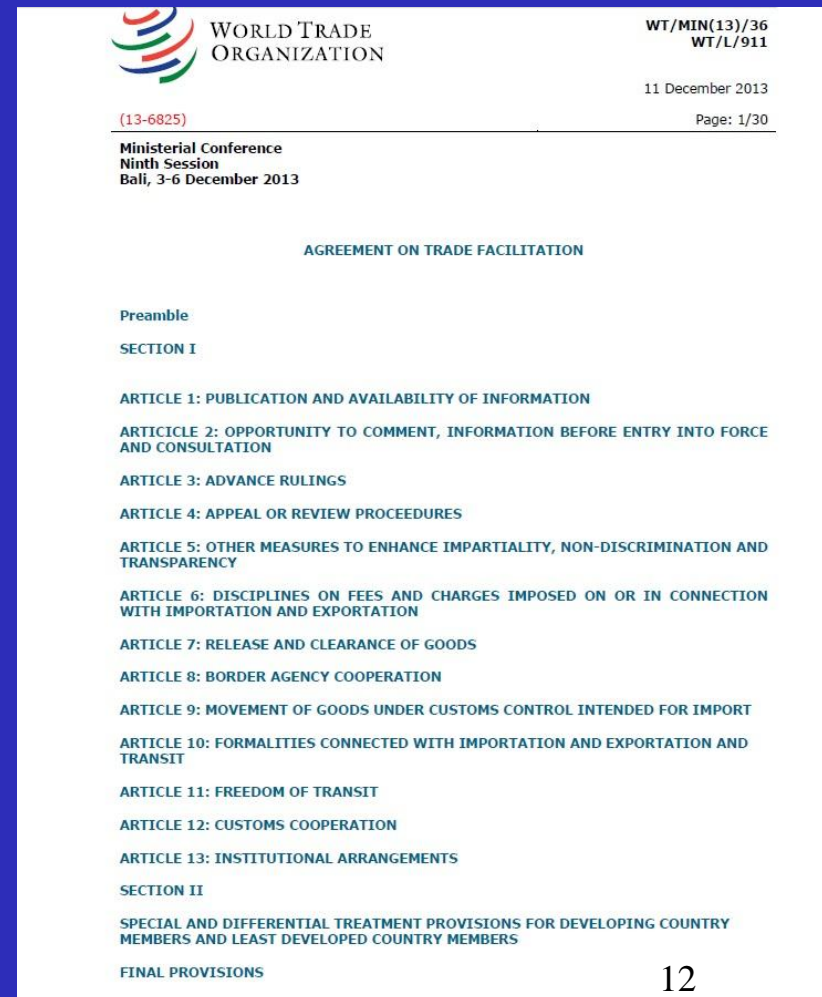
Section II:

❖ Special and Differential Treatment

Final Provisions

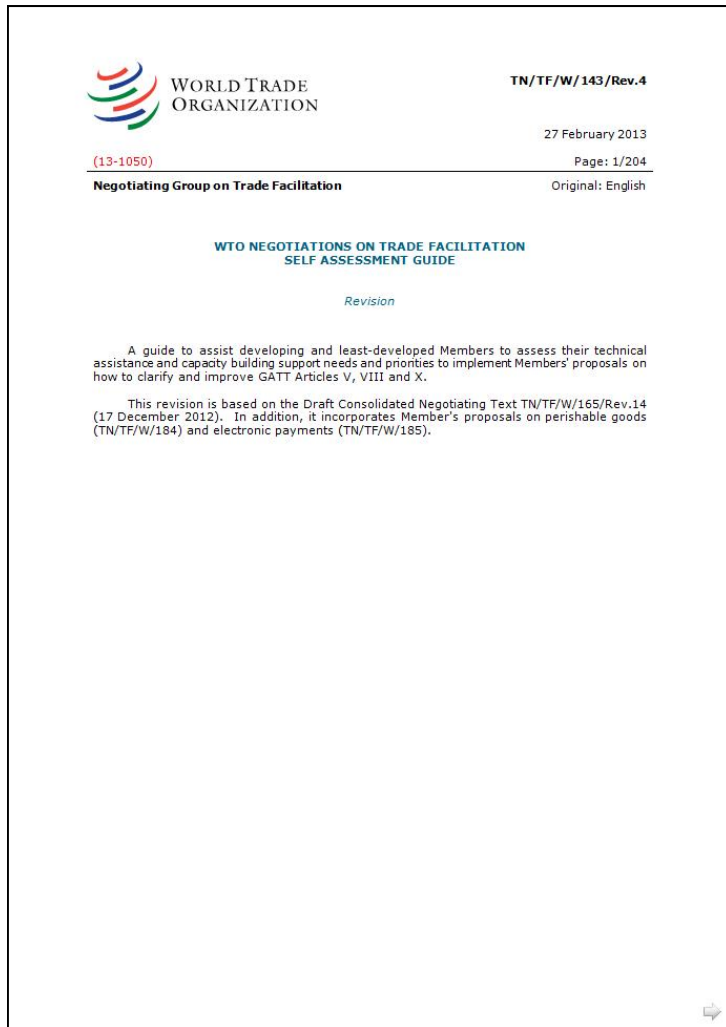
Annex 1

WT/MIN(13)/36
WT/L/911





How?



