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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 OF CATEGORY C DESIGNATIONS

COMMUNICATION FROM GUYANA

The following communication, dated 5 November 2020 is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Guyana for Members' information.

Guyana hereby notifies information on the arrangements concluded and progress made in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support of the following category C designations, in response to Article 16 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 1.3.2	Enquiry Point	C	22 February 2019	22 February 2027
Donors: To be determined				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
The provision applies to Enquiry Point at the Regional (CARICOM) Level, this measure was notified with an extended timeline of 2027, since implementation will also depend on actions taken at the regional level.				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 3	Advanced Rulings	C	22 February 2020	22 February 2020
Donors: To be determined				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
The Customs Authority has implemented Advance Ruling.				
TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training staff and adoption of international best practices as increased institutional capacity in Classification, Valuation and Rules of Origin will be needed. 				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	C	22 February 2022	22 February 2026
Donors: Inter-American Development Bank				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
Initiatives are ongoing, A National Quality Infrastructure Project is being implemented by the Guyana National Bureau of Standards to enable the development of quality management systems, in order to obtain accreditation to international standards.				
TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training staff and adoption of international best practices. • Development of appropriate legislation to ensure compliance with current standards and coordination with the relevant competent authorities such as the Government Analyst, Food and Drug Department and the Guyana National Standards Bureau. • Develop in-house testing capability. 				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 7.3.3-7.3.5	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	C	22 February 2021	22 February 2023
Donors: To be determined				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of appropriate software and any necessary hardware. • Training of IT staff and users of the system once procured. 				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	C	22 February 2020	22 February 2023
Donors: To be determined				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
Initiatives have been implemented. Technical Assistance needs remain relevant especially in the area of Training.				
TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional staffing with audit skills related to valuation, classification, accounting, and procurement of information digitally. • Customs laws have been amended to accept electronic and paper-based submissions. Criteria for Trusted Traders has been developed and published since 2018. Electronic filing and processing implementation at land borders would be dependent upon availability of infrastructure and connectivity. 				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorised Operators	C	21 February 2021	22 February 2022
Donors: To be determined				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
There is a Trusted Trader Programme currently in place. This programme is a variant of the Authorized Economic Operators Programme. However, The Customs Authority is working towards having the AEO implemented at the earliest.				
TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training staff and users of the service as it evolves. • Procure and develop an automated processing system to monitor same. Consideration of integration into ASYCUDA once this is implemented. 				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 7.9.3-7.9.4	Perishable Goods	C	21 February 2019	22 February 2023
Donors: To be determined				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
There is the IMD7 established in the ASYCUDA platform which facilitates immediate delivery of perishable goods.				
TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and development of procedures consistent with best practices. • Procurement of tracking software. 				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 8.2(b)-8.2(e)	Border Agency Cooperation	C	22 February 2020	22 February 2027
Donors: To be determined				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
Article 8.2 (b –e) was given an extended timeline of 2027, since full implementation is not feasible in the short term and would require procedural and legal changes.				
8.2 b – TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enactment of relevant border procedures regulations to guide operations between bordering countries. 				
8.2 c – TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting of legislation to allow for the acceptance of results of cross border testing and common standards. • Training and development of testing facilities. 				
8.2 d – TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of IT system to capture all the required information and data at the borders. 				
8.2 e – TACB support needs include:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enactment of the relevant procedures regulations to guide operations. • Increased institutional capacity, infrastructure, and equipment. • Harmonisation of different systems between bordering countries. • Training for staff of the various regulatory agencies at the border. 				

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation	Definitive date for implementation
Article 10.4	Single Window	C	22 February 2020	22 February 2022
Donors: Inter-American Development Bank				
Progress in the provision of technical assistance and capacity building support:				
<p>Initiatives on track with the targeted timeline. However due to COVID-19 measures, there is a delay and consultations are expected to resume later in the year for revised timelines. Full implementation of SW is expected within a few years.</p> <p>Some needs in the area remains relevant especially as it relates to training IT staff and users of the new ASYCUDA World programme.</p> <p>TACB needs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of software and any necessary hardware for the ESW • Training IT staff and users of the new ESW system. 				