Session 2: Defining an institutional framework

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Who should be part of the National Committee?

- Most of the border agencies need to participate in NTFC. From private sector side there should be representatives from the Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
Who should lead/chair the National Committee?

- The lead/chair of the NTFC should be the agency involving with most of the implementation work of WTO TFA. In that spirit, it should be the Customs Administration. The top leader of NTFC should be at Prime Minister level to assure its effectiveness efficiency.
What should be the role of the private sector?

- The role of the private sector in the NTFC should be:
  - to reflect the difficulties or complexity in complying with trade regulations which delay the movement of goods.
  - to give proposals to amend, revise or change the legal provisions for the best of TF measures applied.
How should the interests of Small and Medium Size Enterprises be taken into account?

- In term of trade facilitation, all Enterprises including SME are equal. The only thing taken into account is their compliance with trade-related law and regulation.
Should there be a formal law or decree setting up the National Committee or should it be based on informal coordination?

- This issue depends on each country. Either law or decree or even a decision which can create the sufficient legal validity for smooth and effective operation of NTFC. Due to the comprehensive coverage of TFA, it should not base on informal coordination.
What should be the organizational structure (e.g. centralized or with working groups/task forces? How many levels?, etc.)

- The organizational structure of the NTFC depends on the scope of country. Normally, there are 3 levels: central, province or regional and local levels. In each level it can have working groups/task forces (if necessary)
Should there be provisions for financing of the Committee? If so, what are the best practices?

- As NTFC is set up and run by the Government, so it should be financed by Government to make sure its sustainability and neutrality.
What is the recommended frequency of meetings?

- Frequency of meetings vary from country to country but it can be arranged by 2 stages: the commencement of NTFC and its routine operation. In the 1\textsuperscript{st} stage there is more meeting and in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} less and much less.
One of the most important efforts of relevant regional integration is to facilitate trade and this is the core objective of TFA or other word this is the prime target of NTFC. That’s why in operating the NTFC, it needs close relationship with other bodies operating the FTAs. The best solution is to set up one body conduct all relevant regional integration efforts and implementation of WTO TFA.
Thank you for your attention!