



The European Union: domestic coordination

TBT Committee: Thematic Session on transparency

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EU's reactions to 3rd country notifications:

Three levels of domestic coordination in the EU:

- 1. intra-European Commission**
- 2. input from the Member States**
- 3. stakeholders' input**

Key element of the system: Commission Experts

All received input must be transferred to relevant EU officials for assessment.

These persons decide whether the EU comments will be sent.

The challenges

The timing: we need between 2 to 3 weeks to process draft EU comments internally.

All input on 3rd country notifications must reach us by then – not by the commenting deadline!

The challenges

Making sure that all stakeholders (in the Commission and in the EU) are subscribed to ePing and actively analyze new notifications.

EU notifications to the WTO

Ensuring that our colleagues across the Commission are aware of their obligation to notify.

Making sure that notifications give enough time for WTO Members' comments.

Key ingredients for an effective and sustainable domestic coordination mechanism

1. General awareness of TBT transparency mechanisms.
2. Respect of deadlines by all actors in the process.
3. Accessibility of translations.
4. Correct identification of Commission experts responsible for a given topic.

Benefits of ePing

ePing allowed the EU TBT Enquiry Point to abandon the manual processing of all incoming notifications.

Registered colleagues and stakeholders have immediate access to notifications.



**Thank you
for your attention.**