



8 May 2019

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**Committee on Trade Facilitation**

Original: Spanish

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

COMMUNICATION FROM PANAMA

The following communication, dated 8 May 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Panama for Members' information.

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Following up on the notification dated 6 August 2014 (WT/PCTF/N/PAN/1), Panama hereby makes the following 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	C	See definitive date	1 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Software and computer equipment are needed to implement a TFA-consistent information system for foreign trade operations in all the institutions concerned.</li> <li>- Technical assistance for the development of systems to safeguard and protect the authenticity of documents that are uploaded to avoid unauthorized use and manipulation.</li> <li>- Staff need to be recruited and trained to collect, verify and maintain the information published on the platform.</li> </ul>
Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	C	See definitive date	1 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Financial support is needed to create and establish a TFA-consistent information system with IT equipment, software and other necessary tools, for all institutions involved in foreign trade.</li> <li>- Technical assistance and financial support in the area of IT for safeguarding and protecting the authenticity of documents that are uploaded to avoid unauthorized use and manipulation.</li> </ul>
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	A	-	-	-
Article 1.4	Notification	C	See definitive date	1 June 2022	- Training on WTO notifications.
<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	See definitive date	1 June 2022	<p>Technical and financial assistance is needed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procure consultancy services so that an expert can conduct a diagnosis of the existing domestic and regional regulations and share best practices and capacity building with the agencies involved;</li> <li>- prepare regulations to enable the implementation of this provision;</li> <li>- prepare implementation procedures for all the agencies involved;</li> <li>- hire and train the relevant human resources in government agencies.</li> </ul>
Article 2.2	Consultations	B	See definitive date	1 June 2021	-

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<b>Article 3 Advance Rulings</b>					
		B	See definitive date	1 January 2018	-
<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	-	-	-
<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	A	-	-	-
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	-	-	-
<b>Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods</b>					
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	A	-	-	-
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	B	See definitive date	1 January 2021	-
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	A	-	-	-
Article 7.4	Risk Management	A	-	-	-
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	A	-	-	-
Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	A	-	-	-
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	A	-	-	-
Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	A	-	-	-
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	A	-	-	-

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<b>Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation</b>					
Article 8.1		C	See definitive date	1 January 2022	Assistance and support is requested: - To learn about best practices in countries that have introduced joint border controls, so as to gain the necessary experience. - To ensure the interconnection of information systems between all foreign trade authorities, so that information is available to all and updated simultaneously.
Article 8.2		C	See definitive date	1 January 2022	Assistance and support is requested: - To learn about best practices in countries that have introduced joint border controls, so as to gain the necessary experience. - To ensure the interconnection of information systems between all foreign trade authorities, so that information is available to all and updated simultaneously.
<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	A	-	-	-
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	A	-	-	-
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	A	-	-	-
Article 10.4	Single Window	C	See definitive date	1 January 2022	Technical and financial support for:

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- acquiring equipment and licences and contracting specialized computer design and development services, with a view to the continued improvement of the Single Window for Exports system;</li> <li>- the provision of equipment and software to create a Single Foreign Trade Window for Imports, and the development of systems for each of the government agencies involved;</li> <li>- the provision of an expert to share, with the government agencies involved, best practices in regard to document simplification, data harmonization, interoperability and inter-agency collaboration;</li> </ul>
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- learning about WCO best practices;</li> <li>- human resource training;</li> <li>- capacity building for follow-up and strengthening of the project.</li> </ul>
Article 10.5	Pre-shipment Inspection	A	-	-	-
Article 10.6	Use of Customs Brokers	A	-	-	-
Article 10.7	Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements	C	See definitive date	1 January 2022	Technical assistance and support to streamline and optimize border processes and procedures with all institutions in order to ensure improved controls, eliminate unnecessary formalities and harmonize requirements for safeguarding international good practices.
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>					
		A	-	-	-
<b>Article 12 Customs Cooperation</b>					
		A	-	-	-