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Afghanistan Trade and Revenue (ATAR) Project

Contract No. AID-OAA-I-12-00035

Quarterly Report

July-September 2014



In partnership with ATAR, an employee of the Ministry of Commerce and Industries delivered a presentation on Afghanistan's trade policy and trade data to local universities.

October 22, 2014

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Chemonics, with partner Economic Integration Forum (EIF), implements USAID's Afghanistan Trade and Revenue (ATAR) project to support Afghanistan in realizing its full potential in the global trading market.

ATAR, which began Nov. 7, 2013, and will end Nov. 6, 2017, is headquartered in Kabul and has staff in Mazar-i Sharif, Herat, and Jalalabad to support regional customs activities as well as a presence in Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan to strengthen Afghanistan's trade ties in Central Asia.

ATAR provides assistance to improve the business climate of Afghanistan to enable private investment, enhanced trade, job creation, and fiscal sustainability through the country's critical transition period. Specifically, ATAR is tasked with:

1. Improving the capacity of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) to create and implement a liberal policy framework for trade and investment in accordance with international standards;
2. Enhancing integration in the regional and world economy through the promotion of trade and agreements, enhanced governance of corridors, and private-sector linkages throughout South and Central Asia;
3. Strengthening revenue generation for fiscal sustainability and trade facilitation through reforms and anti-corruption measures in customs and taxation.

These objectives are achieved through three ATAR components:

Component 1: Support Trade Policy Liberalization

Component 1 promotes liberalization of Afghanistan's trade regime by supporting its accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). This support is accomplished by building the necessary technical capacity and providing technical assistance within the implementing institutions to conduct negotiations, draft legislation, and institute reforms required to improve the trade regime within the region and meet WTO requirements. The policies, laws, and regulations will provide a framework to attract investment and enable the private sector to grow and prosper.

Component 2: Facilitate Enhanced Access to Regional Markets

Under Component 2, ATAR (1) facilitates the development and implementation of regional trade agreements; (2) assists GIROA to support measures needed to implement regional trade agreements; and (3) supports the implementation of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Corridors 5 and 6 by working with countries such as Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Turkmenistan.

Component 3: Improved Customs Administration

Component 3 will enhance GIROA's capacity to generate revenue through implementation of value added tax (VAT)¹, in combination with outreach and enforcement, and improves customs

¹ This activity is on hold pending instruction from USAID.

procedures to increase transparency, efficiency, and uniformity in the collection of revenue, performance of core functions, and facilitation of trade.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Component 1: Support Trade Policy Liberalization

Summary of results for the reporting period and key achievements

With ATAR support, GIROA made substantial progress in advancing WTO-related laws during the quarter. Due to ATAR's work with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), MOJ approved the draft amendments to the copyright law and submitted it to the Council of Ministers on July 27, 2014. MOJ also launched its review, with ATAR's assistance, of the draft law on foreign trade and the draft law on industrial designs.²

The Council of Ministers finalized its technical review of the law on plant protection and quarantine and completed its technical review and approved the law on geographical indications on Aug. 20, 2014. ATAR assisted the Ministry of Agriculture, Information and Livestock (MAIL) in the finalization of the draft law on animal health and veterinary public health, which was submitted to the MAIL Minister who approved the draft and submitted it to MOJ on Sept. 30, 2014.

In order to build the capacity of GIROA to implement WTO-related laws, ATAR conducted on-the-job training and held formal trainings, workshops, and working group meetings at ministries such as MAIL and the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH). During the quarter, ATAR focused on building the capacity of stakeholders on the draft laws on plant protection and quarantine, food safety, and animal health and veterinary public health. ATAR also provide coordination assistance to the U.S. Embassy-sponsored intellectual property training at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for 13 Afghan government representatives, including two female judges and two female Parliamentarians, on Sept. 8-11, 2014.

To help GIROA in making informed policy decisions, ATAR assisted in building the capacity of MOCI's Trade Policy Analysis Unit (TPAU) to conduct in-depth analysis of trade data and helped the TPAU complete its comprehensive *Afghanistan Annual Trade Review*, which provides trade, transit, and other relevant data for the last five years.

As part of ATAR's efforts to develop an institution capable of testing and certifying Afghan products in accordance with international standards, the Afghanistan National Standards Authority (ANSA) obtained full membership in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in July 2014. ATAR also assisted ANSA in finalizing a draft procedure for inter-agency cooperation to ensure the timely submission of replies to enquiries and notifications to the WTO.

Constraints and critical issues

Although Afghanistan was well positioned to hold its fifth Working Party meeting, Afghanistan faced delays in scheduling the meeting due the disputed presidential election. Afghanistan did not inform the WTO of a specific date because the Afghan government was not approving travel of senior-level delegations during the election period. The fifth Working Party meeting will not occur before a new Council of Ministers is in place.

² All draft laws prepared by ministries must be submitted to MOJ. After the draft laws on MOJ's legislative agenda are reviewed and approved by MOJ, they proceed to the Afghanistan's Council of Ministers, then the National Assembly (Parliament), and finally to the President for approval and entry into force.

Component 2: Facilitate Enhanced Access to Regional Markets

Summary of results for the reporting period and key achievements

At the request of Afghanistan's Ministry of Commerce and Industries (MOCI) and to facilitate trade between Afghanistan and the region, ATAR assisted in the preparation of a draft model agreement on trade and transit between Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkmenistan. The draft agreement is based on the Cross Border Transport Agreement (CBTA) and WTO agreements.

ATAR supported Afghanistan's efforts to implement the Transports Internationaux Routiers (TIR) Convention and spread awareness of the system, which will simplify international road transport and boost trade for landlocked Afghanistan. ATAR completed TIR training for 20 customs officers at the Afghanistan National Customs Academy (ANCA) on Sept. 7-8 and delivered training for 30 transport operators on Sept. 17-18 at the Association of Afghanistan Freight Forwarding Companies (AAFCCO) in Kabul.

In an effort to strengthen the Export Promotion Agency of Afghanistan (EPAA) and increase Afghanistan's exports, ATAR worked with EPAA to provide 16 workshops on research, market analysis, global logistics, and supply chain management in July for MOCI, EPAA, and private-sector participants. ATAR also supported and facilitated the participation of Afghan marble traders in the Turkmen Construction Exhibition in August and began support in inviting and preparing Afghan traders to the Central Asia Trade Forum (CATF) to be held Oct. 29-30 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and to the World Food Exhibition in Almaty on Nov. 5-7.

ATAR finalized conformity assessments with the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) for Afghanistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan and launched the process for Turkmenistan during the quarter. ATAR also completed a detailed assessment of the customs code of Turkmenistan to determine conformity with WTO agreements and the World Customs Organization (WCO) Revised Kyoto Convention. In Uzbekistan, ATAR held a key introductory meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations Investment and Trade with the Deputy Minister and two ministry officials as well as officials from the State Customs Service, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Constraints and critical issues

The conflict between the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan regarding the Karamyk border crossing point impeded ATAR's work on customs cooperation. In addition, the Turkmen and Uzbek governments have not yet totally cleared ATAR to proceed with operations in those countries.

Component 3: Improved Customs Administration

Summary of results for the reporting period and key achievements

With ATAR support, the Afghanistan Customs Department (ACD), Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB), and commercial banks agreed to launch electronic payment, or E-Pay, of customs duties in the near future. This would allow traders to pay customs duties and related fees electronically at

commercial banks, making trade easier by eliminating the need for cash and opportunities for corruption. ATAR created outreach materials, including a radio ad and poster, in support of E-Pay.

ATAR, with ACD and the Afghan Border Police (ABP), completed a review of the Border Management Model (BMM) at Kabul International Airport and the Aquina, Hairatan, Sher Khan Bandar, Islam Qala, and Torkham Border Crossing Points (BCPs). The BMM, which began in July 2011, creates a formal partnership between ACD and ABP. ATAR will complete the report on its findings by the end of October 2014.

Constraints and critical issues

The Deputy Minister of Finance for Customs and Revenue expressed dissatisfaction with a perceived lack of communication regarding ATAR. While this may be an internal problem at ACD, ATAR began providing a streamlined monthly progress report to both the Deputy Minister and the Director General to rectify the problem. In addition, ATAR began meeting with the Director General and Deputy Directors on a regular basis.

3. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Indicator/Activity Performance:

ATAR has surpassed the annual targets of nine of its project indicators. The highlights include:

Indicator number 11 - The project beat its annual target of four WTO-related institutional reforms, initiating seven reforms to date. ATAR supported the establishment of five committees led by ANSA that are charged with developing national sector-specific standards that meet international principles. ATAR also developed the Comprehensive Integrated Tariff System (CITS) for the Kyrgyz Republic, increasing transparency called for by WTO by creating a tool that will allow traders to access information on regulatory requirements for products imported into or exported from the Kyrgyz Republic. In addition, MOCI accepted ATAR's institutional proposal to establish a safeguards unit to implement the safeguards law necessary for WTO membership.

