

Country: Grenada

Background:

Official name: Grenada National Trade Facilitation Task force

Year of establishment: 2012

Motivation for its establishment: (i)The Task Force was established because of Grenada's obligations under the WTO-Trade Facilitation Agreement. (ii)To help improve Trade Facilitation at the borders

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:

Type of organisation (ad hoc group, legal entity/organisation, etc): The TF body was approved by Cabinet

Coordinating agency: Ministry of Trade, Industry, Cooperatives & CARICOM Affairs

Scope/mandate: To implement Grenada's commitments under the WTO TFA and to help with border reforms to improve trade facilitation.

Terms of reference: Yes

Working structure of the group: Chair and Co-chairs

Permanent technical secretariat: None. It is because of lacking of financial resources.

Funding:

Budget: Yes

Objectives / Focus:

Objectives: To implement the WTO TFA commitments.

To consult and coordinate on trade facilitation issues.

To monitor reform progress among border agencies.

Working plan: Yes. The timeframe of the work plan is a mixture of both quarterly and monthly.

Monitoring and evaluation: It is thought that to the extent of 50% that the National Trade Facilitation Committee fulfils its role of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. Through consultations with stakeholders, the Committee plays the role of monitoring. There is no specific evaluation tool used by the Committee. Familiar with: World Bank Doing Business Trading Across Borders. Familiar to some extent: UN Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation, the OECD Trade Facilitation Indicators.

UN REPOSITORY ON NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEES

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Reporting form and supervisory authority: Minister and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Trade, Industry Cooperatives & CARICOM Affairs

Membership / Composition:

Public or quasi-public agencies: Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Health & International Business, Ministry of Health & International Business - Environmental Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture - Pest Management Unit, Ministry of Agriculture - Veterinary Division, Ministry of Agriculture - Planning Officer, Ministry of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Climate Resilience, Customs & Excise Division, Grenada Airports Authority, Grenada Bureau of Standards, Grenada Ports Authority

Private associations or entities: Grenada Brokers Association Grenada Chamber of Commerce

Level of seniority of participants: Senior-80% Middle-15% Junior-5%

Participation:

Frequency of meetings: Yes. Quarterly.

Level of participation: 50-60%

Meetings format: Use different meetings formats.

Gender:

Chairman / President / Vice-president is female: No

Comittee did decide on gender mainstreaming TF in the past: Yes.

Promotion / Communication:

Communication channels to keep stakeholders informed of TF meetings: Emails, meetings and Phone calls

Interface with other working groups/committees on similar issues: Emails and Phone calls

Undertake information sessions to stakeholders or general public: Publication of articles in the Press

Benefits:

Impact: Submission of Category A commitments to the WTO under the TFA Agreement

Benefits for the country's responsiveness to the WTO negotiation process: Agreeing on issues that are important to the WTO negotiations

Concrete operational outcomes: It is thought that to the extent of 100% the NTFC is sustainable in time. Crucial factors to the sustainability of the NTFC are as follows: Cooperation among members / Common understanding and goals, Commitment from members, Financial assistance / adequate resources, Political commitment / high level support, Strong leadership

Lessons learned:

Success factors: Information sharing and collaboration of trade issues

Greatest obstacles: Main obstacles to the sustainability of the NTFC are as follows: Lack of funding / resources, Incorrect representation of members / frequent replacement of members, High level support / political buy-in, Resistance to change, Legal issues

Future plans:

Plans for further development: To develop members capacity on trade related matters. Also, the regional integration has been considered a lot within the work of the NTFC, and it is in contact with other National Trade Facilitation Committees in the region.

Contact information:

Contact Information: Chairman - Junior Mahon

Co-chair - Ernie James