



**TL WTO MEMBERSHIP: CHARTING A DIVERSIFIED, RESILIENT,
INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY THROUGH GLOBAL
ECONOMIC INTEGRATION**

Timor-Leste Post-Accession Vision and Strategy 2024 - 2031

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Timor-Leste's Vision for Development through Trade

The Government of Timor-Leste has set an ambitious economic development agenda with the objective of Timor-Leste becoming an upper middle-income country by 2030, as set out in the Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030 (SDP). As an oil dependent economy, the SDP recognizes that diversification of the economy away from petroleum production and government spending is necessary to achieve strong economic growth over the medium and long term.

To achieve this vision, Timor-Leste is determined to integrate into the global and regional economy through taking part as a Member to the WTO and ASEAN. While its ASEAN accession is expected to follow in 2025, Timor-Leste has moved forward with its notable historical achievement through its WTO accession in February 2024. Previously in January 2024, the WTO Working Party Members had adopted Timor-Leste's Accession Package, successfully concluding its accession process to the WTO after seven (7) years since obtaining its observer status to the Organization. This will be followed by a formal approval by all WTO Members (164 Members) in February at the WTO 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13).

The Government of Timor-Leste applied for accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in April 2015, where it was accepted as an observer to the Organization since December 2016 to officially undergo its negotiation processes. At the 13th Ministerial Conference, Timor-Leste along with Comoros will join sign its accession protocol as the 165th and 166th Members of the WTO.

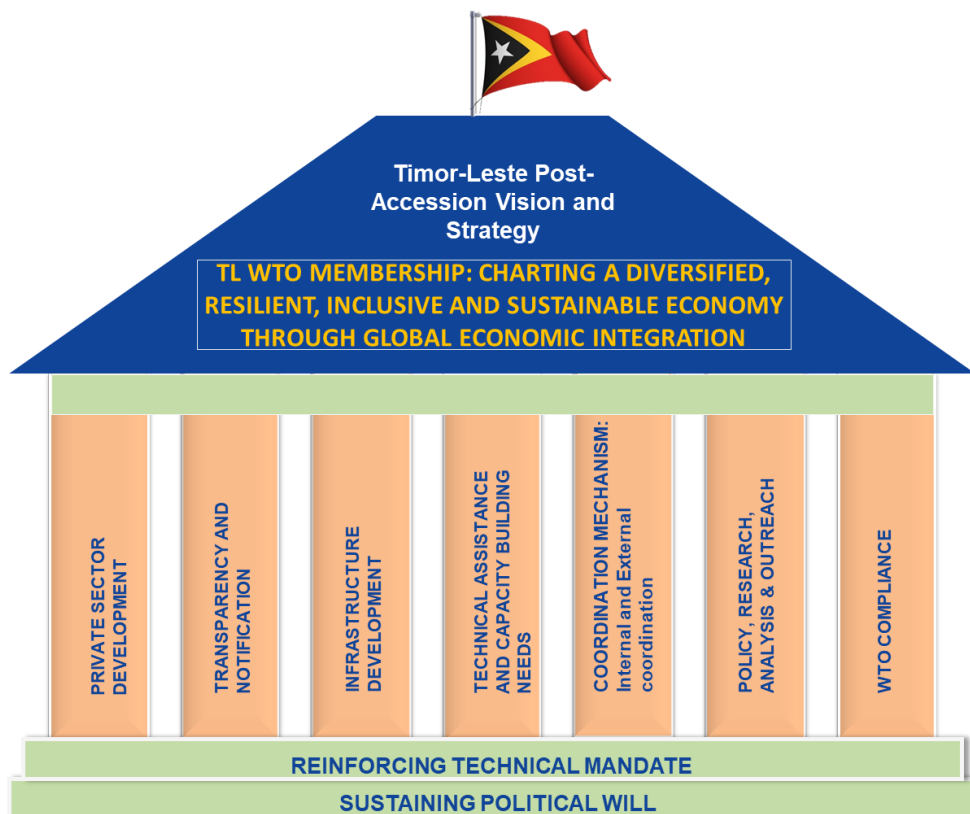
Timor-Leste's accession to the WTO marks a major step towards liberalizing trade, integrating TL's economy into global economy and facilitating the access to international markets. Membership to the WTO and ASEAN would help to leverage the on-going improvements in its infrastructure, human capital and administrative capacity, to accelerate growth and economic diversification. Learning from other acceded LDC Members' experiences, Timor-Leste believes that the accession to the WTO will not only leverage economic reform, but it will also serve as the country's commitments to create a disciplined and systematic set of rules for the country.

Thus, being part of this structure will promote good governance initiatives. For Timor-Leste, post-accession process remains an opportunity to accelerate important reforms which are essential to unleash the potential of our economy and to transform the country into a growing, healthy and well-educated middle-class Nation as reflected in the Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030 (SDP).

Having gone through years of accession negotiations, Timor-Leste recognizes the intricacy of its future obligations as a Member of the Organization. Through the accession process, Timor-Leste acknowledges that challenges remain as Timor-Leste continues to harmonize its domestic rules and regulations with WTO principles as necessary to facilitate trade and attract greater

investment in the country. The Country believes that the overall long-term effects will be positive, whereas potential benefits for exports, investment and other trade-related areas will not come automatically. To realize this vision, the benefits will depend on the responsibility of every stakeholder – including the public and business sectors – to make efforts to fulfill their roles in implementing WTO commitments.

Therefore, to ensure a successful implementation during its post-accession phase, the Government of Timor-Leste has developed a post-accession vision and strategy document as a guiding document, which aims to highlight Timor-Leste’s achievements from accession process, and to assess Timor-Leste’s domestic readiness during the post-accession implementation phase, including to identify potential challenges ahead of its Membership.



The key components of this document consist of:

- 1) Sustaining clear political will during post-accession implementation phase;
- 2) Keeping reform momentum during post-accession phase: Timor-Leste’s readiness assessment to implement WTO commitments, including its legislative commitments;
- 3) Private sector development and inclusivity;
- 4) Setting Timor-Leste’s commitment as an active Member of the WTO;
- 5) Develop policy, research and analysis, and outreach mechanism;

- 6) Improving human resources capacity and infrastructure bottlenecks, through maximizing Technical Assistance and Capacity Building; and
- 7) Setting a clear internal and external coordination mechanism.

Domestic Readiness

a. Good Governance

The Program of the 9th Constitutional Government summarizes the central public policies to be adopted to strengthen and optimize the sectors of governance and their resources, shortening the path outlined to transform the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Strategic Development Plan 2011 - 2030 into reality. The Program encompasses six main areas: the reaffirmation of the democratic rule of law, the development of social capital, the development of infrastructure, the development of the economy, the government consolidation and good governance and the fight against corruption.

The Government intends to proceed with institutional strengthening and promote the country's economic and social development. Economic diversification, job creation and infrastructure improvement are also priorities. The Government also recognizes the importance of the involvement of all by partisan lines/ stakeholders in building the State and seeking progress in improving public service delivery to the public.

b. Coordination Mechanism

a. Internal Coordination within the Capital

- Appoint/re-appoint the lead ministry dealing with WTO affairs, with mandate on the implementation of commitments and the coordination of day-to-day work of the WTO;
- Establish/restructure an inter-ministry coordination body, with the participation of line ministries/agencies/focal points tasked with implementation and notifications;
- Establish a consultative and dialogue mechanism(s) with the business sector.

b. External Coordination

1. Coordination line between the Capital & Geneva

- Maintain regular coordination and communications between the capital and Geneva: One of the successful coordination mechanism during accession process is its strong coordination between the Office of the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs (MCAE) and the Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste in Geneva (PMTL). During this process, MCAE under the leadership of the Chief Negotiator – Coordinating Minister

of Economic Affairs – led TL WTO Accession Process and liaised every communication between the Capital and Geneva –with WTO Secretariat, PMTL and other relevant organizations. This mechanism has led to a successful achievement of Timor-Leste’s accession to date. Thus, to ensure a continuous success and efficiency in this coordination mechanism, the Government has approved a Government Decree to establish a National WTO Secretariat in the country, which will intensify and better facilitate WTO related communications and coordination with Geneva –with PMTL, WTO Secretariat, and other relevant partners;

- Enhance the Permanent Mission to the UNOG, including through the appointment of a dedicated representative to the WTO and increased staff to handle WTO affairs.

2. Coordination within the region

- As part of its foreign trade policy approach, Timor-Leste aims to further strengthening its trading relationship within the region as its main trading partners. Therefore, to strengthen coordination within the region, the Government will appoint dedicated representatives on trade in each of the countries, namely Australia, China, Indonesia and Singapore to strategize its trade integration effort within the Asia Pacific region, which will also align with its membership to the ASEAN and other free trade agreements in the future.

c. Transparency and Notification compliance

- As elaborated under Timor-Leste’s transparency and obligation commitment, upon accession, Timor-Leste is committed to implement Article X of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, Article III of the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services, Article 63 of the WTO Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, and other transparency provisions in the WTO Agreements requiring notification and/or publication. Any laws, regulations, or other measures subsequently enacted by Timor-Leste, and which were required to be notified pursuant to the WTO Agreements, would be notified in a time and manner consistent with WTO requirements.
- Under Timor-Leste’s commitment on WTO and ASEAN accession, Timor-Leste is committed to develop a Trade Information Portal, which will support Timor-Leste’s transparency and notification commitment through setting up a web-based portal for all trade-related information.
- To comply with the technical measures, Timor-Leste has also committed to set up Enquiry Points on SPS, TBT and TRIPS, as required by the WTO Agreements
- In addition, Timor-Leste is also committed to establishing a focal point and a central registry for all notifications submitted to the WTO, with a central coordination body to oversee the coordination mechanism among the related parties.

- Timor-Leste remains committed to strengthening its coordination mechanism with relevant line entities to comply with its obligations under this commitment.

Trade Relations

a. TL WTO Compliance through Accession Process

As per the decision made at Timor-Leste's 7th and last Working Party Meeting, Members have agreed on Timor-Leste's request to implement the post-accession in a period of seven (7) years until its first Trade Policy Review. Accordingly, the post-Accession phase will enter into force immediately following Timor-Leste's official Membership date or with a maximum period of six (6) months following the signature of Timor-Leste's accession protocol.

Timor-Leste strongly believes that that post-accession is a critical phase for Timor-Leste to fully align and implement its accession commitments, which will showcase its significant effort to integrate into the global and regional economy.

During this phase, with some degree of flexibility for transitional period, Timor-Leste's post-accession commitments include its implementation of 31 Commitment Languages, including its commitments pertaining to plurilateral agreement, and its obligation under Market Access Commitments on Goods and Services Commitments.

All the information related to Timor-Leste's WTO Compliance contains in Annex I of this document, which elaborates on Timor-Leste's action plan to streamline smooth transitioning during the post-accession phase.

b. Legislative Readiness

As part of Timor-Leste's transparency and notification commitment to the WTO, Timor-Leste will continue to use the established legislative framework during accession in the post-accession period. To ensure the effective implementation, Timor-Leste is committed to setting appropriate legislative mechanisms to monitor compliance on its legislative fronts in line with WTO transparency and notification requirements. One of its priority steps is to comply with the listed legislations contained in Timor-Leste's Legislative Action Plan (LAP) document, under Part I (B) of the document. Timor-Leste's Legislative Action Plan (LAP) table is contained in Annex IV of this document.

Importantly, this commitment is integrated into the government Legislative Action Plan which is subject for approval on a yearly basis. This underscores the significance of aligning legislative readiness with broader governmental plans and priorities. Reflecting this commitment in the LAP ensures its integration into the national agenda, encompassing budgetary allocations, infrastructure development, and human resource considerations. The annual approval and reflection in the LAP demonstrates a holistic and sustained approach,

reinforcing the institutional integration of WTO commitments into TL's legislative, budgetary and organizational frameworks.

The LAP serves as a comprehensive roadmap, detailing specific legislation and priority steps crucial for WTO compliance. Notably, Timor-Leste recognizes the dynamic nature of international trade and commits to reflecting its legislative readiness and ongoing commitments in the government-approved LAP on a yearly basis. This iterative approach ensures adaptability to evolving WTO standards and reinforces Timor-Leste's dedication to transparent and responsive trade practices.

c. Optimizing Trade through Aid for Trade

The Government has developed an evolving Development Partners Support Matrix on TL WTO Accession. It is a living document which aims to enhance better coordination between the Government and Partners towards their support to TL during its Accession and post-accession phases to the WTO.

The matrix presents detailed information about ongoing and potential needs from development partners to support the accession and post accession implementation commitments. The matrix also presents detailed information on trade related needs, inter alia on technical assistance and capacity building needs, financial assistance, and on specific sector direct support by partners on Timor-Leste's trade integration agenda both for the WTO and ASEAN related supports.

All the information related to Timor-Leste's Development Partners Support Matrix contains in Annex V of this document, which elaborates on Timor-Leste's ongoing and potential support on trade-related support in line with TL's commitment to the WTO to streamline smooth transitioning during the post-accession phase.

d. Private sector development and reform

The Government's vision rests on private sector-led growth to create jobs and income, and tackle to improve the wellbeing of its people. As a strategic partner of the Government for economic development, private sector has substantial growth potential and is expected to drive growth in the priority sectors, but faces significant constraints in the investment environment, and infrastructure bottlenecks.

Timor-Leste recognizes the need to strengthen national private sector participation in trade, including to improve SMEs participation in the global value chain. While SMEs are small in scale, SMEs account for somewhere between 95-98% of firms in the formal sector in the country, thus they have the potential to provide employment and development opportunities for many people. SMEs are likely to be able to respond quickly to a supportive business environment and invest

and drive further employment. With an increase collaboration of the multinational corporations in Timor-Leste, developing SMEs is likely to drive development of the private sector in Timor-Leste, and to capture the broader benefits in terms of education and training, employment, investment, and growth.

Private Sector development has been focusing on encouraging investment from multinational corporations in big infrastructure driven projects. While infrastructure projects remain important, they are short-term, which still relies heavily on public expenditure, hence, giving little benefits to local businesses to expand. Therefore, the Government recognizes the need to encourage more private sector participation in productive sectors which provide more long-term opportunities to diversify the economy.

As such, through generating its Petroleum revenue, the Government is committed to developing reforms that could improve private sector's participation in trade. These reforms include: (i) creation of a transparent regulatory framework for the operation of business; (ii) elimination of excessive bureaucracies that raised costs for doing business; (iii) streamlining processes for imports and exports; (iv) strengthening of the government institutions and the establishment of effective service delivery systems to the business sectors; (v) development of the infrastructure to support the private sector; and, (vi) identification of specific measures to develop the priority economic sectors.

Post-Accession: Sectoral Challenges

a. Infrastructure Bottlenecks

Infrastructure is crucial to economic and social development, and the scale and costs associated with implementing an infrastructure network are a huge challenge that will sustain productivity, job creation and private sector development at the national level.

Since independence, the Government has made major improvements to its basic infrastructure, however, internal trade costs remained high and economic activity remained concentrated in the capital due to lack of quality infrastructure to facilitate trade and improve public service delivery to private sector.

b. Productive Sectors

The SDP recognizes that achieving economic growth would require diversification of the economy. The priority sectors to drive economic diversification remain essential including downstream petroleum sector, agriculture, tourism, fisheries, light manufacturing and mining. Attraction of private investment in these key sectors is key to achieving economic growth where the goal remains to have a private sector led market economy by 2030.

c. Services Sectors

Services sectors play increasingly vital roles in the global economy and trading system as well as national economies at all levels of development, including Timor-Leste. An efficient service sector is critical for economic success. Services such as telecommunications, banking, distribution and transport are not only key sectors in their own right but are also vital in facilitating trade in all sectors, including both goods and services. The importance of services in facilitating trade and economic performance has been accelerated by the rapid growth and development in digital trade. Opening up service sectors to competition from foreign suppliers has the potential to promote greater efficiency and performance in the market, generating benefits for consumers and the economy more broadly, including access to advanced technology and know-how, and greater transparency and predictability.

Having said that, while Timor-Leste has made an extensive level of commitment in its services offer, challenges remain ahead as Timor-Leste gradually adapts to the era of digital trade. As a relatively young, low-income least-developed-country, there are sectors which are unregulated, which continue to pose challenge for Timor-Leste in harmonizing with WTO GATS commitment with the increasing importance of services sector in trade. Thus, Timor-Leste recognizes the importance to ensure that it is equipped with appropriate space and resources to provide some level of flexibility to develop regulations to support its economic and social development while keeping an appropriate balance to continue complying with its WTO GATS commitments to attract greater investment and promote trade in services as a whole.

On the other hand, becoming a WTO Member as an LDC will bring fruitful benefit, including flexibilities and mechanisms which apply specifically for the benefit of developing and least developed countries – including technical assistance and capacity-building opportunities across all players across public and private institutions supporting the sector. Therefore, Timor-Leste continues to count on this opportunity to further strengthen this sector in its early stages of development.

d. Resource demands and constraints

As an LDC, Timor-Leste recognizes that becoming a Member of the Organization – conforming with its rules and regulations – means that it will require significant resource implications for the Country. There are several resource demands and constraints to be expected of WTO accession which requires special attention of the Government, inter alia on implementation of WTO commitments, participation in WTO Meetings, and participation in WTO disputes.

(i) Implementation of WTO commitments

By becoming a Member of the WTO, and a party to GATT, GATS and TRIPS, Timor-Leste is making legally binding commitments to all other WTO Members. These include the core obligations of

non-discrimination and commitments to not impose certain market access limitations in goods, services sectors and to align its legislations with WTO principles.

There are also broader obligations concerning the administration of domestic regulation including on Trade related commitment laid-out in the Working Party Report document consisting of thirty-one (31) total commitments to be implemented upon accession – a few exceptions apply for transitional period, gradually towards its full implementation. These measures include technical measures such as on SPS, TBT and TRIPS. Similarly, under Timor-Leste's plurilateral commitment, it is also leading on its future commitment on Joint Initiative for Services Domestic Regulations (JISDR) on improving licensing and qualification processes. At the same time, Timor-Leste has become a Member of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) and ITA Expansion Agreement, on tariff elimination for IT related products, which will enter into force upon accession for most parts of IT products, while some exceptions apply to a few products, which to be eliminated within a period of seven (7) years – until 2030.

As a Member of the WTO, because these obligations are legally binding, Timor-Leste is obliged to comply with them. This means that government officials (including policy experts and lawyers) must consider whether: (a) existing laws, regulations and other measures are consistent with WTO principles, specifically on the commitments made during accession; and (b) whether any *future or proposed* measures are consistent with these rules. This requires the Government to have adequate human resources of well understanding technical experts who have sufficient understanding and expertise in WTO rules to be able to identify issues and advise the Government on reform and policy development.

In addition to becoming a Member, Timor-Leste also acknowledges its obligations as an active Member, by taking part in the WTO ongoing trade discussions – which requires technical knowledge of both WTO rules and domestic measures. Thus, Timor-Leste recognizes the need to attract and retain government officials with expertise with respect to WTO rules and measures. Therefore, Timor-Leste continues to require further development partners assistance, including from the WTO Secretariat, the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), other development partners, and from Members Bilaterally, during this critical phase.

(ii) Participation in WTO meetings

Timor-Leste acknowledges that the administration and monitoring of the implementation of WTO Agreements is a major part of the regular work of the WTO. This also constitutes the majority of post-accession work. Across the range of issues there are hundreds of meetings of the various WTO Councils and Committees each year, including the three committees focused on trade in services. Timor-Leste sees that these meetings will provide the opportunities for Timor-Leste as a newly Acceded Member to harmonize and implement WTO principles. At the same time, while 'learning by doing', Timor-Leste is committed to take part in ongoing trade negotiations within the WTO to bring its particular trade interests within the rapid progress in trade negotiations. Therefore, it is of paramount significant for Timor-Leste to strategize its resources to participate

in WTO meetings as required, including to optimize available trainings to enhance knowledge of Government Officials to participate in meetings and forming policy positions.

