

CUSTOMS BILL
CONSULTATION
WORKSHOP:
“A Public Private
Initiative”

TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST,
2020.



“TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT: *Opportunities, Obligations And Requirements*”

OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- ❑ Key Features of the TFA
- ❑ Objectives of TFA
- ❑ Barbados’s Obligations & Requirements
- ❑ Opportunities

WTO TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

- Negotiated by all members and is legally binding.
- Requires a multi-agency approach.
- National Committee to oversee implementation
- Implementation flexibilities for developing and least developed countries.

WTO TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

OBJECTIVES

- Expedite movement, release & clearance of goods
- Improve cooperation between customs/other authorities
- Enhance technical assistance and build capacity



Section I

The trade facilitation Agreement contains 12 Articles with approximately 40 “technical measures”



Article 1
Publication & Availability of Information



Article 5
Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination & Transparency



Article 9
Movement under Customs Control



Article 2
Comment and Consultations



Article 6
Disciplines on Fees and Charges



Article 10
Import, Export & Transit Formalities



Article 3
Advance Rulings



Article 7
Release and Clearance of Goods



Article 11
Freedom of transit



Article 4
Procedures for Appeal or Review



Article 8
Border Agency Cooperation



Article 12
Customs Cooperation

TRADE FACILITATION MEASURES

Transparency and Appeals

Publication/ Internet Publication
Enquiry Point for trade information
Opportunity to comment
Consultations
Advance Rulings
Right of appeal

Transit

Restrictions on fees and charges
Use of guarantee

Customs Cooperation

Import/Export/Transit Fees and Formalities

Disciplines on fees
Pre-arrival processing
Risk Management
Post clearance audit
Publish average release times
Authorised operators
Border Agency Cooperation

Review formalities and documents

Single Window
Eliminate use of PSI for tariff
classification and customs valuation
Separate release from clearance



Section II

Special provisions for developing and least-developed country Members



Category A

Developing: To be implemented at the time the TFA enters into force

LDCs: To be implemented within one year after the TFA enters into force



Category B

To be implemented after a transitional period following the entry into force of the TFA



Category C

To be implemented after a transitional period and requiring the acquisition of assistance and support for capacity building

IMPLEMENTATION OBLIGATIONS

Category A- 22 measures to be implemented upon entry of force of the Agreement

Category B – 20 measures to be implemented overtime

Category C - 13 measures to be implemented with time and technical assistance

TFA Implementation Timeline:

START
2017

END
2028

Section III: National TF Committee

NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON TRADE AND BUSINESS FACILITATION

- Chairman: Mrs. Katrina Bradshaw, Ministry of Small Business, Entrepreneurship and Commerce
- Deputy Chairman- Ms. Cheryl Ann Cumberbatch (Deputy Comptroller)

**Private
Sector Associations**

**Government
Agencies**

OPPORTUNITIES

Access to trade-related information

Publication Descriptions of procedures

Enquiry point

Advance rulings

Consultation

Import/export documentary requirements

Forms & documents easily accessible

Review documents & formalities

Single window Accept copies of supporting documents

OPPORTUNITIES

Import/export controls (e.g. tests) and inspections

Detention notice

2nd test Notification system fair Border agency cooperation

Release and clearance of goods

Pre-arrival processing

E-payment Separation of release from clearance

Use of risk management

Authorized operator

Expedited shipment

Average release times

STATE OF PLAY

Barbados		2019	2020
Doing Business Ranking		132	128
Trading Across Borders Ranking		132	132
Time to Export	Border Compliance (hrs)	41	41
	Documentary Compliance (hrs)	54	48

Barbados		2019	2020
Cost to Export	Border Compliance (US)	\$350	\$ 486
	Documentary Compliance (US)	\$ 109	\$117
Time to Import	Border Compliance (hrs)	104	81
	Documentary Compliance (hrs)	74	46
Cost to Import	Border Compliance (US)	\$1,585	\$1,776
	Documentary Compliance (US)	\$146	\$150



THANK YOU