

INFORMAL WORKING GROUP ON MSMES

To: All Members of the WTO and Observers
From: H.E. Dr. Syed Tauqir SHAH, Ambassador of Pakistan to the WTO
Date: 13-06-2018
Number of Pages (including this one): 3

TRADE FACILITATION FOR MSMES

WORKSHOP

27 June 2018, 2.30pm to 6pm, Room D

Hosted by Pakistan

CONTEXT

The UN General Assembly, recognizing the importance of eesc 0 Tw 10.813 0 856 TdTj EMC,9 Tw 136

- Shipping and logistics costs for export become overly burdensome for MSMEs due to the small size and scale of their shipments.

OBJECTIVE

The proposed seminar aims to initiate a discussion and share experiences in this field to identify policy issues and suggest solutions. In this regard, following some initial speeches from senior officials and representatives, leading experts in the field will present various issues in detail. The seminar will be followed by an interactive discussion.

AGENDA

2.30pm	Reception – Lobby, Room D
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) Shipping and logistics costs for export can be burdensome for MSMEs due to small size and scale of their shipments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What type of policies can help governments overcome the high costs of logistics? b. What international initiatives can be used by MSMEs to address the logistical barriers? c. Can digitally connected warehouses have a role to play in this regard? How can this aspect be facilitated? iii) Rules of Origin and other technical standards such as SPS and TBT measures present specific challenges for MSMEs given their small scale and limited resources. Navigating the complexity of these issues requires new skills, knowledge and the competencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How can MSMEs be helped to develop technical capacities to deal with such issues? b. How can we ensure that MSMEs receive the technical support to understand the procedural and technical regulations for export? c. Can harmonised documentation and standardisation facilitate MSMEs in their trading endeavours?
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