DOHA WORK PROGRAMME

Ministerial Declaration

Adopted on 18 December 2005

Annex E

Trade Facilitation

Report by the Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation to the TNC

PROPOSED MEASURES TO IMPROVE AND CLARIFY GATT ARTICLES V, VIII AND X

A. Publication and Availability of Information
   • Publication of Trade Regulations
   • Publication of Penalty Provisions
   • Internet Publication
     (a) of elements set out in Article X of GATT 1994
     (b) of specified information setting forth procedural sequence and other requirements for importing goods
   • Notification of Trade Regulations
   • Establishment of Enquiry Points/SNFP/Information Centres
   • Other Measures to Enhance the Availability of Information

B. Time Periods Between Publication and Implementation
   • Interval between Publication and Entry into Force

C. Consultation and Comments on New and Amended Rules
   • Prior Consultation and Commenting on New and Amended Rules
   • Information on Policy Objectives Sought

D. Advance Rulings
   • Provision of Advance Rulings

E. Appeal Procedures
   • Right of Appeal
   • Release of Goods in Event of Appeal

F. Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality and Non-Discrimination
   • Uniform Administration of Trade Regulations
   • Maintenance and Reinforcement of Integrity and Ethical Conduct Among Officials
(a) Establishment of a Code of Conduct  
(b) Computerized System to Reduce/Eliminate Discretion  
(c) System of Penalties  
(d) Technical Assistance to Create/Build up Capacities to Prevent and Control Customs Offences  
(e) Appointment of Staff for Education and Training  
(f) Coordination and Control Mechanisms  

G. FEES AND CHARGES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION  
• General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation  
   (a) Specific Parameters for Fees/Charges  
   (b) Publication/Notification of Fees/Charges  
   (c) Prohibition of Collection of Unpublished Fees and Charges  
   (d) Periodic Review of Fees/Charges  
   (e) Automated Payment  
• Reduction/Minimization of the Number and Diversity of Fees/Charges  

H. FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION  
• Disciplines on Formalities/Procedures and Data/Documentation Requirements Connected with Importation and Exportation  
   (a) Non-discrimination  
   (b) Periodic Review of Formalities and Requirements  
   (c) Reduction/Limitation of Formalities and Documentation Requirements  
   (d) Use of International Standards  
   (e) Uniform Customs Code  
   (f) Acceptance of Commercially Available Information and of Copies  
   (g) Automation  
   (h) Single Window/One-time Submission  
   (i) Elimination of Pre-Shipmenl Inspection  
   (j) Phasing out Mandatory Use of Customs Brokers  

I. CONSULARIZATION  
• Prohibition of Consular Transaction Requirement  

J. BORDER AGENCY COOPERATION  
• Coordination of Activities and Requirement of all Border Agencies  

K. RELEASE AND CLEARANCE OF GOODS  
• Expedited/Simplified Release and Clearance of Goods
(a) Pre-arrival Clearance  
(b) Expedited Procedures for Express Shipments  
(c) Risk Management/Analysis, Authorized Traders  
(d) Post-Clearance Audit  
(e) Separating Release from Clearance Procedures  
(f) Other Measures to Simplify Customs Release and Clearance  

- Establishment and Publication of Average Release and Clearance Times

L. **TARIFF CLASSIFICATION**

- Objective Criteria for Tariff Classification

M. **MATTERS RELATED TO GOODS TRANSIT**

- Strengthened Non-discrimination  
- Disciplines on Fees and Charges  
  (a) Publication of Fees and Charges and Prohibition of Unpublished ones  
  (b) Periodic Review of Fees and Charges  
  (c) More effective Disciplines on Charges for Transit  
  (d) Periodic Exchange Between Neighbouring Authorities
- Disciplines on Transit Formalities and Documentation Requirements  
  (a) Periodic Review  
  (b) Reduction/Simplification  
  (c) Harmonization/Standardization  
  (d) Promotion of Regional Transit Arrangements  
  (e) Simplified and Preferential Clearance for Certain Goods  
  (f) Limitation of Inspections and Controls  
  (g) Sealing  
  (h) Cooperation and Coordination on Document Requirements  
  (i) Monitoring  
  (j) Bonded Transport Regime/Guarantees

- Improved Coordination and Cooperation  
  (a) Amongst Authorities  
  (b) Between Authorities and the Private Sector

- Operationalization and Clarification of Terms

II. **PROPOSED PROVISIONS FOR EFFECTIVE COOPERATION BETWEEN CUSTOMS AND OTHER AUTHORITIES ON TRADE FACILITATION AND CUSTOMS COMPLIANCE**

- Multilateral Mechanism for the Exchange and Handling of Information

III. **CROSS-CUTTING SUBMISSIONS**

1. **Needs and Priorities Identification**

- General tool to assess needs and priorities and current levels of trade facilitation
• Take result of assessment as one basis for establishing trade facilitation rules, arranging S&D treatment and providing technical assistance and capacity building support

2. Technical Assistance and Capacity Building
   - Technical Assistance and Capacity Building in the Course of the Negotiations
   - Identification of Needs and Priorities
   - Compilation of Needs and Priorities of Individual Members
   - Support for Clarification and Educative Process Including Training
   - Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Beyond the Negotiations Phase
   - Implementation of the Outcome
   - Coordination Mechanisms for Implementing Needs and Priorities as well as Commitments

3. Multiple-Areas
   - Identification of Trade Facilitation Needs and Priorities of Members
   - Cost Assessment
   - Inter-Agency Cooperation
   - Links and Inter-relationship between the Elements of Annex D
   - Inventory of Trade Facilitation Measures
   - Assessment of the Current Situation
   - Timing and Sequencing of Measures