



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2022/SOM3/CTI/DIA/012**

Session 4

**From Lack of Interest to Positive Participation -  
Chinese Taipei's Experiences in Enhancing  
Transparency and Private Sector Engagement in  
Technical Barriers to Trade Notifications**

Submitted by: Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research



**Public-Private Dialogue on Promoting  
Transparency of Technical Barriers to Trade  
WTO Notifications: Improving Completeness  
and Clearness of Information**

**Chiang Mai, Thailand  
21-22 August 2022**

PPD on Promoting Transparency of TBT WTO  
Notifications: Improving Completeness and Clearness of  
Information

***From Lack of Interest to Positive Participation***

Chinese Taipei's Experiences in Enhancing Transparency and  
Private Sector Engagement in TBT Notifications

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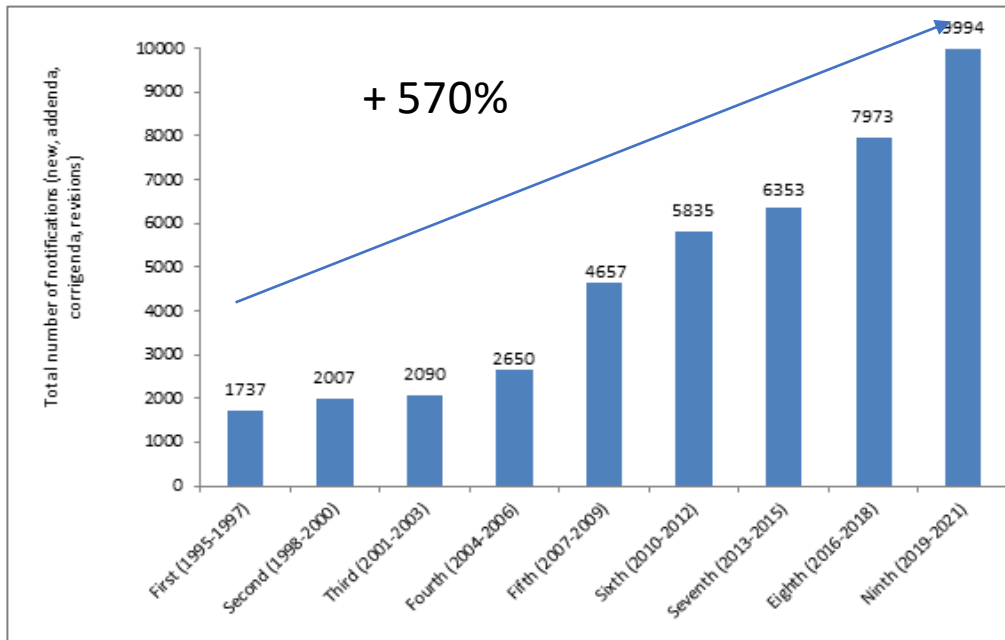
Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research

# The objectives of the TBT notification regime

- To offer Members ex-ante knowledge of technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures other Members are planning to introduce/amend.
- To reduce potential technical barriers to trade by providing the opportunity for other Members to assess the impact and identify possible WTO inconsistency issues.
- To allow manufacturers and exporters to prepare their products and services for new technical requirements in advance.

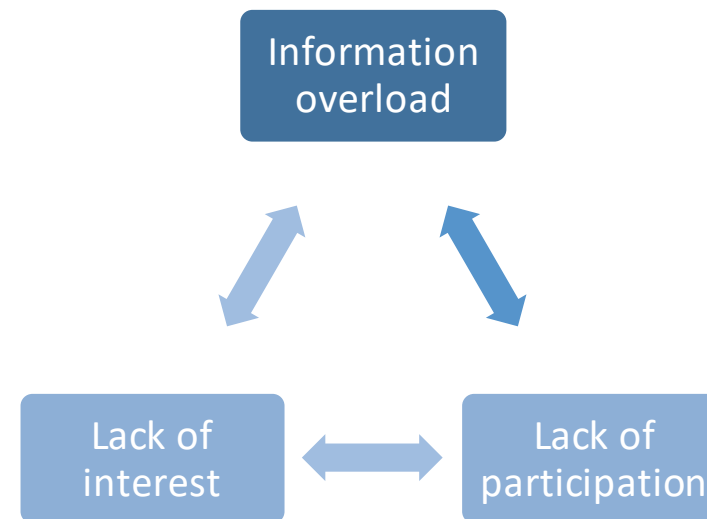
# The reality: private sector participation is restricted due to information overload