(iii) Participation in WTO disputes

As a full-fledged Member of the WTO, Timor-Leste recognizes the benefit of utilizing the WTO dispute settlement for any discrimination that may pose from Members. However, participation in a WTO dispute as either a complainant or respondent involves substantial costs and resources. Different countries take different approaches in relation to litigating WTO disputes. While some Members may afford to use only or primarily 'in-house' lawyers who work for the government, however, as an LDC with lack of resources and funds, it would be difficult for Timor-Leste to address such challenge. Thus, with preferential treatment and capacity building opportunities available for LDCs, Timor-Leste will ensure to optimize such support to streamline the development of our human resource needs.

Internally, as reflected in Timor-Leste's Private Sector Policy and Strategy, one main success of attracting more investment in the country is to improve access to commercial disputes to safeguard their businesses. Thus, the Government is committed to work with all partisan line, including with the Court of Appeal to enhance the contractual and dispute resolution mechanism in the country to improve public disputes on commercial cases, including:

- Timor-Leste is committed to increase Court capacity to hear civil matters, particularly in contractual and commercial disputes. This can be achieved by allocating additional funding for courts, allowing them to efficiently schedule and hear civil matters. Furthermore, investing in training programs will enhance judicial knowledge and expertise in relevant commercial and business issues.
- Timor-Leste's commitment to applying dispute resolution mechanisms is demonstrated through the enactment of the Law No. 6/2021 by the National Parliament. This law establishes the legal regime on arbitration law that applies to both national and international arbitration cases. The Government is also dedicated to collaborating with development partners to seek funding for the establishment of a prefunded panel of arbitrators and mediators to accelerate their use and involvement in this regard.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needs

- Make use of training opportunities provided by the WTO and others by sending qualified officials, including from line ministries, selected on a competitive basis;
- Develop and deliver in-house training programs on WTO matters;
- Hold period consultations with line ministries to identify TA/CB needs;
- Establish a structured matrix to assess and prioritize technical assistance and capacity building requirements, ensuring a systematic approach to address specific needs at different stages of the accession process.

Policy, Research, Analysis & Outreach

Timor-Leste is on a new chapter in its economic development by acceding to the World Trade Organization (WTO). This significant milestone opens up avenues for enhanced international trade, economic growth, and global integration. In the aftermath of Timor-Leste's accession to the WTO, it becomes imperative to implement a comprehensive outreach program aimed at maximizing the benefits and minimizing potential challenges during this post-accession period.

Outreach initiative is designed to foster a deeper understanding of WTO principles, regulations, and opportunities, among key stakeholders in Timor-Leste. It seeks to empower government officials, the private sector, civil society organizations, and local communities to harness the full potential of WTO membership, ensuring sustainable development and economic prosperity.

The outreach program aims to empower Timor-Leste's stakeholders with the knowledge, skills, and networks necessary to navigate the opportunities and challenges of WTO membership effectively. By fostering inclusive participation, promoting economic diversification, and enhancing policy coherence, the program seeks to contribute to the country's long-term economic resilience and sustainable development agenda.

At the same time, during the post-accession, it is important to synergize research and analysis mechanism with outreach activities to non-governmental stakeholders, specially to private sector, through organizing symposiums, conferences and seminars;

- Actively conduct research and analysis on trade issues – for policy considerations;
 - Provide a range of academic seminars on WTO related discussions;
 - Set up specialized courses on WTO in higher educational institutions;
 - Set up information center on the WTO, including the WTO Reference Centre within the country;
 - These areas are critical to foster a deeper understanding of WTO principles, regulations, and opportunities, among key stakeholders in Timor-Leste.
- (ii) Timor-Leste is committed to develop policies through research and analysis during its accession process.

Outreach program Components

- a. Awareness Workshops: Organize workshops, seminars, and public forums at municipality level, government institutions and all universities to disseminate information about the WTO, its functions, and implications for Timor-Leste's economy;
- b. Stakeholder Dialogues: Facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues to encourage inclusive participation in trade policymaking processes and foster collaboration among different sectors through national TV and community radio across the country;
- b. Outreach Campaigns: Develop communication materials, including brochures, fact sheets, and digital content, to raise awareness about the benefits and challenges of WTO accession among the general public:

- Initiate outreach activities to non-governmental stakeholders during the end phase of the accession process, through symposiums, conferences and seminars;
- Set up specialized courses on WTO subjects in higher educational institutions;
- Set up information center on the WTO, including the WTO Reference Centre;
- Implement a comprehensive communication strategy, leveraging social media platforms and online resources to enhance public awareness and engagement on WTO-related matters.

Next Steps:

- (i) Post-Accession Vision and Strategy document will set as a baseline document to ensure Timor-Leste's compliance during post-Accession phase;
- (ii) Following the signatory ceremony tomorrow, 26 February, the Vice Prime Minister – The Chief Negotiator will present the Post-Accession Vision and Strategy document for adoption at the Council of Ministers and at the National Parliament along with the Accession Package;
- (iii) Prior to this, the Technical Team will conduct extensive consultations with government and non-government stakeholders to gather further input prior to present to the Council of Ministers for its approval.

Conclusion:

Timor-Leste's accession has brought great benefits for the country, and the country expects to see more benefits as a member to the organization. Becoming a member is essential to unleash the potential of the country's economy in several sectors. Trade is an engine for development, and Timor-Leste has a huge potential that is yet to be explored. As a full member, Timor-Leste will be able to diversify its economy, become a part of the value chain of global economies, to improve the quality and the wellbeing of its people.

In closing, Timor-Leste continues to count on Members and Partners' support during the post-accession process, where more tailored support will be required to expedite the necessary domestic reforms to harmonize with the WTO rules and regulations. As a newly joined Member, Timor-Leste will continue to learn from Members with a hope to bring additional values and contribute to further strengthening the cooperation with Members in the global value chain.

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ANNEX I:

IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS CONTAINED IN THE WTO ACCESSION PROTOCOL OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE - LIST OF TIMOR-LESTE'S ACCESSION COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS¹

No	WTO commitments/Obligations	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
ECONOMIC POLICIES							
State ownership and privatisation							
1.	Para 51.² The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that Timor-Leste would ensure that all State-owned, State-invested, and other enterprises with special or exclusive privileges would make purchases of goods and services, which were not intended for governmental use, and sales in international trade, based solely on commercial considerations, e.g. price, quality, marketability and availability, and that the enterprises of other WTO Members would have an adequate opportunity to compete for such purchases or sales. In addition, Timor-Leste would not influence, directly or indirectly, commercial decisions on the part of State-owned, State invested, and other enterprises with special or exclusive privileges, including on the quantity, value or country of origin of any goods purchased or sold, except in a manner consistent with the WTO Agreement. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that upon accession Timor-Leste would notify and provide information on the activities of all State-owned, State-invested, and other enterprises with special or exclusive privileges in accordance with Article XVII of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and the Understanding on that Article. He further confirmed that Timor-Leste would notify any enterprise falling within the scope of Article XVII. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	<p>- Regular notification and update on the activities of all SOEs, SIEs, etc. to the Secretariat in accordance with Article XVII GATT 1994;</p> <p>- adequate opportunities is of all enterprises to purchase or sales of goods other than for governmental use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Coordinating of Economic Affairs – SERVE Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. ANPM Ministry of public works 	National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste	Upon Accession	- Training on notifications requirements to the responsible institutions	-
Pricing policy							

¹ By acceding to the WTO, Timor-Leste accedes to all multilateral Agreements annexed to the WTO Agreement by single undertaking. The WTO Accession Protocol of Timor-Leste will become an integral part of the WTO Agreement. The present Note only lists the accession-specific commitments as reflected in the agreed Protocol.

² Here and below: paragraph numbers refer to the Report of the Working Party, as contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/34 – WT/MIN(24)/4.

2.	<p>Para 63. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that from the date of accession, pricing policy in Timor-Leste would be applied in compliance with the provisions of Articles III:4 and XI:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and Article 4 of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture. He further stated that in the application of price controls now or in the future, Timor-Leste would apply such measures in a WTO consistent fashion and take account of the interests of exporting WTO Members as provided for in Article III:9 of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994. Timor-Leste would publish the list of goods and services subject to monitoring regimes and any changes to such lists in its Official Gazette. The Working Party took note of these commitments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the application of pricing policy is consistent with WTO Agreement; - Ensure to publish the list of goods and services subject to monitoring regimes and changes in the <i>Jornal da Republica</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Trade and Industry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Finance; - Ministry of Agriculture, - Ministry of Justice - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste 	<p>Upon accession</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing on GATT 1994 specifically on these provisions, - Training on the WTO agreement on Agriculture 	-
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FRAMEWORK FOR MAKING AND ENFORCING POLICIES

Powers of executive, legislative and judicial branches of Government

3.	<p>Para 75. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that international treaties and agreements ratified by the National Parliament, including the WTO Agreement, had precedence over domestic laws. If laws and other measures of Timor-Leste conflicted with international treaties or agreements, the provisions of the international treaty or agreement, such as the WTO Agreement, would apply. All legislative or regulatory instruments necessary for the application of the WTO provisions would be adopted and enacted upon accession, with the exception of those in the areas where Timor-Leste would be granted transition periods in accordance with its Protocol of Accession.³ The Working Party took note of these commitments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that international treaties and agreements precede over domestic laws. - Adopt all legislative and regulatory instruments for the application of the WTO provisions including those with transitional periods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Presidential Council of Ministers; - National Parliament; - Ministry of Justice - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste 		-	-
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Description of judicial, arbitral or administrative tribunal or procedures

³ Please refer to Part 1(B) of the Legislative Action Plan (WT/ACC/TLS/6/Rev.8) and the Action Plans agreed for the implementation of the accession commitments with transition periods.

4.	<p>Para 93. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that the current constitution, laws and regulations provided the necessary institutional base for the prompt administrative and judicial review of the administrative actions. The representative of Timor-Leste further confirmed that, from the date of accession, Timor-Leste's laws and regulations would provide individuals or enterprises affected by any administrative action subject to WTO provisions the right to appeal such action, without penalty, both to a higher administrative authority and to the courts or other independent tribunal in conformity with WTO obligations, including those set out in Article X of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, Article 23 of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Article 11 of the WTO Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the GATT 1994, Article 62 of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and Article VI of the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services. Recourse to administrative and judicial review would also include actions relating to the implementation of national treatment, conformity assessment, and the regulation, control, supply or promotion of a service, including the grant or denial of a licence to provide a service and other matters. The tribunals or administrative authorities responsible for such reviews would be impartial and independent of the agency entrusted with administrative enforcement and would not have any substantial interest in the outcome of the matter. The review procedure would include the opportunity for appeal, without penalty, by individuals or enterprises affected by any administrative action subject to review. Notice of the decision on appeal, and the reasons for that decision, would be provided to the interested parties in writing. The Working Party took note of these commitments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure individuals or enterprises the right to appeal to higher administrative authority and to the courts or other independent tribunal without any penalty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Justice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Trade and Industry - Domestic Courts/Tribunals - IP Office, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste, - SERVE, - IQTL 	<p>Upon accession</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information sharing on the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing measures, - training and briefing on TRIPS agreement specifically on this provision, - training and information sharing on GATT and GATS provisions related to this commitment. - Training on WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism 	-
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POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN GOODS

Trading rights, registration requirements for engaging in importing and exporting

5.	<p>Para 100. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that from the date of accession, Timor-Leste would grant any natural or legal person, regardless of physical presence or investment in Timor-Leste, the right to be the importer of record of any product allowed to be imported into Timor-Leste, at any level of distribution, and that its laws and regulations relating to the right to trade in goods and all fees, charges or taxes levied on such rights would conform fully with its WTO obligations, including Articles VIII:1(a), XI:1, and III:2 and 4 of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, Article III of the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services, and Article 63 of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure to grant any natural or legal person, regardless of physical presence or investment in Timor-Leste, the right to be the importer of record of any product allowed to be imported into Timor-Leste, at any level of distribution. - Ensure commercial registration or application for trading rights would be for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TradeInvest, - SERVE, - Ministry of Trade and Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Finance (Customs Authority) - IP Office of Timor-Leste, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste 	<p>Upon accession</p>	-	-
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	He also confirmed that full rights to import and to export would be granted in a non-discriminatory and non-discretionary manner from the date of accession, and any requirements for commercial registration or application for trading rights would be for customs and fiscal purposes only, would not require investment in Timor-Leste or constitute a barrier to trade. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	customs and fiscal purposes only					
Trade facilitation							
6.	Para 110. The representative of Timor-Leste took note of the Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization done at Geneva on 27 November 2014 (WT/L/940) (TFA Protocol). This Protocol, which had entered into force on 22 February 2017, had inserted the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation into Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that his Government would accept the TFA Protocol by virtue of accepting the Protocol of Accession. He further confirmed that Timor-Leste would apply the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation from the date of accession, using the categories of commitments as proposed in Annex 12, as a least-developed country. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Ensure the implementation of WTO TFA as per each timeline with details as elaborated in the TFA action plan Annex 12 reproduced below.	- National trade facilitation committee. - Ministry of Trade and Industry;	- National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste - Customs Authority, National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste	Upon accession	- Training on WTO TFA agreement including Notification mechanism and compliance Requirement. - Support in fully functionalising and operationalising National Trade Facilitation Committee	- Implementation of the TFA agreement is based on the each category A, B, & C with each transitional period needed
IMPORT REGULATIONS							
Ordinary customs duties⁴							
7.	Para 114. In response to a request from a Member, the representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that Timor-Leste had submitted its draft Information Technology Agreement (ITA) and ITA Expansion schedules to the WTO ITA Committee and the 2015 ITA Expansion Group for verification and approval, in accordance with the ITA and the ITA Expansion procedures, in order to enable Timor-Leste to join the ITA and the ITA Expansion when it became a WTO Member. The Working Party took note of these commitments. ⁵	- Set out phase out period and phase mechanism.	- Ministry of Transport and Communication, - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs	- Ministry of Finance - Customs Authority, - Ministry of trade and industry - TIC Timor-Leste, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste	Upon accession	- Information sharing on ITA agreement and its commitment. - Case study on the implications of acceding to ITA and ITA expansion on Timor-Leste.	
Other duties and charges							
8.	Para 116. The representative of Timor-Leste informed that Timor-Leste did not apply any other duties and charges within the meaning of Article II:1(b) of the WTO	- Ensure to bind OTC to zero and would not apply any other	- Ministry of Finance - Customs Authority	- Ministry of trade and industry;	Upon accession	-	-

⁴ The Schedule of Concessions and Commitments on Goods of Timor-Leste (document WT/ACC/TLS/34/Add.1 - WT/MIN(24)/4/Add.1) resulting from the negotiations between Timor Leste and WTO Members is annexed to the Accession Protocol. In addition to the commitment on ITA/ITA-II, the Schedule list specific tariff lines which needs to be bound at a rate lower that the currently applied import duty rate (2.5 %), upon accession.

⁵ Timor-Leste's agreed ITA/ITA-II schedules are incorporated in its Schedule of Concessions and Commitments on Goods of Timor-Leste (document WT/ACC/TLS/34/Add.1 - WT/MIN(24)/4/Add.1).

	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994. He confirmed that Timor-Leste would bind at zero other duties and charges in its Schedule of Concessions and Commitments on Goods. The Working Party took note of this commitment.	OTC within the meaning of article II:1(b) of the GATT 1994		- National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste, - Ministry of Agriculture, - ANPM			
Tariff quotas, tariff exemptions							
9.	Para 122. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that any tariff rate quotas, if introduced in the future, would be applied and administered in conformity with WTO rules, including MFN and national treatment provisions. He also confirmed that upon accession to the WTO, any tariff exemptions would only be implemented in conformity with the relevant WTO provisions including Article I of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Ensure that if TRQ are implemented, they should be applied and administered in conformity with the WTO rules	- Ministry of Finance, - Ministry of Trade and Industry	- Customs Authority, - Ministry of Agriculture, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste, - National Parliament		- training on practical implementation of TRQ including procedures and mechanism.	-
Fees and charges for services rendered							
10.	Para 125. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that, from the date of accession, all fees and charges for services rendered, applied on or in connection with importation or exportation, would conform with the provisions of the WTO Agreement, in particular Articles VIII and X of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994. The Working Party took note of this commitment.	- Ensure that all fees and charges for services rendered should be in conformity with the WTO Agreement. - Ensure that fees and charges for services rendered should be limited in amount to approximate cost of services rendered. - Ensure to publish promptly the fees and charges. <i>(Art. VIII - ...should be limited in amount..., art. X- ... shall publish promptly...)</i>	- Ministry of Finance, - Ministry of Trade and Industry	- Customs Authority, - Ministry of Agriculture, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste	Upon accession	-	-
Import licensing procedures							

11.	<p>Para 133. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that, from the date of accession, Timor-Leste would not introduce, reintroduce or apply quantitative restrictions on imports or other non-tariff measures such as quotas, bans, permits, prior authorization requirements, licensing requirements or other requirements or restrictions having equivalent effect that could not be justified under the provisions of the WTO Agreement. The import licensing regime would be fully in accordance with all relevant provisions of the WTO Agreement, including the WTO Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. He further confirmed that the legal authority of his Government to suspend imports or to apply licensing requirements that could be used to suspend, ban or otherwise restrict the quantity of trade would be applied in conformity with the provisions of WTO Agreement, including the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, the WTO Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, the WTO Agreement on Safeguards, and the Understanding on Balance-of-Payments Provisions of the GATT 1994. The Working Party took note of these commitments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would not introduce quantitative restrictions measures that could not be justified under WTO provisions. - Ensure the conformity of import licensing regime with the WTO Agreement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Finance, - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - Ministry of Trade and Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority, - SERVE, - ANPM - Ministry of Agriculture, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste 	Upon accession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on the WTO Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. - Sharing of information on understanding balance of payment mechanism 	
Customs valuation							
12.	<p>Para 146. The representative of Timor-Leste stated that legislation on the valuation of imports for customs and taxation purposes conforming to the requirements of the WTO Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the GATT 1994 would be enacted prior to Timor-Leste's accession to the WTO. Timor-Leste would implement the WTO Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the GATT 1994 and Annex I to it (Interpretative Notes) from the date of accession, and if using a database as a reference for validating the declared price of a good, Timor-Leste would not use any form of minimum value or fixed valuation schedule for the customs valuation of goods. If the transaction value offered was disputed, Timor-Leste would release the goods subject to the posting of sufficient guarantee for the maximum amount of the customs payments that could be owed. Timor-Leste would also apply Decision 3.1 of the Committee on Customs Valuation (Treatment of Interest Charges in the Customs Value of Imported Goods) and paragraph 2 of the Decision on Valuation of Carrier Media Bearing Software for Data Processing Equipment (Decision 4.1). The Working Party took note of these commitments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure legislation on customs valuation would be in conformity with WTO agreement on Article VII GATT 1994. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Finance - Customs Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste, - Ministry of trade and industry. - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs. 	Upon accession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on Customs Valuation. - Support in the development and finalization of the legislation on customs valuation 	
Rules of origin							
13.	<p>Para 150. The representative of Timor-Leste stated that, from the date of accession, Timor-Leste's laws and regulations for preferential and non-preferential rules of origin would comply fully with the WTO Agreement on Rules of Origin. He further confirmed that Timor-Leste's</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft complimentary regulations on ROO. - Present and approve the regulation at the Council of Ministers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Trade and Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture. - Customs Authority 	Upon accession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on WTO Rules of origin Agreement. - Training on each of the rules of origin requirement (i.e. Origin Criteria, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decree law on ROO is approved and published.

