WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

TFAD Trade Facilitation Agreement Database

Eswatini

Ratified Agreement: Yes

Ratification Date: 2016-11-21

Implementation Notifications (Categories A, B, C)			Due date	Status
Notified all category ABC designations			by 22 February 2017	Yes
A - 9.7%	B - 42.4%	C - 47.9%	**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 31 March 2021	Yes
Notified Art. 10.4.3	Category C	Definitive implementation date 22 February 2025	Yes
Notified Art. 10.6.2	Category A	Definitive implementation date 22 February 2017	Yes
Notified Art. 12.2	Category C	Definitive implementation date 22 February 2027	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	C	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2022
1.2	Information available through internet	C	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2022
1.3	Enquiry points	C	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2022
1.4	Notification	B	by 22 February 2019	by 31 March 2021
2.1	Comments and information before entry into force	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
2.2	Consultations	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
3	Advance rulings	B	by 22 February 2019	by 31 May 2023
4	Procedures for appeal or review	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
5.1	Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
5.2	Detention	B C»B	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2020
5.3	Test procedures	C E	by 22 February 2027	by 22 August 2026
6.1	General disciplines on fees and charges	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
6.2	Specific disciplines on fees and charges	A		by 22 February 2017
6.3	Penalty Disciplines	A		by 22 February 2017

Implementation schedule			Indicative implementation date	Definitive implementation date
7.1	Pre-arrival processing	B C»B	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2022
7.2	Electronic payment	A		by 22 February 2017
7.3	Separation of release	A		by 22 February 2017
7.4	Risk management	C	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2022
7.5	Post-clearance audit	C	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2022
7.6	Average release times	C	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2022
7.7	Authorized operators	C	by 22 February 2027	by 22 February 2024
7.8	Expedited shipments	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
7.9	Perishable goods	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
8	Border Agency Cooperation	C E	by 22 February 2027	by 30 April 2025
9	Movement of goods	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
10.1	Formalities	C E	by 22 February 2022	by 30 April 2025
10.2	Acceptance of copies	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
10.3	Use of international standards	C	by 22 February 2022	by 22 February 2028

Implementation schedule			Indicative implementation date	Definitive implementation date
10.4	Single window	C	by 22 February 2032	by 22 February 2025
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	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
10.8	Rejected Goods	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
10.9	Temporary admission of goods and inward and outward processing	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
11	Transit	B	by 22 February 2019	by 22 February 2027
12	Customs cooperation	C	by 22 February 2032	by 22 February 2027

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/SWZ/8	2025-08-26	Article 10.4.3

Symbol	Date	Description
G/TFA/W/110	2025-08-26	Provision on the national transit coordinator - Communication from Eswatini
G/TFA/W/107	2025-05-02	Time release study - Communication from Eswatini
G/TFA/N/SWZ/7	2024-10-21	Extension of implementation dates
G/TFA/N/SWZ/5/Rev.1	2023-10-12	Donor arrangements and progress in the provision of technical assistance - Revision
G/TFA/N/SWZ/3/Rev.1	2023-10-09	Article 22.3 - Revision
G/TFA/N/SWZ/4/Rev.1	2023-10-09	Articles 1.4 and 12.2.2 - Revision
G/TFA/N/SWZ/6	2023-10-09	Notification of earlier implementation and extension of implementation dates
G/TFA/W/92	2023-07-05	The role of technology transfer in building resilience: Trade Facilitation
G/TFA/N/SWZ/5	2021-05-12	Arrangements and progress in the provision of technical assistance
G/TFA/N/SWZ/4	2021-03-31	Articles 1.4 and 12.2.2
G/TFA/N/SWZ/3	2020-03-17	Article 22.3
G/TFA/N/SWZ/1/Add.2	2019-09-16	Categories B and C notification - Addendum 2
G/TFA/N/SWZ/2	2019-05-23	Notification Article 10.6.2
G/TFA/N/SWZ/1/Add.1/Rev.1	2018-03-12	Category B notification - Revision of the Addendum
G/TFA/N/SWZ/1/Add.1	2018-02-23	Category B notification - Addendum
G/TFA/N/SWZ/1	2017-08-03	Categories A, B & C notification

Experience Sharing

1.2 - Information available through internet

Date	Title
20 October 2020 - 22 October 2020	Trade Facilitation Programme and Trade Facilitation Information Portal (ETIP)

11 - Transit

Date	Title
15 June 2023 - 16 June 2023	Workshop results on transit issues

7.6 - Average release times

Date	Title
	Time release study

Technical Assistance detailled information

1.1 Publication

C

1.1.1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j)

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2022

Assistance required for implementation

1. Development of operational manuals and standard operations procedures (SOPs) for other border agencies;
2. Development of the Trade Information Portal (TIP).

