# OVERVIEW OF THE ACCESSION PACKAGE AND POST ACCESSION ROADMAP/STRATEGY

Abdul Karim Malikyar Head of WTO Section Ministry of Commerce & Industries Bangkok 11 July, 2016



## Outline

- Snapshot of Afghanistan's Accession Path
- Afghanistan WTO Accession process and progress
- Post-Accession Strategy



## **Snapshot of Afghanistan's Accession Path**

- 1. Request for Accession in 2004; negotiations effectively started in 2010
- 2. Five Working Party meetings: first in January 2011 and last in November 2015
- 3. Goods and services market access negotiations completed in less than 18 months and concluded in February 2014
- 4. Plurilateral Agricultural negotiations completed in one round
- 5. Around 30 pieces of legislation adopted

2016

- 6. Accession Protocol adopted during Nairobi Ministerial Conference
- 7. Accession Protocol Accepted by Afghanistan in June

## **Afghanistan's Accession Process**

- Application → 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2004
- Observer  $\rightarrow$  13<sup>th</sup> December, 2004
- WP  $\rightarrow$  13<sup>th</sup> December, 2004
- Chair → The Netherland

#### What have been achieved so far...?

- MFTR  $\rightarrow$  April, 2009.
- 168 questions (US, Canada, EU, Australia and Chinese Taipei) → 26 July, 2010.
- Memorandum of Foreign Trade Regime, is a document which includes and describes all aspects of Afghanistan's trade and economic polices and legal regime including tax policy, tariff policy, export-import policies/strategies "



### What have been achieved so far... II?



#### 1<sup>st</sup> WP, 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2011

2<sup>nd</sup> WP, June, 2012



3<sup>rd</sup> P, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

4<sup>th</sup> WP, 25 July, 2013

#### What have been achieved so far...III?

- Ist WP →153 questions (US, Canada, Australia, EU and Chinese Taipie) and replies circulated in WTO on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2011
  - $2^{nd}$  WP  $\rightarrow$  139 questions and replied in 2012.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> WP → 34 Questions replied on 10 April, 2013, 97 questions replied on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2013 and 24 US questions replied on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2013
- 4<sup>th</sup> WP $\rightarrow$  10 US questions replied.



#### What have been achieved so far...III?

- Services offer was submitted in June 2012.
- Goods offer was submitted in November 2012.
- 30 laws and regulations drafted and amended.
- 13 newly drafted



https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\_2720

