Promoting the Implementation of WTO TFA through System Innovation Driven by Digitalization and New Technology
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Key points about the high-quality implementing of TFA through System Innovation Driven by Digitalization and New Technology
The Opportunities and Challenges to TFA Implementation

After Covid-19 Pandemic, global trade is under massive stress, traditional & non-traditional risk challenges, disruptive technologies.

Challenges:
① the shock of global supply chains;
② customs/border agencies being asked to do more;
③ how to ensure the compliance of consignments with a growing list of requirements, such as convenience, health, safety.

Opportunities:
Disruptive Technologies such as digital revolution and intelligent technology are profoundly changing the patterns and way of international trade.
3 Smart Initiatives and TFA high-Quality Implementation

- Carry out institutional innovation relying on digital revolution and intelligence technologies.
- Improve the intelligence level of control and administration of customs and other border agencies.
- Promote the joint efforts and the connectivity among different members across borders.
For facilitating the high-quality implementation of TFA, China suggests the CTF hold discussions on the following issues.
Article 1: Publication and accessibility of information

Publish further trade-related information besides Article 2.1 of TFA through the internet in electronic format.

Build "online" and "offline" enquiry points.

Provide the internet mobile "fingertip services" to offer more intelligent and convenient consulting services for stakeholders.
Article 7: **Release of goods and customs clearance**

1. Declare goods in advance through electronic data interchange; Pay duties and other fees by e-payment; Establish a paperless customs clearance system.

2. Optimize customs risk management and customs control by adopting AR, AI, Big Data and other advanced technologies.

3. Promote smart communication and cooperation between border agencies and businesses, realize automatic data comparison between Customs and enterprises; conduct online validation observing and consultation during the process of AOs MRA.
Article 8: **Border Agency Cooperation**

Coordinate and optimize border supervision functions to establish a governance system with online and offline collaboration between customs and other border agencies.

Create a public service platform supported by the blockchain technology to make possible supervision data sharing across regulatory agencies.

Strengthen cooperation by means of information technology, such as information exchange on goods and conveyance entering and leaving the common border.
Harmonize data elements and processing as far as possible among members by adopting international standards, and promote the electronization of documents required for import, export and transit.

Expand “single window” used in customs clearance processes such as declaration of goods and conveyances, and explore the possibility to promote the interconnection of single windows across different members.
Article 11: Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit

- Use electronic systems for transit procedure to support the early submission and processing of transit electronic documents and data prior to arrival of transit goods.

- Use ICT (information and communications technology) to exchange information on transit goods and conveyances at the place of departure, destination and transit to simplify, coordinate and facilitate transit procedures and documents involving multiple members.
Article 12: Customs Cooperation

Strengthen the intelligent interconnection and cooperation among customs, other authorities, private sectors especially small and medium-sized enterprises, research institutions, and other trade facilitation stakeholders at both the technical and strategic levels through block chains and decision-making advisory mechanisms.
Conclusion and Recommendation

1. Taking into account the differences in the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement between different members based on their own circumstances, especially the challenges faced by developing and least developed members.

   -- Encourage members to discuss and exchange their experiences, best practices and challenges in these areas in the committee.

2. Promoting TFA implementation through institutional innovation driven by digital revolution and intelligent technologies should be one of the prioritized areas to narrow the digital divide.

   -- Encourage members and stakeholders to offer technical assistance and capacity-building support to the special needs of developing members and the least-developed members.
THANKS

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