



**Short course:**  
**Trade logistics, transport,  
trade facilitation and  
customs automation**

**2 November 2015**

**Trade Facilitation  
Poul Hansen**

**Trade Logistics Branch**

**Division on Technology and Logistics**



# International Trade Transaction Process



## Commercial Procedures

- Establish Contract
- Order Goods
- Advise On Delivery
- Request Payment

## Transport Procedures

- Establish Transport Contract
- Collect, Transport and Deliver Goods
- Provide Waybills, Goods Receipts Status reports

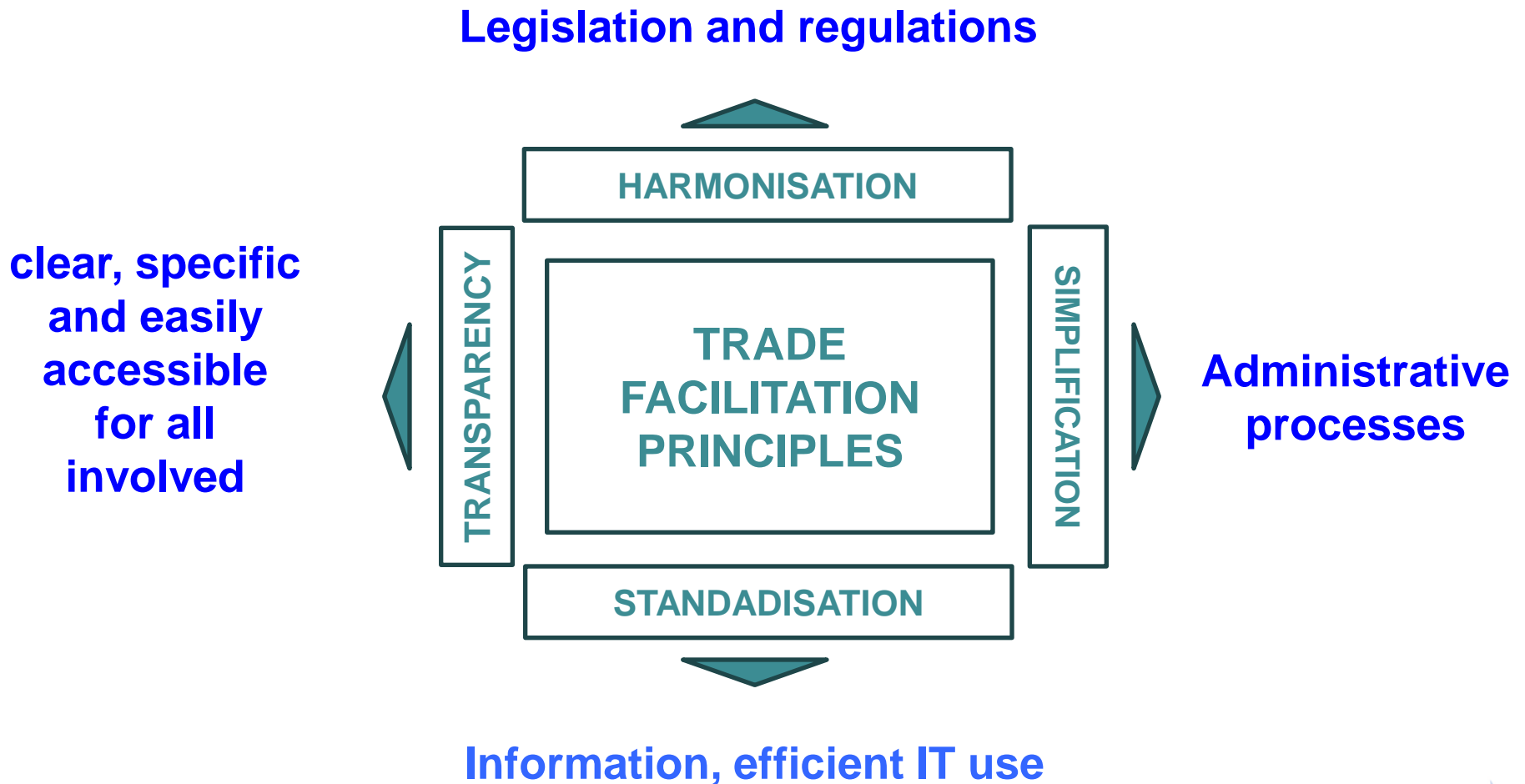
## Regulatory Procedures

- Obtain Import, Export (etc.) Licences
- Provide Customs Declarations
- Provide Cargo Declaration
- Apply Trade Security Procedures
- Clear Goods for Export/Import

