

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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**Committee on Trade and Development  
Integrated Framework for Trade-Related  
Technical Assistance**

TRADE-RELATED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS-ASSESSMENT  
AND INTEGRATED RESPONSES BY IMF, ITC, UNCTAD,  
UNDP, WORLD BANK AND WTO<sup>1</sup>

HAITI

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\*A previous version of this document was circulated as WT/LDC/HL/12/Add.5.

<sup>1</sup>The first part of this document, which includes the needs-assessment for trade-related technical assistance, prepared by Haiti, is contained in document WT/LDC/HL/12/Add.5 and is not reproduced in this document.

INTEGRATED RESPONSE BY IMF, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP, WORLD BANK AND WTO  
TO THE NEEDS-ASSESSMENT OF HAITI

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
In reply to question A(k):  <u>Technical assistance requirements for compliance with WTO Agreements</u>		
Haiti needs the kind of technical assistance that would enable it to:  Implement the WTO Agreements. The technical support of the WTO Secretariat is needed in updating Haitian law applicable to areas managed by the WTO.	UNDP	The UNDP, in cooperation with UNCTAD, is providing assistance to the Government in installing SYDONIA. This project also addresses some aspects of legislation notification requirements. Another project in support of the Parliament will also deal with some aspects of the reform of the codes.
	WTO	WTO is ready to provide assistance, in Haiti, for adapting national laws and regulations to be in conformity with WTO Agreements (1998-2000).  An evaluation mission will be scheduled for 1998 in order to determine the appropriate adjustments.
Respond to the requirements concerning the notification of domestic laws and regulations contained in the provisions of the various mechanisms of the WTO Agreements.	WTO	The WTO can provide assistance in the form of a special session on notification requirements.  This session will take place in conjunction with other aid activities planned for 1998.
Strengthen the public and private-sector institutions directly involved in trade policy matters, in particular the Ministry of Trade and Industry, <i>inter alia</i> through staff training (courses, seminars, trade policy training courses, etc.).	UNCTAD	A project will be conducted on trade analysis and the development of trade capacity.*

\*Financing to be requested.

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
Question A(k) (cont'd):	ITC/UNDP	<p>The Government and UNDP are supporting the Private Sector - Public Sector Partnership initiative. The project has the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Strengthening and creating mechanisms to encourage dialogue between the public and private sectors;</li> <li>(b) preparing a training and support programme for entrepreneurs, designed to enable them to operate on competitive markets, both national and international;</li> <li>(c) drawing up a programme to improve the competitiveness of enterprises by means of quality promotion and control and standardization.</li> </ul>
	WTO	<p>To strengthen existing institutions, the WTO will carry out the following actions for the training and information of managers of these institutions in regard to the multilateral trade system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A national seminar in 1998 on textiles and services;</li> <li>- participation by representatives of Haiti in the specialized seminars organized for French-speaking LDCs (1998 and 1999);</li> <li>- a three-week training course on trade policy will be organized for French-Speaking LDCs (1998 and 1999).</li> </ul>

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
In reply to question A(l):  <u>Technical assistance needs in specific areas of the WTO Agreements</u>		
Agriculture	WTO	See A(k).
Market access	WTO	See A(k).
TBT and SPS	WTO	See A(k).
Services	WTO	See A(k).
TRIPS	WTO	Under the WTO/WIPO Technical Cooperation Agreement, assistance will be provided for the training of Haitian civil servants and in the form of dissemination of information and supplies of teaching materials.
Anti-dumping	WTO	- See A(k).  - Assistance in the drafting or revision of laws will also be decided after the evaluation mission (1998-2000).
Safeguards	WTO	- See A(k).  - Assistance regarding the drafting or revision of laws will also be decided after the evaluation mission (1998-2000).
Customs valuation	WTO	- See A(k).  - Assistance in the revision of laws in force will also be decided at the end of the evaluation mission (1998-2000).
Rules of origin	WTO	See A(k).
Textiles and clothing	WTO	See A(k).

