

**Multi-year Expert Meeting
on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation
Second Session**

**Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler:
Options and requirements**

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**Setting the Scene:
WTO Rules and Field Realities**

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Setting the Scene: WTO Rules and Field Realities

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SIDS International Competitiveness (CARICOM)

- Structural Transformation- transition from agro-based to services economies;
- Erosion of preferences has exposed structural weaknesses in key export products;
- Lagging competitiveness - 2013 competitiveness indexes (WEF, WB Doing Business surveys);
- Deterioration of external debt position - counter-cyclical interventions to fiscal consolidation

Political reinterpretation of the Single Undertaking

- Key linchpin of the Bali Package,
- DGs initiative with the WB,
- Agreement of the African Group to move ahead,
- Willingness of Developed countries links commitments to needs,
- Balance between Commitments and TACB (Implementation)

Greater Coordination and Higher Priority attached to an outcome by developing and LDCs



The Role of TF in Economic Transformation

Trade Facilitation

- **Import Facilitation?**
- **Investment Facilitation?**
- **Building economic resilience and competitiveness (internal & External dimension)**
- **WB and WEF Indexes Proxy for ability to attract investment**





The Commonwealth

Economic Space - internal & external



The Commonwealth

The Global Competitiveness Index 2013-2014 rankings

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Country/Economy	GCI 2013-2014		GCI 2012-2013		Change
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	
Switzerland	1	5.67	1	5.67	0
Singapore	2	5.61	2	5.61	0
Finland	3	5.54	3	5.54	0
Germany	4	5.51	6	5.48	2
United States	5	5.48	7	5.45	2
Sweden	6	5.48	4	5.45	-2
Hong Kong SAR	7	5.47	9	5.42	2
Netherlands	8	5.42	5	5.40	-3
Japan	9	5.40	10	5.37	1
United Kingdom	10	5.37	8	5.33	-2
Norway	11	5.33	15	5.29	4
Taiwan, China	12	5.29	13	5.24	1
Qatar	13	5.24	11	5.20	-2
Canada	14	5.20	14	5.18	0
Denmark	15	5.18	12	5.15	-3
Austria	16	5.15	16	5.13	0
Belgium	17	5.13	17	5.13	0



Canada	14	5.20	14	0
Denmark	15	5.18	12	-3
Austria	16	5.15	16	0
Belgium	17	5.13	17	0
New Zealand	18	5.11	23	5
United Arab Emirates	19	5.11	24	5
Saudi Arabia	20	5.10	18	-2
Australia	21	5.09	20	-1
Luxembourg	22	5.09	22	0
France	23	5.05	21	-2
Malaysia	24	5.03	25	1
Korea, Rep.	25	5.01	19	-6
Brunei Darussalam	26	4.95	28	2
Israel	27	4.94	26	-1
Ireland	28	4.92	27	-1
China	29	4.84	29	0
Puerto Rico	30	4.67	31	1
Iceland	31	4.66	30	-1
Estonia	32	4.65	34	2
Oman	33	4.64	32	-1



Chile	34	4.61	33	-1
Spain	35	4.57	36	1
Kuwait	36	4.56	37	1
Thailand	37	4.54	38	1
Indonesia	38	4.53	50	12
Azerbaijan	39	4.51	46	7
Panama	40	4.50	40	0
Malta	41	4.50	47	6
Poland	42	4.46	41	-1
Bahrain	43	4.45	35	-8
Turkey	44	4.45	43	-1
Mauritius	45	4.45	54	9
Czech Republic	46	4.43	39	-7
Barbados	47	4.42	44	-3
Lithuania	48	4.41	45	-3
Italy	49	4.41	42	-7
Kazakhstan	50	4.41	51	1
Portugal	51	4.40	49	-2
Latvia	52	4.40	55	3
South Africa	53	4.37	52	-1
Costa Rica	54	4.35	57	3