★ Guide

- ★ Based on Trade Facilitation Agreement
- ★ Chart & questionnaire for each +/- 36 technical measures



Guide Contents

TN/TF/W/143/Rev.7

- 14 -

2. Information Available Through Internet

Quick Summary Notes

What activity does this measure regulate?

The information a government provides to the public regarding import, export and transit procedures, and the manner by which it is provided

Which authorities are directly concerned?

- Executive Authority
- All border agencies
- Trade Authority

What are the new requirements?

- Members shall prepare practical guides to their import, export, and transit procedures including appeal procedures
- Members shall publish on the internet:
 - (i) the practical guides,
 - (ii) the documents or forms required for import, export or transit,
 - (iii) relevant trade laws (where possible), and
 - (iv) the enquiry point contact information.

Legal Text

2.1 Each Member shall make available, and update to the extent possible and as appropriate, the following through the internet:

- a. A description⁴ of its importation, exportation and transit procedures, including appeal procedures, that informs governments, traders and other interested parties of the practical steps needed to import and export, and for transit;
- b. The forms and documents required for importation into, exportation from, or transit through the territory of that Member;
- c. Contact information on enquiry points.

2.2 Whenever practicable, the description referred to in subparagraph 2.1 a. shall also be made available in one of the official languages of the WTO.

2.3 Members are encouraged to make available further trade related information through the internet, including relevant trade-related legislation and other items referred to in paragraph 1.1.

ARTICLE 1.4 Notification

I. Situational/Gap Analysis

Describe Your Current Situation	Barriers (Give Reasons for non-compliance)	Actions/Resources Required & Cost (Number the Actions)	TACB Resources Needed (Specify Action Number)
<i>A. Policy/Legal Framework:</i>		1.	
<i>B. Procedures:</i>		1.	
<i>C. Institutional Framework:</i>		1.	
<i>D. Human Resources/Training:</i>		1.	
<i>E. Communication/Information Technology:</i>		1.	
<i>F. Equipment & Infrastructure:</i>		1.	
<i>G. Other Issues to Note¹⁰:</i>		1.	

TN/TF/W/143/Rev.
Page 24

Situational +
GAP Analysis Chart

II. Questionnaire

- Do you comply with this measure?
Fully: ___ Substantially: ___ Partially: ___ No: ___ Not Applicable: ___
- You expect to implement this measure by:
Category A (by date of entry into force): ___ Category B (with extra time): ___ Category C (with extra time and technical assistance): ___
- If Category B or C approximately how much time will you need to implement?
6 Months: ___ 1 Year: ___ 3 Years: ___ 5 Years: ___ Other (Specify): _____
- Identify technical assistance projects/agencies that have, or are, helping you implement this measure:
- Lead agency or organization and other stakeholders that would be responsible for implementation of this measure:
- Stakeholders not participating in assessment of this measure that should be consulted:
- National Priority Level (How important is it that this measure should be implemented in your country?):
High: ___ Medium: ___ Low: ___ None: ___ Explain:
- Issues to note (any comments or recommendations for negotiators, etc.):

¹⁰ For ex

Questionnaire

TN/TF/W/143/Rev.
Page 5

What actions might be required to implement this proposal?

1. Policy and Legal Framework

2. Does your legislation permit or require a government authority (or authorities) to publish information of the types listed described in the proposal (subparagraph (a)-(j))?
3. Is a manner of publication prescribed that is non-discriminatory and ensures easy access by other governments, trader interested parties?

4. Procedures

5. Have appropriate administrative procedures been established to implement publication?

Typically, the relevant authorities would establish formal publication procedures that would, for example:

- *identify the types of information that the authority will publish;*
- *specify the manner of publication per information type (e.g., official journal, website or other);*
- *establish processes to collect, compile and otherwise prepare documents for publication;*
- *establish processes for periodic review and updating published information; and*
- *provide measures to ensure agency staff are aware of the obligation.*

Paragraph 1.4 of Article 6 contains additional requirements that you should consider in relation to the publication of information on fees and charges (i.e., you must also publish the reason for the fees and charges, the responsible authority, and when how payment is to be made).

B. Institutional Framework

- Has a person/unit (e.g., one or more “information officers” or an information unit) within the relevant agencies been assigned responsibility for administration of the publication obligation?

C. Human Resources and Training

- Are a sufficient number of competent/trained staff available to administer the publication obligation?

Article 1.1 Publication and Availability of Information

I. Situational/Gap Analysis

Describe Your Current Situation	Barriers (Give Reasons for non-compliance)	Actions/Resources Required (Number the Actions)	TACB R Nee (Specify Num
<i>A. Policy/Legal Framework:</i>		1.	
<i>B. Procedures:</i>		1.	
<i>C. Institutional Framework:</i>		1.	
<i>D. Human Resources/Training:</i>		1.	
<i>E. Communication/Information Technology:</i>		1.	
<i>F. Equipment & Infrastructure:</i>		1.	
<i>G. Other Issues to Note:</i>		1.	