## Financial Procedures



# Facilitation Principles



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# Border inefficiencies translate into direct and indirect costs impacting business competitiveness

## Direct costs

- Time and resources invested in managing export administrative activities**
- Collect, produce, transmit and process required information and documents

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## Indirect costs

### Increased operational costs

- Delays translate into extra transport, insurance or warehouse costs

### Increased working capital requirements

- Inventories immobilized are carried out by the exporter (except for EXW sales)

### Product deterioration

- Delays can lead to the degradation of products and render them unfit for sale

### Lost business opportunities

- Direct: joining a punctual regional trade
- Indirect: immobilized stock could have been sold to a local client



# Time Line of TF Negotiations

Singapore  
Issues



July  
Package

Bali  
Declaration  
TFA

TFA text  
Agreed



1996

2001

2004

2013

2014

1<sup>st</sup> WTO  
Ministerial  
Conference



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# Structure of the Trade Facilitation Agreement

**Preamble**

## **Section I - Substantive Provisions**

<b>TFA Articles</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>GATT articles</b>
Articles 1 to 5	Transparency	Article X
Articles 6 to 10	Fees and Formalities	Article VIII
Article 11	Transit	Article V
Article 12	Other issues	na

## **Section II - Special and Differential Treatment**

## **Section III – Institutional arrangements and final provisions**



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## Where do we stand?

- **Negotiations concluded:**  
**Bali, December 2013**
- **Protocol agreed: November 2014**
  
- **TFA Ratifications: 51**  
**Required Ratifications: 108 (or more)**
  
- **Category A Notifications: 73**



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# Advantages for developing countries of implementing the TFA?

- 1) Strengthen multilateral system.**
- 2) It's good for trade. And trade is usually good for development.**
- 3) It is also good for :  
It increases revenue collection  
and saves resources.**
- 4) Plus: Most measures, on their own,  
are good for development**





