



WORLD TRADE  
ORGANIZATION

# 2026 Review of the Trade Facilitation Agreement

Information session

28 January 2026

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G/TFA/2  
G/TFA/W/112/Rev.1  
G/TFA/W/113

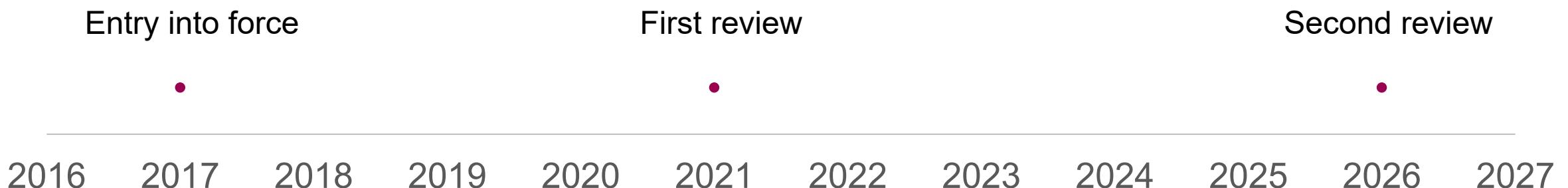
# Mandate to review the TFA

Article 23.1.6:

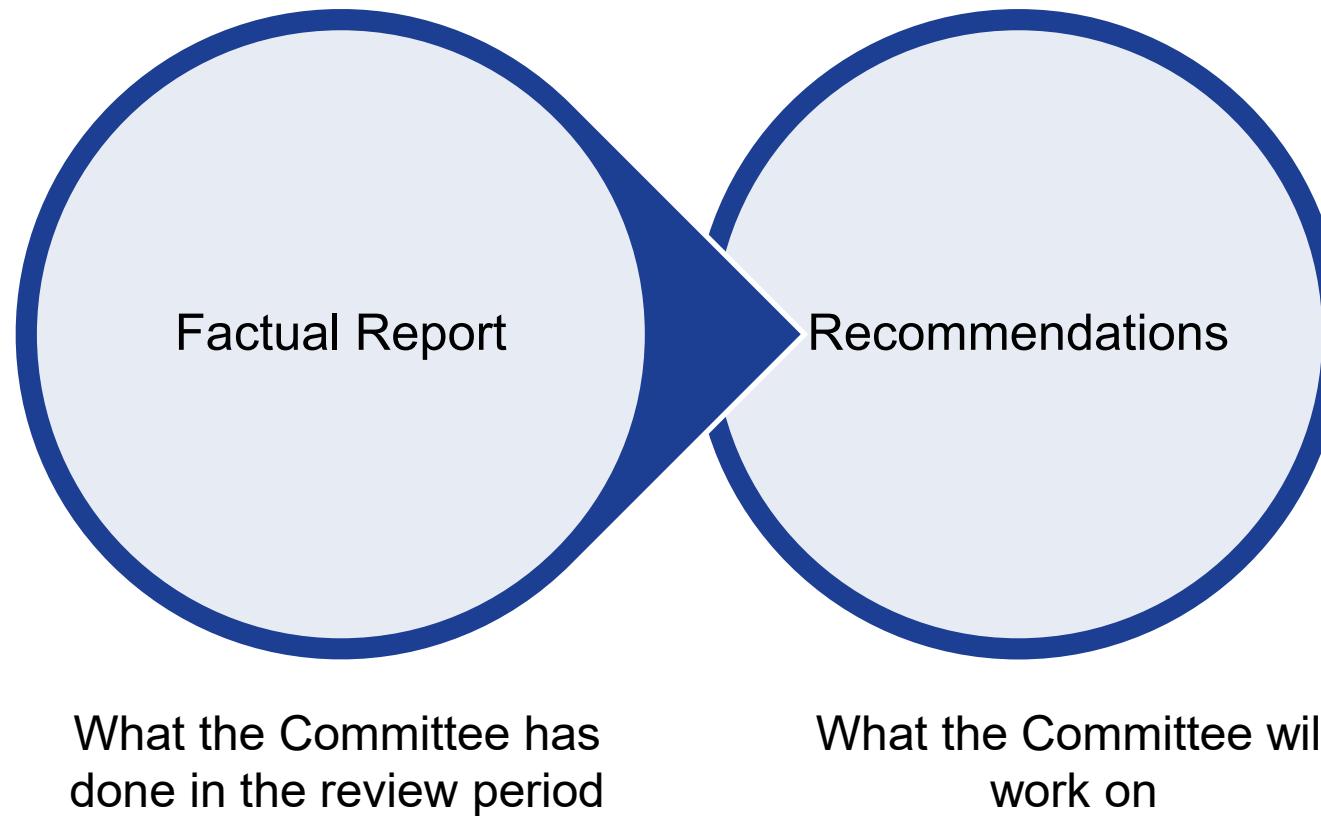
“The Committee shall review the operation and implementation of this Agreement four years from its entry into force, and periodically thereafter.”

