OVERVIEW OF THE ACCESSION PACKAGE AND POST ACCESSION ROADMAP/STRATEGY

Abdul Karim Malikyar
Head of WTO Section
Ministry of Commerce & Industries
Bangkok
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Outline

- Snapshot of Afghanistan’s Accession Path
- Afghanistan WTO Accession process and progress
- Post-Accession Strategy
Snapshot of Afghanistan’s Accession Path

1. Request for Accession in 2004; negotiations effectively started in 2010
3. Goods and services market access negotiations completed in less than 18 months and concluded in February 2014
4. Plurilateral Agricultural negotiations completed in one round
5. Around 30 pieces of legislation adopted
6. Accession Protocol adopted during Nairobi Ministerial Conference
7. Accession Protocol Accepted by Afghanistan in June 2016
Afghanistan’s Accession Process

- Application → 21st November, 2004
- Observer → 13th December, 2004
- WP → 13th December, 2004
- Chair → The Netherland
What have been achieved so far...?

- MFTR → April, 2009.
- “Memorandum of Foreign Trade Regime, is a document which includes and describes all aspects of Afghanistan’s trade and economic polices and legal regime including tax policy, tariff policy, export-import policies/strategies”
What have been achieved so far...II?

1st WP, 31st January, 2011

2nd WP, June, 2012

3rd WP, 7th December, 2012

What have been achieved so far...III?

- 1st WP → 153 questions (US, Canada, Australia, EU and Chinese Taipie) and replies circulated in WTO on 28th October 2011.

- 2nd WP → 139 questions and replied in 2012.

- 3rd WP → 34 Questions replied on 10 April, 2013, 97 questions replied on 7th June, 2013 and 24 US questions replied on 2nd July, 2013.

- 4th WP → 10 US questions replied.
What have been achieved so far...III?

- Services offer was submitted in June 2012.
- Goods offer was submitted in November 2012.
- 30 laws and regulations drafted and amended.
- 13 newly drafted
### Current Tariff rates of Afghanistan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Agricultural Goods</th>
<th>Industrial Goods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maximum Tariff Rate</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Tariff Rate</strong></td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
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</tbody>
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Bound Tariff rates of Afghanistan for WTO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Agricultural Goods</th>
<th>Industrial Goods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highest Tariff Rate</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Tariff Rate</td>
<td>27.4% (After Negotiation)</td>
<td>10.5% (Final Offer)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Afghanistan bound rates under WTO commitments for agricultural goods is between 5-70%.
- Afghanistan has no commitment for 184 Tariff items
- Afghanistan has prohibited import of 41 agricultural items
Documents submitted to WTO

- MFTR – March 2009
- Replies to the Questions raised after each WP
- Information on Agriculture (WT/ACC/4)
- Information on services (WT/ACC/5)
- SPS/TBT checklist (WT/ACC/8)
- TRIPS checklist (WT/ACC/9)
- Initial Market access offer on services
- Initial Market access offer on Goods
- Updated Legislative Action Plan
- The Draft working party report, prepared by the secretariat was circulated on 24 June 2013
Bilateral Negotiations
Bilateral Negotiations
Bilateral Negotiations
Protocol of Accession
Instruments of Accession
Liberia 163<sup>rd</sup> Biéme
Afghanistan 164<sup>th</sup> Biéme
WTO Member
Membre de l'OMC
Miembro de la OMC
Post Accession Strategy

- Complete Modernization of Legal Framework
- Participate Actively in the Work of the WTO
- Attract Investment
- Promote Export
- Build Human Capacity
- Use effectively WTO tools
- Secure Technical Support
Thanks