

Media Sensitization and Capacity building on the AfCFTA

Mbabane
Eswatini

The African Continental Free
Trade Area (AfCFTA)

1. Intra-African trade very low at less than 15 %; over 65% in Europe over 50% in Asia ;
2. Africa's large economies trade on the same terms like the rest of the world;
3. African merchandise face higher tariffs within the continent than overseas;



4. Create the largest free trade area by number of countries- 54 signatories , 42 ratifications
 - Population of over 1,2 billion people
 - Combined GDP of US\$ 3 trillion
 - Growing middle class and disposable income
 - Growing cities –opportunities for services provision

5. Removing tariffs and implementing trade facilitation measures will double intra african trade

AfCFTA Stakeholder Analysis



350 O/Borders
20 Railway lines
414 Roads
>76 OSBP



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION



**What are the key interests of various groups in Eswatini?
What about women and youth?**

- How do we address the likely negative effects of trade liberalization,
- The Protocol on trade in goods provides for safety measures that Eswatini can invoke.
- They include trade remedies- Part V -(Articles 16 -18);
 - ✓ Anti dumping and counter vailing measure;
 - ✓ Safeguards
 - ✓ Issue here is institutional and human capacity
- Infant industry provisions (Article 23);
- General exceptions (Article 25): and
- Balance of Payments (BOP) (Article 27).



Assembly

Dispute Settlement Body

Council of Ministers

Committee of Senior Trade Officials

AfCFTA Secretariat

1. Committee on Trade in Goods;
2. Committee on Trade in Services;
3. Sub-Committee on Rules of Origin;
4. Sub-Committee on Trade Facilitation, Customs Cooperation and Transit;
5. Sub-Committee on Non-Tariff Barriers;
6. Sub-Committee for Technical Barriers to Trade;
7. Sub-Committee for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures; and
8. Sub-Committee on Trade Remedies.

What institutions are required at the national level ?
Has Zambia created the National AfCFTA Committee ?

1. Implement the agreement: its not self executing, Eswatini must develop strategies to ensure that it benefits from the AfCFTA;
2. Create an environment in which businesses thrive, build globally competitiveness firms; develop strategies to expand markets;
3. Private sector engagement is key – they are the producers;
4. Build the capacity of trade and investment support institutions;

5. Strengthen productive capacity, expand the manufacturing base & establish regional value chains;
6. Build infrastructure that facilitates trade within and across countries;
7. Prepare effectively for Phase two negotiations , Investment, IPR and competition policy, women and youth and digital trade;
8. Create gainful employment and business opportunities for the youth and woman;
9. Critical coverage of the AfCFTA from all dimensions .



ECA



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FIRST

THANK YOU!

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