

Trade Facilitation amid and beyond COVID-19

**2nd High-Level Regional
Dialogue on WTO Accessions
for
the Arab Region**

7-9 February 2022

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Goal of the TFA



The Trade Facilitation Agreement sets out multilateral rules aimed at simplifying, modernizing, & harmonizing export and import processes.

The goal of the Agreement is to

- improve the movement, release and clearance of goods, including goods in transit
- improve customs cooperation



Provisions of the TFA

Transparency	Governance	Modernized Border Procedures	Trade in Transit	Customs Coordination
<p>Increase transparency for importers and exporters</p>	<p>Improve governance through disciplines on rule and decision-making processes</p>	<p>Implement streamlined and modernized border procedures and control techniques</p>	<p>Enhance the movement of goods in transit</p>	<p>Improve customs cooperation</p>



**TFA helps
reduce
trade costs**

Provisions aimed at:

Reviewing fees and charges

Increased transparency on the customs procedure requirements

Simplified customs declarations

Reduced time at the border through automation and digitalization and through greater cooperation among border agencies

Reduced costs for trade in transit as a result of streamlined procedure and costs at entry and exit borders



TFA helps increase exports

Participation of small firms/enterprises in international trade

Diversity of exported products

New market destinations

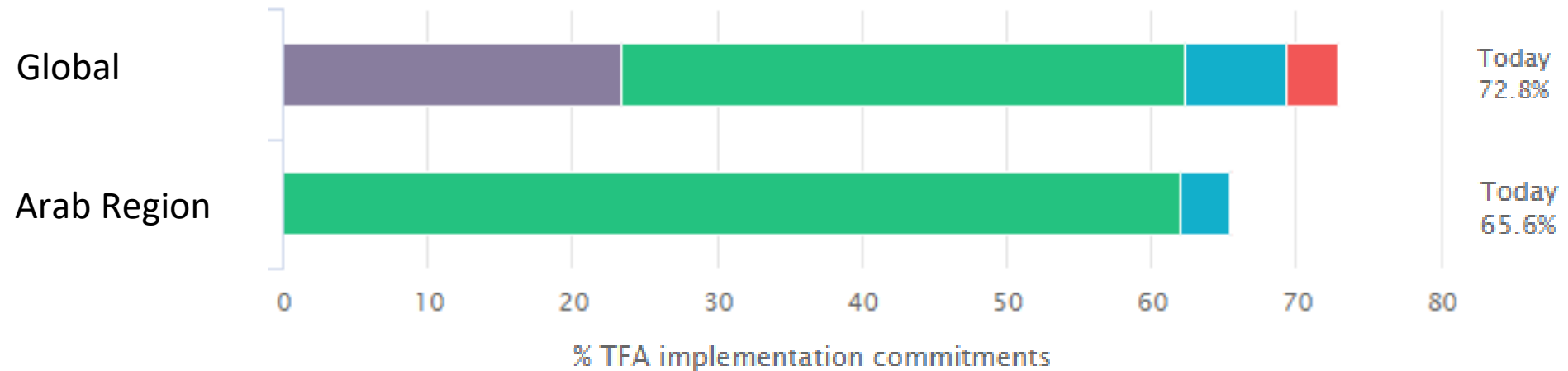
Trade in intermediate goods

Exports of time-sensitive products into the GVC



Progress on TFA Commitments Implementation

Global and Arab Region – February 2022



- Developed members
- Cat. A commitments for implementation to date
- Cat. B commitments for implementation to date
- Cat. C commitments for implementation to date



Role of TFA in COVID-19 pandemic



Support Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery



TF as part of a broader strategy to improve vaccine access and supply chains.



TFA provides tools for new challenges with e-commerce and “parcelization” of trade—different landscape (e.g. *de minimis*, etc.)



TFA can help achieve balance between safety and access of medical goods (risk management, post-clearance audit and authorized operator programs).



Pandemic has been accelerator of digitalization processes (internet publication, enquiry points, single windows).



Platform for dialogue with donor community for necessary updates or overhauls.



Members proposal for the accelerated implementation of the TFA.