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Committee on Trade Facilitation

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**NOTIFICATION OF ARRANGEMENTS AND PROGRESS IN THE PROVISION  
OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING  
SUPPORT OF CATEGORY C DESIGNATIONS**

COMMUNICATION FROM REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

The following communication, dated 2 February 2024 is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Moldova.

Moldova hereby notifies information on the arrangements concluded and progress made in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support of the following category C designations, in response to Article 16 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

| Provision   | Heading/Description                    | Category | Definitive date for implementation |
|-------------|--|----------|------------------------------------|
| Article 1.2 | Information available through internet | C        | 31 December 2025                   |

**Donors / Agencies:** USAID

**Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:**

The Trade Information Portal of the Republic of Moldova (Trade Information Portal/M-TIP) is designed to implement the commitments of the Republic of Moldova provided in the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization (WTO TFA), the Association Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union (AA) and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). M-TIP integrates the Republic of Moldova's regulations on foreign trade, as well as useful information for importers and exporters, in an easily accessible manner. The aim is to provide transparency and predictability to regulations and commercial procedures, thus improving compliance and reducing the cost of external commercial activities.

The portal was implemented with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the USAID Moldova Institutional and Structural Reforms Activity (MISRA) and it was launched on 5 May 2020.

Currently, in the context of the new Customs Code entered into force on 1 January 2024, the Customs Service of the Republic of Moldova with the support of the USAID Moldova Institutional and Structural Reforms Activity (MISRA) is in the process of updating the information on the Commercial Information Portal of the Republic of Moldova [www.trade.gov.md](http://www.trade.gov.md).

At the same time, with the support of the MISRA Program, in December 2023 the information campaign regarding the presentation of the provisions of the new Customs Code started.

| Provision   | Heading/Description                                | Category | Definitive date for implementation |
|---|--|----------|------------------------------------|
| Article 5.1   | Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections | C        | 31 December 2025                   |
| <b>Donors/Agencies:</b> Have not been identified  |  |          |                                    |
| <b>Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:</b>   |  |          |                                    |
| The Customs Service has not received technical assistance for the implementation of the Art. 5.1 related to the Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections. |  |          |                                    |

| Provision   | Heading/Description    | Category | Definitive date for implementation |
|---|------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Article 7.1   | Pre-arrival processing | C        | 31 December 2025                   |
| <b>Donors/Agencies:</b> European Union, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  |                        |          |                                    |
| <b>Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:</b>   |                        |          |                                    |
| <p>The processing of pre-arrival of the customs declarations based on electronic data exchange has been implemented between customs and the designated national postal operator (SOE "Posta Moldovei") for postal items worth up to EUR 1,000, which are to be exported from the territory of the Republic of Moldova. In this sense, with the support of UNCTAD and the EBRD, the CN23 module was developed in the Customs Integrated Information System (SIIV) ASYCUDA World, which allows the online processing of data related to international postal items for export, received from the postal operator through the connection between SIIV ASYCUDA World and the postal operator's information system, Customs Declaration System (CDS).</p> <p>Regarding the presentation of prior electronic data by the designated national postal operator, the Customs Service and the SOE "Posta Moldovei" signed on 22 March 2022, a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the promotion of the digitalization process of the national economy and the development of electronic commerce by aligning with international standards. The document establishes several areas of cooperation, such as simplifying customs procedures, increasing the security of correspondence, facilitating rapid processing, and combating the illicit traffic of goods through international postal items, increasing the exchange of advance electronic data between Customs and the Post Office, but also the approval of CN22 postal forms and CN23 as customs declarations.</p> <p>At the moment, the import data processing is in test mode, in order to launch the electronic exchange of data between the express operators and the Customs Service.</p> <p>On 1 January 2024, the Order of the Customs Service No. 559-O/2023 entered into force, which establishes the mechanism for declaring international postal items in digital format and the pre-arrival processing in the case of international postal items transported by the designated national postal operator, as well as the express operators.</p> <p>According to the procedure described in SIIV ASYCUDA World, with the support of UNCTAD, the "Manifest" and "H6" - customs declaration modules with a reduced set of data were additionally developed, which are currently under the testing stage with postal operators.</p> <p>Until the operationalization of the information systems, the Customs Service established the provisional procedure for declaring international postal items, pre-arrival processing being possible for international postal items with non-taxable value, that are declared only based on a manifest, presented in advance to the Customs Service.</p> |                        |          |                                    |