Indicator number 12 - ATAR further surpassed its annual target of draft legislative items prepared at the ministerial level. ATAR worked closely with the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) during the quarter to draft 13 regulations and procedures related to implementation of the food safety law, the law on animal health and veterinary public health, and the plant protection and quarantine law. The project total stands at 19 draft legislative items prepared at the ministerial level.

Indicator number 13 - The project further exceeded its annual target of 12 public events to discuss trade and business policy matters with stakeholders, the public, and the private sector by holding 29 such events during the quarter and 68 since the project start in November 2013.

Indicator number 14 - ATAR move further passed its annual target of six consultative processes with the private sector by holding a working group, including private-sector representatives, regarding the legislation on animal health and veterinary public health during the quarter. The project total is now eight consultative processes.

Indicator number 16 – ATAR beat its annual target of four awareness documents for education on WTO and regional integration. ATAR developed six documents, including several educational pamphlets on copyrights, during the quarter. The awareness materials bring the project total to eight.

Indicator number 19 - ATAR exceeded its annual target of three launched or signed initiatives on regional integration. During the quarter, ATAR assisted in the preparation and translation of a draft model agreement on trade and transit between Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkmenistan in July and August. This brings the project total up to four initiatives.

Indicator number 20 - The project further passed its annual target of number of 80 firms receiving capacity building with additional export promotion courses in Afghanistan attended by 18 firms during the quarter. The project total is now 262 firms assisted.

Indicator number 35 - The project beat its annual target of 30 training events held to improve the trade and investment environment by providing 21 such trainings during the quarter and 60 such trainings since the project start in November 2013.

Indicator number 36 - ATAR beat its annual target of 1,500 person hours of training in trade and investment capacity building by providing 4,654 persons hours of training during the quarter and 8,117 since the project start.

Gender - ATAR promotes the involvement of Afghan women from the public and private sector in its activities whenever possible. For example, almost 20 percent of the participants in ATAR training events this quarter were women. Four of the thirteen participants in the USPTO intellectual property training were Afghan women.

ATAR Indicator Table

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
Project Purpose: Business climate strengthened to enable private investment, enhanced trade, job creation, and fiscal sustainability through the critical transition period and continuing into the Transformational Decade											
1	Growth in trade volume (import, exports, transit) overall/per border crossing	Outcome/ Impact Required by Prime Contract	Country, per border crossing; commodity group; month, quarter; percent; and actual amount	GIROA	Annual	\$9.3 billion in 1391 excluding transit (Central Statistics Organization report)	\$9.2 billion in 1392 excluding transit (CSO)	\$9.2 billion in 1392 excluding transit (CSO)	Tracking only	Tracking only	Trade volume is defined as the licit trade value of goods and services brought into Afghanistan (import), the value of Afghanistan goods and services sold in the foreign country or countries (export) and value of goods imported to Afghanistan from a country and exported to another country (transit). Note: Total volume of trade in 1392 was \$9.2 billion based on CSO data, including imports (\$8.7 billion) and exports (\$515 million).
2	Value of gross domestic product (GDP)	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	By sector	CSO, World Bank Report	Annual	\$21 billion in 1391 (CSO)	\$21.2 billion in 1392 (CSO)	\$21.2 billion in 1392 (CSO)	Tracking only	Tracking only	Value of GDP represents the total value of all goods and services produced in Afghanistan in a year. Note: Based on CSO data, the total value of Afghanistan's GDP in 1392 was \$21.2 billion.
3	Ratio of foreign trade in GDP	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	By sector, import and export	CSO, World Bank Report	Annual	Import 39%, Export 6% 2012 (World Bank)	Import 47% Export 6% 2013 (World Bank)	Import 47%, Export 6% 2013 (World Bank)	Tracking only	Tracking only	This indicator captures the percentage of foreign trade (import and export) in the GDP of Afghanistan.
4	Value of goods imported to the United States taking advantage of Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)	Outcome/ Impact Required by Prime Contract	Commodity group; month, quarter	ACD, CSO	Annual	\$123,500 in 1391	Will be reported next quarter	Will be reported next quarter	Tracking only	Tracking only	The U.S. GSP is a program designed to promote economic growth in the developing world by providing preferential duty-free entry for up to 5,000 products when imported from one of 126 designated beneficiary countries including Afghanistan.
5	Value of exports	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Product, countries	GIROA	Annual	ACD = \$307 million in 1391 CSO = \$414.5 million in 1391	\$515 million in 1392 (CSO)	\$515 million in 1392 (CSO)	Tracking only	Tracking only	Value of exports here refers to the total value of Afghan licit goods and services sold in a foreign country or countries. Note: Based on CSO data, the total value of Afghanistan exports in 1392 is \$515 million. Disaggregation by Country:

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
											Pakistan = \$198 million India = \$102 million Iran = \$42 million Turkey = \$35 million UAE = \$26 million Iraq = \$23 million China= \$20 million Turkmenistan = \$14 million Netherlands= \$12 million Germany= \$9 million Others = \$34 million
6	Value of imports	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Product, countries	GIROA	Annual	ACD = \$7.464 billion in 1391 CSO = \$8.9 billion in 1391	\$8.7 billion in 1392 (CSO)	\$8.7 billion in 1392 (CSO)	Track- ing only	Tracking only	Value of imports refers to the total value goods or services brought into Afghanistan from another country. Data covers dutiable import only. Note: Based on CSO data, total value of Afghanistan imports in 1392 was \$8.7 billion. Disaggregation by Country: Pakistan = \$1.7 billion Iran = \$1.5 billion UAE = \$1.2 billion Turkmenistan = \$640 million Uzbekistan = \$582 million Russia = \$520 million China = \$437 million Kazakhstan = \$324 million India = \$147 million Malaysia = \$122 million Japan = \$84 million Others = \$1.3 billion
7	Change in World Bank's Doing Business ranking, trading across borders indicator	Outcome/ Impact Required by Prime Contract	None	World Bank Doing Business Annual Report	Annual	184 (Doing Business Annual Report 2014)	184	184	Track- ing only	Tracking only	The World Bank Doing Business report presents quantitative indicators on business regulations and the protection of property rights compared across 189 economies over time. Afghanistan was ranked 179 out 183 in 2012 and 178 out of 185 countries in 2013. According to the 2014 report, Afghanistan is ranked 184 out of 189 countries.
8	Ease of doing business in	Outcome/ Impact	By sector	World Bank	Annual	164 (Doing Business Annual	164	164	Track- ing	Tracking only	The World Bank Doing Business report sheds light on how easy or difficult it is for a local entrepreneur

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
	Afghanistan (World Bank Doing Business report)	USAID requested indicator		Doing Business Annual Report		Report 2014)			only		to open and run a small- to medium-sized business when complying with relevant regulations. Based on the 2014 report, Afghanistan is ranked 164 out of 189 countries.
PIR 1: Capacity of Afghan government and private sector to formulate and implement liberal policy framework for trade and investment strengthened											
9	Percent reduction in discrepancy between CSO and ACD on trade statistics	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	None	GIROA	Annual	27%	27% (ACD and CSO report 1392)	27% (ACD and CSO report 1392)	20%	10%	It is crucial to have reliable trade data for policy and planning. ATAR is supporting ACD and CSO to harmonize their trade data. Note: Based on trade statistics data from ACD and CSO for 1392, the overall discrepancy was 27% for imports and 23% for exports.
PIR1.1: WTO accession process finalized											
10	Number of WTO-related legal acts advanced through the legislative process with ATAR support	Output USAID requested indicator	Ministry partner	Project records, MOCI	Quart-erly	0	10	2	12	30	Bringing the legal framework in line with the WTO agreements is a pre-condition for becoming a WTO member. This indicator captures progress made in the legislative process when draft laws (including amendments) and sublegal acts (regulations, orders) move from one stage to another. These stages are: 1) Sponsoring ministry; 2) MOJ; 3) Council of Ministers; 4) Parliament; and 5) President endorsement. The 10 legal acts in the results are: 1. Plant protection and plant quarantine submitted to the Council of Ministers by MOJ. 2. Law on animal health and veterinary public health submitted to MOJ by MAIL. 3. Law on geographical indications submitted to Council of Ministers by MOJ. 4. The law on trademarks approved by Council of Ministers and submitted to Parliament. 5. Amendments to the 2005 customs law submitted to Council of Ministers by MOJ. 6. Amendments to the patents law submitted to Councils of Minister by MOJ. 7. The procedure on intellectual property border enforcement submitted to the Minister of Finance

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
											for signing. 8. The procedure on intellectual property border enforcement adopted and came into force on April 12, 2014. 9. The draft copyright law was submitted on July 27 by MOJ to the Council of Ministers. 10. The draft law on animal health and veterinary public health was submitted by MAIL to MOJ.
11	Number of WTO-related institutional reforms supported by ATAR	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Ministry partner	Project records	Quarterly	0	7	0	4	10	Acceding to the WTO requires the establishment of new institutions or restructuring of existing institutions as well as development of new institutional processes related to customs, trade, and other areas. This indicator captures these types of institutional reforms supported by ATAR. The reforms in the project's results to date are: 1. Institutional proposal accepted by MOCI for establishing a Safeguard Unit 2. CITS developed for Kyrgyzstan 3. Five ISO mirror committees established (1. food; 2. textile and leather; 3. metrology, 4. construction, and 5. petroleum products and lubricants).

