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**Committee on Trade Facilitation**

Original: French

**NOTIFICATION OF CATEGORY COMMITMENTS UNDER  
THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CONGO

The following communication, dated 13 August 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the Congo for Members' information.

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Following up on the notification dated 6 August 2014 (WT/PCTF/N/COG/1) in which it indicated its category A commitments, the Republic of the Congo hereby makes the following additional notifications in accordance with Articles 15 and 16 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (WT/L/931).

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)
<b>Article 1 Publication and Availability of Information</b>					
Article 1.1	Publication	B	30 October 2021	30 October 2024	-
Article 1.2	Information Available Through Internet	C	30 September 2021	30 September 2025	- Development and implementation of policy guidelines on publication of trade-related information; - Timely review and update of trade-related information on Internet by the relevant agencies; - Creation of a trade information portal; - Institutional capacity building.
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	B	30 July 2020	30 July 2022	-
Article 1.4	Notification	B	30 July 2020	30 July 2022	-
<b>Article 2 Opportunity to Comment, Information before Entry into Force and Consultations</b>					
Article 2.1	Opportunity to Comment and Information before Entry into Force	B	30 November 2021	30 November 2024	-
Article 2.2	Consultations	C	30 November 2020	30 November 2025	- Technical assistance to develop a consultation policy, particularly with respect to developing skills in regulatory impact assessment; - Technical consultancy to develop the strategy/policy for consultations and designate unit for implementation; - Legal counsel to define a standardized approach to consultations.
<b>Article 3 Advance Rulings</b>					
		A	-	-	-
<b>Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review</b>					
		A	-	-	-
<b>Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination and Transparency</b>					
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	A	-	-	-
Article 5.2	Detention	A	-	-	-
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	A	-	-	-

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)
<b>Article 6 Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation and Penalties</b>					
Article 6.1	General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	B	30 September 2020	30 September 2024	-
Article 6.2	Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	C	30 November 2020	30 November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drafting/amending all applicable legislation, including the Finance Law, the Foreign Trade Law and the Customs and Excise Administration Law, in order to apply the customs user fee;</li> <li>- Assistance to develop relevant procedures in order to establish and effectively apply the customs user fee.</li> </ul>
Article 6.3	Penalty Disciplines	B	30 July 2020	30 July 2024	-
<b>Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods</b>					
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	B	30 September 2020	30 September 2024	-
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	C	31 December 2022	31 December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of the strategic document for the development of e-payment;</li> <li>- Development of e-payment solutions (all banks);</li> <li>- Establishment of technical and financial support measures in digital sectors relating to e-commerce (training, research);</li> <li>- Enhancement of the current functionalities of the single window for cross-border operations (GUOT) or the single window for customs clearance (GUD);</li> <li>- Quality improvement of Internet connection;</li> <li>- Legislative drafting/amending of all e-legislation and the Finance Law in order to undertake electronic payment.</li> </ul>

<b>Provision</b>	<b>Heading/Description</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)</b>	<b>Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)</b>	<b>Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)</b>
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	C	30 November 2020	30 November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carrying out a technical/legal diagnosis;</li> <li>- Preparing regulations to enable application of this rule;</li> <li>- Adapting or developing the IT systems of relevant agencies;</li> <li>- Defining procedures for users and implementing agencies;</li> <li>- Dissemination and training.</li> </ul>
Article 7.4	Risk Management	C	30 September 2020	30 September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical assistance required to develop a mechanism to ensure enhanced coordination and collaboration between border agencies on risk identification and application of risk management;</li> <li>- Technical assistance to develop procedures required for effective implementation of risk management system;</li> <li>- Technical assistance to develop capacity in relevant border agencies to have a full understanding and application of risk management system;</li> <li>- Assistance required to acquire as well as enhance technological capabilities necessary to implement a proper risk management process;</li> <li>- Assistance to deploy technology required to implement a proper risk management system, such as X-ray machines, scanners and laboratory testing facilities;</li> <li>- Technical assistance required to train customs personnel in imaging.</li> </ul>
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	B	30 June 2020	30 June 2024	-

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Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	C	30 October 2021	30 October 2025	- Preparation of a study on average release times (guide to measure the average time required for the release of goods).
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	B	12 October 2017	12 October 2017	-
Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	C	30 September 2020	30 September 2025	- Support to review the legislation on urgent consignments and extend its scope to other goods; - Support for capacity building/coaching of border agency officials.
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	A	-	-	-
<b>Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation</b>					
		C	31 December 2020	31 December 2025	- Revision of current goods import, export or transit formalities and procedures at border crossings; - Preparation of a harmonized border procedures manual; - Interconnection of other customs units (customs posts and brigades in the interior) with the customs systems; - Training border agency officials in and raising their awareness of new cooperation practices.
<b>Article 9 Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control</b>					
		B	30 November 2020	30 November 2022	-
<b>Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit</b>					
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	C	30 October 2021	30 October 2025	- Assistance to analyse and simplify documentation requirements and procedures; - Capacity building and training in formalities and required documents in line with international best practices.
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	B	30 September 2020	30 September 2023	-
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	B	30 September 2020	30 September 2023	-

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Article 10.4	Single Window	C	30 September 2021	30 September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical assistance required to recast the operations of the single window for cross-border operations (GUOT);</li> <li>- Technical assistance required to unify the two single windows (GUD and GUOT);</li> <li>- Development of efficient procedures and a checklist in order to implement a national single window effectively;</li> <li>- Technical assistance to build capacity in relevant border agencies in order to implement a national single window;</li> <li>- Capacity building assistance to raise the awareness of officials of relevant border agencies and businesses and to equip and train them in order to implement a national single window;</li> <li>- Assistance to ensure reasonable-to high-level Internet access and access to ICT equipment, especially for other border agencies;</li> <li>- Technical assistance required to train agents involved in managing juxtaposed offices at the borders.</li> </ul>
Article 10.5	Preshipment Inspection	C	31 December 2021	31 December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assistance to train customs officers in scanner management techniques;</li> <li>- Assistance to transfer responsibility from preshipment inspection agencies to customs officers;</li> <li>- Assistance to train customs personnel in valuation and rates.</li> </ul>
Article 10.6	Use of Customs Brokers	A	-	-	-
Article 10.7	Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements	A	-	-	-

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Article 10.8	Rejected Goods	B	31 August 2020	31 August 2024	-
Article 10.9	Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing	A	-	-	-
<b>Article 11 Freedom of Transit</b>					
Article 11.1-11.3		C	30 December 2020	30 December 2024	- Technical assistance and capacity building support are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ensure proper allocation of costs</li> <li>▪ train personnel.</li> </ul>
Article 11.4		B	30 December 2020	30 December 2024	-
Article 11.5-11.10		C	30 December 2020	30 December 2026	- Technical assistance required to set up infrastructure to facilitate the movement of goods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support for corridor monitoring exercises</li> <li>▪ Training on treatment of goods in transit</li> <li>▪ Analysis of an efficient transit system</li> <li>▪ Construction of a dry port for transit purposes</li> <li>▪ Construction of warehouses for goods in transit</li> <li>▪ Construction of parking areas for vehicles in transit.</li> </ul>
Article 11.11		C	30 December 2020	30 December 2025	- Training in cooperation and coordination among regulatory agencies; - Customs transit procedures.
Article 11.12-11.17		B	31 December 2020	31 December 2025	-
<b>Article 12 Customs Cooperation</b>					
		B	31 December 2020	31 December 2025	-