



TRADE FACILITATION WEEK

COMMITTEE MEETING AND
ADDITIONAL SESSIONS ON FINDING
IMPLEMENTATION ASSISTANCE

– CLOSING THE GAPS

WTO, GENEVA SWITZERLAND
OCTOBER 2-6, 2023

Day 1: Monday October 2

Time	Meeting Room	Outline
09:00 – 10:00		Registration - <i>Present photo ID at WTO Security Office to receive badge to enter the WTO</i>
		Sessions for capital-based officials
10:00 – 10:15	Room D	<i>Welcome –</i> Suja Rishikesh Mavroidis- Director, WTO Market Access Division Carlos Guevara - Chair of the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee
10:15 – 10:45	Session 1 Room D	WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Database Brief overview of the TFA Database as a tool for exploring Members' implementation schedules, technical assistance needs and donor arrangements. Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maria Alvarez – WTO
10:45 – 12:30	Session 2 Room D	Understanding the process: Successes and failures in launching TFA implementation projects Developing and LDC Members will share lessons learned on how to develop successful applications and overcome bottlenecks when engaging with partners. Donors/development partners will give a behind-the-scenes introduction to their processes when they receive a request for assistance, discuss potential stumbling blocks and common factors for successful applications. Moderator: Stephen Fevrier – WTO, Senior Advisor to the DG Interventions Ecuador –Ms Cardenas Rivadeneira World Bank – Mr J. Gain Germany – Ms Ulbrich – Federal Ministry of Cooperation (BMZ) Other Members
12:30-13:00	Session 3 Room D	TFAF Matchmaking Brief overview of TFAF grant program with an emphasis on the "expression of interest" as a matchmaking tool to find implementation assistance. Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Henderson, TFAF, WTO <p>Members will be invited to have one on one sessions with a WTO TF staff member to submit an expression of interest to seek implementation support for priority category C provisions.</p>
13:00- 15:00		Lunch Break

14:00-15:00	Room 1175	Lunch time one-on-one sessions - completion of TFA grant expression of interest [On demand]
15:00 –16:30	Session 4 Room D	Strengthening donor engagement processes In this session two roundtable discussions give WTO Members an opportunity to discuss questions on how to prepare for and conduct discussions with donors. 1: Successfully navigating the TA process 2: Successfully answering to DC and LDC needs Moderator: Michael Roberts – WTO, Head, Aid for Trade Unit Panellists: World Bank – Mr J. Gain Australia – Ms Varma, DFAT United Kingdom – Christopher Dobson, HRMC EU – Martijn Boelen, European Commission
16:30- 18:00	Session 5 Gallery	Trade Fair – Donor/Development Partner Reach-Out In-person exchange between donors/development partners and Members to discover and discuss opportunities for cooperation in person. Organised in an informal setting of speed elevator pitches. Participating donors/development partners: GATF, ITC, United Kingdom, UNCTAD, UN/CEFACT, UNECE, WCO, World Bank
18:00-19:30	Gallery	Wine and Cheese Reception An informal opportunity to continue the discussions started in the preceding session. All delegations and partners invited

Day 2: Tuesday - October 3

Time	Meeting Room	Outline
<i>Tuesday- October 3</i>		
10:00 – 13:00	Room CR	Meeting of the Committee on Trade Facilitation See Airgram (WTO/AIR/TFA/27)
13:00- 15:00		Lunch Break
14:00-15:00	Room 1175	Lunch time one-on-one sessions - completion of TFA grant expression of interest. [On demand]
15:00-18:00	Room CR	Meeting of the Committee on Trade Facilitation – continued

Day 3: Wednesday October 4

Time	Session	Outline
10:00 – 13:00	Room CR	Meeting of the Committee on Trade Facilitation - continued See Airgram (WTO/AIR/TFA/27)

13:00-15:00		Lunch Break
14:00-15:00	ROOM S2	Lunch time session - Fiji Trade Facilitation Virtual Reality Video Launch Organized by the WBK
14:00-15:00	Room 1175	Lunch time one-on-one sessions - completion of TFA grant expression of interest. [On demand]
15:00 – 18:00	Room CR	Meeting of the Committee on Trade Facilitation - continued

Day 4: Thursday October 5

10:00 – 13:00	Room CR	Meeting of the Committee on Trade Facilitation – Dedicated Session on Technical Assistance and Support for Capacity Building See Airgram (WTO/AIR/TFA/27)
13:00-15:00		Lunch Break
14:00-15:00	Room 1175	Lunch time one-on-one sessions - completion of TFA grant expression of interest. [On demand]
14:00-15:00	ROOM S1	Lunch time – Level up TFA implementation through regional collaboration. Experience of Central Asia Organized by GIZ
15:00-18:00	Room CR	Meeting of the Committee on Trade Facilitation – Dedicated Session on Technical Assistance and Support for Capacity Building - continued

Day 5: Friday October 6

10:00 – 13:00	Room D	Disaster Preparedness and Trade Facilitation Organized by the United States
10:00-13:00	Bi-lateral meetings as arranged by parties Grants – Room 1175	Opportunity to schedule bi-lateral meetings or one-on-one sessions to complete a TFA grant expression of interest. [OPTIONAL – Grant sessions on demand]

		Lunch break
14:00-15:00	Room 1175	Lunch time one-on-one sessions - completion of TFA grant expression of interest. [On demand]
Sessions for capital-based officials		
15:00 – 16:15	Session 6 Room D	<p>Digitalisation: Implementation of advanced digital technologies for trade facilitation</p> <p>This session will explore the benefits, challenges, and potential solutions of advanced digital technologies to facilitate trade. Moderator: Silvia Sorescu - OECD</p> <p>Sharing experiences China Customs' experience on implementation of Smart Customs, Smart Border and Smart Connectivity(3S) - Mr. SHAO Weijian, Director, Multilateral Cooperation Division, General administration of China Customs</p> <p>Georgia - Ms. Nino Jincharadze, Deputy Head of Customs, Service Quality control division, Maersk - Mr. William Petty</p> <p>Panel "How to build capacities for using digital technologies" GIZ – Ms Nurjamal Bokoeva World Bank – Mr. William J. Gain UNECE – Mr. Konstantin Alexopoulos</p>
16:15 – 17:30	Session 7 Room D	<p>Wrap up of the week and the way forward</p> <p>This session seeks to generate lessons learned for participants to take with them and to formulate take aways for the future activities of the TFAF.</p> <p>These results will be captured and reported to the TFC Chair.</p>
15:00 – 17:15	Special session for Pacific Island Members Room C	<p>Break-out session for Pacific Island Members</p> <p>Organized and conducted by the World Bank Group</p>
17:30	Session 8 Room D	<p>Closing (Pacific Island Members to return to this meeting room)</p> <p>Distribution of certificates of participation Carlos Guevara - Chair of the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee</p>