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
12	Number of draft legislative items (including regulations, procedures, and amendments) prepared by the Working Group at Ministerial level with ATAR support	Output USAID requested indicator	Ministry partner	Project records, MOCI	Quarterly	0	19	13	4	12	<p>This indicator captures the number of new draft laws and sublegal acts prepared at the Ministerial level with ATAR support. This mainly refers to the first draft finalized at the Ministerial level.</p> <p>Results include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eleven procedures related to food safety drafted and agreed by working group at MOPH 2. Draft regulations for implementing law on animal health finalized 3. Six procedures for implementing law on animal health prepared by a working group at MAIL 4. Draft regulations to implement law on plant protection and quarantine prepared by a working group at MAIL
PIR 1.2: WTO implementation process developed and executed											
13	Number of public events held to discuss trade and business policy matters with stakeholders, the public, and the private sector	Output Required by Prime Contract	Province, gender of participants	Project records	Monthly	0	68 (Participants: 596 male, 123 female)	29 (Participants: 217 male, 40 female)	12	60	<p>A public event is defined as an ATAR-led and/or supported trade-related activity such as conference, seminar, trade forum, presentations to university students, trade campaign, presentation to Parliament or Ministries, working group meetings, roundtable discussions, and other trade gathering.</p>
14	Number of consultative processes with private sector as a result of U.S. government assistance	Operational Indicator Output Required by Prime Contract	Province, gender of participants	Project records	Quarterly	0	8	1	6	24	<p>Negotiating and implementing agreements requires intense coordination and cooperation among ministries and state bodies as well as with the private sector and civil society. Working groups for consultations on developing trade policies, negotiation strategies, trade procedures, and draft legislation with private sector will be captured</p>

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
											<p>under this indicator.</p> <p>The results to date include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultative meeting with fruit and vegetable businesses at CABOC 2. Consultative meeting with handicraft, carpet, gemstones and marble businesses at CABOC 3. Consultative meeting with women businesses at CABOC 4. Consultative group with representatives of chambers from four regional counties (Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan) to establish a sustainable mechanism for cooperation 5. Consultative meeting with KCCI regarding customs valuation practices 6. Working group for development of implementing regulations for food safety law 7. Consultations by the MOPH with private sector regarding changes to fees for import of pharmaceuticals and medical equipment 8. Working group on developing implementing legislation for the law on animal health
PIR 1.3: Private sector awareness of new opportunities for trade-related business development increased											
15	Number of awareness events held targeting the private sector	Operational Indicator Output	Gender of participants	Project records	Monthly	0	2	0	8	50	<p>The private sector is the main beneficiary of WTO accession. It is critical to educate the private sector about opportunities resulting from WTO accession and other trade agreements in order to enable necessary adjustments. ATAR will assist MOCI in undertaking a nationwide awareness campaign, including delivery of WTO seminars in key regions targeting the private sector, particularly small to medium enterprises and women-owned businesses</p> <p>Awareness seminars to date include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WTO awareness seminar for MOJ 2. Awareness about regional opportunities
16	Number of	Operational	Province	Project	Quart-	0	8	6	4	10	This indicator will capture any type of awareness

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
	awareness documents prepared to educate about WTO and regional integration	Indicator Output USAID requested indicator		records	erly						material developed with ATAR support in educating the private sector on WTO and trade opportunities. 1. Document for President's office on WTO 2. Presentation developed for WTO awareness seminar for MOJ 3. Awareness materials on TIR 4. Copyrights general pamphlet 5. Copyrights music pamphlet 6. Copyrights publishers pamphlet 7. Copyrights awareness article 8. Educational materials on geographical indications
17	Number of firms that have obtained quality certification in meeting minimum standards as a result of ATAR assistance	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Type of firm	ANSA	Annual	0	0	0	0	40 (to be achieved in final year)	Certification is when a third party gives written assurance that a product, service, process, personnel, organization, or system conforms to specific standards requirements. During the first three years, ATAR will assist ANSA to establish a certification unit for the first time in Afghanistan. This unit will be accredited by an external accreditation body and qualified to issue internationally accepted certification.
PIR 1.4: Understanding and support for benefits of WTO and regional and bilateral trade agreements increased											
18	Change in public perception toward trade	Outcome/ Impact Required by Prime Contract	Province, gender, age	Percep-tion survey	Annual	To be determined (TBD) from perception survey	TBD from perception survey	TBD from perception survey	10% in-crease	40% increase	Increased understanding and support of the benefits of regional and bilateral trade agreements and WTO accession are vital. ATAR will conduct a survey to determine knowledge and perceptions among the general population and stakeholders.
PIR 2: Regional and global integration enhanced											
19	Number of launched or signed initiatives on regional integration	Output USAID requested indicator	Type of initiative	Project records, MOCI	Quart-erly	0	4	1	3	8	Afghanistan is interested in deepening and expanding regional integration through new and existing agreements on trade, investment, economic cooperation, transport, and transit. This indicator will capture initiatives such as agreements, memorandums of understanding, and protocols launched or signed with ATAR support. 1. Transit and Transport Agreement with

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
											Azerbaijan launched 2. Mutual Assistance Agreement on Customs between Afghanistan and Tajikistan signed 3. Protocol of Accession of Afghanistan to the CBTA-5 signed by the Council of Ministers 4. Trade and transit agreement with Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkmenistan launched
20	Number of firms receiving USG capacity building assistance to export	Output USAID requested indicator	Type of firm/ participants/ gender	Project records, EPPA	Month-ly	0	262 firms = 45 Afghan businesses, 60 Tajik businesses, 50 Kyrgyz businesses, 107 businesses from Dushanbe business-to-business event	18 (10 firms at one seminar at EPAA, 8 firms at a second seminar at EPAA)	80 firms	400 firms	Capacity building assistance refers to market research, short-term technical assistance to government and/or private-sector beneficiaries, study tours and international trade fairs/exhibitions, exporter training sessions, networking and training supported by ATAR. During the quarter, ATAR conducted two seminars – one on market research and international markets attended by 10 firms and one on global logistics attended by 8 firms.
21	Number of laden vehicles crossing Torqundi, Hairatan, Sher Kan Bandar, Torkham, and Weish in each direction	Outcome/ Impact Required by Prime Contract	Per direction	ACD	Annual	(As of 2012) Hairatan: Imports 66,851 Exports 2,734 Torqundi: Imports: 43,209 Exports 542 Sher Khan Bandar: Imports 4,050 Exports 16,199 Torkham: Imports 175, 770 Exports: 32,451	Will be reported next quarter	Will be reported next quarter	Track-ing only	Track-ing only	This indicator refers to the number of declarations and number of vehicles paying custom duties.

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
						Weish: Imports 35,166 Exports 2,167					
22	Number of interactions between businesses (and other relevant groups) with government entities in the region involving policy reform dialogues	Output USAID requested indicator	N/A	ATAR project records	Annual	0	3	0	6	24	This indicator will capture the number of interactions and dialogues between the businesses and government organizations in the region on policy reform issues. 1. Two trade facilitation workshops in Kyrgyzstan in April and June 2014 2. Session during Dushanbe business-to-business event related to policy reform involving businesses and government representatives
23	Number of customs procedures on transit corridors are harmonized	Output USAID requested indicator	BCP	ATAR project records	Annual	0	0	0	5	20	This indicator will capture the modernization and harmonization of customs rules and procedures with international standards on transit corridors to reduce border crossing costs and delays
24	Cost to travel 500 KM per 20 ton (\$)	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Corridor 5 Corridor 6	CARE Corridor Performance Management and Monitoring (CPMM)	Annual	\$1,580 Corridor 5, \$719 Corridor 6 (2012)	\$2,393 Corridor 5 (2013)	\$2,393 Corridor 5 (2013)	Track-ing only	Tracking only	The total cost to travel here refers to a cargo truck traveling 500 km per 20 ton of goods. Both official and unofficial payments are included.
25	Percentage share of trade with regional partners	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Country	National statistics of respective countries	Annual	Will be collected during next quarter	Will be reported next quarter	Will be reported next quarter	Track-ing only	Tracking only	This indicator will capture the share of Afghanistan's trade with the regional partners. The regional partners are Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, India, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Kazakhstan.
26	Average cost of crossing borders (\$)	Outcome/ Impact USAID	Corridor 5 Corridor 6	CPMM	Annual	\$157 (2012)	\$235 (2013)	\$235 (2013)	Track-ing only	Tracking only	The average of total expenses (\$) to move cargo from an exit point of a country to the entry point of another country. The entry and exit points are typically a primary control center where customs,

