

WORK PROGRAMME

CEFTA Subcommittee on TBT and NTBs

2014

January 2014

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INTRODUCTION

The Work Programme of the Subcommittee on Non Tariff Barriers to Trade and Technical Barriers to Trade for 2014 is relying on the three-year Strategic Work Programme (2013-2015) conceptualised under the Chairmanship of Macedonia.

The paper summarizes the mandate and scope of the Subcommittee, underlines its active collaboration with other CEFTA Structures and spells out the major activities planned for the one-year period.

Montenegro is committed to continue with the work of its predecessors on the activities of identification and reduction of NTBs in mutual trade among CEFTA Parties.

In 2014, the priorities of Montenegro will be focused on:

Reduction and Elimination of Unnecessary Technical Barriers to Trade – extension of the mandate of the WG on TBT to include activities such as delivering of projects on the regional level, assistance in drafting the agreements amongst relevant bodies in quality infrastructure, etc.

Enhancement of Transparency, Information Exchange and Notification – multilateral agreements between NABs, NSBs– objective is among others, to exchange the translation of standards, adoption of regional CEFTA codes that are in compliance with Eurocodes, create common register of assessors, etc.

1. THE SUBCOMMITTEE AS A PART OF CEFTA STRUCTURES

1.1. Mandate and scope of the Subcommittee

The task of the CEFTA Subcommittee on Technical Barriers to Trade and Non-tariff Barriers to Trade, which was established by the Joint Committee Decision No. 5/2007, is to identify, review and propose measures for elimination of technical and non-tariff barriers to trade among the CEFTA Parties.

Its main mandate is to:

- exchange information on a regular basis to identify and review complaints in each Party concerning NTBs and propose appropriate procedures to eliminate barriers to trade;
- propose timetables for elimination of NTBs;
- exchange views, on a systematic basis, on appropriate domestic institutional arrangements to eliminate NTBs in each Party in order to ensure the adoption of best practices;
- identify and oversee the elimination of unnecessary technical barriers to trade in

- accordance with Article 13.2 of the Agreement;
- encourage harmonisation, where appropriate, of technical regulations, standards and procedures for assessment of conformity with those of the European Union;
 - encourage recognition of conformity assessment documents made by the accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies;
 - prepare and present an annual report on identifying, reviewing and proposing measures for eliminating TBTs and NTBs, based on the individual reports prepared by the Parties in accordance with a common structure/template.

The Working Group on TBT is functioning under the framework of the Subcommittee. Its mandate is, among others, to:

- (i) keep under review the achieved harmonization of technical regulations, standards and procedures for assessment of conformity with those of the EU, in accordance with the Article 13:3.b;
- (ii) encourage the negotiations to conclude the plurilateral agreements among the Parties in the area of mutual recognition of the conformity assessment;
- (iii) timely inform the Joint Committee on any notification received by the CEFTA Party on new technical regulation or standard prior to its adoption in accordance with the Article 13:3.b;
- (iv) improve the technical cooperation and networking in all quality infrastructure disciplines (metrology, standardization, conformity assessment, accreditation and market surveillance).

1.2.Organisation of Work

The members of the Subcommittee on NTBs and TBT are officially appointed senior civil servants from the CEFTA Parties responsible for the issues on non-tariff barriers to trade and technical barriers of trade. The meetings are divided into the meetings of the Working Group on TBT for the issues specifically connected to the technical barriers (technical regulations, standards, conformity assessment) and the meetings of the Subcommittee on NTBs and TBT that are dedicated to both the NTBs and TBT. The members of the WG on TBT are invited to participate at the SC on NTBs and TBT meetings.

A number of workshops, roundtables and promotional events are organized additionally to the official meetings of the Subcommittee.

