

Multiyear Expert Meeting on

**Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade  
Facilitation, Seventh session:  
Trade facilitation and transit in support  
of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable  
Development**

7 to 9 May 2019

**UNCTAD Empowerment Programme for  
National Trade Facilitation Committees**

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# UNCTAD Empowerment Programme for National Trade Facilitation Committees

Session 2: Implementation of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation of the World Trade Organization - status and United Nations assistance

MyEM, 7 May 2019

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Trade Facilitation Section  
Division on Technology and Logistics

## UNCTAD Empowerment Programme

Brief historical background

Initial questions about establishing a functioning NTFC

UNCTAD Empowerment Programme for National Trade Facilitation Committees

## Brief historical background

Even before the entry into force of the WTO TFA, UNCTAD saw the importance of a platform for all stakeholders of trade to coordinate and cooperate in contributing to facilitate their country's trade and integration into the global market .

Together with UNECE, UNCTAD collaborated with international experts to develop Recommendation No. 4 on "National Trade Facilitation Bodies", which was first approved in 1973.

The importance of this platform was then widely shared by the international trading community such that it found its way to be included as an integral part of the negotiated text in the Doha round of negotiation.

Now, article 23.2 of the WTO TFA testifies to the pivotal role of National Trade Facilitation Committees in facilitating the coordination and implementation of the provisions of the Agreement.

## Initial questions about establishing a functioning NTFC

How does a functioning NTFC look like?

What are the deliverables of an NTFC that would facilitate the coordination and implementation of not only the provision of WTO TFA, but also its National TF reforms in general?

What would the members of NTFC need to know to run a functioning NTFC?

What kind of skill sets the members of NTFC must have to perform their duties?

How to bring together stakeholders with various background, roles and interests to work together for a common goal?

- UNCTAD provides an intensive professional program for the Secretariat and the members of National Trade Facilitation Committees (NTFCs).
- The main objective is to help them implement, in a coordinated manner, trade facilitation reforms, including the provisions of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).



## BENEFITS

- Establishing the National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFCs), if required.
- Improving teamwork dynamics within the NTFC
- Launching a National Trade Facilitation Roadmap to mainstream trade facilitation beyond the WTO TFA
- Ensuring knowledge transfer thanks to the Training-of-Trainers approach
- Improve national trade regime, government revenue, and trader experience



## KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Courses developed by international experts and in collaboration with other UN and international organisations
- Content tailor-made to country specific needs
- E-learning and face-to-face trainings
- Interactive methodology: "learning by doing"
- Technical visits in the field
- Training-of-Trainers module included
- A flexible modular approach



## PROGRAM DURATION / MODULE APPROACH

- A total of 4 modules of 30 hours each, available on demand, adjusted according to country needs
- Module's length 3-4 days
- Possibility to choose sequence of modules depending on your needs



## TARGET AUDIENCE & LANGUAGE

- The course is conceived for current and potential members of the NTFC, including its Secretariat and a high variety of public and private sector members.
- UNCTAD's Empowerment Program for NTFCs is available in English, French and Spanish. Other languages available on request



## CERTIFICATION

- After successful completion of UNCTAD's Empowerment Program, members of the National Trade Facilitation Committee will be granted an UNCTAD certification of completion.





## MODULAR APPROACH

Module

1

## INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- General concepts on trade facilitation
- Trade facilitation and global supply chain management and the promotion of exports
- Standards and international legal framework for trade facilitation
- Implementation of WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Module

2

## MEASURING & IMPLEMENTING TRADE FACILITATION

- How to analyse trade data
- Techniques to identify bottlenecks and analyse results
- Introduction to the use of information and communication technologies in trade facilitation
- Introduction to complex measures such as single window

Module

3

## STRENGTHENING NTFC & ESTABLISHING A TF ROADMAP

- Guidelines and best practices to strengthening NTFCs
- How to improve consultations / with focus on negotiation skills
- How to establish a 3-5 year trade facilitation roadmap with key performance indicators

Module

4

# TRAINING OF TRAINERS

- Training-Of-Trainers techniques
- Training-Of-Trainers presentations of topics identified during the previous modules
- Establishing a procedure for training new members of the NTFC
- Identifying training needs for the NTFC for the next year

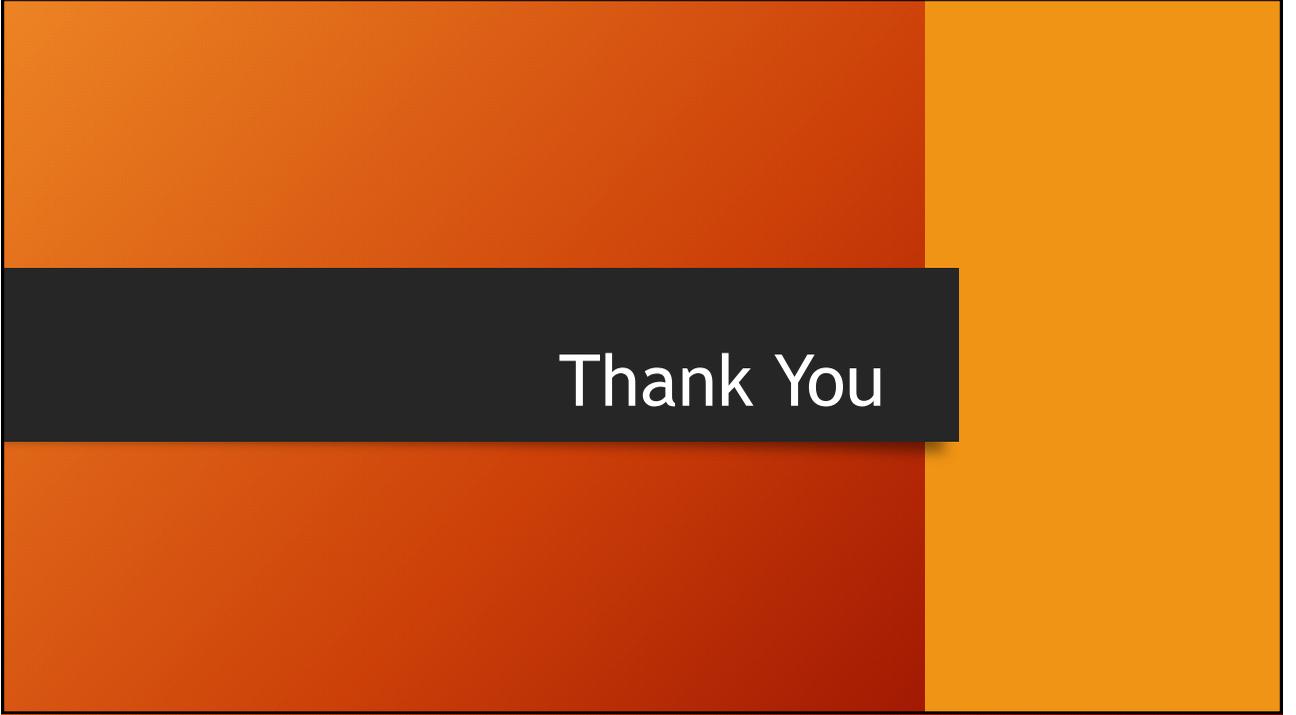
## So far ...

Since 2016, UNCTAD has assisted the NTFCs in more than 22 African countries.



Starting in 2018, the programme is also being delivered in the Caribbean region (six OECS Member States + Belize and Guyana)





Thank You