



17 June 2013

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

SEVENTH SPECIAL MEETING ON PROCEDURES FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE

18 JUNE 2013

Programme¹

The Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (the TBT Committee) agreed in 1995 to hold, on a biennial basis, "regular meetings of persons responsible for information exchange, including persons responsible for enquiry points and notifications".² These meetings are organized in order to provide Members with an opportunity to discuss issues relating to information exchange and to review periodically the functioning of notification procedures and the operation of enquiry points. Information exchange meetings are also used to follow-up on decisions and recommendations agreed by the TBT Committee during triennial reviews (the latest is contained in G/TBT/32).

The Seventh Special Meeting will be held on **18 June 2013** at the WTO building, back to back with the TBT Committee's regular meeting on 17, 19 and 20 June. The discussions will be held in panel sessions and will focus on the topics set forth in the attached programme.

Members, including relevant interested parties of their delegations, as well as observers and relevant bodies involved in the development of standards, are invited to participate in this Special Meeting. Members should communicate the names of their capital-based participants by e-mail to Mrs. Una Flanagan (una.flanagan@wto.org) with a copy to bci@wto.org.

¹ Times are indicative.

² G/TBT/1/Rev.10, page 35.

18 JUNE 2013 (10:00)**1 ONLINE NOTIFICATION: TBT NOTIFICATION SUBMISSION SYSTEM (TBT NSS)³**

This session will inform Members on developments in the new online TBT notification submission system (TBT NSS). The TBT NSS is a tool to facilitate the submission of notifications by Members. The following delegations have indicated their intention to contribute to this session:

- (i) **European Union:** A journey to the TBT NSS, Mr. Cyril HANQUEZ, Application Architect, DG Enterprise and Industry
- (ii) **United States:** Using the TBT NSS - the US experience, Ms MaryAnn HOGAN, USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point, National Center for Standards and Certification Information (NCSCI)
- (iii) **Canada:** Canada's reflections on the proposed TBT NSS, Ms Jillian SENKIW and Ms Andrea SPENCER

2 GOOD PRACTICES IN NOTIFICATION: USE OF NOTIFICATION FORMATS⁴

In the Sixth Triennial Review, the Committee recalled the previous recommendation for the establishment of common procedures on how and under which notification format (addendum, corrigendum, revision, new notification) to notify modifications or any other information relevant to previously notified measures. With a view to advancing this work, the Committee agreed to exchange experiences on Members' use of notification formats. The following delegations have indicated their intention to share their experiences in this session:

- (i) **European Union:** EU proposal for a coherent use of notification formats, Ms Jana KRESTYNOVA, DG Enterprise and Industry
- (ii) **South Africa:** Use of new notification formats, Ms Ronel GREYVENSTEIN, WTO/TBT Enquiry Officer, South Africa Bureau of Standards

3 FUNCTIONING OF ENQUIRY POINTS⁵

In the Sixth Triennial Review, the Committee reiterated the importance of well-functioning enquiry points to the implementation of the TBT Agreement. In this regard, the Committee recommended that Members share experiences with regard to challenges faced by enquiry points in responding to comments and requests; and, agreed to discuss the functioning of enquiry points, including with respect to building support among interested stakeholders in the private sector for the services of the enquiry points. The following delegations have indicated their intention to share their experiences in this session:

- (i) **Brazil:** Exchanging Information Services Provided by the Brazilian WTO/TBT Enquiry Point to Small and Medium Enterprises, Mr. Rogerio CORREA, Head of Brazilian TBT Enquiry Point
- (ii) **United States:** Adding Value to the National Economy: USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point, Ms MaryAnn HOGAN, USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point, National Center for Standards and Certification Information (NCSCI)
- (iii) **Japan:** Experience and Operation of the Japan TBT Enquiry Point, Dr. Daisuke TANAKA, Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- (iv) **China:** The functioning of China's TBT Enquiry Point, Mr. WANG Lizhou, DDG of China's WTO TBT Enquiry Point
- (v) **European Union:** EU TBT Notification and Enquiry Point: Better communication with stakeholders and recent technical assistance activities, Ms Jana KRESTYNOVA, DG Enterprise and Industry.
- (vi) **Malaysia:** WTO/TBT Enquiry Point – Malaysia's Approach, Mrs. Anuja BALACHANDRAN, Malaysia TBT Enquiry Point, Standards Management Department (SIRIM Berhad)

³ G/TBT/32, paragraphs 17-18.

⁴ G/TBT/32, paragraph 15.

⁵ G/TBT/32, paragraph 16.