Solomon Islands

Ratified Agreement: Yes
Ratification Date: 2022-04-14

<table>
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**Legend:**
- Yes: Notification presented
- No: Notification due
- Notification not yet due
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<tr>
<td>2.1 Comments and information before entry into force</td>
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<td>2.2 Consultations</td>
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<td>3 Advance rulings</td>
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<td>4 Procedures for appeal or review</td>
<td>by 22 February 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.1 Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections</td>
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<td>by 31 December 2040</td>
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<td>5.2 Detention</td>
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<td>by 31 December 2040</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.3 Test procedures</td>
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<td>by 31 December 2040</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.1 General disciplines on fees and charges</td>
<td>by 31 December 2024</td>
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<td>6.2 Specific disciplines on fees and charges</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.1 Pre-arrival processing</td>
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<td>7.2 Electronic payment</td>
<td>by 31 December 2021</td>
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<td>7.3 Separation of release</td>
<td>by 22 February 2020</td>
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<td>7.4 Risk management</td>
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<td>7.5 Post-clearance audit</td>
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<td>7.6 Average release times</td>
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<td>7.7 Authorized operators</td>
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<td>7.8 Expedited shipments</td>
<td>by 22 February 2018</td>
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<td>7.9 Perishable goods</td>
<td>by 22 February 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Border Agency Cooperation</td>
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<td>by 31 December 2040</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Movement of goods</td>
<td>by 22 February 2018</td>
<td>by 22 February 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.1 Formalities</td>
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<td>10.2 Acceptance of copies</td>
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<td>10.3 Use of international standards</td>
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<td>10.5 Preshipment inspection</td>
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<td>10.6 Use of customs brokers</td>
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<td>10.7 Common border procedures</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.8 Rejected Goods</td>
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<td>10.9 Temporary admission of goods and inward and outward processing</td>
<td>by 22 February 2018</td>
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<td>11 Transit</td>
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</tr>
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### Notifications and other documents

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<td>Arrangements and progress in the provision of technical assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>G/TFA/N/SLB/1</td>
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<td>WT/PCTF/N/SLB/1</td>
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</table>
3 Advance rulings

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2040

Assistance required for implementation

• Institutional Procedures:
  To implement advanced rulings procedures, if an appropriate body is required to be set up. Advanced rulings contained in legislation but require support to implement necessary steps.
  • Human Resources and Training:
    To enable adequate provision of necessary information by local customs staff and training on complex HS and customs valuation issues.

Tags: Legislative and regulatory framework, Institutional procedures, Human resources and training

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors. Technical Assistance required:
• for training support and Policy development and review of regulatory framework.
• To establish Sectoral Unit to manage and enforce the Advance Ruling requirements.
Procedures for appeal or review

4.1 (a), (b)
4.2
4.3
4.4 (a), (b), paragraph
4.5
4.6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicative date of implementation</th>
<th>Definitive date of implementation</th>
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<tr>
<td>22 February 2022</td>
<td>31 December 2040</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Assistance required for implementation**

- **Institutional Procedures:**
  To set up complaints and appeals review process. BSI has a unit that deals with review procedures, but wider support required to improve functioning.
- **Human Resources and Training:**
  To manage appeals board.

**Tags:** Legislative and regulatory framework, Institutional procedures, Human resources and training

**Donor Agencies:** to be determined

**Progress reported**

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors. Technical Assistance required:

- **To develop Policies and Institutional Procedures linking Border Agencies for processing appeals.**
- Need to establish an Administrative appeal authority.
5.1 Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections

<table>
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<tr>
<th>5.1 (a), (b), (c), (d)</th>
<th>Indicative date of implementation</th>
<th>Definitive date of implementation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31 December 2025</td>
<td>31 December 2040</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Assistance required for implementation

- Biosecurity to develop risk management manual for all products with the eventual thinking of incorporating it to the upgraded version of Asycuda World. We review our Needs assessment on this measure and the World Bank Group report indicated then that Biosecurity needs to have a pure foods act and that biosecurity also needs to develop their risk management manual to be able to comply with the measure. During the assessment we were still using PC trade.

Tags: Diagnostic and Needs Assessment

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors.

