



WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Current Status and Relationship to UNECE Recommendations and Standards

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25th UN/CEFACT Forum, April 2015

WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

- Current status of the Agreement
- The Measures contained in the Agreement
- Relevance to UN/CEFACT

Bali, 7 December 2013





WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

WT/L/931

15 July 2014

(14-4101)

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Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation

AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION*

Preamble

Members,

Protocol of Amendment – 27 November 2014

IV. Protocol of Amendment [back to top](#)

WTO members adopted on 27 November 2014 a [Protocol of Amendment](#) to insert the new Agreement into Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement. The Trade Facilitation Agreement will enter into force once two-thirds of members have completed their domestic ratification process.

- [How to accept the Protocol of Amendment to insert the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement into Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement](#)
Background information for Members on procedures.

V. Notifications [back to top](#)

- Notifications of Category A commitments (Document code WT/PCTF/N/*)

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WTO AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION (WTO TFA)

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- **ARTICLE 7: RELEASE AND CLEARANCE OF GOODS**
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- **ARTICLE 10: FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION AND TRANSIT**
- **ARTICLE 11: FREEDOM OF TRANSIT**
- **ARTICLE 12: CUSTOMS COOPERATION**

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- **ARTICLE 10: FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION AND TRANSIT**
- ARTICLE 11: FREEDOM OF TRANSIT
- ARTICLE 12: CUSTOMS COOPERATION

ARTICLE 10: FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION AND TRANSIT

- 1. Formalities and Documentation Requirements**
- 2. Acceptance of copies**
- 3. Use of international standards**
- 4. Single Window**
- 5. Pre-shipment inspection**
- 6. Use of Customs Brokers**
- 7. Common Border Procedures and Uniform Document Requirements**
- 8. Rejected goods**
- 9. Temporary admission of goods/ inward and outward processing**

10.1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements

1.1 With a view to minimizing the incidence and complexity of import, export, and transit formalities ... each Member shall review such formalities and documentation requirements and, based on the results of the review, ensure, as appropriate, that such formalities and documentation requirements are

10.1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements

- (a) adopted and/or applied with a view to a rapid release and clearance of goods, particularly perishable goods;
- (b) adopted and/or applied in a manner that aims at reducing the time and cost of compliance for traders and operators;
- (c) the least trade restrictive measure chosen where two or more alternative measures are reasonably available for fulfilling the policy objective or objectives in question;
and
- (d) not maintained, including parts thereof, if no longer required.

Article 10.1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements

WTO TFA Article 10.1	UNECE UN/CEFACT Instruments	Links
Formalities and Documentation Requirements	<p>Recommendation 1 on the UN Layout Key</p> <p>Recommendation 4 on Trade Facilitation Bodies</p> <p>Recommendation 18 on Facilitation Measures related to International Trade Procedures</p> <p>UNNExT Guide on Business Process Analysis (UNECE & UNESCAP)</p> <p>UNNExT Guide for the Design of Aligned Trade Forms for Paperless Trade (UNECE & UNESCAP)</p>	<p>Document alignment</p> <p>Business Process Analysis</p> <p>UNECE and UN/CEFACT Recommendations</p> <p>UN Layout Key</p> <p>UNNExT Guide on Business Process Analysis</p> <p>IMO standardised documents</p> <p>Revised Kyoto Convention</p> <p>FAL Convention</p> <p>UNCTAD technical notes</p>

10.3 Use of International Standards

- 3.1 Members are encouraged to use relevant international standards or parts thereof as a basis for their import, export, or transit formalities and procedures, except as otherwise provided for in this Agreement.
- 3.2 Members are encouraged to take part, within the limits of their resources, in the preparation and periodic review of relevant international standards by appropriate international organizations.
- 3.3 The Committee may also invite relevant international organizations to discuss their work on international standards. As appropriate, the Committee may identify specific standards that are of particular value to Members.

Article 10.3 Use of International Standards

WTO TFA Article 10.3	UNECE UN/CEFACT Instruments	Links
Use of International Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 18 on Facilitation Measures related to International Trade Procedures • Recommendation 25 on use of UN/EDIFACT • UN/TDED • UN/EDIFACT • Code Lists • Core Component Library (CCL) • WCO Data Model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Data models</u> <u>Technical specifications</u> <u>Code lists</u> <u>UNECE and UN/CEFACT Recommendations</u> <u>UN/TDED</u> <u>UN/EDIFACT CCL</u> <u>WCO Data Model</u> <u>UNCTAD technical</u>

10.4 Single Window

4.1 Members shall endeavour to establish or maintain a single window, enabling traders to submit documentation and/or data requirements for importation, exportation, or transit of goods through a single entry point to the participating authorities or agencies.

