

DOHA WORK PROGRAMME

Ministerial Declaration

Adopted on 18 December 2005

Annex E

Trade Facilitation

Report by the Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation to the TNC

PROPOSED MEASURES TO IMPROVE AND CLARIFY GATT ARTICLES V, VIII AND X

A. PUBLICATION AND AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

- Publication of Trade Regulations
- Publication of Penalty Provisions
- Internet Publication
 - (a) of elements set out in Article X of GATT 1994
 - (b) of specified information setting forth procedural sequence and other requirements for importing goods
- Notification of Trade Regulations
- Establishment of Enquiry Points/SNFP/Information Centres
- Other Measures to Enhance the Availability of Information

B. TIME PERIODS BETWEEN PUBLICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Interval between Publication and Entry into Force

C. CONSULTATION AND COMMENTS ON NEW AND AMENDED RULES

- Prior Consultation and Commenting on New and Amended Rules
- Information on Policy Objectives Sought

D. ADVANCE RULINGS

- Provision of Advance Rulings

E. APPEAL PROCEDURES

- Right of Appeal
- Release of Goods in Event of Appeal

F. OTHER MEASURES TO ENHANCE IMPARTIALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

- Uniform Administration of Trade Regulations
- Maintenance and Reinforcement of Integrity and Ethical Conduct Among Officials

- (a) Establishment of a Code of Conduct
- (b) Computerized System to Reduce/Eliminate Discretion
- (c) System of Penalties
- (d) Technical Assistance to Create/Build up Capacities to Prevent and Control Customs Offences
- (e) Appointment of Staff for Education and Training
- (f) Coordination and Control Mechanisms

G. FEES AND CHARGES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION

- General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation
 - (a) Specific Parameters for Fees/Charges
 - (b) Publication/Notification of Fees/Charges
 - (c) Prohibition of Collection of Unpublished Fees and Charges
 - (d) Periodic Review of Fees/Charges
 - (e) Automated Payment
- Reduction/Minimization of the Number and Diversity of Fees/Charges

H. FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION

- Disciplines on Formalities/Procedures and Data/Documentation Requirements Connected with Importation and Exportation
 - (a) Non-discrimination
 - (b) Periodic Review of Formalities and Requirements
 - (c) Reduction/Limitation of Formalities and Documentation Requirements
 - (d) Use of International Standards
 - (e) Uniform Customs Code
 - (f) Acceptance of Commercially Available Information and of Copies
 - (g) Automation
 - (h) Single Window/One-time Submission
 - (i) Elimination of Pre-Shipment Inspection
 - (j) Phasing out Mandatory Use of Customs Brokers

I. CONSULARIZATION

- Prohibition of Consular Transaction Requirement

J. BORDER AGENCY COOPERATION

- Coordination of Activities and Requirement of all Border Agencies

K. RELEASE AND CLEARANCE OF GOODS

- Expedited/Simplified Release and Clearance of Goods

- (a) Pre-arrival Clearance
- (b) Expedited Procedures for Express Shipments
- (c) Risk Management /Analysis, Authorized Traders
- (d) Post-Clearance Audit
- (e) Separating Release from Clearance Procedures
- (f) Other Measures to Simplify Customs Release and Clearance
- Establishment and Publication of Average Release and Clearance Times

L. TARIFF CLASSIFICATION

- Objective Criteria for Tariff Classification

M. MATTERS RELATED TO GOODS TRANSIT

- Strengthened Non-discrimination
- Disciplines on Fees and Charges
 - (a) Publication of Fees and Charges and Prohibition of Unpublished ones
 - (b) Periodic Review of Fees and Charges
 - (c) More effective Disciplines on Charges for Transit
 - (d) Periodic Exchange Between Neighbouring Authorities
- Disciplines on Transit Formalities and Documentation Requirements
 - (a) Periodic Review
 - (b) Reduction/Simplification
 - (c) Harmonization/Standardization
 - (d) Promotion of Regional Transit Arrangements
 - (e) Simplified and Preferential Clearance for Certain Goods
 - (f) Limitation of Inspections and Controls
 - (g) Sealing
 - (h) Cooperation and Coordination on Document Requirements
 - (i) Monitoring
 - (j) Bonded Transport Regime/Guarantees
- Improved Coordination and Cooperation
 - (a) Amongst Authorities
 - (b) Between Authorities and the Private Sector
- Operationalization and Clarification of Terms

II. PROPOSED PROVISIONS FOR EFFECTIVE COOPERATION BETWEEN CUSTOMS AND OTHER AUTHORITIES ON TRADE FACILITATION AND CUSTOMS COMPLIANCE

- Multilateral Mechanism for the Exchange and Handling of Information

III. CROSS-CUTTING SUBMISSIONS

1. Needs and Priorities Identification

- General tool to assess needs and priorities and current levels of trade facilitation

- Take result of assessment as one basis for establishing trade facilitation rules, arranging S&D treatment and providing technical assistance and capacity building support

2. Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

- Technical Assistance and Capacity Building in the Course of the Negotiations
 - Identification of Needs and Priorities
 - Compilation of Needs and Priorities of Individual Members
 - Support for Clarification and Educative Process Including Training
- Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Beyond the Negotiations Phase
 - Implementation of the Outcome
 - Coordination Mechanisms for Implementing Needs and Priorities as well as Commitments

3. Multiple-Areas

- Identification of Trade Facilitation Needs and Priorities of Members
- Cost Assessment
- Inter-Agency Cooperation
- Links and Inter-relationship between the Elements of Annex D
- Inventory of Trade Facilitation Measures
- Assessment of the Current Situation
- Timing and Sequencing of Measures