

# STRATEGIES FOR DEFINING A ROADMAP FOR THE NATIONAL FACILITATION COMMITTEE - THE GHANA EXPERIENCE

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# PRESENTATION FORMAT

- Introduction
- Ghana's TF Roadmap
- Goals & priorities
- Prioritizing and identifying deliverables
- Sequencing vs parallel tracks
- M&E and best practices for follow up and accountability
- Communication strategy
- Ghana's TF Strategy

# Roadmap Introduction

- A National Trade Facilitation Roadmap is a short, comprehensive document laying down a strategic vision towards trade facilitation reforms in a given country and identifying the milestones needed to achieve them within a given period.



*Ghana National Trade Facilitation Committee During the UNCTAD Empowerment program Module 0, Accra, May 2016*

# Ghana's Trade Facilitation Roadmap 2016

- Ratification process
  - Ratify the WTO TFA by end of July 2016
  - Notify Category A measures and ratification of the TFA
- Operations of the National Trade Facilitation Committee by:
  - Confirming the TOR
  - Confirming members of the technical sub-committees: Customs, Transit and Single Window
  - Drafting and implementing the Communication Strategy
- Continue to participate in the UNCTAD 2016 Empowerment Program to enhance operation of NTFCs

# GHANA'S TF ROADMAP 2016 CONT'D

- Finalize the assessment of gaps, cost and timelines to upgrade Category B measures by end of December 2017
- Assessment of gaps and cost to upgrade Category C measures by end of 2016
- Draft Project Proposals to upgrade Category C measures and solicit support/assistance from development partners by end of 2016
- Draft an implementation matrix of the TFA and M&E plan

# National Trade Facilitation Goals and Priorities

- Set out in the TOR of the NFTC are need based
- The National Trade Facilitation needs assessment already validated to identify bottlenecks and set targets towards eliminating the bottlenecks
- Identify indicators on Ghana's performance on ease of trade e.g. WEF Trade & Competitiveness Report and the WB Doing Business report
- Prioritising and Identifying deliverables is a moving and evolving task
  - After the selection of Category A, B and C commitments, we then highlighted measures that are low hanging fruits; which would require government investment in order for such measure to be escalated from Category B to A.

# Parallel vs Sequencing

- Ghana has decided on parallel sequencing
- The NFTC has sub-committees that meet more frequent than the NFTC on their specialised matter and make an updating presentation to the NFTC to ensure efficiency
- Sequencing ensures that we will also ensure we meet the various indicative designation.
- This parallel system has worked well for other trade related committees such as that for the implementation of the previous Ghana's Trade Sector Support Programme.



# Monitoring & Evaluation

- Ghana NTFC will collaborate with national bodies, the private sector and international partners for thorough monitoring, evaluation and accountability.
- The final Roadmap will have an implementation matrix as well as an M&E plan
- Private sector and other stakeholder engagement has been imperative for this process
- This will be based on best practices as outlined by UNECE, UNCTAD and the WTO. We are also looking at practices by some African countries and other countries such as Singapore and Mauritius.

# Communication Strategy

- It is imperative to include a communication strategy in the NTFC's terms of reference
- This is in cognisance of the role the public has in holding the NTFC accountable and being the main beneficiaries of the TFA and any reforms undertaken
- Our communication strategy has two parts; internal and external (which includes television appearances, press releases and publication at dedicated websites when new information becomes available.)

# Ghana's NTFC Strategy Roadmap 2016

Focuses on:

- Effective operationalization of the NTFC
- Ratification of the WTO TFA by end of July 2016
- Notify Category A measures and ratification of the TFA
- Finalize the assessment of gaps, cost and timelines to upgrade Category B measures by end of 2017
- Assessment of gaps and cost to upgrade Category C measures by end of 2016
- Draft Project Proposals to upgrade Category C measures and solicit support/assistance from development partners by end of 2016
- Draft an implementation matrix of the TFA and M&E plan
- Draft and implement Communication Strategy

Thank you!