Montenegro as the Chair of the Subcommittee and the Working Group on TBT in 2014 envisages one regular meeting of the Subcommittee and three meeting of the Working Group on TBT. The responsible institution is the Ministry of economy Montenegro. This does not *a priori* exclude holding of other *ad hoc* meetings that could be convened to discuss the specific items of a mutual interest. (See Chapter 5: Calendar of Meetings and Events)

2. PRIORITIES OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP

In 2014, the Chair of the Subcommittee will follow on the activities from the previous years in the area of elimination of the non-tariff barriers and technical barriers to trade will introduce new ones in order to secure the fulfilment of a set of objectives:

2.1.Coordination with other CEFTA Structures

The Chairmanship of the Subcommittee is taken on a rotational basis with the tenure of office of one calendar year. In line with these rules, Montenegro has taken over the Chairmanship of the Subcommittee from Macedonia on 1 January 2014.

According to its mandate, the Subcommittee communicates regularly with two other Subcommittees established under CEFTA: on Customs and Rules of Origin and on Agriculture and SPS as well as Working Group on Trade in Services and Working Group on Customs Risk Management, in order to avoid duplication of efforts in many areas of activities.

Key activities in the area of coordination with other CEFTA Structures are:

Activity 2.1.1 Coordination with SC on Agriculture and SPS on areas with common objective

- coordination of activities in the implementation of the recommendations for the SPS to reduce potential NTBs in order to ensure synergies and avoid any overlapping (*Key dates: throughout of a current year*)

Activity 2.1.2 Coordination with SC on Customs and Rules of Origin on areas with common objective

- coordination of activities in the implementation of the recommendations for the administrative barriers to trade to reduce potential NTBs in order to ensure synergies and avoid any overlapping (*Key dates: throughout of a current year*)

Activity 2.1.3 Reporting to other CEFTA Structures

- reporting on results achieved to the Deputy Ministers meeting and the Joint Committee (*Key dates: June and October/November*)

Activity 2.1.4 Participation at the CEFTA meetings

- Participation of the Chair at the SC on Agriculture and SPS meetings (*Key dates: March - May*)
- Participation of the Chair at the SC on Customs and Rules of Origin meetings (*Key dates: June - October*)
- Participation of the Chair at the Deputy Ministers meeting and seventh Joint Committee Meeting (*Key dates: June and October/November*)

Activity 2.1.5 Promotion of the achieved results

- Promotion to the business community through events such as CEFTA Trade Portal, CEFTA Week 2014, etc (*Key dates: throughout the year, October/November*)
- Exchange of information with the members of the CEFTA Forum Chambers of Commerce (*Key dates: throughout the year*)

Outside the CEFTA Structures, the SC on NTBs and TBT will maintain regular contacts with its longstanding partners:

- (i) the IPA Quality Infrastructure Project for the Western Balkan in the area of technical barriers to trade;
- (ii) the CEFTA Forum of Chambers of Commerce in the area of cooperation with the private sectors;
- (iii) the SEE Investment Committee of the Regional Cooperation Council in the area of programming and implementing the SEE 2020 Strategy

2.2. Elimination of Non-tariff Barriers to Trade

Montenegro as a Chair of the Subcommittee is determined to ensure full implementation of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of the NTBs established in 2010. Following two assessments of NTBs in selected areas (SPS, TBT and administrative barriers) conducted during 2011 and 2012, the OECD produced the recommendations reflected in the document "OECD Inputs on Strategic Guidelines on NTBs Reduction in CEFTA". These recommendations were echoed in the Ministerial Conclusions adopted at the Joint Committee meeting held on 20 November 2013 and secured full support and commitment by all Parties.

