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Committee on Trade Facilitation

Original: English

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

COMMUNICATION FROM NAMIBIA

The following communication, dated 22 August 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Namibia for Members' information.

Namibia hereby makes the following notifications in response to 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)
Article 1 Publication and Availability of Information					
Article 1.1	Publication	B	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	-
Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance to develop website for dissemination of information; • Technical Assistance to collect, disseminate and publish information on the internet; • Capacity building of staff. Assistance to prepare description of practical steps for import/export/transit/appeal procedures for import, export, and transit for each relevant border agency. And to identify all required forms and documents; • Technical assistance (funding) to establish functioning trade information portal; • Identify a central body to monitor and coordinate the publication of information, as well as the adoption of best practices (Can be same body for Article 1.1) Appropriate equipment and software systems for border agencies; • Relevant training for border agencies and users; • Public awareness on information available online.
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance to assess and set-up information flows to focal points and to assess and establish sustainable enquiry points; • Establishing standards and procedures of quality control including fixed timelines; • Capacity building /training of train staff, in particular potential focal points; • Setting up guidelines to cover the entire procedure (from receipt of request to the dispatching of the responses to the requesting party); • Development and use of communication templates;

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing standards and procedures of quality control, including fixed timelines for answers; Acquisition of ICT and other equipment; Assistance and support for trainings and capacity building for the preparation of notifications in accordance with the WTO rules; Conduct awareness sessions for all relevant border agencies on procedures for notifications and information to be notified.
Article 1.4	Notification	A	-	-	-
Article 2 Opportunity to Comment, Information before Entry into Force and Consultations					
Article 2.1	Opportunity to Comment and Information Before Entry into Force	A	-	-	-
Article 2.2	Consultations	A	-	-	-
Article 3 Advance Rulings					
		C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procedures: Technical assistance to develop specific and clear guidelines on procedures to implement and undertake advance rulings; Capacity building and technical assistance to set-up institutional arrangements for necessary information flows on advance ruling, i.e. dissemination of knowledge and information; Human Resource/Training: Training of Customs Staff, Brokers and Importers on the procedures for advance ruling and its importance as well as how it will be implemented; Training in Tariff Classification, Rules of Origin and Valuation for Customs Officers; ICT: Provide ICT infrastructure; or Technical Assistance to integrate advance ruling into customs automated system.

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop public education campaigns for Training on advance ruling techniques and best practices. Legal/Policy: Technical assistance to develop legislation and policies to effectively administer and implement advance rulings; Stakeholder engagement.
Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review					
		A	-	-	-
Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination and Transparency					
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	A	-	-	-
Article 5.2	Detention	A	-	-	-
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	A	-	-	-
Article 6 Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation and Penalties					
Article 6.1	General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop competence in using methodologies to quantify costs in order to justify fees and charges; Develop comprehensive training programme to periodically assess existing and new fees and charges; Develop and publish a single schedule of all fees and charges related to imports and exports; Technical Assistance for mapping and costing the services rendered by Customs including the development of a fair and transparent Fee Structure.
Article 6.2	Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	A	-	-	-
Article 6.3	Penalty Disciplines	A	-	-	-
Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods					
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	A	-	-	-
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	A	-	-	-
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	A	-	-	-

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Article 7.4	Risk Management	C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing legislation; • Assistance to develop a risk management strategy with target percentages of low/high risk cargo; • Assistance to establish operating procedures; • Train Customs and Quarantine staff on analysing available transaction data from CMS and identifying criteria for high risk cargo; • Assistance in areas of risk management analysis in data gathering and criteria building; • Technical assistance and capacity building to assist with National Agriculture Quarantine Inspection Authority; • Develop risk profiles using available transaction data; • A sound compliance management regime needs to be implemented, including with respect to ASYCUDA inspection reporting module; • Technical assistance for refinement and development of integrated risk management system and procedures; • Technical assistance and capacity building on Artificial Intelligence (AI) management; • Capacity building and training of staff involved in risk management.

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Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop procedures incorporating the connectivity with risk management; • Develop a training plan/module to train Customs officials and agents and train the target groups; • Human Resources/Training: Capacity building and training for Customs officials to conduct Post Clearance Audit; • Develop data analysis skills and knowledge for Customs and border agencies officials. Capacity building and training for Customs. PCA officials on auditing techniques and methodology; • Enhance technological capacity of Border agencies necessary to implement PCA and incorporate into risk management program; • Provision of appropriate technology and equipment to help implement PCA; • Draft and implement an awareness program to educate the trading community on the role of PCA and legislative requirements related to PCA.
Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	C	31 December 2023	31 December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and financial assistance to conduct a time release studies; • Technical and financial to assistance to set-up time integrated release studies and training of staff; • Assistance need to put in place systems to meet TFA requirements to be able to regularly measure and publish average release times; • Assistance to develop procedures to be followed for the regular publication and measurement of the average release times; • Creation of a committee comprising several agencies to measure the average release time of goods; • Training in designing, planning, conducting and analysing a TRS for Customs and other border agencies;

