

National Trade Facilitation Committee's Mandate

A perspective from the Brazilian experience

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- Under the Presidency of the Republic
- 6 Ministers have seats
- Mission: formulation, implementation and coordination of foreign trade policies and activities
- Trade Facilitation competence: provision of guidelines for the simplification of imports and export procedures and to coordinate the activities of governmental agencies regarding trade.

Resolution n. 70, Dec. 2007

All governmental agencies responsible for licensing or controlling imports or exports should, in 180 days:

- employ uniform standards for document requirements, procedures, IT systems and border controls;
- prioritize inspections performed outside ports, when needed;
- publish average licensing and release times;
- implement risk management and authorized operators systems;
- avoid licensing as a solution to control imports;
- share IT systems and databases;
- accept electronic copies of supporting documents;
- train officials to adequately work in coordination with other agencies;
- review procedures in order to reduce and simplify steps.

Trade Facilitation Technical Group - GTFAC

Mandate:

- Identify specific measures for the implementation of Resolution 70.
- Monitor the implementation, by each agency, of the measures prescribed.
- Propose other measures and initiatives to rationalize, simplify and facilitate trade related procedures and controls.
- Authorize the creation or revision of trade related controls.

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Main Results

- Better understanding of how each agency performed trade related activities.
- Better understanding of coordination, information and efficiency issues at the governmental level.
- Increased awareness of the importance of trade facilitation and creation of a cooperative environment among participants.
- Solutions for specific problems (eg. procedures for health or environmental noncompliance).
- Single national enquiry point.
- New Single Window Program interagency coordination.

Should the Mandate be limited to TFA implementation?

- TFA not as a final goal but as a common ground from which to advance.
- National Committee as a major tool for a permanent TF effort. TFA 1st, but we must be able to go beyond.
- Advances considering particularities.
- Identify constraints – devise solutions.
- Permanent space for interagency cooperation.
- Permanent space for dialogue with the private sector.
- Government in syntony with new businesses developments.
- Permanent track of new best practices.

Brazil past GTFAC and under the TFA

Future Mandate:

- TFA implementation.
- Design and implementation of other measures regarding the reduction, simplification and harmonization of document and procedural requirements imposed upon import, export or transit.
- Permanent forum for interagency cooperation and coordination.
- Assistance for the agencies in their regulatory work.
- Performance measurement and evaluation.
- Cooperation with the private sector.