



9th Asia Pacific TF Forum
New Delhi – India
17-19 September 2019



Making Trade Facilitation Happen Through Private – Public Partnerships In Sri Lanka



National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) of Sri Lanka

- **Established on 3, June 2014**
- **Cabinet of Ministers Formalized the NTFC on 26, April 2016**
(under article 23.1 of TFA)
- **Composition – 16 Government agencies, 7 private sector chambers**
- **Chaired by – Director General of Sri Lanka Customs**
Co-chaired by – Director General of Commerce
Monitored by – Ministry of Development Strategies & International Trade
- **Secretariat to the NTFC**
Established in May 2017
Head of the Secretariat – Additional Director General of Customs

Composition of NITFC

Sri Lanka Customs

Department of Commerce

Ministry of Development
Strategies & International
Trade

Ministry of Industry &
Commerce

Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Department of Trade &
Investment Policy

Health Services Department

Department of Agriculture

Sri Lankan Standards
Institution

Sri Lanka Ports Authority

Department of Import Export
Control

Sri Lanka Export
Development Board

National Intellectual
Property Office of Sri Lanka

Airport & Aviation Services

Department of Animal
Production Health

Department of Export
Agriculture

The Ceylon Chamber of
Commerce

Federation of Chamber of
Commerce & Industry

National Chamber of
Commerce

The Ceylon National
Chamber of Industries

National Chamber of
Exporters of Sri Lanka

Chamber of Young Lankan
Entrepreneurs

Women's Chamber of
Industry & Commerce

Public-Private Partnership in TFA Implementation

- **NITFC meets quarterly to**
 - Review the progress of TF reforms in the country
 - Identify bottlenecks
 - Propose solutions
- **Private sector consultations** were carried out when preparing
 - The roadmap for NITFC
 - Terms of Reference & staff structure of the Secretariat
 - Individual implementation plan for each implementing agency
- **Private sector is invited to TFA-related workshops regularly to obtain their**
 - Views and suggestions
 - Recommendations



Trade Information Portal (TIP) (Article 1.2 – TFA)

- Launched in July 2018
- Technical assistance was provided by World Bank
- Step-by-step procedures functionality being currently developed by the International Trade Centre (ITC) upon Government's request to make the TIP more user friendly
- The system is owned and maintained by Department of Commerce
- Main objectives of TIP:
 - to provide trade information to all the traders (including SMEs) in an easily accessible manner;
 - to facilitate the trade with any inquiries.
- Private sector involvement
 - Consultations were provided while developing the system
 - Recommendations were incorporated to the system
- Review meetings
 - Hlds regularly with the participation of both public and private stakeholders.

<https://srilankatradeportal.com/>

National Single Window(NSW)– Blueprint

- Blueprint was prepared with the technical assistance from World Bank
- Number of Public-Private Dialogues (PPD) were conducted with the technical assistance of ITC focusing on the areas of:
 - Functionalities of the NSW
 - Governance structure
 - Operational model
 - Implementation issues
- Private Sector is closely monitoring the further developments of the implementation

Other key areas of engagement by the private sector

- Preparation of the Time Release Study Report for Sri Lanka 2018 developed with the technical assistance of ITC and in collaboration with the World Customs Organization (WCO)
- Provide with human resources for the NITFC Secretariat
- Closely monitor the TFA implementation and organize regular meeting with relevant public agencies
- Facilitate the public sector to expedite the process of TFA implementation
- Organize consultation programs with the assistance from donor agencies

Thank You!

Related Links:

<http://ntfc.lk>

<https://srilankatradeportal.com/>

<https://www.tfadatabase.org/members/sri-lanka>

Participants – 9th Asia Pacific TF Forum 2019

- Mr. Dinesh De Silva – Ceylon Chamber of Commerce
- Mr. Anuradha Thilakarathne – Ministry of Development Strategies & International Trade
- Mr. Kasun Fernando – Department of Import & Export Control
- Ms. Tashma Vithanawasam – Department of Commerce
- Mr. Devinda Kariyawasam – Sri Lanka Customs/NTFC Secretariat