Tags: *Information and communication technologies (ICT), Legislative and regulatory framework, Institutional procedures*

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Trade Information Portal developed with assistance from World Bank Group, International Finance Corporation and launched on the 30th September 2021.

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Trade Information Portal was developed with assistance from WBG, IFC and launched on 30 September 2021.

C

1.2.1 (a), (b), (c)
1.2.2
1.2.3

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2022

Assistance required for implementation

1. Development of the Trade Information Portal (TIP);
2. Establishment of a Trade Information Portal Secretariat for the operation of the Portal.

Tags: *Information and communication technologies (ICT), Institutional procedures*

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Trade Information Portal developed with assistance from World Bank Group, International Finance Corporation and launched on the 30th September 2021.

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Trade Information Portal was developed with assistance from WBG, IFC and launched on 30 September 2021

1.3.1
1.3.2
1.3.3
1.3.4

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2022

Assistance required for implementation

1. Formulation of a coordination framework for various agencies;
2. Capacity building through training for Enquiry Points;
3. Establishment or designation of a Trade Information Enquiry Point Unit.

Tags: *Institutional procedures, Human resources and training*

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Trade Information Portal developed with assistance from World Bank Group, International Finance Corporation and launched on the 30th September 2021.

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Trade Information Portal was developed with assistance from WBG, IFC and launched on 30 September 2021.

C

5.3.1
5.3.2
5.3.3

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2027

Definitive date of implementation
22 August 2026

Assistance required for implementation

1. Capacity building through training and exchange programmes;
2. Development of rules and procedures;
3. Provision of laboratory equipment for testing at various national laboratories;
4. Infrastructure development at various borders for laboratories.

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

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

7.4.1
7.4.2
7.4.3
7.4.4

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2022

Assistance required for implementation

1. Capacity building through training for customs officers and other relevant agencies;
2. Development of a Risk Management Strategy;
3. Establishment of a risk management unit with representatives from all relevant border agencies.

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

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) has a risk management system. Collaboration efforts between SRA and some partner regulatory agencies are ongoing; currently 4 agencies connect to ASYCUDA World.
Preliminary engagements with the World Bank Group, International Finance Corporation on improving SRA Customs Risk Management and engage all the relevant border agencies underway.
No technical assistance received to date on the other areas.

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Eswatini Revenue Service (ERS) has a risk management system. Collaboration efforts between SRA and some partner regulatory agencies are ongoing; currently four agencies connect to ASYCUDA World.

Preliminary engagements with the WBG, IFC on improving ERSCustoms Risk Management and engage all the relevant border agencies underway.

No technical assistance received to date on the other areas.

C

7.5.1
7.5.2
7.5.3
7.5.4

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2022

Assistance required for implementation

1. Capacity building through training for customs officers and other relevant agencies;
2. Establishment of a post-clearance audit unit with representatives from all relevant border agencies.

Tags: *Institutional procedures, Human resources and training*

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

As part of the efforts aimed toward improving SRA Customs Risk Management, considerations for strengthening PCA alongside are underway at organisational level. However, no technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

As part of the efforts aimed toward improving ERS Customs Risk Management, considerations for strengthening PCA alongside are underway at organisational level. However, no technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

7.6 Average release times

C

7.6.1
7.6.2

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2022

Assistance required for implementation

1. Technical assistance in conducting regular time release studies.

Tags: *Information and communication technologies (ICT)*

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

The Word Bank Group conducted the Time Release Study (TRS) in February 2018 for Eswatini in collaboration with cross-border regulatory agencies and Eswatini Revenue Authority Customs. Preparations for the next TRS 2021 are underway, with support also from the WBG – IFC. This will be a Mini-TRS, given the current limitations of the global pandemic.
Furthermore, the recently developed ASYCUDA Performance Measurement System (ASYPM) supported by the SADC Trade Related Facility (TRF), has opened a window for the country to explore opportunities for further opportunities to develop ASYPM to include certain indicators that measure release times nationally. Technical support and capacity building will be required in this regard.

