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Committee on Trade Facilitation

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

COMMUNICATION FROM UGANDA

The following communication, dated 13 January 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Uganda for Members' information.

Following up from the notification dated 7 August 2015 (WT/PCTF/N/UGA/1), Uganda 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)
Article 1 Publication and Availability of Information					
Article 1.1	Publication	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of a comprehensive trade information portal with advanced ICT infrastructure. 2. Documentation under the national trade portal/financial support for translation. 3. Review, develop and establish information management systems where they do not exist in other trade facilitating entities. 4. Review and develop appropriate statutory instruments necessary for the simplification of the TF initiatives and measures. 5. Purchase and install the required modern equipment and infrastructure. 6. Review and strengthen rules and regulations to support efficient management of trade information systems. 7. Develop and operationalize rules and guidelines for publishing information via internet taking into consideration the interests of the different stakeholders. 8. Develop and implement change management strategy in the different organisations/Training and sensitization of all stakeholders.
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of existing enquiry points, technology used, etc. 2. Establish a national enquiry and call centre to ensure that MTIC coordinates all the other institutions in this activity. 3. Purchase necessary equipment and train personnel. 4. Fund the national enquiry point. 5. Strengthen SPS and TBT Committees.
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	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 2.2	Consultations	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-

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Article 3 Advance Rulings					
		B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review					
		B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination and Transparency					
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and implement a project on standard operating procedures on import and rapid alert and border agency coordination. 2. Equip and establish infrastructure to detect food hazards, including early warning systems. 3. Develop and monitor implementation of a risk management strategy. 4. Administrative guidelines and standard operating procedures that will manage risks coming from the implementation of the national SPS framework. 5. Train Staff and stakeholders.
Article 5.2	Detention	A	-	-	-
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Laboratories at entry/exist points to undertake testing. 2. Upgrading of existing laboratories with relevant infrastructures. 3. Training of the Laboratories staff on the use of international best practices.
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	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 6.2	Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 6.3	Penalty Disciplines	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods					
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of the ICT infrastructure for the border agencies and acquisition of equipment.

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					2. Establishment of logistics centres at all the borders to provide that service.
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sensitization of stakeholders. 2. Develop and roll out relevant IT infrastructure and equipment. 3. Procure and deploy affordable and reliable internet interconnectivity. 4. Develop and implement training, sensitization and awareness programme. 5. Develop and implement change management programme. 6. Review and strengthen the legal framework to provide secure electronic payments. 7. Develop and implement a framework (including procedures, standards and regulations) to support the rolling out of e-payments. 8. Develop and expedite the implementation of the e-payment gateway.
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 7.4	Risk Management	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of the profiling mechanism and procedures in the customs and in other government agencies. 2. Training and capacity build border agencies on risk management. 3. Establish an ICT infrastructure to support national risk management framework. 4. Develop multi-agency risk management framework.
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	A	-	-	-
Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake national and EAC time Release studies. 2. Develop and implement a programme for training border and transit corridor personnel. 3. Develop and implement a framework for procuring professional firms to carry out periodic time release studies.

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					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Launch and monitor the carrying out of the periodic national and EAC time release studies and benchmark them against previous study results and the international best practices. 5. Identify performance gaps and propose measures to address them. 6. Develop and implement a coordination mechanism for improving border and transit operations and release times. 7. Develop, identify and agree the maximum target time release standards. 8. Train personnel. 9. Establish a coordination mechanism.
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sensitization of the private stakeholders. 2. Change management. 3. Develop a National mechanism for coordination and cooperation between Customs and other border agencies.
Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a legal regime, regulations and procedures. 2. Review of procedures in other agencies. 3. Amend the SPS Protocol.
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of laboratories and acquisition of equipment to undertake testing for all perishable goods at all the customs zones. 2. Train staff on handling perishable goods. 3. Develop or review of relevant laws and undertake necessary reforms.
Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation					
		C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review existing cooperation mechanisms both within Uganda and across borders. 2. Training (Coordinated Border Management). 3. Fund the border agencies.
Article 9 Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control					
		A	-	-	-

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Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit					
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A review of existing formalities be comprehensively carried out in relevant TF Agencies with a view of simplifying trade documents. 2. Harmonize national procedures at the border points with those of the bordering countries. 3. Simplify and standardize trade documents and making them easily available. 4. undertake legislative and regulatory review on procedures and documentation requirements. 5. Carry out stakeholders' sensitization on the revised procedures.
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine what happens in the other agencies and amend the law where necessary.
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	B	1 July 2020	1 July 2023	-
Article 10.4	Single Window	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ICT Infrastructure. 2. Institutional capacity development 3. Training of personnel and sensitization.
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	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of existing border/ administrative procedures with a view of simplifying documentation. 2. Training of experts and other stakeholders.
Article 10.8	Rejected Goods	A	-	-	-
Article 10.9	Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing	A	-	-	-
Article 11 Freedom of Transit					
		C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and harmonize axle load limits across the EAC region. 2. Review and harmonize compensation requirements under the COMESA Yellow Card (regional approach – Insurance). 3. Review difference in implementation of Yellow Card policy in Kenya and Uganda. 4. Sensitization

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Article 12	Customs Cooperation				
	C	1 July 2024	To be determined	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of current procedures. 2. Review of current legal requirements. 3. Establish legal requirements and implementation guidelines. 4. Sensitization both public and private sector. 	