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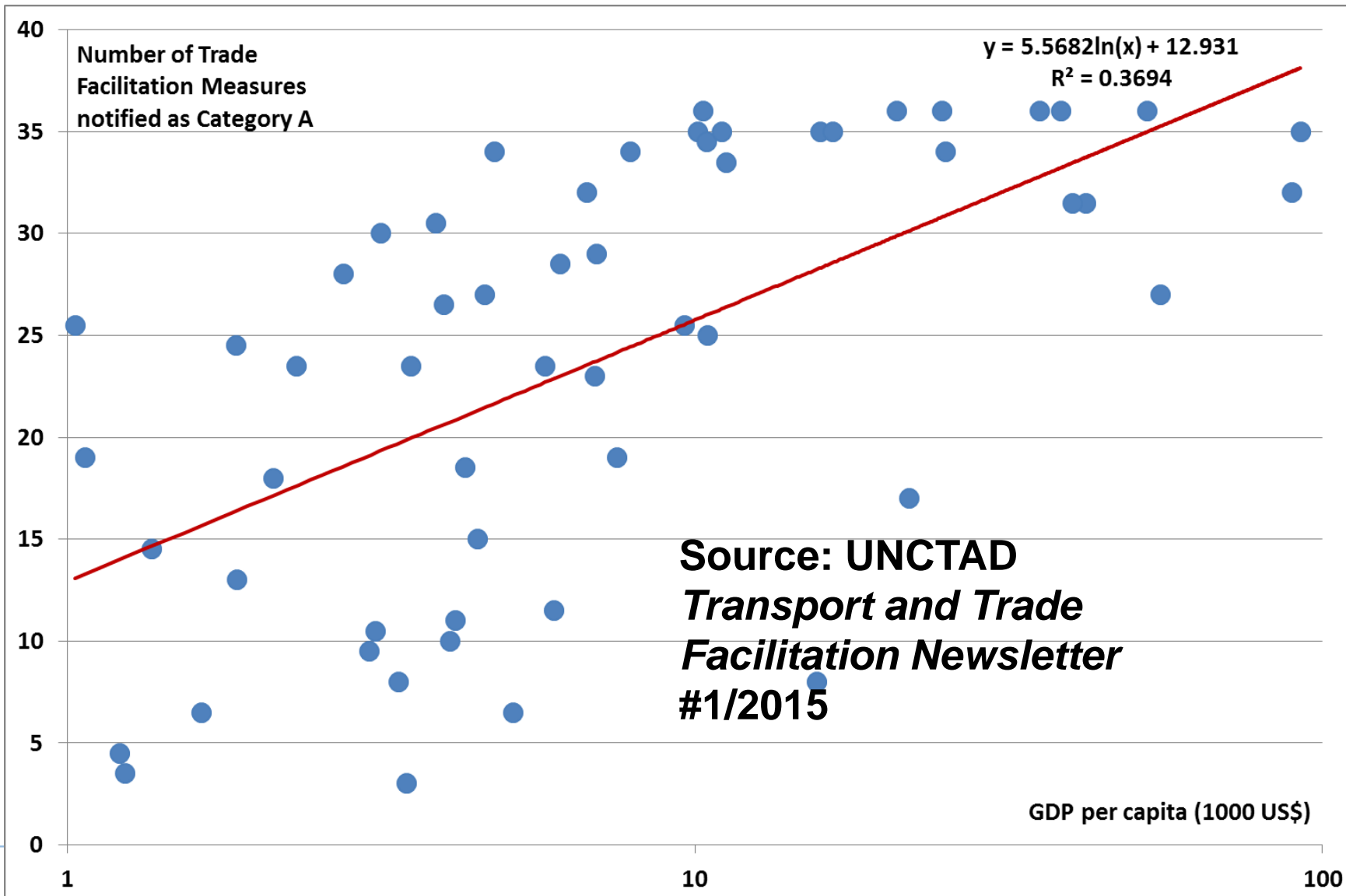
# Trade Facilitation is good for development

**Trade Facilitation reforms help to ...**

- **formalize trade,**
- **save time and frustrations,**
- **improve governance,**
- **empower women entrepreneurs,**
- **strengthen regional integration,**
- **modernize public administrations,**
- **foster IT capacities,**
- **improve security, and**
- **increase revenue collection.**



# Implementation and GDP per capita



**Source: UNCTAD  
Transport and Trade  
Facilitation Newsletter  
#1/2015**





## Direct UNCTAD TACB support for TFA Implementation

- To date: TACB, TF Plan, Categorization, notification, ratification
- Project on National Implementation Plans on TF
- 35+ countries assisted through this project
- Donor financed through UNCTAD TF Trust Fund



- Cooperating with:
  - **ITC, UNECE**, UN Regional Commissions, OECD, WB, WCO, WTO etc.
  - EAC, trapca, OECS, UEMOA, CEFTA etc.

- Next steps:
  - Project plans and implementation assistance
  - NTFC focus, PPP assistance



