

## Country: Kyrgyzstan

### Background:

**Type of body:** Trade Facilitation Council of the Kyrgyz Republic

**Official name:** Trade Facilitation Council of the Kyrgyz Republic

**Motivation for its establishment:** The Kyrgyz Republic ratified the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation Procedures on 22 November 2016. Kyrgyz Republic deposited the Instrument of Acceptance with the WTO on 6 December 2016. The requirements of this Agreement served as motivation for establishment of the Trade Facilitation Procedures Council.

**Other national bodies dealing with WTO issues and/or with Trade Facilitation:** The Ministry of Economy has Unit to deal with WTO issues, which responsible to coordinate all issues on implementation of the Kyrgyz's obligations under the WTO.

**Former multi-agency group/committee:** Yes, it is based on the previously existing trade and transport facilitation committee.

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

### Institutional Framework:

#### Degree of institutionalisation:

The Resolution of the Kyrgyz Government on establishment of the Trade Facilitation Council; and  
The approval of the Regulation on the Trade Facilitation Council.

**Type of organisation (ad hoc group, legal entity/organisation, etc):** Inter-agency ad hoc group

**Coordinating agency:** Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic

**Scope/mandate:** The Trade Facilitation Council will consist of the heads of all governmental institutions which are involved in trade facilitation procedures and the heads of the business associations.

**Terms of reference:** Yes, it has the Regulation, which governs the activity of the Trade Facilitation Council and specifies its functions, responsibilities approved by the Government

#### Working structure of the group:

Chairman- the Minister of Economy,

Co- chair – the Chairman of the Business Association of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Working sub-groups to be established.

**Permanent technical secretariat:** Ministry of Trade chairs the permanent secretariat, which is composed by 5 people.

### Funding:

**Budget:** No, there is no formal budget.

**Sources of funding:** The Council will operate within the funds allocated to the Ministry to perform its key functions and the voluntary technical assistance from the business association and donor institutions

## **Objectives / Focus:**

**Objectives:** To implement the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation.

**Working plan:** Yes, it has a working plan and a road map.

**Monitoring and evaluation:** It is thought that to the extent of 52% the NTFC fulfils its role of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Monitoring tools: Monitoring plan with indicators.

Evaluation tools: Independent third-party assessments.

Familiar with the following tools: UNCTAD statistics (country and maritime profiles), and UN Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation.

Familiar with the following tools to some extent: World Bank Doing Business Trading Across Borders, World Bank Logistics Performance Index (LPI), and OECD Trade Facilitation Indicators.

**Reporting form and supervisory authority:** Trade Facilitation Council will be reporting quarterly to the Government in writing.

## **Membership / Composition:**

**Public or quasi-public agencies:** Ministry of Economy,

Ministry of Transport and Roads,

Ministry of Agriculture,

Ministry of Health,

State Customs,

Border Guard,

Chamber of Commerce and Industry

**Private associations or entities:** Association of manufacturers,

Association of brokers,

Association of carriers

**Level of seniority of participants:** Senior-50%, Middle-30%, Junior-20%

## **Participation:**

**Frequency of meetings:** Yes, twice per year.

**Level of participation:** Members of the Council.

## **Gender:**



**Percentage of female in the committee:** 40%

**Chairman / President / Vice-president is female:** Yes

## **Promotion / Communication:**

**Communication channels to keep stakeholders informed of TF meetings:** All the information will be placed on the special page of the web-site of the Ministry of Economy, the new documents will also be distributed, disseminated to all stakeholders.

**Interface with other working groups/committees on similar issues:** Through the working group meetings.

**Undertake information sessions to stakeholders or general public:** Yes. Publication of articles in the Press, Meetings, and Website of the organisations that are members of the Committee

## **Benefits:**

**Benefits for the country's responsiveness to the WTO negotiation process:** Kyrgyz Republic has notified all categories designations.

**Concrete operational outcomes:** Implementation of concrete trade facilitation measures,  
Improve transparency / dialogue,  
Developed an implementation plan for the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement,  
Improved coordination,  
Reduction of time and / or improvement of procedures at the border,  
Reduction of costs of import, export and / or transit.

## **Lessons learned:**

**Success factors:** It is thought that to the extent of 71% the Committee 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, Capacity building, and Involvement of the private sector.

**Greatest obstacles:** Lack of funding / resources, and Lack of regularity of meetings

## **Future plans:**

### **Plans for further development:**

Finalized the draft roadmap on implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement for its approval within the framework of the Trade Facilitation Council;

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:** Minister of Economy can be contacted through the Secretary of the Trade Facilitation Council:

Ms. Toktonalieva Biubiusara

Head of Trade Department of the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic

E-mail: [b.toktonalieva@mineconom.gov.kg](mailto:b.toktonalieva@mineconom.gov.kg).

Telephone: +996 312 62 05 35, extension 185

Ms. Ormonova Syiadat

Head of WTO issues Unit of the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic

E-mail: [s.ormonova@gmail.com](mailto:s.ormonova@gmail.com)

Telephone: +996 312 62 05 35, extension 144