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Committee on Trade Facilitation

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**NOTIFICATION OF ARRANGEMENTS AND PROGRESS IN THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY-BUILDING SUPPORT FOR CATEGORY C DESIGNATIONS**

COMMUNICATION FROM CUBA

The following communication, dated 2 October 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Cuba for Members' information.

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 10.4	Single Window	C	22 February 2023	22 February 2024
<b>Donor:</b> European Union				
<b>Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building support:</b>				
<b>Cuba, Electronic Single Window System for Foreign Trade procedures:</b>				
<p>In 2014, UNCTAD was officially requested to set up a project for the implementation of a strategy for the development of the electronic Single Window for Foreign Trade (<b>VUCE</b>), subject to the requirement that funding would be awarded through international cooperation. The European Union granted the funds for this cooperation effort in July 2019.</p> <p>The Ministry of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment (<b>MINCEX</b>), with UNCTAD technical assistance, subsequently developed a comprehensive work schedule to document, clarify and simplify the processes for registration, advance permits and clearance, through a series of seminars on the implementation of a Single Window system. Training was provided by UNCTAD experts.</p> <p>In March 2018, Cuba acquired the right to use the <b>eRegistration system</b>, which was hosted on a national server. The most significant achievement in 2019 was the completion of documentation for this platform, thanks to the technical assistance received from UNCTAD. The platform has documented 125 regulatory frameworks and 108 procedures for 41 agencies, institutions and competent national authorities.</p> <p>In September 2019, MINCEX and UNCTAD implemented an authentication mechanism for the <b>eRegulations system</b>, called the <b>Central Authentication Service (CAS)</b>.</p> <p>UNCTAD presented <b>Phase I of the VUCE Prototype</b>, in respect of which agreement was reached on developing, by January 2020, the first automated service for the integration of the records of MINCEX, the Cuban Chamber of Commerce and the Customs General of the Republic (AGR), and on conducting an analysis of the integrated online service.</p> <p>Agreement was also reached on the creation of a <b>Cuban Chamber of Commerce Postgre Database</b>, the purchase of a server for this institution, the development of Single Window web services for MINCEX, the Cuban Chamber of Commerce and the AGR, and the design of a <b>standard form for the Single Window</b>.</p> <p>It was decided to integrate the <b>ENZONA Payment Gateway</b> into the Single Window.</p> <p>A decision was taken to develop <b>web services</b> with the <b>National Tax Administration Office (ONAT)</b>.</p>				