



NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE FACILITATION (NCTF)

EXPERIENCE SHARING

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

EMERGING
PAKISTAN
12-13 February 2019
World Trade Organisation



SCHEME OF PRESENTATION

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



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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

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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*

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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

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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**

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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

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MEMBERSHIP

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



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

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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

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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!
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