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
		requested indicator									immigration, and quarantine are done. Both official and unofficial payments are included. This indicator is normalized at 500 km as a basis of unit, so that average cost between long and short corridors is comparable.
PIR 3: Revenue generation for fiscal sustainability strengthened through reforms and anti-corruption measures in customs and taxation											
27	Growth in customs revenue (overall and per border crossing)	Outcome/ Impact Required by Prime Contract	Per border crossing	ACD	Annual	\$694 million in 1391	\$875 million in 1392	\$875 million in 1392	Tracking only	Tracking only	A customs duty and tax refers to tax on the importation and exportation of goods collected by custom houses.
28	Number of permanent professional positions allocated for women within ACD	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Gender, age, education level	ACD	Quarterly	77	1 (78 total at ACD)	1 (78 total ACD)	100	175	In line with the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework and the National Action Plan for Women, ATAR will support ACD in meeting benchmarks related to increasing female participation in elected and appointed bodies at all levels of governance to 30 percent by 2020.
29	Number of female interns completing a six-month internship in ACD	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	Gender, age, education level	ACD	Quarterly	20	0	0	40	100	ATAR will support ACD to implement an internship program at ACD for university women. The internships will be headquarter-based rotational placements for a period of six months. Note: Recruitment process has begun. Interviews and appointments will take place in October 2014.
PIR 3.2: Customs procedures to increase transparency, efficiency, and uniformity in the collection of revenue , performance of core functions, and facilitation of trade improved											
30	Average Customs processing time (overall and per border crossing)	Outcome/Impact Required by Prime Contract	Province	ACD	Annual	Herat: 6 hours 17 minutes Hairatan: 3hrs 43 minutes Jalalabad 4 hours 18 minutes Shir Khan	Herat: 4 hours Hairatan: 2 hours 20 minutes Jalalabad 3 hours 46 minutes Shir Khan Bandar: 2 hours	Herat: 4 hours Hairatan: 2 hours 20 minutes Jalalabad 3 hours 46 minutes Shir Khan Bandar: 2 hours	TBD based on number of steps removed	TBD based on number of steps removed	This indicator refers to number of hours required for the custom processing of goods (both import and export at key borders).

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
						Bandar: 2 hours 13 minutes Aquina: 3 hours 21 minutes	30 minutes Aquina: 3	30 minutes Aquina: 3 hours			
31	Number of documents/procedures required to import and export	Outcome/ Impact Required by Prime Contract	Import, export	The current source is the World Bank Doing Business report. ACD has not yet confirmed numbers	Annual	10 Import/ 10 Export (World Bank Doing Business report 2014)	10 Import/ 10 Export (World Bank Doing Business report 2014)	10 Import/ 10 Export (World Bank Doing Business report 2014)	TBD	TBD	The number of documents required for import and export is a key sub-indicator of "Trade across border" indicator of World Bank's Doing Business report. Based on the 2014 report, Afghanistan requires 10 documents for import and 10 for export while the average document required for South Asia is 8 for import and 10 for export.
32	Time to export and import	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested Indicator	Import, export	The current source is World Bank's Doing Business report. ACD has not yet confirmed numbers	Annual	85 days, import, 81 days, export (World Bank Doing Business report 2014)	85 days, import, 81 days, export (World Bank Doing Business report 2014)	85 days, import, 81 days, export (World Bank Doing Business report 2014)	TBD	TBD	"Time to export and import" is also a key sub-indicator of "Trade across border" indicator of World Bank's Doing Business report and has a direct effect on Afghanistan ranking. Based on 2014 report, Afghanistan requires 85 days for import and 81 days for export while the average time required for South Asia is 33 days for import and 34 days for export.
33	Number of customs systems in line with international best practices adopted	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	ICD	ATAR project records	Annual	0	0	0	6	15	Systems refer to valuation, risk management, E-Pay, appeals, simplified import procedures, and the national hotline. Note: There have been delays in full implementation of E-Pay, due to the delay in the World Bank tender process. Risk management profiles have been introduced under UNCTAD (ASYCUDA). Other areas of risk management,

No.	Indicator	Indicator Type	Dis-aggregation	Data Source	Tim-ing	Baseline	Achievements from project start (Nov. 2013-Sept. 2014)	Achievements in project quarter (July 2014-Sept. 2014)	Year 1 Target	Life-of-Project Target	Notes
											simplified import procedures, and the national hotline will be dealt with in Year 2.
34	Number of risk management procedures adopted at customs depots	Outcome/ Impact USAID requested indicator	ICD	ATAR project records	Annual	0	0	0	4	10	A procedure refers to risk awareness self-assessments, risk profiling, risk registers, and management controls as part of roll-out of risk management. Note: Risk management profiles have been introduced under UNCTAD (ASYCUDA). Risk registers / management controls through management training have not yet been implemented.
Cross – Component Indicators											
35	Number of USG-supported training events held that related to improving the trade and investment environment, number of participants, and person days of training	Operational indicator Output Required by Prime Contract	Gender, Topic	Project training records	Month-ly	0	60 trainings 1,073 participants including 894 male and 179 female 1,160 person days of training	21 trainings 296 participants including 281 male and 15 female 194 persons days of training	30 train-ings/ 300 partici- pants	120 trainings/ 1,200 participants	Training is defined as an ATAR-led training activity related to improving the trade environment. "Training" refers to an activity that takes place in Afghanistan or another country that is intended for providing knowledge on a specific topic and to build technical capacity and skills. This indicator captures trainings and seminars and is reported by training type, target group, gender, and person days of training.
36	Person hours of training completed in trade and investment capacity building supported by USG assistance	Output USAID requested indicator	Province, Gender	Project records	Month-ly	0	8,117 (Male 6,454, female 1,663)	4,654 (Male 3,557, female 1,097)	1,500	6,000	This indicator captures person hours of training. Person hour refers to number of hours of training completed by an individual. If training is for two hours and 20 people participate, the person hours of training will be 40.

3.2 Key Activities Accomplished during the Quarter:

(See Annex A for a USAID's AfghanInfo report for supplemental information on ATAR activities.)

Component 1: Support Trade Policy Liberalization

- Continued to work with ministries to ensure they requested MOJ to include four remaining WTO-related draft laws within their authority in MOJ's 1393 legislative action plan. (See Annex B for detailed progress on Afghanistan's legislative action plan for WTO accession.)
- Continued to work at MOJ on a daily basis to respond to MOJ questions and comments and provide clarifications on WTO-related draft legislation.
- Supported MAIL, ANSA, MOPH, and Ministry of Information and Culture (MOIC) in further-fine tuning of relevant draft laws.
- Supported MAIL in roundtables and working group meetings to finalize the draft plant protection and quarantine regulation and presented 16 model procedures for consideration.
- Assisted the MOPH food regulation working group in reviewing the draft procedure on food recall requirements and reviewing additives and substances permitted and prohibited for use in food.
- Facilitated negotiations of amendments to the animal health and veterinary public health act and the food safety act between MAIL and MOPH following receipt by MOPH of a MAIL letter relating to a possible overlap in roles; shared alternatives based on best practices.
- Supported MAIL's Animal Health Department in amending the veterinary control of import and export regulation, which helps control imports and exports of animals and animal health products, and prepared new draft procedures required to implement the draft regulation.
- Held a seminar for MAIL in August on the regulation on veterinary control of imports and exports.
- Assisted MAIL in September in holding two working group meetings on the veterinary control of import and export procedures.
- Conducted a roundtable on Sept. 14 with MAIL, MOCI, ACD, Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI), and the Afghanistan Poultry and Meat Importer's Association to provide an overview of issues relating to regulatory control of the import and export of live animals and animal products.
- Worked with MOPH and Kabul University's Faculty of Veterinary Science in August to gain their approval for a course on the national food safety regulatory system that would help provide Afghanistan with specialists to implement the food safety law required under WTO.
- Worked with MAIL and Kabul University's Faculty of Agriculture in August to gain their approval for a course on Afghanistan's agriculture import and export markets and plant health standards; the course would help to provide Afghanistan with the specialists needed to implement WTO-related laws such as the plant protection and quarantine law.
- Launched preparation of model legislation for implementing the following intellectual property laws: geographical indications, industrial designs, and trade secrets.
- Drafted a plan for WTO-awareness seminars in Kabul and the regions and shared the plan with MOCI for feedback.
- Launched support to ANSA in preparing procedures for recognizing the conformity assessment tests of other countries as equivalent to its own tests.

