



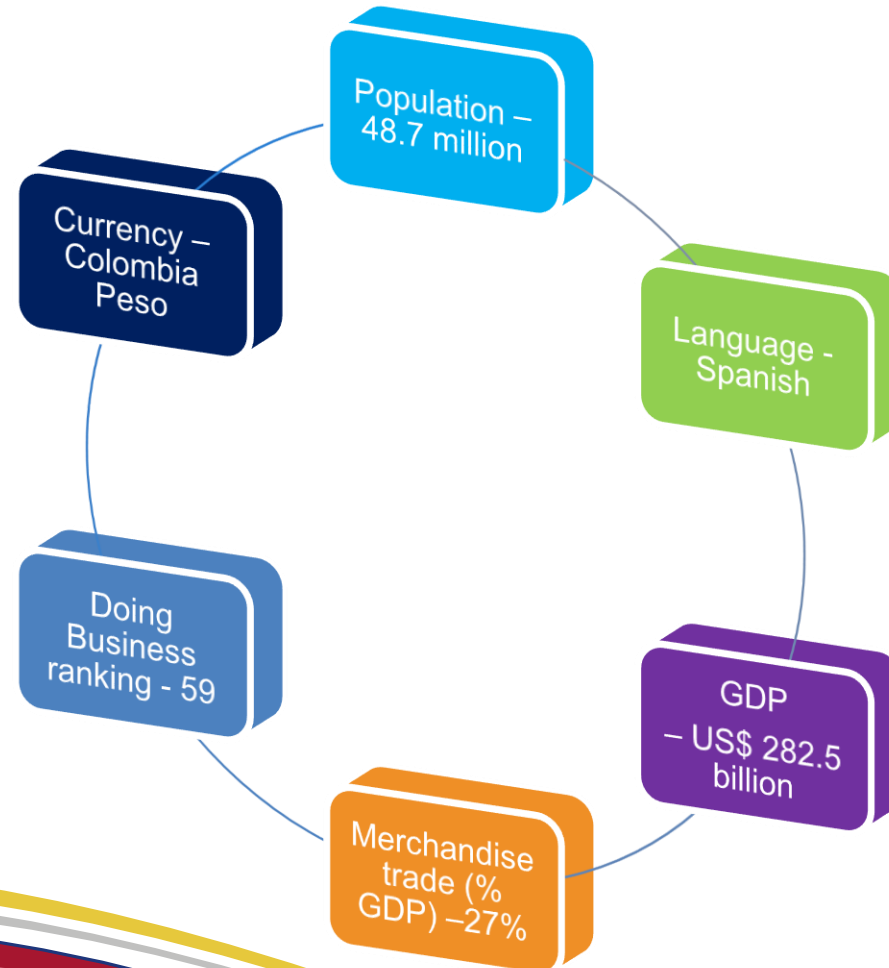
CARICOM-COLOMBIA AGREEMENT ON TRADE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

