

Country: Canada

Background:

Official name: N/A

Year of establishment: The first meeting of the The Border Commercial Consultative Committees (BCCC) took place in October 2005.

Motivation for its establishment: Primarily stakeholder engagement; Canada has a longstanding relationship and culture of engaging with the private sector.

Former multi-agency group/committee: The BCCC is part of the pre-existing well-functioning networks that Canada uses to coordinate trade facilitation domestically and is used to liaise with private sector stakeholders.

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

Institutional Framework:

Degree of institutionalisation: Mandate and terms of reference.

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

Coordinating agency: Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)

Scope/mandate: The BCCC provide Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) officials and commercial stakeholders with a forum to discuss border-related policies, operational programs and administrative procedures that govern and affect Canada's commercial trade.

For more information please reference the BCCC webpage at: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/agency-agence/consult/bccc-ccacf/menu-eng.html>

Terms of reference: Yes

Working structure of the group: Each of the three committees has a CBSA Co-Chair and an Canadian Industry Co-Chair (external; private sector)

Permanent technical secretariat: Yes

Funding:

Budget: Yes

Sources of funding: Canada Border Services Agency

Items covered by the budget: Facility costs.

Objectives / Focus:

Objectives: The BCCC help advance government-industry cooperation, specifically in relation to

improving commercial processing in a manner that:

- optimizes the free flow of legitimate goods;
- promotes the global competitiveness of businesses through the efficient management of supply chains;
- promotes solutions that reflect the needs and priorities of both the CBSA and the trade community;
- and
- ensures supply chain security and compliance with customs laws, regulations and policies.

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Working plan: Yes, please reference the BCCC webpage at: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/agency-agence/consult/bccc-ccacf/menu-eng.html>

Monitoring and evaluation: The BCCC Secretariat logs progress and tracks action items from the Records of Meetings.

Reporting form and supervisory authority: Working groups report to the three Committees that make up the BCCC.

Membership / Composition:

Public or quasi-public agencies: Public domain membership is comprised of internal (CBSA) members.

Private associations or entities: Industry membership is comprised of approximately 25 national associations which include importers, exporters, carriers in all modes of transport, customs brokers, freight forwarders, warehouses, and manufacturers.

Level of seniority of participants: High-level government officials comprising CBSA Director Generals, Directors, Managers; Industry stakeholders are Presidents, Managers, and Advisors.

Participation:

Frequency of meetings: Twice a year, May and November, for one or two days, though meetings can occur more frequently at the discretion of the Chairs.

Level of participation: Almost complete membership attendance or representation through alternates.

Meetings format: Presentations and round table discussion, in person; there is also WebEx available.

Gender:

Percentage of female in the committee: 55% female

Chairman / President / Vice-president is female: Two of five Co-Chairs are female.

Committee did decide on gender mainstreaming TF in the past: N/A

If no, why not. (Example: It not considered a priority, not considered relevant at this stage, lack of awareness, etc): This topic has not been considered relevant at this stage.

Promotion / Communication:

Communication channels to keep stakeholders informed of TF meetings: The agenda and associated material are sent to each member prior to the time of the meetings. A Draft Record of Decision is published shortly after the meetings. The Secretariat serves as a liaison between the three committees, and the BCCC membership. Additionally, the Secretariat ensures action items identified during each meeting are monitored until resolution and decisions are communicated to all affected parties.

Interface with other working groups/committees on similar issues: Through the working group co-leads and committee co-chairs.

Undertake information sessions to stakeholders or general public: No

Benefits:

Impact: -

Lessons learned:

Greatest obstacles: There are no significant obstacles associated with BCCC as inter-departmental consultations and consultations with the private sector are complementary to mutual objectives.

Contact information:

Contact Information: The BCCC Secretariat can be reached at: BCCC-CCACF@CBSA-ASFC.GC.CA