

Country: **Somalia**

Background:

Official name: Somalia National Trade Facilitation Committee

Year of establishment: 2020

Motivation for its establishment: To make trade simpler, faster and more cost-effective.

Other national bodies dealing with WTO issues and/or with Trade Facilitation: No

Former multi-agency group/committee: No

Current status of the working group (running, pilot phase, not functioning, etc): Running

Institutional Framework:

Degree of institutionalisation: Established by Prime Minister's Decree

Type of organisation (ad hoc group, legal entity/organisation, etc): Legal entity

Coordinating agency: Office of the Prime Minister and Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Scope/mandate: To streamline controls and procedures related to the importation, exportation and transit of goods.

Terms of reference: Yes

Working structure of the group: Chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister. Sub-groups consisting of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Ministry of Finance - Department of Customs

Permanent technical secretariat: Yes

Funding:

Budget: No

Sources of funding: None

Objectives / Focus:

Working plan: No

Monitoring and evaluation: N/A

Reporting form and supervisory authority: N/A

Membership / Composition:

Public or quasi-public agencies: Office of Presidency; Office of Prime Minister; Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Ministry of Finance (Customs Department); Ministry of Planning, Investment & Economic Development; Ministry of Ports and Marine Transport; Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation; Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation; Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources; Ministry of Livestock; Ministry of Telecommunications & Technology

Private associations or entities: Somalia Chamber of Commerce

Level of seniority of participants: Director-level

Participation:

Frequency of meetings: NFTC Meetings are once a month with Secretariat meeting weekly

Gender:

Percentage of female in the committee: None

Chairman / President / Vice-president is female: No

Committee did decide on gender mainstreaming TF in the past: No

If no, why not. (Example: It not considered a priority, not considered relevant at this stage, lack of awareness, etc): Lack of capacity

Promotion / Communication:

Communication channels to keep stakeholders informed of TF meetings: Emails

Benefits:

Benefits for the country's responsiveness to the WTO negotiation process: Somalia is currently in negotiations to accede to the WTO and the NTFC will provide important contributions towards the accession process. The NTFC will be tasked with working on the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Concrete operational outcomes: Not yet

Lessons learned:

Greatest obstacles: Lack of capacity

Future plans:

Plans for further development: Collaboration with international partners and donors to build capacity and technical assistance.

Contact information:

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UN REPOSITORY ON NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEES

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UNCTAD EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME
for National Trade Facilitation Committees