Agreement ID : PICTA
Short Name : Pacific Island Countries FTA

Member Countries

- **Cook Island**
- **Fiji**
- **Kiribati**
- **Micronesia**
- **Nauru**
- **Niue**
- **Papua New Guinea**
- **Samoa**
- **Solomon Islands**
- **Tonga**
- **Tuvalu**
- **Vanuatu**

Total: 12 countries

Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement

Status : Signed in **2001**. In force since 2003
Scope : Regional
Type : Free Trade Agreement
WTO Notification : Enabling Clause 2008
Agreement text :
http://www.forumsec.org.fj/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/PICTA.pdf
Other links :
http://rtais.wto.org/rtadocs/582/TOA/English/PICTA-text.pdf
WTO consideration process :
Factual Presentation not distributed

GOODS

Tariffs
Negative list

Tariff of developing FICs will be reduced to zero by 2010, and by 2012 for small island states and least developed countries, except in the case of "excepted imports" for which tariff are to be reduced to zero by 2016

Trade barriers other than tariffs must be eliminated immediately on trade between the FICs.

Rules of Origin
No change in heading necessary

40% Minimum content

Contingency Measures
Anti - Dumping : Article 12 para1- consultation required
Countervailing Duties : Article 12 para2 - consultation required
Safeguards : Article 10 on Emergency Action and Article 11 on Safeguar measures; Article 13 on balance of Payments related measures

Standards : n.a.

Notes :
Annex III list the exempted imports and the tariffs applicable to it; these tariffs shall not exceed the base tariff as defined in #1 of Article 7. Article 9 covers trade distorting measures. Article 14 is on protction of developing industries.No provisions for coverage of agricultural goods.

SERVICES

WTO Notification (GATS Art. V) :

Date of notification :

Consideration Process :

Liberalization Approach :

Modes Covered

Specific Chapters on

Specific Sectors Excluded

Public Sectors carve-out :

Most Favoured Nation :

National Treatment :

Market Access :

Domestic Regulation :

Subsidies covered by services disciplines :

Denial of benefits for commercial presence :

Notes :

PICTA applies only to goods, but as of April 2008 there is an ongoing negotiation on an agreement on trade in services and the temporary movement of natural persons.

Link to schedules :

INVESTMENT

Scheduling Approach :

Definition of investment :

Most Favoured Nation :

National Treatment :

Fair and Equitable Treatment :

Expropriation :

Board of Directors and executive personnel :

Invester - State arbitration : No

Denial of Benefits :

Additional BIT exists between the parties : No

BIT list I :

Status:

BIT list II :

Status:

Notes :
Investments are not included in PICTA

Link to schedules :

TRADE FACILITATION

Customs procedures : **Yes** Article 18 of the Agreement
Customs valuation : **No**
Trade regulations publication and administration : **Yes** Article 17 of the Agreement
Use of ICT : **No**
Mobility of business people : **No**
Freedom of transit : **No**
Transport and logistics : **No**
Trade finance : **No**

OTHER AREAS

Government Procurement : **Yes** Part Ii of the agreement - commitment to liberalize initialy by adding a protocol with detailed rules on governme
Investment : **No**
Competition Policy : **No**
Intellectual Property : **No**
Dispute Settlement : **Yes** Article 22 - consultation
Labor Mobility : **No**
Labor and Environmental Standards : **No**
Technical cooperation : **No**
Institutional mechanism : **No**

Notes :
Article 17 on Transparency; Article 20 on Notification, Article 21 on Consultations, Article 23 on review, monitoring progress and extend integration.

RULES OF ORIGIN

Cumulation
-

Specific Process
Last manufacturing process
Heading Change
not mentioned
De Minimis
n.a.
Minimum Content
Minimum content 40%

Drawback
n.a.
HTTP Link
http://www.forumsec.org.fj/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/PICTA%20RoO%20Manual3.pdf

Notes :
PICTA Rules of Origin Manual. Article 5 of PICTA calls for establishement of the Rules of Origin Committee.