

**VOLUNTARY NOTIFICATION OF SPECIFIC TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE NEEDS OR RESPONSES**

1. Member notifying (including, if applicable, an indication of relevant bodies) <u>COSTA RICA</u> : (National Quality Council ¹)
2. The technical assistance activity needed or provided may be relevant to the following Article(s) of the TBT Agreement:² [X] Articles 2 and 3 on technical regulations [...] Article 4 and Annex 3 on standards and the Code of Good Practice [X] Articles 5, 7 and 8 on development of conformity assessment procedures [X] Article 6 on recognition of conformity assessment [X] Article 9 on international and regional systems for conformity assessment [...] Articles 2, 5 and 10 on information exchange (e.g. notifications, enquiry point) [...] Article 11 on technical assistance to other Members [...] Article 12 on special and differential treatment of developing country Members [...] Article 13 on the TBT Committee (participation in work of TBT Committee) [...] Other:
3. Brief description of objective and rationale of the technical assistance activity, including, if possible, an estimation of the resources needed or on offer (e.g., financial or man-hours):³ Proper development of technical regulations, conformity assessment procedures and recognition thereof are deemed of great importance to the public and private sectors, as a means of facilitating trade in goods between countries. It is therefore necessary to enhance knowledge in these areas, which can be achieved through seminars and training courses on the TBT Agreement.

¹ The National Quality Council (CONAC) is the body responsible for setting general guidelines for the National Quality System. It is made up of the relevant government institutions and representatives of the private sector and consumers.

² For needs: If there is difficulty in establishing which Articles of the TBT Agreement are relevant, it is recommended that the "Needs assessment" and/or "Awareness raising" box be crossed under Point 4. Under Point 2 it may then be sufficient to cross the "Other" box and indicate "General".

³ This description should explain how this activity is intended to enhance implementation of specific provision(s) of the TBT Agreement listed in Point 2.

4. Nature and timing of technical assistance activity needed or on offer (key words):*Type of assistance*

- ☒ Awareness raising
- ☐ Needs assessment
- ☒ Skills training
- ☐ Infrastructure development
- ☒ Other: Support in developing a conformity assessment system aimed at facilitating verification

Policy area covered

- ☒ Technical regulations
- ☒ Conformity assessment procedures
- ☐ Standardization
- ☐ Information exchange
- ☐ Other:

Mode of delivery

- ☒ Workshop, seminar or other event
- ☐ Project-based activity
- ☐ Other:

Dates

- ☒ Envisaged start date for activity:
- ☒ Estimated duration:

5. Further information available from:

- ☐ National enquiry point.
- ☒ Other contact point:⁴ Jaime Coghi - Mission of Costa Rica to the WTO / Ministry of Foreign Trade, [jaime.coghi@comex.go.cr]
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- ☐ Other reference:⁵

⁴ Name of a contact person with telephone and e-mail address.

⁵ For example an Internet address, or the address of a body other than that of the Enquiry Point. For response notifications, this space could be used to make reference to previous relevant submissions or statements made in the TBT Committee (or other body).