## Information overload: the growth of notifications

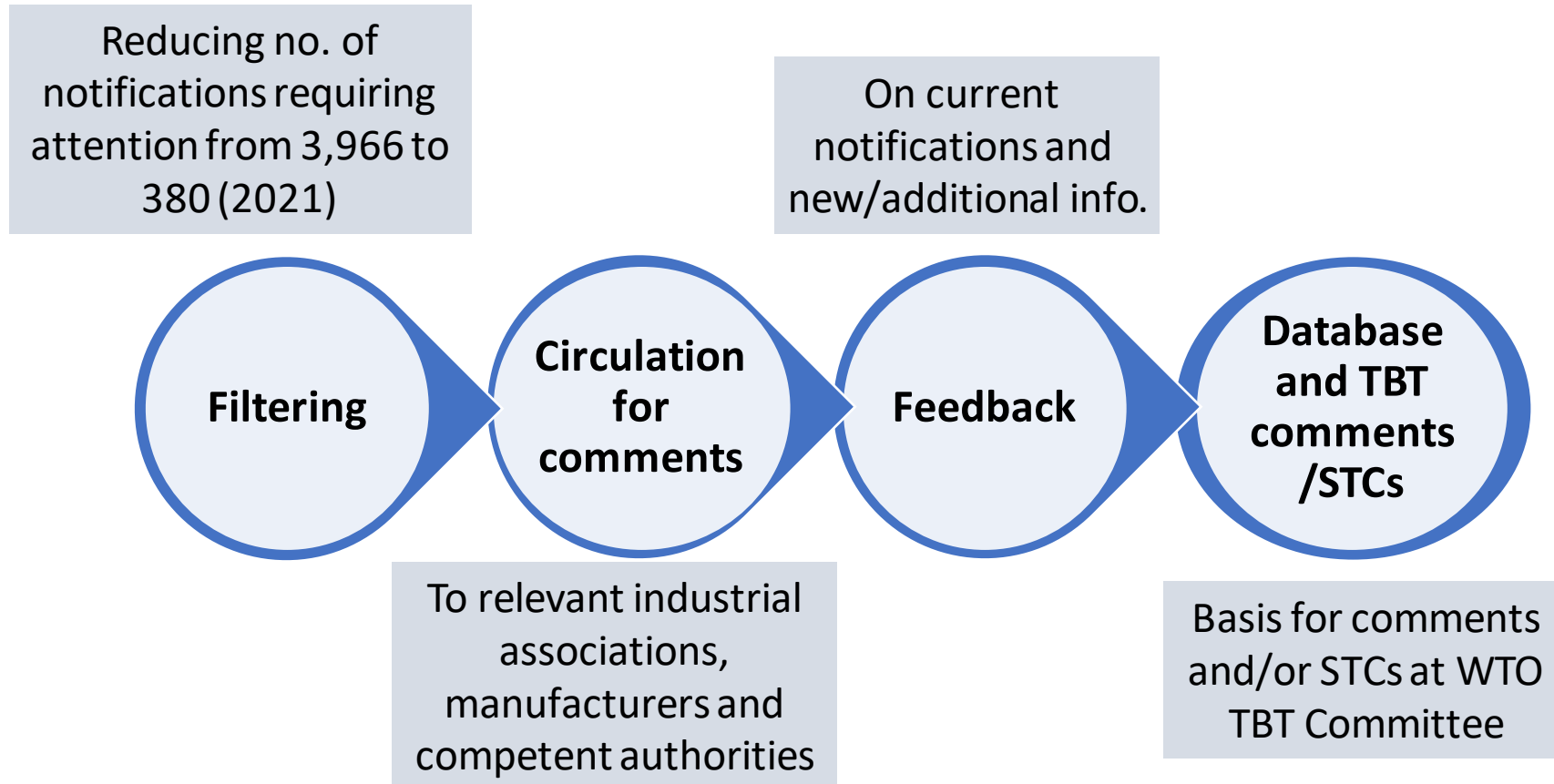


Source: G/TBT/46

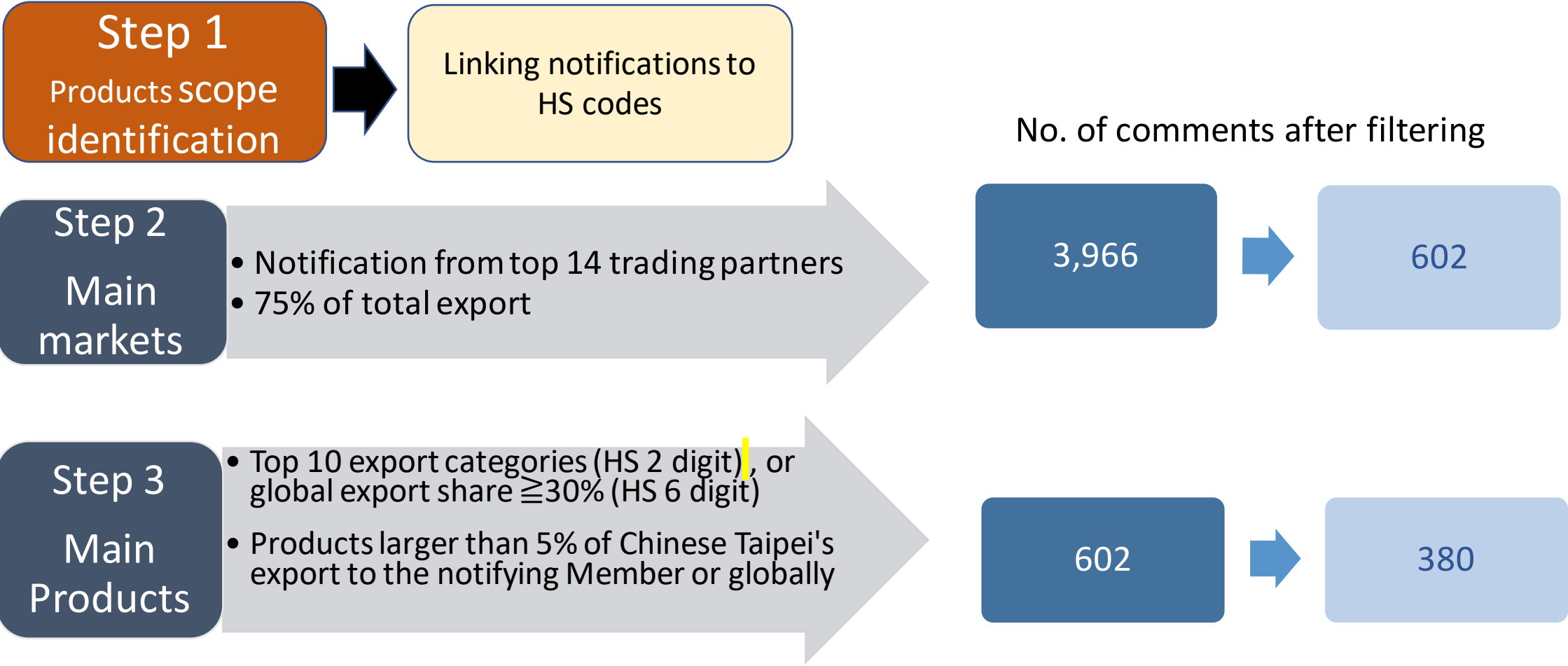
- Information overload issue renders domestic stakeholders unable to understand: on average over **3,000** TBT notifications from Members annually
- Difficult for private sectors to understand the scope and commercial implications, especially for MSMEs
- On average, only 2 comments from private sectors were received annually before 2020