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

The Word Bank Group conducted the Time Release Study (TRS) in February 2018 for Eswatini in collaboration with cross-border regulatory agencies and Eswatini Revenue Service Customs. Preparations for the next TRS 2021 are underway, with support also from the WBG – IFC. This will be a Mini-TRS, given the current limitations of the global pandemic.

Furthermore, the recently developed ASYCUDA Performance Measurement System (ASYPM) supported by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Trade Related Facility (TRF), has opened a window for the country to explore opportunities for further opportunities to develop ASYPM to include certain indicators that measure release times nationally. Technical support and capacity building will be required in this regard.

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
22 February 2027

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2024

Assistance required for implementation

1. Training on Authorized Operators for customs officers and relevant agencies;
2. Development and implementation of a programme for Authorized Operators;
3. Capacity building for the National Trade Facilitation Agreement Secretariat.

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

Donor Members: United Kingdom

Donor Agencies: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Southern Africa Customs Union

Progress reported

The SRA has implemented a Preferred Trader Programme (focusing on Customs compliance), where two traders have been accredited.
No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date on expanding the programme to Authorized Economic Operator (AEO).

Donor Members: United Kingdom

Donor Agencies: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Southern Africa Customs Union

Progress reported

The ERS has implemented a Preferred Trader Programme (focusing on Customs compliance), where two traders have been accredited.

No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date on expanding the programme to Authorized Economic Operator (AEO).

8.1
8.2 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e)

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2027

Definitive date of implementation
30 April 2025

Assistance required for implementation

1. Provision of technical assistance in the formulation of the Business Process Review including the profiling of border agencies;
2. Development of an implementation programme for the Business Process Review.

Tags: *Legislative and regulatory framework, Institutional procedures*

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Article 8 (1) With support from WBG - IFC, the country has defined the Eswatini CBM concept and indicative model. Currently under development is the CBM Blueprint for implementation.
Article 8 (2) Discussions have been initiated and are ongoing with neighbouring South Africa for implementation of a One Stop Border Post at Oshoek - Ngwenya Border Post. However, to date, no technical support and capacity building has been received in this regard.

Donor Agencies: World Bank, International Finance Corporation

Progress reported

Article 8 (1) With support from World Bank Group – International FC, the country has defined the Eswatini Coordinated Border Management (CBM) concept and indicative model. Currently under development is the CBM Blueprint for implementation.

Article 8 (2) Discussions have been initiated and are ongoing with neighbouring South Africa for implementation of a One Stop Border Post at Oshoek – Ngwenya Border Post. However, to date, no technical support and capacity building has been received in this regard.

C

10.1.1 (a), (b), (c), (d)

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
30 April 2025

Assistance required for implementation

1. Formulation of a legislative or administrative framework on business practices, review of formalities and documentation requirements and also the involvement of the private sector in decision-making;
2. Establishment or designation, within the Customs Administration and other relevant border agencies, or a central government authority responsible for assessing trade impact of proposed formalities and documentation.

Tags: *Legislative and regulatory framework, Diagnostic and Needs Assessment, Institutional procedures*

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

C

10.3.1
10.3.2

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2022

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2028

Assistance required for implementation

1. Development of a framework aligning national legislation to the WCO Revised Kyoto Convention and other international standards relating to import, export and transit formalities and procedures.

Tags: *Legislative and regulatory framework*

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

Donor Agencies: to be determined

Progress reported

No technical assistance and capacity building support received to date.