- Sponsored the MOCI Director General's attendance in the Trade Advocacy Fund (TAF) second advisory event on July 7-9 in London.
- Supported ANSA in developing and finalizing a draft procedure for inter-agency cooperation to ensure timely submission of replies to enquiries and notifications to the WTO; supported a roundtable on July 21 for ANSA and a half dozen ministries and agencies in charge of issuing technical regulations to finalize the draft.
- ANSA launched the accreditation processes of its certification unit; with ATAR support, ANSA signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between ANSA and a Turkish accreditation agency.
- Facilitated the participation of 13 government officials in the U.S.-Embassy sponsored USPTO intellectual property enforcement training in Virginia on Sept. 8-11;
- Assisted the Central Statistics Organization (CSO) in July in collecting data from ACD and trained the CSO on validating the data.
- Worked with MAIL's Statistics and Market Management Information Department and discussed methodologies for data collection and validation that can be used in statistics of agricultural sectors.
- Delivered six seminars to the statistics team of MAIL's Market Management Information Directorate and CSO representatives on statistical methods.
- MOCI's TPAU, jointly with ATAR, prepared an analysis of existing markets for sugar, cement, and cooking oil in light of a request from the International Monetary Fund to increase import tariff rates on those goods.
- Held a series of meetings and provided on-the-job-training with the TPAU to finalize the Afghanistan Annual Trade Review, which provides trade and transit data as well as domestic production and consumption for the last five years.
- Supported by ATAR, the TPAU held three seminars on the annual trade review targeting four universities (Kabul University, Kardan University, Bakhter University and Dunya University) with participation of select professors and students.
- Supported the TPAU in holding a half dozen seminars for the Regional Strategic Study Center under President of Afghanistan on trade policy analysis.
- ATAR developed, in consultation with MOPH, a cost-accounting model to analyze current fees, and propose WTO-consistent fees, for permits/licenses for import, distribution, and production of medicines and medical equipment.

Component 2: Facilitate Enhanced Access to Regional Markets

Afghanistan

- In collaboration with EPAA, provided 16 workshops on international research, market analysis, global logistics, and supply chain management in July for MOCI, EPAA, and private-sector participants.
- Began supporting EPAA in gathering information about border and tariff rates on Afghan handicraft products in 17 different countries.
- Assisted in the preparation and translation of a draft model agreement on trade and transit between Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkmenistan in July and August.

- Helped amend a model agreement on trade and transit with Uzbekistan to update an article on transit to reflect the WTO TFA.
- Appraised the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries' (ACCI) application process for the TIR carnet, a customs transit document used under the TIR Convention.
- Supported preparation of a presentation and report for an MOCI delegation participating in the Ninth Meeting of the South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA) Committee of Experts on July 22-23 and Eighth Meeting of the SAFTA Ministerial Council on July 24 in Thimpu, Bhutan.
- Assisted in preparing a draft model agreement on mutual assistance on customs matters between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan and another between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan.
- Promoted the signing of an MOU between Afghanistan and Tajikistan on the Exchange of Information, the Harmonization of Documentation and other Matters associated with the Effective Control of Cross-Border Trade; both parties agreed to sign at the earliest occasion.
- Participated in TIR workshops in Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad from Aug. 18-22 to discuss progress in Pakistan's accession to the TIR Convention.
- Completed TIR training for 20 customs officers at ANCA on Sept. 7-8.
- Delivered TIR training for 30 transport operators on Sept. 17-18 at AAFFCO in Kabul.
- Launched planning in September of a regional transport and logistics seminar and networking event tentatively scheduled for Nov. 13-15 in Bishkek.
- Continued assisting MOCI and ACD in preparation for the Afghanistan-Pakistan Transit Trade Coordinating Authority (APTTCA) meeting, expected in November 2014, by identifying agenda priorities and updating a checklist of status of implementation of decisions agreed up during the last APTTCA meeting of October 2013.
- Supported EPAA in inviting and preparing Afghan traders to CATF to be held Oct. 29-30 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and the World Food Exhibition in Almaty on Nov. 5-7.
- Finalized material for workshops on investment promotion targeted to Afghanistan's commercial attachés. The date and location for workshops are being discussed with MOCI.
- Participated in USAID's North Regional Implementing Partner Conference on Sept. 1 in Mazar-i Sharif to explore USAID's activities in the north and improve coordination.

Kyrgyz Republic

- Prepared a database structure for the Kyrgyz Republic's State Customs Service to compile, query, and analyze risk management data, showed customs risk management specialists how to input data, and demonstrated how to query the system and analyze data.
- Proposed risk profiling guidelines/methodology for Kyrgyz customs.
- Launched on-the-job support to Kyrgyz customs in developing risk profiles based on the methodology.
- Launched review of Kyrgyz customs code articles related to risk to determine consistency with WCO Revised Kyoto Convention requirements.
- Met with the Kyrgyz customs post clearance audit section to review its system and began working on post-clearance guidelines.
- Developed a proposal for Kyrgyz customs concerning a risk-based approach to selection of clients and scheduling of post-clearance audits.
- Visited four Kyrgyz Republic customs locations in July and determined vehicles were being released at an acceptable rate; ATAR noted an impediment to trade facilitation was the

requirement that all non-TIR trucks be escorted to their destination as well as restrictions imposed on the Kazakh side due to membership in the Customs Union.

- Finalized a draft assessment of the Kyrgyz Republic's compliance with the WTO TFA to help the country in preparing its official notification to the WTO on how it will comply with TFA requirements; the Kyrgyz Republic notified category A during this reporting based on the ATAR-supported assessment.
- Supported the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in preparing training materials for a training of Afghan and Kyrgyz customs officers at the Kyrgyz Customs Academy that will occur in November 2014.
- Reviewed the Kyrgyz Republic draft strategy and work plan on development of the customs service for 2014 through 2017 and determined the strategy was in line with international standards.
- Continued development of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) node in consultation with Kyrgyz customs.
- Verified data in the Comprehensive Integrated Tariff System (CITS) with relevant Kyrgyz agencies to ensure up to date and comprehensive content.
- Completed a paper on a law enforcement information technology system for Kyrgyz customs in support of risk management.
- Participated in the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) Customs Working Group meeting organized by the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) in Bishkek on Sept. 9-11 and gave a short presentation regarding its work in the region; participants were customs officials from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

Tajikistan

- Completed an initial assessment of Tajikistan's customs code and regulations for undertaking post-clearance audits, consulted with the customs training unit regarding their requirements for technical training in audits, and prepared an initial draft for post-clearance audit manual.
- Developed a proposal for Tajikistan that clarifies the role of the post-clearance audit and explains how auditors will adopt a risk-based selection process to conducting audits;
- Developed a policy and supporting procedures to ensure that information important to customs' functions is adequately safeguarded to protect the public and national interests.
- Finalized the draft of an assessment report of Tajikistan's compliance with the WTO TFA to help the country in preparing its official notification to the WTO on how it will comply with TFA requirements.
- Finalized an analysis for harmonization of official documents required by Tajikistan's border agencies to support cross-border transactions.
- In partnership with Tajikistan's Veterinary Inspections Service, finalized a risk analysis framework for the introduction of a risk management system that takes into account hazard identification, characterization of hazards, and risk characterization of animals and animal products.
- Developed a presentation on WTO regulations for free transit for the Association of International Automobile Carriers of the Republic of Tajikistan (ABBAT) to deliver at the conference "Logistics – a modern approach to the revival of the Great Silk Road."

- Worked with GIZ on an implementation plan for a pilot “one stop” at Nijni Panj, which lies on the border of Afghanistan and Tajikistan, and presented the plan to the customs services; the Tajik government had adopted a decree in July that defines the "one stop" principle for joint actions of state control agencies at the border, and Tajik customs is planning for a pilot implementation at Nijni Panj to start before the end of 2014.
- In support of the implementation plan, undertook an analysis of the trade information that is made available to the public through each of the border agency’s official websites, and identified a means to consolidate and harmonize the information.
- Continued to follow up on the business-to-business forum in Dushanbe on June 23-24 to determine if contracts were proposed or finalized between the Tajik business community and delegates from Afghanistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, and Pakistan; a number of businesses have been in contact to further discuss business deals.