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitization of border agency officials for cooperation during and after the exercise of conducting the Time Release Study; • Provide training and capacity building to staff/agencies of the concerned agencies and to economic operators on the interpretation of the study results; • Require assistance to develop and implement automated system to eliminate inaccuracies in the measurement of time taken for processes.
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	C	31 December 2023	31 December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance for the development of a system and validation for Authorized Operators; • Capacity building and training of staff involved in Authorized Operator management; • Technical assistance for development of AO manual; • Assistance (funding) to provide training for private sector stakeholders in AO approval and compliance; • Assistance (funding) to provide training on regional schemes. Develop relevant legislation and policies to allow the setup of an Authorised Operators (AO) program; • Develop proper procedures and criteria for the assessment of authorised operators that meet specified criteria in the AO program; • Capacity building for all border agencies is needed to ensure full compliance with this measure; • Develop a monitoring framework through which Customs can establish and monitor operators' compliance; • Support for design and implementation of an appropriate system for Authorised Economic Operator;

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of Customs Officers and relevant stakeholders to facilitate the establishment and smooth implementation of Authorised Economic Operator.
Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	C	31 December 2021	31 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop relevant legislation and policies; • Review/update Standard Operating Procedures; • Technical Assistance for the establishment of a procedure for expedited shipments. • Assistance on training of private sector operators approved for expedited shipment; • Assistance on training of staff; • Develop instructions/SOPs; • Training of Customs and Border agency officials on clearance of commercial cargo at the airports.
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	A	-	-	-
Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation					
		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance to provide awareness creation and training for the roll-out of OSBPs (funding) and other bilateral border agency collaboration mechanisms; • Review border procedures and operations cross borders to assess current situation; • Review and create if necessary, MOU between border agencies; • Harmonisation of different systems between bordering countries; • For both national and cross border cooperation: • Enactment of the relevant procedures regulations to guide operations; • Review and reform as necessary, regulations and policy; • Technical assistance for the establishment of agency coordination and collaboration at national level; • Increased institutional capacity;

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and if necessary, improve infrastructure and equipment; Training/capacity building for staff of the various regulatory agencies at the border; Consultation with stakeholders; Awareness campaign of changes.
Article 9 Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control					
		A	-	-	-
Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit					
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	A	-	-	-
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	A	-	-	-
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	A	-	-	-
Article 10.4	Single Window	C	31 December 2023	31 December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance in design, establishment (funding) and roll-out of ESW and training of staff and users of ESW; Development of an appropriate IT system; Training of officials overseeing establishment of and using single window; Training of other stakeholders; Awareness campaign.
Article 10.5	Pre-shipment Inspection	A	-	-	-
Article 10.6	Use of Customs Brokers	C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review licensing requirements to ensure that they are objective and transparent; Training on publication requirements; Technical assistance in design and development of a system integrated profiling mechanism for brokers; Assistance for awareness creation and training for the roll-out of new system; Technical assistance (funding) to train brokers on customs procedures. Develop policy/procedures/monitoring to ensure that procedures are applied uniformly throughout the country; Technical assistance and support to streamline and optimize border processes and procedures with all institutions in order to ensure improved controls,

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					eliminate unnecessary formalities and harmonize requirements for safeguarding international good practices.
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	-	-	-
Article 11 Freedom of Transit					
Article 11.1		C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance on policy formulation, design, establishment and funding of transit infrastructure. Review, and amend if necessary, laws, regulations, procedures, and documentation requirements; • Review transit fees to ensure they reflect the cost of services rendered; • Assistance to assess the impact of measures applied to transit traffic (charges, regulations, formalities); • Technical and financial assistance for capacity for officers on transit procedures and guarantee systems, including at regional level; • Technical assistance in developing technical of regulations and procedures; • Financial assistance on providing public awareness campaigns and roll out to customs and stakeholders; • and ensure that the objectives are legitimate and that the least trade-restrictive options are applied; • Review, improve, amend procedures for management of guarantees; • Review/update automated systems to ensure tools for control of transit operations and management of transit guarantees; • Training of all stakeholders; • Training/capacity building of transit coordinator.
Article 11.2		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.3		C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	
Article 11.4		C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	
Article 11.5		C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	
Article 11.6		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.7		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.8		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.9		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.10		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.11		C	31 December 2023	31 December 2023	
Article 11.12		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.13		C	31 December 2023	31 December 2023	
Article 11.14		C	31 December 2022	31 December 2022	
Article 11.15		C	31 December 2023	31 December 2023	
Article 11.16		C	31 December 2021	31 December 2021	
Article 11.17		C	31 December 2019	31 December 2019	

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Article 12	Customs Cooperation	A	-	-	-