

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar



National Workshop on Trade Facilitation and the Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar 4-5 June 2015





The Government of the Republic of

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ESCAP

Exercise and Social Commissions for Asia and the Parising

the Union of Myanmar

Introduction to Trade Facilitation

Trade Facilitation in Economic Development and Policy Making

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Introduction to ESCAP

- Regional (Asia and the Pacific) Branch of the United Nations Secretariat
- 62 member economies covering Central, South, Southeast, East and South Pacific countries
- Mandate: Promote sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development in Asia and the Pacific
 - through facilitation of REGIONAL COOPERATION
- Areas covered: <u>Trade and Investment</u>, Transport, Macroeconomic Policy, Environment, Emerging Social issues, Information and Communication Technologies...
 - Trade and Investment: (1) <u>Trade</u>
 <u>Facilitation</u>; (2) Trade Policy; (3)
 Investment and Enterprise Development



Presentation Outline

- Trade Facilitation (TF)?
 - Definitions & scope
 - Integrated approach to TF needed: Buy-Ship-Pay model
- Why is TF important for national economic development
 - Import + export facilitation essential for participation in international production networks
- Moving forward on TF
 - Step-by-step approach
- Concluding remarks



Trade Facilitation (TF)? - Definition

4 | Designing and Implementing Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific

Box 1.1: Various Definitions of Trade Facilitation

World Trade Organization (WTO): The simplification and harmonization of international trade procedures, where trade procedures are the activities, practices, and formalities involved in collecting, presenting, communicating, as processing data and other information required for the movement of goods in international trade.

World Customs Organization (WCO): The avoidance of unnecessary trade restrictiveness. This can be achieved by applying modern techniques and technologies, while improving the quality of controls in an internationally harmonized manner.

United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT): The simplification, standardization, and harmonization of procedures and associated information flows required to move goods from seller to buyer and to make payments.

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC): Improve the efficiency of the processes associated with trading in goods across national borders.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD): The simplification and standardization of procedures and associated information flows required to move goods internationally from seller to buyer and to pass payments in the other direction.

Asia–Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC): The simplification and rationalization of customs and other administrative procedures that delay or increase the cost of moving goods across international borders.





Trade Facilitation (TF)? - Definition

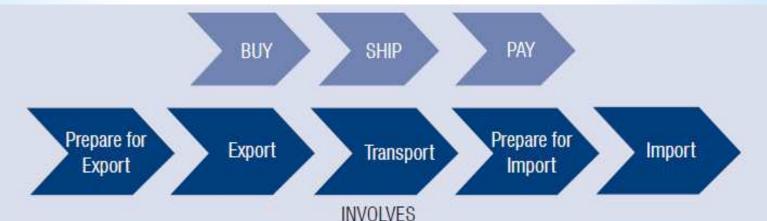


- "The plumbing of international trade" (Staples, 1998)
- "The simplification and harmonization of international trade procedures.", where trade procedures are the "activities, practices and formalities involved in collecting, presenting, communicating and processing data and other information required for the movement of goods in international trade." (WTO documents)
- Any measure, or set of measures, that aims to increase the cost-effectiveness of international trade transactions". http://www.gfptt.org/



Trade Facilitation? → **Definition**

Simplification of international trade procedures / reducing trade costs



Commercial Procedures

- Establish Contract
- Order Goods
- Advice on Delivery
- Request Payment
- Packing
- Certification
- Accreditation
- Warehousing

Transport Procedures

- Establish Transport Contract
- Collect, Transport and Deliver Goods
- Provide Waybills, Goods Receipts Status Reports, etc.

Regulatory Procedures

- Obtain Import/ Export Licenses, etc.
- Provide Customs
 Declaration
- Provide Cargo Declaration
- Apply Trade Security Procedures
- Clear Goods for Export/Import

Financial Procedures

- Provide Credit Rating
- Provide Insurance
- Provide Finance
- Execute Payment
- Issue Statements

Source: United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT). 2008.

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Figure 4. Time Procedure Chart: Trade in electronic devices from China to Thailand