The following activities will be organized to support the implementation of this priority in the course of 2014:

Activity 2.2.1 Implementation of the OECD recommendations (Key dates: throughout 2014 and beyond)

- Improving of transparency in selected areas by establishing self-sustainable information and notification mechanisms
- Ensuring synchronised harmonisation with EU/International requirements
- Conclusion of mutual recognition agreements where applicable
- Identification and agreement on the applicability of EU/international regulations and standards
- Application of risk management approach in the area of administrative barriers and SPS

Activity 2.2.2 Elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors in cooperation with the RCC OECD New Generation Competitive Initiative

- Identification of key sectors/subsectors (*Key dates: end of January 2014*)

- Drafting of a plan for ex ante approach in elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors (*Key dates*: throughout 2014)

2.3. Reduction and Elimination of Unnecessary Technical Barriers to Trade

In the course of 2014, Montenegro as a Chair of the Working Group Working Group on TBT will work towards concluding the Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of industrial products that was initiated and developed during the previous Chairmanship.

Extension of the mandate of the WG on TBT to include activities such as delivering of projects on the regional level, assistance in drafting the agreements amongst relevant bodies in quality infrastructure, etc.

Signing of multilateral agreements between NABs, NSBs– objective is among others, to exchange the translation of standards, adoption of regional CEFTA codes that comply with Eurocodes, create common register of assessors, etc.

Establishment and management of regional association of conformity assessment bodies, such as CEFTALAB.

The specific activities of the Working Group on TBT in 2014 will include:

Activity 2.3.1 Conclusion of the Agreement on conformity assessment issues and on easing access of industrial products to the markets of other CEFTA Party

- Finalisation of the proposed text of the Agreement on conformity assessments issues and on easing access of industrial products to the markets of other CEFTA Party (*Key dates*: throughout 2014);
- Training of the involved CEFTA Parties in order to increase capacity for timely and successful negotiations for conclusion of Agreements of conformity assessments with the technical support of the regional projects and other partners (*Key dates*: throughout the current year);

Activity 2.3.2 Improving the transparency in TBT

- Reporting to the Joint Committee on notifications received by the CEFTA Party on new technical regulation or standard prior to its adoption in accordance with the Article 13:3.b (*Key dates*: November 2014)
- Exchanging information among the CEFTA Parties on level achieved for harmonisation of technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures with the EU (*Key dates*: throughout the current year);
- Creating a TBT Platform, which will provide extensive information related to TBT and quality infrastructure (conformity assessment, standardisation, metrology, market surveillance bodies) (*Key dates*: 2014-2015);

Activity 2.3.3 Enhancing the regional cooperation among National Accreditation bodies and other national institutions that deal with TBT

- Exploring the possibilities to conclude multilateral/plurilateral Agreements or Memorandums of cooperation in the field of standardisation, accreditation and metrology among the national bodies of the CEFTA Parties, and preparing a list of already concluded bilateral ones (*Key dates: throughout the current year*);

2.4. Enhancement of Transparency, Information Exchange and Notification

Recognizing transparency as a very important tool in ex ante approach toward eliminating the NTBs the Chair is fully committed to follow the recommendations as stated in the “OECD Strategic Guidelines on Reduction of NTBs”. A new transparency tool, which includes several distinctive instruments, is foreseen to support the effective and transparent flow of information with a view to enhance the efficacy of tackling the NTBs in the region.

The following activities are envisaged in the course of 2014 destined to improve the transparency:

Activity 2.4.1 Establishment of the CEFTA Transparency Pack

- Inter-linkage of existing databases and information into one system
- Upload of tariff information

Activity 2.4.2 Establishment of the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Platform

- Develop and establish the TBT platform that will comprise the online system of TBT notifications, and the important information on quality infrastructure, such as conformity assessment, standardization, accreditation, metrology, market surveillance, etc will be available. This platform will be developed and established in assistance with various partners, including the GiZ and the IPA Quality Infrastructure Project.

Activity 2.4.3 Upgrade and update of the CEFTA SPS Database

- Adding new features such as list of food and feed producers, registered importers and exporters, transporters
- Setting up of the on line notification system
- Regular update of presented information and data
- Promotion of database to the wider circle of users

Activity 2.4.4 Ensuring of sustainability and durability of the CEFTA Trade Portal

- Regular updating of the content of the Trade Portal and its promotion to the interested parties

Activity 2.4.5 Implementation of the Ministerial Decision on Advanced Notification of Legislation

- Reporting to the Joint Committee on the implementation of the Ministerial Decision No. 2/2013

3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED REGIONAL PROJECTS

3.1. Coordination with other CEFTA Structures

Activity 2.1.1 Coordination with SC on Agriculture and SPS on areas with common objective

- No outsourced technical assistance required.