Turkmenistan

- Continued to identify Turkmen import and export opportunities for regional trade as well as Turkmen traders interested in trading with other Central and South Asian countries.
- Tracked legislative and institutional developments in Turkmenistan concerning trade, WTO, and export development.
- Completed translation of the Turkmen customs code to be used as a basis for conducting a conformity assessment with the WTO TFA, the Revised Kyoto Convention, and other WTO-relevant agreements.
- Completed analysis of the Turkmen customs code for compliance with WTO agreements and WCO Revised Kyoto Convention.
- In cooperation with FLAGG International, facilitated the participation of five Afghan marble producers in the Turkmen Construction Exhibition in Ashgabat on August 27-29; although no deals were finalized, the companies expressed interest in Afghanistan’s marble.
- Launched the process of assessing the level of conformity of Turkmenistan with the WTO TFA.

Uzbekistan

- Assisted in the preparation of a diplomatic note to introduce ATAR.
- Revised an action plan for launching activities in Uzbekistan by focusing on priorities of the Uzbek government that fall within ATAR’s scope;
- Continued to identify Uzbek import and export opportunities for regional trade as well as Uzbek traders interested in trading with other Central and South Asian countries.
- With USAID/Tashkent and USAID’s Regional Economic Cooperation (REC), held an introductory meeting with Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, Investments and Trade; representatives from several other ministries participated including Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and State Customs Committee.

Cross-cutting

- Participated in the Astana Conference on Expanding Central and South Asia’s Regional

Trade organized by USAID's Marco Economic Project (MEP) on July 1-3; delivered five presentations and moderated two sessions.

- Prepared a draft MOU for consideration by regional country chambers to strengthen cooperation, including information sharing and cooperation on resolving trade, transit, and transport issues in the region. Followed up with interested chambers in Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan.
- Finalized a first draft regional MOU on the exchange of intelligence and information for the purpose of enforcement and strengthening of risk management in Afghanistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan.

Component 3: Improved Customs Administration

- In consultation with ACD senior management and the Afghanistan National Customs Academy (ANCA), completed development of a database to store information on all of ACD's training and capacity building efforts.
- Developed training modules for the database and delivered the training modules and training to ANCA trainers.
- In partnership with ACD, completed a training needs assessment of 236 staff within inland clearance depots (ICDs) at Hairatan, Herat and Jalalabad and at the Torkham Gate border crossing point (BCP) and shared the findings with ANCA.
- Completed a gender awareness training package for ACD that will be delivered in partnership with ACD in the coming quarter.
- Finalized a comprehensive training plan for the ACD Enforcement Directorate and received approval of the plan by the ACD Enforcement Director.
- Began development of risk management training in support of the plan for delivery at ANCA.
- Supported ANCA by reviewing current training materials and identifying other training modules to be developed.
- In partnership with ACD and ABP, completed assessments of the BMM at Sher Khan Bandar, Hairatan, Islam Qala, Torkham, Aquina Border BCPs and Kabul International Airport (KIA).
- Began drafting the reporting on initial BMM findings for submission to ACD in October.
- Worked with ACD to complete a draft interim business plan for ANCA for 2014 through 2016.
- Continued to monitor the operation of risk management at ICDs in Jalalabad, Hairatan, Herat, KIA, and Kabul with a report to be completed in November.
- Continued to support ACD in a review of its customs regulations and procedures and completed a review of the checklist for exemptions, military exemptions, general exemption procedures, temporary export procedure, export procedure, and advanced rulings.
- Met with ACD, DAB, USAID, and the World Bank to formulate the way forward for E-Pay of customs duties.
- Supported DAB and ACD in preparing for an outreach program, including a poster and radio ad, so that importers will be aware of E-Pay.

3.3 PLANNED FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

Component 1: Support Trade Policy Liberalization

- Provide support, as requested, for Afghanistan's participation in its fifth Working Party meeting.
- Continue support to advance WTO-related draft legislation particularly regarding customs, copyrights, patents, food safety, veterinary health, standards, fees for the import of medicines, intellectual property border enforcement, customs storage fees, and plant variety.
- Continue building capacity to support the development of implementing procedures and regulations for WTO-related laws, particularly those concerning sanitary and phytosanitary and intellectual property.
- Continue to assist ANSA in developing a certification unit and establishing a standards training center.
- Support the implementation of the MOU between CSO, ACD, and EPAA on reducing trade data discrepancies.
- Continue capacity building of MOCI's TPAU unit.
- Launch the process of assisting MOCI to transform the WTO unit from pre- to post-accession activities.
- Assist MOCI in finalizing a plan for WTO awareness seminars.
- Launch assessment of a food laboratory at ANSA.

Component 2: Facilitate Enhanced Access to Regional Markets

- Launch implementation of key elements of ATAR's South Asia strategy, including work toward:
 - Eliminating barriers to trade with India at Wagah on the India side
 - Eliminating problems related to Afghanistan Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA) problems
 - Facilitating integration of Tajikistan and India into APTTA
 - Supporting greater market access through the SAFTA agreement
 - Improving access for raw materials and input for Afghan producers
 - Identifying regional value chains
 - Planning participation in the Doing Business in India Conference in January 2015
 - Planning a trade and investment conference in Kabul in May 2015
- Continue support related to negotiations, ratification, and implementation of regional initiatives including CBTA, APTTA, and new initiatives with Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan.
- Continue to promote the MOU on border cooperation between Afghanistan and Tajikistan, which is a precondition for any customs-to-customs cooperation (including electronic data interchange and border cooperation) between both countries.
- Continue work with the Kyrgyz Republic on installing the EDI system in a test environment and enhancing CITS.
- Complete work on a study on identifying goods of interest to regional traders covering Central Asia, Afghanistan, and South Asia.

- Continue support on a post-clearance audit and risk assessment to the State Customs Service in Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic.
- Build TIR-related capacity in Afghanistan.
- Continue to advance the MOU between regional chambers of commerce on establishing a platform for cooperation.
- Support the Tajikistan State Customs Service with plan for a pilot of the “one-stop” concept at Nijni Panj.
- Support effort to build capacity for risk management within the Kyrgyz State Customs Service by introducing manuals and guidance papers, providing explanation as required, and seeking feedback.
- Introduce the ATAR proposal for the CITS to the Tajikistan State Customs Service.
- Support the Tajik State Veterinary Service to review the materials for the proposed Risk Analysis Framework developed by ATAR and plan for a roundtable in October to discuss integration or risk management principles to the service.
- Continue working with OSCE in preparing for an intellectual property training class for Afghan customs officers to be held at the Kyrgyz Customs Academy.
- Plan and execute the regional transport and logistics workshop.
- Launch a regional study (Afghanistan, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) to assess comparative advantage, trade complementarity, and identify value chains and intra-industry trade.
- Launch route mapping study between Uzbekistan and India via Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Launch a regional study on fortified wheat flour in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Component 3: Improved Customs Administration

- Continue to work with ACD, USAID, and DAB in efforts to begin implementation of E-Pay.
- Finalize the national review of risk management implementation and the review of streamlined customs procedures.
- Finalize and submit the BMM report.
- Assist ACD in the delivery of gender awareness training.
- Support ACD in tailoring the ANCA business plan for specific donors as necessary.
- Review existing training material for ANCA, update existing curriculum, and develop new curriculum.
- Finalize the recruitment of 10 interns who will work at ACD for six months.
- Finalize the recruitment of a customs specialist to work at Kabul ICD and KIA.
- Support ACD in obtaining access and implementing WCO online learning.
- Support ACD in obtaining and implementing WCO training kits for risk management and post-clearance audit.
- Support DAB and ACD in bringing commercial banks online and monitor the World Bank tender process to upgrade software in DAB.

3.4 Lessons learned:

ATAR had no formal evaluations, assessments or audits during the quarter, but USAID did work with the project to develop a “lessons learned” list in October 2014 that will help to inform the project’s second year.

The following is an abbreviated version of the list:

- To be effective, the work ATAR does must have complete buy-in from GIROA authorities and subordinates charged with implementation.
- Partners will not read long documents in technologically sophisticated language. ATAR should deliver one-page forward looking documents that reflect the priorities and buy-in of Afghan partners and define the work to be conducted and committed to by them.
- Conflict breeds silence and distrust. Communicate with host partners continuously, through business meetings, updates and requests for feedback, to provide as many opportunities as possible to build effective relationships.
- Trusted mediators can change communication dynamics by helping clarify issues, reframing problems and possibly offering resources or solutions from third parties.
- Having explicit expectations about alternative activities based on contingent circumstances out of the project’s control will help allocate resources more effectively.
- ATAR might find incentive and capacity in the private sector in areas where the project’s public partners might be lacking.
- It takes a great deal of effort, time, resources, and the cultivation of effective relationships to move nations, donors, ministries, and business counterparts to overcome inertia. ATAR should find champions wherever possible.
- Long-term efforts require continuity and the commitment of individuals who will participate for extended periods of time.
- Decisions on security and reporting of those decisions should be aligned. There should be tighter correspondence between budgets and communication by decision makers.

