TRADE LAW CENTRE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

MANAGING THE IMPORT TARIFF
SOUTHERN AFRICAN CUSTOMS UNION (SACU)

11-12 September 2006

Stellenbosch
South Africa
Course objective and outcome

The SACU Agreement of 2002 requires the active participation of all member states in the management of the common external tariff (CET), in contrast to the 1969 Agreement which left tariff management largely in the hands of the South African authorities. The objective of the two-day course is to empower stakeholders in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS), in particular, to actively engage in the management of the CET. This requires knowledge on the nature of the import tariff, the economics underlying the tariff, changes in the tariff and the relevant legal framework.

The course will be of an introductory nature and has as envisaged outcome that it will enable participants to understand the administrative, economic and legal principles that are relevant to tariff management, to apply these principles in making inputs in the process of tariff management, to identify capacity and training needs in developing the requisite skills, and to contribute to the strategies adopted in bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations.
PROGRAMME

Monday, 11 September 2006

08:00 – 08:30        Registration
08:30 – 09:00        Welcome and opening remarks
                      Trudi Hartzenberg, Executive Director of tralac
09:00 – 10:30        The Structure of the SACU Import Tariff
                      Prof. Colin McCarthy
10:30 – 11:00        Coffee
11:00 – 12:30        The Economics of the Tariff and a Customs Union
                      Prof. Colin McCarthy
12:30 – 14:00        Lunch
14:00 – 15:00        The Legal Framework of Tariff Management
                      Prof. Gerhard Erasmus
15:00 – 15:30        Coffee
15:30 – 17:00        The Legal Framework (cont.)
                      Prof. Gerhard Erasmus
Tuesday, 12 September 2006

08:30 – 10:00  Changing Ordinary (MFN) Customs Duties
               Prof. Colin McCarthy

10:00 – 10:30  Coffee

10:30 – 12:30  Trade Remedies and Safeguards
               Prof. Colin McCarthy and Gus Mandigora

12:30 – 14:00  Lunch

14:00 – 15:00  Trade Remedies (cont.)
               Prof. Colin McCarthy

15:00  Close and Work at Home