Working Groups

Situational Analysis

Step 3: **COMPLETE** the first column of chart

- Describe fully your relevant procedures, institutional framework, infrastructure, *etc.*
- Use categories for your response
- Provide references to all relevant laws, rules, instructions, *etc.*
- Include ALL relevant agencies input

ARTICLE 3.1 Provision of Advance Rulings

I. Situational/Gap Analysis

Describe Your Current Situation	Barriers Give Reasons for
<p>A. Policy/Legal Framework: Customs Department Proclamation No. 1439 (2009) authorizes Customs to issue rulings on tariff classification questions. But, these rulings are advisory only and not binding.</p> <p>Rulings are valid for one year. Customs must issue tariff rulings within 3 months of a proper request. The information that must be supplied by the applicant, and the persons who can apply, are defined in the Proclamation.</p> <p>Customs may revoke a ruling for any reason. In addition, a ruling shall be considered invalid if issued on the basis of incorrect information provided by the applicant or if there is a change in the tariff. Customs is required to notify the applicant if the ruling is revoked or invalidated.</p> <p>There are no formal provisions for pre-decision hearings on ruling requests.</p> <p>Article 80 of the Customs Law (Law No (20) for the Year 1998) provides</p>	<p>Importers' main demand: classification rulings legislation on rulings has not been developed.</p> <p>Customs does not want to be legally binding because of flexibility to change of errors.</p>



Account for all agencies:

Describe Your Current Situation	Barriers (Give Reasons for non-compliance)	Actions/Resources Required & Cost (Number the Actions)	TACB Resources Needed (Specify Action Number)
<p><i>A. Policy/Legal Framework:</i></p> <p><u>Customs:</u> Customs Regulations Article 123 provides for . . .</p> <p><u>Agriculture:</u> AG Law Art 345 provides for . . .</p> <p><u>Standards:</u> Standards Reg. Art. 678 provides for . . .</p> <p><u>Food Safety:</u> Operating Instructions require . . .</p>			



Working Groups

GAP Analysis

Step 4: **IDENTIFY** all reasons for non-compliance

CLE 3.1 Provision of Advance Rulings

ational/Gap Analysis

Current Situation	Barriers (Give Reasons for non-compliance)	Actions/Resources Required (Number the Actions)
<p>Current Situation</p> <p>Legal Framework:</p> <p>Customs Department</p> <p>Proclamation No. 1439 (2009)</p> <p>allows Customs to issue rulings on tariff classification questions. These rulings are advisory only and not binding.</p> <p>Rulings are valid for one year. Customs must issue tariff rulings within 3 months of a proper request. Information that must be provided by the applicant, and the persons who can apply, are defined in Proclamation.</p> <p>Customs may revoke a ruling for any reason. In addition, a ruling shall be considered invalid if issued on the basis of incorrect information provided by the applicant or if there is a change in the tariff. Customs is required to notify the applicant if the ruling is revoked or invalidated.</p> <p>There are no formal provisions for decision hearings on rulings.</p>	<p>Importers' main demand is for tariff classification rulings; therefore, legislation on rulings on other matters has not been developed.</p> <p>Customs does not want rulings to be legally binding because it wants the flexibility to change its mind or in case of errors.</p>	<p>1. Amendment of the Customs Law to authorize Customs to issue rulings on request on tariff classification, valuation, drawback, and quota requirements (30 days/Customs lawyer/Ministry of Trade and Industry)</p> <p>2. Amendment of the Customs Proclamation 1439 to provide for decision hearings on rulings and to clarify the grounds for revocation and invalidation of rulings (30 days/Customs lawyer/Ministry of Trade and Industry)</p> <p>3. Amendment of Customs Proclamation 1439 (or a new proclamation) to define requirements for applications for rulings on customs valuation, drawback, and quota requirements (30 days/Customs lawyer/Ministry of Trade and Industry)</p>



Working Groups

GAP Analysis

Step 5: **IDENTIFY** the
specific actions required
to comply

- Describe actions per category
- Quantify, where possible, resources required for actions

Rulings

Barriers <u>Reasons for non-compliance</u>	Actions/Resources Required & Cost (Number the Actions)	TACB Re: Need: (Specify Action)
<p>is' main demand is for tariff ation rulings; therefore, on on rulings on other matters een developed.</p> <p>does not want rulings to be inding because it wants the y to change its mind or in case</p>	<p>1. Amendment of the Customs Law to authorize Customs to issue binding rulings on request on tariff classification, valuation, duty drawback, and quota requirements (30days/Customs lawyer(s)).</p> <p>2. Amendment of the Customs Proclamation 1439 to provide for pre-decision hearings on ruling requests and to clarify the grounds for revocation and invalidation of issued rulings (30 days/Customs lawyer(s)).</p> <p>3. Amendment of Customs Proclamation 1439 (or a new proclamation) to define requirements for applications for rulings on origin, customs valuation, drawback. (30 days/Customs lawyer(s)).</p>	<p>1. None</p> <p>2. None</p> <p>3. None</p>