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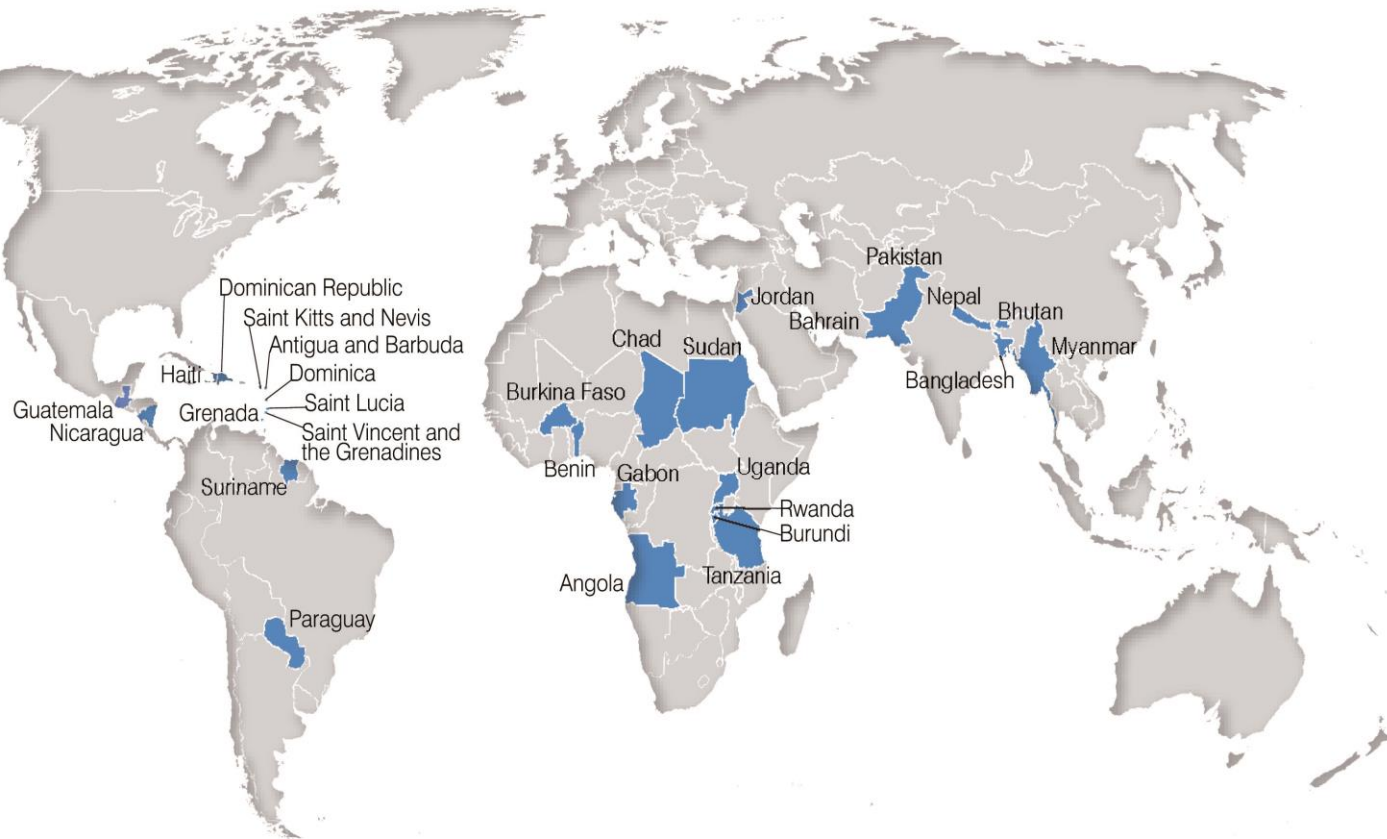
# UNCTAD Support to Developing Countries

## TFA implementation and ratification

1. Assessments to prepare for categorization: **Gap analysis**
2. Prepare for implementation: **Project development**
3. Strengthening institutions: **National TF Committees**
4. Training: **Strengthen capacities**
5. Support to ratification: **Advice and awareness**