Para. 9.3(x) of document G/TFA/2 (2021 TFA review):

“[The committee] decides to conduct a second review of the operation and implementation of the Agreement in 2026, and periodically thereafter.”



# Overview and timeline of the review process



Divided by section of the TFA

Plus, other topics: TFA Database, TFAF and Annex D work, etc

# Overview and timeline of the review process

## 2 SECTION I OF THE TFA .....

### A FACTUAL INFORMATION .....

- 2.1 Notifications under Section I of the TFA .....
- 2.2 Experience sharing exercise/thematic discussions.....
- 2.3 Experience sharing by Members on trade facilitating measures taken to mitigate the COVID-19 Crisis .....
- 2.4 Specific Trade Concerns.....
- Kazakhstan – Border Restrictions of Goods in Transit – Request from the Kyrgyz Republic (G/TFA/W/20; G/TFA/W/20/Corr.1; G/TFA/W/20/Add.1) .....
- 2.5 Involvement of the private sector.....

## 9 RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS RESULTING FROM THE REVIEW

### 9.1 Section I of the TFA .....

### 9.2 Section II of the TFA.....

### 9.3 Section III of the TFA.....

G/TFA/2

# Overview and timeline of the review process

## 2 SECTION I OF THE TFA

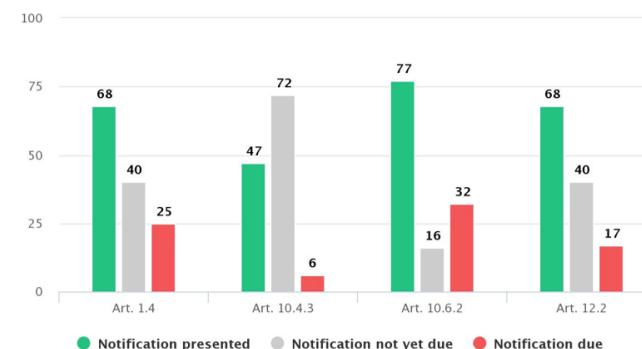
### A FACTUAL INFORMATION

#### 2.1 Notifications under Section I of the TFA

2.1. The TFA requires Members to notify the Committee of the following: the publication of information for governments and traders on import, export and transit procedures (Article 1.4); the details of operation of their single window (Article 10.4.3); the use of customs brokers (Article 10.6.2); and details of the contact point for the exchange of customs information (Article 12.2.2). The notifications are due in accordance with each Member's categorization of the transparency provisions, therefore some notifications may have fallen due during the review period and other notifications may not be due until a future date, or after receipt of necessary technical assistance, if the provision is in category C.

2.2. The current status of transparency notifications is shown in Chart 1, below. The number of notifications that have been presented under each transparency provisions are shown in the green column, while the number of notifications that may be in category B or C and are not yet due to be implemented are shown in the grey columns. The number of transparency notifications that are over-due are shown in the red columns.

**Chart 1: Status of Transparency Notifications by Article**



Source: Trade Facilitation Agreement Database  
[\(<https://tfadatabase.ora/notifications/transparency/visual-analytics>\)](https://tfadatabase.ora/notifications/transparency/visual-analytics).

## 9 RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS RESULTING FROM THE REVIEW

### 9.1 Section I of the TFA

9.1. Building on the discussions during this first review of the operation and implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, and with a view to furthering its work in regard to Section I of the TFA, the Committee:

Recognizing that WTO Members are responsible for the maintenance of their transparency notifications, including regarding the official places where information under Article 1 of TFA is published, decides that the Secretariat shall annually check the operability of the related web links, namely, those related to the implementation of Article 1.4 of TFA, and request the relevant Members to update the links that are identified as broken.

G/TFA/2

# Overview and timeline of the review process

## **2 SECTION I OF THE TFA.....**

### **A FACTUAL INFORMATION .....**

2.1 Notifications under Section I of the TFA .....

2.2 Experience sharing exercise/thematic discussions.....

2.3 Experience sharing by Members on trade facilitating measures taken to mitigate the COVID-19 Crisis .....

2.4 Specific Trade Concerns.....

Kazakhstan – Border Restrictions of Goods in Transit – Request from the Kyrgyz Republic (G/TFA/W/20; G/TFA/W/20/Corr.1; G/TFA/W/20/Add.1) .....