Working Groups

GAP Analysis

Step 6: **IDENTIFY** which actions require external Technical Assistance/Capacity Building support

- Describe support required

	Actions/Resources Required & Cost (Number the Actions)	TACB Resources Needed (Specify Action Number)
pliance) for tariff fore, ier matters	1. Amendment of the Customs Law to authorize Customs to issue binding rulings on request on tariff classification, valuation, duty drawback, and quota requirements (30days/Customs lawyer(s)).	1. None 2. None 3. None
ngs to be ants the d or in case	2. Amendment of the Customs Proclamation 1439 to provide for pre-decision hearings on ruling requests and to clarify the grounds for revocation and invalidation of issued rulings (30 days/Customs lawyer(s)). 3. Amendment of Customs Proclamation 1439 (or a new proclamation) to define requirements for applications for rulings on origin, customs valuation, drawback. (30 days/Customs lawyer(s)).	

II. Questionnaire

1. Do you comply with this measure?

Fully:___ Substantially: ___Partially:___ No:___ Not Applicable:___

1. You expect to implement this measure by:

Category A (by date of entry into force):_____ Category B (with extra time):_____ Category C (with extra time and assistance): _____

1. If Category B approximately how much time will you need to implement?

6 Months:_____ 1 Year:_____ 3 Years:_____ 5 Years:_____ Other (Specify):_____

1. Identify technical assistance projects/agencies that have, or are, helping you implement this measure:

1. Lead agency or organization and other stakeholders that would be responsible for implementation of this measure:

1. Stakeholders not participating in assessment of this measure that should be consulted:

1. National Priority Level (How important is it that this measure should be implemented in your country?):

High:___ Medium: ___ Low:___ None:___ Explain:

1. Issues to note (any comments or recommendations for negotiators, etc.):



Excel Summary Sheet

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1												
2	Article	Title	Comply ? (Pick One)	Category (Pick One)	Time Required (Pick One)	Legal/ Policy	Procedures	Institutions	Human Resources/ Training	ICT	Infra- structure/ Equipment	Other
3	1.1	Publication										
4	1.2	Information Available Through Internet	Fully Substantially Partially No Not Applicable									
5	1.3	Enquiry Points										
6	1.4	Notification										
7	2.1	Interval between Publication and Entry into Force										
8	2.2	Opportunity to Comment on New and Amended Rules										
9	2.3	Consultations										
10	3.1	Provision of Advance Rulings										
11	4.1	Right of Appeal										
12	5.1	Import Alerts/Rapid Alerts										
13	5.2	Detention										
14	5.3	Test Procedures										
15	6.1	Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation										
16	6.2	Penalty Disciplines										
17	7.1	Pre-arrival Processing										
18	7.2	Separation of Release from Final Determination and Payment of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges										
19	7.3	Risk Management										
20	7.4	Post-Clearance Audit										
21	7.5	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times										



National Self-Assessment *Outcomes*

Results

- Measures categorized
 - **A:** implement immediately
 - **B:** delay needed
 - **C:** delay + assistance
- Estimate implementation time
- Overall compliance assessed
 - Gaps/barriers identified
 - Specific actions identified
 - TACB needs identified

Enables

- Better prepared for SDT notifications
- Better prepared for implementation
- Better prepared to work with donors



Working group assignments

NATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT TOOL

Proposed Working Group Assignments

revised February 2013

Group 1

(General Focus: Policy/Legal)

Participants should include representatives from:

- Customs (legal/policy)
- Border Authorities (Standards, Animal Health Inspection, Agriculture, Food Safety)
- Trade Ministry
- Law/Justice Ministry
- Revenue Authority
- Executive Authority
- Legislative Authority
- Private sector

1.1	Publication	
1.2	Information Available Through Internet	
1.3	Enquiry Points	
1.4	Notification	
2.1	Interval between Publication and Entry into Force	
2.2	Opportunity to Comment on New and Amended Rules	
2.3	Consultations	
4.1	Right of Appeal	
6.1	Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	
8.1	[Prohibition of Consular Transaction Requirement]	
10.1	Review of Formalities and Documentation Requirements	
10.2	Reduction/Limitation of Formalities and Documentation Requirements	
10.6	[Elimination of] [Mandatory] Pre-shipment [and Post-shipment Inspections]	

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION	TN/TF/W/143/Rev. __ December 2012
Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation	Original: English

WTO NEGOTIATIONS ON TRADE FACILITATION
SELF ASSESSMENT GUIDE

CHARTS FOR WORKING GROUP 1

(NOTE: THESE ANNEXES HAVE BEEN EXTRACTED FROM THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENT FOR EASE OF USE IN NATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENTS)

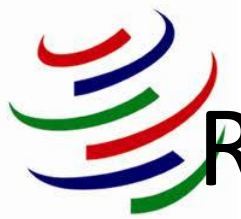
ARTICLE 1.1 PUBLICATION AND AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

I. Situational/Gap Analysis		Actions/Resources Required & Cost (Number the Actions)	TACB Resources Needed (Specify Action Number)
Describe Your Current Situation	Barriers (Give Reasons for non-compliance)		
A. Policy/Legal Framework:		1.	
B. Procedures:		1.	



