



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### IMPLEMENTATION OF DIAGONAL CUMULATION UNDER THE EU-SADC EPA

The Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Business Development wishes to inform producers, manufacturers, and exporters that the Kingdom of Lesotho has commenced with the implementation of **diagonal cumulation** under the EU-SADC Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) as of 1st June 2023.

This implementation relates to the definition of "originating products" and methods of administrative cooperation, which allows exporters in Lesotho to include materials originating from, Other SADC EPA States, African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) EPA States, or Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) of the EU, as if these materials originated in Lesotho when manufacturing products for export to the European Union.

For diagonal cumulation to apply, an Administrative Cooperation Agreement (ACA) must be signed between Lesotho and the relevant countries or territories. Lesotho has successfully signed the ACA, enabling diagonal cumulation with the following regions and countries:

- **Central Africa Region** - Republic of Cameroon
- **Eastern and Southern Africa Region** - Republic of Madagascar, Republic of Mauritius, Republic of Seychelles, Republic of Zimbabwe
- **Pacific Region** - Independent State of Papua New Guinea
- **SADC EPA Region** - Republic of Botswana, Kingdom of Eswatini, Republic of Mozambique, Republic of Namibia, Republic of South Africa

This provision enables Lesotho exporters to strengthen their competitiveness in the EU market by incorporating materials from these regions into their products while maintaining "originating product" status under the EU-SADC EPA.

For inquiries or clarification, please contact the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Business Development (Department of Trade) or Customs Advisory Services, Trade Regimes Office at the Revenue Services Lesotho (RSL);

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