

Rwanda

ARTICLE 10: FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION AND TRANSIT

10.1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements

- Customs conducts regular reviews of all relevant formalities and documentation in the Trade Information Portal by each agency in consultation with private sector.
- An oversight committee was established and is comprised of representatives from private sector and government agencies to undertake periodical review.

10.2 Acceptance of Copies

Rwanda Customs and other institutions involved in the international clearance process usually accept electronic copies lodged by traders in the Rwanda electronic Single Window thus promote the paperless environment and even allow traders to seek services without moving from their locations.

10.3 Use of International Standards

In collaboration with other government agencies, Customs organize different trainings, and necessary equipment is in process to be acquired thus to ensure compliance with the use of International Standards.

10.4 Single window

Customs is in the process of full operationalization of the single window where different government agencies dealing with international trade are integrated in one single entry point. Now, the system is in process for being implemented by integrating other remaining government agencies involved in the clearance process of export, import and transit.

So far, through the single sign on which is under development, other government agencies especially National Agricultural Export Development Board, Rwanda Food and Drugs Authority, Rwanda Inspectorate Competition, and consumer protection Authority, and Rwanda Mining, petroleum and Gas Board. This activity is under the second phase of the project where the plan was established to integrate all agencies in one single entry point where traders will lodge requests once and receive feedback in the same window.

10.5 Pre-shipment Inspection

The pre-shipment inspections are not implemented in the Customs clearance process. There are no requirements for pre-shipment inspection for tariff classification and Customs valuation in the Rwanda's implementation framework.

10.6 Use of Customs Brokers

This provision is not yet implemented and was notified under category C.

10.7 Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements

Customs implemented the One stop Border Posts Procedures at Ruhwa, Nemba, Rusumo, Kagitumba, Rubavu and Gatuna borders where all government agencies appointed staff. Common Customs procedures and uniform documentation are used thus they deliver quick services to cross border traders. The encountered challenge is that there are other remaining borders that are not yet established as One Stop Border Posts like Bugarama, Cyanika, Rusizi I, Rusizi II and Akanyaru – Haut.

10.8 Rejected goods

Customs allows the importer to re-consign or to return the rejected goods to the exporter or another person designated by the exporter.

10.9 Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing

Customs is in the process of automating in the Rwanda electronic Single window the inward and outward processing. This automation will enable Customs and special economic zones operators to manage raw materials, machineries, equipment and finished goods and finally to produce relevant production reports.