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Committee on Trade Facilitation

Original: English

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

COMMUNICATION FROM SAMOA

The following communication, dated 27 August 2018, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Samoa for Members' information.

Following up from the notification dated 2 November 2015 (WT/PCTF/N/SAM/1), in which Samoa indicated its category A commitments, Samoa 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	22 February 2019	29 June 2019	-
Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	C	22 February 2021	To be determined	<p>Legal/Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake study to include stocktake of all trade information available online; identify gaps and assess Samoa's readiness to have a trade information portal/ website; cost and benefit analysis. Develop policy and legislate as necessary the mandate and process of publishing information; and having this information available online <p>Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of outdated Standard Operating Procedures <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of IT Staff to design, develop and maintain websites Training of Customs officials on the implementation of Standard Operating Procedures Relevant training of officials and private sector <p>Information and Communication Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and maintain a Trade Information Portal system (TIP) <p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate equipment and software programs for border agencies <p>Consultations/Public Awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder consultations on the potential TIP
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	B	22 February 2019	29 June 2019	-
Article 1.4	Notification	B	29 June 2021	29 June 2021	-
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	B	22 February 2019	29 June 2019	-
Article 3 Advance Rulings					
		A	-	-	-

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Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review					
		C	22 February 2020	To be determined	Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial (and technical support where relevant) assistance required for the initial set-up and operation of the Customs Appeal Authority for the first five years
Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination and Transparency					
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	B	22 February 2020	29 June 2020	-
Article 5.2	Detention	B	22 February 2020	29 June 2020	-
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	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	C	31 December 2019	To be determined	Human resources/Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and training for Customs officials on the implementation and application of this provision
Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods					
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	C	30 June 2019	To be determined	Human Resources/Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and training for Customs, Quarantine Biosecurity and Border agencies officials on the implementation and application of this provision Information and Communication Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the technological capacity of Customs officials in implementing this provision Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade existing Customs and Border agencies systems and infrastructure to facilitate Pre-arrival processing Upgrade and improvements to existing Quarantine Biosecurity infrastructure to facilitate pre-arrival processing

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Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	C	22 February 2020	To be determined	<p>Legal/Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing systems and policies. And determine feasibility and resources required to set-up and operate an electronic payment system <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and training for Customs, Quarantine Biosecurity and Border agencies officials on electronic payment <p>Information and Communication Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance technological capacity of border agencies and government agencies necessary to implement an electronic payment system <p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development, set-up and installation of appropriate technology and equipment to put in place an electronic payment system
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	B	22 February 2019	29 June 2020	-
Article 7.4	Risk Management	C	22 February 2023	To be determined	<p>Legal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review/develop legal basis to enhance coordination and collaboration between border agencies on risk identification and application of risk management <p>Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a risk management policy with target percentages of low/high risk cargo Develop a training plan for Customs, Quarantine Biosecurity and Border agencies officials on risk management targeting the application of risk management <p>Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and develop necessary procedures <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and training for Customs and Quarantine Biosecurity officials on risk management using transaction data from ASYCUDA system

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and Development for border agencies staff on risk identification and profiling <p>Information and Communication Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance technological capacity of Border agencies necessary to implement a proper risk management process/system <p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of Non-Intrusive Inspection equipment • Provision of appropriate technology and equipment to support the implementation of a proper risk management system
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	C	22 February 2023	To be determined	<p>Legal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop/review relevant legislations and policies for Post Clearance Audit (PCA) <p>Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a compliance assessment policy and procedure incorporating the connectivity with risk management • Develop a training plan/module to train Customs officials and agents on the concept of 'informed compliance' and train the target groups • Develop a methodology/approach to conduct a national compliance assessment on an annual basis <p>Procedures</p> <p>Develop and update processes and procedures that incorporate these aspects of PCA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft a compliance assessment policy and procedure incorporating the connectivity with risk management • Draft a training module to train Customs and the Agents on the concept of 'informed compliance' and train the target groups • Draft a methodology/approach to conduct a compliance assessment on an annual basis for the whole of Samoa • Conduct annual compliance assessments

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train Customs staff to conduct PCA as a compliance assessment tool <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building and training for Customs officials to conduct Post Clearance Audit as a compliance assessment tool • 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 <p>Information and Communication Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance technological capacity of Border agencies necessary to implement PCA <p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of appropriate technology and equipment to help implement PCA
Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	B	22 February 2019	29 June 2019	-
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	C	22 February 2023	To be determined	<p>Legal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop relevant legislation and policies to allow the setup of an Authorised Operators (AO) program <p>Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an Authorised Operators policy <p>Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop proper procedures and criteria for the assessment of authorised operators that meet specified criteria in the AO program <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building and training for Customs and Quarantine officials on the implementation of the AO program

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Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	C	22 February 2020	To be determined	Legal/Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop relevant legislation and policies Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of outdated Standard Operating Procedures Human Resources/Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of Customs and Border agencies officials on clearance of commercial cargos at the airports Training of Customs officials on the implementation of Standard Operating Procedures Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate equipment required such as x-rays, scanners and computers for border agencies
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	B	31 December 2019	31 December 2019	-
Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation					
		B	22 February 2019	29 June 2019	-
Article 9 Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control					
		B	22 February 2020	29 June 2021	-
Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit					
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	C	22 February 2020	To be determined	Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to customs to expedite publication and activation of the new draft procedures under the modernization program Information and Communication Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the technological capacity of Customs and border agencies officials to ensure full utilisation of the ASYCUDA World system Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade existing Customs system and infrastructure to implement this provision
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	B	22 February 2019	22 June 2019	-
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	A	-	-	-

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Article 10.4	Single Window	C	22 February 2022	To be determined	<p>Legal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review/develop relevant laws to facilitate the development of a comprehensive national single window Compliance review Develop Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with other agencies to enhance cooperation <p>Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a feasibility study to explore the viability of a national single window system Develop a strategy for the implementation of single window <p>Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop appropriate procedures and processes to facilitate the implementation of single window <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and training for Customs officials and border agencies on the implementation of single window system Capacity building for other government agencies and private sector on the implementation of single window system <p>Information and Communication Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of national ICT policies to facilitate the implementation of single window Enhance and upgrade technological capabilities of border agencies and government agencies necessary to implement the single window <p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of appropriate technology and equipment to help implement single window
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	A	-	-	-
Article 10.8	Rejected Goods	A	-	-	-

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Article 10.9	Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing	B	22 February 2019	29 June 2019	-
Article 11 Freedom of Transit		B	29 June 2019	29 June 2019	-
Article 12 Customs Cooperation		A	-	-	-