



Thematic Session on Transparency: Product coverage in Notifications

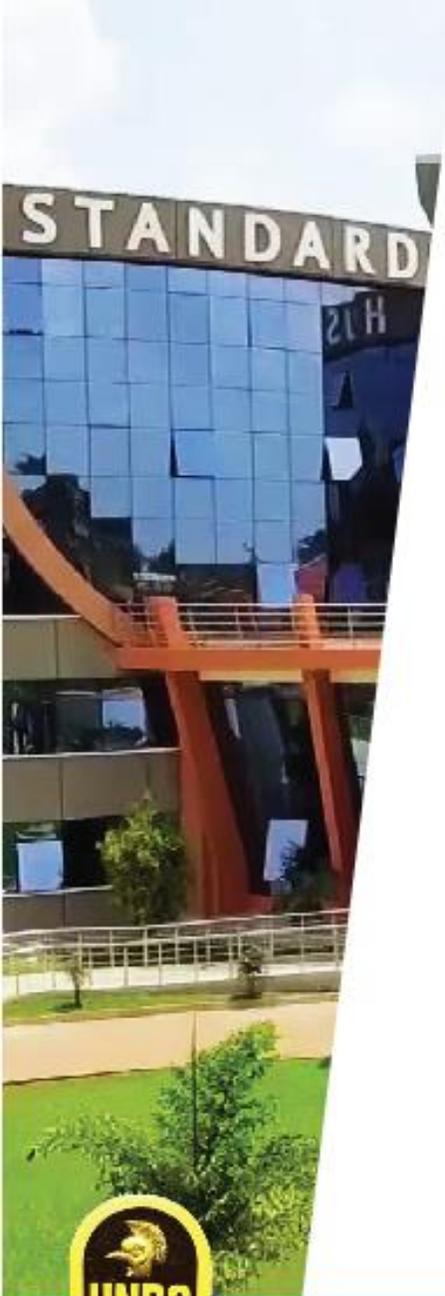
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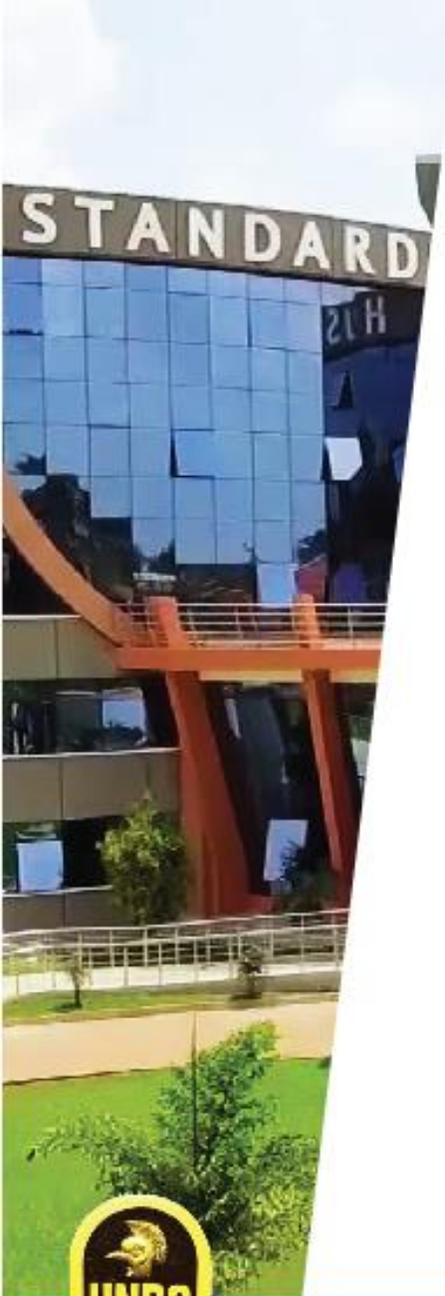


Identification of products covered in TBT notifications



- **80% of notifications are drafted by officials responsible for preparing draft TBT measures using ePing SPS&TBT Platform**
 - **20% drafted by NEP**
- **Officials identify products covered when drafting measures using ICS codes – specified in draft measures/notifications**
- **NEP verifies if ICS codes specified in draft measures/notifications are accurate**
 - **Incorrect ICS codes are replaced with correct codes**





- NEP adds HS codes in draft notifications
- ICS & HS Codes are supplemented with products names
- In cases where there are no precise ICS & HS codes, products names are used
- Tools/resources used to identify ICS & HS Codes:
 - ICS, Edition 7, 2015
 - HS 2017 integrated with ePing SPS&TBT Platform
 - EAC Harmonized Commodity Description & Coding System, Version 2022: Joint notifications
 - Google (for HS codes)



Challenges in identification of HS Codes



- In all sectors, for some products there are no precise HS codes,
- Identification of appropriate HS codes for some products when scientific names are not included in draft measures,
- Lack of adequate skill & knowledge of use of HS,
- Identification of precise HS codes for draft measures that cover a wide range of products in many sectors (e.g. on next slide).

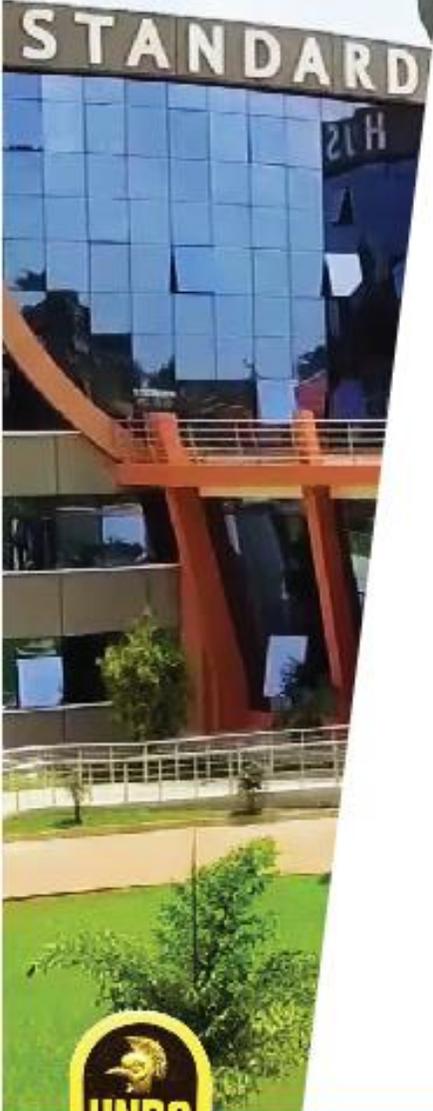




Measure covering a wide of products



- Toys
- Electrical and electronics
- Automotive products and inputs
- Chemical products
- Mechanical materials and gas appliances
- Textile, leather, plastic and rubber
- Furniture (wood and metal articles)
- Paper and stationery
- Protective safety equipment
- Food and food products
- Used products including used motor vehicles



Coordination with customs in identifying specific products subject to regulatory measures & border controls



- After TBT measures enter into force to identify applicable HS codes
- Customs system & Quality ePortal for imports are integrated
- Consignments tagged red by customs for quality verification are not released until other border agencies have cleared the consignments

Expectations from WTO Secretariat training workshop on HS and ICS Codes



- Detail training on how to identify relevant HS codes across products sectors
- Training workshop should be organized in cooperation with World Customs Organization (WCO)
 - Draw experts from WCO to facilitate practical sessions of the training



THANK YOU

