ALADI Initiatives on Regulatory Cooperation

by

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD
ALADI Initiatives on Regulatory Cooperation

“Non-Tariff Measures Week”
14-15 October 2019
General Secretariat of ALADI
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PRESENTATION PLAN

1. ALADI and the Montevideo Treaty (TM80)
   - Member countries
   - Objectives, Principles and Mechanisms

2. Initiatives on Regulatory Cooperation
   - TBT Agreement (Regional Agreement N° 8)
   - Databases: NTMs and Environmental Measures

3. Main challenges of the 2019-2021 Agenda
MEMBER COUNTRIES OF ALADI
Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), an intergovernmental organization

RELATIVELY LESS ECONOMICALLY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
- Bolivia
- Ecuador
- Paraguay

INTERMEDIATE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
- Chile
- Colombia
- Perú
- Uruguay
- Venezuela
- Cuba
- Panamá

OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES
- Argentina
- Brasil
- México

NICARAGUA

11 founders (1980)
+ Cuba (1999)
+ Panamá (2012)
ALADI AND THE TM80

Objectives
To promote harmonious and balanced socio-economic development of the region
Establishment of a Latin-American Common Market

Principles
Pluralism
Multiple
Differential treatments
Flexibility
Convergence

Mechanisms
Establishment of an Area of Economic Preferences
ALADI INITIATIVES ON REGULATORY COOPERATION

- TBT Agreement (Regional Agreement N° 8)
- Databases: NTMs and environmental measures
Objective

- To prevent the development, adoption and application of Technical Regulations, Technical Standards, and Conformity Assessment from becoming unnecessary technical barriers to intra-regional trade.

- It defines a conceptual framework for ALADI members in relation to the Technical Regulation, Standardization and Conformity Assessment Procedures and reaffirms the rights and obligations contained in the TBT Agreement.

Other provisions

- Harmonization, technical assistance, SDT, technical consultations, and consideration of subregional developments.
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

- **Specific Trade Concerns**
  Consultation mechanism for specific trade concerns (Proposal of México, under negotiation).

- **Technical Assistance**
  South-South cooperation. Workshop on Good Regulatory Practices (next meeting)

- **Regulatory Cooperation**
  Critical Path in Regulatory Cooperation (Decision 1/16)

- **Transparency**
  Contact points and commitment to notify simultaneously notifications to the WTO and ALADI Members.
CRITICAL PATH IN REGULATORY COOPERATION

**Identify regulatory cooperation activities:** technical assistance, mutual recognition agreements, equivalences, harmonization, regulatory convergence mechanisms, etc.

**Identify sectors, regulations, problems, economic relevance, countries involved, proposals to resolve the problems**

**Work Plan**
- Biannual with a list and schedule of activities (technical meetings, capacity building, etc.)

**Revision of Progress**
- Work plan assessment every 6 months.
- Regulatory Coop. mechanism assessment every 4 years
CRITICAL PATH IN REGULATORY COOPERATION: CURRENT SITUATION

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

In the last meeting (2018): Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, México, Perú, Paraguay agreed to start harmonizing the cosmetics sector

Regional problems of the cosmetics sector identified

Resolution of the identified problems
ALADI DATABASES

DATABASES:

- Foreign Trade Statistics of Goods and Services
- National Import Tariffs
- Tariff Preferences
- Correlations between Nomenclatures
- Foreign Trade Regulations (NTMs Intra ALADI)
- Environmental Measures (NTMs Extra ALADI)
## NTMs DATABASE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Database consists of</th>
<th>A directory of legal regulations in-force applied to imports and exports, at product level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information includes</td>
<td>regulation´s name, NTM classification code, summary, official source and legal text, affected countries and products, implementation and repeal dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily updated</td>
<td>regular update and review of the Official Bulletins of the 18 countries, as well as the corresponding official websites outlining trade policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope</td>
<td>18 Latin-American countries (ALADI + El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE AGENDA 2019-2021
2019 – 2021 Agenda

- Consolidate and take advantage of existing experience (ALALC / ALADI)
- Expand the scope of ALADI
- Convergence
THANK YOU

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