Cape Verde	122	3.53	122	0
Lesotho	123	3.52	137	14
Swaziland	124	3.52	135	11
Tanzania	125	3.50	120	-5
Côte d'Ivoire	126	3.50	131	5
Ethiopia	127	3.50	121	-6
Liberia	128	3.45	111	-17
Uganda	129	3.45	123	-6
Benin	130	3.45	119	-11
Zimbabwe	131	3.44	132	1
Madagascar	132	3.42	130	-2
Pakistan	133	3.41	124	-9
Venezuela	134	3.35	126	-8
Mali	135	3.33	128	-7
Malawi	136	3.32	129	-7
Mozambique	137	3.30	138	1
Timor-Leste	138	3.25	136	-2
Myanmar	139	3.23	n/a	n/a
Burkina Faso	140	3.21	133	-7
Mauritania	141	3.19	134	-7
Angola	142	3.15	n/a	n/a
Haiti	143	3.11	142	-1
Sierra Leone	144	3.01	143	-1
Yemen	145	2.98	140	-5
Burundi	146	2.92	144	-2
Guinea	147	2.91	141	-6
Chad	148	2.85	139	-9



World Bank Doing Business Survey 2013

Economy	Ease of Doing Business Rank
Singapore	1
Hong Kong SAR, China	2
New Zealand	3
United States	4
Denmark	5
Norway	6
United Kingdom	7
Korea, Rep.	8
Georgia	9
Australia	10
Finland	11
Malaysia	12
Sweden	13
Iceland	14
Ireland	15
Taiwan, China	16
Canada	17
Thailand	18
Mauritius	19

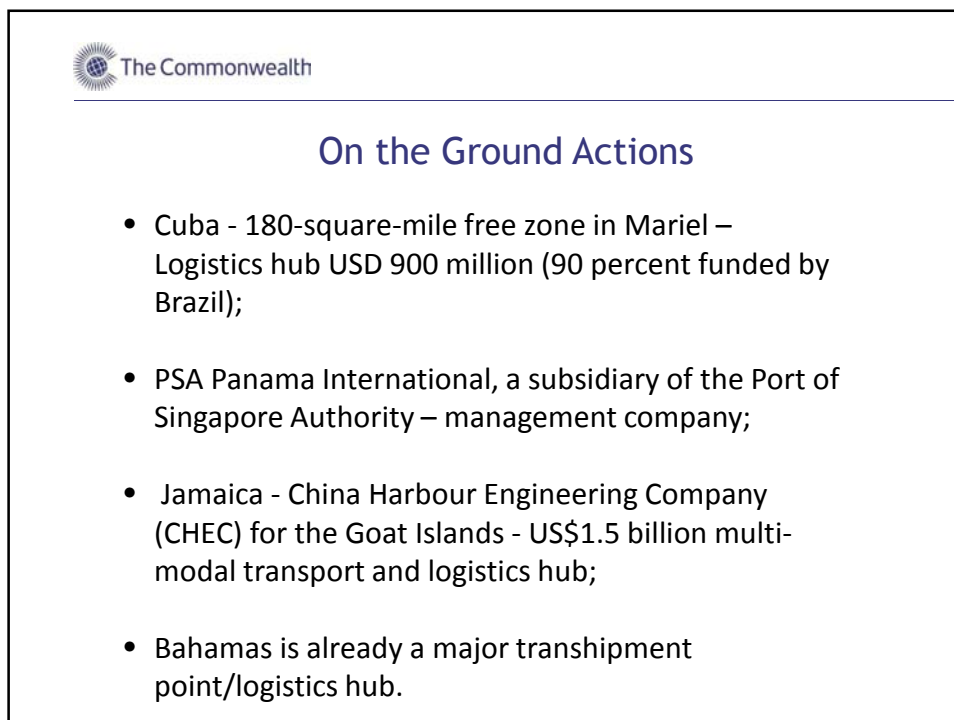
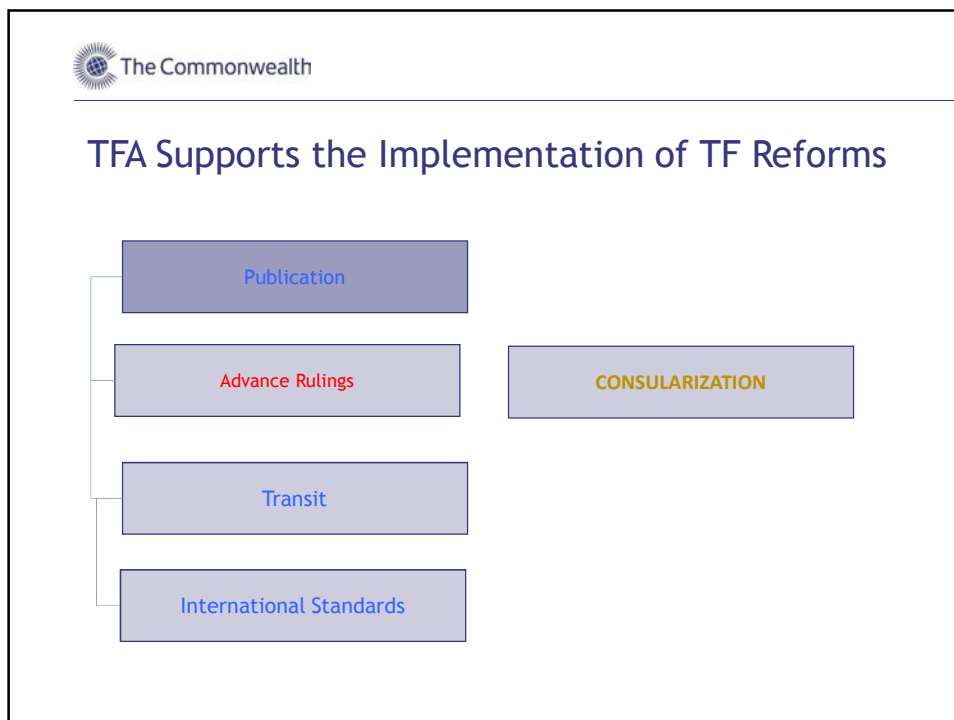


