

Maritime Transport Services

- A key infrastructure service, which is fundamental to connect to international markets and as the main conduit for trade in goods, especially for island countries.
- Research has highlighted that barriers to trade in maritime transport increases trade costs and negatively impacts performance.
- Measures limiting investment and competition in maritime transport lowers quality and results in higher costs for these services. This disadvantages all exporters/importers of goods, making them less competitive.
- Facilitating trade in maritime and related services is therefore important for regional integration.

P+ commitments

	Passenger Transport	Freight Transport	Maintenance and repair of vessels (CPC 8868**)	Container Station and Depot Services	Maritime Freight Forwarding Services
Cook Islands	X	X	X	X	X
Kiribati	X	X		X	
Niue	X	X	X		X
Samoa	X	X	X	X	X
Solomon Islands	X	X	X	X	X
Tonga	X	X	X	X	X
Tuvalu	X	X	X	X	X
Vanuatu	X	X	X	X	X

P+ commitments

	Storage and Warehousing Services	Maritime Agency Services	Customs clearance services	Maritime cargo handling	Additional commitment: Port services
Cook Islands	X	X	X		X
Kiribati	X	X			X
Niue		X			X
Samoa	X		X	X	X
Solomon Islands	X	X			X
Tonga	X	X	X		X
Tuvalu	X	X			X
Vanuatu	X	X			X

Some examples of limitations

- Cabotage excluded.
- Local agent required (M1)
- Nationality/foreign ownership requirement for national flag (M3)
- Economic needs test for liner shipping (M1)

Additional Commitment on port services

- The following services at the port are made available to international maritime transport suppliers on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions
 - 1. Pilotage
 - 2. Towing and the tug assistance
 - 3. Provisioning, fuelling and watering
 - 4. Garbage collecting and ballast waste disposal
 - 5. Port Captain's services
 - 6. Navigation aids
 - 7. Shore-based operational services essential to ship operations including communications, water and electrical supplies

Some definitions

- **Maritime Freight Forwarding Services:** the organisation and monitoring of shipment operations on behalf of shippers, through the acquisition of transport and related services, preparation of documentation and provision of business information.
- **Customs Clearance Services:** activities consisting in carrying out on behalf of another party customs formalities concerning import, export or through-transport of cargoes, whether this is the main activity of the service provider or a usual complement of its main activity.
- **Maritime Agency Services:** activities consisting in representing, within a given geographic area, as an agent, the business interests of one or more shipping line or shipping companies, for the following purposes:
 - - marketing and sales of maritime transport and related services, from quotation to invoicing, and issuance of bills of lading on behalf of the companies; acquisition and resale of the necessary related services, preparation of documentation, and provision of business information
 - - acting on behalf of the companies organising the call of the ship or taking over cargoes when required.
- **“Container station and depot services”** means activities consisting in storing containers, whether in port areas or inland, with a view to their stuffing/stripping, repairing and making them available for shipments.