	rules of origin would be notified to the WTO Committee on Rules of Origin. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Approve and publish the regulation in the Jornal da República. - Ensure ROO regulation is in full compliance with WTO ROO agreement.		- National Trade Facilitation Committee. - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste		Certificate of Origin, and Direct Consignment). - Institutional Arrangement on the issuance of ROO	- Draft additional regulations is underway with the support of ADB
Pre-shipment inspection							
14.	Para 152. The representative of Timor-Leste stated that if pre-shipment inspection requirements were introduced, they would be temporary and in conformity with the requirements of the Agreement on Pre-shipment Inspection. Timor-Leste would take responsibility to ensure that the operations of any pre-shipment inspection companies it retained would meet the requirements of the relevant WTO Agreements. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Ensure pre-shipment inspection requirements are temporary and in conformity with the agreement on Pre-shipment Inspection.	- Customs Authority	- National Trade Facilitation Committee, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste, - Ministry of Trade and Industry			
Application of internal taxes on imports							
15.	Para 164. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that by 1 July 2025, Timor-Leste's laws, regulations and other measures relating to internal taxes and charges levied on imports would be in full conformity with its WTO obligations, including Article III of WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, and that it would implement such laws, regulations and other measures in full conformity with those obligations. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Ensure full conformity of internal taxes (e.g., VAT) and charges levied on imports with WTO obligations.	- Ministry of Finance - Tax Authority	- Ministry of Finance, - Ministry of Trade and Industry, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste.	1 July 2025	- Comprehensive training on VAT implementation and enforcement.	-
Anti-dumping, countervailing duties, safeguard regimes							
16.	Para 167. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that his Government would not apply any anti-dumping, countervailing or safeguard measures until it had implemented and notified to the WTO appropriate laws consistent with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards, the WTO Agreement on the Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994, and the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. Timor-Leste would ensure the full conformity of any such legislation with the relevant WTO provisions, including Articles VI and XIX of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, the WTO Agreement on Safeguards, the WTO Agreement on the Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994, and the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. After such legislation was implemented, Timor-Leste would only apply any anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties and safeguard measures in full conformity with the relevant WTO provisions. The Working Party	- Ensure Anti-Dumping, Countervailing and Safeguard measures are consistent with the WTO Agreement on safeguards	- Ministry of Trade and Industry	- Customs Authority - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste.	Upon accession	- support in developing safeguards, anti-dumping legislations - Training of officials (customs, trade, immigration, AIFAESA, etc.) on Anti-dumping, and safeguards agreement. - Support in establishing institutional arrangement. - Training on implementation of such regulations. - Training on how to conduct safeguards and anti-dumping	- Draft measure to establish safeguard desktop is underway. -

	took note of these commitments.					investigations when there is any.	
EXPORT REGULATION							
Export subsidies							
17.	Para 173. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that any subsidy programmes provided by his Government after accession would be administered in conformity with the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, including Article 27, and that all necessary information on Timor-Leste's export subsidies and other notifiable programmes would be notified to the WTO Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures according to Article 25 of the Agreement. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Ensure to administer subsidy programs in full conformity with the WTO agreement. - Ensure to notify WTO committee on subsidies and countervailing measures of such information	Ministry of Trade and Industry, - Ministry of Finance - Ministry of Agriculture, - Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral	- TradeInvest, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs	Upon accession	- Brief information sharing and training on WTO agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	
INTERNAL POLICIES AFFECTING FOREIGN TRADE IN GOODS							
Industrial policy, including subsidies							
18.	Para 178. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that Timor-Leste would administer its subsidy programmes in full conformity with the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, including Article 3.1(b) and Article 27.2. All necessary information on these subsidy programmes would be notified to the WTO Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures in accordance with Article 25 of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Ensure to administer subsidy programs in full conformity with the WTO agreement. - Ensure to notify WTO committee on subsidies and countervailing measures of such information	Ministry of Trade and Industry, - Ministry of Finance - Ministry of Agriculture, - Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral	- TradeInvest, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs	Upon accession	- Brief information sharing and training on WTO agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	
19.	Para 180. In response, the representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that, unless the 2022 Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies or any subsequent comprehensive fisheries disciplines have already entered into force by the time of acceptance of its Accession Protocol, Timor-Leste shall accept Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization: Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (WT/L/1144) and any subsequent protocols establishing comprehensive fisheries disciplines at the same time as it accepts its WTO Accession Protocol. The Working Party took note of this commitment.	- Accept the Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization: Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (WT/L/1144) and any subsequent protocols establishing comprehensive fisheries disciplines	- Ministry of Trade and Industry, - Ministry of Finance - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry	- ?	Upon accession	- ?	
Technical barriers to trade, standards and certification							
20.	Para 190. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that Timor-Leste would progressively implement the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade in accordance with the action plan set out in ANNEX 16 . He further confirmed that during the transition period, existing measures would be applied on a non-discriminatory basis, i.e., providing for national	- Ensure to progressively implement WTO agreement on TBT as per Annex 16. - Ensure any changes made in its laws, regulations and practice related to TBT during the transition period would not	- Institute of Quality of Timor-Leste - Ministry of trade and industry.	- Ministry of Agriculture, - AIFAESA, - ANPM - National Permanent		Details TA on TBT are elaborated in Annex 16	

	<p>treatment and MFN treatment for all imports. Measures in place at the time of accession and already consistent with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade would not be subject to transition. Timor-Leste would ensure that any changes made in its laws, regulations and practice during the transition period would not result in a lesser degree of consistency with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade than existed at the date of accession. Full implementation of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade would start from 1 January 2026 without recourse to any further transition period. The Working Party took note of this commitment.</p>	<p>result in a lesser degree of consistency with the provisions of the WTO Agreement</p>		<p>Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - National Trade Facilitation Committee</p>			
Sanitary and phytosanitary measures							
21.	<p>Para 231. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that Timor-Leste would progressively implement the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in accordance with the Action Plan provided in Annex 18. He further confirmed that during the transition period, existing measures would be applied on a non-discriminatory basis, i.e., providing national treatment and MFN treatment to all imports. Measures in place at the time of accession and already consistent with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, would not be subject to transition. Timor-Leste would ensure that any changes made in its laws, regulations and practice during the transition period would not result in a lesser degree of consistency with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, than existed at the date of accession. Full implementation of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures would start from 1 January 2028 without recourse to any further transition period. The representative of Timor-Leste further confirmed that his Government would consult with Members upon request if any Member deemed that any measures applied during the transition period affected their trade negatively. The Working Party took note of these commitments.</p>	<p>- Ensure to progressively implement the WTO Agreement on SPS.</p> <p>- Ensure any changes made in its laws, regulations and practice during the transition period would not result in a lesser degree of consistency with the provisions of the WTO Agreement.</p> <p>- Open to consult with Members upon request if any measures applied during the transition period affected their trade negatively.</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture - Quarantine department - Veterinary Department</p>	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry, - Customs Authority, - Immigration Department. - AIFAESA - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste.</p>	<p>1 January 2028</p>	<p>Details TA on SPS is elaborated in the Annex 16</p>	<p>- SPS legislation is approved -</p>
Trade-related investment measures							
22.	<p>Para 233. The representative of Timor-Leste said that his Government would not maintain any measures inconsistent with the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures and would apply the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures from the date of accession without recourse to any transition period. The Working Party took note of this commitment.</p>	<p>- Ensure to not maintaining any measures inconsistent with WTO TRIMS</p>	<p>- TradeInvest</p>	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste.</p>	<p>Upon accession</p>	<p>- Training of relevant officials on the WTO Agreement on TRIMS</p>	

				- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - SERVE			
Free zones, special economic zones							
23.	Para 239. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that, from the date of accession, free zones and special economic zones would be established, maintained and administered in full conformity with the provisions of the WTO Agreement, including the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures and the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures, and that Timor-Leste would ensure enforcement of its WTO obligations in those zones. He further confirmed that the right of firms to register and operate in these zones would not be subject to export performance, trade balancing, or local content requirements. In addition, the representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that from the date of accession, goods imported into the free trade zones and goods produced in any free trade zones or areas under tax and tariff provisions that exempt imports and imported inputs from tariffs and certain taxes, would be subject to normal customs formalities when entering the rest of the territory of Timor-Leste, including the application of tariffs and taxes. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Ensure the establishment of free zones and special economic zones is in compliance with the WTO agreement. - Ensure the registration and operation of the firms in the zones would not be subject to export performance, trade balancing, or local content criteria requirements. - Ensure that goods imported and produced in the zone would be subject to normal customs formalities when entering the rest of the territory	- Ministry of Trade and Industry - Industrial Park Management (GESPIN, SA). - Ministry of Finance, - Minister for coordinating economic Affairs. - Ministry of planning and investment, - ZEESM	- TradeInvest, - SERVE, - ANPM, - Ministry of Agriculture,	Upon accession	-	-
Government procurement							
24.	Para 255. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed Timor-Leste's willingness to accede to the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement. Timor-Leste would become an observer to the Agreement upon accession, and submit an application for membership with a coverage offer within one year following accession to the WTO. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	- Domestic consultation and prepare necessary documents. - Present to the Council of Ministers for authorization. - Submit letter to CGP Chair requesting observership. - Submit application for membership. - Join to the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement.	- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - Ministry of Finance	- National Procurement Commission - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Ministry of Trade and Industry	One year following accession to the WTO	- Training of relevant officials on WTO agreement on Government Procurement. - Information sharing on WTO agreement on the Government Procurement - Support study on the implications of acceding to the WTO agreement on Government Procurement to Timor-Leste	
Agricultural policies (Exports)							
25.	Para 261. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that Timor-Leste would bind agricultural export subsidies at zero from the date	- Ensure agriculture <u>export subsidies</u> are at zero	- Ministry of Agriculture	- TradeInvest - Ministry of trade and Industry, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste.	Upon accession	-	-

	of accession. The Working Party took note of this commitment. ⁶			- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs			
TRADE-RELATED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REGIME							
Transitional Arrangements							
26.	Para 302. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that, should a transition period be granted, Articles 3, 4 and 5 of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, providing for, inter alia, national treatment and MFN treatment, would apply from the date of accession, and Timor-Leste would ensure that any changes made in its laws, regulations and practice in the transitional period would not result in a lesser degree of consistency with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights that existed on the date of accession. He added that existing rates of infringement would not, in his view, increase significantly over this transition period, and that any infringement of intellectual property rights would be addressed immediately in cooperation with and with assistance from the affected right holders. He confirmed that the Government of Timor-Leste would seek all available technical assistance to ensure that its capacity to fully enforce its TRIPS-consistent legal regime, upon the expiration of the transition period, was assured, and that Timor-Leste would make available TRIPS legislation in draft and promulgated form to the WTO TRIPS Council for circulation to interested Members. The Working Party took note of these commitments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure IP Code consistency with WTO Agreement on TRIPS, - Make available TRIPS legislation in draft and promulgated form to the WTO TRIPS Council. - Finalize IP Code draft. - Submit IP Code to the Council of Ministry. - submit and present and approve the IP Code to the National Parliament. - Promulgation by the President - Ensure effective implementation. - Institutionalise IP Office Timor-Leste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IP Office Timor-Leste, - Ministry of Trade and Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Customs Authority, - Ministry of Justice – Courts, - Immigration Department, - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Higher Education and Culture 	1 January 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in finalising IP Code, - Support in establishing and operationalising IP Office Timor- Leste. - Train relevant officials for IP code implementation and management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Intellectual Property code is in place with the support from WIPO. -The draft code includes provision on trademark, trade secrets, Industrial designs, geographical indications, patents, semiconductor product topographies - Establishment of IP Office Timor-Leste is underway. - Copyrights law is promulgated
27.	Para 303. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that Timor-Leste would fully apply the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights no later than 1 January 2027, in accordance with the Action Plan in Annex 19 , with the understanding that during this period, protection for intellectual property rights listed in paragraph 300 would be applied in Timor-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure IP Code consistency with WTO agreement on TRIPS, - Make available TRIPS legislation in draft and promulgated form to the WTO TRIPS Council. - Finalize IP Code draft. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IP Office Timor-Leste, - Ministry of Trade and Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Customs Authority, - Ministry of Justice – Courts, 	1 January 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in finalising IP Code, - Support in establishing and operationalising IP Office Timor-Leste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Intellectual Property code is in place with the support from WIPO.

⁶ Timor-Leste's approved Agriculture Support Tables (WT/ACC/SPEC/TLS/1/Rev.2) are incorporated by reference in Part IV of its Schedule of Concessions and Commitments on Goods (document WT/ACC/TLS/34/Add.1 - WT/MIN(24)/4/Add.1).

	Leste. The Working Party took note of this commitment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit IP Code to the Council of Ministers. - submit and present and approve the IP Code to the National Parliament. - Promulgation by the President - Ensure effective implementation. - Institutionalise IP Office Timor-Leste 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Immigration Department, - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Higher Education and Culture 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Train relevant officials for IP code implementation and management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The draft code includes provision on trademark, trade secrets, Industrial designs, geographical indications, patents, semiconductor product topographies - Establishment of IP Office Timor-Leste is underway. - Copyrights law is promulgated
POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN SERVICES							
28.	Para 322. In response to a request from a Member, the representative of Timor-Leste informed that, on 13 June 2022, his Government had joined the WTO Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, as the first acceding government and an LDC. Timor-Leste would become a participant of the Declaration on the Conclusion of Negotiations on Services Domestic Regulation upon accession. The Working Party took note of this commitment. ⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>*Joined the WTO Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation (apply to measures relating to licensing requirements and procedures, qualification requirements and procedures, and technical standards affecting trade in services),</i> - Apply the disciplines to Horizontal sectors of the GATS Schedule in the additional commitment, - Identify and inscribe services sectors to which the discipline will apply in the “additional commitments”. - Submit Services schedules of commitments for certification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry trade, industry and Tourism - Ministry of Transport and Communication - Ministry of Finance. - Ministry of education - Ministry of Health - ANPM - IQTL 	Participant upon accession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on detail understanding about JSI – SDR to the relevant officials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LDCs may only apply after graduation with appropriate transitional periods. <i>Note: Developing countries can have up to 7 years to implement.</i>

⁷ The commitment is incorporated in the Horizontal Section of Timor-Leste's Schedule of Specific Commitments on Services (document WT/ACC/TLS/34/Add.2 - WT/MIN(24)/4/Add.2).

TRANSPARENCY							
Publication of information on trade							
29.	<p>Para 327. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that, upon accession, Timor-Leste would fully and promptly implement Article X of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, Article III of the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services, Article 63 of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, and other transparency provisions in the WTO Agreements requiring notification and/or publication. He further confirmed that no law, regulation, judicial decision, administrative ruling, or other measure of general application pertaining to or affecting trade in goods, services and TRIPS would become effective prior to its publication in "Jornal da República", along with the official websites of the relevant ministries. The publication of such laws, regulations and other measures would include the effective date of these measures and list the products and/or services affected by the particular measure. The Working Party took note of these commitments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure regular notification and publication of the legislation. - Ensure that no law shall become effective prior to the publication in the Jornal da Republica (Jornal da República (mj.gov.tl)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – MPTL in Geneva - Ministry of Justice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCM - Grafica nacional - IP Office Timor-Leste 	Upon accession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing session on the notification procedures and mechanism by the WTO 	-
Notifications							
30.	<p>Para 331. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that, at the latest, within six months of the entry into force of the Protocol of Accession, Timor-Leste would submit all initial notifications required by the WTO Agreement. Any laws, regulations, or other measures subsequently enacted by Timor-Leste, and which were required to be notified pursuant to the WTO Agreement, would also be notified in a time and manner consistent with WTO requirements. The Working Party took note of these commitments.⁸</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit all initial notifications required by the WTO Agreement. - Submit any laws and regulations or other measures of post-accession in timely manner which were required by the WTO agreement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Ministry of Trade and Industry. - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – MPTL in Geneva 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs. - National Trade Facilitation Committee, - PCM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Within six months of the entry into force of the Protocol of Accession - Regular notifications after that 	-	-
TRADE AGREEMENTS							
31.	<p>Para 336. The representative of Timor-Leste confirmed that his Government would observe the relevant provisions of the WTO Agreement, including Article XXIV of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, the 1979 GATT Decision on Differential and More Favourable Treatment, Reciprocity and Fuller Participation of Developing Countries (Enabling Clause) and Article V of the WTO General Agreement on Trade and Services, in its trade agreements and would ensure that the applicable provisions of the WTO Agreement for notification, consultation, and other requirements concerning free trade areas, customs unions and other preferential trade arrangements, of which Timor-Leste was, or may become, a member, were met from the date of accession. The Working Party</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notify any FTA (RTAs) to the secretariat which Timor-Leste would join. - Observe relevant provisions of the WTO agreement in integrating into any RTAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO of Timor-Leste. - Ministry of Trade and Industry - Ministry of Foreign Affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - TradeInvest 	Upon accession	-	-

⁸ Notification commitments are listed in Part II.

	took note of these commitments.						
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ANNEX 12⁹ (Commitment No. 6, Paragraph 110)¹⁰

Categories of Commitments under the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

No	WTO Obligations on TFA Agreement	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
CATEGORY A							
1.	Article 2 Opportunity to Comment, Information before Entry into Force and Consultations: - Article 2.1 Opportunity to Comment and Information Before Entry into Force	- Ensure to provide opportunities and an appropriate time period to traders and other interested parties to comment on the proposed introduction or amendment of laws and regulations of general application related to the movement, release, and clearance of goods including goods in transit	- Ministry of trade and industry, - Customs Authority - PCM	- All other line ministries, - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO - National Trade Facilitation Committee,	Upon accession	Briefing session on notification mechanism	-
2.	Article 3 Advance Rulings	Ensure to have: (a) the requirements for the application for an advance ruling, including the information to be provided and the format; (b) the time period by which it will issue an advance ruling; and (c) the length of time for which the advance ruling is valid. (d) ensure to have an operable system and procedure of advance ruling as foreseen by its law and regulations	- Customs Authority (<i>TLS Customs code No 14/2017, article 66</i>)	- National Trade Facilitation Committee, - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO, - Ministry of trade and industry, - Courts / tribunals	Upon accession	- Training on practical implementation on advance ruling mechanism and procedure including necessary format and other required documents. - support in establishing and effective operationalization of advance ruling system	-
3.	Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality,	- Ensure to have adequate laboratory and testing facilities and equipment.	- Customs Authority	- National Trade Facilitation Committee - AIFAESA	Upon accession	- Support in identifying and establishing adequate and standardised laboratories (e.g. food, animal, pharmaceuticals, equipment, etc).	

⁹ Here and below: annex numbers refer to the Report of the Working Party, as contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/34 – WT/MIN(24)/4.

