



31 May 2022

(22-4114)

Page: 1/1

Committee on Trade and Development

Original: English

NOTIFICATION OF REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT

1. Member(s) notifying: Seychelles
2. Date of notification: 27 May 2022
3. Notification pursuant to <input type="checkbox"/> Article XXIV:7(a) of GATT 1994 <input type="checkbox"/> Article V:7(a) of GATS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paragraph 4(a) of the Enabling Clause
4. Parties to the Agreement: Members of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA): Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe
5. Date of signature: November 2007
6. Date(s) of entry into Force: 11 May 2009
7. Brief description of the Agreement: <p>The COMESA FTA follows 3 main principles: (1) Zero tariff on goods originating from the COMESA FTA member states as defined by the COMESA Rules of Origin (RoO). (2) Individual member states will determine the tariff rates applied to goods originating from non-COMESA member states. (3) Removal of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) on COMESA goods.</p> <p>Seychelles joined COMESA in June 1993 when it was still the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern Africa. In November 2007, the Council of Ministers approved Seychelles' membership to the COMESA FTA and the subsequent COMESA FTA regulations were published in Seychelles on 25th May 2009 with effect from 11th May 2009.</p> <p>Seychelles acceded to the FTA with an agreed sensitive list of products, which includes certain agricultural products, alcohol and tobacco, on which customs duty would be maintained or gradually reduced over the years.</p>
8. Text and related schedules, annexes and protocols are: <input type="checkbox"/> submitted to the WTO Secretariat (electronic format) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> available from the following official Internet link(s): S.I. 50 of 2008 Trades Tax (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Free Trade Area) Regulations, 2009 https://www.comesa.int/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/comesa-treaty-revised-20092012_with-zaire_final.pdf