Working Groups

- Each group:
 - Record findings on laptop viewed on Powerpoint
 - When necessary borrow experts from other groups or make phone calls to the office



Results of Previous Assessment

- Review previous results and copy and past relevant information in to new charts

[Coordinator provide print-out for each working group

Download into computer – can copy and paste into new charts]



Plenary Session

Improve results

return to tough issues

Input from all

Charts &
Questionnaires

Excel charts



Final Summary Report for [COUNTRY]

A copy of this report will be sent to the WTO Secretariat for purposes of quality control. The WTO will keep the report completely confidential unless permission is granted by our Government to release the results.

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |
| 10 | |

- Attachments:
1. Needs Assessment Summary Statistics
 2. List of Participants

we marked as Category B.

30



Certificate Ceremony



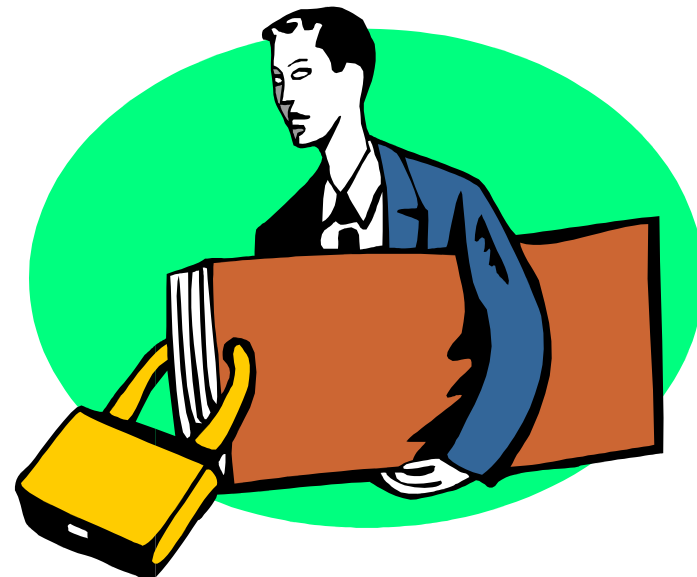


CONFIDENTIAL RESULTS



Be detailed and honest

The results are only for you





Benefits

- Better defined role of each stakeholder/agency
- Raised awareness of need to coordinate
- Created new public-private partnerships.
- Fostered greater collaboration between agencies to improve efficiency (reduce backlog and duplication of efforts).
- Left countries in a good position to work with donors.



Trade facilitation technical assistance and capacity building

Technical assistance and support for capacity building are integral parts of the mandate of the WTO negotiations on Trade Facilitation ([July Package Annex D](#)). In order to assist countries to participate more effectively in the negotiations assistance is provided by the WTO Secretariat, Member states and other intergovernmental organizations, including in particular the World Bank, the World Customs Organization and UNCTAD.

> [Fact sheet on the trade facilitation capacity building](#)

consult the [Guide to downloading files](#)

N.B. You should download these documents rather than calling them view through the browser since the formatting may change (eg. graph numbering) when viewed through the browser.

Information is set out as follows:

I) Technical Assistance and Capacity Building provided by the WTO Secretariat

II) Information provided by WTO Members on Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

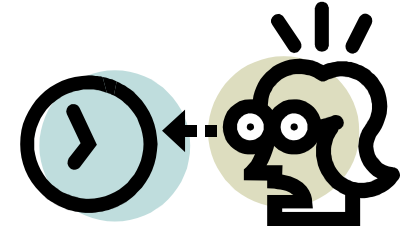
III) Trade facilitation information and activities provided by other International Organizations

This site will be updated as additional information is received with the aim of providing WTO Members with a readily accessible inventory of technical assistance and capacity building activities in the area of trade facilitation.

www.wto.org –
(go to TF page through
“Trade Topics” then TACB
page)

Next Steps?

Near-Term Planning



- Assess implementation needs and priorities
 - Decide categories (A, B, C)
 - Develop Detailed Action Plan
- Prepare Notifications
- Contact Donors
- Prepare/ approve acceptance documents
- Participate in WTO PrepCom

What is Custom's Role?

