The Working Mechanisms of China on TBT Transparency

Yang Song

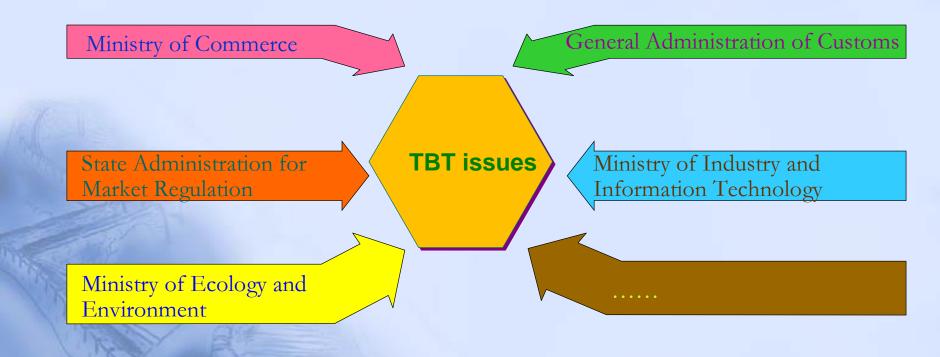
Director
WTO/TBT National Enquiry Point of China

The Working Mechanisms of China on TBT Transparency

- 1. TBT System of China
- 2. Notifying TBT Measures of China
- 3. Handling Notifications from Other Members
- 4. Dealing with Enquiries
- 5. Difficulties faced

1. TBT System of China

Government authorities involved



1. TBT System of China

National Enquiry Point

Established in General Administration of Customs to coordinate the notification, enquiry and comment issues domestically

The Notification Authority

Established in the Ministry of Commerce to manage notification-related affairs and submit notifications



Laws and regulations at national level

Decrees and rules at ministerial level

National compulsory standards

How to notify

Drafting of a new TBT measure - the competent authority

Deciding whether to notify or not - the competent authority

Filling out the notification form in both English and Chinese - the competent authority

Submitting the notification and full text to the Enquiry Point

Reviewing the notification – the Enquiry Point

Submitting to the Notification Authority

Submitting to WTO - through the Permanent Mission of China in Geneva

Using WTO online notification submitting system

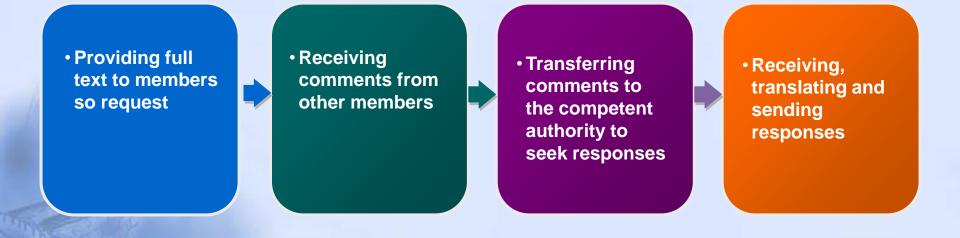
Whether to notify

Coordination on notification affairs

TBT or SPS

Comment period

After notifying, TBT Enquiry Point has the responsibility of:



- By the end of 2018, 1375 TBT notifications, including:
 - 1340 notifications on new TBT measures, and
 - 35 addendum notifications



Working procedures

Receiving and translating notifications - Enquiry Point

Selecting notifications to comment - Enquiry Point

Distributing notifications to relevant authorities – mainly by email

TBT Notification Newsletter – including all notifications, published every month

Notifications and their Chinese translation also available on the website of Technical Measures of China

Encourage stakeholders to use ePing system

Working procedures (cont. 1)

Studying and making comments on notifications - Expert group established by all Chinese government authorities related to TBT issues

Examining comments - competent authorities

Collecting comments - Enquiry Point

Translating the final comments into English and submitting to the notification Member - Enquiry Point

Coordination: Important notifications or Disagreement on comment

Working procedures (cont. 2)

Receiving responses - Enquiry Point

Feedback for reference or further comment

Considering to raise a Specific Trade Concern

Participants of commenting

Experts in the Customs

P1

Experts from other government authorities
P2

P3

Associations and industries

P4

University and research institute

- Research and comment centers
 - Household appliance
 - Automobile
 - Toy
 - Textile
 - Fireworks
 - •



4. Dealing with Enquires

- The TBT Enquiry Point is responsible to answer reasonable questions asked by domestic and foreign government authorities, industries and other stakeholders.
- After the Accession, we have received and answered more than 10000 enquiries.

Translation

1

Large amount – notifications and full texts

2

Costly for both money and time

3

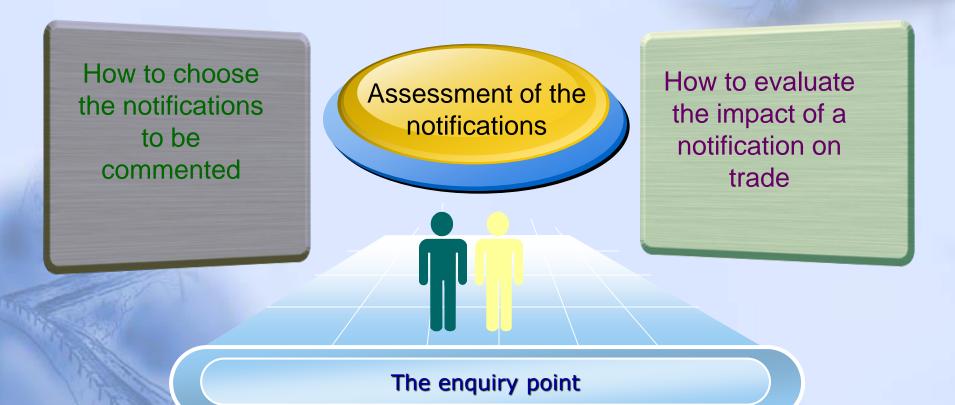
Unpopular languages

Comment period

Some notifications less than 60 days

Request for extending with no answer

- The activeness to make comments
 - The awareness of the importance of making comments is not satisfactory. Especially small and medium-sized enterprises should be encouraged to comment.
 - Training of industries should be strengthened.
 - The enquiry point takes the responsibility of leading the stakeholders to comment and provide help.



Submitting comments

Some email addresses do not work

Could not receive response

