



An assessment of Ethiopian Customs Law Provisions of Trade Facilitation: through the lenses of the WCO's RKC and the WTO TFA

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1. Introduction

- ❑ Ethiopia is a landlocked country which is found in Eastern Africans.
- ❑ Most exports and imports enter through Djibouti (95%) and through the airport at Addis Ababa (5%)

1. Introduction

In 2014,

- ❑ Ethiopia ranking puts the country at 166th in the world trade across border.
- ❑ On average, sub-Saharan African customs delays was 12 days in the region, while the average delays in Ethiopia - more than 44 days

1. Introduction

After 2014,

- ❑ To address these challenges, the government of Ethiopia developed ESW and several legal provision for trade facilitation
- ❑ The goal of current Customs Laws are to expedient and modern customs legal framework

1. Introduction

- ❑ The objective of the study is to investigate the compatibility of Ethiopian Customs Law Provisions of Trade Facilitation to RKC's and TFA.

2. Overview of RKC and TFA

- ❑ RKC is Convention for the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures
- ❑ Developed by the WCO and adopted in 1999 and entered into force in February 2006,
- ❑ Considered as the blueprint for Customs modernization and reform in 21st Century.
- ❑ The RKC consists of a Body, the General Annex and 10 Specific Annexes.

2. Overview of RKC's and TFA

- ❑ The TFA is the first multilateral trade agreement to be concluded since the WTO was established 20 years ago.
- ❑ Once Trade Facilitation Agreement agreed by Members at the Bali Ministerial Conference in December 2013.
- ❑ The TFA consist of three sections; these are technical measures, SDT, and Committees and Final Provisions.

3. Methodology

- ❑ The study used the IRAC (Issue, rule, application, and conclusion) method.
- ❑ Data that to carry out this assessment Ethiopia Customs Law Provision of Trade Facilitation, WCO's RKC's and WTO TFA are used.

4. The Relationship of Ethiopia Customs Laws with RKC's and TFA

TFA

Article 1. Publication and Availability of Information

Article 2. Opportunity to Comment, Information before Entry into Force and Consultations Methodology

RKC

RKC (GA) Chapter (§) 4 (4.4), § 9 (9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6, 9.7, 9.8; RKC §§ 7 (Guidelines)

RKC (GA) §§ 1 (1.3), 6 (Guidelines), 7 (Guidelines), and 9

ETH Customs Laws

Pro. 859/2014 Article 177 and 178

Pro. 1183/2020 Article 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, and 16

TFA

**Article 3: Advance
Rulings**

**Article 4:
Procedures for
Appeal or Review**

RKC

**RKC, GA§ 9 (9.9),
and 10**

RKC,GA§ 10

ETH Customs Law

**Pro.859/2014
Ar.103, and
Directive
No.121/2017**

**Pro.859/2014
Ar.152-155, and
Directive
No.107/2014**

TFA

Article 5: Other measures to enhance impartiality, non-discrimination and transparency

RKC

RKC, GA§ 3, (3.6 and 3.38), 6 (6.1.6.3, 6.4, 6.7)

ETH Customs Laws

Pro.859/2014
Art.4,5/2, 36, 56, 142, and 143

TFA

Article 6:Disciplines on
fees
and charges imposed
on or in connection
with importation and
exportation

RKC

RKC, GA §§ 3 (3.2, 3.39,
3.43) and 9
(9.1, 9.7); SA A § 1 (19)
SA H §1 (19, 20, 21, 22,
23, 24, 25

ETH Customs Laws

Pro. 859/5014 Art.122
and 148
Directive No. 112/2015

TFA

Article 7:
Release and
Clearance

RKC

RKC, GA §§, GA 3
(3.25, 3.13, 3.14, 3.17,
3.32, 3.34, 3.40), 4 (4.9)
and 5 (5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4,
5.5, 5.6, 5.7), GA §§§ 6
(6.3, 6.4, 6.5) and 7
(7.1); (Section 6.4, 6.8,
6.10, 6.15, 9.3 of the ICT
Guidelines)

ETH Customs Laws

Pro. 859/2014 Art
5/2, 10, 78, 80, 84,
85, 117, 121,
Pro. 1160/2019 Art.
51 Reg. 518/2022
Art. 11 and 13 Dir.
118/2016 Art. 11
and 12 Dir 41

TFA

Article 8. Border agency
cooperation

Article 9.
Movement of goods
under customs control
intended for import

RKC

RKC,GA § 3 (3.35)

RKC, SA E §§ 1 and 2

ETH Customs Laws

Pro. 859/20014 Art, 156

Pro.859/2014 Art. 16
Regu.518/2022
Dir.168/2020

TFA

Article 10.
Formalities
connected with
importation,
exportation and
transit

RKC

RKC, GA § 3 (3.6, 3.7, 3.11,
3.12, 3.13, 3.14, 3.15, 3.16,
3.17, 3.18, 3.19, 3.20, 3.25),
4 (4.19), 8 (8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4,
8.5, 8.6, 8.7) and § 7 (7.1,
7.2), RKC SA G § 1, RKC SA F
§§1, 2 and 3

ETH Customs Laws

Pro.859/2014 Art.
78, 65, 66, 71, 80,
and 142

Regu. No. 518/2022
Art. 16 and 17 Dir.
No. 153/2019 Art. 8
and 10 Dir. No. 28

TFA

Article 11.
Freedom of
Transit

Article 12: Customs
Cooperation

RKC

RKC, GA § 5; SA E §§ 1
and 2

RKC, GA §§ 1 (1.3), 3 (3.27, 3.28, 3.29,
3.31, 3.32, 3.39), 6 (6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6,
6.8, 6.9, 6.10) and 9 (9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5);
SA H § 1. (Standard 20, 23, 24 and 25)

ETH Customs Laws

Pro. 859/2014
Art. 16, 17. 18,
19, 20

Pro. 859/2014
Art, 139

5. Conclusion and Policy Implication

- ❑ RKC and WTO TFA are the guiding principle that consists of best practices for trade facilitation
- ❑ Despite being in line with Ethiopia customs laws and provision' TFA and RKC, there are also uncovered customs laws

5. Conclusion and Policy Implication

- ❑ Government can consider using RKC and TFA as a reference to improve Customs legislative
 - ❑ For Example, Customs Cooperation and border agency cooperation are often recommended as policy measures to improve border procedures

Thank You