

## Country: Bulgaria

### Background:

**Type of body:** PRO-committee

**Official name:** BULPRO

**Motivation for its establishment:** The need to achieve alleviations related to the simplification of the procedures regarding the international trade.

**Year of establishment:** in June, 1990.

**Other national bodies dealing with WTO issues and/or with Trade Facilitation:** Yes, within the system of Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

**Former multi-agency group/committee:** No

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

### Institutional Framework:

**Degree of institutionalisation:** BULPRO's statute was approved by Resolution No 313 of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria, adopted on 30 July, 1993.

**Type of organisation (ad hoc group, legal entity/organisation, etc):** Set up as a group within the system of Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, corresponding to BULPRO initiative and communicating with other institutions.

**Scope/mandate:** It is not strictly defined.

**Terms of reference:** No

**Coordinating agency:** Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

**Working structure of the group:** Chair and Secretariat

**Permanent technical secretariat:** Yes

### Funding:

**Budget:** No

### Objectives / Focus:

**Objectives:** Simplification of the procedures in the international trade as well as unification and standardisation of the commercial documents.

**Working plan:** Programs with events for the next year are annually adopted.

**Monitoring and evaluation:** A report on the program implementation of the previous year is received annually.

## **Membership / Composition:**

**Public or quasi-public agencies:** Ministries and State agencies.

**Private associations or entities:** Non-governmental organisations and business companies.

**Level of seniority of participants:** High level deputy-Ministers, chairmen, business managers, etc.

## **Participation:**

**Frequency of meetings:** They meet periodically in accordance with the program adopted.

**Level of participation:** The meetings are attended by representatives from:

the administration;

the non-governmental organisations; and

the companies-members of the BULPRO Council.

**Meetings format:** Various formats of meetings like round tables, discussions, etc.

## **Promotion / Communication:**

**Communication channels to keep stakeholders informed of TF meetings:** By e-mail

**Interface with other working groups/committees on similar issues:** By e-mail

**Undertake information sessions to stakeholders or general public:**

Distribution of press releases;

information on the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry's website;

via e-mail (for stakeholders).

## **Benefits:**

**Impact:** Alleviations are achieved and a decrease of non-tariff barriers to the business.

**Benefits for the country's responsiveness to the WTO negotiation process:** Equalisation of the standards and the positions of non-member countries of the WTO.

**Concrete operational outcomes:** Issued a Guide for the transition of the boundaries of the Republic of Bulgaria.

## **Lessons learned:**

**Success factors:** Effective partnership between the business, the non-governmental organisations, and the State administration.

**Greatest obstacles:** Obstacles of administrative nature.

**Lessons learned from your experience:** To carry out preliminary studies on the business' needs when planning the Council's program of events.

## **Future plans:**



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Last Update: Older than 2013

## **Plans for further development:**

To continue the work for simplification of the procedures, and decrease of the administrative barriers to the business.

## **Contact information:**

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