# Chinese Taipei initiated a new approach to address the limitation and encourage participation



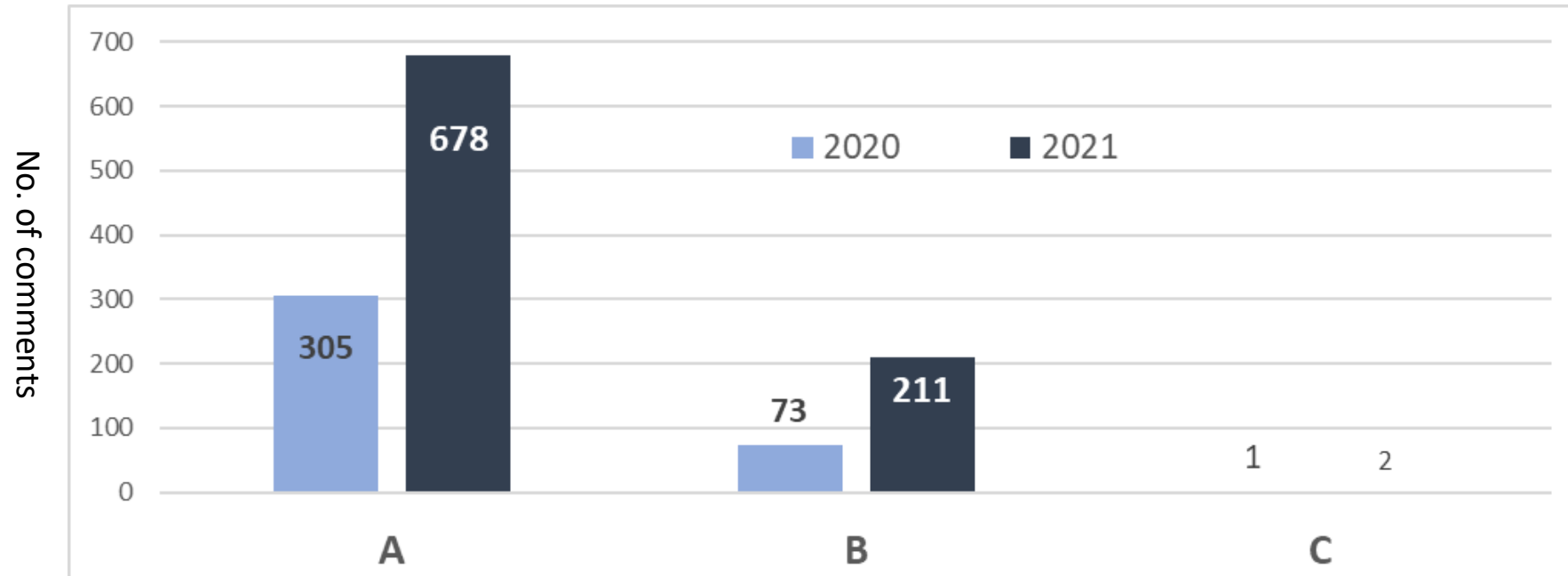
# The filtering process



Frequency: every fortnight

# Result: elevated interest and level of participation

## Changes in the number of private sector comments on notifications



**A**= No impact/not relevant

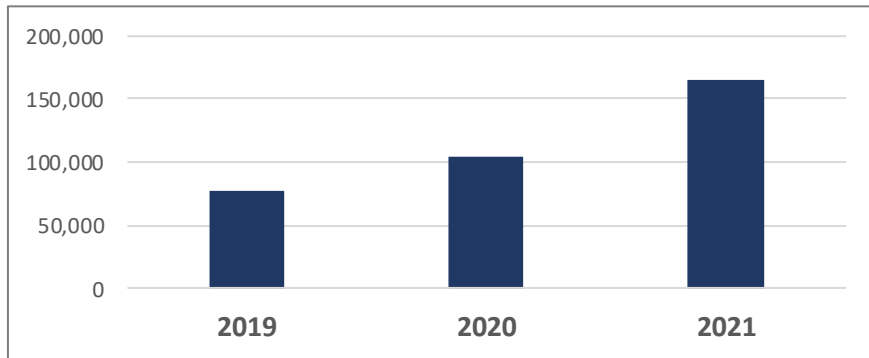
**B**= Potential impact but measures justified

**C**= Major impact (major production impact and/or export restrictions)

Source: Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection, Chinese Taipei

# Enhancing Information accessibility: new database and workshops in 2021

No. of webpage views



- Two virtual workshops were organized in 2021 to collect private sectors feedbacks on the circulating and commenting system, as well as on promoting the new database.
- Sectors involved: chemicals, cosmetics, food, batteries, lighting and steel

<http://db2.wtocenter.org.tw/tbt/>

TBT資訊暨強制性商品檢驗規定資料庫

by 中華經濟研究院(WTO&RTA中心)

首頁 TBT介紹 技術性法規通知文件(TBT通知文件) 申請寄送各國TBT資訊 強制性商品檢驗規定 相關連結

**Notifications concerning major partners & products**

**TBT通知文件**

- HS 85 電機設備及其零件
- HS 84 機械用具及其零件
- HS 39 塑膠及其製品
- HS 90 光學儀器及其零件
- HS 27 礦物燃料
- HS 87 車輛及其零件
- HS 29 有機化學產品
- HS 72 鋼鐵
- HS 73 鋼鐵製品
- HS 74 銅及其製品

最新TBT技術性文件

- G/TBT/N/KOR/1058 2022/2/22

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade - Notification - Republic of Korea - Rules on the performance of their parts ...
- G/TBT/N/TPKM/4

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade - Notification - The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu - Verification and inspection of electric vehicle supply equipment
- G/TBT/N/ISR/103

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade - Notification - Israel - Ladders - Addendum.....
- G/TBT/N/ISR/1235 2022/2/22

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade - Notification - Israel - Flat glass panels for use in buildings.....

公告...

經濟部標準檢驗局為我國世界貿易組織技術性貿易障礙協定查詢單位(簡稱我國TBT查詢單位),過去均定期將WTO發出有關各會員即將實施的檢驗措施規定草案通知文件傳遞了大眾,此類通知文件所包含之檢驗措施範圍涵蓋許多類別,若貴單位有其需求,歡迎多加申請。

[【我要申請】](#)

• **Subscribe/search function**

• **Summary of key elements**

• **Initial impact assessment (if available)**



# Summary of experience

**Filtering & circulation  
Accessible database**

Focused  
Information

Better understanding of  
private sectors' interest

- **Regulations update**
- **Consistent with commercial interest**

Elevated  
Interest

Increased  
Participation

- **Inputs for trade concern discussions**
- **Sharing of further information**

# Recommendations

- HS code identification is a critical step and both knowledge/labor-intensive: Preferably, Economies should endeavor to provide corresponding HS codes in the “Products covered” column, at least as a supplementary reference to ICS or other classification system.
- Economies should provide the legal implication and changes associated with the notified draft regulation, not just the title of the new regulation.
- Constant consultation with private sectors to refine the filtering process
- Exchange of experiences also important

Thank you!