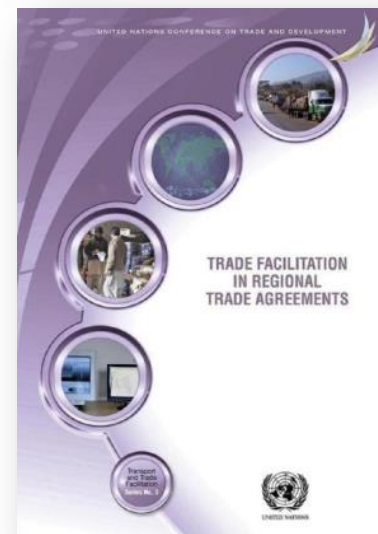
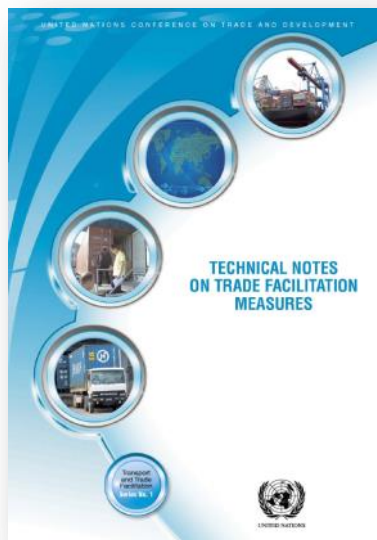
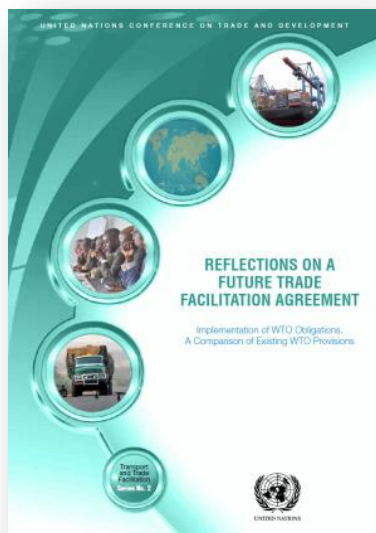
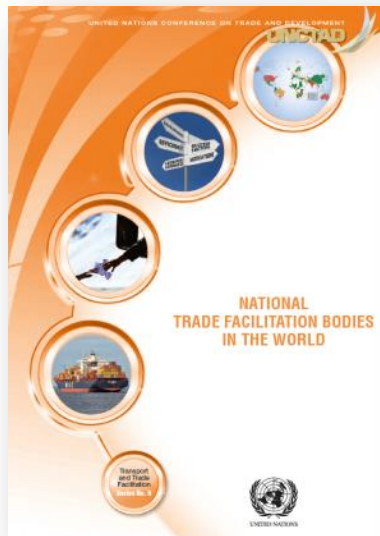
# National Implementation Plans