Activity 2.1.2 Coordination with SC on Customs and Rules of Origin on areas with common objective

- No outsourced technical assistance required.

Activity 2.1.3 Reporting to other CEFTA Structures

- No outsourced technical assistance required.

Activity 2.1.4 Participation at the CEFTA meetings

- No outsourced technical assistance required.

Activity 2.1.5 Promotion of the achieved results

- No outsourced technical assistance required.

3.2. Technical Assistance in the Area of NTBs

The work on the elimination of the NTBs is supported by the expertise provided by the OECD team of experts under the project . The main objective of this assistance is to conduct regular independent monitoring of the elimination of NTBs through the instrument called Multilateral Monitoring Framework for Eliminating the NTBs. The instrument is based on the set of indicators for each of the key NTBs area namely: (i) technical barriers to trade (standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment); (ii) sanitary and phytosanitary measures; (iii) administrative barriers to trade.

The outcomes from this project include structured quantitative and qualitative data combined with the detailed policy and practitioner-oriented guidance and recommendations how to continue the NBTs reduction process conducted under the Multilateral Monitoring Framework and how to extend its coverage to a new set of traded goods.

The OECD MMF project on elimination of NTBs will continue to support CEFTA in 2014. The Project will build on the results of the OECD-RCC Working Group on New Generation Competitiveness Initiative that supports the implementation of SEE 2020 Strategy, and will focus on the identification of trade barriers in the selected supply chains/subsectors (agri-food).

For the activities during 2014, the following technical assistance is foreseen:

Activity 2.2.1 Implementation of the OECD recommendations (Key dates: throughout 2014 and beyond)

- Technical assistance is need. Potential partners include TAIEX and other donors such as OECD, GIZ

Activity 2.2.2 Elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors in cooperation with the RCC OECD New Generation Competitive Initiative

- Technical assistance is need. Potential partners include OECD

3.3. Technical assistance in the Area of TBT

Cooperation with the IPA 2011 Project on Quality Infrastructure in the Western Balkans and Turkey will continue IN 2014. This project has a scope to provide in-depth training in the areas of TBT as well as networking opportunities. WG on TBT and the CEFTA Secretariat will work closely with the Project to develop joint initiatives in the area of facilitating the intra regional trade with the final objective to remove the technical barriers to trade.

In 2014 the cooperation with the IPA Project on QI is seen in the area of improved transparency on TBT. In particular, the Project's extensive knowledge and information on quality infrastructure across the region is deemed valuable in the process of developing the content part of the TBT Platform.

The GiZ is a crucial partner in setting up the TBT Platform. The project on TBT will be developed under the framework of creating the overall transparency tool that comprises four different and interlinked CEFTA databases (market access, TBT, SPS and tariff information system) as well as the CEFTA Trade Portal.

Activity 2.3.1 Conclusion of the Agreement on conformity assessment issues and on easing access of industrial products to the markets of other CEFTA Party

- The outsourced assistance might be needed in the area of training. Potential partners include the IPA Quality Infrastructure Project and other partners.

Activity 2.3.2 Improving the transparency in TBT

- The additional assistance is needed in creating the TBT Platform. Potential partners include the GiZ and the IPA Quality Infrastructure Project.

Activity 2.3.4 Enhancing the regional cooperation among National Accreditation bodies and other national institutions that deal with TBT

- Some additional technical assistance might be needed in the area of exploring the potentials for concluding multilateral/plurilateral Agreements or Memorandums of cooperation in the field of standardisation, accreditation and metrology among the national bodies

3.4. Enhancement of Transparency, Information Exchange and Notification

Activity 2.4.1 Establishment of the CEFTA Transparency Pack

- Technical assistance from GiZ is secured

Activity 2.4.2 Establishment of the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Platform

- Technical assistance from GiZ is secured. Other partners include IPA Quality Infrastructure Project

Activity 2.4.3 Upgrade and update of the CEFTA SPS Database

- Technical assistance will be secured through the Secretariat and GiZ.

