

# National Trade Facilitation Committees in Latin America and the Caribbean: State of Play

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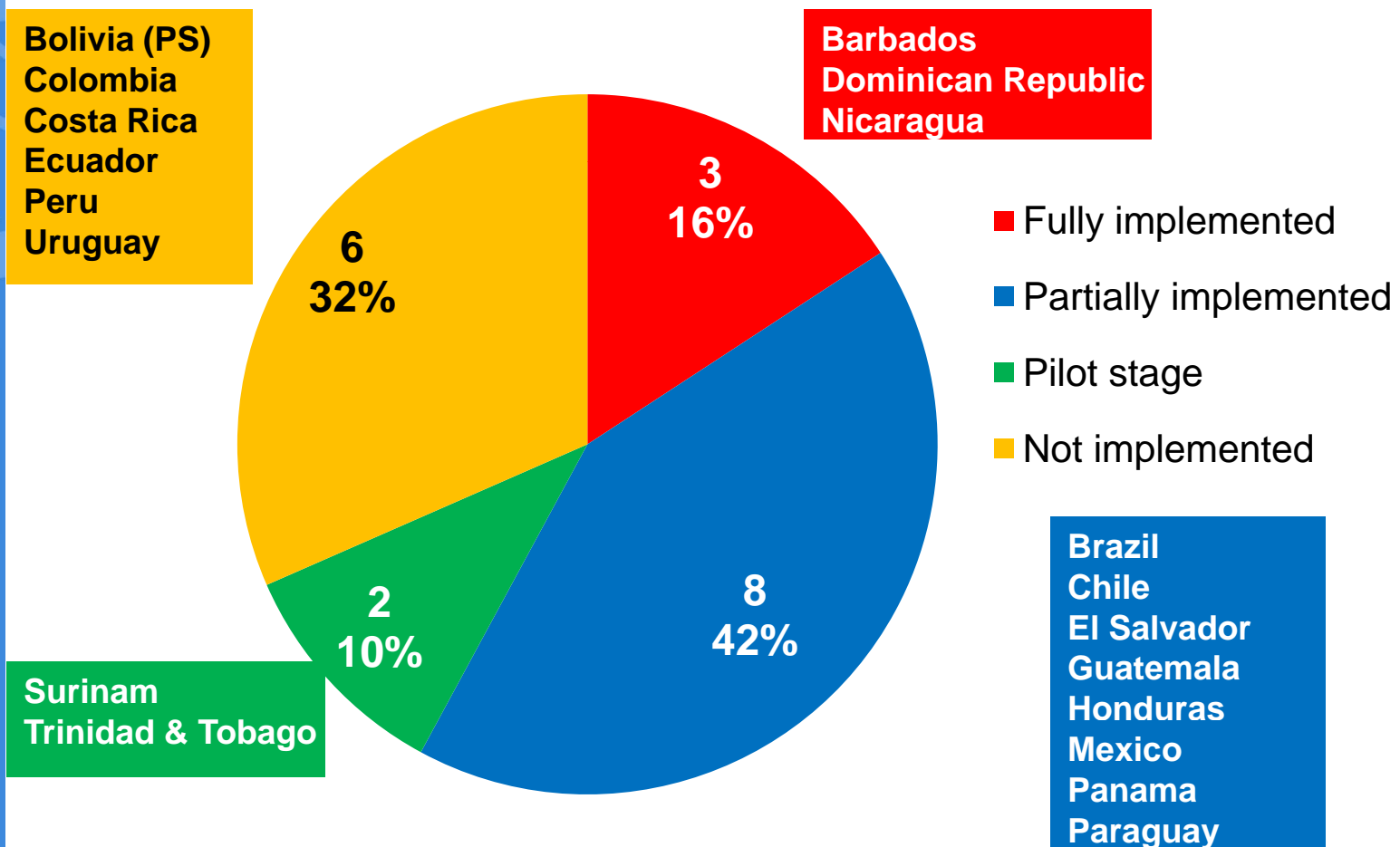


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# Has a national trade facilitation committee (or similar body) been established in your country? (mid 2015)

(Out of 19 countries)



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Source: ECLAC, *Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation Survey 2015. Latin America and the Caribbean Report.*

# Forward to early 2017...

Preparing  
decree that  
will create  
the NTFC

Argentina  
Chile  
Colombia  
Honduras  
Uruguay

Awaiting TFA ratification to create  
the NTFC: Peru

NTFC included in the TFA  
ratification bill: Costa Rica

No information: Bolivia, Haiti, Venezuela,  
rest of CARICOM

Decree  
creating  
NTFC  
awaiting  
executive  
approval

Ecuador  
Panama  
Paraguay

NTFC  
created,  
TORs  
defined

Barbados  
Brazil  
Cuba  
Dominican Republic  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Jamaica  
Mexico  
Nicaragua  
Trinidad & Tobago







TFA  
entry  
into  
force



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-  NTFC Created, TORs defined
-  Preparing the decree that will create the NTFC and define its TORs
-  Decree ready, pending executive approval
-  TORs for NTFC are part of bill implementing the TFA, pending parliamentary approval
-  Waiting entry into force of TFA to define next steps
-  No information available

# Main features of NTFCs

## Mandate

- Broader than TFA implementation
- Overall responsibility for TF agenda

## Who chairs?

- Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI)
- MTI joint chairmanship with Finance Ministry or the Customs Agency
- Presidency (Paraguay?)

## Membership (public)

- Typically all the above plus: Foreign Affairs, Health, Agriculture, Home Office, Public Works, Transport, Defense
- And many specialized agencies (standards, environment, SPS, IPRs, drugs, etc.)

# Main features of NTFCs

## Membership (private)

- In most cases, invited on an ad hoc basis
- Representation by business associations

## Decision-making

- Consensus as first-best
- If not possible, vote (with the Chair deciding in case of draw)

## Budget, frequency of meetings

- NTFCs don't have their own budget
- They would meet 2 to 4 times a year; more frequently if needed



# Key questions/challenges

- NTFCs are at a very early stage in the region; more time is needed to identify main problems, challenges & technical assistance needs
- But some challenges are obvious:
  - Ensuring adequate human and financial resources
  - Aligning priorities across ministries and agencies including buy-in from their leadership
  - How to avoid duplication with similar existing bodies? (ex. logistics commissions)
  - Development of a monitoring and evaluation framework
  - What role for the private sector?
  - Coordination of NTFCs at the regional/subregional level?



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**Thank you**  
**Gracias - Merci**

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