4. COLLABORATION WITH GIROA, OTHER DONOR PROJECTS, OR OTHER USIAD PROJECTS

4.1 Links with relevant GIROA ministries:

ATAR’s success is dependent on its close relationship with GIROA, specifically ACD, MOCI, MOJ and other ministries relevant to Afghanistan’s WTO accession. ATAR had staff embedded at ACD, MOCI, MOJ, and EPAA to work with staff on an almost daily basis. In addition, ATAR worked closely with relevant ministries during the quarter, conducting meetings, trainings, and working groups, to ensure that government officials were part of the decision-making process and had a thorough understanding of WTO activities such as draft laws, regulations, and procedures. ATAR staff worked closely with ACD to reform and modernize customs practices in line with international standards.

4.2 Links with other donor agencies:

In support of the project's activities in Central Asia, ATAR worked in close coordination with donor agencies including the Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Union, GIZ, and OSCE. For example, ATAR is working with ADB to plan its regional transport and logistics workshop in Bishkek. ATAR worked with GIZ on an implementation plan for a pilot "one stop" shop at Nijni Panj, on the border of Afghanistan and Tajikistan. ATAR also began preparing training materials for an intellectual property training to be delivered in coordination with the OSCE at the Kyrgyz Customs Academy in November.

ATAR also liaised with the Tajikistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries, the Kabul Chamber of Commerce and Industries, the Kyrgyzstan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Pakistan Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industries. ATAR worked with the regional country chambers to gain their approval of a draft MOU the project prepared to strengthen cooperation.

Where possible, ATAR coordinated with implementing partners at ACD, including Adam Smith International (ASI), the World Bank, and the Border Management Task Force (BMTF), which departed in September 2014. ATAR met with the European Union's Border Management Northern Afghanistan (EU-BOMNAF) project during the quarter to begin to partner on customs activities in support of ACD.

4.3 List and discuss links with other USAID projects:

In Central Asia, ATAR co-located with USAID's REC project at the Chemonics' office in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, and continued to work with REC on regional trade activities.

ATAR provided support to USAID's MEP in organizing the Astana Trade Policy Conference: Expanding Central and South Asia's Regional Trade on July 1-2. ATAR speakers participated in the conference.

ATAR participated in the TIFA Customs Working Group meeting organized by CLDP in Bishkek in September and gave a short presentation regarding its work in the region.

In Afghanistan, ATAR liaised with USAID's Commercial Horticulture and Agriculture Marketing Project (CHAMP) throughout the quarter to identify possible shared activities.

5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

5.1 Personnel: Chris Lawson assumed the post of ATAR's Component 3 Customs Reform Manager in late July. ATAR's Deputy Chief of Party Qayum Ahadi left his post in mid-August and was replaced by Safir Sahar as Acting Deputy Chief of Party at that time.

5.2 Adaption of the activity: No major changes to the project's statement of work were made during the reporting period.

5.3 Modifications and Amendments: ATAR received Modification 3 to the contract in September. The modification officially changed the project's Contracting Officer's Representative, incorporated the branding implementation and marking plan, and updated certain clauses.

ANNEX A: AFGHAN INFO ACTIVITY REPORT

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Date of Activity	Location of Information		
					Province	District	Village
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review privacy protection procedure and gather feedback	Improve document on exchange of information	6-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Plant protection and quarantine regulation working group	Review plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	8-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Plant protection and quarantine regulation roundtable	Review plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	9-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Plant protection and quarantine regulation roundtable	Review plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	12-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Plant protection and quarantine regulation roundtable	Review plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	13-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Plant protection and quarantine regulation roundtable	Review plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	15-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review draft procedures on recall requirements for food producers, processors, distributors and retailers	Improve document on exchange of information	13-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Plant protection and quarantine regulation roundtable	Review plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	19-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Conformity assessment meeting	Provide information about establishment of certification unit	Enable certification committee members to understanding ANSA certification unit	12-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Roundtable on additives permitted for use in food in general	Finalize the draft plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	20-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul

C1	Roundtable on food control authority inspection product jurisdiction	Finalize the draft plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	20-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Roundtable on substances prohibited from use in human food	Finalize the draft plant protection and quarantine regulation	Improve the draft regulation on plant protection and quarantine	20-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Seminar on codex general standards for food additives	Review the communication provided in codex alimentarius standard 192-195 for food additives	Assist MOPH officials in understanding the international basis for the draft regulation on general requirements for food additives	23-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Introduction to international trade research and market analysis	Provide an introduction on international trade research	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	5-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Market and competitive intelligence	Provide an introduction on international trade research	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	6-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	The research process	Provide an introduction on international trade research	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	7-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Define research objectives at EPAA	Provide an introduction on international trade research	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	8-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul

C2	Data sources workshop	Provide an introduction on international trade research	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	9-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Market research workshop	Provide an introduction on international trade research	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	12-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Market research workshop	Provide an introduction on international trade research	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	12-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Introduction to global supply chain management	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	15-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Planning the global supply chain	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	16-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Global supply chain	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	19-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Global supply chain	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	20-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul

C2	Global supply chain	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	20-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Global logistics	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	21-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Global logistics	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	23-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	Global logistics	Introduction to global supply chain management	Increase awareness and build capacity of local companies in strategic plan, marketing process and supply chain management processes	23-Jul-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	AHD veterinary control of import and export regulation seminar	Educate participants on new amendments to the regulation	Improve the article of first chapter	6-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review requirements for food additives	Improve document on exchange of information	10-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	AHD veterinary control of import and export regulation working group	Educate participants on new amendments to the regulation	Improve the article of first chapter	12-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Working group meeting on foreign trade law in goods	Foreign trade law articles	Review of foreign trade law	5-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review food additives and substances permitted and prohibited for use in food	Improve document on exchange of information	17-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul

C1	Working group meeting on foreign trade law in goods	Foreign trade law articles	Review of foreign trade law	20-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review food additives and substances permitted and prohibited for use in food	Improve document on exchange of information	24-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	AHD veterinary control of import and export regulation working group	Review of four procedures in support of the veterinary control of import and export regulation	Improve the article of first chapter	6-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review food additives and substances permitted and prohibited for use in food	Improve document on exchange of information	7-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	TIR train-the-trainers workshop for customs	Introduce TIR a and understand the benefits of TIR System	Increase awareness and build capacity of local transport operators	7-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Working group meeting of foreign trade law in goods	Foreign trade law articles	Review of foreign trade law	12-Aug-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	AHD veterinary control of import and export roundtable	Review of four procedures in support of the veterinary control of import and export regulation	To improve the article of first chapter	14-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	AHD veterinary control of import and export regulation working group	Review of four procedures in support of the veterinary control of import and export regulation	Improve the article of the first chapter	13-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Workshop on annual trade policy review	Present the trade policy of Afghanistan and a comparison of trade and transit data related to Afghanistan from last five years	Improve Afghanistan trade policy in the future	13-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Workshop on annual trade policy review	Present the trade policy of Afghanistan and a comparison of trade and transit data related to Afghanistan from last five years	Improve Afghanistan trade policy in the future	14-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	Workshop on introduction of Afghanistan trade	Present the trade policy of Afghanistan and a comparison of trade and transit data related to Afghanistan from last five years	Improve Afghanistan trade policy in the future	16-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul

	policy/trade statistics						
C2	TIR awareness and training workshop for transport operators	Introduce TIR a and understand the benefits of TIR System	Increase awareness and build capacity of local transport operators	17-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C2	TIR awareness and training workshop for transport operators	Introduce TIR a and understand the benefits of TIR System	Increase awareness and build capacity of local transport operators	18-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review food additives and substances permitted and prohibited for use in food	Improve document on exchange of information	14-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
C1	MOPH food regulations working group	Review food additives and substances permitted and prohibited for use in food	Improve document on exchange of information	21-Sep-14	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul

ANNEX B: WTO LEGISLATIVE ACTION CHART

During the quarter, ATAR continued to work with the Afghan government to draft or reform laws for WTO accession. The below table provides the status of WTO-related legislative items as of the end of September 2014. ATAR's active areas of support for quarter are highlighted in light blue.

