

2022 tralac Alumni Conference 11-12 October 2022

Wilfried DEUDJUI MBOUWE AFCFTA Implementation in Cameroon Updates



Agenda

- Cameroon's Government efforts in implementing the AfCFTA at 3 levels:
 - Strategic: Domesticating the AFCFTA agreement
 - Tactical: Preparing the ground to effectively commence trade under AFCFTA
 - Operational: How do we engage SMEs to effectively trade under AFCFTA ?

At the Strategic level

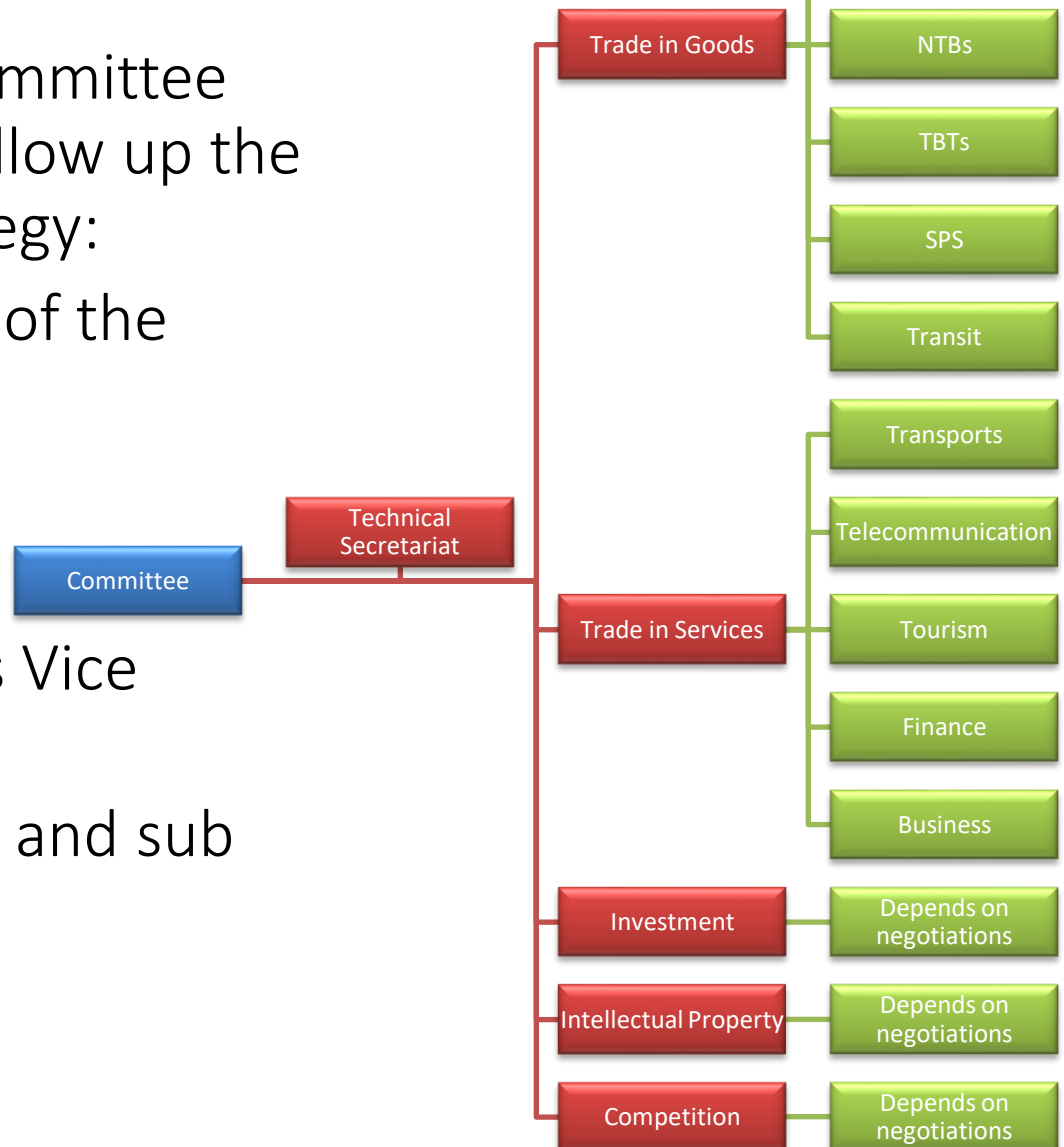
- Signature on 21 March 2018 at Kigali, Rwanda
- Ratification:
 - The parliament authorized the president to ratified on 19 July 2019;
 - The president ratified on 31st October 2019
 - The ratification instrument was deposited on 1st December 2020

At the Strategic level

- Drafting a National Implementation Strategy:
 - Several and successive workshops to define and draft the national implementation strategy
 - Inclusive and participatory, under the leadership of the Ministry of Trade in partnership with UNECA (Sub Regional Office for Central Africa)
 - The strategy was adopted and endorsed by other strategic documents namely the national development strategy 2020-2030, national trade facilitation roadmap, industrialization master plan