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
In reply to question A(m):  <u>Assessment of trade analysis and negotiating capacities</u>		
In view of the shortage of information, the country's trade analysis and negotiating capacities are very low.	UNCTAD	UNCTAD is providing the TRAINS analysis and information system and will train the staff needed to operate it.*
	WTO	During short-term training courses in trade policy (cf. A(k) above), a training module will be included in the programme in order to familiarize participants with multilateral trade negotiations.

\*Financing to be requested.

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
In reply to question B(g):  <u>Technical assistance needs with respect to supply constraints</u>		
Training of human resources working in the field of foreign trade, not only in the public sector, but also in the private sector.	ITC	See A(k). The ITC has offered a series of activities intended to assess existing needs and capacity for training in foreign trade, including the development of the basic teaching materials.*
	UNCTAD	The TRAINFORTRADE programme will be implemented.*
	World Bank	A current World Bank Technical Assistance Project supports  (a) public sector reform,  (b) privatization, and  (c) modernization of public enterprises. This project will increase output of electricity and improve telecommunications. It will also support improvements in the port and airport sectors.  The IFC provides advice to the Government on privatization. A current World Bank Transportation Project supports road maintenance and rehabilitation, particularly roads serving the airport and the ports.
	UNDP	As regards the training of human resources working in the field of foreign trade, not only in the public sector, but also in the private sector, the UNDP does not yet have a specific project. Nevertheless, the report of the Inter-Agency Mission on the Industrial and Trade Sectors also includes recommendations in this regard and UNDP could support such activities, through the Private Sector - Public Sector Partnership Project, for example.

\*Financing to be requested.

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
Question B(g) (cont'd):		
	World Bank	Current World Bank support of human resource development focuses on primary education and basic public health.  Current World Bank support is provided for general public service reform.
	WTO	See A(k).
Modernization of the legislation applicable to foreign trade and investment, with due attention to the regulatory framework of world trade.	UNCTAD	Consultancy services and training will be provided in investment policy in general and investment legislation in particular.*
	WTO	See reply A(k).
	World Bank	The World Bank has supported reform of trade restrictions and will continue to support such reform.
Development of a policy framework in the fields of trade and industry		The agencies have indicated their willingness to cooperate with the Government in identifying specific operational needs and setting priorities.  It will be necessary to hold further talks with the Government to develop specific projects and programmes and work out the terms of financing.
	World Bank	Current World Bank support is provided for general public service reform.

\*Financing to be requested.

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
In reply to question B(q):  <u>Technical assistance needs in the area of trade promotion and support services</u>		
Education and/or training of human resources	ITC	See B(g) and A(k).
	UNCTAD	See B(g).
	WTO	See A(k) and A(l).
Improvement of trade information	ITC	See B(g). The ITC has furthermore proposed the creation of a trade information centre to meet the current needs of enterprises.*
	UNCTAD	TRAINS, see A(l).
Strengthening of employer associations		

\*Financing to be requested.



Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
In reply to question B(v):  <u>Technical assistance needs with respect to market access</u>		
Staff education and/or training of staff in the field of preferences (GSP, GSTP), including the organization, in Haiti, of seminars and workshops on the use of these mechanisms by the domestic sectors concerned	ITC	See B(g).
	UNCTAD	Assistance will be provided to overcome the difficulties of using the GSP and, more generally, information will be provided on conditions of market access and the implementation of the GSTP. Additional resources will be sought to complete those available for the existing interregional projects (See also UNDP hereunder).
	UNDP	The UNDP is ready to provide technical assistance in making use of the services of other corporation agencies such as UNCTAD and ITC, as well as the WTO, while making allowance for presently existing national possibilities. UNDP is therefore exploring the possibility of organizing seminars on foreign trade in conjunction with the Government and the private sector, with the technical support of the WTO.
Improvement of information channels designed to enhance the exploitation of foreign market outlets, <i>inter alia</i> , through preference schemes, etc.	ITC	See B(q).
	UNCTAD	In addition to the TRAINS system (see A(m)), UNCTAD will support the establishment of a Trade Point which will be linked to the World Network of Trade Points.*
The organization of a study on the opportunities for Haitian products on foreign markets	ITC	See A(k).

\*Financing to be requested.