# Research

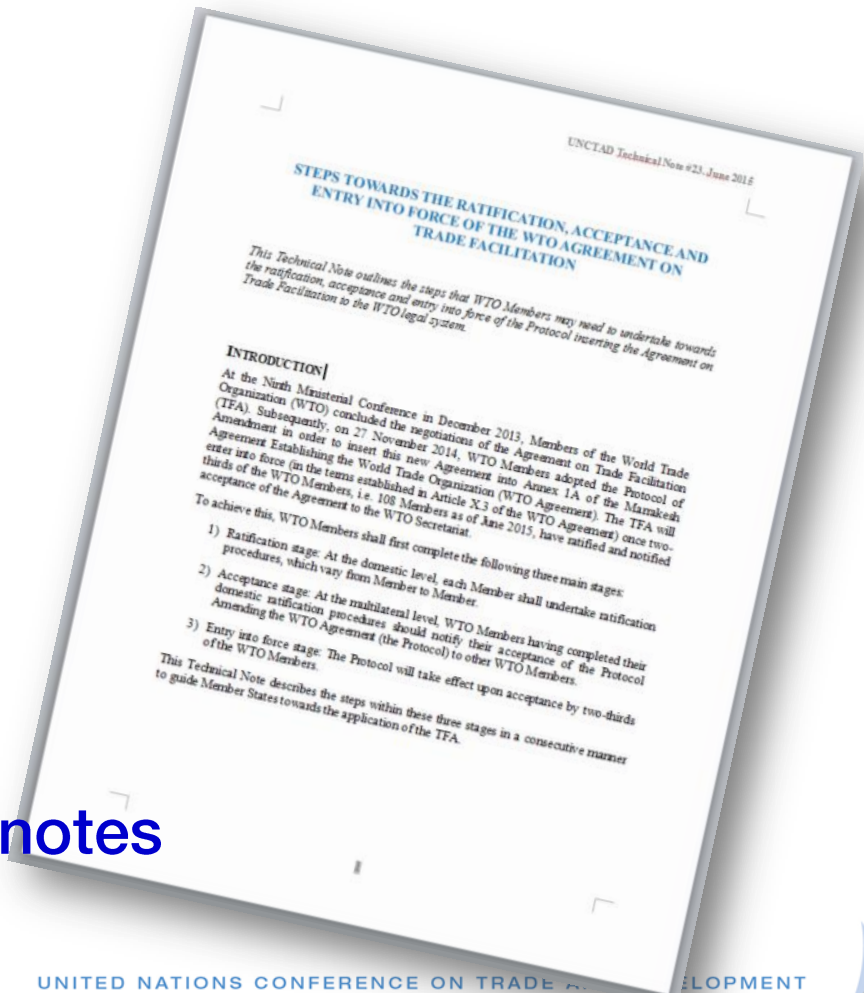
# UNCTAD



# What needs to be done? Ratification

**NEW:**

- UNCTAD  
Technical Note #23



<http://unctad.org/technicalnotes>







UNITED NATIONS  
UNCTAD

# TRADE FACILITATION TECHNICAL NOTE #23

## STEPS TOWARDS THE RATIFICATION, ACCEPTANCE AND ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE WTO AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION

### INTRODUCTION

At the Ninth Ministerial Conference in December 2013, Members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) concluded the negotiations of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA). The TFA will enter into force once

**2/3 of the WTO Members, i.e. 108 Members as of June 2015,**

have ratified and notified acceptance of the Agreement to the WTO Secretariat.

To achieve this, WTO Members shall first complete the following **THREE MAIN STAGES**

#### STAGE I RATIFICATION

At the domestic level, each Member shall undertake ratification procedures, which vary from Member to Member

#### STAGE II ACCEPTANCE

At the multilateral level, WTO Members having completed their domestic ratification procedures should notify their acceptance of the Protocol Amending the WTO Agreement

#### STAGE III ENTRY INTO FORCE

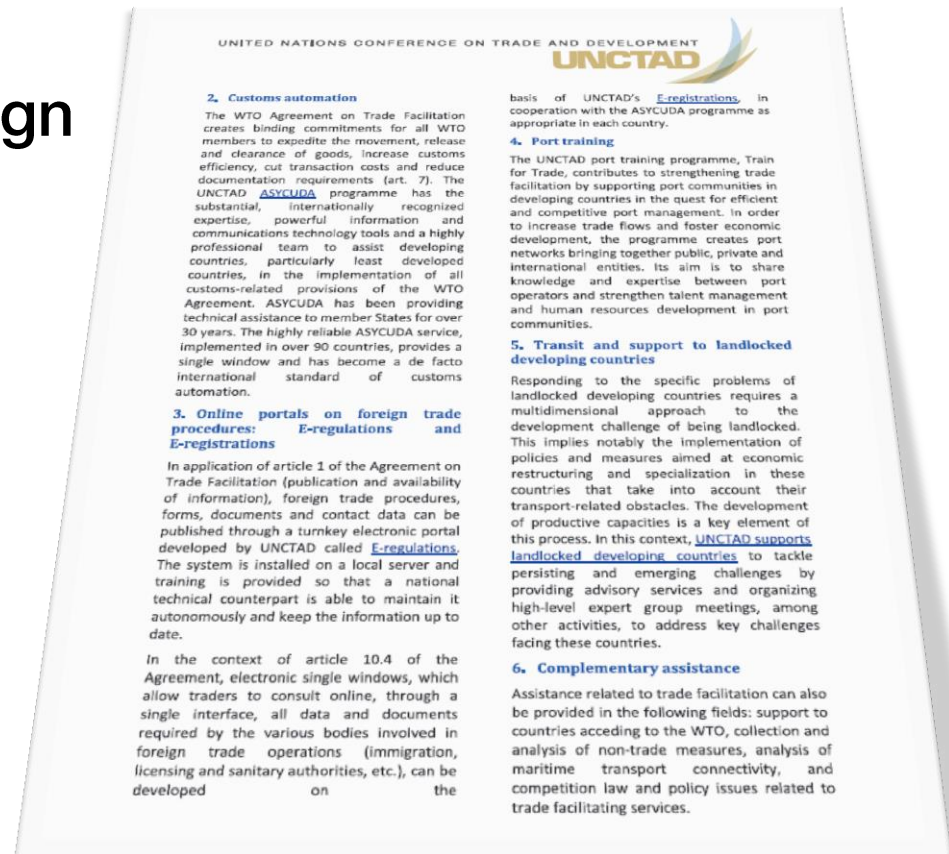
The Protocol will take effect upon acceptance by two-thirds of the WTO Members

This Technical Note describes the steps within these three stages in a consecutive manner to guide Member States towards the application of the TFA.