At the Strategic level

- An interministerial committee was put in place to follow up the implementation strategy:
- Under the leadership of the Ministry of Trade;
- With Private sector as Vice President (GICAM)
- Technical committees and sub committees



At the Tactical level

- Several actions were undertaken at the tactical level in conjunction with what was being done at the strategic level:
- Raising Awareness by information sessions
- Training seminars
- Concerns public sector, private sector and civil society

At the Tactic level

- 16-17 April 2019: 1st National information and sensitization seminar jointly organized with UNECA;
- 12 November 2019: Consultation session with public and private sectors stakeholders to examine the draft implementation strategy and for participants to make inputs;
- 28-29 November 2019: Final validation session of the national implementation strategy
- 22 April 2020: Adoption of the national implementation strategy

At the Tactical level

- 29 March 2021: creation of the Interministerial Committee charged with the follow-up and evaluation of the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area: Prime Ministerial Order No 039/PM of 29 March 2021
- 10 October 2021: the Ministerial Directive on the Application of Provisional Schedules of Tariffs Concessions was adopted

At the Tactical level

- 12 November 2021: First working session of the interministerial committee
- Operational phase was launched on 1st January 2021 but even in February 2022, commercially meaningful trade had not commenced under AFCFTA

At the Tactical level

- In July 2022, AFCFTA initiative on guided trade was announced;
- Cameroon was selected among countries to participate in the initiative;
- On 8 September 2022 : Cameroon National Shippers' Council was designated to host the sub committee in charge of facilitating the implementation of the AFCFTA guided trade initiative in Cameroon;

At the Operational Level

- Trade under AFCFTA was theoretically launched on 1st January 2021;
- Since that date, much has been done to effectively engage businesses to trade under AFCFTA;
- Mainly in the form sensitization and training by various agencies:
 - What it is about ?
 - How do they benefit from it ?
 - What are the opportunities ?
 - How do they address the challenges we usually face in crossborder trade ? (RoO, Trade Finance, Trade Facilitation)

At the Operational Level

- 29-30 June 2021, CNSC organized a webinar on the theme: Foreign trade procedures for SMEs under AFCFTA. Some key subjects were addressed:
 - Private sector's involvement in implementing AFCFTA (UNECA ATPC)
 - Market Penetration Strategies for SMEs under the AFCFTA (ITC)
 - Trade facilitation and cross-border trade under AFCFTA (ITC)
 - Updates on AFCFTA (AFCFTA Secretariat)

At the Operational Level

- TRALAC's contribution to the promotion of women and youth for sustainable intra-African trade (tralac)
- Cross-border trade financing for SMEs (AFDB)
- Tackling cross-border trade payments issues (African Guarantee Fund)
- Government supporting measures to SMEs to penetrate the AFCFTA Market (Ministry in charge of SMEs) with a focus on the SHE TRADES INITIATIVE
- Rules of origin and transit under AFCFTA (Customs)
- Diversification opportunities for SMEs for better competitiveness under AFCFTA (GIPEC, Frida BASOK)

At the Operational Level

- 12-14 April 2022, CNSC organized in partnership with AFREXIMBANK a training seminar on the theme: Optimizing AFCFTA's opportunities for SMEs, focused on showcasing what tools and programs are available to traders namely:
 - MANSA: Africa's Digital Due Diligence Repository
 - The Afreximbank Trade Facilitation Program (AFTRAF) to enhance the confidence of counterparties in the settlement of international trade transactions and improves correspondent banking relationships
 - The SME Development Programme designed to mitigate the gaps in Africa's SME value chain, leveraging Afreximbank's suite of (financial and non-financial) capabilities;
 - AFREXINSURE: insurance management services company which offers specialty insurance solutions for trade and trade related investments across Africa

At the Operational Level

- The Intra-African Trade Products and Initiatives supporting the AfCFTA (IATI): the Transit Guarantee Scheme, Export Trading Companies, AfCFTA Adjustment Fund, Africa Quality Policy and Harmonisation of Standards, Trade-Enabling Infrastructure, Creative Economy Strategy, Intra-African Trade Fair
- Fund for Export Development in Africa (FEDA): provide equity funding for the development of companies involved in intra-African trade and the development of exports of manufactured goods from Africa
- TRADAR: Trade intelligence solution to enhance transparency in African trade and provides a centralized digital source of regulations and legislative requirements for all trade and investment activities across Africa
- PAPSS: Pan-African Payment and Settlement System

At the Operational Level

- 28 July – 06 August 2022: training seminar during the Central Africa's Annual Cross border trade fair in Kye Osi:
 - Trade fair organized by the Central Africa's Network of Active Women
 - Kye Osi : border with Gabon and Equatorial Guinea



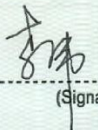
At the Operational Level

- The GUIDED TRADE INITIATIVE launched on 7 october 2022
- First certificates of origin under AFCFTA issued:
- Shipment From GHANA to CAMEROON, imports of Ceramic Tiles produced by KEDA CERAMIC (chinese owned company based in Ghana) to Homepro Cameroon Ltd
- Shipment From CAMEROON to GHANA, exports of dried fruits by GIC AFATEX (a woman owned SME)