- Actively participate in national trade facilitation committee
- Advise/advocate:
 - *Which* measures are high priority
 - *What* are priority needs for donor technical assistance
 - *How* measures should be implemented in national law/practice (level of commitment)
- Work with other agencies

Role of private sector

- ✓ Task force
- ✓ Help government to identify needs and priorities
- ✓ Drive change- not aim for just minimum implementation

Donors

Donor Commitment

WTO: 2013 PRESS RELEASES

PRESS/709

3 December 2013

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Australia donates AUD 5,400,000 to programmes for developing countries

WTO: 2014 PRESS RELEASES

PRESS/718

24 February 2014

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Estonia donates EUR 20,000 to technical assistance for developing countries

WTO: 2013 PRESS RELEASES

PRESS/715

17 December 2013

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Denmark pledges CHF 2,950,000 to training programmes for developing countries

WTO: 2013 PRESS RELEASES

PRESS/707

3 December 2013

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Sweden launches new trade facilitation training facility in Africa

WTO: 2014 PRESS RELEASES

PRESS/716

6 February 2014

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

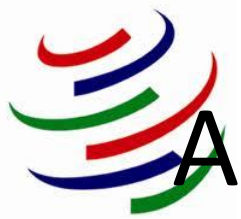
Finland donates €5 million for trade projects in least-developed countries

EU stands ready to support developing countries realize the benefits of a WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Development Commissioner Andris Piebalgs and Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht have joined forces to help secure a WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement as part of global efforts to increase trade's contribution to development. The EU's support responds to demands from Least-Developed Countries (LDCs) for help to make the most of the deal, which could be agreed at the WTO's 9th Ministerial Conference in December 2013.

“Donor Members agree to facilitate the provision of assistance and support for capacity building to developing and least developed countries”

- Technical, financial, or any other form of assistance as “mutually agreed”
- Support provided by
 - bilateral (e.g, USAID) or
 - international/ regional organizations (WCO, UNCTAD, ADB, World Bank, etc.)
- WTO Committee plays oversight role



Article 22 – Donor requirements

at entry into force/annually- past and future 12 months:

- (a) a description of TACB
- (b) the status & amount committed/disbursed;
- (c) procedures for disbursement;
- (d) the beneficiary country or region; and
- (e) the implementing agency in the Member providing TACB.



Article 22.2 Donor Requirements

- a) Contact point
- b) information on the process and mechanisms for requesting assistance and support for capacity building.



Article 22.5 International Orgs

- International Organizations invited to provide same information



Article 22.3 – Developing/LDC

- Notify contact point of office responsible to coordinate and prioritize TACB



WTO TF Facility

- Expand assistance
 - Needs assessments
 - Notification
- Merge current trust fund with new money
- Fund for countries not receiving assistance
- Details July 24

WTO/WCO

Opportunities for Cooperation

WTO TF Committee – Art. 23.1.5

The Committee shall maintain close contact with other international organizations in the field of trade facilitation, such as the **World Customs Organization**, with the objective of securing the best available advice for the implementation and administration of this Agreement and in order to ensure that unnecessary duplication of effort is avoided. To this end, the Committee may invite representatives of such organizations or their subsidiary bodies to:

- attend meetings of the Committee; and
- discuss specific matters related to the implementation of this Agreement.



WCO Involvement

⇒ Advise TF Committee

⇒ Share experience to implement:

- ❖ TRS
- ❖ Authorized Operator
- ❖ Minimize Formalities
- ❖ International standards

⇒ Support WTO TA/symposia

⇒ Standards/Instruments



Transparency of TACB

Section II - Article 22.2

- ★ **Contact point for TACB**
- ★ **information on how to request**
- ★ **Annual information on TACB programs**