¹⁰ The Action Plan has been streamlined to accommodate the specific action points. For the agreed plan, please refer to Annex 12 of the Report of the Working Party, as contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/34 – WT/MIN(24)/4.

	non- Discrimination and Transparency: Article 5.3 - Test Procedures	- Ensure to publish in non-discriminatory manner the details of the laboratory where test can be carried out	- Quarantine Department	- IQTL - Ministry of Public Works - ANPM		- Support in capacity building of the relevant officials in conducting scientific testing of the arrival goods.	
4.	Article 6 Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation and Penalties. - Article 6.1 - General Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation. - Article 6.2 - Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and exportation	- Ensure to publish fees and charges including information on the amount, the reason for such fees and charges, the responsible authority and when and how payment is to be made.	- Customs Authority	- National Trade Facilitation Committee, - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO, - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of finance	Upon accession	-	-
5.	Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transits. - Article 10.2 - Acceptance of copies - Article 10.3 – Use of international standards. - Article 10.5 - Pre-shipment Inspection, - Article 10.6 – Use of customs Brokers -Article 10.7 - Common Border Procedures and Uniform Documentation Requirements, - Article 10.8 – Rejected Goods	- Identify relevant international standards to be part of or may adopt as a basis for import, export or transit formalities and procedure. - Ensure not to require the use of pre-shipment inspections in relation to tariff classification and customs valuation. - Ensure to notify the Committee and publish measures on the use of customs brokers. - Ensure to apply common customs procedures and uniform documentation requirements throughout territory	- Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, - Ministry of trade and industry, - National Trade Facilitation Committee, - Quarantine Department - Veterinary Department, - IQTL	Upon accession	- Request WTO Committee to identify specific international standards / best practices that are value for Timor-Leste	-
6.	Article 12 Customs Cooperation	- Establish a contact point for exchange of customs information	- Customs Authority	- Ministry Finance, - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, - Ministry of Trade and Industry, - Minister Coordinating for Economic Affairs	Upon accession		

CATEGORY B							
1.	Article 1 Publication and Availability of Information. Article 1.1. – Publication	- Ensure to regularly publish the relevant regulations on import, export and transit.	- National Trade Facilitation Committee, - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO	- Ministry of finance - Ministry of trade and industry - TradeInvest, - Department of Quarantine, - Department of Veterinary, - SERVE	2023 - 2025	-	-
2.	Article 1.2. – Information available through internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate the interoperability of trade information portal and customs portal (Timor-Leste Customs Authority) Ensure regular publications of laws and regulation in the Jornal da Republica 	- Customs Authority, - Ministry of trade and industry. Ministry of Justice	- National Trade Facilitation Committee - TradeInvest	2023 - 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train of IT Staff to develop the interoperability of the system and to maintain websites. Support in maintaining Trade Information Portal system (TIP) and customs portals Infrastructure. Provide appropriate equipment and software programs for border agencies and trade officials Undertake stakeholder consultations on the potential TIP 	
3.	Article 1.3 – Enquiry Points	- The need to establish one or more enquiry points to answer reasonable enquiries of governments, traders, etc.	- National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO, - Customs Authority	- National Trade Facilitation Committee, - Ministry of finance - Ministry of trade and industry - TradeInvest, - Department of Quarantine, - Department of Veterinary, - SERVE - IQTL	2022 - 2024	-	- TBT enquiry point established, - SPS Enquiry point established
4.	Article 1.4 – Notifications	- Ensure regular notifications to the WTO committee on trade facilitation	- National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO, - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – MPTL	- Ministry of Justice - National Trade Facilitation Committee, - Ministry of finance - Ministry of trade and industry - TradeInvest, - Ministry of Agriculture - ANPM - SERVE - IQTL	2022 - 2024	- Briefing session on the notifications procedures and templates to be followed	-
5.	Article 2 Opportunity to Comment, Information before Entry into Force and Consultations	- Ensure to have regular consultations between border agencies and traders or other stakeholders	- National Trade Facilitation Committee,	- Ministry of trade and industry - TradeInvest,	2022 - 2024	-	-

	Article 2.2 - Consultations		- Customs Authority	- Ministry of Agriculture - Immigration - Customs Broker - Ports Authority			
6.	Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review	- Ensure that the appeal or review are carried out in a non-discriminatory manner.	- Customs Authority, - Courts/ tribunals	- Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of Justice - National Trade Facilitation Committee	2023 – 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide financial (and technical support where relevant) assistance required for the initial set-up and operation of the Customs Appeal Authority for the first five years. • Carry out capacity building and training for Customs officials on the implementation and application of this provision 	
7.	Article 5 Other Measures to Enhance Impartiality, non- Discrimination and Transparency Article 5.1 – Notifications for enhanced controls or inspections.	- May issue a notification or guidance for enhancing the level of controls or inspections at the border in respect of foods, beverages, or feedstuffs as appropriate and terminate or suspend accordingly once circumstances giving rise to it no longer exist as well as publish promptly such termination or suspension.	- Quarantine Department, - Veterinary Department	- Customs Authority - Immigration Office	2022 - 2024	-	-
8.	Article 5.2 - Detention	- To promptly inform the importer in case of detention of goods declared	- Quarantine Department, - Veterinary Department - Customs Authority	- Immigration Office	2022 - 2024	-	
9.	Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods Article 7.1 Pre-arrival processing	- Ensure the customs officials are well-understood in processing pre-arrival goods	- Customs Authority	- Customs Broker - Ports Authority - Immigration Department - Quarantine Department,	2022 - 2025	-	
10.	Article 7.2 – Electronic payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate infrastructure (both hard and soft) are in place. 	- Customs Authority - Ministry of Finance	- Central Bank - Commercial banks - Ministry of Trade and Industry - Quarantine Department - TIC Timor- Leste	2022 – 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support in developing appropriate legislations including E- Commerce, Data Protection, Evidence Act, Cybercrime, etc. • Support in determining the feasibility and resources required to set-up and operate an electronic payment system. • Support in undertaking capacity building and training for officials of Customs, Quarantine Biosecurity and Border agencies on electronic payment. • Develop, set-up and install appropriate technology and equipment to put in place an electronic payment system. 	
11.	Article 7.3 - Separation of Release from Final	- May also require a guarantee in the form of a surety, a deposit, or another	- Customs Authority	- Customs Broker - Ports Authority	2022 - 2025	-	-

	Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges	appropriate instrument provided for in the laws and regulations and shall be discharged when it is no longer required. - Has the right to examine, detain, seize or confiscate or deal with the goods in any manner not otherwise inconsistent with the Member's WTO rights and obligations.		- Immigration Department			
12.	Article 7.4 – Risk management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure relevant officials (customs and Quarantine) are well-equipped in performing risk management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs Authority Ministry of Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Trade Facilitation Committee, National Permanent Secretariat of WTO Quarantine Department Veterinary Department Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 - 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a training plan for officials of Customs, Quarantine Biosecurity and Border agencies on risk management, targeting the application of risk management. Undertake capacity building and training for Customs and Quarantine Biosecurity officials on risk management using transaction data from ASYCUDA system. Undertake Training and Development for border agencies staff on risk identification and profiling. Provide appropriate technology and equipment to support the implementation of a proper risk management system. 	-
13.	Article 7.5 – Post – Clearance Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure customs officials are well-equipped in performing post-clearance audit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Trade Facilitation Committee, National Permanent Secretariat of WTO Quarantine Department Veterinary Department Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 - 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a training plan/module to train Customs officials and agents on the concept of 'informed compliance' and train the target groups. Train Customs staff to conduct PCA as a compliance assessment tool. 	-
14.	Article 7.6 - Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct regular time release study and publish its result accordingly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs Broker Ports Authority National Trade Facilitation Committee, Private sectors 	2022 - 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in conducting regular time release study - Build capacity of the relevant officials (e.g. customs) to be able to conduct time release study themselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Latest time release study conducted was 2022 by the World Bank

15.	Article 7.7 – Trade facilitation measures for authorized operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop relevant legislation and policies to allow the setup of an Authorised Operators (AO) program, Develop proper procedures and criteria for the assessment of authorised operators that meet specified criteria in the AO program. 	- Customs Authority	- National Trade Facilitation Committee, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO - SERVE - TradeInvest - Ministry of trade and industry	2022 – 2025	- Support in undertaking capacity building and training for Customs and Quarantine officials on the implementation of the AO program	-
16.	Article 7.8 – Expedited Shipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop necessary Standard Operating Procedure for expediting shipment in accordance with the applicable laws 	- Customs Authority	- National Trade Facilitation Committee, - National Permanent Secretariat of WTO - Ports Authority - TradeInvest - Ministry of trade and industry - Tibar Port	2023 - 2025	-	-
17.	Article 7.9 – Perishable goods <i>(Note: For the purposes of this provision, perishable goods are goods that rapidly decay due to their natural characteristics, in particular in the absence of appropriate storage conditions)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall ensure, in consistent with domestic legislation, upon the request of the importer, provide for any procedures necessary for release perishable goods from approved storage facilities. Shall give appropriate priority to perishable goods when scheduling any examinations 	- Customs Authority - Quarantine Department	- Ports Authority - National Trade Facilitation Committee, - Private sectors	2022 - 2025	-	-
18.	Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation	- Establish border agency cooperation with the neighbouring countries such as Indonesia	- Customs Authority	- - Ministry of trade and industry - Quarantine department - Ministry of Finance - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	2022 - 2024	-	
19.	Article 9 Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control	- Allow goods intended for import to be moved within its territory under customs control from a customs office of entry to another customs office in its territory, provided all regulatory requirements are met.	- Customs Authority	- Police - Ministry of trade and industry - Quarantine department	2022 - 2024	-	-
20.	Article 10 Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure customs officials are well-equipped with formalities and documentation requirements. Develop appropriate information technology infrastrucure to perform 	- Customs Authority	- Importers - Exporters - Customs brokers - Port Authority - Tibar Port	2022 - 2024	- Support in establishing appropriate information technology infrastructure	

	Article 10.1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements	formalities and documentation requirements				
21.	Article 10.4 – Single Window				2022 - 2024	
22.	Article 10.9 – Temporary admission of goods and inward and outward processing.	- Shall allow inward and outward processing of goods. For outward goods may be re-imported with total or partial exemption from import duties and taxes as existing laws and regulations	- Customs Authority (<i>foreseen in the customs code no 14/2017, article 186</i>)	- Quarantine department, - Customs Broker - Ports Authority - Private sectors - TradeInvest - Ministry of Public Works	2022 - 2024	-
23.	Article 11 Freedom of transit	- Encourage to make available, where practicable, physically separate infrastructure (such as lanes, berths and similar) for traffic in transit. - Traffic in transit shall not be conditioned upon collection of any fees or charges except the charges for transportation or those commensurate with administrative expenses. - Shall not apply technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures within the meaning of the Agreement on TBT to goods in transit. - Allow to provide for advance filing and processing of transit documentation and data prior to the arrival of goods. - Shall endeavour to appoint a national transit coordinator to which all enquiries and proposals by other Members relating to the good functioning of transit operations can be addressed.	- Customs Authority	- Customs Broker - Ports Authority	2023 - 2024	- Support in establishing a system for advance filing for goods in transit
CATEGORY C						
1.	Article 6 Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation and Penalties. Article 6.3 – Penalty Disciplines	- Ensure that when a penalty is imposed for a breach of customs laws, regulations, or procedural requirements, an explanation in writing is provided to the person(s) upon whom the penalty is imposed specifying the nature of the breach and the applicable law.	- Customs Authority	- Courts/ tribunals - Immigration department - National Trade Facilitation Committee	2023 - 2026	Human resources/Training: • Capacity building and training for Customs officials on the implementation and application of this provision

ANNEX 16 (Commitment No. 20, Paragraph 190)

Action Plan on the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

No	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
1.	<p>Development of national standards bodies, including a TBT Enquiry Point, and the upgrading of national legal and regulatory frameworks.</p> <p>a. Establishment of a national standard body (IQTL, IP);</p> <p>b. Establishment of a TBT Enquiry Point;</p> <p>c. Development of national policies, strategies, legal and regulatory frameworks on TBT-related measures.</p>	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry</p> <p>- IQTL</p>	<p>- National Permanent Secretariat of WTO</p> <p>- AIFAESA</p> <p>- Customs Authority</p> <p>- Quarantine Department</p> <p>- Veterinary Department</p>	2023 - 2025	<p>1. Technical assistance to be obtained from UNIDO and other development partners;</p> <p>2. Training of key officials from the relevant Ministries/Agencies, including: departments under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry (MTCI), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Secretary of State for Environment, AIFAESA, IQTL, Customs Authority, and the private sector;</p> <p>3. Assistance to NSBs for participation in international standardization work and to consumers to take part in standardization activities, including TL's participation at the IEC, ISO, OIE, Codex Alimentarius, IPPC, APPC, OIML;</p> <p>4. Possible inclusion of NZL recommendations on approaching specialist regional bodies associated with Standardization and Accreditation (APAC, APMP, APLMF, PASC).</p>	- IQTL is established along with TBT inquiry point within IQTL
2.	<p>Development of product testing capacities (micro-biological, chemical, textile, leather, electrical laboratories) towards international recognition of their services for proof of conformity with foreign buyer requirements.</p>	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry</p> <p>- IQTL</p>	<p>- Customs Authority</p> <p>- ANPM.</p> <p>- Ministry of Transport and Communication</p> <p>- ANAATL, EP.</p>	2025	<p>1. Training of key officials from the relevant Ministries/Agencies, including: departments under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry (MTCI), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Secretary of State for Environment, ANPM, Ministry of Transport and Communication, IQTL, Customs Authority, and the private sector;</p> <p>2. Support in establishing necessary testing facilities and laboratory.</p> <p>3. Placement of relevant staffs in other members testing facilities with the support of development partners.</p>	-
3.	<p>Development of metrology (calibration), standardization, and accreditation capacities towards international recognition of their services for the calibration of national product testing equipment.</p>	- IQTL	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry,</p> <p>- Customs Authority</p> <p>- ANPM.</p> <p>- Ministry of Transport and Communication</p> <p>- ANAATL, EP.</p>	2025	- Train key officials from relevant ministries including from IQTL, ANPM, Ministry of Transport and Communication, AIFAESA, Ministry of Trade and Industry, etc.	-
4.	<p>Regional harmonization of standards and conformity assessment systems:</p> <p>1. Development of draft laws on metrology, standards and conformity assessment systems and procedures;</p> <p>2. Technical review on the draft laws;</p>	<p>- Ministry of trade and industry,</p> <p>- IQTL</p>	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry,</p> <p>- Customs Authority</p> <p>- ANPM.</p>	2023	<p>- Support in developing relevant legislations and regulations on metrology, standardization, and conformity assessment system and procedures.</p> <p>- Support in public awareness raising</p>	-

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Public consultations; 4. Approval by the Council of Ministers; 5. Approval by the National Parliament 6. Promulgation by the President of the Republic; 7. Public awareness consultations; and 8. Effective implementation. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Transport and Communication - ANAATL, EP. 			
5.	<p>Establishment and upgrading of inspection and certification schemes and services for the assessment of conformity against product and system standards (including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 22000) with increased emphasis on public-private partnerships:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of specific internal SOP on guidelines for inspection and certification schemes; 2. Development of a standardized laboratory for inspection; 3. Public awareness consultations, with an emphasis on the private sector; and 4. Effective implementation 	IQTL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Trade and Industry, - Customs Authority - ANPM - Ministry of Transport and Communication - ANAATL, EP. - Ministry of trade and industry, - Ministry of Health - Secretary State of Environment 	2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in the development of system and procedure in consistent with ISO standard. - Support in the development of SOP including institutional arrangement for inspection and certification. - Train key officials from relevant ministries including from IQTL, ANPM, Ministry of Transport and Communication, AIFAESA, Ministry of Trade and Industry, etc. 	-
6.	<p>Development of national and/or regional accreditation schemes for the accreditation of national laboratories, inspection bodies, certification bodies, etc.:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of a Law on National Quality System; 2. Development of accreditation criteria; 3. Development of quality assurance and quality control standard and regulation on goods; 4. Public awareness consultation on National Quality system Law 5. Establishment of a single Accreditation body 6. Effective Implementation. 	IQTL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Trade and Industry, - Customs Authority - ANPM - Ministry of Transport and Communication - ANAATL, EP. - Ministry of trade and industry, - Ministry of Health - Secretary State of Environment - Ministry of Education - INDMO 	2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in the development of legislation on the National Quality System and accreditation criteria. - Support in-house expertise to train and guide relevant officials (e.g. IQTL) to implement quality system (standard and regulation). - Train key officials from relevant ministries including from IQTL, ANPM, Ministry of Transport and Communication, AIFAESA, Ministry of Trade and Industry, etc. 	-
7.	<p>Outreach to specialist regional bodies associated with Standardisation and Accreditation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC); 2. Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (APAC); 3. International Accreditation Forum (IAF); 4. Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP); 5. Asia Pacific Legal Metrology Forum (APLMF); 6. Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC). 	IQTL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Trade and Industry, - ANPM - Ministry of Transport and Communication - ANAATL, EP. - Ministry of trade and industry, - Ministry of Health - Secretary State of Environment - Ministry of Education - INDMO 	2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in regional training and workshop as well as placement of the relevant officials including from IQTL, ANPM, Ministry of Transport and Communication, AIFAESA, Ministry of Trade and Industry, biosecurity department, etc. - Support in establishing/accrediting to the regional standardization bodies. 	-

ANNEX 18 (Commitment No. 21, Paragraph 231)¹¹

Action Plan for the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

No	Activities	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
1	Establish food control system and regulatory framework	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a functional Food Control System to be responsible for and coordinate food control activities in the country, with capacity to undertake the following to international best practice: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Risk assessment – sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS); Quarantine and biosecurity inspection and certification; Sample collection and analysis by an accredited, newly established modern national food laboratory; Develop SPS control measures; Develop SPS policy and legislation; Establish relevant and appropriate enforcement, monitoring and evaluation activities; Develop Food, plant and animal safety measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 - 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in developing food control system and regulatory framework. - Support in developing SOP for food control mechanism, - Support in developing scientific and technical expertise and training capabilities as a critical priority. 	
1.1	Establish or institutionalised a centralised Food Control Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to decide which option to adopt depending on political appetite: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a new single Food Control Agency Model within one ministry; OR Establish an Integrated Multi Agency Food Control Model using existing ministries – MoH, MAF, MTCI, AIFAESA. • Clarify each ministry's responsibility under the Multi-Agency Model (e.g. MoH, MAF, MTCI, AIFAESA) and remove food control responsibilities and activities from other current ministries (MoF, MoE, etc) to avoid confusion and foster collaboration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 – 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in operationalizing Food control Agency. - Train key officials from relevant ministries including from IQTL, Ministry of Ministry of Health, AIFAESA, Ministry of Agriculture – Quarantine department, Ministry of Trade and Industry. 	
2	Establish a National Mechanism for management of all facets of food control and dissemination of information.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Need to establish a National Food Control Management Board or Committee under an appointed experienced Chair, assisted by a small Secretariat to coordinate and oversee the implementation of all food control activities across the Government. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The National Management Board or Committee should be the national mechanism to publicise and notify all relevant organisations, trade partners and foreign governments of all relevant information on adopted or proposed SPS measures, quarantine and inspection procedures, pesticide tolerances and food safety standards.</i> <i>This mechanism should include a National Enquiry Point for WTO SPS Measures, Codex Office, ASEAN, OIE, and IPPC management.</i> The committee or Board also need to conduct regular meetings and prepare report of the meetings as well as on the achievement of established programme targets. Promote collaboration and cooperation between critical Directorates e.g. Quarantine/Biosecurity and Veterinary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in establishing National Food Control Management Board or Committee. - Support in developing SOP for the committee 	

¹¹ The Action Plan has been streamlined to accommodate the specific action points. For the agreed plan, please refer to Annex 18 of the Report of the Working Party, as contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/34 – WT/MIN(24)/4.