Technical Assistance required:
- Need support to reflect the provisions of the WTO agreement including other international and regional agreements in the draft legislation.
- A need for support on training and development of relevant Government stakeholder's requirements on imports. This may include new changes and review of Border agencies legislations.
- Need storage facilities in place to store detained goods for necessary inspection by relevant borders agencies.
5.2 Detention

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicative date of implementation</th>
<th>Definitive date of implementation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 February 2027</td>
<td>31 December 2040</td>
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</table>

**Assistance required for implementation**

- Infrastructure support:
  Required to build detention facility as part of the wider testing facility required under Art. 5.3.
- Diagnostic and Needs Assessment:
  To determine what infrastructure is required for testing and detention facilities to ensure compliance.

**Tags:** Infrastructure and equipment, Diagnostic and Needs Assessment

**Donor Agencies:** to be determined

**Progress reported**

All importers are currently advised electronically on pending detention of goods for examination.

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors.

Technical Assistance required:
- A need for Infrastructure support: Required to build detention facility as part of the wider testing facility required under Art. 5.3.
- Training and review of the relevant Legislations and requirements to improve the required provision on imports.
5.3  Test procedures

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<tr>
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Indicative date of implementation

22 February 2027

Definitive date of implementation

31 December 2040

Assistance required for implementation

- Infrastructure and equipment:
  Support to build a testing facility to carry out inspections at border posts.
- Institutional Procedures:
  Once infrastructure provided, required to set up and manage testing facility.
- Human Resources and Training:
  Of personnel working in the National Public Health Laboratory and other labs to carry out tests on imported and exported food products for nutrient content and other risk factors.
  Skill development for Environmental Health Officers to inspect and detect high risk food.

Tags: Infrastructure and equipment, Institutional procedures, Human resources and training

Shift from Cat. B to Cat. C notification.

Donor Agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization, Enhanced Integrated Framework

Progress reported

STDF project through FAO “Strengthening the capacity of the National Public Health Laboratory to provide services in support of Market Access for Solomon Islands Fish Exporters” June 2017-June 2022. The support was in targeting NPHL meeting international accreditation for accrediting the Microbiology Unit – this accreditation is still in progress. EIF in 2021 also supported in construction of NPHL Office facilities, trainings and equipment's. NPHL is still working on accrediting the Microbiology Unit of the NPHL to ISO 17025 under NATA & IANZ and to have the Chemistry Unit of the NPHL accredited if and when resources are made available.

Technical Assistance required:

- Infrastructure and Equipment:
  Support to build a Testing facility to carry out inspections at the border.
- Institutional Procedures:
  Once infrastructure provided, required to set up and manage testing facility.
- Human Resource and training:
  National Public Health Laboratory and other laboratories to carryout test on targeted imported and exported food products.
- Skill development for Environment Health Officers to inspect and detect high-risk food.
### 7.1 Pre-arrival processing

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<td>22 February 2022</td>
<td>31 December 2036</td>
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</table>

**Assistance required for implementation**

- **ICT:**
  For setting up electronic submission facilities for pre-arrival processing equipment and to improve clearance times in Customs and other agencies.
- **Human Resources and Training:**
  To handle submission and processing of documentation in electronic format.

**Tags:** *Information and communication technologies (ICT), Human resources and training*

Shift from Cat. B to Cat. C notification.

**Donor Members:** Australia

**Donor Agencies:** United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

**Progress reported**

**Status 2016:**
The electronic cargo report was facilitated under the ASYCUDA system in 2016; Customs Rule, LN 35 of 22.04.15 under Customs & Excise Act 2009. This was achieved through working together with Border agencies; Shipping/Customs Agents. The ASYCUDA National Project commenced in 2012 and completed around 2017. Support of the project was from UNCTAD and DFAT Australia in 2016.

**Status 2022:**
Covid-19 has delayed major upgrade of ASYCUDA world to the latest cargo version.

Solomon Islands needs further support on:

- Harmonizing processes for all relevant border agencies and how to manage all necessary risks involved.
- **ICT/ASYCUDA:**
  For setting up electronic submission facilities for pre-arrival processing equipment and to improve clearance times in Customs and other agencies.
- **Human resource and training:**
  To handle submission and processing of documents in electronic format.
Indicative date of implementation  
22 February 2020

Definitive date of implementation  
31 December 2036

Assistance required for implementation

- Technical Assistance needed.
- Customs is doing it on a case-by-case basis.
- Potential high risk of revenue evasion using this procedure.