At the Operational Level

- KEDA CERAMIC
- certificate of origin

AfCFTA Certificate of Origin

AfCFTA Certificate of Origin		Competent Authority Ref		Country Code	Serial No.		
		G0003142310		Issued in Ghana	2209000003		
1. Exporter (Name & Address)		2. Consignee (Name & Address)		3. For Official Use Only			
KEDA (GHANA) CERAMICS COMPANY LIMITED PLOT NO. 5, SSNIT ROAD, DUNKONAH, ACCRA GHANA		HOMEPRO CAMEROON LIMITED ESSENGUE PORT AUTONOME DE DOUALA CAMEROON					
4. Particulars of Transport		Mode : 10,SEA TRANSPORT					
5. Marks & No.s	6. Invoice No. & Date	7. No. & Kind of Package	8. Description of Goods	9. Gross Weight	10. Suppl. Quantity	11. HS Code	12. Origin Criterion
1122 CTN OF CERAMIC TILES , 2019.60 M2	E01879 29/09/2022 USD 5,836.64 FOB	1,122 CT	1122 CTN OF CERAMIC TILES 300 X 300MM	27,982.68 KG	2,019.60 UNT	6907.220000	SX
13. Declaration By The Exporter / Supplier		14. Certification of Origin		15. For Customs Purposes			
I, the undersigned, declare that the goods described above meet the conditions required for the issue of this certificate, and are originating in GHANA (Country)		Origin Stamp (Designated Authority)		Export Document No.: 30 SEP 2022 EXPORT SEAT TEMA CUSTOMS OFFICE Customs Office & Date			
Place and date: ACCRA 29/09/2022		ESSUMAN-MENSAH STANLEY COLLINS (Full Names)		(Full Names)			
LI. LORRY MANAGING DIRECTOR (Full Names and Designation)		 (Signature)		 (Signature)			
 (Signature)							

At the Operational Level

- How do we follow-up ? How do we monitor and evaluate ?
- Data, Data, Data, specially informal cross border trade which is sometimes very difficult to collect
- Reminder: ATO is one of the 5 operational instruments
- Creation of data collection where informal trade occurs:
 - Ekok : border with Nigeria
 - Demsa: border with Chad and Nigeria
 - Kye Ossi: border with Gabon and Equatorial Guinea

At the Operational Level

Trading Partner in Africa	2019	2020	2021	2022	Gross Mass (Tons)			
Total Gross Mass (Tons)	2 786 482,06	1 861 563,42	2 941 969,05	2 773 695,21	14 650 128,11	RECs Membership		
Togo	1 498 350,30	472 538,56	775 896,25	802 806,75	3 862 919,39	ECOWAS	CEN-SAD	
Senegal	30 969,37	34 424,02	24 699,91	17 586,07	2 562 506,82	ECOWAS	CEN-SAD	
Algeria	254 144,09	418 029,64	501 626,11	565 704,75	1 740 281,30	AMU		
Morocco	286 746,72	48 797,44	168 700,52	224 431,44	1 321 279,99	AMU	CEN-SAD	
Egypt	49 732,28	49 132,56	337 015,32	628 935,24	1 110 273,01	COMESA	CEN-SAD	
Angola	24 950,46	163 688,80	439 951,86	59 510,68	965 463,63	ECCAS	SADC	
Nigeria	30 693,81	187 175,38	155 949,24	67 985,44	491 710,46	ECOWAS	CEN-SAD	
Tunisia	93 171,97	71 632,05	83 753,89	53 176,02	437 829,95	AMU	CEN-SAD	COMESA
Namibia	95 822,74	67 871,07	75 412,72	67 469,90	411 883,44	SADC		
Guinea	128 115,57	97 075,20	96 349,14	77 272,62	398 912,33	ECOWAS		
Mauritania	77 284,35	61 525,44	47 216,40	30 249,06	335 180,41	AMU	CEN-SAD	
South Africa	37 407,27	32 890,37	37 010,10	30 517,03	205 258,41	SADC		
Côte d'Ivoire	20 467,42	26 489,02	51 887,00	42 400,99	165 204,22	ECOWAS	CEN-SAD	
Gabon	26 474,07	34 134,12	47 326,11	39 530,56	161 276,51	ECCAS		
Congo - Brazzaville	99 380,20	12 452,81	988,67	4 010,84	160 377,86	ECCAS		
Equatorial Guinea	7 373,75	31 949,47	52 628,87	29 609,84	122 351,58	ECCAS		
Liberia	14 348,97	7 518,54	25 275,54	17 370,32	83 637,71	ECOWAS		
Ghana	4 116,72	11 348,49	13 066,38	1 788,76	34 187,03	ECOWAS	CEN-SAD	
OTHERS	6 932,03	32 890,46	7 215,02	13 338,92	79 594,06			

Thank you !!!