		3. Appoint Directors with technical background and expertise with mandate of collaboration and share resources, training activities, and upskilling.					
3	Establish National Technical Committees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No to establish National Technical Committees responsible to the National Food Control Management Board to coordinate and oversee the development and implementation of activities for SPS measures, including the development of relevant legislation e.g.: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Food Safety Committee (animal health and disease, human health) Plant Pest and Disease Committee Enforcement, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 - 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in developing the relevant regulations for Food Safety Committee, Plant Pest and Disease Committee, and M&E Committee. 	-
4	Establish a National Food Safety Laboratory	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Need to combine existing food safety (MoH), quarantine and biosecurity (MAF), and plant safety (MAF) laboratories in a new facility as start of new National Food Laboratory; Ensure existing laboratory capacity is maintained whilst building new capacity for analysis of plant, animal and human health; Conduct training workshops for laboratory staff using external providers – foreign governments (e.g., EU, US, Australia), NGOs, World Bank, WHO/FAO, ASEAN, APEC, BPOM -Indonesia; Records and reports of training on laboratory quality assurance and on analytical methods; Collaborate with Higher education to recruit high perform students with sciences chemistry, microbiology, and biology background; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 -2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in training relevant staff to upskill their ability in food safety and testing, - Support in mobilizing funds and other resources including food laboratory equipment and tools. 	- National plan for financial feasibility
4.1	Establish new National Food Reference Laboratory in new dedicated facility;	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire sufficient infrastructure, equipment and trained staff to allow new laboratory to facilitate all country requirements for human food, plant and animal health and safety, and work towards international best practices and accreditation – internal (Government) and external funding (Foreign governments, NGOs, World Bank); Provide specialized, hands-on training on microbiological and chemical parameters according to the specific needs of the laboratory; Achieve ISO 17025 accreditation for microbiology and chemical parameters; Provide laboratory services to the private sectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 - 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in providing specialised training on microbiological and chemical analysis - Support in pursuing ISO 17025 accreditation for selected chemical and microbiological parameters. - support in participating in inter-laboratory comparisons; 	
5	Establish dedicated Quarantine and Inspection and Veterinary Services facilities;	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure to adequately staffed and appropriate dedicated space and facilities allocated and operational for Quarantine and Inspection and Veterinary Services. Provide services to private sector. Co-locate Quarantine and Inspection Directorate with Veterinary Services Directorate; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 – 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in providing specialised to the quarantine and veterinary staffs, - provide ongoing in managing and operating the facilities 	
6	Establish Staff training centres	- Establish new facilities of staff training center or adequately provide assistance and support for existing staff training facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL 	2023 – 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in providing continuous capacity building to the relevant 	

		using a combination of the Government and external providers funding and resources;	- Ministry of Health	- Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry		staffs on specialised matter related to food laboratory testing.	
7	Develop new or strengthen existing appropriate, enforceable legislation to support SPS measures, including a Food Control law and Food Standards Code – covering food safety, plant pests and disease, and animal health, quarantine, inspection and certification, enforcement, monitoring and evaluation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review current legal framework and formulate an overarching food control framework under direction of the National Food Control Board and Technical Committees to discuss, adopt and make recommendations to approve, plant, animal health and food safety standards; Develop an overarching general Food Control Law; Develop a Food Standards Code (similar to ANZFS) containing all regulations on priority areas for the Government: food additives, contaminants and natural toxicants, Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for agricultural and veterinary chemicals (agro-food inputs such as pesticides), food labelling, special standards (e.g. infant formula, GM foods, etc.); Use established Technical Committees (see above) to discuss, develop and obtain Government's approval of plant, animal health and food safety standards. Develop (or preferably adopt existing internationally available) manuals on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good Hygiene Practices; - Good Agriculture Practices; - Good Animal Husbandry Practices; - Good Aquaculture Practices; - Good Manufacturing Practices; - HACCP. Provide training workshops to manual users. 	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry	2023 – 2025	- Support in developing food control law and food standard code - Support in public awareness raising on the established legislation. - Train relevant staff in specialised areas of food related testing as well as on operationalising the internationally available manuals - Support in developing user manual for food control and food testing.	
8	Develop scientific and technical capacity for risk analysis (risk assessment, risk management, risk communication) and standards development.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a mechanism to provide scientific and technical training for staff of the Government of Timor-Leste to cover all aspects of SPS measures work: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a new authority or appoint an existing ministry or authority responsible for ensuring that appropriate Government personnel are properly trained in all aspects of food control along the whole agri-food chain (risk assessment, quarantine, inspection and certification, monitoring and surveillance, laboratory analysis, etc.). Establish staff training centers (<i>see above under Establish new or strengthen existing infrastructure</i>); Identify and utilise appropriate external training providers e.g. foreign governments and NGOs (UNDP, WBIFC, FAO, WHO). 	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry	2023 - 2025	- Train relevant staff in specialised areas of risk analysis (risk assessment, risk management, risk communication) including on monitoring and surveillance.	
8.1	Participate/accede to international bodies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Accede to Codex Alimentarius Commission. Ensure attendance and establish National Codex Contact Point reporting to National Board (<i>Note: Codex, WTO, SPS EP, OIE, IPPC and ASEAN contact points co-located</i>); Accede to IPPC and active participation; Accede to ASEAN; 	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry	2023 – 2025	- Provide continuous support to the responsible ministries such as compliance requirements in order to become a member and participate fully in the discussions within those bodies	- Accession process to the Codex, and ASEAN had already begun.

		5. Promote the participation of Timor-Leste in international committees (CAC, IPPC, OIE, and INFOSAN).		- National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO			- Already an observer for IPPC
8.2	Development of a Co-located National SPS, Enquiry Point, Codex, ASEAN, OIE and IPPC Contact Points	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operationalization and co-located of all enquiry points for SPS, Codex, OIE, IPPC enquiry point to meet the obligations under the WTO SPS Agreement with a single Secretariat and responsible to the National Management Board; 2. Train personnel on Codex Risk Analysis principles, OIE and IPPC procedures and the SPS/TBT agreements; 3. Develop SoPs for handling national and international enquiries on technical regulations, standards and certification schemes; 4. Disseminate information (e.g. Factsheets, brochures, and guides) to value chain participants on WTO SPS notifications, Codex standards, OIE and IPPC matters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO 	2023 – 2024	- Support in training relevant officials on SPS/TBT (e.g. WTO agreement on SPS and TBT, notification requirement, etc), OIE, IPPC, Codex procedures and standards;	
9	Establish a Mechanisms to prevent risks across the entire food chain – SPS issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct SPS data collection and undertake risk assessments to prevent risks across the entire food chain: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Utilise data already collected on Phytosanitary issues, and collaborate with proposed initiatives and action plans already planned by various foreign governments and NGOs e.g. Australian DAFF and WB IFC 2. Collect relevant data on SPS risks across the entire food chain, e.g.: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Plant pests and diseases b. Animal health c. Food Safety 3. Using collected and verified data, conduct risk assessments to protect plant, animal and human health; 4. Identify the pests or diseases that <u>may enter</u> into the country, In the case of plant pests and diseases, their mode of establishment or spread, and the potential biological and economic consequences. Evaluate the likelihood of entry, and of establishment or spread of such pests or diseases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 – 2025	- Support in developing data collection tools and system, - Train the relevant staffs on how to collect, analyse and verify the appropriate data.	
9.1	Establish a Mechanisms to prevent risks for - Phytosanitary Risks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For imports, to access and collaborate with any existing plans for plant safety being considered by the Government. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To undertake the more than 500 IRAs that are needed to assess the risk posed by imports into Timor-Leste, and this work will require: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparing lists of pests and diseases in exporting countries with those present in Timor-Leste; • Determining which pests are associated with the imported product; • Determining which pests pose an unacceptable risk; • Managing the risks by imposing conditions, treatments, certification, and inspection of imported products to ensure compliance, refusing trade and post-entry quarantine risk mitigation measures; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 – 2025	- Support in undertaking IRAs to assess the risks	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening inspection processes and creating a central database for the categorization of businesses and foods based on risk. Strengthening inspection processes and creating a central database for the categorization of businesses and foods based on risk. 					
9.2	Establish a Mechanisms to prevent risks for - Phytosanitary Risks	<p>2. For exports, to undertake work to facilitate exports of plant products by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating in the IRA of importing countries by providing lists of pests present in Timor-Leste, Negotiating import conditions with importing countries, Ensuring that the conditions for export to the importing countries are met and developing appropriate certification for the 11 plant product exports (Arabica and Robusta coffee, Candle Nut, Coconut, Tamarind, Mung Bean, Peanut, Corn, Cloves, Vanilla and Sandal Wood) to the 23 countries where Timor-Leste exports these commodities. Increasing technical capacity needed to assess the risks associated with export trade including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Producing a list of pests and diseases present in Timor-Leste and deciding which risks need to be managed, Developing appropriate measures to manage these risks, Confirming that risk management measures are effectively preventing the entry of viable organisms (e.g. inspect imports and identify organisms intercepted), and Participating in the negotiation of the conditions imposed on exported products by importing trade partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIFAESA IQTL Quarantine department Ministry of trade and industry 	2023 – 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support in developing certification requirement for the 11 exportable products. 	
9.3	Establish a Mechanisms to prevent risks for - Sanitary Risks	<p>1. For the sanitary measures to work, the action plan should be to access and collaborate with any existing plans for food safety being considered by the Government, for example between AIFAESA and MoH, and the SoW prepared by USAID/TAMU/Avansa, together with a comparison with food safety systems already established internationally in other countries (Indonesia, China, Australia), FAO/WHO and Codex.</p> <p>2. The short-to-medium term priorities for food safety should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning the comprehensive collection of databases on food composition and food consumption using the data already collected on foods grown in the country, imported into and exported from Timor-Leste by Quarantine and Biosecurity and Veterinary Directorates and any other relevant information. Assessing the suitability for Timor-Leste of Indonesian (or Chinese, or both given these countries are the biggest trading partners) and Codex standards for Maximum Levels (MLs) for food additives, chemical contaminants, allergens and biotoxins, MRLs for pesticides and veterinary drugs, and guidance values for common food-borne pathogens. Undertaking a risk assessment of each food/chemical/biotoxin combination by using MLs and MRLs from trading partners (Indonesia, China, Australia or using Codex levels), ADIs and PTDIs or PTWIs from JECFA, together with estimates of exposure (for an average adult of 60-70kg and for a child of 20kg) so that the risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIFAESA IQTL Quarantine department Ministry of trade and industry; National University :Faculty of Biology, Chemistry and Medicines 	2023 – 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support in developing data collection system, tools, and database. Support in bilateral engagement and agreement (MoU) with other countries (e.g. China and Indonesia), specifically on SPS equivalence. Support in developing guidance documents and training manuals and materials for risk analysis capacity building; Train the Trainers on SPS modules; 	

		<p>can be characterized. <i>For example, there are 349 imported food products and hundreds of contaminants, food additives and pesticides that will each need a separate risk assessment calculation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing the adequacy of food labelling for food imported into and exported from Timor-Leste. Comparing and contrasting with labelling standards from Codex and exporting countries. Assessing capacity within Government and UNTL for food safety risk assessment, including chemistry, biology and risk assessment (toxicology, microbiology) and exposure assessment. Making recommendations to the Government based on capacity assessment. Developing "train the trainers" SPS modules to target food chain personnel in food safety, GHP, GAQP, GAHP, GMP and HACCP 					
9.4	Identify SPS measures commensurate with risk assessments	Based on the above risk assessments work, identifying SPS measures for each risk that will mitigate it according to scientific evidence, either obtained from scientific literature or developed in-country	- Ministry of Agriculture	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of Health	2023 – 2026		
9.5	Establish appropriate ALOPs:	- For each SPS measure, establishing an Appropriate Level of Sanitary or Phytosanitary Protection, or ALOP, based on the risk and available measures to mitigate it, ensuring that such ALOPs are justifiable by the risk assessment and are consistently applied so as to avoid arbitrary or unjustifiable distinctions in the level of protection, if such distinctions would result in a disguised restriction to international trade.	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry -	2023 – 2027	Support in establishing ALOPs for each SPS measure; - Support in developing integrated plant pest and diseases, animal disease and food safety management strategies;	
9.6	Develop Monitoring and Surveillance Systems	- Establishing monitoring and evaluation systems for the assessment of introduced food control measures across the entire food chain;	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry	2023 – 2027	- Support in developing system, procedure and mechanism for SPS monitoring and evaluation for the entire food chain;	
9.7	Enforce SPS Measures	- Enforcing SPS measures based on risk assessments in line with international best practices.	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry	2023 – 2027		
10	Develop food-borne illness surveillance and response systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening food-borne illness surveillance and emergency response activities; Developing procedures to evaluate and track food-borne illnesses outbreaks; Training Health Officers for data collection, information and reporting on food-borne illnesses Developing a national network for collecting, collating, reporting, and disseminating data to the public Estimating the burden of food-borne illnesses in Timor-Leste. 	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health	- AIFAESA - IQTL - Quarantine department - Ministry of trade and industry	2023 – 2025	- Support in developing food-borne illness surveillance and procedure to evaluate food-borne illnesses; - Support in training the Health Officer - Support in developing database system for food-borne illness surveillance system	- Food-borne disease surveillance documentation and surveys developed;
11	Ensure transparency: notification and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of authority responsible for making notifications to the WTO and ensuring transparency obligations are met on an ongoing basis 			2023-2024		

	access to documentation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Establish guidance or law requiring publication of proposed measures at an early stage for comment3. Provision in law or administrative procedure to provide copies of proposed measures to WTO Members; and,4. Require in law or administrative procedure, a reasonable period of time for comment from Members and the public, and establishment of a process to take comments into account without discrimination.					
FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF SPS AGREEMENT						1 JANUARY 2028	

ANNEX 19 (Commitments No. 26, 27 Paragraphs 302, 303)

Action Plan for the Implementation of the WTO TRIPS Agreement

No	Activities	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
1	Formulation and implementation of National IP Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> With the Assistance of WIPO, Timor-Leste will conduct its groundwork for the national IP strategy development process; and Conduct stakeholders' meetings and identify the necessary IP regime to ensure its compliance with the WTO TRIPS Agreement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Trade and Industry, <i>IP Office Timor-Leste</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Higher education National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO Customs Authority Immigration department Ministry of Justice Ministry of Health Ministry of Agriculture Courts Private sectors (CCI-TL) 	2022*	- Request WIPO and other DP to start conducting the groundwork for IP strategy formulation	Delayed and need to start soon
2	Establishment of a National IP Office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Designation of an IP Focal Point in Timor-Leste; and Provision of the necessary arrangements to build a National IP Office. Follow up with the Council of Ministers to approve the IP Office decree law, Promulgate the IP Office decree law by President, Appoint IP Office Executive director/President, Create and approve IP Office Organization structure by the Minister Recruit relevant IP Officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Trade and Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Higher education National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO Customs Authority Immigration department Ministry of Health Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Justice Courts Private sectors (CCI-TL) 	2023	- Support in developing Terms of References for Executive Directors and potential officers to be recruited.	- Regulation for the establishment of IP Office is submitted to the Minister for Council of Ministers.
3	Development of Industrial Property Code (Marks; Trade Name and Act of Unfair Competition; Patents; Utility models; Geographical Indications; Industrial designs; Layout Design of Integrated Circuits; Protection of Undisclosed Information; and Trade Secrets)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review the English draft and translate the code to Portuguese Review the Legal structure of the code to be aligned with Timor-Leste legal system Conduct stakeholders meetings; Develop the draft laws; Public consultations; Approval at the Council of Ministers; Approval at the National Parliament; The President of the Republic's promulgation; Public awareness consultations; and Effective implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Trade and Industry <i>IP Office Timor-Leste</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Presidency Council Ministers Ministry of Higher education National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO Customs Authority Immigration department Ministry of Health Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Justice Courts Private sectors (CCI-TL) National Parliament, Civil Societies 	2022 - 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous mobilization of resources beyond WIPO assistance to translate the IP code and review the legal structure. Mobilize resource to have in-house legal expertise in IP at the ministry of trade and industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft IP code is available in English version and require Portuguese translation. Current draft IP Code does not include provision on Utility Model as this is required under TRIPS
4	Capacity building	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Training of personnel, including customs officials, police officers, and other officials responsible for areas related to Intellectual Property; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Trade and Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Higher education Ministry of Agriculture National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO 	2023 – 2024	- Continuous mobilization of resources beyond WIPO assistance to training the relevant officials	- WIPO is providing funds for two consultants (1 international consultant and 1 local consultant).

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Dissemination and training on laws related to Intellectual Property; 3. Training of personnel, including customs officials, police officers, and other officials responsible for protecting registered trademark database; 4. Creation of a registered trademark database 5. Needs to train the relevant officials of the ministries to familiarise with general IP ecosystem including other conventions and agreement such as TRIPS agreement. 	- IP Office Timor-Leste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority - Immigration department - Ministry of Health - Ministry of Justice - Courts - Private sectors (CCI-TL) 			
5	Ratification of WIPO Agreements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of a taskforce team composed of the relevant Ministries/Agencies to facilitate the process; 2. Conduct stakeholders meetings; 3. Public consultations; 4. Approval at the Council of Ministers; 5. Ratification of WIPO Agreements; 6. Public awareness consultations; and 7. Effective implementation. 	- Ministry of Trade and Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO - Ministry of Foreign Affairs - National Parliament 	2024	-	-
6	Development of Law on Plant Variety Protection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of a taskforce team composed of the relevant Ministries/Agencies to facilitate the process; 2. Conduct stakeholders meetings; 3. Develop the draft laws; 4. Public consultations; 5. Approval at the Council of Ministers; 6. Approval at the National Parliament; 7. The President of the Republic's promulgation; 8. Public awareness consultations; and 9. Effective implementation. 	- Ministry of Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of trade and industry - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO - Secretary state of environment, - Ministry of Justice - Private sectors (CCI-TL) 	2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in developing Plant variety law. - Train relevant officials to effectively implement the Plant Variety Protection law. - Support officials in attending relevant workshop in regional 	-

FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRIPS AGREEMENT

1 JANUARY 2027

POST-ACCESSION RELATED LEGISLATIONS/REGULATIONS¹² (WT/ACC/TLS/6/REV.8)

No	Legislation/regulations	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
ECONOMIC POLICIES							

¹² The list has been streamlined to accommodate the specific action points. For the agreed list, please refer to Part 1(B) of the Legislative Action Plan, as contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/6/REV.8. The legislative action is to be implemented in conjunction with the commitment undertaken under paragraph 75 of the Report of the Working Party, as contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/34 – WT/MIN(24)/4.

1	Insolvency Code		Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of finance - Central Bank - National permanent Secretariat of the WTO, - Court - Chamber of Commerce 	2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in development and finalization of the code - Support in effective implementation of the code. - Support in public awareness raising 	Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries
2	Competition Law		Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of finance - Central Bank - National Parliament - National permanent Secretariat of the WTO - Ministry of transport and communication - TradeInvest 	2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support in development and finalization of the law - Support in effective implementation of the code. - Support in public awareness raising - Support in establishing a body/committee/unit to govern the competition 	Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries
FRAMEWORK FOR MAKING AND ENFORCING POLICIES							
3	Decree-Law on Legal Regime for Administrative Offences		Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry for Presidency of the Council Ministers - National parliament - Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs 	4Q 2024 - 2025		Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries
POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN GOODS							
4	Regulation of the Customs Code (Decree-Law No. 14/2017 of 5 April 2017), targeting: (1) Article 2 (Good Administrative Practices); (2) Article 15 (Publication); (3) Section III (Representative Professional Public Association of Official Dispatch); (4) Article 79 (Records and Payments), Article 43 (Representativeness); (5) Article 179 (Prohibited Import Goods); (6) Article 180 (Conditional Import Goods); (7) According to Chapter V (Customs Warehouse), Article 197 (Concept); (8) Section V (Circulation of goods subject to Selective Consumption Tax – ISC – and control of exit from port facilities), Article 226 (Documents accompanying goods subject to ISC); and (9) Chapter IV (Guarantee for Customs Debt), Article 323 (Requirement of Guarantee)		Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs - SERVE - TradeInvest - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health 	3 rd quarter of 2024 - 2025		Inter-Ministerial consultations in progress

5	Decree-Law on Import Licensing		- Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs; - Ministry of Finance	- Ministry of trade and industry - SERVE - TradeInvest - National permanent Secretariat of the WTO - AIFAESA - Ministry of Agriculture - ANPM	4Q 2023 - 2024	- Support in development and finalization of the law - Support in effective implementation of the code. - Brief sharing on WTO agreement on import licensing procedure	Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries
6	Revision on the Statutory of the Port Administration Authority of Timor-Leste (APORTIL)		Ministry for Transport and Communication	- Port Authority - Customs Authority - National permanent Secretariat of the WTO	2024	-	To be submitted to the Council of Ministers
7	Regulation on the implementation of the rules of origin		Ministry of Commerce and Industry		2024	??	Drafting in progress
8	Law on Value Added Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the draft Policy Paper for VAT Law, • Seek opinions, comments and feedback from any third party on the revised law as well as public consultation and discussion with relevant private and public stakeholders, • Discussion and approval by the Council of Ministers, • Discussion and approval by the National Parliament, • Promulgation by the President, • Public Awareness, • Effective Implementation 	Ministry of Finance	- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - Ministry of trade and industry - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO - National trade facilitation committee -Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health - Chamber of Commerce - Civil Society	4 th quarter of 2024 – 2025	- Support in finalization of the law - Support in effective implementation of the law. - Support in public awareness raising	Drafting in progress
9	Taxes and Duties Act (revision)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit the revised draft law by the Ministry of Finance, • Seek opinions, comments and feedback from any third party on the revised law as well as public consultation and discussion with relevant private and public stakeholders, • Discussion and approval by the Council of Minister and by the National Parliament, • Promulgation by the President, • Public awareness on the changes and introduction of new articles, • Effective implementation 	Ministry of Finance	- Tax Authority - TradeInvest - Customs Authority - Ministry of trade and industry - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs	4Q 2023 – 2024	-	To be submitted to the Council of Ministers

