Next steps in implementing the TFA

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Compliance and Facilitation
- Establishing a National Committee on Trade Facilitation
- Self-assessment/gap analysis/validation of findings
- Categorization and notification of category A (B and C) commitments
- Ratification of Protocol of Amendment
- Developing/reviewing Strategic/Action plan(s)
- Implementation, including seeking TA/CB support
- Monitoring/evaluating implementation
Notifications – developing countries

Figure 1: Developing Countries Notification for all categories of provisions

- CAT B: Notify definitive dates for implementation of Cat. B provisions
- CAT C: Notify A, B, C categories & indicative implementation dates for categories B & C
- CAT C: 1. Progress in provision of TACB
  2. Definitive dates for implementation

* Entry into force of TFA when 2/3 of Members ratify. Obligations for an individual country will only commence once this country completed its ratification process as well.
Notifications - LDCs

Entry into Force of TFA*:

- **CAT A-B-C**: Notify: A, B, C Categories
- **CAT B**: LDCs may notify indicative implementation dates for category B
- **CAT C**: Notify technical assistance required for implementation of Cat. C provisions
- **CAT C**: Inform TF Committee on progress in provision of assistance and notify definitive dates

* Entry into force of TFA when 2/3 of Members ratify. Obligations for an individual country will only commence once this country completed its ratification process as well.

**Figure 2**: LDCs Notification for all categories of provisions
Sequencing implementation

Ensure high political commitment and engagement of all relevant stakeholders
✓ establish a National Committee on Trade Facilitation
✓ raise public awareness

Short and middle term commitments
✓ legislative amendments
✓ provisions requiring engagement of Customs only
✓ provisions requiring limited resources

Long term commitments
✓ provisions relating to more complex procedures and IT considerations (i.e. Single Window)
✓ provisions requiring engagement of various stakeholders
✓ provisions requiring more resources

Factors to consider
✓ Notification of commitments at national level
✓ On-going TF projects
✓ Possible quick wins
3-phased approach to TFA implementation

Phase I
Diagnostics/ Self-Assessment

Phase II
Planning and Implementation

Phase III
Monitoring and Evaluation
Role of the Time Release Study

- Diagnostic tool
- Monitoring tool
- Performance measurement tool
- Needs to include all relevant stakeholders
- TFA Article 7.6

6. Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times

6.1 Members are encouraged to measure and publish their average release time of goods periodically and in a consistent manner, using tools such as, *inter alia*, the Time Release Study of the World Customs Organization (referred to in this Agreement as the "WCO").
Stakeholder engagement

- Mapping stakeholders
- National Policy dialogues
- Stakeholder engagement strategy
- Consultative Committees – leading to NATIONAL COMMITTEES ON TRADE FACILITATION
WCO Survey Results on National Committees on Trade Facilitation (NCTF’s)

Article 23.2 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 the TFA”.

- December 2014: Survey sent to (then) 179 WCO Members (incl. WTO Members)
- 68 Members have so far responded to the survey. That is 42% of the 161 WTO Members.
- 25 Members have reported having established an NCTF or maintaining an existing mechanism as an NCTF:
  - 16 Existing Committees; and
  - 9 Newly established Committees
Number of NCTF’s per Region
The Members in the NCTFs

- Customs: 25
- Ministry of Trade: 25
- Other Government Agencies: 25
- Private Sector: 25
The Role of Customs in NCTFs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Other Leading Roles</td>
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Frequency of Meetings

- Once or Twice per Year: 2
- More than twice but less than five times: 15
- No Particular Rule: 6
- As required: 2
Overview of expressed TFA-CB needs from Members of the WCO Europe region

TF(A)-related requests:
1) TRS
2) AEO
3) SW
4) TFA implementation incl. NCTF establishment
5) Risk Management
6) RKC
7) others
Thank you for your attention!!

More information
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