

The Estey

Journal of International Law and Trade Policy

Abstract

Enhancing Trade Facilitation in Guyana: The Case for Improved Inter-Agency Coordination

Kim Stephen

Commonwealth Master of Public Administration Candidate

Graduate School of the Social Sciences

University of Guyana, Turkeyen, Georgetown, Guyana

Dianna DaSilva-Glasgow

Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences

University of Guyana, Turkeyen, Georgetown, Guyana

With an expanding oil and gas economy and increased international trade transactions, the demands on trade institutions in Guyana will similarly expand. Within the confines of transaction cost theory, this paper examines the current level of inter-agency coordination among key trade agencies with a view towards determining how it impacts the cost of conducting trade and whether it is sufficient to support a reduction in trade transaction costs and improve trade performance. A mixed method approach was utilized that saw structured interviews being conducted with traders and non-structured interviews with trade agencies, using a non-probability convenience sampling approach. The research finds that the degree of coordination is insufficient and results in repetitive and redundant processes that may lead to delays and other costs.

Keywords: communication, coordination, transaction costs, trade facilitation, traders

*Editorial Office: Estey Journal of International Law and Trade Policy, College of Law,
University of Saskatchewan, 15 Campus Dr., Saskatoon, SK, S7N 5A6, Canada
Phone (306) 966-6879; email: estey.j.editor@usask.ca*