

# Trade in Services Agreement: Experience from other FTAs

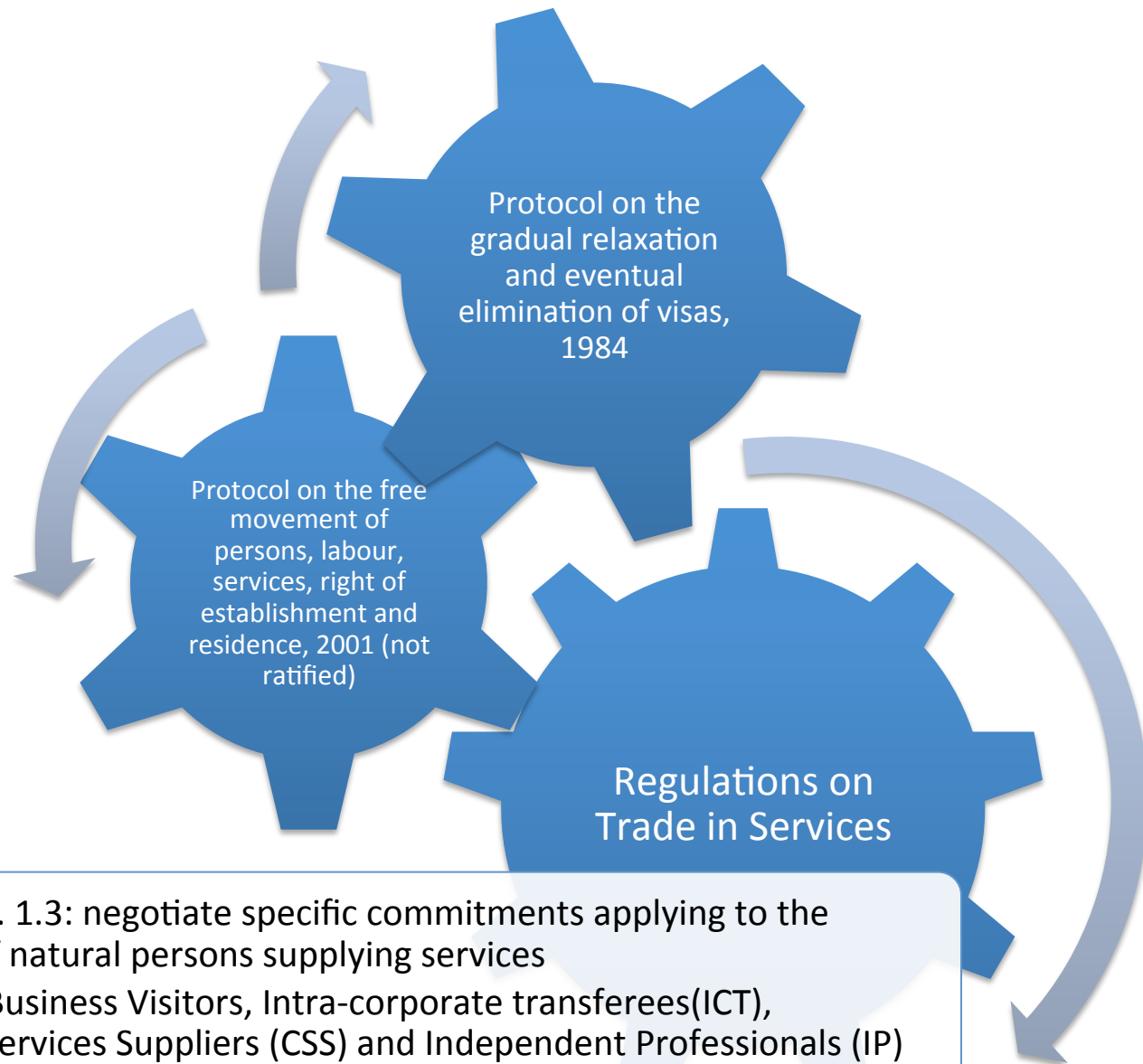
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# Outline

- COMESA
  - Framework agreement
  - Scheduling of commitments
- EAC
  - Framework agreement
  - Scheduling of commitments
- CARICOM
  - Framework agreement
  - Scheduling of commitments

