

COMMUNICATION FROM KOREA

The following communication, dated 20 July 2006, from the Delegation of Korea, is being circulated in advance of the Negotiating Group meeting of 24-26 July.

PROPOSAL ON SINGLE WINDOW

1. In a joint communication (TN/TF/W/100), Chile, the European Communities, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, and Singapore submitted a proposal on "introduction of single window/one time submission," which comprised the summary of common elements of the prior proposals and the elements that needed further discussions.
2. The following draft text is submitted by Korea for consideration by the Negotiating Group, without prejudice to further discussions and submissions regarding this or any other proposals.
3. With regard to the proposal on S&D and TA&CB, horizontal provisions need to be set out; such provisions will include temporary exemptions, extended implementation period and technical assistance and capacity building for developing and the least developed countries in accordance with the provisions on special and different treatment.

Textual proposal

- Members shall establish or designate a single entry point, hereinafter referred to as the "single window," where documentation and data requirements for exportation and importation are submitted one time only. The single window shall undertake onward distribution of the aforementioned documentation and data requirements to all the relevant authorities or agencies.
- In cases where documentation and data requirements have already been by the single window, the same documentation and data requirements shall not be requested by other authorities or agencies.
- Members shall notify other Members through the WTO Secretariat of the contact information of the single window.
- Members are encouraged to use, to the extent possible, information technology to support the single window.

- Members shall, where practicable, refer to relevant international standards and practices such as the WCO Revised Kyoto Convention and UN/CEFACT Recommendation No.33.
 - With regard to the scope of participating authorities or agencies and documentation and data requirements, Members are allowed to implement the single window in a progressive manner taking into account each Member's administrative capacity.
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