South Africa	39
Qatar	40
Puerto Rico (U.S.)	41
Bahrain	42
Peru	43
Spain	44
Colombia	45
Slovak Republic	46
Oman	47
Mexico	48
Kazakhstan	49
Tunisia	50
Montenegro	51
Rwanda	52
St. Lucia	53
Hungary	54



TFA Supports the Implementation of TF Reforms





CARICOM - and the Reform Agenda

1. 6th Joint meeting of Customs Officials and regional Parliamentary Counsel - August 2013 Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center (CARTAC/CARICOM) – draft bill
2. Focus was the Draft Harmonized Customs Bill – (model legislation) to form the backbone of CARICOM-wide Customs and TF architecture
3. **State of the Art** - New customs Control and Management ACT (2013) A&B, Customs Act (2010) Dominica and Customs Management and Control Bill 2010 (St. Kitts and Nevis (all influenced by the draft bill))

CARICOM - Substantive Issues to be considered

4. Draft Harmonized Customs Bill – disciplines covered include: appeal procedures, transparency, clearance and release and identifies the responsibilities of Customs and Traders;
5. TFA covers: GATT article V (transit); article VIII (fees and formalities) and article X (publication and transparency) and S&DT
6. **Question: to what extent do the elements of the model/draft harmonized legislation and the draft consolidated text converge or diverge?**



TFA is an enabler of structural reform

- Supports structural transformation;
- Seeks to enhance competitiveness;
- Supports Regional integration and the internal market
- Take advantage of the new opportunities presented by the Panama Canal expansion
- Supports private sector led growth;
- Supports market access concessions gained through bilateral and regional agreements.

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