



23 January 2017

(17-0404)

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**Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation**

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION OF CATEGORY A, B AND C COMMITMENTS  
UNDER THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION**

COMMUNICATION FROM FIJI

The following communication, dated 17 January 2017, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Fiji.

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Pursuant to the Ministerial Decision of 7 December 2013 contained in document (WT/MIN(13)/36) and Article 15 of Section II of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation, the Republic of Fiji hereby makes the following notifications in accordance with Articles 15 and 16 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (WT/L/931).

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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	31 December 2019	To be determined	<p>Assistance required:</p> <p>Legal/Policy - Technical expertise to develop user friendly publications. Technical expertise in translating information in other 2 Official languages.</p> <p>Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance is required to review the range of publications produced by border agencies and develop more formal procedures in order to publish trade-related information in easily accessible manner and to provide measures to ensure that relevant agency staffs are aware of the obligation.</li> </ul> <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of all relevant border agency Officials to have better understanding of Fiji's international obligations, relevant domestic laws and roles and responsibilities of other border agencies to facilitate trade.</li> <li>• The training will also include identification of type of information that the agencies need to publish.</li> </ul> <p>ICT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop user friendly websites where all relevant information could be found easily.</li> <li>• Capacitate other border agencies with ICT systems.</li> </ul>

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Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	C	31 December 2019	To be determined	<p>Assistance required:</p> <p>Legal/Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require assistance to develop relevant legislations and policies in order to have information available through the internet.</li> </ul> <p>Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop user friendly import and export checklist, guidelines on export and import fees and charges.</li> </ul> <p>Human Resources/Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training of IT Staff to design, develop and maintain websites.</li> </ul> <p>ICT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some agencies lack sufficient and competent technical staff required to maintain the relevant websites. There is a need in agencies for technical experts to incorporate and maintain the content on an existing internet site (or sites), and ultimately to design, develop and maintain a new website.</li> <li>Assistance required to develop one stop shop online information centre for import, export and transit for all agencies.</li> <li>Assistance required to develop multi-language provision of information on government websites, including official languages.</li> <li>Infrastructure/Equipment - assistance required to assist border agencies with relevant equipment and software programs. Also require necessary website content management information technology typically used for rapid</li> </ul>

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					amendment to websites that allows communication of changes to all interested parties.
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	B	31 December 2019	To be determined	-
Article 1.4	Notification	B	30 June 2017	To be determined	-
<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	B	31 December 2017	To be determined	-
Article 2.2	Consultations	B	31 December 2019	To be determined	-
<b>Article 3 Advance Rulings</b>		C	31 December 2019	To be determined	Assistance Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal/Policy – Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority (FRCA) needs technical assistance to develop relevant laws and policies in order to undertake advance ruling.</li> <li>• Procedures – assistance to develop relevant procedures in order to implement and undertake advance rulings effectively.</li> <li>• Human Resources/Training – training and creating awareness of FRCA Officials on the importance of advance rulings and how it will be implemented.</li> <li>• ICT – Require technical assistance to integrate advance rulings into automated customs systems</li> <li>• Infrastructure/Equipment – to support the classification ruling process ideally, assistance is required in terms of having better laboratories to test for classification of products.</li> </ul>
<b>Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review</b>		C	31 December 2019	To be determined	Assistance Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal/Policy - technical assistance to relevant agencies to develop policies and laws in order to put in place effective procedure for appeals and review.</li> <li>• Procedures – require assistance to develop directives on appeals which is an information strategy to ensure the business community is fully aware of the</li> </ul>

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>appeals system.</li> <li>Also requires assistance to bring the appeal and review mechanisms/procedures within other border agencies.</li> <li>Human Resources/Training – technical assistance to develop capacity in relevant agencies to have a greater understanding of procedures for review and appeal.</li> <li>Develop publications to create awareness within the private sector of this particular provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination and Transparency</b>					
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	B	31 December 2019	To be determined	-
Article 5.2	Detention	A	-	-	-
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	C	31 December 2021	To be determined	Assistance Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal/ Policy – develop relevant laws and policies for agencies such as FRCA and Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) to ensure traders have access to second testing.</li> <li>Human Resources/Training – capacity building for relevant border agencies, laboratory technicians and academic institutions on secondary testing.</li> <li>Institutions - technical assistance and capacity building is needed for academic institutions, public and private laboratories to provide second testing.</li> <li>Infrastructure/Equipment – establishment of accredited laboratory/laboratories to undertake second testing.</li> </ul>
<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	B	31 December 2017	To be determined	-
Article 6.2	Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	A	-	-	-