| Provision   | Heading/Description | Category | Definitive date for implementation |
|---|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Article 7.8   | Expedited shipments | C        | 31 December 2025                   |
| <b>Donors/Agencies:</b> European Union, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  |                     |          |                                    |
| <b>Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:</b>   |                     |          |                                    |
| <p>On 1 January 2024, the Order of the Customs Service No. 559-O/2023 came into force, establishing the mechanism for declaring international postal items in digital format and pre-arrival processing in the case of international postal items transported by express operators.</p> <p>According to the described procedure, in SIIV ASYCUDA World, the modules "Manifest" and "H6" – customs declaration with a reduced set of data were additionally developed, with the support of UNCTAD, which are currently under the testing stage with express operators.</p> |                     |          |                                    |

| Provision  | Heading/Description | Category | Definitive date for implementation |
|--|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Article 7.9  | Perishable goods    | C        | 31 December 2025                   |
| <b>Donors/Agencies:</b> Have not been identified   |                     |          |                                    |
| <b>Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:</b>  |                     |          |                                    |
| <p>The Customs Service has not received technical assistance for the implementation of the Art. 7.9 related to Perishable goods.</p> |                     |          |                                    |

| Provision  | Heading/Description | Category | Definitive date for implementation |
|--|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Article 10.4   | Single window       | C        | 31 December 2025                   |
| <b>Donors/Agencies:</b> European Union   |                     |          |                                    |
| <b>Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:</b>  |                     |          |                                    |
| <p>Between November 2017 and November 2019, within the Customs Service of the Republic of Moldova, the Twinning Project "Support in the modernization of the Customs Service of the Republic of Moldova in accordance with the requirements of the Association Agreement" took place. One of the objectives of the project was the support of the Republic of Moldova in the necessary preparation for the implementation of the Customs Single Window - conditionality provided for in the chapter on the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) of the Association Agreement.</p> <p>Within the Twinning Project, with the support of experts, the following documents were developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The vision document regarding the implementation of the Customs Single Window.</li> <li>- The specifications with the functional and technical requirements for the implementation of the Customs Single Window concept within the SIIV ASYCUDA World.</li> </ul> <p>After the completion of the Project, the Customs Service requested technical assistance from the international partners to develop a Concept regarding the implementation of the Customs Single Window and the evaluation of the costs for the implementation.</p> <p>The Customs Single Window is still on the list of priorities of the Customs Service and efforts are being made to identify external financial resources for the development of the above-mentioned Concept.</p> |                     |          |                                    |

| Provision   | Heading/Description | Category | Definitive date for implementation |
|---|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Article 11  | Transit             | C        | 31 December 2025                   |
| <b>Donors/ Agencies:</b> European Union   |                     |          |                                    |
| <p><b>Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:</b></p> <p>Following the completion of the Twinning Project (2017–2019) the Customs Service requested the assistance of the EU in the implementation of the NCTS.</p> <p>In July 2023, the Contribution Agreement between the Delegation of the European Union and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was signed. The purpose of the Agreement is to finance the development and implementation of the NCTS in the Republic of Moldova, which will ensure the connection with the national electronic system at the Common Communications Network of the European Commission. On 26 September 2023, the Project was launched, with UNCTAD being the developer. According to the work plan, the pilot test of the national transit system will be launched on 1 April 2024, for national movements with an economic operator, and later, on 1 July 2024, the system will be mandatory for all economic operators. The Customs Service plans to carry out the first joint transit operations on 1 April 2025.</p> |                     |          |                                    |