WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

TFAD Trade Facilitation Agreement Database

Seychelles

Ratified Agreement: Yes

Ratification Date: 2016-01-11

Implementation Notifications (Categories A, B, C)			Due date	Status
Notified all category ABC designations			by 22 February 2017	Yes
A - 55.9%	B - 27.3%	C - 16.8%	**Not yet notified** - 0.0%	
Notified indicative dates in Category B			by 22 February 2017	Yes
Notified definitive dates in Category B			by 22 February 2018	Yes
Notified indicative dates in Category C			by 22 February 2017	Yes
Notified definitive dates in Category C			by 22 August 2019	Yes
Notified Technical Assistance requirements			by 22 February 2017	Yes
Notified arrangements on the provision of technical assistance support			by 22 February 2018	Yes
Notified progress in the provision of technical assistance support			by 22 August 2019	Yes

Transparency notifications			
Notified Art. 1.4	Category B	Definitive implementation date 01 October 2019	Yes
Notified Art. 10.4.3	Category C	Definitive implementation date 30 June 2027	No
Notified Art. 10.6.2	Category A	Definitive implementation date 22 February 2017	Yes
Notified Art. 12.2	Category A	Definitive implementation date 22 February 2017	Yes

Information on Assistance and Capacity Building

Notified Art. 22.3	Yes

Legend: Yes Notification presented | No Notification due | No Notification not yet due

Implementation schedule			Indicative implementation date	Definitive implementation date
1.1	Publication	B	by 15 April 2017	by 01 October 2019
1.2	Information available through internet	B	by 30 September 2017	by 01 October 2019
1.3	Enquiry points	B	by 15 April 2017	by 01 October 2019
1.4	Notification	B	by 15 April 2017	by 01 October 2019
2.1	Comments and information before entry into force	A		by 22 February 2017
2.2	Consultations	A		by 22 February 2017
3	Advance rulings	B C»B	by 01 January 2021	by 31 December 2020
4	Procedures for appeal or review	A		by 22 February 2017
5.1	Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections	C	by 01 January 2021	by 31 December 2025
5.2	Detention	A		by 22 February 2017
5.3	Test procedures	C	by 01 January 2020	by 31 December 2021
6.1	General disciplines on fees and charges	B	by 31 March 2018	by 31 August 2019
6.2	Specific disciplines on fees and charges	B	by 01 January 2019	by 31 August 2019
6.3	Penalty Disciplines	Ap Bp	from 22 February 2017 to 01 January 2018	from 22 February 2017 to 31 August 2019

Implementation schedule			Indicative implementation date	Definitive implementation date
7.1	Pre-arrival processing	A		by 22 February 2017
7.2	Electronic payment	B C»B	by 01 January 2018	by 31 December 2021
7.3	Separation of release	A		by 22 February 2017
7.4	Risk management	C	by 01 January 2018	by 31 December 2021
7.5	Post-clearance audit	C	by 01 January 2019	by 31 December 2023
7.6	Average release times	C	by 01 January 2019	by 31 December 2021
7.7	Authorized operators	C	by 01 January 2019	by 31 December 2023
7.8	Expedited shipments	B C»B	by 01 January 2019	by 31 December 2019
7.9	Perishable goods	A		by 22 February 2017
8	Border Agency Cooperation	A		by 22 February 2017
9	Movement of goods	A		by 22 February 2017
10.1	Formalities	A		by 22 February 2017
10.2	Acceptance of copies	A		by 22 February 2017
10.3	Use of international standards	A		by 22 February 2017

Implementation schedule			Indicative implementation date	Definitive implementation date
10.4	Single window	C E	by 01 January 2019	by 30 June 2027
10.5	Preshipment inspection	A		by 22 February 2017
10.6	Use of customs brokers	A		by 22 February 2017
10.7	Common border procedures	A		by 22 February 2017
10.8	Rejected Goods	C	by 01 January 2019	by 31 December 2021
10.9	Temporary admission of goods and inward and outward processing	Ap Bp C»B	from 22 February 2017 to 01 January 2018	from 22 February 2017 to 31 December 2021
11	Transit	A		by 22 February 2017
12	Customs cooperation	A		by 22 February 2017

Legend

A	Notified in Cat. A	Ap	Partially notified in A		
B	Notified in Cat. B	Bp	Partially notified in B	C»B	Shift from C to B
C	Notified in Cat. C	Cp	Partially notified in C	B»C	Shift from B to C
N	Not yet notified	E	Extension of time requested		

Notifications and other documents

Symbol	Date	Description
G/TFA/N/SYC/1/Add.5	2025-08-12	Extension of implementation dates

Symbol	Date	Description
G/TFA/N/SYC/4	2025-01-17	Donor arrangements and progress in the provision of technical assistance
G/TFA/N/SYC/3	2024-08-02	Article 22.3
G/TFA/N/SYC/1/Add.4	2024-03-08	Extension of implementation dates
G/TFA/N/SYC/2	2023-08-18	Articles 1.4, 10.6.2, 12.2.2
G/TFA/W/92	2023-07-05	The role of technology transfer in building resilience: Trade Facilitation
G/TFA/N/SYC/1/Add.3	2023-02-08	Extension of implementation dates
G/TFA/N/SYC/1/Add.2	2019-08-22	Category C notification - Addendum 2
G/TFA/N/SYC/1/Add.1	2018-02-23	Category B notification - Addendum
G/TFA/N/SYC/1	2017-07-25	Cat. B and C
WT/PCTF/N/SYC/1	2015-09-17	Category A notification