Activity 2.4.4 Ensuring of sustainability and durability of the CEFTA Trade Portal

- Technical assistance from GiZ is secured

3.5. Other Related Projects

The GiZ project on market surveillance focuses on strengthening of cooperation and coordination of common activities in the field of market surveillance in the South-East European Countries (SEE). The objective of the project is to establish a sustainable network of market surveillance institutions in the SEE region and to develop joint activities in the area of market surveillance focused on coordination, cooperation and harmonisation.

The SC on NTBs and TBT and especially the Working Group on TBT will maintain close cooperation with this project in 2014. The potential areas of cooperation include: (i) institutionalised exchange of information (e.g. joint meetings), (ii) joint participation in regional projects and initiatives; (iii) contribution to the enhanced transparency (Trade Portal, TBT platform) and (iv) exchange of views and experiences in the process of programming and implementing the SEE 2020 Strategy (pillar Integrated Growth).

4. EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results of our Chairmanship are outlined in the span of the one-year period.

4.1. Coordination with other CEFTA Structures

Activity 2.1.1 Coordination with SC on Agriculture and SPS on areas with common objective

- Two Subcommittees coordinate activities and engage in projects of joint interest.

Activity 2.1.2 Coordination with SC on Customs and Rules of Origin on areas with common objective

- Two Subcommittees coordinate activities and engage in projects of joint interest.

Activity 2.1.3 Reporting to other CEFTA Structures

- The reporting is done in a timely manner to all the CEFTA Structures (Deputy Ministers and Joint Committee meeting).

Activity 2.1.4 Participation at the CEFTA meetings

- The Chair of the SC on NTBs and TBT participates regularly to the meetings of other two Subcommittees, the Deputy Ministers and Joint Committee meetings.

Activity 2.1.5 Promotion of the achieved results

- The CEFTA Trade Portal and the CEFTA TBT Platform are promoted to the wider audience

4.2. Elimination of the NTBs:

Activity 2.2.1 Implementation of the OECD recommendations (Key dates: throughout 2014 and beyond)

- Transparency and notification mechanisms are in place and self-sustainable
- Regional plan on synchronised harmonisation with EU/International requirements is drafted
- Mutual recognition agreements are identified and concluded where applicable
- Agreement on the applicability of EU/international regulations and standards
- A risk management approach in the area of administrative barriers and SPS is adopted and regional trainings secured

Activity 2.2.2 Elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors in cooperation with the RCC OECD New Generation Competitive Initiative

- Key sectors and subsectors are identified
- Plan for ex ante approach in elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors is drafted and agreed amongst the members of the Subcommittee

4.3. Reduction and Elimination of the unnecessary TBT:

Activity 2.3.1 Conclusion of the Agreement on conformity assessment issues and on easing access of industrial products to the markets of other CEFTA Party

- Agreement on conformity assessments issues and on easing access of industrial products to the markets of other CEFTA Party is concluded.

- The envisaged training is performed in a satisfactory manner and the capacity of competent authorities involved in negotiations for conclusion of agreements on conformity assessment among CEFTA Parties increased.

Activity 2.3.2 Improving the transparency in TBT

- The Report on the notification of the TBT (standards, technical regulations and conformity assessments) is prepared and presented at the Joint Committee Meeting
- Review of the legislation on adopted standards, technical regulations and cooperation among quality infrastructure bodies amongst the CEFTA Parties made available and updated regularly.
- The TBT Platform is operational and functioning.