Tags: Legislative and regulatory framework, Human resources and training

Shift from Cat. B to Cat. C notification.

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors.

Solomon Islands needs further support on:
- Policy & Legal Framework: Investigate, review and IT sub projects
7.4 Risk management

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<td>22 February 2022</td>
<td>31 December 2036</td>
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</table>

Assistance required for implementation

- ICT/Legislative and Regulatory Framework:
  To upgrade current system of control to effectively manage risk, minimise freight costs and identify which management controls should be maintained, for imports going through customs procedures.

**Tags:** Information and communication technologies (ICT), Legislative and regulatory framework

**Donor Members:** Australia

**Donor Agencies:** to be determined

**Progress reported**

Australia supports in developing a risk management system under a compliance management framework.

Solomon Islands needs further support on:
- ICT related Legislative and Regulatory Framework:
- To upgrade current system of control to effectively manage risk.
- Identify which management controls should be maintained for imports and their relevant procedures
7.6 Average release times

7.6.1 Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

7.6.2 Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2036

Assistance required for implementation

• Regulatory Framework:
  To enable the monitoring and measurement of performance.
• Human Resources and Training:
  Support to publish release times and other necessary information to comply with this article.

Tags: Information and communication technologies (ICT), Legislative and regulatory framework, Human resources and training

Donor Members: Australia

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

Solomon Islands conducted TRS in August 2016, one year after introduction of the ASYCUDA system in June 2015. This was the only time TRS was carried out in the country.

Solomon Islands needs further support on:
• Regulatory Framework:
  To establish formal Policy/Procedures to implement the TRS and its results on regular basis
• Human Resource and Training:
  Need to train certain identified staff to take up responsibility for the task trained in design, implementation and analysis of a TRS.
7.7 Authorized operators

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Indicative date of implementation</th>
<th>Definitive date of implementation</th>
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<tr>
<td>22 February 2024</td>
<td>31 December 2040</td>
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</table>

**Assistance required for implementation**

- Legislative and Regulatory Framework:
  Support to amend relevant regulation to enable compliance and to set up functions for special treatment for authorised operators.

  **Tags**: Legislative and regulatory framework

**Donor Agencies**: to be determined

**Progress reported**

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors.

Solomon Islands needs support on:
- **Policy/Legal Framework:**
  Authorised Operators (AO) procedures to be developed and reflected in relevant legislation
  Develop a national Policy mechanism on AO for coordinating and cooperating between Border agencies
  Provide a wide sensitization and awareness to exporters, importers and Clearing Agents on the Authorised Economic Operators (AEO) program
- **Internal Procedures:**
  Develop internal procedure requirements
  To review or amend relevant regulation to enable compliance and to set up functions for special treatment for authorised operators.
8.1 Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2040

Assistance required for implementation

- Legislative and Regulatory Framework:
  Requires a MoU to be implemented (currently a draft between BSI and SICED) to establish effective interagency cooperation.
- Establish arrangements to cooperate and coordinate through formal legislation/admin framework; incorporate agreed procedure into current clearance processes.
- Capacity building:
  On new coordination approach and publication of procedures.

Tags: Information and communication technologies (ICT), Legislative and regulatory framework, Human resources and training

Shift from Cat. B to Cat. C notification.

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

Solomon Islands has established some Border Agencies Cooperation such as:
- Agreement Between the Government of Solomon Islands and the Government of Papua New Guinea on Border Arrangements 1997 (to be jointly under review as of August 2023).

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors.

Solomon Islands needs support on:
- Establishing arrangements to cooperate and coordinate formal legislation and admin framework; incorporate agreed procedures into current clearance processes.
- Capacity Building on new coordination approach and Publication of Procedures.
- To setup a separate unit to be responsible over inter-agency networking nationally and abroad
Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2040

Assistance required for implementation

• Legislative and Regulatory Framework:
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  Establish arrangements to cooperate and coordinate through formal legislation/admin framework; incorporate agreed procedure into current clearance processes.
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Tags: Information and communication technologies (ICT), Legislative and regulatory framework, Human resources and training

Shift from Cat. B to Cat. C notification.

