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Committee on Trade Facilitation

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

COMMUNICATION FROM GHANA

*Addendum*

The following communication, dated 21 August 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Ghana for Members' information.

Following up from the notification dated 1 August 2019 (G/TFA/N/GHA/1), the Government of the Republic of Ghana hereby makes the following notifications of its definitive dates for its category C commitments in response to Article 16 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (WT/L/931).

Provision	Head/Description	Definitive date of implementation
Article 1.1	Publication	22 June 2022
Article 1.2	Information available through Internet	22 June 2022
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	22 June 2022
Article 1.4	Notification	22 June 2022
Article 2.1	Opportunity to Comment and Information Before Entry into Force	22 June 2022
Article 2.2	Consultations	22 June 2022
Article 3	Advance Rulings	22 June 2022
Article 4	Procedures for Appeal or Review	22 June 2023
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	22 June 2023
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	22 September 2022
Article 6.1	General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	22 June 2025
Article 6.2	Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	22 June 2025
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	22 June 2023
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	22 June 2023
Article 7.4	Risk Management	22 September 2023
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	22 September 2023
Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	22 September 2022
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	22 September 2024
Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	22 September 2022
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	22 September 2023
Article 8	Border Agency Cooperation	22 September 2025
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	22 September 2022
Article 12	Customs Cooperation	22 September 2025

For ease of reference, Ghana's full list of category commitments are summarized in the table as attached herewith.

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	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2022	Support to pass Legislation, Develop Policy framework; Human Resources/Training; Information and Communication Technologies; (ICT) and Infrastructure equipment
Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2022	Support for: Policy framework for publication of information on the internet; Set up procedures for publication; Human Resources/Training; ICT and Infrastructure equipment  Complementary support for the dissemination of information in French and Spanish
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	C	22 September 2020	22 June 2022	Support for: Development of Policy framework and procedures, ICT and Infrastructure equipment; Human Resources/Training for personnel manning the Enquiry points
Article 1.4	Notification	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2022	Support for Development of Policy framework and procedures; ICT and Infrastructure equipment; Human Resources/Training for personnel manning Notification Point.
<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	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2022	Support for Development of Policy framework, mechanism and procedures for consultations with Traders
Article 2.2	Consultations	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2022	Support for Development of Policy framework and procedures
<b>Article 3 Advance Rulings</b>					
		C	22 June 2020	22 June 2022	Support for Development of Policy framework and procedures; ICT and Infrastructure equipment; Human Resources/Training for Customs Officials  Support to create mechanisms to safeguard institutional memory in the area of advance rulings (ICT) infrastructure for data storage and filing processes)

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)
					Support for building the capacity of traders so as to adequately help them understand issues pertaining to advance rulings
<b>Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review</b>					
		C	22 June 2020	22 June 2023	Support for Development of Policy framework; set up Institutions for appeals; Draw up procedures for appeal
<b>Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination and Transparency</b>					
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2023	Support for Development of Policy framework and procedures and Operational Manuals; Information Communication Technology and Infrastructure equipment; Human Resources/Training for personnel for Joint Inspection
Article 5.2	Detention	B	22 June 2020	22 December 2021	-
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	C	22 September 2020	22 September 2022	Support for Development of Policy framework and procedures for the personnel of the Test Institutions - Ghana Revenue Authority - Customs Division (GRA-CD), Ghana Standards Authority (GSA), Food and Drugs Authority (FDA)
<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	C	22 February 2022	22 June 2025	Support for legal review and harmonization of mandates of institutions; Development of Policy framework and procedures; Training for officials on Cost-based accounting on fees and charges
Article 6.2	Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	C	22 February 2022	22 June 2025	Support for the further streamlining and harmonization of procedures and processes with respect to fees and charges
Article 6.3	Penalty Disciplines	A	-	-	-
<b>Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods</b>					
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2023	Support for: Development of procedures; ICT and Infrastructures equipment; Human Resources/Training for Customs Officials and stakeholders
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	C	22 June 2020	22 June 2023	Support for: Development of procedures for e-payment; ICT and Infrastructure equipment so as to secure inter-bank and multi-platform online payments

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)
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	B	22 June 2020	22 December 2021	-
Article 7.4	Risk Management	C	22 September 2020	22 September 2023	Support to outline and harmonize sustainable Risk Management procedures and processes needed to identify risks and adequately classify them;  Support to procure ICT infrastructure (modern scanners) and equipment, likewise train and build capacities of relevant stakeholders in Risk Management
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	C	22 September 2020	22 September 2023	Support for: the development of procedures and for carrying out capacity building initiatives so as to ensure that Post Clearance Audit (PCA) related concerns are accurately dealt with by Ghana Revenue Authority - Customs Division
Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	C	22 August 2020	22 September 2022	Support for carrying out capacity building programmes and the development of a policy framework (legal) and a manual of procedures to spell out the needed steps to be undertaken by Ghana Revenue Authority - Customs Division in ensuring compliance with the article
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	C	22 February 2021	22 September 2024	Support needed to organize World Customs Organization (WCO) experts facilitated training programmes for officers in the validation process;  Support for development of policy frameworks and procedures for Customs and other regulatory agencies; and  Support to set up a dedicated desk (secretariat) with support to procure the requisite ICT infrastructure needed to meet the needs of operators and other relevant institutions

<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 7.8	Expedited Shipments	C	22 August 2020	22 September 2022	<p>Support to review existing procedures in relation to expedited shipments to take into consideration institutions and regulatory agencies such as Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate (PPRSD) of Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA), Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) etc.</p> <p>Support for carrying out training and capacity building initiative by the Courier Team (Single Window platform operator/s for both old and new stakeholders; and</p> <p>Support to establish a Customs laboratory at the cargo terminal (cargo handlers)</p>
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	C	22 February 2022	22 September 2023	<p>Support for development of a policy framework and procedures for Customs and other regulatory agencies and stakeholders likewise support for procurement of standard scanners to meet international standards</p> <p>Support for procurement of standardized ICT infrastructure and equipment to monitor perishables and ensure temperature regulations</p> <p>Support for development of simplified export procedures and associated training and sensitization programmes for officers and stakeholders</p>
<b>Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation</b>					
		C	22 February 2021	22 September 2025	<p>Support to pass national legislations (benchmarking and case studies informed by best practices), develop policy framework in the establishment of integrated border management teams to identify required stakeholders and formalize linkages;</p> <p>Support for procurement of ICT infrastructure and communication tools to enhance intelligence gathering and information</p>

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)
					sharing; and Support for procurement of vehicles to enhance mobility and coordination.
<b>Article 9 Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control</b>					
		A	-	-	-
<b>Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit</b>					
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	C	22 June 2020	22 September 2022	Support to undertake capacity building initiatives facilitated by WCO experts to help Ghana become compliant with the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC)
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	B	22 June 2020	22 July 2021	-
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	B	22 August 2020	22 July 2021	-
Article 10.4	Single Window	B	22 August 2020	22 July 2021	-
Article 10.5	Pre-shipment Inspection	A	-	-	-
Article 10.6	Use of Customs Brokers	B	22 June 2020	22 July 2021	-
Article 10.7	Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements	A	-	-	-
Article 10.8	Rejected Goods	A	-	-	-
Article 10.9	Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing	A	-	-	-
<b>Article 11 Freedom of Transit</b>					
		B	22 June 2020	22 July 2021	-
<b>Article 12 Customs Cooperation</b>					
		C	22 September 2020	22 September 2025	Support for development of a legal framework within which information sharing and intelligence in the context of Customs Cooperation could be enhanced