4.2 In cases where documentation and/or data requirements have already been received through the single window, the same documentation and/or data requirements shall not be requested by participating authorities or agencies except in urgent circumstances and other limited exceptions which are made public.

4.4 Members shall, to the extent possible and practicable, use information technology to support the single window.

Article 10.4 Single Window

Single Window

- Recommendation 25 on use of UN/EDIFACT
- Recommendation 33 and Guidelines on establishing a Single Window
- Recommendation 34 Data Simplification and Standardization for International Trade
- Recommendation 35 on establishing a legal framework for international Single Window for trade
- UNNExT Data Harmonisation and Modelling Guide
- UNNExT Single Window Project Implementation Guide

WCO RKC GA Ch. 3

WCO SAFE

WCO Compendium How to build a Single Window Environment

WCO Data Model

IMO Recommendation on Maritime Single Window

[Single Window for trade](#)

[Data models](#)

[Code lists](#)

[Revised Kyoto Convention](#)

[WCO SAFE](#)

[UNECE and UN/CEFACT Recommendations](#)

[UNNExT Data Harmonisation and Modelling Guide](#)

[UNNExT Single Window Project](#)

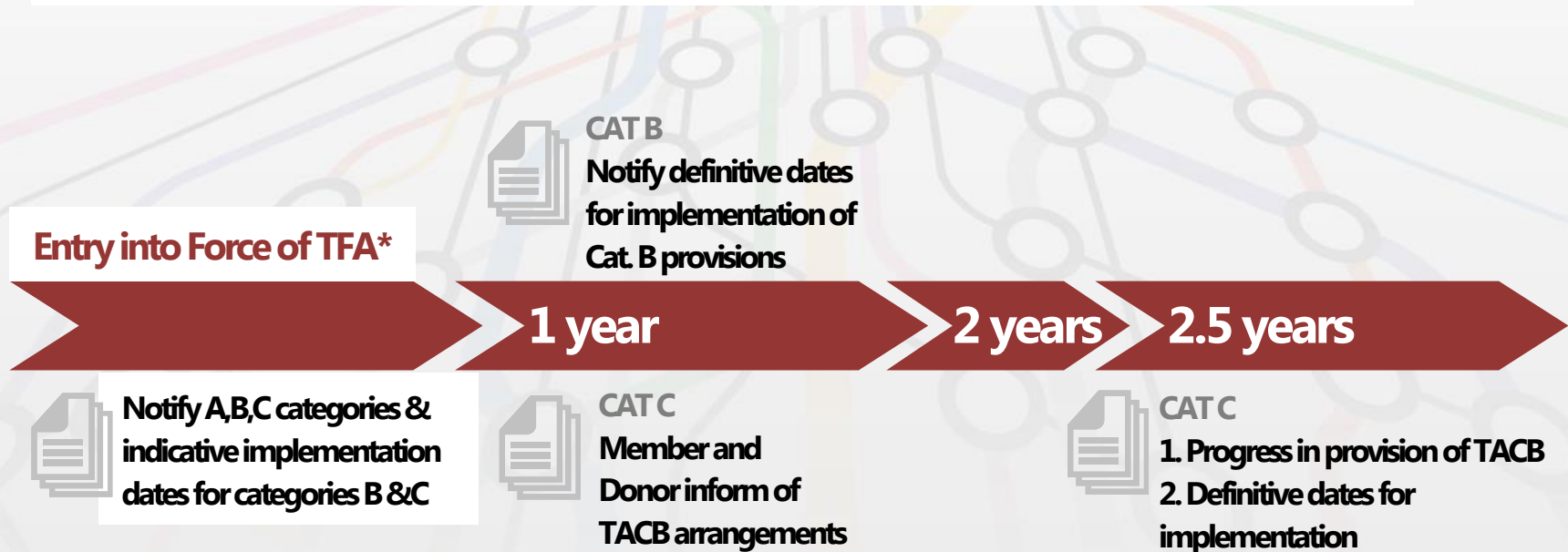
[WCO Single Window Compendium](#)

