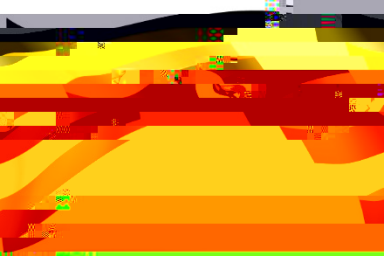


Introduction

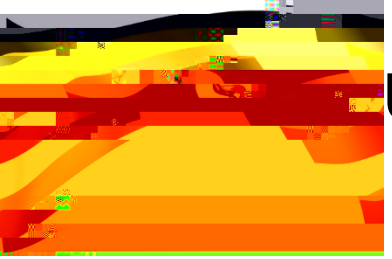
- Appreciation to the WTO CTS for organizing the Webinar on this topical subject
- An opportunity for us as LDCs, preference-granting WTO Members, and even non-preference-granting developed/developing WTO Members, to do a self-assessment

LDC Services Waiver – Spirit and Rationale

- Very important Decision reached in 2011
- Important process: the LDC Collective Request

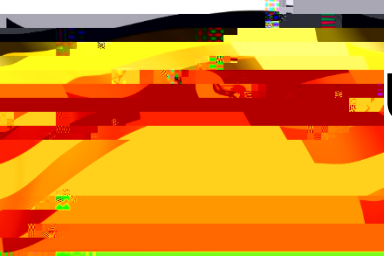
Notifications of Preferences under the Waiver

- 2015 - Waiver period was extended to 2030 – is the pace of Notifications encouraging?
- Is the LDC utilization of the notified preferences encouraging?
- Literature: desired impacts of preferences granted



Uganda Government Initiatives to Support Services Suppliers under the WTO LDC Services Waiver

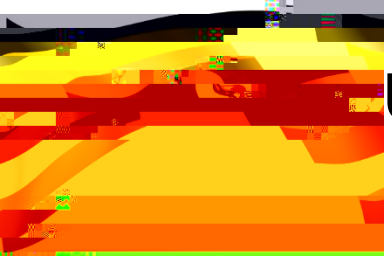
- The 2008 National Trade Policy identifies Services as a priority area for Uganda
- This prioritization informed and drove Uganda's spirited engagement in the WTO Services negotiations processes
- After the Services Waiver Decision, & then the Notifications, Uganda developed the National Policy on Services Trade, complete with an Implementation Plan (2017)



Uganda Government Initiatives to Support Services Suppliers under the WTO LDC Services Waiver

- National Policy on Services Trade Objectives:

i. Promoting domestic capacity development in Services trade and enhancing frim level competitiveness
ii. Strengthening human and institutional capacities
iii. Increasing market access opportunities
iv. Strengthening regulatory and institutional framework



Uganda Government Initiatives to Support Services Suppliers under the WTO LDC Services Waiver

- National Policy on Services Trade Objectives

v. Mainstreaming Services Trade in national development planning frameworks

Uganda Government Initiatives to Support Services Suppliers under the WTO LDC Services Waiver

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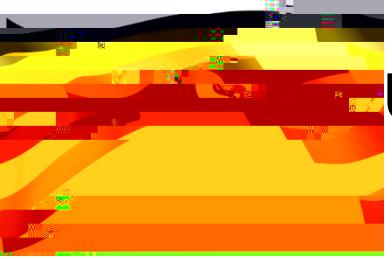
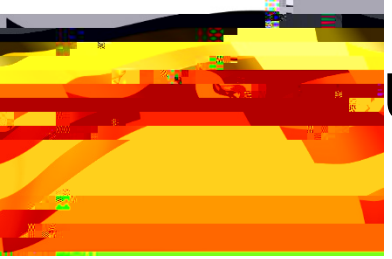


Uganda Government Initiatives to Support Services Suppliers under the WTO LDC Services Waiver

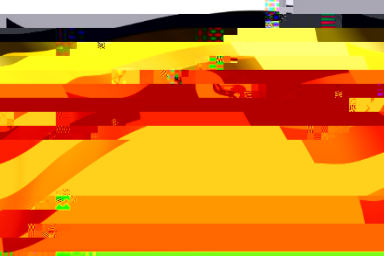
f Activities (Continued):

- Capacity assessment for domestic services suppliers
- Development of a Market Sustainability Strategy
- Continued engagement in Trade in Services at Multilateral level



Uganda Government Initiatives to Support Services Suppliers under the WTO LDC Services Waiver

- What has been done so far: Policy implementation is ongoing, but the pace could be better
- Private sector has been organized, and process continues. More capacity building needed
- Public sector capacity building in the area of Services Trade ongoing



A lot done; much more to do

- Thank You