Activity 2.3.3 Enhancing the regional cooperation among National Accreditation bodies and other national institutions that deal with TBT

- Multilateral/plurilateral Agreements or Memorandums of cooperation in the field of standardisation, accreditation and metrology among the national bodies of the CEFTA Parties

4.4. Enhancement of Transparency, Information Exchange and Notification

Activity 2.4.1 Establishment of the CEFTA Transparency Pack

- Transparency Pack is operational and self sustainable

Activity 2.4.2 Establishment of the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Platform

- TBT platform is operational and self sustainable

Activity 2.4.3 Upgrade and update of the CEFTA SPS Database

- Upgrade of SPS Database is completed and update is performed regularly by the Parties

Activity 2.4.4 Ensuring of sustainability and durability of the CEFTA Trade Portal

- Update of the CEFTA Trade Portal is performed regularly by the Parties

Activity 2.4.5 Implementation of the Ministerial Decision on Advanced Notification of Legislation

- Annual reporting to the Joint Committee on the implementation of the Ministerial Decision No. 2/2013

5. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The 2014 tentative calendar of meetings and events is the following:

MEETING/EVENT	DATE	Venue
Ninth Meeting of the Working Group on TBT	4 March	Brussels, Belgium
Ninth meeting of the Subcommittee on NTBs and TBT	End of May	Podgorica
Tenth meeting of the Working Group on TBT	End of May	Podgorica
Regional Roundtable on NTBs and TBT	spring	OECD, Paris
Eleventh meeting of the Working Group on TBT	September/October	Podgorica

Annex 1: ACTION PLAN FOR 2014

OBJECTIVE	PHASES	ACTION	KEY MILESTONES	TIMEFRAME
Coordination with other CEFTA Structures	1. Coordination with SC on Agriculture and SPS on areas with common objective	1.1. coordination of activities in the implementation of the recommendations for the SPS to reduce potential NTBs in order to ensure synergies and avoid any overlapping	Recommendations in the area of SPS are implemented	January-December
	2. Coordination with SC on Customs and Rules of Origin on areas with common objective	2.1. coordination of activities in the implementation of the recommendations for the administrative barriers to trade to reduce potential NTBs in order to ensure synergies and avoid any overlapping	Recommendations in the area of administrative barriers to trade are implemented	January-December
	3. Reporting to other CEFTA Structures	3.1. reporting on results achieved to the Deputy Ministers meeting and the Joint Committee	Annual and semi-annual Report submitted to Deputy Ministers and Joint Committee	June October
	4. Participation at the CEFTA meetings	4.1. Participation of the Chair at the SC on Agriculture and SPS and SC on Customs and Rules of Origin meetings 4.2. Participation of the Chair at the Deputy Ministers meeting and seventh Joint Committee Meeting	CEFTA Parties are regularly participating at the official CEFTA meetings, roundtables.	January-November
	5. Promotion of the results	5.1. Promotion to the business community through events such as CEFTA Trade Portal, CEFTA Week 2014 5.2. Exchange of information with the members of the CEFTA Forum Chambers of Commerce	Implemented recommendations and results are promoted at the CEFTA Trade Portal, CEFTA Secretariat's website, CEFTA Week, at international conferences, forums	Continuous October/November
Elimination of non-tariff barriers to trade	1. Implementation of the OECD recommendations	1.1. Improving of transparency in selected areas by establishing self-sustainable information and notification mechanisms 1.2. Ensuring synchronised harmonisation with EU/International requirements 1.3. Conclusion of mutual recognition agreements where applicable 1.4. Identification and agreement on the applicability of EU/international regulations and standards 1.5. Application of risk management approach in the area of administrative barriers and SPS	Transparency Pack, SPS Database, TBT Platform, Trade Portal are functional and self-sustainable Regional plan on synchronised harmonisation with EU/International requirements is drafted Mutual recognition agreements identified and concluded where applicable Agreement on the applicability of EU/international regulations and standards reached A risk management approach in the area of administrative barriers and SPS is adopted and regional trainings secured	Throughout 2014 and beyond