[WCO Data Model](#)

Implementation Progress

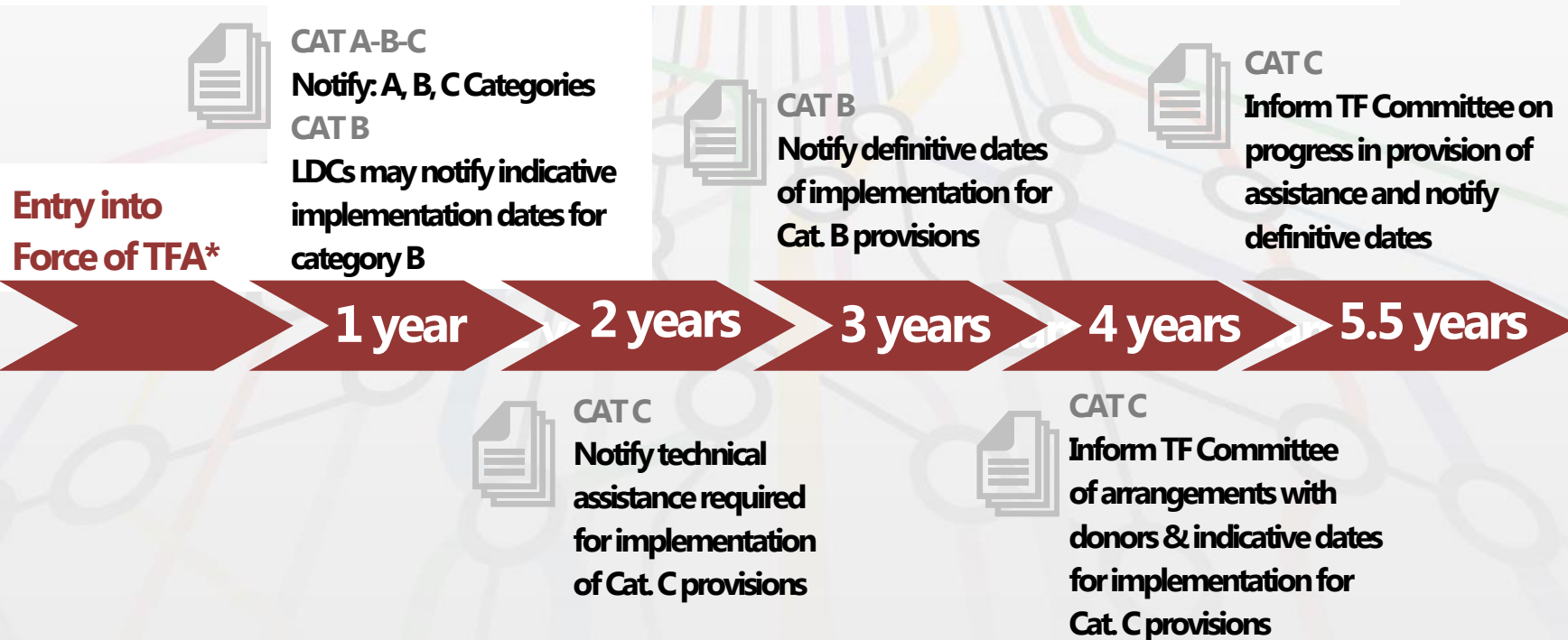
- Agreement will come into force when 2/3 of WTO members Ratify the Agreement (108 Members)
- No deadline for this
- Developing and LDC countries have more time and flexibility

Figure 1: Developing Countries Notification for all categories of provisions



* Entry into force of TFA when 2/3 of Members ratify. Obligations for an individual country will only commence once this country completed its ratification process as well.

Figure 2: LDCs Notification for all categories of provisions



* Entry into force of TFA when 2/3 of Members ratify. Obligations for an individual country will only commence once this country completed its ratification process as well.

