

National Committee on Trade Facilitation

Defining an institutional framework: The case of Costa Rica



WTO, June 2016



Trade Facilitation Agreement Article 23.2

Each Member shall establish and/or maintain a national committee on trade facilitation or designate an existing mechanism to facilitate both domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions of this Agreement.



Benchmarking and assistance

- Look for regional, key partner countries, and best practice examples.
- Take into account features that will facilitate cooperation with other national committees.
- Take advantage of the international assistance, they have useful contacts and resources.

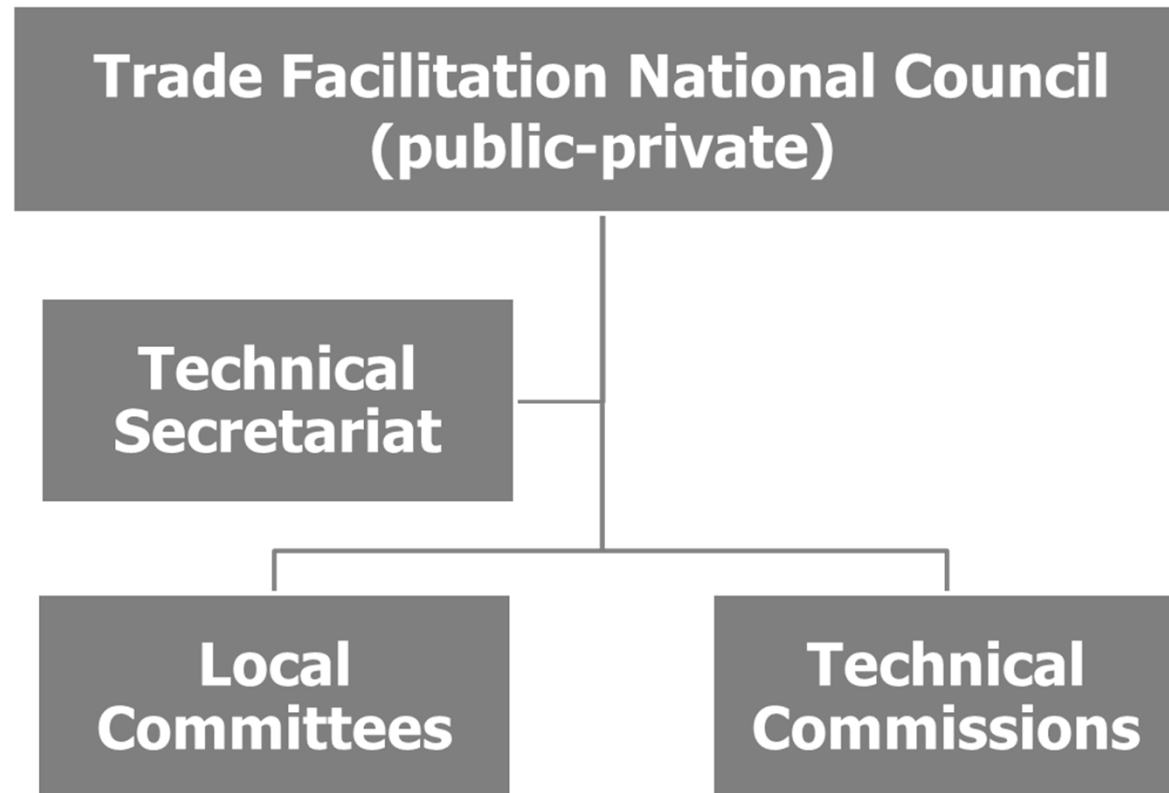


Building a proposal (address objectives/goals)

- Use the right legal tool for the creation
- Involve key and diverse actors
- Select a legitimate leader
- Establish periodic responsibilities
- Inform high level authorities
- Give the decisions a mandatory character
- Ensure administrative support, technical soundness and financial solvency



Costa Rica's proposal





Costa Rica's draft bill Trade Facilitation National Council

1. Assigned to the Ministry of Foreign Trade, which provides personnel and resources for Technical Secretariat.
2. Coordination and decision making in relation to exportation, importation and transit.
3. Binding decisions for public entities, with regards to the implementation of the TFA.



Costa Rica's draft bill Trade Facilitation National Council

4. Representatives of 7 public agencies (finance, trade, transport-infrastructure, health, security, agriculture, and immigration).
5. Representatives of 5 private sectors (1 export, 1 import, 1 logistics, and 2 agro/manufacture).
6. Guests can be summoned as needed (ie. foreign affairs, environmental authorities).



Costa Rica's draft bill Trade Facilitation National Council

7. Replace the Border Crossing Council and assume coordination on trade facilitation.
8. Local committees on ports, airports and border crossings will provide input about on-site issues.
9. Technical commissions will conduct analysis and elaborate proposals for specific issues.

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