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# **Trade Facilitation Roundtable**

## **Alexandria**

23 January 2007



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## Agenda

- Welcome
- Discussion of Time of Release Survey Results
- Discussion of the Impact of MCCs and Logistics Centers
- Focus on Causes of Clearance Delays Before and After Customs/GOEIC
- Focus on Beyond the Border Trade Facilitation Issues
- Closing Remarks



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## Time of Clearance

- Complicated results due to different groups of products.
- Range of studies covering 1998-2003:
  - For all shipments average time arrival to out the gate: 16 days in 2003
  - Some improvement shown from 1998 to 2003: about 2-4 days
  - Significant variation in release times across types of goods
  - Significant variation across ports: Damiatta longer, others shorter
  - GOEIC inspection lengthens overall clearance time



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## January 2004 Time of Release Survey Results

- Based on a survey of 282 shipment sent to GOEIC:
  - Average time of clearance: 22 days
  - Period before registration with Customs/GOEIC: 6 days
  - Within Customs clearance process delays focused on valuation and inspection periods.
  - GOEIC delays focused on period for testing



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## March 2005 Time of Release Survey

- Based on a survey of approximately 600 shipments registered with Customs:
  - Time of release for shipments referred to control agencies: 20 days
  - Time of release for shipments not sent to control agencies: 12 days
  - About 6 days taken up between arrival of ship and registration with Customs/control agencies
  - Significant delays between presentation of tariff bill and payment/release



## 2006 Improvements

- Previous studies focused on periods before significant reforms
- In 2006, significant implementation of MCCs began. Now shifting in Alex to Logistics Centers
  - Data on time taken from registration with Customs to issuance of tariff bill in Alex
    - Non-MCC: average 9, median 7
    - MCC: average 6, median 4



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## Discussion

- Causes of Clearance Delays Before and After Customs/GOEIC
  - Registration of manifest
  - Disputes between importers and brokers
  - Cash flow
  - Warehousing issues
  - Unloading issues



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## Discussion

- Discussion of Beyond the Border Trade Facilitation Issues
  - Transportation
  - Finance
  - Insurance
  - Inspection (non-border)
  - Licensing
  - Others