NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE FACILITATION (NCTF)

EXPERIENCE SHARING

Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the WTO
Ministry of Commerce
Government of Pakistan

12-13 February 2019
World Trade Organisation
SCHEME OF PRESENTATION

- Background
- Terms of Reference
- Composition
- Membership
- Achievements
- Lessons Learnt
BACKGROUND

• Pakistan’s National Trade and Transport Facilitation Committee (NTTFC) first constituted through a government resolution and become operational in **August 2001**.
  • Established through donor assistance
    • Financial (World Bank)
    • Technical (UNCTAD)
  • Amended periodically to change composition etc.

• Reconstituted **11th February 2018**
  • Reflecting new requirements under TFA
TERMS OF REFERENCE
(Initial)

• Support and coordination among various government agencies and commercial enterprises that participate in international trade transactions

• Create a cross-sectoral secretariat to address trade and transport related issues and develop practical solutions

• Assist in updating Pakistan’s legal and institutional environment for trade and transport

• At the time TFA was not on the horizon
TERMS OF REFERENCE
(Revised)

• Review policies related to Trade Facilitation in view of obligations under TFA

• Provide support in implementation of policies about the TFA, and any other conventions on Trade and Transport Facilitation

• **Identify issues and problems** faced by private sector related to trade facilitation
  • Propose procedures and methodologies for addressing the identified problems
TERMS OF REFERENCE
(Revised)

• Develop and promote adoption of measures for simplification and harmonization of trade and transport procedures

• Coordinate between implementing agencies in the field of international trade and transport facilitation

• Promote adoption of standard trade and transport terminologies / international codes
COMPOSITION

- Headed by Secretary Commerce
- Representation of both public and private sector
- Private Sector
  - Chambers of Commerce
  - Service providers associations
  - SMEs
- Secretariat provided by dedicated wing in Ministry of Commerce
- Meetings held quarterly, or whenever required
# MEMBERSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government Agencies</th>
<th>Private Sector / Service Providers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Commerce</td>
<td>International Chamber of Commerce (ICC, Pakistan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Board of Revenue</td>
<td>Pakistan Ships’ Agents Association</td>
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<td>State Bank of Pakistan</td>
<td>All Pakistan Shipping Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of Communications</td>
<td>All Pakistan Customs Agents Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of National Food Security and Research</td>
<td>Pakistan International Freight Forwarders Association (PIFFA)</td>
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<td>Ministry of Planning and Development / NLC</td>
<td>All Pakistan Dry Ports Association (APDPA)</td>
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<td>Ministry of Science and Technology</td>
<td>Goods Carriers Association</td>
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<td>Ministry of Information Technology</td>
<td>Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP)</td>
<td>Pakistan Association for Small and Medium Enterprises</td>
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<td>Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA)</td>
<td>Insurance Association of Pakistan</td>
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ACHIEVEMENTS

• TFA related
  • Regular assistance with negotiating positions on TFA and input for Mission
  • Needs assessment for TFA categories
  • Categorisation of A, B and C Commitments
  • Ratification of TFA
  • Ongoing Implementation of TFA

• Single Administrative Document for customs clearance introduced
ACHIEVEMENTS

• Accession to revised Kyoto Convention, ATA Carnet Convention, COTIF (Convention on International Carriage by Rail), TIR
• Introduction of UNLK based documents including SAD, RoO document, animal and plant quarantine documents etc
• Measures for improving exports of perishable commodities
• Computerization of customs clearance systems
  • Web Base One Custom (WeBOC) system introduced by Pakistan Customs
• Modernisation of Freight Forwarding industry
  • Capacity building and training sessions
• Modernisation of transport legislation
  • Laws on Carriage of Goods by Sea, Air and Land
LESSONS LEARNT

• Political will and commitment at highest level
• Ownership and effective participation of key stakeholders
  • Committed lead agency
  • Capacity issues, continuity and frequent change in line departments
  • Representation at senior level
• Dedicated Institutional arrangements
  • Initial: independent secretariat
  • Recent: dedicated section within MoC to coordinate
LESSONS LEARNT

• Sustainable Financing
  • Initial: financing by World Bank and technical assistance by UNCTAD
    • Public-Private Partnership model
  • Interim: dedicated project budget from government resources
  • Recent: regular Ministry of Commerce budget

• Issue-specific Working Groups
  • Capital Based Working Group on Trade Facilitation
  • WG on Customs documentation and clearance procedures
  • WG on trade and transport legislation
  • WG on National Single Window
THANK YOU!

EMERGING PAKISTAN