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Assistance for  
Trade Reform **TR**

# Trade Facilitation, Trade Policy, and Competition Policy Under ATR & TAPR II

May 2006

## Assistance for Trade Reform – Objectives

- Focus is on trade capacity building
- Counterparts are four Sectors in the Ministry of Trade and Industry (TAS, FTS, ECS, and GOEIC)
- Five tasks identified in scope of work:
  - Establishment of the WTO Unit
  - Trade Reform and WTO Compliance
  - Institutional Development
  - In-country and Overseas Training
  - Information Technology

# Assistance for Trade Reform – Current Staffing

- Staffing
  - Expatriate Advisors
    - Tim Buehrer, CoP
    - Rachid Benjelloun, Trade Specialist
    - Torie Waite, Trade Specialist
    - Tom Hutcheson, Macroeconomist
    - Junaid Farooq, MIS Specialist
  - Local Advisors
    - Sahar Tohamy, Macroeconomist (left ATR in April)
    - Abdel Wahab Heikal, Trade Specialist
    - Ahmed Ali, Institutional Development Specialist
    - Khaled Fahmy, Laboratory Specialist
  - Administrative Staff of 17

# Assistance for Trade Reform Summary Accomplishments

## Task 1. Establishment of the WTO Unit

- Supported development of mission and objectives
- Proposed and helped implement structure
- Supported development of modern management system with performance appraisal
- Provided extensive training of staff
- Supported active participation in WTO negotiations and Trade Policy Review
- Provided IT support, including CD/WTO and TAS web sites

# Assistance for Trade Reform Summary Accomplishments

## Task 2. Trade liberalization and WTO Compliance

- WTO compliance assessments
- Services liberalization assessments
- Analysis of impact of trade policy changes
- Support for various trade policy changes
- Support trade facilitation through GOEIC accreditation and establishment of labs
- Time of release studies and follow on work
- Support for improved standards
- Risk management concepts introduced in GOEIC

# Assistance for Trade Reform Summary Accomplishments

## Task 3. Institutional Development

- Completed re-engineering proposals for CD/WTO, TAS, and GOEIC
- Implemented all but GOEIC proposal
- Supporting development of HR and IT functions as well as industrial groups in ECS
- Established structures for GOEIC Trade Services Center and training
- Support for management reform in FTS, TAS, and ECS

# Assistance for Trade Reform Summary Accomplishments

## Task 4. In-country and overseas training

- Trained over 1718 MTI staff
- Offered over 341 courses in management, technical skills, IT, and English
- Provided Master's degree scholarships to over 40 staff
- Implemented training of trainers
- Established training centers for GOEIC and a training facility for TAS and the Ministry
- Developed improved training planning methodology within counterpart organizations

# Assistance for Trade Reform Summary Accomplishments

## Task 5. Application of Information Technology

- Establishment of Temporary Admissions Offices
- Supporting Email systems for the Ministry
- Establishment of workflow system for TAS
- Establishment of automated registration and inspection system for GOEIC
- Establishment of shipment monitoring system for GOEIC
- Support for use of IT in all Sectors
- Support development of improved IT units in all Sectors to support use of IT

## Ongoing Activities – May to July/September 2006

- Trade Policy Impact Analysis – Training and TA
- Services Liberalization Assessment – Mentoring and TA
- Inspection Process Review and Recommendations – TA
- Risk Management for GOEIC – Training and TA
- Automation and Monitoring for GOEIC Inspection – Procurement and Training
- Port Logistics Center Review – TA
- Baseline Study of Customs Clearance Times – TA and Training with Customs IT staff
- Rules of Origin Enforcement – TA and Training
- Completion of ID activities – TA and Mentoring
- Trade Policy Agenda Development – TA and Mentoring
- Evaluation of EOS Procedures – TA
- Pesticide Residue Accreditation – TA and Procurement
- Competition Authority Support – TA and Procurement

## Transition to TAPR II

### Five areas of focus for 2006-07

- Risk Management
- Trade Facilitation
- Trade Policy
- Standards and Conformity Assessment
- Enhancing Domestic Production/Markets

The work will be lead by a Steering Committee and advised by a private sector Advisory Committee.

Activities in all areas may include technical assistance, training, and IT or institutional development support.

There is also a need for a cross-cutting public awareness campaign.

## Technical Staffing – Component A (ex IPR, Customs)

- Expatriate
  - Tim Buehrer, Component Lead and Trade Economist
  - Rachid Benjelloun, Trade Policy and Agreements Advisor
  - Competition Advisor
  - Standards Advisor
  - MIS Specialist (half-time)
  - Short-term LoE, approximately 24 months
- Local
  - Deputy Component Lead, Trade Facilitation
  - Inspection/Laboratory specialist
  - Short-term LoE, approximately 10 months

# TAPR II: Risk Management

- Further development of GOEIC risk management procedures
- Implementation of GOEIC risk management in the automated registration system
- IPR border enforcement by Customs/TAS, including judicial training
- Enforcing rules of origin
- Circumvention of antidumping duties, etc.

## LOE

- Tim Buehrer – 20%
- MIS Specialist – 10%
- Rachid Benjelloun – 20%
- Short-term LOE Expat 4 months

## TAPR II: Trade Facilitation

- Supporting coordination of entities within ports: Single Point of Registration, joint inspection by Customs and GOEIC, follow on from logistics center review
- Support the organization of the Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Behind the border trade facilitation issues (TBD)
- Support for port concessioning and other activities (TBD)
- Implementation of inspection regime improvements (international marks, accredited test results, etc.)
- Internships and twinning between ECS and USCS
- Time of release follow up

### LOE

- Tim Buehrer – 10%
- Deputy Component Lead – 80%
- Rachid Benjelloun – 20%
- MIS Specialist – 10%
- Short-term LOE Expat 4 months, Local 6 months

# TAPR II: Trade Policy Analysis

- Support the development of the Trade Policy Analysis Unit including the implementation of agreed analysis of policies with recommendations
- Support the preparation of annual analysis of foreign trade barriers
- Complete TPR item review and implementation
- Doha Round implementation
- Analysis of existing and potential bilateral and multilateral trade agreements
- Rules of origin training and support for bilateral agreements
- Improvement of trade data and trade reporting (data warehouse)

## LOE

- Tim Buehrer – 20%
- Deputy Component Lead – 10%
- Rachid Benjelloun – 60%
- MIS Specialist – 10%
- Short-term LOE Expat 6 months, Local 1 month

## TAPR II: Standards Development and WTO Compliance

- Support to EOS as the TBT enquiry point
- Support to Ministry of Agriculture as SPS enquiry point and to continue cooperation on SPS issues
- Assist EOS in establishing WTO-compliant procedures and structures for developing and reviewing standards
- Support National Food Safety Organization

### LOE

- Tim Buehrer – 10%
- Deputy Component Lead – 10%
- Standards Specialist – 80%
- MIS Specialist – 20%
- Inspection/Laboratory Specialist – 100%
- Short-term LOE expat 6 months, local 2 months

## TAPR II: Enhancing Domestic Production and Markets

- Support for the Competition Authority, including judicial training
- Support for Consumer Protection Law implementation
- Pilot program within EOS on enhancing quality of Egyptian production
- Coordination with industrial strategy/industrial zones
- Improvement of domestic market performance

### **LOE**

- Tim Buehrer – 20%
- Competition Specialist – 100%
- Standards Specialist – 20%
- Short-term LOE, Expat 4 months, Local 1 month