E-platform for reporting Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) in West Africa for effective advocacy

by

Justin BAYILI
Executive Secretary of Borderless Alliance

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD
E-platform for reporting Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) in West Africa for effective advocacy

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Justin BAYILI
Executive Secretary of Borderless Alliance
Main Starting Point:
The Road Governance Map

April 1st – June 30th
2013

CONTROLS:
- Police
- Customs
- Gendarmerie
- Immigration
- Others: Unions, Water and Forest Services, Health Services, Municipalities and FRGI

www.borderlesswa.com
What is a Non-Tariff Barrier (NTB)?

Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) refer to restrictions that result from prohibitions, conditions, or specific market requirements that make importation or exportation of products difficult and/or costly.

Read more...

Report an NTB

Are you having problems moving or clearing goods across borders?

Register your complaint online

Your complaint will be:
1. Reported to the appropriate country representatives

Report from a mobile phone

Send us a text message to:
+233 547 38 38 75 (Ghana)

And tell us:
- What is your name?
- What is the problem?
- Where did it happen?
www.tradebarrierswa.org
Objective of the Platform:

1- Identify, report, track and resolve Non Tariff Barriers (NTBs) in West Africa;

2- Publish policy regulations (national and regional) that impact trade facilitation and the business community;

3- Communicate on BA activities.
E-platform to report Non-Tariff Barriers (NTB) in West Africa for effective advocacy

Public Users - Target Groups:
Drivers, transporters, forwarding agents, traders, trade and transport stakeholders, private companies, policy makers, etc.

Regional Economic Communities:
✓ ECOWAS & UEMOA
E PLATFORM PROCESS OVERVIEW

1. Complainant reports complaint via text message or voice call.
2. Register complaint online.
3. Notifications from system.
4. Complainant registers complaint online on behalf of complainant.
5. E-platform.
6. Reporting and Notifications from system.
7. Manage complaints in the system.
8. System administrator.
9. Reporting and Notifications from system.
10. Support and maintain system.
11. Webmaster.
12. Monitor complaints.
13. UEMOA and CEDEAO.
14. REC and other stakeholders.
KEY PLAYERS OF THE PLATFORM

- **Users/Complainants**: Register Complaints via voice call, text or online;
- **SCSUs/BICs**: Register complaints online on behalf of complainants;
- **Lead Focal Point**: Receives all NTBs logged in relation to their country;
- **Focal Points**: Receive complaints from Lead Focal Point and take the necessary actions to resolve;
- **System Administrator**: Manages the platform liaising with the Web Master and coordination linkages between countries. SA receives all complaints submitted regionally;
- **Web Master**: Provide support and system maintenance;
- **Regional Economic Communities**: Monitor Complaints
FOCAL POINT STRUCTURE FOR GHANA

Lead Focal Point/Country Coordinator: GSA

Target Focal Point Institutions:

1. Ministry of Transport
2. Ministry of Trade
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
4. Ghana Highway Authority
5. Ghana Ports and Harbors’ Authority
6. Ghana Police Service
7. GRA—Customs Division
8. Burkina Shippers Council
9. EMAGHA
10. CNU
11. Ministry of Roads and Highway
12. National Facilitation Committee Secretariat
13. BA/BIC Trade Advisors
14. ECOWAS Brown Card Secretariat
15. SIC Insurance Company Limited
ACTUAL RESULTS (2018) - Categories of Complaints

146 NTBs

Transport related corruption: 74%
Lack of information on procedures: 18%
Administrative (Border operating hours; fees; taxes): 5%
Government policy and regulations: 1%
ACTUAL RESULTS (2018) - Complaint Status
146 NTBs
## ACTUAL RESULTS (2019) - Ghana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutions</th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Quarter</th>
<th>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Quarter</th>
<th>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Quarter</th>
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<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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Thank you for your attention !!!

www.borderlesswa.com
www.tradebarrierswa.com
www.shippers.org.gh

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