**PRESENTED BY: MS. MELISSA MARSHALL
JUNE 12, 2018**

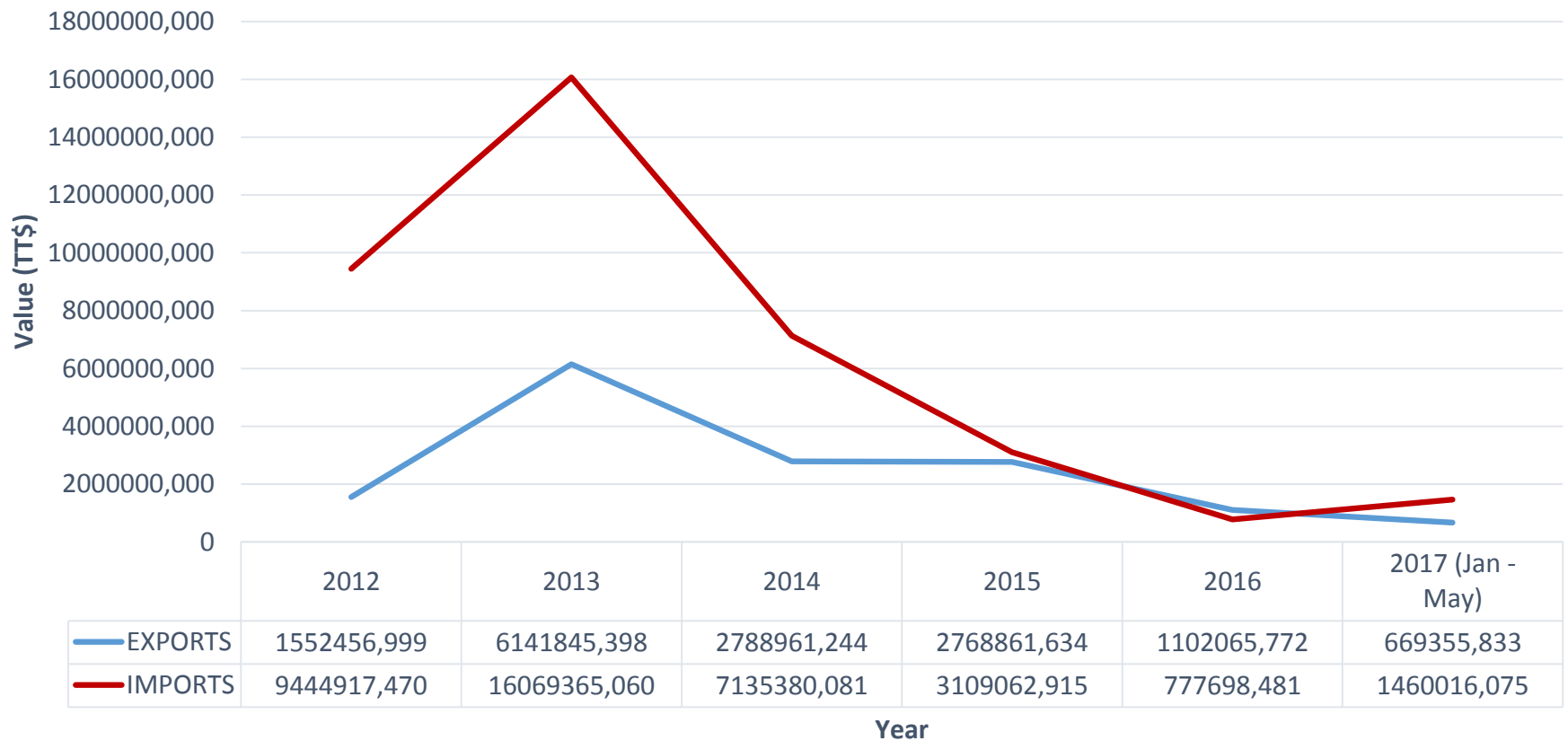
Overview

- Key Facts
- Trade with Colombia
- Overview of CARICOM-Colombia Trade Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement and Protocol amending the Agreement
- Products covered under the Agreement
- Useful tips to consider when reading the Agreement
- Status of the Agreement
- Non-tariff measures facing exporters in Colombian Market
- How can non-tariff measures and requests for additional market access be addressed under the Agreement?

Key Facts



Trinidad and Tobago's Trade with Colombia 2012 - 2017 (Jan-May)



— EXPORTS — IMPORTS

Trade with Colombia - 2016

Trinidad and Tobago's Trade with Colombia (2016)

Total Exports	TT\$ 1.1 B
Total Imports	TT\$ 777 M
Top 5 Exports	Liquefied natural gas, anhydrous ammonia, methanol, urea, other hot-rolled non-alloy bars/rods irregular coils
Top 5 Non-energy exports	Other hot-rolled non-alloy bars/ irregular coils, hot rolled/drawn/ extruded non-alloy bars/rods, cereal preparations, toilet or facial tissue stock, parts for machinery
Top 5 Imports	Other crude petroleum, other chemically pure sucrose (solid), lead-acid electric accumulators for piston engines, liquid dielectric transformer and other closed tubes/pipes/profiles of iron/steel

Instruments guiding preferential trade between CARICOM and Colombia

1994

CARICOM-Colombia
Agreement on Trade
Economic and Technical
Cooperation

Beneficiary of Preferences:
CARICOM only

1998

Protocol amending the
CARICOM-Colombia
Agreement on Trade
Economic and Technical
Cooperation

Beneficiary of Preferences:
both CARICOM & Colombia

CARICOM-Colombia Trade, Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement

1994 CARICOM-Colombia Agreement

- signed on July 24, 1994 and entered into force on January 1, 1995
- initially a one-way preferential agreement providing access to CARICOM exports
- included a commitment for the CARICOM More Developed countries (MDCs) – Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago to grant preferential access to Colombia at the beginning of the fourth year of the Agreement

Articles contained in the Agreement

Chapter I

Objectives

Joint Council/Meetings of
the Joint Council

Chapter II

Trade Liberalisation and treatment
of goods

Rules of origin

Trade in Services

Trade Promotion, trade financing
and transportation

General Exceptions, technical
standards, safeguard clauses and
unfair trade practices