Technical Assistance detailled information

5.1 Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections

C

5.1 (a), (b), (c), (d)

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2021

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2025

Assistance required for implementation

1. Funding for infrastructure development, accreditation formalities, procurement of testing& metrology and other laboratory related equipment and consumables;
2. Support to build up capacity for testing, inspection and metrology, equipment and training in metrology. Reviewing the legal framework and procedures (SOPs) for analysis of various parameters;
3. Technical support to help develop and build capacity of Customs officers and staff of other relevant agencies;
4. Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to facilitate notification for enhanced controls or inspections.

Tags: *Legislative and regulatory framework, Infrastructure and equipment, Human resources and training*

Donor Members: European Union

Donor Agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization

Progress reported

1. The Department of Agriculture received technical assistance under the support towards operationalization of the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy (STOSAR) project funded by the EU/FAO in 2020-2022 and procured inspection kits for the personnel of the Department of Agriculture (DOA) used for inspection at the border for assessment and clearance of goods. In addition, the FAO/IPPC, through its technical cooperation project, conducted a Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) in 2023 to evaluate the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) Phytosanitary capabilities, which is the border control, and support division.

2. The Public Health Authority (PHA) received technical assistance under the previous EU-ESA iEPA-Regional Integration Support Programme 3 (RISP3) for the training of laboratory personnel through an overseas mission in Scotland. Secondly, they received technical support from a consultant funded under the project for drafting of the Food Act (Import & Export) Regulations 2024 that started in April 2019 until 2021. Additionally, assistance with drafting the Standardized Operating Procedures (SOP) for inspection of food establishments at the border and internal market was also obtained.

C

5.3.1
5.3.2
5.3.3

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2020

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2021

Assistance required for implementation

1. Seeking technical support for the development of relevant legislation and standard operating procedures (SOPs);
2. Seeking funding for:
i. infrastructure development and procurement of laboratory equipment and consumables;
ii. the evaluation of all Quantity Management System (QMS) documents and support to develop any missing documents as per the standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005 for testing laboratories;
iii. accreditation process, testing, inspection, metrology and standardization; and
iv. legal expert to draft contract with SADCAS for the continuous assessment for 5 years;
3. Technical assistance and capacity building to facilitate staff development to improve testing capabilities and development of laboratory protocols;
4. Development of protocols to facilitate the servicing of new market access and new products.

Tags: *Legislative and regulatory framework, Infrastructure and equipment, Human resources and training*

Donor Members: European Union

Donor Agencies: Southern African Development Community - Trade related Facility

Progress reported

1. The Seychelles Bureau of Standards (SBS) under the Southern African Development Community (SADC) – Trade Related Facility (TRF) received technical and financial support from the SADC TRF and the EU to procure and commission testing equipment and personnel training to enhance capacity for testing and certification of products. Under the SADC TRF, these consisted of:

1) An analytic balance
2) Dissolved oxygen meter
3) Turbidity meter
4) Laboratory refrigerator
5) Chest freezer, incubators and uninterruptible power supply.
6) Biological oxygen demand.

2. Furthermore, the personnel at SBS were recipients of capacity-building training for legionella and listeria to enhance the testing and certification of products.

3. Under the European Union (EU) 11th European Development Fund, the Seychelles Bureau of Standards (SBS) received financial support to procure a FID Detector and Injector for the SCION Gas Chromatograph for testing cinnamon oil, an ion chromatograph and soil gauge. In addition, the Excise unit of the Customs Division, under the aegis of the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC), received equipment for testing of alcohol strength parameters.

7.4.1
7.4.2
7.4.3
7.4.4

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2018

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2021

Assistance required for implementation

1. Funding for the procurement of WCO Cargo Targeting System (CTS) which can be integrated with ASYCUDA World;
2. Technical support from UNCTAD and WCO to work together on the integration of the system once funding is secured;
3. Capacity building to develop a pool of staff to maintain the system once it has been developed.

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

Donor Agencies: Southern African Development Community, World Customs Organization

Progress reported

1. The Seychelles Customs Division, under the aegis of the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC), received financial and technical support from SADC for funding and support for the implementation of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) - Cargo Targeting System (CTS). The technical support allowed the resolution of interoperability issues encountered due to manual operation.

2. The Customs Division, in collaboration with the United Nations Organisation on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), is to provide technical support for the enhancement of the ASYCUDA World System for interoperability with UNODC's border security and maritime surveillance system. A UNODC delegation is expected to visit Seychelles in 1st quarter of 2025 to set up the Port Control Unit. The office space for UNODC is ready, awaiting equipment from UNODC. In addition, Customs officers have obtained theoretical training, and the practical training is scheduled for the 1st quarter of 2025.