AFGHANISTAN'S LEGISLATIVE ACTION PLAN FOR WTO ACCESSION					
No.	Legislation	Responsible Government Authority/ ATAR Employee	Status	Stage: 1. Sponsoring Ministry ³ 2. Ministry of Justice 3. Council of Ministers ⁴ 4. Parliament 5. President 6. Entry into Force	Laws and Regulations Included in MOJ 1393 Agenda ⁵
Legislative items receiving ATAR support					
1	Amendments to the 2005 Customs Law	Afghan Customs Department (ACD) Wali Faqirzaad Brian O'Shea	The MOJ submitted the draft to the Legislative Committee of Council of Ministers in March 2014. The review of this draft will not start until new government is in place.	Council of Ministers	Yes
2	Procedure on Customs Valuation (including interpretative notes and software and interest charge valuation)	ACD Wali Faqirzaad Brian O'Shea	The Minister of Finance is to adopt the procedure after the draft customs law is adopted.	Sponsoring Ministry	N/A
3	Procedure on Advance Ruling on Binding Decisions (covering advance origin rulings)	ACD Wali Faqirzaad Brian O'Shea	The Minister of Finance is to adopt the procedure after the draft customs law is adopted. ATAR supported establishment of a working group in July 2014 to review the draft with new ACD staff. ATAR worked with legal department to finalize the draft. The draft has been submitted to the Director General for approval.	Sponsoring Ministry	N/A
4	Law on Standards and Technical Regulations	Afghan National Standards Authority (ANSA) Sayed Agha Hashimi Farhat Farhat	ANSA Management Board completed its review and shared a Dari version of the law with track changes with ATAR for analysis. Changes were translated to English. ATAR launched review of draft.	Sponsoring Ministry	No
5	Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation	On August 23, the Legislative Committee of the Council of Ministers approved the draft	Council of Ministers	Yes

³ Procedures remain at the level of sponsoring ministry for adoption by the Minister and do not proceed further.

⁴ Regulations go to the Council of Ministers and do not proceed further.

⁵ Procedures and amendments not exceeding 50 percent of original legislation do not need to be on the MOJ agenda.

		and Livestock (MAIL) Siyar Sahar Luis Flores	and submitted it to the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers to be included on the agenda of the General Meeting of the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers approved the draft in September 2014		
6	Law on Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health	MAIL Sayed Agha Hashimi John Woodford	ATAR assisted MAIL in finalizing the draft law during June to September 2014. The draft law was presented to the MAIL Minister on Sept. 27, and the Minister approved the law. MAIL submitted the draft to MOJ through an official letter on Sept. 30 to MOJ. ATAR will assist the MOJ-related department to start reviewing the draft during the last quarter of 2014. ATAR will conduct a seminar during the second half of October regarding the draft law for MOJ staff.	Sponsoring Ministry	Yes
7	Law on Food Safety	Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) Sayed Agha Hashimi Gary Stefan	MAIL had raised concerns regarding the authority of MAIL and MOPH with regard to food safety and requested MOJ and MOPH to stop working on the draft. MAIL requested information on options to best implement Afghanistan's food safety system. ATAR presented the options based on best practices to the MAIL Minister on Sep 27. The Minister called for a meeting between MAIL, MOPH, MOCI and MOF Ministers to take place in near future to decide on the food law and food safety requirements in Afghanistan.	Ministry of Justice	Yes
8	Procedure Customs Control of Intellectual Property Rights (Intellectual Property Border Enforcement)	ACD Wali Faqirzaad Polly Maier	The Minister of Finance adopted this procedure on April 12, 2014.	Sponsoring Ministry	N/A
9	Amendments to the Law on Supporting the Rights of Inventors and Discoverers of 31 April 2009 (Patents Law)	Ministry of Commerce and Industries (MOCI) Wali Faqirzaad Polly Maier	MOJ submitted the law to the Council of Ministers in March 2014. The Council of Ministers has not yet begun review and is not likely to start before new Council of Ministers is in place.	Council of Ministers	Yes
10	Amendments to the Law on Trade Marks of 1 September 2009	MOCI Wali Faqirzaad Polly Maier	MOJ submitted the draft to Parliament in April 2014. In July 2014, the Economics and Financial Commission of the Parliament (Lower House) reviewed the amendments and had no comments. The draft was further shared with other commissions for feedback.	Parliament	Yes

11	Amendments to the Law on Supporting the Right of Authors, Composers, Artists, and Researchers of 26 July 2008 (Copyrights Law)	Ministry of Information and Culture (MOIC) Siyar Sahar Polly Maier	In July 2014, MOJ submitted the draft amendments to the Legislative Committee of the Council of Ministers. During the reporting period, ATAR worked closely with MOIC and MOJ to refine responsibilities of the Copyright Board.	Council of Ministers	Yes
12	Law on Geographical Indications	MOCI Wali Faqirzaad Polly Maier	The draft was included on the agenda of the General Meeting of Council of Ministers on August 9, 2014. The Council of Ministers, chaired by the President, approved the draft. On August 20, the Council of Ministers submitted the approved law to MOJ for Pashto translation and further legislative process. When the Pashto is complete, the law will be submitted to Parliament.	Council of Ministers ⁶	Yes
13	Law on Industrial Designs	MOCI Wali Faqirzaad Polly Maier	The draft is at MOJ and the relevant legislative department MOJ has started reviewing the draft law.	Ministry of Justice	Yes
14	Draft amendments to the Civil Procedure Code (Chapter Three)	MOCI Wali Faqirzaad Polly Maier	MOJ forwarded the draft to the Supreme Court of Afghanistan for its opinion.	Ministry of Justice	Yes
15	Law on Trade Secrets (undisclosed information)	MOCI Siyar Sahar Polly Maier	The draft is at MOJ awaiting review by the relevant legislative department.	Ministry of Justice	Yes
16	Law on Topography of Integrated Circuits	MOCI Wali Faqirzaad Polly Maier	The draft is at MOJ awaiting review by the relevant legislative department.	Ministry of Justice	No
17	Law on Consumer Protection (provisions on Unfair Competition)	MOCI Sayed Agha Hashimi Polly Maier	MOJ's Commercial and Private Sector Department completed its review. However, MOCI introduced amendments (not WTO related). MOJ is working on the draft after approval of the amendments.	Ministry of Justice	Yes
18	Law on Plant Variety Protection	MAIL Siyar Sahar William Lesser	ATAR is working with MOCI to encourage MOJ to include the draft on this year's agenda. During this period, ATAR met with the Deputy Minister to discuss the pre-assessment of plant variety protection in Afghanistan. ATAR collected data for the pre-assessment.	Sponsoring Ministry	No

⁶ The geographical indications law will be sent to the Parliament in the coming weeks.

19	Amendments to the Law on Publication and Enforcement of Legislation of 1998	MOCI/MOJ Wali Faqirzaad Drew Sundberg	MOCI, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, and the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI) participated in a working group meeting on Aug. 17 to discuss amendments. ATAR provided justification for the amendments on the basis of WTO.	Ministry of Justice	Yes
20	Amendments to the Regulation on Drafting Procedure and Processing of Legal Acts	MOCI/MOJ Siyar Sahar Drew Sundberg	The draft is at MOJ under review by the relevant MOJ legislative department.	Ministry of Justice	N/A
21	Law on Foreign Trade in Goods	MOCI Sayed Hashimi Drew Sundberg	MOJ included the draft on its agenda for the fourth quarter of the Afghan year 1393 but agreed to bring it forward to the second quarter. During the reporting period, ATAR assisted MOJ in working group meetings to review the draft. Thirteen articles of 19 have been reviewed. The aim is to finalize the draft at technical level of MOJ in November and then have it submitted to the executive board of MOJ.	Ministry of Justice	Yes
22	Procedure on Import and Export Licensing	MOCI Sayed Hashimi Drew Sundberg	The draft procedure is finalized and will be adopted once the law on foreign trade is adopted.	Sponsoring Ministry	N/A
23	Procedure on Customs Storage Fees	ACD Wali Faqirzaad Farhat Farhat	The draft is at ACD for final review. ATAR assisted ACD to conduct a working group meeting on Aug. 6 to review the procedure.	Sponsoring Ministry	N/A
24	Regulations of production and importation of medicines and medical equipment of 24 February 2007 (concerning fees)	MOPH Siyar Sahar Farhat Farhat	ATAR prepared a methodology for analyzing fees for import licenses for importers/producers of pharmaceutical products to encourage restructuring of fees in line with WTO. ATAR will present the outcome of the analysis in October 2014	Sponsoring Ministry	N/A
25	Income Tax Law (concerning unequal treatment of import tax)	Ministry of Finance Siyar Sahar Farhat Farhat	The Afghanistan Revenue Department (ARD) said the draft was finalized and submitted to MOJ. MOJ said it did not receive the draft.	Sponsoring Ministry	N/A

26	Law on Safeguards Measures for Domestic Protection	MOCI Sayed Hashimi Drew Sundberg	The draft is awaiting review by the relevant MOJ legislative department. MOCI and ATAR are encouraging MOJ to include the law on this year's agenda.	Ministry of Justice	No
Legislative items not prepared by ATAR					
27	Value Added Tax	MOF	The Lower House approved the law; the law is pending approval by the Upper House.	Parliament	Yes
28	Law on Minerals	Ministry of Mines	President Karzai endorsed the law on August 11.	President	Yes