



28 February 2020

(20-1514)

Page: 1/6

Committee on Trade Facilitation

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION OF CATEGORY COMMITMENTS UNDER
THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION**

COMMUNICATION FROM LESOTHO

Addendum

The following communication, dated 21 February 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Lesotho for Members' information.

Following up from the notification dated 4 June 2018 (G/TFA/N/LSO/1), Lesotho hereby makes the following notifications:

(1) Shifting of categories, (2) definitive dates of implementation for category B commitments, and (3) technical assistance and support for capacity building for category C commitments.

(1) Lesotho hereby notifies, pursuant to Article 19.1 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, that the following provisions have been shifted between categories.

Provision	Heading/Description	Category previously notified as	Category shifted to
Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	B	C
Article 10.9	Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing	B	C

(2) Lesotho hereby notifies its definitive dates of implementation for its category B commitments in response to Article 16 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (WT/L/931).

Provision	Heading/Description	Definitive Date for Implementation
Article 1.1	Publication	31 December 2021
Article 1.4	Notification	31 December 2022
Article 2.2	Consultations	31 December 2021
Article 3	Advance Rulings	31 December 2022
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	31 December 2023
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	31 December 2025
Article 11	Freedom of Transit	31 December 2021

For ease of reference, Lesotho's full list of category commitments can be found in the table attached herewith.

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)
Article 1 Publication and Availability of Information					
Article 1.1	Publication	B	31 December 2019	31 December 2021	-
Article 1.2	Information Available through Internet	C	31 December 2021	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support with the software for upgrade of Lesotho Trade Portal (LTP) that can publish the current trade regulations including but not limited to administrative procedures, agencies to visit, results or outcomes, forms, requirements, licenses, permits, penalties applicable in case of breach, applicable fees, duration of each procedure and laws that justify the procedure and its contents in a step by step manner. • Technical assistance to build a user-friendly interface with clear import and export procedures for each product. • Awareness (education and communications) campaigns to promote the use of LTP. • Capacity building to ensure maintenance and extension of the LTP. • Service Level Agreements which outline procedure for review and provision of the updates by Agencies.
Article 1.3	Enquiry Points	C	31 December 2021	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand enquiry points beyond MTI, MAFS and LRA to other agencies. • Strengthen SPS Committee by developing the ToRs and training. • Capacity building on operating and maintaining enquiry points. • Coordination and monitoring (in an electronic format) of the services for all enquiry points.
Article 1.4	Notification	B	31 December 2021	31 December 2022	-
Article 2 Opportunity to Comment, Information before Entry into Force and Consultations					
Article 2.1	Opportunity to Comment and Information Before Entry into Force	A	-	-	-
Article 2.2	Consultations	B	31 December 2019	31 December 2021	-
Article 3 Advance Rulings					
		B	31 December 2021	31 December 2022	-

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)
Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review					
		C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to review draft legislation. Operationalize LRA's Tribunal Body including its capacity building. Capacity building on implementing appeal procedures.
Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination and Transparency					
Article 5.1	Notification for Enhanced Controls or Inspections	A	-	-	-
Article 5.2	Detention	A	-	-	-
Article 5.3	Test Procedures	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to develop testing parameters and accreditation for veterinary laboratories. ICT infrastructure and technology (networking, automation, high-speed internet). Procurement of testing equipment Testing kits and other relevant laboratory equipment/materials. Support for accreditation of national laboratories. Development of the national Quality, Standards, accreditation and certification. Development of an electronic interface between the accredited laboratories. Capacity Building of staff operating laboratories.
Article 6 Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation and Penalties					
Article 6.1	General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	A	-	-	-
Article 6.2	Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation	A	-	-	-
Article 6.3	Penalty Disciplines	A	-	-	-
Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods					
Article 7.1	Pre-arrival Processing	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to review draft legislation including harmonization with legal framework of all relevant institutions. Stakeholder consultations through workshops and seminars.

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building to implement the law. Development of communication and change management strategy.
Article 7.2	Electronic Payment	B	31 December 2023	31 December 2023	-
Article 7.3	Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for review and drafting of legislative amendments. Stakeholder consultations through workshops and seminars.
Article 7.4	Risk Management	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop multi-agency risk management framework. Support on the design and establishment of a risk management system. ICT Infrastructure and technology for an automated risk management system. Capacity building for sustainable operations of multi-agency risk management framework.
Article 7.5	Post-clearance Audit	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to review draft legislation including harmonization with legal framework of all relevant institutions. Capacity building in post clearance audit in all relevant agencies.
Article 7.6	Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on designing, planning and implementing Time Release Study for all relevant agencies. Stakeholder engagement to disseminate the results of the study.
Article 7.7	Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on design, implementation and review of authorized trader scheme. Support for development of the multi-agency framework for the Authorized Operators. Stakeholder Awareness campaigns.
Article 7.8	Expedited Shipments	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support on developing procedures/policies to ensure rapid release of expedited goods. Support on requisite infrastructure.
Article 7.9	Perishable Goods	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to review draft legislation including harmonization with legal framework of all relevant institutions. Infrastructure support for storage facilities. Stakeholder consultations.

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)
Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation					
		C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for developing a strategy/framework for border agency cooperation. • Capacity building for staff on border agency cooperation. • Support for development of legislation to facilitate border agency cooperation. • Support for Development of Monitoring and Evaluation programme.
Article 9 Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control					
		A	-	-	-
Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit					
Article 10.1	Formalities and Documentation Requirements	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to develop a system for periodic review of formalities and documentation requirements. • Capacity building for responsible agencies on conducting periodic reviews. • Stakeholder consultations and engagement on formalities and documentation requirements. • Support for implementation of electronic certification of origin.
Article 10.2	Acceptance of Copies	B	31 December 2023	31 December 2025	-
Article 10.3	Use of International Standards	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building for agencies on relevant international standards, testing procedures and international best practices. • Awareness campaigns on use of international standards.
Article 10.4	Single Window	C	31 December 2028	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to review draft legislation including harmonization with legal framework of all relevant institutions Stakeholder awareness campaigns on National Electronic single window.
Article 10.5	Pre-shipment Inspection	A	-	-	-
Article 10.6	Use of Customs Brokers	A	-	-	-

Provision	Heading/Description	Category	Indicative date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Definitive date for implementation (for categories B and C)	Assistance and Support for Capacity Building Required for Implementation (for category C)
Article 10.7	Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements	C	31 December 2021	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to review draft legislation including harmonization with legal framework of all relevant institutions. Support on development of a strategy for Common Border Procedures. Capacity building for implementation.
Article 10.8	Rejected Goods	C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for development of Standard Operating Procedures for agencies. Capacity building on standards and related issues.
Article 10.9	Temporary Admission of Goods and Inward and Outward Processing	C	31 December 2021	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish clear procedures, policy and guidelines for control and management of temporary admission of goods. Establish a proper mechanism to implement inward and outward processing of goods for better control and record keeping. Requisite Capacity building for implementation.
Article 11 Freedom of Transit					
		B	31 December 2019	31 December 2021	-
Article 12 Customs Cooperation					
		C	31 December 2023	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for development of legal framework for the exchange of information. Stakeholder consultations and engagements. Support to engage a partner on one-stop border posts. Support on requisite infrastructure.