NAMIBIA TRADE INFORMATION PORTAL



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1. INTRODUCTION

- NAMIBIA is part to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)
- TFA looks at how procedures and controls governing the movement of goods across national borders be improved, to reduce associated costs and time burdens and maximize efficiency while safeguarding legitimate regulatory objectives.
- TF negotiations focuses on measures and policies intended for the simplification, harmonization and standardization of border procedures.
- Art 1 calls for MS to publish 'promptly' a wide range of specific information related to the requirements and procedures for clearing goods for import or export.

Introduction Contd.....

- includes procedures, forms and documents; rates of duty and taxes; rules for the classification and valuation of goods for customs purposes; rules of origin; transit restrictions and procedures; penalties; appeal procedures; trade agreements; and tariff quota administration arrangements.
- MS are also encouraged publication of trade-related information on the internet.
- Namibia launched the National Trade Portal on 6 March 2025 to improve transparency and access to trade information. (https://namibiatradeportal.gov.na/)
- The portal serves traders, investors, SMEs and the public by serving as a one-stop online platform providing trade-related information, including import and export procedures, regulations, trade agreements, tariffs, and market access information.

2. OBJECTIVE ON NTIP

- Provide a single source of trade information.
- Improve transparency and predictability.
- Reduce time spent searching for regulatory requirements.
- Support trade facilitation and ease of doing business.

3. INFORMATION AVAILABLE

- Import procedures
- Export procedures
- Transit requirements
- Licensing and permits
- Applicable laws and regulations
- Border agency information

4. NAMIBIA DIGITAL TRADE ECOSYSTEM

- IMEX – Ministerial Import and Export Permit System (https://imex.mit.gov.na)
- ITAS – Integrated Tax Administration System (https://itas.namra.org.na/)
- NAB systems and online services (https://permits.nab.com.na/)
- LLPBN and business registration services (https://producers.nammic.com.na/web/Sys_Signin.r)
- Other government digital trade platforms such as Namlits (https://www.namlits.com/web/litwhome.p) etc.

5. BENEFITS TO TRADERS

- Faster access to information
- Improved regulatory compliance
- Reduced transaction costs
- Greater certainty for business decisions

6. BENEFITS TO GOVERNMENT

- Enhanced transparency
- Improved service delivery
- Support for WTO commitments
- Promotion of digital government transformation

7. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Continuous content updates required
- Need for agency coordination
- Integration with digital government platforms
- Expansion of online trade services

8. WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen interoperability among trade-related systems
- Increase stakeholder awareness and usage
- Regularly update trade information
- Support regional and continental trade initiatives