	2. Elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors in cooperation with the RCC OECD New Generation Competitive Initiative	2.1. Identification of key sectors/subsectors 2.2. Drafting of a plan for ex ante approach in elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors	Key sectors and subsectors are identified Plan for ex ante approach in elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors is drafted and agreed amongst the members of the Subcommittee	Throughout 2014 and beyond
Reduction and elimination of unnecessary TBT	1. Conclusion of the Agreement on conformity assessment issues and on easing access of industrial products to the markets of other CEFTA Party	1.1. Finalisation of the proposed text of the Agreement 1.2. Training of the involved CEFTA Parties in order to increase capacity	The Agreement on conformity assessment issues and on easing of industrial products is concluded	November 2014
	2. Improving the transparency in TBT	3.1. Notifying regularly on the TBT 3.2. Exchanging the information on harmonization process 3.3. Establishing the TBT Platform	The Report on the TBT notifications is completed and presented to the JC CEFTA TBT Platform is established and operational	November 2014
	3. Enhancing the regional cooperation among National Accreditation bodies and other national institutions that deal with TBT	4.1. Exploring the possibilities to conclude multilateral/plurilateral Agreements or Memorandums of cooperation	A Multilateral/Plurilateral Agreements on cooperation are concluded Establishment of CEFTALAB	January -2015
Enhancement of Transparency, Information Exchange and Notification	1. Establishment of the CEFTA Transparency Pack	1.1. Inter-linkage of existing databases and information into one system 1.2. Upload of tariff information	Transparency Pack is operational and self sustainable	January 2014
	2. Establishing of the CEFTA TBT Platform	2.1. Develop and establish the TBT platform that will comprise the online system of TBT notifications, and the important information on quality infrastructure	TBT platform is operational and self sustainable	End of 2014
	3. Upgrade and update of the CEFTA SPS Database	3.1. Adding new features such as list of food and feed producers, registered importers and exporters, transporters 3.2. Setting up of the on line notification system	Upgrade of SPS Database is completed and update is performed regularly by the Parties	End of 2014
	4. Ensuring of sustainability and durability of the CEFTA Trade Portal	4.1. Regular updating of the content of the Trade Portal and its promotion to the interested parties	Update of the CEFTA Trade Portal is performed regularly by the Parties	January-
	5. Implementation of the Ministerial Decision on Advanced Notification of Legislation	5.1. Reporting to the Joint Committee on the implementation of the Ministerial Decision No. 2/2013	Annual reporting to the Joint Committee	November 2014

ANNEX 2: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

LOG FRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR PRIORITIES OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TBT and NTBs		Period: January – December 2014	
Overall objective	Indicators of Achievement	Sources of verification	
to develop further actions, particularly in the following priority areas, with the objective to fully implement the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of NTBs, ensure transparency, deeper collaboration with the private sector and strengthen the cooperation with other CEFTA Structures.	All meetings of the Subcommittee and the Working Group on TBT are held with the active participation of CEFTA Parties	Report of the Subcommittee on NTBs and TBT Report of the WG on TBT	
Priorities	Indicators of Achievement	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
1) Coordination with other CEFTA Structures 2) Elimination of the identified non-tariff barriers to trade, 3) Elimination of the unnecessary technical barriers to trade, 4) Enhancement of the transparency, information exchange and notification 5) Improved cooperation with the business community	1) The number of participations at each other meetings increased 2) Number of identified non-tariff barriers to trade among the CEFTA Parties has a decreasing tendency 3) Number of unnecessary technical barriers to trade decreased 4) The CEFTA Parties are timely informed about the new regulations with a potential hindering impact on trade 5) Relations with the private sector improved with regular exchange of data	Report of SC on NTBs and TBT Report of SC on Agriculture and SPS Report of SC on Customs and Rules of Origin Report of the Working Group on TBT Report of the Working Group on Trade in Services CEFTA Market Access Database CEFTA TBT Platform CEFTA SPS Database CEFTA Trade Portal	1) Each CEFTA Party remains committed to the CEFTA process and its provisions. 2) Bilateral problems between the CEFTA Parties which do not have any direct relevance to the implementation of the Agreement do not affect the smooth functioning of the Agreement, 3) International donors keep committed to support financially the CEFTA.
Activities	Results	Means	Assumptions