2.5 Involvement of the private sector.....

### **B MEMBERS' PROPOSALS UNDER SECTION I OF THE TFA UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE FACILITATION.....**

G/TFA/2

# Overview and timeline of the review process

## **B MEMBERS' PROPOSALS UNDER SECTION I OF THE TFA UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE FACILITATION**

2.24. The proposals under this section were submitted by Members during the first review of the Trade Facilitation Agreement. At the time of concluding the review, consensus had not yet been reached by the Committee on the proposals included in this section. To allow for further consideration and possible adoption of these proposals by the Committee, Section 9 of this report includes a decision that an agenda item be added to the Trade Facilitation Committee agenda entitled "Follow-up to the four-year review".

viii. decides to include an agenda item "Follow-up to the four-year review" for the purpose of continuing discussions, at the request of proponents, on the proposals that remain under consideration by the CTF from this review;

  
G/TFA/2

# Overview and timeline of the review process

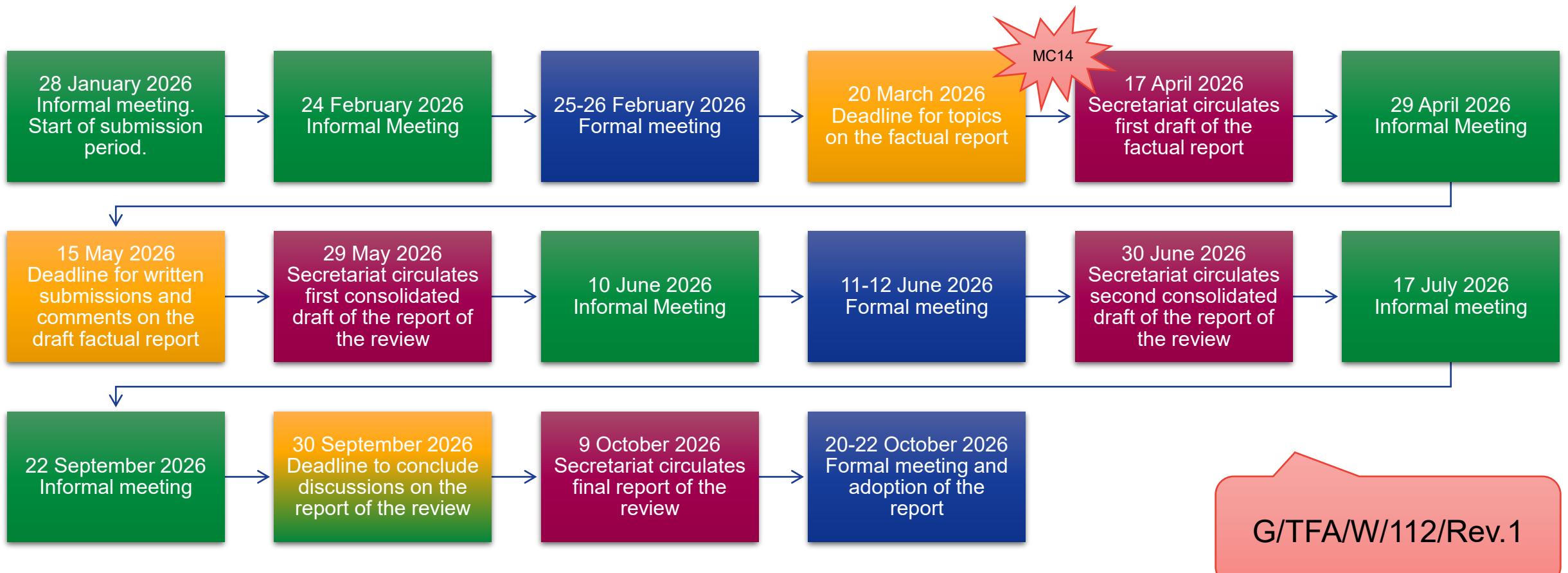
Review process  
driven by  
proposals from  
Members