C

10.4.1
10.4.2
10.4.3
10.4.4

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2032

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2025

Assistance required for implementation

1. Development of the following:
a. ICT or E-Government Strategy;
b. Digital National Plan/E-Commerce;
c. ICT infrastructure;
d. Single Window Policy/Strategy;
e. Feasibility study/master plan for the implementation of a national single window;
f. Assessment of national legislation for readiness for a single window implementation;
g. Analysis and harmonization of business processes and data requirements in the trade of goods;
h. Governance framework with agreed procedures and clear roles.

Tags: *Information and communication technologies (ICT), Legislative and regulatory framework, Infrastructure and equipment, Diagnostic and Needs Assessment, Institutional procedures*

Donor Agencies: World Bank

Progress reported

The World Bank has assisted Eswatini in implementing building blocks towards the implementation of the National Single Window (NSW), and they are:
- developed 'As Is' and 'To Be' business processes for all trade regulatory agencies
- developed the functional specifications for the NSW
- conducted the ICT assessment for implementation of NSW
- legal review of the legislation for implementing NSW and
- developed the NSW Blueprint/Roadmap.
No technical assistance has been received for the development of the NSW system and the other areas required

Donor Agencies: World Bank

Progress reported

The World Bank has assisted Eswatini in implementing building blocks towards the implementation of the National Single Window (NSW), and they are:
- developed 'As Is' and 'To Be' business processes for all trade regulatory agencies
- developed the functional specifications for the NSW
- conducted the ICT assessment for implementation of NSW
- legal review of the legislation for implementing NSW and
- developed the NSW Blueprint/Roadmap.

No technical assistance has been received for the development of the NSW system and the other areas required

12.1.1
12.1.2
12.2.1
12.2.2
12.3
12.4.1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f)
12.4.2
12.5.1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f)
12.5.2
12.5.3
12.6.1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e)
12.6.2
12.7.1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e)
12.7.2
12.8
12.9.1
12.9.2
12.10 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h)
12.11.1 (a), (b), (c)
12.11.2
12.12.1
12.12.2

Indicative date of implementation
22 February 2032

Definitive date of implementation
22 February 2027

Assistance required for implementation

1. Capacity building on customs-to customs exchange of information for purposes of verifying goods declarations, in the following areas:
a. Measures promoting compliance and cooperation;
b. Exchange of information;
c. Verification;
d. Request;
e. Protection and confidentiality;
f. Provision of information;
g. Postponement or refusal of a request;
h. Reciprocity;
i. Administrative burden;
j. Limitations;
k. Unauthorized use or disclosure;
l. Bilateral and regional agreements.

Tags: *Institutional procedures*

Donor Members: United Kingdom

Donor Agencies: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, World Customs Organization

Progress reported

a) Article 12 (1) C2B cooperation: The SRA is developing a programme for an accredited training on Customs clearance to build capacity and customs competence for clearing and freight forwarding agents. The curriculum was documented with technical assistance provided under the SADC Trade Related Facility
b) Article 12 (2 – 11) C2C cooperation: Data exchange framework (legal framework and system procedure) has been put in place among SACU countries The initiative was advanced through support that was initially extended to the SACU region under Sida – WCO and more recently with the UK SRA is also using the SADC Protocol on Trade to process requests for administrative assistance and these are handled in line with legal provisions governing use of the information and ensuring the required confidentiality.
c) Article 12 (12) SRA entered into a bilateral agreement to operationalise the electronic data exchange with SARS for exchange of customs declaration data.

Donor Members: United Kingdom

Donor Agencies: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, World Customs Organization

Progress reported

a) Article 12 (1) C2B cooperation: The ERS is developing a programme for an accredited training on Customs clearance to build capacity and customs competence for clearing and freight forwarding agents. The curriculum was documented with technical assistance provided under SADC Trade Related Facility
b) Article 12 (2 – 11) C2C cooperation: Data exchange framework (legal framework and system procedure) has been put in place among SACU countries The initiative was advanced through support that was initially extended to the SACU region under SIDA – WCO and more recently with the UK ERS is also using the SADC Protocol on Trade to process requests for administrative assistance and these are handled in line with legal provisions governing use of the information and ensuring the required confidentiality.
c) Article 12 (12) ERS entered into a bilateral agreement to operationalise the electronic data exchange with the South African Revenue Service (SARS) for exchange of customs declaration data.

Legend

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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