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• Establishing arrangements to cooperate and coordinate formal legislation and admin framework; incorporate agreed procedures into current clearance processes.
• Capacity Building on new coordination approach and Publication of Procedures.
• To setup a separate unit to be responsible over inter-agency networking nationally and abroad
10.1 Formalities

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2020

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2040

Assistance required for implementation

• TA to develop Business Process Reengineering (BPR)

Tags: Legislative and regulatory framework

Shift from Cat. B to Cat. C notification.

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors.

Solomon Islands needs support:
• TA to develop Business Process Reengineering (BPR).
• A need for Border agencies to improve on import and export procedures to increase flow of electronic submissions of documents for both imports and exports.
10.3 Use of international standards

10.3.1 Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2024

10.3.2 Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2040

Assistance required for implementation

• Human Resources and Training:
To train relevant officials on the use of international standards and determine their implications on traders.

• Diagnostic and Needs Assessment:
To identify appropriate infrastructure needed to ensure continued compliance with international standards is required. Support to understand importing countries’ market access rules from an environmental health perspective.

Tags: Diagnostic and Needs Assessment, Human resources and training

Donor Agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization, Enhanced Integrated Framework

Progress reported

STDF project through FAO “Strengthening the capacity of the National Public Health Laboratory to provide services in support of Market Access for Solomon Islands Fish Exporters” June 2017-June 2022. EIF in 2021 also supported in construction of NPHL Office facilities, trainings and equipment’s.

Solomon Islands has established the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) under the Ministry of Health & Medical Services. The NPHL needs to be assessed if the Laboratory is internationally accredited and meets the international standard requirements.

Solomon Islands needs further support:
• To train relevant officials on the use of international standards and determine their implications on traders.
• To identify and acquire appropriate infrastructure needed to ensure continued compliance with international standards is required.
• To meet and maintain international accreditation for microbiology and chemistry.
• To understand importing countries market access rules from an environmental health perspective.
10.4 Single window

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<th>Definitive date of implementation</th>
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<td>22 February 2027</td>
<td>31 December 2050</td>
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</table>

**Assistance required for implementation**

- **Capacity building:**
  Required to understand, implement and manage single window operations for local staff.
- **Diagnostic and Needs Assessment:**
  For feasibility study; then determine if TA and capacity building required for implementing and managing single window.

**Tags:** Information and communication technologies (ICT), Legislative and regulatory framework, Diagnostic and Needs Assessment, Human resources and training

**Donor Agencies:** World Bank

**Progress reported**

**Status 2019**
The National Single Window Workshop was hosted by World Bank Group (WBG) June 2019. This was the start of the process to inform stakeholders regarding Solomon Islands National Single Window (SINSW) its work and the preparations needed.

**Status 2022**
The Customs modernization project which commenced in 2019 with significant International Customs expertise has determined and confirmed that LDC such as Solomon Islands is not prepared nor capable of developing and implementing an advanced multi agency SW system. Work on such system involve significant planning consultation, legislative review, training and upgrade of inform system across multi agencies. This is both uneconomic and time intensive unless commenced as a major single project.

Solomon Islands need further support:
- To formulate and incorporate the SW process into the Govt. policy and for possible reflection in the review Customs Legislation.
- Need required training to implement and manage SW operations for respective implementing agencies.
- Infrastructure development and Border agencies cooperation required.
### 12.1.1 Customs cooperation

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<td>12.1.9</td>
<td>Extension of time requested</td>
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#### Indicative date of implementation
- 22 February 2022

#### Definitive date of implementation
- 31 December 2040

#### Assistance required for implementation
- • Technical Assistance
- • Sensitisation – for compliance
- • Compliance management – awareness

#### Tags:
- Human resources and training, Awareness-raising

#### Donor Agencies:
- to be determined

#### Progress reported
- Customs is currently reaching out to regional administrations to improve cooperation and information sharing, as evidenced by 2023 Fiji Pacific law enforcement agency conference on transnational crime.

- Customs is improving intelligence gathering and investigative capability through provision of additional staffing and technical and specialist training.

- Solomon Islands received no support on any technical assistance and capacity building from donors.
  - Technical Assistance needed:
    - • Support to undertake awareness and capacity building for Officials on issues of cooperation
    - • Sensitization – for compliance.

#### Legend
- **C** Notified in Cat. C
- **Cp** Partially notified in C
- **E** Extension of time requested
- **Donor arrangement notified**
- **Donor arrangement not yet notified**