

## Country: China

### Background:

**Type of body:** Inter-ministerial joint meeting on trade facilitation under the State Council

**Official name:** National Trade Facilitation Committee of China

**Year of establishment:** 2016

**Motivation for its establishment:** To implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, enhance the level of trade facilitation, foster new competitive advantages in foreign trade, and promote sustainable, stable, and sound development of foreign trade

**Other national bodies dealing with WTO issues and/or with Trade Facilitation:** There are other groups dealing with other WTO topics and project related groups dealing with specific topics of Trade Facilitation.

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

### Institutional Framework:

**Degree of institutionalisation:** Mechanism of inter-ministerial joint meeting on trade facilitation under the State Council

(Please refer to the website: Mechanism of inter-ministerial joint meeting on trade facilitation under the State Council)

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

**Coordinating agency:** Ministry of Commerce, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, People's Bank of China, General Administration of Customs, State Taxation Administration, etc.

**Scope/mandate:** Conduct in-depth studies on major issues in the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, and formulate relevant policies or put forward policy recommendations. Strengthen communication and coordination, give full play to the role of the joint meetings, work together to promote trade facilitation and create a favorable policy environment for the development of foreign trade.

**Working structure of the group:** The Ministry of Commerce is the lead agency. The office of the joint meeting is located in the Ministry of Commerce to undertake the daily work of the joint meeting. The joint meeting shall have a liaison officer from each member agency. According to the needs of the work, the joint meeting may invite other relevant departments to participate.

### Objectives / Focus:

**Objectives:** Under the leadership of the State Council, promote trade facilitation. Work on the

implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, strengthen macro guidance, coordinate various departments to study and determine policies to improve the level of trade facilitation; provide work guidance for the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, and coordinate the various departments to solve major problems encountered in the implementation ; Supervise the implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement, timely summarize successful experiences and promote them; coordinate foreign exchanges and international cooperation in the field of trade facilitation.

**Reporting form and supervisory authority:** The office of the joint conference shall keep member agencies informed in a timely manner. The joint meeting clearly agreed on matters in the form of meeting minutes, which will be printed and distributed to relevant parties and will be submitted to the State Council. Major matters shall be reported for approval in accordance with relevant procedures.

## **Membership / Composition:**

**Public or quasi-public agencies:** Ministry of Commerce, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, People's Bank of China, General Administration of Customs, State Taxation Administration, etc.

**Private associations or entities:** Private sector is invited depending on ad hoc topics to be discussed.

## **Participation:**

**Frequency of meetings:** Meetings are held as needed.

**Meetings format:** Liaison officers meetings and plenary meetings

## **Benefits:**

**Benefits for the country's responsiveness to the WTO negotiation process:** China made the ratification of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement on the 4 September 2015.

China has notified all categories designations and has been making efforts to implement the provisions.

## **Lessons learned:**

**Success factors:** Cooperation among government agencies and between government and private sectors.

**Lessons learned from your experience:** Establish and maintain communication channel between government and private sectors.



# UN REPOSITORY ON NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEES

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