



Moroccan Policy of Trade Facilitation and the Cooperation With the OIC Member States.

Presented for

The 8th meeting of the COMCEC working group on trade.

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The main elements of the intervention

- 1. The importance of the partnership between the Kingdom of Morocco and the OIC Member States.**
- 2. An overview of trade openness policy of Morocco.**
- 3. International commitments.**
- 4. The Trade Facilitation Efforts.**
- 5. Single Window Project of Foreign Trade.**
- 6. Status of PortNet project .**
- 7. The international conference on the Single Windows.**
- 8. The advantages of trade facilitation policy of Morocco.**
- 9. Encouraging results in terms of bilateral trade between Morocco and the OIC member state.**
- 10. Suggestions.**

1. The importance of the partnership between the Kingdom of Morocco and the OIC Member States

- **The kingdom of Morocco is working hard to support all established actions to enhancing the cooperation with its partners of the OIC members states, especially in the economic and trade fields.**
- **Morocco gives a special attention to these relationships across many measures like the signing of many agreements on preferential trade, and also by the participation in all economic and trade initiatives that are adopted under the COMCEC flag.**

2. An overview of trade openness policy of Morocco

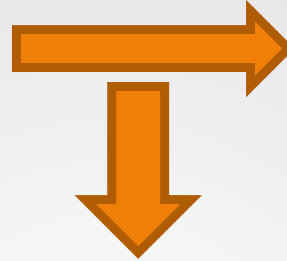
- Morocco adopted an ambitious policy for strengthening its presence in international trade, through the early accession to the multilateral trade system. Many regulations have also been established for more trade liberalization and to improve the business and investment climate.
- Several Free Trade Agreements were signing (which includes many of the OIC Member states) that allow a preferential access into a multiple regions of the world, through the preferential markets of more than a billion and a half billion consumers (50 countries).
- The main objective of this policy, is to enhancing its position in the traditional trade and to improve the performance of exports in the markets of new destinations.
- Several programs have been set up for business operators, and they are compatible with the national policy of industrial / agricultural fields, and transport / logistics sectors.



In this regards, Morocco became a main platform for investment, production and export towards markets, which made morocco a favorite destination for economic and trade operators.

3. International commitments

Trade facilitation



Important part of
the trade policy of
Morocco

Morocco has adhered to the international and trade facilitation standards:

- International Convention on the simplification and harmonization of customs procedures, revised in 1999 (Kyoto Convention).
- Geneva Convention on the harmonization of border procedures (1982).
- International Road Transport Convention (1975).
- Convention of Goods by Road (1970).

Morocco has also supported since its launch, the conclusion of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (Bali 2013)

4. The Trade Facilitation Efforts

- The simplification , the harmonization and the paperless of import and export bonds;
- The adoption in 1992 the mechanism of the Single Goods Declaration;
- Standardization of trade documents for export and import;
- The simplification and the computerization of customs clearance procedures;
- The removal of exchange commitment;
- The implementation of automated custom basis and networks (BADR system);
- Enhancing transparency (publication of all regulations of the foreign trade, and projects of laws);
- The establishment of a National Commission of International Trade Procedures Simplification.

- **In 2006, Morocco has developed a national plan to simplify procedures. It's recommended the simplification of those procedures and the establishment of a national single window according to international standards in foreign trade procedures.**
- **the impacts of such shares are valued according to the criteria of cost and operating time.**

5. Single Window Project of Foreign Trade



It's a national plan to simplify the international trade procedures and the dematerialization of foreign trade procedures, documents and the establishment of SWFT called **PortNet** , which aims to achieve the following objectives:

- **Streamline and Facilitating import and export procedures;**
- **Networking the foreign trade community;**
- **Open internationally through compliance with international standards;**
- **Enhancing the competitiveness of the national companies.**
- **The contribution of the Single Window is also crucial to ensuring a beneficial coherence for the activities of different operators, by allowing them to Strengthening their resources and their business information.**

6. Status of PortNet project

- The dematerialization of a set of documents: the summary declaration, notice of arriving ships, dangerous goods declaration, the import document;
- Dematerialized management is operational in all national ports;
- The dematerialization of transit and removal process is functional at Casablanca port and will be extended to other ports;
- Lunching of work the dematerialization of other documents: export license, health certificate, phytosanitary and normative;



- *The PortNet platform has nearly 25.000 users, more than 20.000 importers and exporters, nearly 792 freight forwarders, shipping agents 135, 7 administrations and 16 banks active in 11 ports in our country.*

7. The international conference on the Single Windows (Marrakech from 5 to 7 September 2016)



Morocco has organized the fifth edition of the International Conference on Single Window, from 5 to 7 September 2016 in Marrakech under the theme "virtual single window : the requirement for inclusive collaboration."

This event was organized in partnership with the National Ports Agency, the African Alliance for Electronic Trade, Administration of Customs and Indirect Taxes, and a set of actors in this area, and this, under the aegis of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics.

The organization of this conference is part of efforts of public and private sector to ensure an appropriate business climate for the international trade, through sharing the success stories and experiences in facilitation and electronic services to streamline the logistics of international trade.

- Morocco has organized also a several training workshops in this regard in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank Group and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, dedicated to the exchange of experiences among the OIC Member State.
- Within the same context, Morocco worked to enhancing its cooperation in this field with its OIC partners, especially with those from Sub-Saharia Africa, where it is currently preparing a study for the completion of platforms for logistic in some of this countries in collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank Group and National Company for Logistics.



It will give us, a positive impact on enhancing the flow of trade with these countries, in line with the OIC ten-year plan in the trade field.

8. The advantages of trade facilitation policy of Morocco

Documents required for export (number)	4
Documents necessary to import (number)	6
Time to export (days)	10
Time to import (days)	14
Customs clearance and technical inspection for export (days)	1
Customs clearance and technical inspection for import (Days)	2
World Ranking (Cross - Border Trade)	31

Source: Doing Business 2015

9. Encouraging results in terms of bilateral trade between Morocco and the OIC member state :

- These actions have contributed to increasing the global volume of trade between the kingdom and the OIC countries, by Turning the total volume from 6.9 billion USD in 2007 to 9.8 billion in 2008, and exceeding 10 billion through 2015.



A positive step regarding the implementation of the Ten-Year plan of action of OIC in terms of increasing the bilateral trade level.

10. Suggestions

It's recommended for more cooperation between the OIC Member States on the Cross Border trade:

- **The harmonization of import and export procedures in accordance with Bali Agreement on Trade Facilitation;**
- **Invite the Islamic Development Bank Group to increase the financial services provided to facilitate trade projects .**
- **The multiplication of activities and exchange of experience between the OIC member states in trade facilitation;**
- **the establishment of an information portal (OIC countries Export/Import Helpdesk) for publication of laws, procedures, conditions, rates and statistics on foreign trade and conditions of access to markets.**
- **Organize a seminar on trade facilitation efforts in collaboration with the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade.**
- **Allocate future annual exchange views of the COMCEC for facilitating trade.**

Thank you for your attention