10	Decree-Law on Pesticides		Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry	- Ministry of Health - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO	4Q 2023 - 2024	- Support in development of the law - Support in effective implementation of the law.	To be submitted to the Council of Ministers
11	Decree-Law on Veterinary Drugs	•	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry	- Ministry of Health - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO	4Q 2023 - 2024	- Support in development of the law - Support in effective implementation of the law.	Drafting in progress
12	Ministerial Diploma on Import requirements for animals and animal products, and plants and plant products (Quarantine requirements)	•	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	- National Trade facilitation Committee - national Permanent secretariat of the WTO - Ministry of Public Works	4Q 2023 - 2024	-	Draft ready for consultations with relevant stakeholder
13	Export Promotion Law	•	- Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs; - TradeInvest	- Ministry of trade and industry - National Parliament - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO - National trade facilitation committee - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Health - Chamber of Commerce	2 nd quarter of 2024 - 2025	- Support in the finalization of the law - Support in effective implementation of the law. - Support in public awareness raising	Draft ready for consultations with relevant stakeholders
14	Action Plan to promote manufacturing	•	Ministry of Commerce, and Industry	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs - Ministry of Finance - Ministry of Transport and Communication	2024	-	Drafting in progress
TRADE-RELATED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REGIME							
15	Industrial Property Code (trademarks, patents, utility models, industrial designs, trade secrets)	•	Ministry of Commerce and Industry		1 st quarter of 2024 - 2025		To be submitted to the Council of Ministers
16	Law on Protection of Plant Varieties	•	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry		4Q 2025 – 2026		To be drafted
POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN SERVICES							
17	Revision on the Postal Services Regulation*	•	Ministry for Transport and Communication	- Ministry of State Administration - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs	4Q 2023 - 2024	-	Drafting in progress
18	Revision on the Statutory of the National Communication Authority (ANC, I.P.)	•	Ministry for Transport and Communication	- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs	4Q 2023 - 2024	-	Drafting in progress

19	Second Amendment of Government Decree No. 2/2005 of 6 July 2005, on fishing licence fees, inspections and services relating to fishing activities	•	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs - Ministry of Finance - TradeInvest - Ministry of trade and industry	2Q 2024 - 2024	-	Drafting in progress
20	Bar Association Law	•	Ministry of Justice	- Ministry for Presidency of the Council Ministers - National parliament	2024		To be considered by the National Parliament

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEDULE OF CONCESSIONS AND COMMITMENTS ON GOODS OF TIMOR-LESTE¹³

	Final bound duty		
	Average	Number of duty free (%)	Maximum duty
TOTAL	10.7	6.6	80
Agricultural products	15.7	0.0	80
Animal products	16.5	0.0	50
Dairy products	10.0	0.0	10
Fruit, vegetables, plants	19.2	0.0	80
Coffee, tea	36.0	0.0	80
Cereals & preparations	13.8	0.0	50
Oilseeds, fats & oils	11.2	0.0	80
Sugars and confectionery	10.0	0.0	10
Beverages & tobacco	16.5	0.0	60
Cotton	10.0	0.0	10
Other agricultural products	13.3	0.0	80
Non-Agricultural products	10.0	7.6	80
Fish & fish products	19.5	0.0	80
Minerals & metals	10.6	0.1	50
Petroleum	13.0	0.0	40
Chemicals	10.4	1.5	20

- 10 bilaterals (HS 2017)
- Australia, Cambodia, Canada, European Union, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand and United States
- ITA and ITA_E respectively for 381 and 336 tariff lines
- 4 Members requested INRs: Canada, Indonesia, Japan and United States
- 100 % bound
- ODCs: 0%
- ALL commitments in ad-valorem
- Immediate implementation except for some ITA tariff lines: 378 in 2027 and 27 in 2030

¹³ As contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/34/Add.1 - WT/MIN(24)/4/Add.1.

Wood, paper, etc.	11.1	0.2	80
Textiles	10.0	0.1	10
Clothing	10.0	0.0	10
Leather, footwear, etc.	10.0	0.0	10
Non-electrical machinery	8.6	14.3	10
Electrical machinery	6.6	33.8	10
Transport equipment	10.0	0.2	10
Manufactures, n.e.s.	7.1	34.1	50

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ITA AND ITA II SCHEDULES¹⁴

ITA:

Tariff Nomenclature: HS 2017

Number of lines: 748

Number of tariff lines: 559, of which 381 are ITA-related

Implemented upon accession: 242 ITA-related tariff lines implemented in 2024

Implementation period beyond date of accession: 114 ITA-related tariff lines implemented in 2027 and additional 25 ITA items implemented in 2030.

Bound rates not at zero: All ITA-related items have a final bound rate of zero

ODCs not at zero: All ITA-related items have an ODC of zero.

Staging matrix: Nil

ITA-II:

TARIFF NOMENCLATURE		
	HS version used	HS 2017
INFORMATION ON THE "STANDARD" SECTION		
	Total number of lines listed, including headers	912
	For the tariff lines covered by the ITA expansion:	
	- No. of tariff lines listed	588
INFORMATION ON THE "STAGING MATRIX" SECTION		
	Are headnotes included?	Yes
	Number of tariff lines listed	588
	Number of tariff lines with tariff elimination fully implemented by 1 July of:	

¹⁴ Please refer to Timor-Leste's agreed ITA/ITA-II schedules as incorporated in its Schedule of Concessions and Commitments on Goods of Timor-Leste (document WT/ACC/TLS/34/Add.1 - WT/MIN(24)/4/Add.1).

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
	240	0	0	333	0	0	15
INFORMATION ON "ATTACHMENT B" SECTION							
	Was the headnote included?					Yes	

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEDULE OF SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS ON SERVICES¹⁵

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
Horizontal commitments							
1	<p>Movement of natural persons</p> <p>Mode (4 – Presence of natural persons) Commitment:</p> <p>Unbound, expect for measures concerning/affecting the entry and temporary stay of natural persons in the following categories, and as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business visitors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The period of stay for <u>persons engaged in establishment</u> is limited to a maximum of 60 days without the possibility of extension. ▪ <u>Services salespersons</u> shall not be engaged in direct sales to the public or in supplying services themselves and shall not receive remuneration from a source within Timor-Leste. The period of stay is limited to a maximum of 60 days per year. ○ Employees of a foreign commercial presence: 	<p>- Need to develop a complimentary legislation or regulation that is consistent with the language provision in the Service Schedule of this sector</p>	<p>Ministry of Interior – department of Immigration</p>	<p>- SEFOPE</p> <p>- Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs</p>	<p>Upon accession</p>	<p>- Support in developing Labor market test regulations, system, mechanism, and procedure</p>	-

¹⁵ As contained in document WT/ACC/TLS/34/Add.2 - WT/MIN(24)/4/Add.2.

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to a labour market test, foreign service suppliers established in Timor-Leste may hire or transfer foreign employees qualified for supervisory (executives), directing (managers) or technical (specialists) functions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The period of stay for supervisory (executives) and directing (managers) for the purpose of pursuing business activities by virtue of being a member or administrator of a commercial company registered or to be registered in Timor-Leste is limited to 6 months, with the possibility of extension for successive periods of 2 years. • The period of stay for technical functions (specialists) is limited to 1 year, with a possibility of extension for successive periods of 1 year. ○ Contract Service Suppliers and Independent Professionals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to a labour market test, foreign natural persons who have obtained a contract to supply a service in Timor-Leste or are employed by a foreign-based service supplier that has obtained a contract to supply a service in Timor-Leste, shall be granted entry for a period of up to 60 days per year. 						

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
2	Land ownership is limited to the citizens of Timor-Leste. Foreigners are permitted to lease land.						
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Commercial presence</u>: Foreign commercial companies incorporated in Timor-Leste shall appoint a legal representative with permanent residence in Timor-Leste. 						
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Fiscal measures</u>: The income or wage tax-free threshold applies only to residents. 						
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Subsidies and incentives</u>: Special benefits are available to investors who hold a Declaration of Benefits (DoB) or are party to a Special Investment Agreement (SIA). The benefits may vary depending on the sector and include: hiring foreign workers; leasing of state property; benefits related to tax, customs duties, and investment facilitation services. Minimum investment values apply for investments eligible for a DOB or SIA (which are higher for foreign-owned investments or joint ventures than for investments of nationals). 						
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Services supplied in support of the petroleum industry</u> are reserved to Timorese nationals or companies incorporated under Timor-Leste law and which are majority-owned by Timorese nationals. 						
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Services supplied in support of the mining industry</u>: preferential treatment / access is accorded to Timorese nationals or companies which are incorporated under Timor-Leste law and which are majority-owned by Timorese nationals. 						
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>For all services sectors included in the Schedule</u>, Timor-Leste undertakes as additional commitments the disciplines contained in Section II of document INF/SDR/2 (Reference Paper on Services Domestic Regulation), subject to the transitional periods for developing countries and LDCs under paragraphs 10 and 11 of Section I. 						
Sector-specific commitments¹⁶							
9	Legal services:						-

¹⁶ Sectoral commitments undertaken in 10 out of 11 services sectors (except Health-related and social services) and 86 sub-sectors. In most of the sub-sectors, no limitations are listed for Modes 1-3, unbound for Mode 4. Selected limitations on Mode 3 and other commitments are reproduced in the Table.

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
	Foreign legal practitioners are required to work with Timorese lawyers. Foreign law firms authorized to operate in Timor-Leste are permitted to hire lawyers licensed to practice in Timor-Leste.						
10	<p>Sectors: Computer and Related Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Consultancy services related to the installation of computer hardware (CPC 841) b) Software implementation services (CPC 842) c) Data processing services (CPC 843) d) Data base services (CPC 844) e) Other computer services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance and repair services of office machinery and equipment including computers (CPC 845) - Data preparation services (CPC 849) <p>Limitation on National Treatment Mode (3 – Commercial Presence) Commitment None, except foreign suppliers are required to transfer skills and knowledge to local employees.</p>	Need to develop a complementary legislation or regulation that is consistent with the language provision in the Service Schedule of this sector including provision on the required to transfer skills and knowledge to local employees.	Ministry of Transport and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TIC Timor-Leste - Ministry of trade and industry 	Upon accession	-	-
11	<p>Investigation and security services; Guard services:</p> <p>Security staff and the Security Director must be a Timorese.</p>						
12	<p>Courier services:</p> <p>Private operators will not be treated less favourably than Timor-Leste's public postal service in providing services covered by this commitment.</p>						

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
13	<p>Telecommunication services:</p> <p>Only a corporate body incorporated and registered in Timor-Leste is eligible to supply a domestic telecommunications service.</p>						
14	<p>Audiovisual services (also News agency services):</p> <p>Unbound with respect to: broadcast or other transmission quotas; or expenditure requirements, for content which: (i) is locally produced or co-produced; (ii) reflects national or local interests and concerns; (iii) promotes national culture and identity; or (iv) is in an official or national language of Timor-Leste.</p> <p>Participation of foreign individuals or legal persons in the share capital of a media corporation may not exceed 30%.</p>						
15	<p>Construction work for hotels, restaurants and similar buildings for tourism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign suppliers are required to bring innovative technology and transfer skills and knowledge to local employees. • Five work visas for supervisors are guaranteed. 						
16	<p>Sectors: DISTRIBUTION SERVICES:</p> <p>A. Commission agents' services (CPC 621, 61111, 6113, 6121)</p> <p>Limitation on Market Access Mode (3 – Commercial Presence): Commitment: - None, except approval to establish or acquire a retail business subject to an economic needs test which takes into account the impact on the market, including existing suppliers</p>	<p>Need to develop a legislation that is consistent with the language provision in the Service Schedule of this sector</p>	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry</p>	<p>- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO - Ministry of Tourism</p>	<p>Upon accession</p>	<p>- Support in developing Economic Need test regulations, system, mechanism, and procedure.</p>	
17	<p>Sectors: DISTRIBUTION SERVICES:</p> <p>B. Wholesale trade services (CPC 622, 61111, 6113, 6121) C. Retailing services (CPC 631, 632, 61112, 6113, 6121, 613) D. Franchising (CPC 8929):</p>	<p>Need to develop a legislation that is consistent with the language provision in the Service Schedule of this sector</p>	<p>- Ministry of Trade and Industry</p>	<p>- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - National Permanent Secretariat of the WTO</p>	<p>Upon accession</p>	<p>- Support in developing Economic Need test regulations, system, mechanism, and procedure.</p>	<p>-</p>

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
	<p>Limitation on Market Access Mode (3 – Commercial Presence): Commitment: - None, except approval to establish or acquire a retail business subject to an economic needs test which takes into account the impact on the market, including existing suppliers.</p>						
18	<p>Higher education and other education services: The institutions may assume the form of a foundation, association, cooperative or limited liability company by quotas, or joint-stock company.</p>						
19	<p>Environmental services: Services considered as public utilities may be subject to public monopolies or exclusive rights granted to private operators.</p>						
20	<p>Direct insurance: Insurance risks related to maritime transportation services (except for vessels supplying solely or permanently cabotage transportation services) and commercial aviation and space launching and freight (including satellites), with such insurance to cover any or all of the following: the goods being transported, the vehicle transporting the goods and any liability arising therefrom. Board of directors must be composed of a minimum of three members, who shall reside in Timor-Leste, the Managing Director who is elected from board members must be permanent resident in Timor-Leste.</p>						
21	<p>Reinsurance and retrocession; Services auxiliary to insurance (including broking and agency services): (i) Board of directors must be composed of a minimum of three members, all of which must be residents of Timor-Leste. (ii) Person responsible for an insurance company branch in Timor-Leste must reside permanently in Timor-Leste.</p>						
22	<p>Banking and other financial services: Foreign suppliers are required to train and transfer skills and knowledge to local employees.</p>						

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
23	<p>Provision and transfer of financial information:</p> <p>No limitations for the provision of financial news and information to subscribers or the general public. Unbound for the supply of financial data processing services to banks and other financial service suppliers for a period of 5 years from the date of accession.</p>						
24	<p>Sectors: TOURISM AND TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES: A. Hotels and restaurants (including catering) (CPC 641-643):</p> <p>Limitation on Market Access Mode (3 – Commercial Presence): Commitment: - None, except approval to establish or acquire a business may be subject to an economic needs test.</p>	Need to develop a legislation that is consistent with the language provision in the Service Schedule of this sector	- Ministry of Tourism	- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - Secretariat State of Culture	Upon accession	- Support in developing Economic Need test regulations, system, mechanism, and procedure.	-
25	<p>Sectors: RECREATIONAL, CULTURE AND SPORTING SERVICES: E. Other recreational services(CPC 96499**)) - Leasing or rental services of seagoing pleasure boats:</p> <p>Limitation on Market Access Mode (3 – Commercial Presence): Commitment - None, except licences for foreign operators are subject to an economic needs test to ensure equitable participation in the market by local enterprises.</p>	Need to develop a legislation that is consistent with the language provision in the Service Schedule of this sector	- Ministry of Tourism	- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - Ministry of transport and communication	Upon accession	- Support in developing Economic Need test regulations, system, mechanism, and procedure.	-
26	<p>Maritime transport services:</p> <p>Once Tibar Port is operational, the following services will be made available to international maritime transport suppliers: a) Pilotage; b) Towing & Tug assistance; c) Provisioning, fuelling and watering; d) Garbage collecting and ballast waste disposal; e) Port Captain's services; f) Navigation Aids; g) Shore-based operational services essential to ship operations including Communications, Water and Electrical supplies; and h) Anchorage, berth and berthing services.</p> <p>No limitations on trans-shipment (board to board or via the quay) and/or on the use of on-board cargo handling equipment.</p> <p>Storage and warehousing services may be subject to monopoly or exclusive service supplier rights.</p>						
27	<p>Sectors: TRANSPORT SERVICES: F. Road transport services(CPC 7121-7124):</p> <p>- Limitation on Market Access:</p>	Need to develop a legislation that is consistent with the language provision in	Ministry of Transport and Communication	- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs,	Upon accession	- Support in developing Economic Need test regulations, system,	-

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
	<p>Mode (3 – Commercial Presence) Commitment - None, except licences to supply passenger transport services are subject to an economic need test, to ensure adequate supply of the services to the Timorese public</p> <p>- Limitation on National Treatment Mode (3 – Commercial Presence) Commitment: - Public passenger transport services between Dili and Municipalities are exclusively reserved for Timorese operators.</p>	<p>the Service Schedule of this sector including economic need test provision and exclusivity of transport services between Dili and Municipalities for Timorese.</p>		<p>- Ministry of trade and industry</p>		<p>mechanism, and procedure.</p>	

ANNEX II
NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Area	General Obligation or Paragraph Number in the Working Party Report (WT/ACC/SPEC/TLS/5/Rev.3)	Commitment	Provisions of relevant WTO Agreements, if applicable	Lead Agency and Focal Point	Training and Capacity Building Required	Timeline
State ownership and privatization, state-trading entities	51	Regular notification and update on the activities of all SOEs, SIEs, etc. to the Secretariat in accordance with Article XVII GATT 1994; Notify any enterprise falling within the scope of Article XVII	Article XVII of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and the Understanding on that Article			Annual Upon request
Quantitative Restrictions	GO	Quantitative restrictions	Decision of Goods Council, 01.12.1995			Every two years
Import Licensing Procedures	GO	Publications/Laws, regulations and administrative procedures and changes thereto	Article 1.4 (a) and 8.2 (b) of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures			Date of accession
Import Licensing Procedures	GO	Reply to questionnaire on import licensing procedures (annually by 30 September)	Article 7.3 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures			Every year
Import Licensing Procedures	GO	New import licensing procedures or changes thereto, publication containing relevant information	Article 5.1 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures			Ad hoc
Rules of Origin	150	Notification of rules of origin to the WTO Committee on Rules of Origin	Article 2(h) and Annex II, paragraph 3(d)			Prior to the date of accession
Anti-dumping, countervailing duties, and safeguard measures	167	Notification of WTO-consistent trade remedy measure to the WTO	GATT 1994, Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994, Agreement on			Ad hoc

Area	General Obligation or Paragraph Number in the Working Party Report (WT/ACC/SPEC/TLS/5/Rev.3)	Commitment	Provisions of relevant WTO Agreements, if applicable	Lead Agency and Focal Point	Training and Capacity Building Required	Timeline
			SCM, and Agreement on Safeguards			
Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	173	Questionnaire of subsidies notification	Article 25.1, Article XVI of GATT 1994			Every two years
Industrial policy, including subsidies	178	Notification of subsidy programmes to the WTO Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures	Article 25 of the SCM Agreement			Date of accession
Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade	GO	Work programmes on standardization activities	Annex 3: J to the TBT Agreement			Every 6 months
Technical barriers to trade	GO	Products to be covered by the proposed technical regulation and conformity assessment	Articles 2.9.2 & 5.6.2 of the TBT Agreement			Ad hoc
Technical barriers to trade	GO	Technical regulation, particular procedure and the products covered, with a brief indication of its objective and rationale of the technical regulation, including the nature of the urgent problems.	Articles 2.10.1 & 5.7.1 of the TBT Agreement			Ad hoc
Technical barriers to trade	GO	Technical regulation and Conformity assessment procedures of local government	Articles 3.2 & 7.2 of the TBT Agreement			Ad hoc
Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures	GO	New and change of sanitary/phytosanitary measures (60 days)	Article 7, Annex B paragraphs 5-10 of the SPS Agreement			Ad hoc
Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures	GO	Emergency actions of sanitary/phytosanitary regulations	Annex B, paragraph 6 of the SPS Agreement			Ad hoc

Area	General Obligation or Paragraph Number in the Working Party Report (WT/ACC/SPEC/TLS/5/Rev.3)	Commitment	Provisions of relevant WTO Agreements, if applicable	Lead Agency and Focal Point	Training and Capacity Building Required	Timeline
Agricultural Policies	GO	Export Subsidies	Art. 18.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture			Every year
Agriculture	GO	Domestic support	Article 18.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture			Every two years
Agriculture	GO	Domestic support - new or modified exempt domestic support measures	Art. 18.3 of the Agreement on Agriculture			Ad hoc
Agriculture	GO	Export restrictions - new export restrictions	Art. 12.1(b) of the Agreement on Agriculture			Ad hoc
Trade-Related Intellectual Property Regime	302	Make laws and regulations (draft and effective) pertaining to the subject-matter of the TRIPS	Article 63.2 of the TRIPS Agreement			XX
Trade-Related Intellectual Property Regime	GO	Contact Point in its administration	Article 69 of the TRIPS Agreement			XX
Trade in Services	GO	Enquiry Point	Article III:4 of the GATS			Date of accession
Trade in Services	GO	Exclusive service suppliers	Art. VIII:5 of the GATS			Date of accession
Trade in Services	GO	Introduction of any new, or any changes to existing laws, regulations or administrative guidelines which significantly affect trade in services covered by its specific commitment under this Agreement	Article III:3 of the GATS			Every year
Trade in Services	GO	Granting monopoly rights regarding the supply of a	Article VIII:4 of the GATS			Ad hoc