Category ABC Notifications

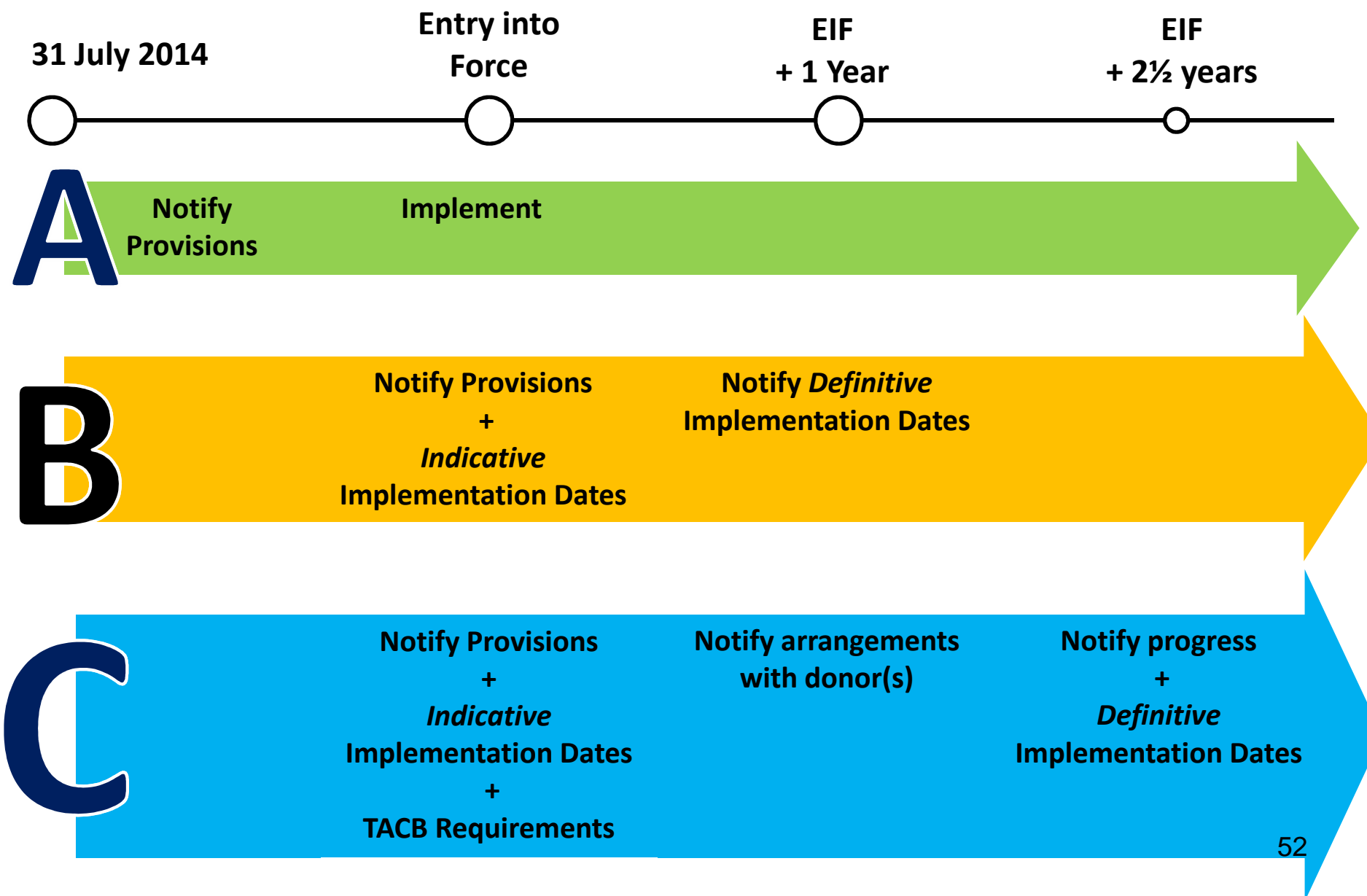


Category A notifications received to date:

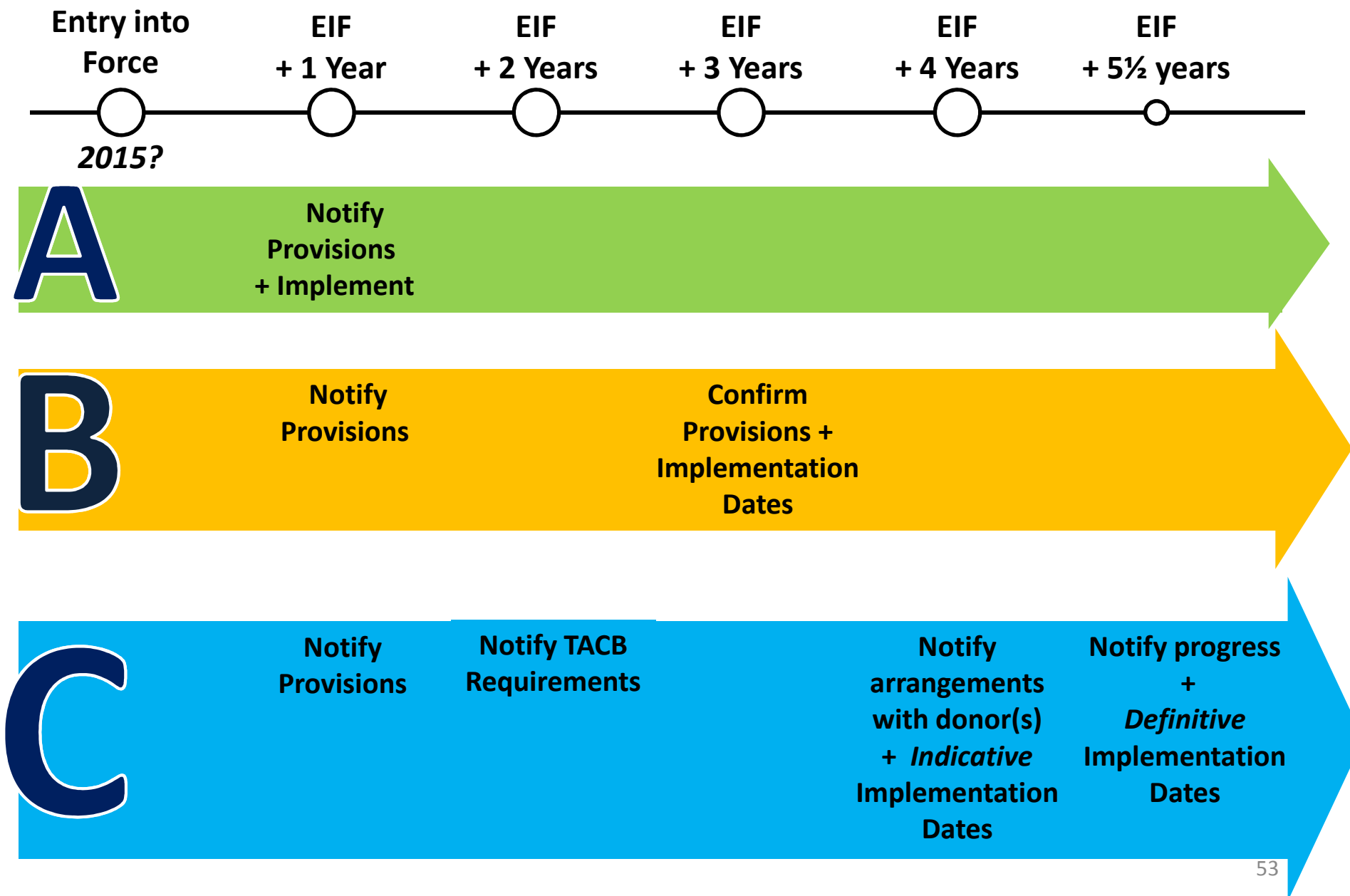
1. Hong Kong, China
2. Mexico
3. Costa Rica
4. Korea
5. Singapore
6. Paraguay
7. Colombia
8. China
9. Nicaragua
10. Mauritius