3. Technical support to the Seychelles Customs Division for installation of the new version of the CTS free of charge has been provided by WCO and the provision of technical support is ongoing.

C

7.5.1
7.5.2
7.5.3
7.5.4

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2019

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2023

Assistance required for implementation

1. Funding to improve the ASYCUDA World reporting functionality to support Post Clearance Audit (PCA).

Tags: *Information and communication technologies (ICT)*

Donor Members: European Union

Donor Agencies: International Monetary Fund

Progress reported

1. The Seychelles Revenue Commission, under the European Union's 11th European Development Fund (EDF), received assistance for the enhancement of the ASYCUDA World System for the purposes of developing reports for Post Clearance Audits. In terms of development, the PCA reports are work in progress, given the ending phase of the 11th EDF project. Outstanding works shall be undertaken as per the SRC's budget. Upon completion of the formulation of the report templates, such will be relayed to the production servers accordingly.

2. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has provided technical support for the training of the respective personnel and workers for the enhancement of capacity and capabilities.

C

7.6.1
7.6.2

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2019

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2021

Assistance required for implementation

1. Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to develop the required techniques to enable officers to conduct time release study.

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

Donor Agencies: World Customs Organization

Progress reported

1. The World Customs Organisation (WCO) provided capacity-building support through trainings conducted on the concept of the Time Release Studies to the personnel of the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC).

7.7.1
7.7.2 (a) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (i), (ii)
7.7.3 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g)
7.7.4
7.7.5
7.7.6

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2019

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2023

Assistance required for implementation

1. Technical assistance to draft legislations to provide Customs with the appropriate mandate to afford qualifying traders with additional facilitation in connection with trade;
2. Develop a monitoring framework through which Customs can establish and monitor operators' compliance;
3. Support for design and implementation of an appropriate system for Authorised Economic Operator;
4. Training of Customs Officers and relevant stakeholders to facilitate the establishment and smooth implementation of Authorised Economic Operator.

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

Donor Agencies: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, International Monetary Fund

Progress reported

1. The Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC) received assistance under COMESA for the implementation of the Authorized Economic Operators. In terms of the status of completion, the training manual has been completed whilst the following are work in progress, namely, the draft application forms with categorisation of different tiers (diamond, gold, and silver) and the draft regulations to be circulated to COMESA for comments.

2. In terms of validation of applications, the SRC‘s Post Clearance Audit (PCA) is to determine and evaluate the solvency and compliance of businesses as to provide qualification for eligibility as an Authorised Economic Operator (AEO).

3. In terms of trainings, the WCO may assist with the required trainings of officers as well as SADC and COMESA based on the SRC formal requests to receive technical assistance where required.

10.4.1
10.4.2
10.4.3
10.4.4

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2019

Definitive date of implementation
30 June 2027

Assistance required for implementation

1. Drafting of legislation, policy framework, strategy and TOR;
2. Conduct Feasibility study for AW based Single Window;
3. Design, implementation and operation of single window;
4. Training of all stakeholders;
5. Funding to acquire the relevant equipment and software;
6. Implementation of the integrated IT infrastructure which will connect to the existing system/ or activate the ASYCUDA SINGLE WINDOW MODULE.

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

Donor Members: European Union

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

1. The Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC) received financial assistance under the 11th EDF from 2019 to May 2024.

2. Given the ending phase of the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), the SRC would need to seek other developmental partners and assistance for the remaining work deliverables to be undertaken on the Single Window project, which has been re-extended to December 2025.

C

10.8.1
10.8.2

Indicative date of implementation
1 January 2019

Definitive date of implementation
31 December 2021

Assistance required for implementation

1. Sourcing funding for the procurement of equipment (such as incinerator) and consumables for testing purposes;
2. Support for accreditation formalities to help improve capacity and standard of laboratory to conduct test on goods prior to rejection;
3. Technical assistance and capacity building to facilitate staff development;
4. Support for the development of national policy guidelines and standard operation procedures (SOPs) for re-export and/or destruction of rejected goods;
5. Development of appropriate protocols governing and the proper handling and transportation of rejected/confiscated goods.

Tags: *Legislative and regulatory framework, Infrastructure and equipment, Human resources and training*

Donor Members: European Union

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

1. The Seychelles Revenue Commission, under its laws and Statutory Instrument (S.I) 42 of 2014, Chapter 13 Regulations 81(1) and 82 stipulates the processes and procedures for disposal of rejected goods within the mandate of the Customs Division of Seychelles as relating to customs and border security. Under the Animal Plant Biosecurity Act 2014, provisions exist which stipulate how rejected goods are dealt with.

2. Under the Food Act, 2014, provisions exist for rejected consignment of goods to be relabelled or reconditioned or export or disposed of by the importer subjected to the necessary provisions of the Act. Any contravention of the provisions may allow the Competent Authority to dispose of the rejected goods and applicable fines are applied to the individual importers.

3. The Department of Agriculture received technical and financial assistance for the procurement of an incinerator under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF), which has been refurbished through budgetary allocation of the Government of Seychelles.

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

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