Area	General Obligation or Paragraph Number in the Working Party Report (WT/ACC/SPEC/TLS/5/Rev.3)	Commitment	Provisions of relevant WTO Agreements, if applicable	Lead Agency and Focal Point	Training and Capacity Building Required	Timeline
		service covered by its specific commitments				
Trade in Services	GO	MFN exemption termination	Annex on Article II exemptions:(WT/ACC/SPEC/SAM/6)			Ad hoc
Trade in Services	GO	Measures taken under paragraphs 1(b) and (c) and of their termination under security exception.	Article XIVbis:2 of the GATS			Ad hoc
Trade in Services	GO	Modification of rules affecting the use of public telecommunications transport networks and services	Annex on Telecommunications Para. 5(c) to the GATS			Ad hoc
Trade in Services	GO	Adoption of new recognition measures or significantly modifies existing ones	Article VII.4(c) of the GATS			Ad hoc
Publication of information on trade	327	Regular notification and publication of the legislation	Article X of the WTO General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, Article III of the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services, Article 63 of the WTO Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, and other transparency provisions in the WTO Agreements			
Notifications	331	Submission of all initial notifications and any subsequent legislation;	All of the above			At the latest, within six months of the entry into force of the Protocol of Accession

Area	General Obligation or Paragraph Number in the Working Party Report (WT/ACC/SPEC/TLS/5/Rev.3)	Commitment	Provisions of relevant WTO Agreements, if applicable	Lead Agency and Focal Point	Training and Capacity Building Required	Timeline
		Notification of any laws, regulations, or other measures subsequently enacted, as required to be notified, in a time and manner consistent with WTO requirements				
Trade Agreements	336	Notification of preferential trade agreements				Date of accession

Note:

Ad-hoc basis – means only when said measures are introduced when future trade related policies or laws are developed

GO – stands for general obligation

ANNEX III

MILESTONES FOR TIMOR-LESTE'S ACCESSION TO THE ASEAN ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS AND INSTRUMENTS

AS PER APPROVAD ROADMAP*

No	Obligations in the Services Schedules	Actions Needed	Responsible Institution/s	Line of Coordination	Priority	Timeline	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Needed	Implementation Status
Overarching Enabling Instruments								
1	Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation (28 January 1992)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set up ministerial-level council to supervise AFTA. - Agree to establish <i>AFTA</i> within 15 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use <i>Common Effective Preferential Tariff scheme</i> - Develop cooperation in the field of capital markets. - Improve and develop the intra-country postal and telecommunications system 	Minister for coordinating Economic affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters, - Ministry of Trade and Industry 	3			"...In the implementation of these economic arrangements, two or more Member States may proceed first if other Member States are not ready to implement these arrangements."
2	Protocol to Amend the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation (15 December 1995)		Minister for coordinating Economic affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters, - Ministry of Trade and Industry 				The agreement itself is "Not Entered-into-force"
3	ASEAN Protocol on Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism (20 December 2019)	- Establish SEOM to administer the protocol	- SEOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of Justice 				
4	Protocol on Notification Procedures (7 October 1997)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Established SEOM Office - Sign and deposit the instrument of accession to the SecGen of ASEAN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEOM - Ministry of trade and industry, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters 	2			Previous protocol was signed by Ministry responsible for trade and industry
5	Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation in Finance (1 March 1997)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange views on macroeconomic policies. • Improve transparency of policies in the area of finance • Promote public-private sector linkages in the area of finance. • Develop human resource in the area of finance. 	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters 				

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate their respective Finance Officials, relevant authorities, to discuss and propose areas for cooperation and facilitation as specified under this Ministerial Understanding and to implement directives of the AFMM. • Depositing the instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of ASEAN. 						
6	Protocol to Amend the Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation in Finance (25 March 2000)		Ministry of Finance	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				
7	Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation in Tourism (10 January 1998)		Ministry of Tourism	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				
8	ASEAN Tourism Agreement (4 November 2002)		Ministry of Tourism	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				
9	Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation in Minerals		Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				
10	Protocol to Amend ASEAN Agreements (7 October 1998)		- Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs, - TradeInvest	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters, - Ministry of Trade and Industry				
A1a Trade in Goods								
11	ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) (27 February 2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ?? • Harmonise HS Code to ASEAN AHTN • Liberalise/eliminate import duties of all products as per schedule A – H with each has phase of elimination. • Sign the Agreement by Ministry responsible for economic / Trade. • Ratify the Agreement by the National Parliament. • Deposit the Agreement to the SecGen of ASEAN 	- Ministry of trade and industry, - Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs - SEOM	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Petroleum and minerals - Ministry of Transport and communication - Ministry of Finance	3			<i>May request for flexibility as CLMV did for tariff liberalization</i>
12	First Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (22 January 2019)		- Ministry of trade and industry	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Petroleum and minerals, - Ministry of Transport and communication				
13	Protocol to Provide Special Consideration for Rice and Sugar (23 August 2007)		- Ministry of Agriculture, - Ministry of trade and industry	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				

14	Protocol to Amend the Protocol to Provide Special Consideration for Rice and Sugar (28 October 2010)		- Ministry of Agriculture, - Ministry of trade and industry	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				
15	Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of Non-Tariff Measures on Essential Goods under the Hanoi Plan of Action on Strengthening ASEAN Economic Cooperation and Supply Chain Connectivity in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic (13 November 2020)		- Ministry of trade and industry, - Ministry of Finance – Custom Authority	- Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Petroleum and minerals - Ministry of trade and industry, - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters,				
A1c Customs								
16	ASEAN Agreement on Customs (30 March 2012)		- Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Petroleum and minerals - Ministry of trade and industry	3			
17	Agreement to Establish and Implement the ASEAN Single Window (9 December 2005) <i>(Note: The current Operational Certification Procedures (OCP) still allows each AMS to use three types of Proof of Origin, including:</i> <i>(a) Certificate of Origin (Form D);</i> <i>(b) Electronic Certificate of Origin (e-Form D); or</i> <i>(c) Origin Declaration.</i>		Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				The agreement is entered into force only for some AMS
18	Protocol to Establish and Implement the ASEAN Single Window (20 December 2006)		Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				The agreement is entered into force only for some AMS
19	Protocol on the Legal Framework to Implement the ASEAN Single Window (4 September 2014)		Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				

20	Protocol Governing the Implementation of the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (7 August 2003)		Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				
21	Protocol to Amend the Protocol Governing the Implementation of the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (15 May 2004)		Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				
22	Second Protocol to Amend the Protocol Governing the Implementation of the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (6 August 2006)		Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				
23	Understanding on the Criteria for Classification in the ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature		Ministry of Finance – Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of Agriculture - Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals - Ministry of Transport and communication				
A2 Trade in Services								
24	ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS)		- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters, - Ministry of trade and industry,	- CBTL - Ministry of Justice - Ministry of Transport and Communication - Ministry of Public Works - Ministry of Health	3			
25	ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA) <i>(Note: Supersedes AFAS (1995) in accordance to transitional arrangements as provided in Article 36 of ATISA.)</i>		- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters, - Ministry of trade and industry,	- CBTL - Ministry of Justice - Ministry of Transport and Communication - Ministry of Public Works - Ministry of Health				<i>ATISA has provision of transitional period as per article 36 of the agreement. Nb: until 15 years after entry into force of this Agreement for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar</i>
A3 Investment Environment								
26	ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA)		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry	3			

			- TradeInvest					
27	Protocol to Amend the ACIA (26 August 2014)		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - TradeInvest	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				
28	Second Protocol to Amend the ACIA (21 September 2017)		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - TradeInvest	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				
29	Third Protocol to Amend the ACIA (20 December 2017)		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - TradeInvest	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				
30	Fourth Protocol to Amend the ACIA (15 July 2022)		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - TradeInvest	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry				
31	ASEAN Investment Facilitation Framework (AIFF)		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - TradeInvest	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - National Trade Facilitation Committee				
A5 Mobility of Skilled Persons/Professionals								
32	ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - SEFOPE	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters	3			
33	Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons (MNP)		- Minister for Coordinating economic Affairs - SEFOPE	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				The protocol is still "for signing" stage
C1 Transport								
34	ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT)		- Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of transport and communication - Ministry of trade and industry - Port Authority	3			
35	Protocol 1 Designation of Transit Transport Routes and Facilities (AFAFGIT)		- Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of transport and communication - Ministry of trade and industry - Port Authority				
36	Protocol 2 Designation of Frontier Posts (AFAFGIT)		- Customs Authority	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of transport and communication - Ministry of trade and industry - Port Authority 				
37	Protocol 3 Types and Quantity of Road Vehicles (AFAFGIT)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority - Ministry of transport and communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Port Authority 				
38	Protocol 4 Unlimited Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights between the ASEAN Sub-Regions (AFAFGIT)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority - Immigration department - Ministry of transport and communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Port Authority 				
39	Protocol 5 ASEAN Scheme of Compulsory Motor Vehicle Insurance (AFAFGIT)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority - Ministry of transport and communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry 				
40	Protocol 6 Railways Border and Interchange Stations (AFAFGIT)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority - Immigration department - Ministry of transport and communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry 				
41	Protocol 7 Customs Transit System (AFAFGIT)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority - Ministry of transport and communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Port Authority 				
42	Protocol 8 Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Implement the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of agriculture – Biosecurity department, - Customs Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Authority - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry 				
43	Protocol 9 Dangerous Goods (AFAFGIT)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of Defence - Ministry of Interior 				
44	Agreement on the Recognition of Commercial Vehicle Inspection Certificates for Goods Vehicles and Public Service Vehicles Issued by ASEAN Member Countries		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Ministry of transport and communication 				

45	Agreement on the Recognition of Domestic Driving Licenses Issued by ASEAN Countries		Ministry of transport and communication	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				
Air Transport								
46	ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on Air Services (MAAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters	3			
47	Protocol 1 on Unlimited Third and Fourth Freedom Traffic Rights within the ASEAN Sub-Region (MAAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
48	Protocol 2 on Unlimited Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights within the ASEAN Sub- Region (MAAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
49	Protocol 3 on Unlimited Third and Fourth Freedom Traffic Rights between the ASEAN Sub-Regions (MAAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
50	Protocol 4 on Unlimited Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights between the ASEAN Sub- Regions (MAAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
51	Protocol 5 on Unlimited Third and Fourth Freedom Traffic Rights between ASEAN Capital Cities (MAAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
52	Protocol 6 on Unlimited Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights between ASEAN Capital Cities (MAAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
53	ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on the Full Liberalisation of Passenger Air Services (MAFLPAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
54	Protocol 1 on Unlimited Third and Fourth Freedom Traffic Rights between any ASEAN Cities (MAFLPAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
55	Protocol 2 on Unlimited Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights between any ASEAN Cities (MAFLPAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
56	Protocol 3 on Domestic Code-Share Rights between Points within the Territory of any other ASEAN Member States (MAFLPAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
57	Protocol 4 on Co-Terminal Rights between Points within the Territory of any other ASEAN Member State (MAFLPAS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				

58	ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on the Full Liberalisation of Air Freight Services (MAFLAFS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters				
59	Protocol 1 on Unlimited Third, Fourth and Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights among Designated Points in ASEAN (MAFLAFS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
60	Protocol 2 on Unlimited Third, Fourth and Fifth Freedom Traffic Rights among All Points with International Airports in ASEAN (MAFLAFS)		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
61	Memorandum of Understanding on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' Air Services Engagement with Dialogue Partners		Ministry of transport and communication – ANATL.EP	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Immigration department				
C4 Energy								
62	Agreement on ASEAN Energy Cooperation and Protocols Amending the Agreement on ASEAN Energy Cooperation (1995 and 1997)		- Ministry of petroleum and minerals, - Ministry of Public Works	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Minister for coordinating economic affairs	3			
63	Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Energy and Protocol to Amend the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Energy		- Ministry of petroleum and minerals, - Ministry of Public Works	- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – for ASEAN matters - Ministry of trade and industry - Minister for coordinating economic affairs				
C5 Food, Agriculture and Forestry								
64	Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (ACCAHZ)		Ministry of agriculture – Biosecurity Department	- Ministry of Health - AIFAESA - Customs Authority	2			Agreement in entered into force only for some AMS
65	Agreement on the Establishment of ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund and Protocol to Amend the Agreement for the Establishment of ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund		Ministry of agriculture – Biosecurity Department	- Ministry of Health - AIFAESA - Customs Authority - Ministry of Finance - Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2			
Statistics								
66	Compilation of ASEAN Statistical Indicators – Based on Consolidated Template	Submission of data on the following indicators to ASEAN stats: 1. GDP: Annual GDP at current prices and Annual GDP at constant prices; 2. International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS): Annual Exports and Imports by HS 2 digit and partner country;	National Institute of Statistic Timor-Leste, I.P.,	- Ministry of finance - Minister for coordinating economic affairs, - Ministry of trade and industry, - TradeInvest -	1			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">3. Statistics on International Trade in Services (SITS): Annual Exports and Imports by 12 Service Headings;4. Foreign Direct Investment Statistics (FDIS): Annual FDI inward flows by industry and by source country;5. Tourism statistics: Annual number of visitors by country of origin;6. Demography: Total population by sex and age group (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, ...);7. SDG indicators: All available SDG indicators Social Indicators: All available indicators						
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**Note: Needs to be discussed in detail with Office of vice-minister for ASEAN and other indicative Senior Officials for ASEAN as well as relevant ministries.*

Level of priority can be sorted from 1 – 3, where 3 as the highest priority.

ANNEX IV

LEGISLATIVE ACTION PLAN (LAP)

This document was last revised on 5 December 2023, and was circulated at the last meeting of Timor-Leste’s Working Party Meeting on 11 January 2024.

Note: This LAP version only contains Part I(A) and Part I(B) of the whole document, which aims to only elaborate Timor-Leste’s post accession legislative commitment under Table – Part I(B) below.

PART I(A) – PENDING BILLS/DRAFTS/REGULATIONS

Legislation/Regulation	Competent Authority	Expected date of adoption/enactment			Status	Expected date of implementation	Translation submitted to the Working Party
		Submission to the Council of Ministers	Submission to the Parliament	Enactment			
All necessary legislation has been adopted.							

PART I(B) – PENDING BILLS/DRAFTS/REGULATIONS – POST-ACCESSION*

Legislation/Regulation	Competent Authority	Expected date of adoption/enactment			Status	Expected date of implementation	Translation submitted to the Working Party
		Submission to the Council of Ministers	Submission to the Parliament	Enactment			
ECONOMIC POLICIES							
Insolvency Code	Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	2024	Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries	2024	WT/ACC/TLS/26
Competition Law	Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs	4 th quarter of 2023	1 st quarter of 2024	2024	Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries	2024	WT/ACC/TLS/32
FRAMEWORK FOR MAKING AND ENFORCING POLICIES							
Decree-Law on Legal Regime for Administrative Offences	Ministry of Justice	4 th quarter of 2023	3 rd quarter of 2024	4 th quarter 2024	Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries	2025	WT/ACC/TLS/26
POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN GOODS							

Legislation/Regulation	Competent Authority	Expected date of adoption/enactment			Status	Expected date of implementation	Translation submitted to the Working Party
		Submission to the Council of Ministers	Submission to the Parliament	Enactment			
Regulation of the Customs Code (Decree-Law No. 14/2017 of 5 April 2017), targeting: (1) Article 2 (Good Administrative Practices); (2) Article 15 (Publication); (3) Section III (Representative Professional Public Association of Official Dispatch); (4) Article 79 (Records and Payments), Article 43 (Representativeness); (5) Article 179 (Prohibited Import Goods); (6) Article 180 (Conditional Import Goods); (7) According to Chapter V (Customs Warehouse), Article 197 (Concept); (8) Section V (Circulation of goods subject to Selective Consumption Tax – ISC – and control of exit from port facilities), Article 226 (Documents accompanying goods subject to ISC); and (9) Chapter IV (Guarantee for Customs Debt), Article 323 (Requirement of Guarantee)	Ministry of Finance	1 st quarter of 2024	N/A	3 rd quarter of 2024	Inter-Ministerial consultations in progress	2025	To be submitted**
Decree-Law on Import Licensing	Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs; Ministry of Finance	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	4 th quarter of 2023	Draft is being finalised in consultation with line-Ministries	2024	WT/ACC/TLS/26
Revision on the Statutory of the Port Administration Authority of Timor-Leste (APORTIL)	Ministry for Transport and Communication	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	2024	To be submitted to the Council of Ministers	2024	To be submitted**
Regulation on the implementation of the	Ministry of Commerce and Industry	2024	N/A	2024	Drafting in progress	2024	To be submitted**

Legislation/Regulation	Competent Authority	Expected date of adoption/enactment			Status	Expected date of implementation	Translation submitted to the Working Party
		Submission to the Council of Ministers	Submission to the Parliament	Enactment			
rules of origin							
Law on Value Added Tax	Ministry of Finance	4 th quarter of 2023	2 nd quarter of 2024	4 th quarter of 2024	Drafting in progress	2025	WT/ACC/TLS/32
Taxes and Duties Act (revision)	Ministry of Finance	4 th quarter of 2023	4 th quarter of 2023	4 th quarter of 2023	To be submitted to the Council of Ministers	2024	WT/ACC/TLS/29
Decree-Law on Pesticides	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	4 th quarter of 2023	To be submitted to the Council of Ministers	2024	WT/ACC/TLS/15
Decree-Law on Veterinary Drugs	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	4 th quarter of 2023	Drafting in progress	2024	To be submitted**
Ministerial Diploma on Import requirements for animals and animal products, and plants and plant products (Quarantine requirements)	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	4 th quarter of 2023	Draft ready for consultations with relevant stakeholders	2024	WT/ACC/TLS/15
Export Promotion Law	Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs; TradeInvest	4 th quarter of 2023	1 st quarter of 2024	2 nd quarter of 2024	Draft ready for consultations with relevant stakeholders	2025	WT/ACC/TLS/15 WT/ACC/TLS/26
Action Plan to promote manufacturing	Ministry of Commerce and Industry	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	2024	Drafting in progress	2024	To be submitted**
TRADE-RELATED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REGIME							
Industrial Property Code (trademarks, patents, utility models, industrial designs, trade secrets)	Ministry of Commerce and Industry	4 th quarter of 2023	1 st quarter of 2024	1 st quarter of 2024	To be submitted to the Council of Ministers	2025	WT/ACC/TLS/23 WT/ACC/TLS/27
Law on Protection of Plant Varieties	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry	4 th quarter of 2024	1 st quarter of 2025	4 th quarter of 2025	To be drafted	2026	To be submitted**
POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN SERVICES							
Revision of the Postal Services Regulation	Ministry for Transport and Communication	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	4 th quarter of 2023	Drafting in progress	2024	To be submitted**

Legislation/Regulation	Competent Authority	Expected date of adoption/enactment			Status	Expected date of implementation	Translation submitted to the Working Party
		Submission to the Council of Ministers	Submission to the Parliament	Enactment			
Revision on the Statutory of the National Communication Authority (ANC, I.P.)	Ministry for Transport and Communication	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	4 th quarter of 2023	Drafting in progress	2024	To be submitted**
Second Amendment of Government Decree No. 2/2005 of 6 July 2005, on fishing licence fees, inspections and services relating to fishing activities	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	4 th quarter of 2023	N/A	2 nd quarter of 2024	Drafting in progress	2024	To be submitted**
Bar Association Law	Ministry of Justice	21 October 2020	26 October 2020	2024	To be considered by the National Parliament	2024	WT/ACC/TLS/27

N/A: Not Applicable.

