Regional Workshop on Promoting Connectivity through Trade Facilitation and Aid for Trade

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Sheraton Grand Incheon Hotel
Incheon, Korea
Implementing the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA)
Using the WCO TFA Implementation Guide
Doha Development Agenda

- 1996 Singapore MC1 instructs WTO Goods Council to look at simplifying trade procedures

- 1999 WCO Council adopts Revised Kyoto Convention - blueprint for modern and efficient Customs procedures in the 21st century

- 2004 WTO Members agree to proceed with negotiations on trade facilitation
Clarify and improve relevant aspects of GATT 1994 articles:

- V (Freedom of Transit)
- VIII (Fees & Formalities Connected with Importation & Exportation)
- X (Publication and Administration of Trade Regulations)

with a view to further expediting movement, release and clearance of goods, including goods in transit.
Section I – **12 articles** regarding Trade Facilitation and Customs Cooperation, Section II – **10 articles** on special and differential treatment for developing, countries and least-developed countries in Section III – **2 articles** on institutional arrangements and final provisions.

**Section I**
- Art.1 Publication and availability of information
- Art.2 Consultation
- Art.3 Advance ruling
- Art.4 Appeal/Review procedures
- Art.5 Other measures for transparency etc.
- Art.6 Fee and Charges
- Art.7 Release and Clearance of goods
- Art.8 Border Agency Cooperation
- Art.9 Movement of goods intended for import
- Art.10 Formalities
- Art.11 Transit
- Art.12 Customs cooperation

**Section II**
Special and Differential Treatment for Developing Countries and Least Developed Countries
- Rules about Categories A, B and C
- Assistance for Capacity Building
- Information to be submitted to the TF Committee
- Final provision

**Section III**
Institutional arrangements and final provisions
- Committee on Trade Facilitation
- National Committee on Trade Facilitation
- Final provisions
WCO tools to support TFA
Implementation Guidance

The World Customs Organization (WCO), an intergovernmental organization specially mentioned in the Bali Ministerial Declarations, is highlighting its role in the implementation and administration of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (ATF). The WCO, the centre of excellence on Customs matters worldwide, is committed to the efficient implementation of the ATF.

Select an article below to view more information:

- **Article 1**: Publication and availability of information
- **Article 2**: Opportunity to comment on information before entry into force and consultation
- **Article 3**: Advance rulings
- **Article 4**: Appeal or review procedures
- **Article 5**: Other measures to enhance impartiality, non-discrimination and transparency
- **Article 6**: Disciplines on fees and charges imposed on or in connection with importation and exportation
- **Article 7**: Release and clearance of goods
- **Article 8**: Border agency cooperation
- **Article 9**: Movement of goods under customs control intended for import and export
- **Article 10**: Formalities connected with importation and exportation and transit
- **Article 11**: Freedom of transit
- **Article 12**: Customs cooperation
The Guidance presents the relevance of WCO instruments and tools such as the Revised Kyoto Convention for TFA implementation.

**WCO tools for Article 7.7 (Authorized Operators)**

- Revised Kyoto Convention
- SAFE Framework of Standards
- AEO Implementation Guidance
- AEO Compendium
- Model AEO Appeal Procedures
- AEO Benefits: Contribution from the WCO
- Private Sector Consultative Group
- The Authorized Economic Operator and the Small and Medium sized Enterprise (FAQ)
- Mutual Recognition
- Arrangement/Agreement Guidelines
- AEO Template
The WCO has developed a number of instruments and tools, which respond to Members’ needs as regards TFA implementation. The WCO is continuing to develop and fine-tune an inter-active guidance tool designed to help Customs implement the TFA.

**Examples of WCO tools**

- Revised Kyoto Convention
- SAFE Framework of Standards
- Time Release Study Guide
- Single Window Compendium
- Data Model
- Globally Networked Customs
- Risk Management Compendium
- Post Clearance Audit Guidelines
- CBM Compendium
- Transit Handbook
- Capacity Building Development Compendium
- Customs-Business Partnership Guidance
Mercator Programme – Key Objectives

- Tailor-made technical assistance and capacity building
- Harmonized implementation based on WCO’s global standards
- Effective coordination among all stakeholders

Beneficial for developing and least developed countries, all government agencies, donor institutions and private sector
Expected Results

• Harmonization border management procedures

• Increased economic competitiveness, poverty reduction

• Slash trade costs by an average of 14.3 per cent, developing countries most to gain

• Reduce time needed to import goods by over a day and a half and to export goods by almost two days, representing a reduction of 47 per cent and 91 per cent respectively over the current average
The TFAWG is the platform for Members to share experiences regarding the implementation of the TFA among the WCO’s 181 Members, coordinate with the donor community, engage with other international organizations and bodies, as well as with the private sector.
Thank you for your attention!