Developing Country - Deadlines



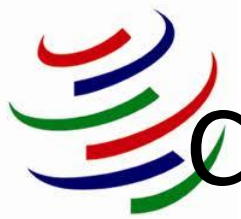
Least Developed Country - Deadlines





Notifications

- No specific format
- How to deal with best endeavor
- Needs assessment excel worksheet



Category A Notification: Mexico

- the Government of Mexico has the honour to notify the Preparatory Committee that it designates all of the provisions contained in Section I of the Agreement (annexed to the above-mentioned Ministerial Decision) under Category A for implementation in full upon the entry into force of the Agreement.
-



Category A Notification: China

The Government of the People's Republic of China has the honour to notify the Preparatory Committee that the People's Republic of China hereby designates all the provisions in Section I of the Agreement as Category A commitments except for the following:

- Paragraph 6 of Article 7: Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times;
- Paragraph 4 of Article 10: Single Window;
- Paragraph 9 of Article 10: Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing; and
- Article 12: Customs Cooperation.



Category A Notifications: Costa Rica

- Costa Rica hereby notifies that all the provisions in Section I of the Agreement have been designated as Category A commitments, except for the following:
 - Article 10.1.1 Formalities and documentation requirements
 - Article 10.2.2 Acceptance of copies



Category A Notification: Colombia

- Pursuant to the Ministerial Decision of 7 December 2013 (WT/MIN(13)/36) and in accordance with Article 15 in Section II of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation ("the Agreement"), Colombia hereby notifies that all the provisions in Section I of the Agreement have been designated as Category A commitments for implementation upon its entry into force, except for the following:
 - Article 5.3: Test Procedures
 - Article 7.9: Perishable Goods



Nicaragua- Category A

- Art. 1.2 Information Available Through Internet
- Art. 1.4 Notification
- Art. 2.1 Opportunity to Comment and Information Before Entry into Force
- Art. 2.2 Consultations
- Art. 3 Advance Rulings
- Art. 4.1 Right to Appeal or Review
- Art. 5.2 Detention
- Art. 6.1 General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation
- Art. 6.3 Penalty Disciplines
- Art. 7.1 Pre-arrival Processing
- Art. 7.3 Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges
- Art. 7.4 Risk Management
- Art. 7.5 Post-Clearance Audit
- Art. 7.8 Expedited Shipments
- Art. 7.9 Perishable Goods
- Art. 9 Movement of Goods under Customs Control Intended for Import
- Art. 10.1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements
- Art. 10.3 Use of International Standards
- Art. 10.5 Pre-shipment Inspection
- Art. 10.6 Use of Customs Brokers
- Art. 10.7 Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements
- Art. 10.8 Rejected Goods
- Art. 10.9 Temporary Admission of Goods/Inward and Outward Processing
- Art. 11 Freedom of Transit
- Art. 12.1 Measures Promoting Compliance and Cooperation
- Art. 12.2 Exchange of Information
- Art. 12.3 Verification
- Art. 12.4 Request
- Art. 12.5 Protection and confidentiality
- Art. 12.6 Provision of information
- Art. 12.7 Postponement or refusal of a request
- Art. 12.8 Reciprocity
- Art. 12.9 Administrative burden
- Art. 12.10 Limitations
- Art. 12.11 Unauthorized use or disclosure
- Art. 12.12 Bilateral and regional agreements
- Art. 13.2 National Committee on Trade Facilitation



Thank you



Needs Assessment

Process/Schedule