* Approval/adoption is envisaged in line with the indicated timelines which go beyond the conclusion of the Working Party's mandate, before or after the entry into force of Timor-Leste's WTO membership.

** Drafts finalized before the conclusion of the Working Party mandate are to be submitted to the Working Party. Drafts finalized after the conclusion of the Working Party mandate are to be notified to the WTO in accordance with the notification obligations of Timor-Leste.

ANNEX IV

MATRIX ON DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS SUPPORT ON POST-ACCESSION

I. Introduction

This matrix is developed by the Office of the Coordinating-Minister for Economic Affairs, cooperating with all the related government institutions in Timor-Leste with the objective of guiding the Government Institutions and the development partners to establish the potential cooperation to support Timor-Leste's Accession to the WTO parallels with Timor-Leste's Accession to ASEAN.

The matrix describes potential cooperation from each line of the Government institutions with the log frame and clear objectives for each cooperation as indicated in the following tables.

As the Office for the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs is the main central institution for coordinating the WTO accession process, if any information is required on the development partners' issues, the information can be addressed to the following contact persons.

1. Mrs Maria Maria Martins, Economic Adviser: maria.dasilva@prosivu.tl
2. Ms Jorginha Martins, Legal Adviser: jorginha.martins@prosivu.tl

II. Model of the Cooperation

Timor-Leste has a Foreign Aid Policy to guide the Government Institutions and the development partners to follow to guarantee transparency and accountability for the project implementation. The Foreign Aid Policy can be found in the MoF's website at <https://www.mof.gov.tl>

III. Government Institutions and State Public Agencies

Based on the Prime Minister's Dispatched, there are 14 government institutions that are included in the group of the Member of Interministerial to work specifically on the accession. It is 8 Ministries, 2 Secretary of states and 4 state agencies. The dispatched can be found here: http://www.mj.gov.tl/jornal/public/docs/2021/serie_2/SERIE_II_NO_25.pdf

From the mentioned 14 government instructions, MCAE has collected the information concerning the required support from the development partners to support and accelerate the accession to the WTO, specifically as stated in the following tables.

The tables below list 12 institutions that require potential support from the development partners.

1. The Office of the Vice Prime Minister - Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs;
2. Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral;
3. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry;
4. Ministry of Commerce and Industry;
5. Ministry of Justice;
6. Ministry of Finance: Custom and Tax Authorities;
7. Ministry of Transports and Communications
8. Investment and Export Promotion Agency (TradeInvest Timor-Leste)
9. Instituto Quality of Timor-Leste (IQTL)
10. SEFOPE
11. AIFAESA
12. SERVE

IV. Matrix for the Potential Cooperation from the Line Government Institutions:

Name of the Institutions: The Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
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1	Technical assistance: Human Resources Support - legal experts, economists, Trade and Commerce Expert, TBT & SPS experts and IP-related area experts.	2024 to 2028	To support the Implementation of the Timor-Leste post-accession strategy.	Currently, the Government of Australia, through prossivu provided technical assistance by hiring the two legal advisers, two economic advisers and one media adviser to support the current accession process to the WTO. However, TL Still needs more support from the development partners in this regard.
2	Technical Assistance: to support policy and economic legislation development.	2024 – 2028	To support in developing the policies and legislations (commitment languages, including the trade policy development) scheduled for post-accession.	
3	Financial Support to undertake public consultation and dissemination on WTO accession process, progress, and membership (media publication, brochures, TV & Radio Discussion, discussion among academia and private sectors with the Government)	2024 - 2028	Promote public consultation and discussion	
4	Tarde development policy courses.	2024 - 2028	Increase the capacity building on trade and commerce issues.	This course has been provided by the Government of New Zealand to all the line ministries that part of the WTO and ASEAN Core Team.
5	Short Courses on SPS and TBT Disciplines, Agriculture Disciplines, Investment	2024 - 2028	Increase human capacity building to implement the WTO Commitment in	These courses are confirmed to be provided by the WTIA, supported by the Government of Canada.

	Facilitation Agreement, and WTO Procurement Law.		the post accession strategy	
7	Capacity Building: Scholarships opportunities	2024 – 2030	To prepare the human capacity building through scholarship programs to prepare the expertise peoples in the areas such as TBT, SPS, IPR, Trade Remedies, Economists, Industrial Policy Experts, Insolvency, Trade Negotiators, goods and service experts and ect.	It is to support the implementation of the WTO Commitment after TL is successfully membership in the WTO.
8	Financial Assistance to support TL’s Current Accession to the WTO and Trade Integration	2024-2028	To facilitate and accelerate the current accession process to the WTO	This direct financial assistance been provided by the EIF with \$300 thousand dollars through the Trust Fund Manager (UNOPS) to the Government of TL to support the current Accession processes in the technical coordination level.
9	Finance Assistance to support trainings on related WTO disciplines and developed trade negotiation strategy.	2024 – 2028	To support the WTO Core team by developing some related policies as required by the Government of TL	This indirect support been provided by the Government of Canada through CTIF and WTIA to support the current accession process.

Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
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1	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste economic development in sustainable manner from balance of payment perspective through the trade policy on Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA).	2024 – 2028	Enabling Timor-Leste to identify key areas to strengthen its sustainable economic development by utilizing a proper trade policy in this case the PTA or other trading policy or facilities	
2	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening local and domestic participation in providing goods and services; training; and employment in the Extractive Industries.	2024 to 2024	Enabling Timor-Leste to identify key areas to strengthen its labour, public and private sector to actively participate in the develop of its extractive industry in a sustainable approach	
3	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste’s Government on how to encounter any trade barriers such as trade protections and trade restrictions.	2024 to 2028	Enable Timor-Leste to identify various internal and external trade policy which will leading to any trade barriers such as protection and/or restriction which will impact its trading system	
4	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste’s Government on how to promote trade without discrimination, and fair competition.	2024 to 2028	Enable Timor-Leste to identify and elaborate the trade without discrimination and fair competition in it trade policies and economic management	
5	Technical and expert assistance on tariff analysis for market offers on goods.	2024	Enable Timor-Leste to have better understanding on how the offered tariff affect the current and future trading system and economic development against the	

			baseline sustainable development policy set out in the 2011-2030 NSDP aa amended.	
6	Technical and expert assistance on service offers	2024	Enable Timor-Leste to have better understanding on how the service offer affect the current and future trading system and economic development against the baseline sustainable development policy set out in the 2011-2030 NSDP aa amended.	
7	Technical and expert assistance on the initiation, negotiation processes and finalisation of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA).	2024- 2028	Enable Timor-Leste to identify key trading function and key trading partner for any FTA as well as how to work towards finalisation of any FTA in future	
8	Technical and expert assistance on clean energy and carbon trading policy.	2024 - 2028	Enable Timor-Leste to identify potential new market policy and system on clean energy and green trade policy	
9	Technical and expert assistance on dispute settlement system under applicable WTO rules (GAAT) including filing a dispute, filing a respondent, dispute processes and settling a dispute	2024 - 2028	Enable Timor-Leste to understand how dispute settlement under WTO rules as well as how to encounter or filing a dispute with WTO member.	

10	Technical and expert assistance on the least development country (LDC) access and restriction to a member state trading jurisdiction (based on exclusive jurisdiction, regionals and multinationals)	2024 - 2028	Enable Timor-Leste as a LDC to identify, mapping, draw and strengthening its trading system to penetrate and optimizing benefit from any trading jurisdiction of member state.	
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Name of the Institutions: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Negotiation Process and Negotiation Skills on Trade in Goods for agriculture and fishery products	Short Term	Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with skill negotiation	
2	Training on Negotiation strategies on agriculture and fishery sector	Medium Terms	Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with understand the benefit and impact negotiation.	
			Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with the	

3	Technical assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Tariff Analyses on sensitive products	Short and long run.	understanding on how the offered tariff affect the current and future trading system and economic development on agricultural products	
4	Training on Rules of Origin and Certificate of Origin	Medium Term	Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with better understanding on RoO and CoO	
5	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Customs Expert and Technical assistance for strengthening Customs Authority institution development Single Window	Long Term	Enabling Timor-Leste Customs Authority (TLCA) to strengthen and integrated the Platform integrated with Regional and Global Single Window.	
6	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Customs on singular provisions allowing LDCs to regulate when applying the individual provisions of the Agreement to determine the category for each of the technical measures under the Agreement.	Short Term	Enabling Timor-Leste Customs Authority (TLCA) to identify key areas to strengthen its sustainable capability to apply for each Category for Technical	
	Training on strengthening Timor-Leste IPR (Intellectual		Enabling Timor-Leste Customs Authority (TLCA) on dispute settlement system under applicable WTO rules (GAAT)	

7	Property Right) and its implementation	Short Term	including filing a dispute, filing a respondent, dispute processes and settling a dispute	
10	Training on institutional cooperation for future implementation of SPS and TBT.	Short Term, Medium Term and Long term.	Enabling Timor-Leste relevant institutional capacity in implementing SPS/TBT based on FAO/WHO technical institution of Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), International Plant Protection Convention and Office International des Epizooties (OIE)	
11	Training on implementation of Agreement on Agriculture (AoA).	Short term	Enabling AoA technical negotiator capacity building for implementing GATT 1994.	

Name of the Institutions: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Consultancy and advisory services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-house legal adviser in Commercial or Trade Law • In-house legal adviser in intellectual property law • In-house economist. 	3 years with possible extension	To support the creation and implementation of the trade related legislations that are indispensable for Timor-Leste economic integration (i.e.WTO, ASEAN, and EU-EPA) that will catalyse economic diversification.	
2	Consultancy and advisory services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSME's Policy • MSME's Regulatory Framework 	3 years with possible extension	To develop MSME's policy and regulatory framework in order to develop an integrated support for	

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
			local MSME growth that will catalyse economic diversification	
3	Consultancy and advisory services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial Park feasibility study • Industrial Park development adviser 	3-5 years with possible extension	To provide expertise in developing Timor-Leste industry sector including industrial park in order to attract FDI so as to grow and diversify economic.	
4	Consultancy and advisory services; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accession to Cross-Border Paperless Trade framework agreement. 	2 years with possible extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide technical expertise in the development and implementation of Cross-border paperless trade in order to streamline trade across border. • To improve Timor-Leste economic competitiveness and reduce trade deficit. 	
5	Consultancy and advisory services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical monitoring framework 	2 years with possible extension	To support in establishing Timor-Leste trade information system for transparency and evidence based – decision making.	
6	Consultancy and advisory services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enactment and implementation of rules of origin; 	3-5 years with possible extension	To support the creation and implementation rules of origin that is necessary for Timor-Leste economic integration.	
7	Scholarship of Digital Creating to support the e-commerce development, and e-banking.	2024 – 2028	Comply the WTO Accession Rules	

Name of the Institutions: Ministry of Justice

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Technical Assistances	2024-2028	To prepare the national legislation relation with mediation, arbitration and reconciliation law, and the regulations relating with the hypothec, insolvency and the system of registration of property rights.	N/A
2	Human Capacity Building	2024-2028	To support the implementation of the mentioned legislation.	N/A

Name of the Institutions: Timor-Leste Customs Authority, Ministry of Finance

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
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1	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Negotiation Process and Negotiation Skills on Trade in Goods	Short Term	Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with skill negotiation	N/A
2	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Analytical Analyses and impact on the negotiation	Medium Terms	Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with understand the benefit and impact negotiation.	N/A
3	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Tariff Analyses	Medium Term	Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with the understanding on how the offered tariff affect the current and future trading system and economic development	N/A
4	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Role of Origen and Certificate of Origen	Medium Term	Enabling TLCA in developing and strengthening the institutions with better understanding on RoO and CoO	N/A
5	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste FTA (Free Trade Agreement) ATIGA	Long Term	Enabling TLCA in developing and amended its legal for strengthening the institutions with butter understanding on FTA	N/A
	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste		Enabling Timor-Leste Customs Authority (TLCA) to strengthen and	N/A

6	Customs Expert and Technical assistance for strengthening Customs Authority institution development Single Window	Long Term	integrated the Platform integrated with Regional and Global Single Window.	
7	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Customs on singular provisions allowing developing and least-developed countries (LDCs) to regulate when they will apply individual provisions of the Agreement determine the category for each of the technical measures under the Agreement.	Short Term	Enabling Timor-Leste Customs Authority (TLCA) to identify key areas to strengthen its sustainable capability to apply for each Category for Technical	N/A
8	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste Customs Legal and technical expert assistance for strengthening and developing customs jurisdictions	Short Term	Enabling TLCA in developing and amended its legal for strengthening the institutions	N/A
9	Technical and expert assistance to strengthening Timor-Leste IPR (Intellectual Property Right)	Short Term	Enabling Timor-Leste Customs Authority (TLCA) on dispute settlement system under applicable WTO rules (GAAT) including filing a dispute, filing a respondent, dispute processes and settling a dispute	N/A

Name of the Institutions: Timor-Leste Tax Authority, Ministry of Finance

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1.	Technical and expert assistance in assessing Timor-Leste infrastructure and cross-country IT system required as a pathway to the implementation of Value Added Tax (VAT) regime.	Short to medium term depending on the duration of the referred assessment	Ensuring Timor-Leste has the required infrastructure and IT system ready for the94 implementation of VAT regime.	
2.	Capacity development program in the area of accounting and finance, auditing, law, human resource management, data analysis and revenue forecasting, information technology, e-Commerce, and other relevant areas.	Short to medium term	Ensuring Timor-Leste Tax Authority has the required human resources with the right skills and expertise in the area of Tax.	
12	Capacity Building Program: Technical assistance on implementing the VAT Law	2024 – 2028	Support Tax and Custom Authorities to implement the VAT Law	The Government of Thailand has confirmed to the Government of TL last year. However, it is required the technical team to have a further discussion about the potential cooperation in details.

Name of the Institutions: Secretary of State for Training and Employment

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Technical Assistance: Shorten training courses on Labour Market Test for the related government officials to implement the on Labour Market Test Law.	2024 – 2028	Comply the WTO Accession Rules	
2	Technical Assistance for the Government Official to used and implement the new system on New Apps for data collection.	2024 – 2028	Comply the WTO Accession Rules	
3	Training on Employment Portal Introduction from developed countries to enhanced the capacity of the related government officials to implement the policy Portal.	2024 – 2028	Comply the WTO Accession Rules	
4	Technical Assistance: Providing expert to do the analysis on Micro & Macroeconomic impact of Timor-Leste accession to WTO in each specific sector based on the WTO rules and regulation.	2024 – 2028	Comply the WTO Accession Rules	
5	Required support on Technical Assistance for Creation about digital Platform (Registration for employment support).	2023 – 2024	Comply the WTO Accession Rules	

Ministry of Transports and Communications

No.	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Maritime and port sectors legal frameworks and capacity building to enhance joint operation of maritime transport with the new National Maritime Authority	2024-2028	TA is needed to prepare for Timor-Leste maritime services sector commitment to WTO	
2	Civil Aviation Authority capacity building and trainings (AACTL.IP)	2024-2028	TA is needed for the civil aviation authority continued capacity building	<i>This needs to state specific sector (TBC)</i>
3	Airport Administration Public Company (ANATL-EP).	2023-2027	TA is needed for the airport expansion project in Dili	
4	Land Transport Directorate requires legal support on multimodal transport convention and land border transportation cooperation	2024-2028	TA is needed for land transport services commitment on enhancing cross border movement of people and goods	
5	Telecommunication Services legal & policy revision and fibre optic infrastructure development support	2024-2027	TA is needed to assist with Timor-Leste TELCOM policy revision.	
6.	Scholarships for Undergraduate, Master and PhD on IT studies to support the implementation of the Viber optic implementation project, e-commerce and data protection.	2024 - 2028	Support the reform and growth of transportations management, data protection, e-commerce.	

Investment and Export Promotion Agency (TradeInvest Timor-Leste)

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
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1	<p><u>INVESTMENT and EXPORT PROMOTION SERVICE:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance (TA) for development of <i>investment promotion package</i> focusing on productive sector (agriculture, tourism, manufacturing). • TA for development of <i>export promotion package</i> focusing on productive sector (agriculture, tourism, manufacturing). • TA for review of Investment Guide. • TA for development of digitalization approach and strategies. 	2024-2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable TradeInvest to perform its main function in investment and export promotion • To enable TradeInvest technical staff to increase the role of digitalization in promoting investment and export post-Covid 19 	
2	<p><u>INVESTMENT and EXPORT FACILITATION SERVICE:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA for further development of <i>Investment Tracking System</i> and TradeInvest official website. • TA for development of <i>sophisticated export promotion database management system</i>. • Trade negotiation skills training (as TradeInvest involves actively in WTO and ASEAN accession process). 	2024-2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable TradeInvest to improve and increase its facilitation service through information management system as the main value added for investors and exporters. • Trade negotiation training will increase the capacity of TradeInvest staff (<i>director and manager level</i>) to plan, facilitate and implement agreements related to investment and trade before and after accession. 	

3	<p>GOOD GOVERNANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership and integrity training Advanced training for Corporate Services (Finance, HR, IT, Procurement, Logistic). 	2024-2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership/integrity training will enhance the capacity and capability of TradeInvest staff (<i>director and manager level</i>) to perform their function. Corporate Services training will strengthen institutional development of TradeInvest. 	
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Instituto Quality of Timor-Leste (IQTL)

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Training for the Needs Assessments to quality infrastructure in IQTL	Short term courses depending on duration	To find out the capacity of human resources, laboratory infrastructure and what needs are needed by IQTL	
2	Training on Human resource development at the Indonesian Food and Drug Supervisory Agency and the Indonesian Standardization Agency and also at the	Short term depends on duration	to gain experience in carrying out their duties and functions in accordance with the duties and responsibilities of IQTL	

	Indonesian Directorate of Metrology			
3	TA for recruit qualify people to support the implementation of the the development quality infrastructure in Timor-Leste.	2024	To meet the necessary requirements to ensure the productivity and credibility of the country from a healthy trade process	
4	Training on TBT Diciplines	Short term depends on duration	Complete the laboratory equipment needed to guarantee the laboratory analysis process for imported and exported products.	This course is confirmed to be provided by the Government of New Zealand to the IQTL to be implemented in May 2023.
5	TA for scholarship opportunities for young Timorese to study overseas in related laboratory expert to support the implementation of the internal policies and WTO + ASEAN Commitment in trade and commerce activities in IQTL.	2024 – 2030	To prepare the human better institutional capacity to run the works in the specific related areas.	

Institute of Inspection and Supervision Authority of Sanitary and Food Economic Activity (AIFAESA).

No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Technical assistance and expertise for food inspections and economic activities in Timor-Leste;	2024-2028	To improve the quality of food control and economic activities in Timor-Leste as a consumer protection measure and ensure fair competition in trade.	
2	Technical assistance and expertise to develop Regulations and integrated control system in Timor-Leste in both the food and non-food sectors;	2024-2027	To develop an integrated monitoring/control system as well as develop adequate regulations and standards in both the food and non-food sectors.	
3	Technical assistance to carry out food risk assessments;	2024-2027	To assess food risk according to manual procedures applicable at the national and international level.	
4	Capacity building of human resources for inspection and laboratory technicians;	2024-2025	To increase knowledge of inspectors and laboratory technicians on conducting laboratory testing.	
5	Develop food laboratory infrastructure in Timor-Leste.	2024-2030	To procure adequate laboratory equipment and internationally accredited in order to control the export- import of goods from/to Timor-Leste.	

6	Shorten courses on TBT (Technical Barrier to Trade)	2024	Increase the human capacity building program.	This course will be provided by the Government of new Zealand
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No	Lists of the Support Required	Time Frame	Objectives	Remarks
1	Scholarship of Digitalization Platform development / IT studies	2024 - 2027	Support e-commerce and online or electronic business registration for easy doing business in Timor-Leste based on the standard of the World Bank for doing business	
2	TA for International Commercial Adviser	2024 - 2027	Business licensing and business registration law review.	
3	Capacity Building program to provide the business licensing and business registration.	2023	Enhance the institutional capacity to support the effectiveness of the intuitional daily activities	

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