

Use of Electronic Tools for the Dissemination of Comments

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Outline

- **A new design of web pages**
- **Functions achieved by the Enquiry Point electronically**
 - Transmission of comments
 - Reply to inquiries
 - Request for information
- **Future action**

New Design of Web Pages

To facilitate access by the domestic stakeholders to notifications, the BSMI cooperates with a research institute to change the original design of notification distribution web page. This new web page was introduced in October 2006.

New Design of Web Pages (2)

New features are added

- **Searching the notifications by country, sector and keyword**
- **Reporting technical barriers to trade encountered**
- **Requesting documents on line**

New Design of Web Pages (3)

Keep the searching simple by one click

- **Notifications from 74 WTO Members with whom we have more trade volumes**
- **Products are classified into 14 categories based on their HS codes**

New Design of Web Pages (4)

Show the comment period

- **The number of notifications still within their comment period is indicated in red.**
- **The lists are also available by WTO Members and by sectors.**
- **Days that are still available for making comments are indicated in red for each notification**

New Design of Web Pages (5)

On-line action

- **Submission of comments**
- **Request for notifications/documents**
- **Report of information relating to technical barriers to trade encountered**

Functions Achieved

Transmission of comments

- **Comments on our notifications are transmitted, first by e-mail and followed by hard copy, to the regulatory authority for response.**
- **Each comment was replied by e-mail.**
- **The replying time ranged from 2 weeks to 2 months.**

Functions Achieved (2)

Reply to inquiries

- **Inquiries are received on product regulations or standards.**
- **Each inquiry was replied by e-mail.**
- **The replying time ranged from 2 days to 3 weeks.**

Functions Achieved (3)

Request for information

Article 10.1 of TBT Agreement

Each Member shall ensure that an enquiry point exists which is able to answer all reasonable enquiries from other Members and interested parties in other Members as well as to provide the relevant documents regarding:

Article 10.1.3

Any conformity assessment procedures, or proposed conformity assessment procedures, which are operated within its territory by central or local government bodies ...

Functions Achieved (4)

Request for information (continued)

As requested by the industry, a request for information on the use of SDoC as conformity assessment procedure was sent to the TBT National Enquiry Points listed in G/TBT/ENQ/30 on 10 and 11 September 2007.

Attached to the request was a summarized information on the use of SDoC in TPKM for electronic/electrical products and telecommunication equipment.

Functions Achieved (5)

Request for information (continued)

The summarized information contained the following elements which we consider would be useful to manufacturers in other WTO Members in exporting their products to the TPKM:

- Product scope
- Responsible authority
- Governing regulations
- Applicable standards
- Description of procedures (check boxes)
- Mark to be affixed to the product
- Information accessible from the Internet
- Designated laboratories

Functions Achieved (6)

Request for information (continued)

- **9 out of 135 requests were received by 31 October 2007.**
- **5 Members provided clear information in return, 3 Members acknowledging receipt of the request and 1 requesting translation of the information.**
- **3 companies contacted us for further verification of the information.**

Future Action

- **The use of Enquiry Point by industry is limited and we would be conducting more seminars to introduce functions of the Enquiry Point.**
- **The web pages would be expanded based on the needs of the industry.**
- **Information resources need to be integrated for better implementation of Article 10.1.**

The background is a dark green gradient with several vertical lines and a pattern of glowing, semi-transparent circles of various sizes. A large, dark, wavy shape is positioned at the top, partially overlapping the circles. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital.

Thank You!