



Origin Verification Swaziland

Presenter's Profile



- Names : Khauhelo MAWANA
- Administration : Swaziland Revenue Authority
: Customs and Excise
: Department
: Kingdom of Swaziland
: Kmawana@sra.org.sz
- Designation : Director – Customs Legislative
(Origin, Tariff, Valuation,
Training and Legislation)
- Service in Customs : Since 1988

Manufacturing Sector



- Caramel
- Fruit canning
- Refrigeration assembly
- Beverage concentrates
- Glass products ex-recycled glass
- Textiles.

Agriculture



- Sugar
- Citrus fruits
- Pineapples
- Ethanol distillers
- Meat and meat products

Exports to...



- EU under the IEPA
- USA under AGOA
- SADC under the SADC FTA
- COMESA under the COMESA FTA
- Other GSP giving countries.

Exports to...



- Tripartite Free Trade Area (T-FTA) merging COMESA, EAC and SADC will be another set of FTA Rules of Origin.
- Enlarged FTA market will have 26 Member States

Simplification



In April 2011:

**His Majesty, King Mswati III,
launched the Investor Road Map
(IRM)**

Simplification



Pre-July 2012

- Swaziland's Competent Authority for COMESA & SADC Certificates of Origin was the Trade Promotion Unit (TPU);
- Customs handled EUR1 and GSPs

Simplification



Under the Investor Road Map:
Customs and Excise Department
of the Swaziland Revenue
Authority (SRA) was designated
as the Competent Authority for
all Trade Protocols in Swaziland

Challenges: Compliance



- Low compliance culture with Customs and revenue laws
- Lack of knowledge in the interpretation and implementation of Rules of Origin in the Customs and Trade Officials

Challenges:

Multiple Memberships of Trading Blocks:



Swaziland is a Member of:

- COMESA
- SACU
- SADC

Challenges:

Multiple Memberships to Trading Blocs



Mix up of COMESA and SADC
Rules of Origin criteria

(In one such verification case,
the case dragged for years)

Challenges:

Proprietary rights & trade secrets



- Traders do not trust Customs with data despite legislation providing for confidential treatment
- A challenge of enforcing compliance in full recognition of traders' rights to proprietary and trade secrets
- Risk of preferential treatment being withdrawn.

Challenges: Mitigation



Capacity Building for players in the trade supply chain (including Customs and Trade officials and Traders) is the only solution

Capacity Building



One Senior Officer was enrolled in a one year program on Rules of origin sponsored by the Swedish National Board on Trade.

Capacity Building



- Participation at training programs initiated by RECs (SADC, COMESA and TFTA)
- Two trainers & Senior Officer were enrolled in SADC's 3-year long program for Training the Trainers in Member States

Capacity Building



Intensive internal training program that will take all officers through the Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Courses complemented by the WCO E-Learning

Stakeholder education



- Engaged exporters to educate them on the benefits of complying with preferential rules of origin.
- Success has been registered with exporters expanding production to meet demand outside their traditional markets.

Stakeholder Education



- Registration of exporters for preferential market access provides the basis for intensive exporters' education;
- It enables the exporters to self-assess the eligibility of their products

C²C Co-operation



Administrations should have a mutual understanding of the provisions of the respective Protocol.

Trade Facilitation



- The Bali Agreement on Trade Facilitation, 2013
- WCO Revenue Package
- Trade Facilitation price to Traders
= Compliance

THANK YOU/SIYABONGA