Chapter III

Economic Cooperation

Technical Cooperation

Chapter IV

Private sector activities

Settlement of disputes and
Evaluation of the Agreement

Adherence to the
Agreement by other
Members

Termination and Entry
into Force

Products covered under 1994 CARICOM-Colombia Agreement

Annex	Products granted preferential access
Annex I – List of Products for Immediate Duty Free Concession	Tea, coffee, confectionery (with sugar), pepper sauce, rum, beer, table salt, lubricating oils, urea, methanol, shampoo, deodorant, iron and steel products, ceramic roofing tiles
Annex II – List for Gradual Duty Reduction	Frozen beef, chilled or frozen pork, milk and cream (condensed and sweetened), rice flour, wheat germ, cocoa powder, pasta, concentrated orange juice, ketchup, mayonnaise, cigars, toilet soap, insecticides, lamps and electric fittings
Annex III – List of Products for which duty concession could be negotiated in the future	Frozen fish and shrimp, plantains, wheat flour, soya bean oil, coconut oil, margarine, pitch, building cement, laundry soap, toilet paper, paper and paper products, primary cells and batteries, electric water heaters

CARICOM-Colombia Trade, Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement

1998 Protocol amending the CARICOM-Colombia Agreement

- Agreement amended and entered into force on June 1, 1998 to provide duty free access for Colombian exports into CARICOM MDCs
- CARICOM LDCs were not required to grant preferences but benefit from preferential access into the Colombian market
- In June 1999, Trinidad and Tobago established interim measures to implement the preferences under the Agreement

1998 Protocol amending the CARICOM-Colombia Agreement

CARICOM products which receives preferences

Annex	CARICOM products which receive preferences in Colombia
Annex I – Products granted immediate duty-free concession	Portland cement, pitch, lubricating oils, anhydrous ammonia, hydraulic brake fluids, cement sacks, iron and steel products, incandescent lamps and tubes for street lighting
Annex V – Products subject to be accorded gradual duty reduction	Frozen pacific salmon, frozen tuna and herrings, bananas, plantain, malt extract, grapefruit juice, solid rubber tyres, fuses, circuit breakers, electric conductors, bicycles, metal and wood furniture

1998 Protocol amending the CARICOM-Colombia Agreement

Colombian products granted preferences

Annex	Colombian products granted preferences by CARICOM
Annex II – Products granted immediate duty-free concession	Garlic, potato starch, lettuce seeds, tomato seeds, malt extract, liquefied butane, medicines, cement sacks, machinery and parts (such as for the manufacture of confectionery and preparation of poultry)
Annex IV – Products subject to be accorded gradual duty reduction	Pimento, iron and steel products, electrical insulators (of ceramic), baby carriages, motorcycles

Useful points to consider when reading the Agreement

1. There are 2 instruments to examine when considering preferential trade with Colombia:
 - i. 1994 Agreement on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation; and
 - ii. 1998 Protocol amending the Agreement

Useful points to consider when reading the Agreement

2. If you are interested in **importing** from Colombia, you need to examine:
 - Annex II and IV of the 1998 Protocol amending the Agreement.
3. If you are interested in **exporting** to Colombia, you need to examine:
 - Annex I and II of the 1994 Agreement; and
 - Annex I and V of the 1998 Protocol amending the Agreement

Status of the Agreement

- The Agreement is currently in force and manufacturers can benefit from preferential access to the Colombia market.
- Trinidad and Tobago has established interim measures to implement the preferences granted under the Agreement

Non-tariff measures (NTMs)

- What are non-tariff measures?

Any policy measures other than tariffs applied by governments at the border that can determine the extent to which a good has access to the import market.

- Non-tariff measures reported by local companies in the Colombian Market

- Post Shipment Audits may be undertaken up to one year after the transaction thereby reducing the legal certainty for exporters
- Colombia levies an excise tax on alcoholic beverages with an alcohol content of 35% or more, which affects exports of CARICOM rum (at 40% alcohol content) which compete with domestically produced alcoholic beverages of 35% alcohol content and less, thereby creating an uneven playing field. It should be noted that alcoholic beverages are not covered under the Agreement.

How can NTMs and additional market access be addressed under the Agreement?

Meetings of the Joint Council

- Submit information on NTMs being experienced with relevant supporting evidence
- Requests for duty free treatment of products not covered under the Agreement

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Additional Information

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