General Overview on Timor-Leste’s Current Trades and Investments
“WTO Notification Workshop”
22nd September 2024
Outline:

- Timor-Leste’s Export Commodity in Goods and Services
- Biggest Trading and Investment Partners/FDI
- Current Trade and Investment Facilitation efforts by the Government
- Market Access Offer - MAO
Timor-Leste’s Export Commodity in Goods

The top exports of Timor-Leste are:

- Crude Petroleum ($210M)
- Petroleum Gas ($58.8M)
- Coffee ($16.3M)
- Scrap Iron ($1.67M) and Insulated Wire ($1.36M)
- exporting mostly to China ($99.4M)
- Singapore ($91.7M)
- Japan ($59.7M)
- Malaysia ($23.4M) and United States ($6.03M).

Sources: Data from UN Comtrade United Nations International Trade Statistics Database.
Timor-Leste’s Export Commodity in Services

Timor-Leste exported $97.3M worth of services. The top services exported by Timor-Leste in 2018 were Personal travel ($62.4M), Other government services ($15.7M), Business travel ($15.2M), Other transport ($2.18M), and Telecommunications services ($1.17M).

Sources: Data from UN Comtrade United Nations International Trade Statistics Database.
Biggest Trading and Investment Partners/FDI

Trading:
- Indonesia: 58%
- China: 23%
- Singapore: 10%
- Rest of the world: 9%

FDI:
- BC: 20
- w/o BC: 200

Sources: Data from SERVE, IP
Current Trade and Investment Facilitation efforts by the Government

- Creation of new relevant legislations to comply with both accession (WTO and ASEAN);
- Establishment of:
  - National Single Window through ASYCUDA World System and ONE STOP SHOP for business registration to facilitate traders and Investors (MF/NAC - MCAE/SERVE)
  - New Porto Tibar - (MF- PPP)
  - Trade Information Portal - (MCI)
  - WTO’s Secretariat – (MCAE)
  - Responsible Institute for Investment – (Trade Invest)
  - Responsible Institute for Standardization - (IQTL)
Current Trade and Investment Facilitation efforts by the Government

- Revision and harmonization some of legislation that have to aligns with the ASEAN and WTO - (Correspondence with TL’s reality);
- Capacity Building in Trade and Investment
- Basic Infra-structure to facilitate Trade - (MPW)
- Connectivity’s - Aero, Terrestre and Maritime Transportation
- Marine Fiber Optic – Indonesia – Aus.
- Free Trade Zone – Negotiation ongoing with Indonesia – (MCI)
- LNG, Refinery, Petro Chemical - (MP)
- Soft loans for MSMEs to improve the conditions of access to finance for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises by way of providing guarantee scheme – (MCI)
Market Access Offer - MAO

- Guide for MAO has been drafted – it’s content principle, procedure and it will also serve as guidance document for all Trade Agreement Negotiations;
- Has been Concluded bilateral negotiations with some of the WTO’s member – ongoing process to finalize with USA and Indonesia
- Timor-Leste notified the European Commission of its intention to accede to the EU – Pacific EPA and sought EU’s assistance to prepare a Market Access Offer (MAO).
- TL has confirmed its readiness to offer support, including in preparations of Timor-Leste’s Market Access Offer to the Parties to the Agreement (EU, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Solomon Islands).
- On 19 November 2020, MCI and Timor-Leste’s trade and customs officials held a preliminary bilateral session to discuss the technical aspects of the preparation of a Market Access Offer.
Obrigada!