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
In reply to question C(b):  <u>Summary of technical needs by order of priority</u>		
Drawing up of a detailed inventory of Haiti's exportable supply: this involves assessing the current situation in the areas of agriculture, agro-industrial and manufacturing production for foreign markets with a view to formulating an integrated national policy for the development and promotion of exports, particularly non-traditional exports	ITC	See A(k).
	UNCTAD	See A(k).
	World Bank	See B(g).
Training of human resources in the field of foreign trade, not only in the public sector, but also in the private sector. This training would involve, in particular, trade policy matters (courses, training courses, seminars, workshops, etc.), the use of preferential mechanisms (GSP, GSTP, etc.), foreign trade promotion techniques, quality standards, standardization/testing and metrology, trade data processing techniques, etc.	ITC	See B(g).
	UNCTAD	See B(g) and B(v).
	WTO	See A(k), A(l) and A(m).
Trade information: improvement of trade information by setting up suitable management structures (establishment of a trade information centre, a trade point, etc.)	ITC	See B(q).
	UNCTAD	See B(v).
Conducting of studies on foreign market opportunities for Haitian products	ITC	See A(k).

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
Question C(b) (cont'd):		
Modernization of Haitian legislation and regulations on trade and investment. This modernization would be carried out, in particular, in the context of the implementation of the WTO Agreements.	UNCTAD	See B(g).
	WTO	See A(k) and A(l).
Establishment of foreign trade support mechanisms (market surveys, participation in fairs and exhibitions, etc.)	ITC	See A(k).
Quality, standardization, testing and metrology, particularly in connection with the formulation of a national policy in that area, from the triple point of view of production, export of goods, and/or export of services. It is also essential to design the most appropriate institutional framework possible with due regard to the interaction of several domestic actors in those areas.	UNDP/ (UNIDO)	<p>This project relates to one of the most important aspects of UNDP support in this area and on which PASIC and the Ministry of Trade and Industry are currently working, with a view to introducing and implementing a national standardization, certification and quality control policy.</p> <p>Technical support will be sought from a specialized agency, such as UNIDO or the International Organization for Standardization. Promotion and facilitation of private and public sector participation in the work of international and regional bodies in the field of standardization and metrology have been particularly recommended.</p>

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
<p>In reply to question C(d):</p> <p><u>Technological capacity and human resources to make use of the new information/communication technology tools</u></p>		
<p>The use of these new technologies is not at all widespread in Haiti, either in the public or in the private sector. This largely explains why the country has fallen so far behind in collecting, processing and disseminating information in all forms, a situation which is further aggravated by acute telecommunication problems.</p> <p>Technical assistance to Haiti in this area could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supply of computer equipment, particularly to the public sector institutions involved in foreign trade matters, promotion of foreign trade, etc., in order to help them to improve their management of industrial and trade information as a factor in the development of foreign trade;</li> <li>- the training of human resources in the use of these tools.</li> </ul>	UNCTAD	<p>The SYDONIA project is providing assistance in the computerization of customs operations.</p>
	IMF	<p>While the Fund has not provided direct technical assistance to Haiti in the area of trade development, it has supported various trade promotion initiatives (e.g., implementation of a Computerized Customs Information System - SYDONIA, and adoption of a harmonized and simplified tariff system) and included these measures as part of structural reforms within the Fund-supported economic reform programme adopted by the Government of Haiti in 1996.</p>

Technical assistance needs identified in the questionnaire	Organization	Reply
Question C(d) (cont'd):	UNDP	<p>As regards technological capacity and human resources to make use of the new information/communication technology, two UNDP projects are providing assistance to the Government. First, the HAI/95/007 SYDONIA project (jointly with UNCTAD) on customs and foreign trade statistics under this project, and second, the HAI/95/009 project, in collaboration with the IMF, specifically as regards the strengthening of the Haitian Statistics and Informatics Institute in collecting, processing and disseminating all types of information.</p>
	WTO	<p>The WTO will be able to supply a computer and a laser printer for the Government focal point on questions related to the multilateral trading system (1998).</p> <p>The WTO will also be able to provide the focal point with the necessary Internet connections and to supply Haiti with CD-ROMs. It will also provide training in the use of the computer and electronic equipment (1998).</p>