

## Country: Zimbabwe

### Background:

**Official name:** National Trade Facilitation Committee

**Motivation for its establishment:** During the negotiations on the Trade Facilitation Agreement, relevant stakeholders were invited to conduct a needs assessment exercise, hence the formation of the committee.

**Year of establishment:** 2009

**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:** The Ministry of Industry and Commerce invited stakeholders to nominate members to the committee.

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

**Scope/mandate:** The mandate is to coordinate and facilitate trade facilitation matters as they relate to the WTO.

**Terms of reference:** They are being developed and will be adopted soon by the committee.

**Coordinating agency:** Ministry of Industry and Commerce

**Working structure of the group:** Co-chaired by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority. Members also include the Border Agencies and the Private Sector.

**Permanent technical secretariat:** The permanent Secretariat is composed of Ministry of Industry and Commerce officials.

### Funding:

**Budget:** Yes

**Sources of funding:** Treasury

**Items covered by the budget:** Meeting logistics

### Objectives / Focus:

**Objectives:** To coordinate implementation of trade facilitation activities.

**Working plan:** No

**Monitoring and evaluation:** Members report during meetings.

**Reporting form and supervisory authority:** The Trade Facilitation body reports after each meeting to the Industry and Trade Relations Committee.

## **Membership / Composition:**

**Public or quasi-public agencies:** Chairperson: Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Co-Chairperson: Zimbabwe Revenue Authority

Secretariat: Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Committee Members:

Ministry of Finance

Livestock and Veterinary Services

Ministry of Health and Child Care

Ministry of Agriculture Mechanisation and Irrigation Development

Plant and Quarantine Services Department

National Biotechnology Authority of Zimbabwe

Ministry of Transport, Communication and Infrastructure Development

Environmental Management Agency

Ministry of SMEs and Cooperative Development

Department of Immigration

Ministry of Home Affairs

**Private associations or entities:**

Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries

Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce

Shipping and Forwarding Agents Association of Zimbabwe

Transporters Association of Zimbabwe

Cross Border Association of Zimbabwe

**Level of seniority of participants:** Director level

## **Participation:**

**Frequency of meetings:** Meets when there is an issue.

**Level of participation:** 80-90% participation

## **Promotion / Communication:**

**Communication channels to keep stakeholders informed of TF meetings:** We communicate to stakeholders.

**Interface with other working groups/committees on similar issues:** All sub groups meet at the Industry and Trade Relations meetings.

## **Benefits:**

# UN REPOSITORY ON NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEES

Last Update: 27 September 2016

**Impact:** The group successfully categorised provisions into categories A, B and C.

**Benefits for the country's responsiveness to the WTO negotiation process:** The country is now aware of areas that need to be improved as well as areas that require funding.

**Concrete operational outcomes:** Awaiting feedback

## **Lessons learned:**

**Success factors:** Coordination and sharing of information

**Lessons learned from your experience:** Most of the Trade Facilitation provisions are being implemented but there is need to coordinate and improve the efforts.

## **Future plans:**

**Plans for further development:** The committee has to agree its final membership, as well as come up with the Terms of Reference and a working plan.

## **Contact information:**

**Contact Information: Mrs Beatrice Mutetwa**

Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Email: Bmutetwa1@yahoo.com