



## Case Study

### National Committee on Trade Facilitation United Arab Emirates

**Article 23.2 of the WTO TFA: “Each Member shall establish and/or maintain a national committee on trade facilitation or designate an existing mechanism to facilitate both domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions of this Agreement.”**

#### 1. Introduction

The United Arab Emirates established a completely new NCTF in 2014, in accordance with Article 23.2.

#### 2. Structure of the Committee

There are 22 members of the Committee; these include Customs, the Ministry of Trade, government agencies and the private sector.

The NCTF has meetings more than five times per year in 2014. It reports to the National Committee of the WTO. Information reaches all members through various communications and minutes of meetings prepared by the Secretariat of the National Committee.

#### 3. Role of Customs and Level of Participants

Customs is a core participant member of the Committee. The level of participants is High-level Government Officials, Director-level and Technical-Level. The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning & Development serves as the Secretariat of the Committee.

#### 4. Challenges and Solutions

The biggest challenges are coordination among the various stakeholders and members of the National Committee, putting together electronic links relating to trade facilitation measures implemented by various entities, and scheduling trade facilitation commitments based on the minimum enforced in the various Emirates.

Assessment of each and every trade facilitation measure should be based on the real implementation of the measure on the ground, and the National Committee should be comprised of all relevant agencies pertaining to Trade and Border Management; these are considered good practice.

Entities that govern trade facilitation issues are not limited to border and Customs Agencies. At the domestic level, other government agencies are also important actors.

#### 5. Contact person for the NCTF

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