# Trade and Transport Facilitation beyond the TFA

- Customs automation
- On-line portals on foreign trade procedures
- Port training
- Transit
- Complementary assistance





# ASYCUDA



The screenshot displays the ASYCUDA software interface for a 'Detailed Declaration - New (2013)'. The main window is divided into several sections:

- 29 Office of entry:** AF281
- 38 Location of goods:** 88
- 12 Packages and description of goods:** 50 24
- 13 Commodity code:** 64031900 000
- 34 City, orig. Code:** 000
- 35 Gross mass (kg):** 000
- 36 Prefer.:** 000
- Product name:** ANKOO LEATHER TRAINING SHOES
- 44 ADS info:** Licence No., Produced Certificate and authentication, A.D., D.Val, D.City
- 47 Calculation of taxes:**

Type	Tax base	Rate	Amount
041	518,500.000	5,000	25,825
042	542,325.000	2,000	10,847
043	25,825.000	2,000	516
044	25,825.000	6,250	65
047	542,325.000	2,000	10,848
- Product Finder - Search:** Search criteria: Commodity code (64031900), T.S.C. (000), Country of origin (CH), Country of export (CH). Brand keyword: ANKOO.
- Tariff specification list:**

T.S.C.	Brand	Commercial description
0001	NIKE	LEATHER UPPERS AND LEATHER SOLED TRAINING SHOES
0002	ADIDAS	LEATHER TRAINING SHOES
9004	ANKOO	ANKOO LEATHER TRAINING SHOES

The screenshot shows the homepage of the country.iTradePortal.org website. The main heading reads: "A trade facilitation tool for transparency and simplification". Below this, a banner image shows an airplane being loaded with cargo.

The website features a navigation menu with links for HOME, PROCEDURES, ABOUT US, and CONTACT US. A search bar is located in the top right corner.

The main content area includes a section titled "The trade portal shows all import, export and transit procedures, in application of article 1 of the WTO Bali Agreement on Trade Facilitation". Below this, a paragraph states: "This portal can be configured to your needs and become your country national trade portal. Your foreign trade procedures, including forms, requirements and contact data can be accessible online within a few months. Implementation steps are the following:"

- Installation on a national server
- Training of national officers in collecting and registering information
- Set up of a permanent update mechanism associating all concerned government agencies
- Transfer of complete administration and technical documentation
- Further assistance can be provided to simplify procedures and to create an electronic single window

A "More information" button is located to the right of the list.

At the bottom of the page, there are three main sections: "World Trade Portals" (with a map), "WTO 13 Bali" (with a logo), and "Contact us" (with a form). To the right of these sections is a "Directories" section with buttons for "Institutions", "Forms and administrative documents", and "Laws".

The cover of the "PORT MANAGEMENT SERIES Volume 1" publication features the UNCTAD logo at the top. The title "PORT MANAGEMENT SERIES" is prominently displayed, with "Volume 1" in a circular graphic below it. The subtitle "Port Management Case Studies" is also present.

The cover includes several circular images showing port infrastructure, including cranes, ships, and cargo handling. At the bottom, it mentions "2011 - 2013 Cycle of the Train-For-Trade Port Training Programme" and "English-speaking Network". The United Nations logo is at the bottom center.



# Working together

- Collaboration with ITC and UNECE under MOU
  - Repository of National TF Committees
  - TF Implementation Guide
  - Seminars and advisory services



- Joint project with WCO
- Partnering with many other international organizations



- Donors:  
EU, Germany, Sweden, United Kingdom





**Thank you for your attention!**

**Questions?**

[www.unctad.org/TLB](http://www.unctad.org/TLB)

[trade.logistics@unctad.org](mailto:trade.logistics@unctad.org)



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