# COMESA: Framework



# COMESA: Liberalization targets

## Quantitative restriction

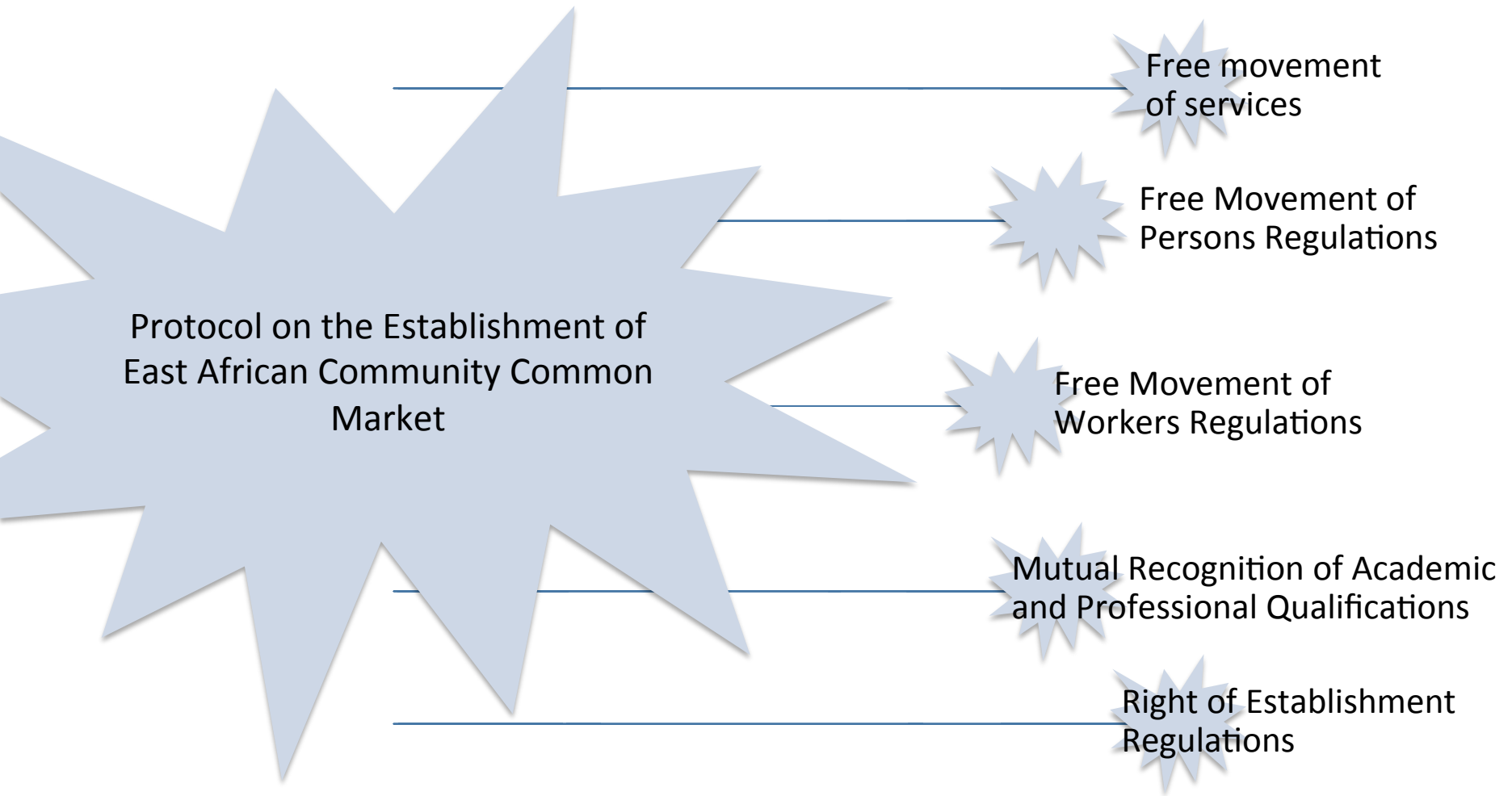
- Substantially reduced by half 2012 for IP
- Eliminated by 2015 for CSS
- Substantially reduced for ICT

