International Trade Centre

Facilitating trade and business continuity while coping with COVID – 19

ITC's experience of continuing technical assistance from Business perspective

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COVID-19: a health crisis that challenges economy and cross-border operations

Lives & **Livelihoods**

While adhering to social distances principles, speed up clearance without compromising safety issues and controls

- Border coordination
- Simplification of procedures
- Automation and digitalization

Trade Policy is part of solution and…

Trade Facilitation is more important than ever

Analysis and insights from businesses

- More than **60%** of MSEs are strongly affected by COVID-19, compared to **43%** of large firms
- **~20%** of SMEs are at risk of shutting down permanently
- **21%** of small businesses were agile in their response to the crisis, compared to just **16%** of larger firms

TFA measures that helped ITC to keept the reform momentum high since breakout of Covid 19

Streamlining procedures

PPD and NTFC online

Advance rulings

Pre-arrival processing

Acceptance of copies

Online Trade Portals

Digitalization of CO

AEO scheme

Regional dialogue and harmonization

NTFC - COVID 19 response

Digitalization is the biggest enabler of TF reforms

Key success factor: inclusive, comprehensive, and coordinated public - private dialogue

Inclusive	Comprehensive	Coordinated
Ensure that all economic sectors and companies of all sizes are represented in the PPD process	Be involved in the prioritization of reforms, policy formulation, implementation through PPD and monitoring	To be effective and successful, businesses must coordinate amongst themselves

Thank you for your attention