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Committee on Trade Facilitation

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NOTIFICATION OF CATEGORY COMMITMENTS UNDER THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION

COMMUNICATION FROM ANGOLA

The following communication, dated 17 April 2024, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Angola.

Following up on the notification dated 5 April 2023 (<u>G/TFA/N/AGO/4</u>), Angola hereby notifies the extension to its definitive implementation dates for the following provisions as set out in Article 17.1 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (<u>WT/L/931</u>).

Provision	Heading / description	Category	Previously notified definitive implementation date	New definitive implementation date requested
Article 8	Border Agency Cooperation	С	30 June 2024	30 June 2026
Article 10.6	Use of customs brokers	С	30 June 2024	30 June 2026
Article 10.7	Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements	В	30 June 2024	30 June 2026

Reason for extensions:

The process of negotiating border agreements is intrinsically complex, involving several legal issues, geopolitical and economic.

Additionally, the existence of a legal provision may suggest that customs processes are theoretically accessible and managed directly by interested parties on an individual basis. However, in practice, dependence on customs brokers persists due to the technical complexity of these processes and system parameterization and awareness among interested parties.

In view of the above, the request to extend the deadlines for implementing the measures is a prudent measure to ensure that border negotiations are approached with due attention and that the transition to less dependence on customs brokers is carried out effectively, considering the complexities involved.