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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	31 December 2019	To be determined	-
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	A	-	-	-
Article 7.4	Risk Management	C	31 December 2019	To be determined	<p>Assistance Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal/Policy – Technical assistance required to develop a mechanism to ensure enhanced coordination and collaboration between border agencies on risk identification and application of risk management.</li> <li>• Procedures – technical assistance to develop necessary procedures that ensures effective implementation of risk management system.</li> <li>• Human Resources/Training – technical assistance to develop capacity in relevant border agencies to have a full understanding and application of risk management system.</li> <li>• ICT – assistance required to acquire as well as enhance technological capabilities necessary to implement a proper risk management process.</li> <li>• Infrastructure/Equipment – assistance to have relevant technology such as x-ray machines, scanners, laboratory testing facilities in order to implement a proper risk management system.</li> </ul>
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	A	-	-	-

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Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	C	31 December 2019	To be determined	Assistance Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procedures – Assistance need to put in place systems to meet TFA requirements to be able to regularly measure and publish average release times.</li> <li>Human Resources/Training – assistance to build capacity within relevant border agency officials to conduct TRS.</li> <li>ICT/Equipment – require assistance to develop and implement automated system to eliminate inaccuracies in the measurement of time taken for processes.</li> </ul>
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	C	31 December 2019	To be determined	Assistance Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal/Policy – assistance required to develop a more open accredited client scheme (which is non-discriminatory e.g. Gold card Scheme) to comply with customs and other related laws and regulations.</li> <li>Procedures – assistance to develop proper procedures with transparent criteria to be applied to assess authorised operators that meet specified criteria in a trusted trade program e.g. Gold card Scheme.</li> <li>Human Resources/Training – capacity building for all border agencies such FRCA and BAF is needed to ensure full compliance with this measure.</li> </ul>
Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	A	-	-	-
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	A	-	-	-
<b>Article 8</b>	<b>Border Agency Cooperation</b>	B	31 December 2017	To be determined	-
<b>Article 9</b>	<b>Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control</b>	A	-	-	-

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<b>Article 10 Formalities connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit</b>					
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	C	31 December 2019	To be determined	Assistance Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal/Policy - technical assistance to review relevant laws in order to streamline import and export permits and other necessary requirements. Assistance is needed to develop a government-wide strategy to replace all documentation with electronic processing especially in other border related agencies.</li> <li>• Procedures - Assistance needed to streamline procedures across border agencies to avoid duplication of both procedures and documentation in order to facilitate trade.</li> <li>• Institutions - technical assistance needed to promote border coordination as well as assist other agencies to transition to electronic documents.</li> <li>• Human Resources/Training - capacity building for relevant border agency Officials to ensure enhanced border coordination.</li> <li>• ICT - Assistance needed to capacitate other agencies with ICT tools and enablers in order to meet international standards for computerised system as well as expedite clearance.</li> </ul>
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	A	-	-	-
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	B	31 December 2021	To be determined	-



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Article 10.4	Single Window	C	31 December 2021	To be determined	<p>Assistance Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal/Policy - technical assistance to review relevant laws in order to develop comprehensive nation single window.</li> </ul> <p>Technical assistance needed leading to setting a clear time scale of Single Window role out and implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procedures - development of efficient procedures and checklist in order to implement national single window effectively.</li> <li>• Institutions - technical assistance to build capacity in relevant border agencies in order to implement national single window.</li> <li>• Human Resources/Training capacity building needed for relevant border agency Officials and business community to be sensitised, equipped and trained in order to implement national single window.</li> <li>• ICT -assistance to ensure reasonable to high level access to IT equipment's especially for other border agencies.</li> <li>• Infrastructure/Equipment - assistance required in setting up and installing appropriate IT equipment's and systems in some agencies and at ports of entry.</li> </ul>
Article 10.5	Pre-shipment Inspection	A	-	-	-
Article 10.6	Use of Customs Brokers	B	31 December 2017	To be determined	-
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	-	-	-

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<b>Article 11</b>	<b>Freedom of Transit</b>				
	Transit Charges, Regulations and Formalities (Paragraph 1 - 3)	B	31 December 2017	To be determined	-
	Strengthen Non-Discrimination (Paragraph 4)	A	-	-	-
	Transit Procedures and Controls (Paragraphs 5-10)	A	-	-	-
	Guarantees (Paragraphs 11- 15)	A	-	-	-
	Cooperation and Coordination (Paragraphs 16 - 17)	A	-	-	-
<b>Article 12</b>	<b>Customs Cooperation</b>	B	31 December 2017	To be determined	-