## Economic Need Tests (ENT)

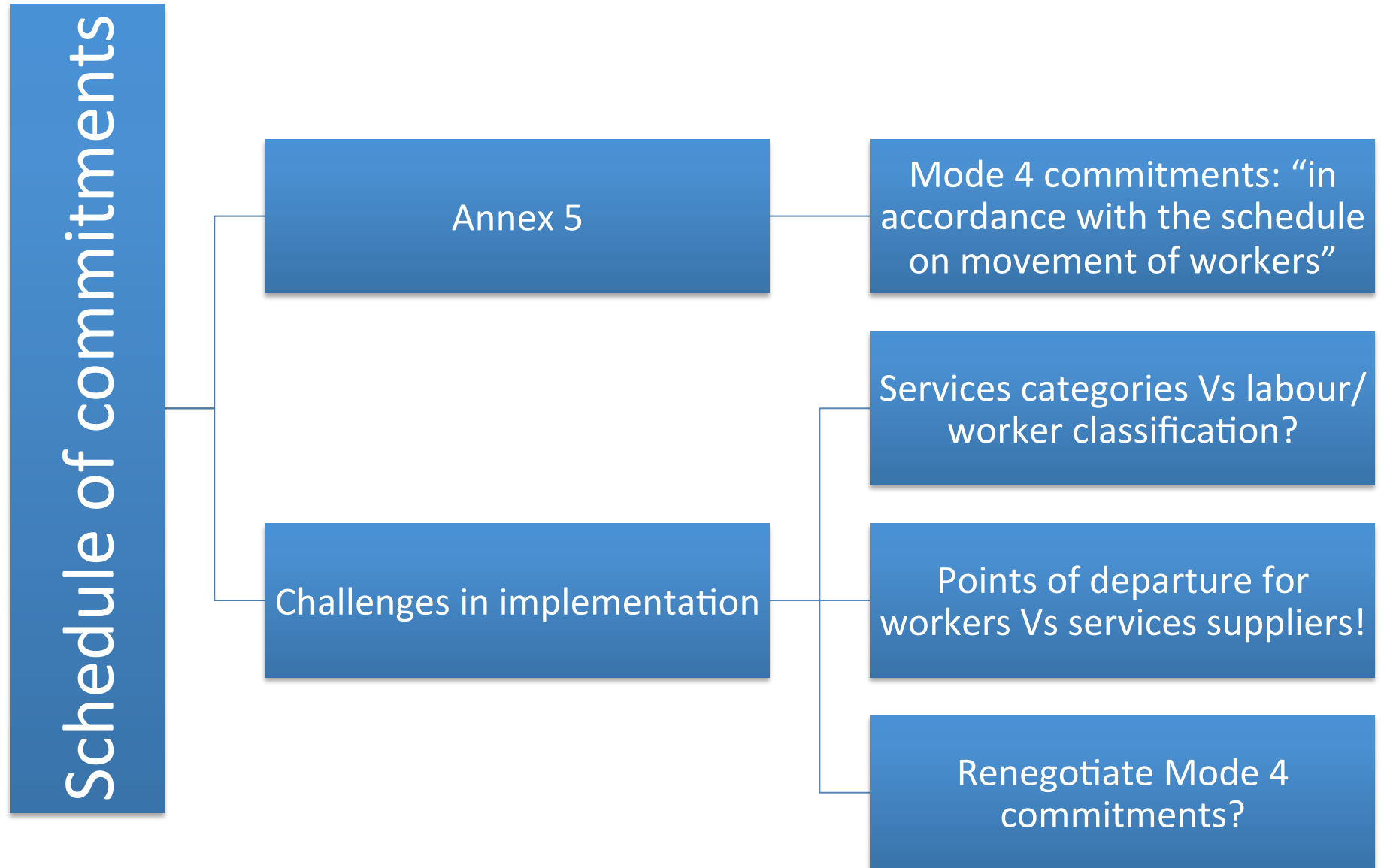
- Removed or substantially reduced for IP & ICT
- Eliminated by 2015 for CSS
- Otherwise, ENT should be applied on MFN basis

*In case of ENT, provide details on: sectors and occupations, definition, criteria and conditions timeframe for phase out*

# The EAC Framework



# EAC Cont.



# Overview of other Regional Groupings

A number of regional groupings deal with movement of business persons, but not solely, namely:

- European Union (EU)
- Australia –New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Agreement (ANZCERTA)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Asia Pacific Economic Community (APEC)
- South Asian Association for Regional cooperation (SAARC)

**EU,  
ANZCERTA,  
ECOWAS**



## **Main features:**

- provide or aim for full labour mobility for citizens of participating countries
- freedom of movement of workers, allows persons to seek employment
- self-employed professionals or supply services on the same conditions as nationals

## **CARICOM:**

1. free movement of skills - allows to take up employment without a work permit requirement
2. free movement to exercise the right to provide services

# Overview of other Regional Groupings (cont)

## **NAFTA:**

- provide for market access for certain groups of business persons on a temporary basis
- access is in essence limited to four higher skills categories: traders and investors, intra-company transferees, business visitors and professionals
- labour market assessment/ tests are removed for all four groups
- Work permits are required for traders and investors, intra-company transferees and professionals, but not business visitors

## **ASEAN Agreement on Movement of Natural Persons**

- facilitate the movement of natural persons engaged in the conduct of trade in goods, services and investment
- covers business visitors; intra-company transferees; and contractual service suppliers

## **APEC, SAARC**

- focus on the facilitation of movement of business persons
- a scheme that allows the holder for multiple short-term business entries, with stays of two or three months on each arrival

# CARICOM

- Part of the treaty establishing the CARICOM Single Market and Economy

# CARICOM expr. Cont.

- Types/categories of persons
  - University graduates
  - Artistes, Sports Persons, Musicians and Media Workers
  - non-wage earners, either as service providers and/or to establish businesses, incl. managerial, supervisory and technical staff
- Certificate of Recognition of CARICOM Skills Qualification