Acceptance of Protocol - as advised by the WTO - 17 April 2015

- **Hong Kong, China**
- **Singapore**
- **United States**
- **Mauritius**

Category A Notifications to date (from WTO):

1. Hong Kong China
2. Mexico
3. Costa Rica
4. Korea
5. Colombia
6. Singapore
7. Chinese Taipei (TPKM)
8. Paraguay
9. China
10. Nicaragua
11. Mauritius
12. Turkey
13. Honduras
14. Saudi Arabia
15. Malaysia
16. Kuwait
17. Chile
18. Qatar
19. Thailand
20. Peru

21. Uruguay
22. El Salvador
23. Brazil
24. Mongolia
25. Morocco
26. Vietnam
27. Tajikistan
28. Dominican Republic
29. Sri Lanka
30. Israel
31. Philippines
32. Guatemala
33. Ecuador
34. Kyrgyz Republic
35. Panama
36. Indonesia
37. Republic of Congo
38. Cote d'Ivoire
39. Ukraine
40. Brunei Darussalam

41. Oman
42. Albania
43. Moldova
44. Tunisia
45. Jordan
46. Montenegro
47. Botswana
48. Senegal (LDC)
49. Nigeria
50. Macao, China
51. Gabon
52. Egypt
53. Macedonia
54. Jamaica
55. Pakistan



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Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation

Original: English

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

COMMUNICATION FROM JORDAN

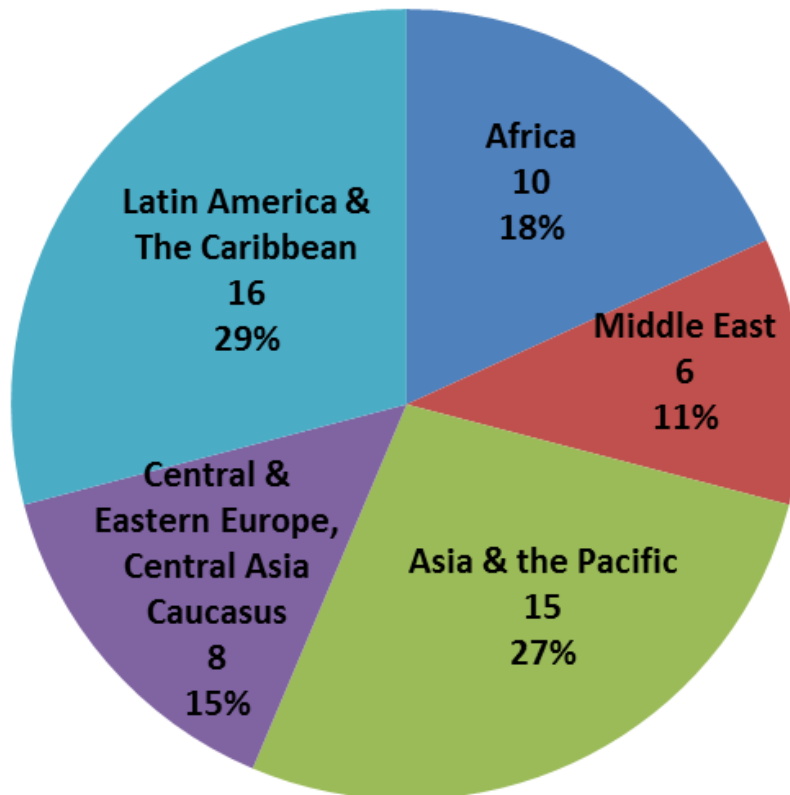
The following communication dated 3 September 2014 to the Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation is being circulated at the request of Jordan for Members' information.

Pursuant to the Ministerial Decision of 7 December 2013 (WT/MIN(13)/36, WT/L/911), the Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation established under the General Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Preparatory Committee") shall, *inter alia*, receive Members' notifications of category A commitments under the Agreement on Trade Facilitation (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement").

With reference to the above, the Government of Jordan has the honour to notify the Preparatory Committee that it designates all of the provisions contained in Section I of the Agreement (annexed to the above-mentioned Ministerial Decision) under Category A for implementation in full upon the entry into force of the Agreement, except for the following:

Article 1.1	Publication
Article 1.2	Information Available Through Internet
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points
Article 3.1	Advance Rulings
Article 6.1	General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies
Article 10.4	Single Window
Article 11.5-10	Transit Procedures and Controls

55 notifications received - Regional breakdown



Section III Article 23: Institutional Arrangements

23.2 National Committee on Trade Facilitation

Each Member shall establish and/or maintain a national committee on trade facilitation or designate an existing mechanism to facilitate both domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions of this Agreement.

- Recommendation 4 (and revision thereof)
- Recommendation 40
- TFIG
- UNECE TF Road Map Guide
- MOU between UNECE, UNCTAD and ITC

Thank You

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