

## Секция 2

# АКТУАЛЬНЫЕ ВОПРОСЫ НАЦИОНАЛЬНОЙ И МИРОВОЙ ЭКОНОМИК

*J. Kamati*  
*BSEU (Minsk)*  
*Scientific adviser Y. Vashkevich*

## SACU: NAMIBIA LOSSES AND GAINS

### ЮЖНОАФРИКАНСКИЙ ТАМОЖЕННЫЙ СОЮЗ: ПОТЕРИ И УБЫТКИ НАМИБИИ

*В работе рассмотрен вопрос развития внутрирегиональных торгово-экономических связей Намибии в рамках Южноафриканского таможенного союза.*

Southern African Customs Union (SACU) was established in 1910 and is made up of five member states, namely Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and South Africa. In 2002 the member states negotiated and agreed upon new issues which are now part of 2002 agreement: new revenue sharing formula, which determines each country's share of the common revenue pool; joint decision making process; the establishment of common institutions; trade relations with third parties (common external tariff); the mandate to negotiate as a bloc.

Revenue sharing formula arrangement is implemented as follows: all member states collect duties and transferred the revenue to the common revenue pool on a quarterly basis, revenue payouts are then made each year to member states on a quarterly basis, based on the three components listed and explained below.

The Customs component is calculated from the (CIF) value of goods at the borders of member states in a specific year as a percentage of total intra-SACU imports in such year, excluding re-export. The excise component is calculated based on each Member's value of its GDP in a specific calendar year as a percentage of total SACU GDP in such a year. The development component was initially set at 15 % of the excise component, but members also agreed to adjust it if need be and agreed to by all member states. SACU members with the exception of Botswana are in a common monetary area in which they have pegged their currency to the Rand (South Africa currency) which is a legal tender in all members states.

According to SACU trade statistics (imports & exports by market share) Namibia imports and exports from SACU was 72 % and 46 % in 2014, 79 % and 59 % in 2015, 77 % and 56 % in 2016 respectively. It is

therefore clear that Namibia benefits from free movements of goods within SACU with less border controls. Free movement of goods in particular has created convenient access to a greater market for Namibia's goods, thus, SACU guarantees access to regional markets for Namibia's goods and opens up business opportunities for Namibia's enterprises due to reductions in costs of trade, especially for small companies/traders who otherwise could not afford for example to pay all cross border related costs (e.g. paper work etc.). As a small economy free trade negotiations with other regions can sometimes prove challenging, however, being a SACU member Namibia benefits from common negotiating ground when seeking market access to markets outside SACU.

At the same time, even with such benefits for the country, a customs union or any regional trade agreement can also be an impediment for international trade and economic growth and development. Small economies in customs unions with revenue sharing arrangement such as that of SACU can experience serious negative implications for their economies. It is possible for an economy like Namibia to heavily rely on the revenue from the union and neglect development of export industries and this will make the country vulnerable during economic crisis. For example the impact of low commodity prices, weaker external demand contributed to low SACU revenue in 2015 and 2016. Namibia had to revise its expenditure estimates, cut off some projects that were not affordable a situation which had serious social and economic implications. As free trade opens business opportunities for enterprises, small firms lose out on business opportunities due to their non-competitiveness, some might close down due fierce competition. Therefore it is necessary for members in regional trade blocs to ensure that there are no distortions of resources allocation and diversion of trade and investment.

*Г.В. Беляев, Н.А. Грабовец  
БГЭУ (Минск)*

*Научный руководитель А.А. Праневич — д-р экон. наук*

## **МАЛЫЕ ПРЕДПРИЯТИЯ В ИННОВАЦИОННОЙ ДЕЯТЕЛЬНОСТИ**

Современную экономику нельзя представить без инноваций. Инновационной деятельностью как в нашей стране, так и во всем мире занимаются предприятия разных размеров и форм собственности. Логично предположить, что основной вклад в инновации делают большие предприятия, владеющие крупными финансовыми активами, однако статистика говорит об обратном: наибольший удельный вес здесь занимают именно малые предприятия.

Полномасштабное исследование, касающееся роли малых предприятий, было проведено в США Национальным научным фондом США