Proposals  
discussed on a  
rolling basis

Work on the  
report: factual +  
recommendations

Second review  
completed in  
November 2026

# Overview and timeline of the review process



# Results of the 2021 Review

<b>1.3 Section III of the TFA</b>	
1.3. Building on the discussions during this first review of the operation and implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, and with a view to furthering its work in regard to Section III of the TFA, the Committee:	
i. decides to remove "Review of Notifications Under Article 15 of the TFA" as a standing agenda item for its meetings, recognizing that the Committee may review new Article 15 notifications on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis;	This standing item has been removed from the Committee agenda.
ii. decides to add a new standing agenda item for Members to provide updates on overdue Section I and Section II notifications;	This standing item has been added to the Committee agenda.
iii. recommends that even when physical participation in meetings resumes, Interprefy (or an alternative IT platform) allowing remote connection should be enabled for all WTO Members;	Interprefy continues to be enabled for all WTO Members at Committee meetings.
iv. recommends that notifications be circulated as far in advance of Committee meetings as possible in order to promote meaningful review and comment from Members;	The Secretariat circulates notifications as soon as they are finalized, and the agenda closes 15 days prior to Committee meetings.
v. decides to draft a document that contains good practices and building blocks of successful NTFCs, and identifies a minimum of three concrete elements that all Members agree are essential for implementing a successful NTFC: full government agency participation, clear leadership with political imperatives, and strong links to the private sector	A draft of this document is still under consideration before the Committee.

G/TFA/W/113

# How to submit a proposal

- How would you like to improve the operation of the Committee? How can the Committee assist Members in the implementation of the TFA?
- Which section of the Agreement does the proposal refer to?
  - Section I: Substantive provisions, transparency notifications
  - Section II: TACB notifications and SDT
  - Section III: NTFC, the CTF, Dedicated Session, Review process
- How does it relate to past work of the Committee? Has this idea been explored in the past? Is it a different angle?
- Steps to issue:
  - Submit to Secretariat [tfcommittee@wto.org](mailto:tfcommittee@wto.org)
  - Circulated as W document
  - Comments from other Members or questions circulated as JOB documents

# What does a proposal look like?



## INTRODUCTION

1. The anticipated benefits of full implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) is well-documented and is expected to impact a wide range of stakeholders. The key to achieving those gains are a Member-driven approach to implementation, robust private sector engagement, and full participation from all WTO Members.

2. As Members, we can gauge the relative success of implementation plans by feedback from the private sector, often received through leveraging the TFA's requirement to operate a National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) with private sector participation. In some cases, the private sector may be the most sensitive stakeholder to trade facilitation reforms and changes in border agency operations. Therefore, every Member's unique mechanism to tap into valuable private sector insight is critical for the success of full implementation of the TFA.



## BACKGROUND

3. Brazil and the United States are strong advocates of experience sharing and thematic discussions during Committee meetings. During these discussions, Members often provide information learned from private sector feedback that sparks vibrant discourse at the Committee. In order to build on this momentum, Brazil and the United States propose instituting a consistent practice to engage the private sector so as to provide information about TFA implementation directly to Members of the Committee on Trade Facilitation.

4. In soliciting feedback, it is particularly crucial to hear from a diversity of organizations that vary in such factors as businesses sector, size and capacity, and regional operation, among others. To achieve a higher level of diversity, Members may highlight the opportunity to present to the WTO Committee on Trade Facilitation through their National Trade Facilitation Committees and other private sector outreach efforts. Members may also choose to highlight this opportunity to Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs). It is imperative that we all explore opportunities to encourage and support MSME participation from developing and least developing countries.



## PROPOSAL

5. Brazil and the United States propose that the Committee convene informally on the margins of formal Committee meetings to host discussions with and presentations from the private sector to facilitate direct feedback regarding on-the-ground implementation of the TFA. The private sector organizations may present how implementation of specific provisions of the TFA has improved the private sector experience or identify areas of remaining challenges.

6. The Committee may consider establishing a process to increase the efficiency of reviewing the many anticipated requests from the private sector to present at these informal sessions. Brazil and the United States propose that any members of the private sector submit to the Secretariat requests to present on a topic of interest that relates to TFA implementation. Submissions would be accepted throughout the year, and Members should consider reviewing and accepting requests on a rolling basis. The Committee will then invite members of the private sector with an approved topic to present to Members on the margins of a formal Committee meeting.

# Other ways of engaging



Actively participate in informal and formal meetings of the Committee



Comment on proposals by other Members



Engage with other Members to submit joint proposals



# Documents from the 2021 Review

Report	• G/TFA/2
Timeline	• G/TFA/1
Proposals	• JOB/TF/228 series
Comments	• JOB/TF/227 series
Minutes	• G/TFA/M
Chair reports	• JOB/TF/*

# SPS and TBT Reviews

- Process
- Report
- Member driven

- Timeline
- Outcomes



[SPS Review](#)

[TBT Review](#)



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# Questions

[tfcommittee@wto.org](mailto:tfcommittee@wto.org)