Thematic Session: Transparency

7 November 2016
WTO
Contents

Use of Online Platforms to Support Transparency
- Philippine National Trade Repository (PNTR)
- Transparency in Food Regulations
1. Philippine National Trade Repository

- a web-based portal that provides a single source of comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date information on all trade related matters
- provides businesses easier access to information and facilitate their compliance with prescribed regulations.
- a trade facilitation initiative geared towards transparency and ease of doing business
Establishment of National Trade Repositories under the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) that will be then linked to ASEAN Trade Repository

Compliance to Philippine obligation under the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (WTO-ATF) to promptly publish and make readily available trade-related information.

In line with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) initiative of an APEC Trade Repository (ATR), requiring member economies to establish a portal containing trade information.
**Philippine National Trade Repository**

The PNTR contains the following information.

1. Tariff Nomenclature
2. MFN rates, preferential tariffs offered under this Agreement and other Agreements of ASEAN with its Dialogue partners;
3. Rules of Origin
4. Non-tariff measures
5. National trade and customs laws and rules
6. Procedures and regulations of agencies
7. Administrative rulings;
8. Best practices
9. Authorized Economic Operators Program
PNTR and GRP

- **Transparency** - PH continues to conduct public consultations on draft regulations, however, please note that we are working on enhancing the understanding on TBT to ensure that draft regulations related to TBT are notified to WTO.

- **Coordination** – PH through BPS is working on reviving the WTO TBT Coordinating Committee.

- **Analysis and evaluation** - The creation of an oversight body that would review regulatory impact assessments (RIA) or regulation impact statements (RIS) formulated by different implementing/regulatory agencies is in the pipeline.

- **Review** - There is a government-wide ‘Project Repeal’, which requires agencies to review their rules and regulations that somehow falls under this principle.

- **Cooperation** - PH participates in various regional activities.
2. Transparency for Food Regulations

• In line with the continued effort of the Philippines of utilising ICT in rendering government services, in particular, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), issued FDA Circular No. 2014-029 ‘Procedure for the use of the Electronic Registration (E-Registration) System for Raw Materials or Ingredients and Low Risk Pre-Packaged Processed Food Products’.

• In 2016, FDA launched electronic License to Operate (LTO) for licensing application of establishments under its purview.
Transparency for Food Regulations

• In 2015 and 2016, the FDA has collaborated with DTI SME Roving Academy in the regions and other government agencies to explain its licensing and registration systems including labelling requirements.
• Since the adoption of electronic systems, the number of licensed MSMEs and number of products registered significantly increased since 2011.
## Transparency for Food Regulations

The table above shows No. of LTOs and CPRs (Product market authorization) issued by CFRR from 2011-2016 September

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Maraming Salamat
Thank you.
Merci.
Gracias.