<p><u>Priority 1 :</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Coordination with SC on Agriculture and SPS on areas with common objective 2) Coordination with SC on Customs and Rules of Origin on areas with common objective 3) Reporting to other CEFTA Structures 4) Participation at the CEFTA meetings 5) Promotion of the results 	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recommendations in the area of SPS implemented 2) Recommendations in the area of administrative barriers implemented 3) Annual and semi-annual Report submitted to Deputy Ministers and Joint Committee 4) CEFTA Parties are regularly participating at the official CEFTA meetings 5) Implemented recommendations and results are promoted at the CEFTA Trade Portal, CEFTA Secretariat's website, CEFTA Week, at international conferences, forums 	<p>SC on Agriculture and SPS meetings SC on NTBs and TBT meetings SC on Customs and RO meetings</p> <p>Deputy Ministers Meetings Joint Committee Meeting</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Each CEFTA Party remains committed to the CEFTA process and its provisions. 2) Bilateral problems between the CEFTA Parties which do not have any direct relevance to the implementation of the Agreement do not affect the smooth functioning of the Agreement, 3) International donors keep committed to support financially the CEFTA.
<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1)Implementation of the OECD recommendations 2) Elimination of NTBs in selected supply chains/subsectors in cooperation with the RCC OECD New Generation Competitive Initiative 	<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Transparency Pack, SPS Database, TBT Platform, Trade Portal are functional and self-sustainable 2)Regional plan on synchronised harmonisation with EU/International requirements is drafted 3)Mutual recognition agreements identified and concluded where applicable 4)Agreement on the applicability of EU/international regulations and standards reached 5)A risk management approach in the area of administrative barriers and SPS is adopted and regional trainings secured 	<p>OECD MMF Project</p> <p>Regional Roundtable on NTBs</p> <p>OECD New Generation Competitive Initiative</p>	
<p><u>Priority 3:</u></p>	<p><u>Priority 3:</u></p>		

<p>1)Conclusion of the Agreement on conformity assessment issues and on easing access of industrial products to the markets of other CEFTA Party</p> <p>2)Improving the transparency in TBT</p> <p>3) Enhancing the regional cooperation among National Accreditation bodies and other national institutions that deal with TBT</p> <p><u>Priority 4;</u></p> <p>1)Establishment of the CEFTA Transparency Pack</p> <p>2)Establishing of the CEFTA TBT Platform</p> <p>3)Upgrade and update of the CEFTA SPS Database</p> <p>4)Ensuring of sustainability and durability of the CEFTA Trade Portal</p> <p>5)Implementation of the Ministerial Decision on Advanced Notification of Legislation</p>	<p>1)The Agreement on conformity assessment issues and on easing of industrial products is concluded</p> <p>2)The Report on the TBT notifications is completed and presented to the JC</p> <p>3) Multilateral/Plurilateral Agreements on cooperation are concluded,</p> <p>4)establishment of CEFTALAB</p> <p><u>Priority 4;</u></p> <p>1) Transparency Pack is operational and self sustainable</p> <p>2) TBT platform is operational and self sustainable</p> <p>3) Upgrade of SPS Database is completed and update is performed regularly by the Parties</p> <p>4) Update of the CEFTA Trade Portal is performed regularly by the Parties</p> <p>5) Annual reporting to the Joint Committee</p>	<p>WG on TBT meetings Joint Committee Meeting</p> <p>IPA Quality Infrastructure Project GIZ Project on Market Surveillance</p> <p>CEFTA Market Access Database CEFTA TBT Platform CEFTA SPS Database CEFTA Trade Portal</p>	
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