

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL<sup>1</sup>**  
**CONCERNING THE USE OF WCO DATA MODEL**  
(27 June 2009)

THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL,

DESIRING to facilitate the international exchange of data between Customs administrations and between Customs administrations, Cross-Border Regulatory Agencies, trade users and other relevant parties involved in cross-border transactions and cross-border movement of goods,

CONSIDERING that it is desirable to use international standards in defining data elements and elaborating electronic messages to be used in such cross-border transactions,

CONSIDERING that the WCO Data Model

- i. represents a maximum set of data required for the pre-arrival/pre-departure information, the cross-border release and clearance of goods and means of transport for import, export and transit purposes,
- ii. has been developed using harmonized sets of data requirements drawn from members Customs Administrations and several Cross-Border Regulatory Agencies, and
- iii. is based on widely used and recognized international standards,

RECOMMENDS that Members of the Council and all members of the United Nations Organization or its specialized agencies, and Customs or Economic Unions should as far as possible:

1. Adopt the WCO Data Model for the identification and definition of all cross-border regulatory data requirements related to pre-arrival/pre-departure formalities and procedures for import, export and transit.
2. Use the WCO data elements, their names and reference numbers (WCO ID's), the data element descriptions, the character representations (including the suggested code lists) in describing and composing electronic messages.
3. Use the standard electronic messages described in the WCO Data Model in Government to Government and Business to Government /Government to Business electronic messages.

REQUESTS Members of the Council and members of the United Nations Organization or its specialized agencies, and Customs or Economic Unions which accept this Recommendation to notify the Secretary General of the Council of the date from which they will apply the Recommendation and of the conditions of its application. The Secretary General will transmit this information to the Customs administrations of all Members of the Council. He will also transmit it to the Customs Administrations of the Members of the United Nations Organization or its specialized agencies and to Customs or Economic Unions which have accepted this Recommendation.

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<sup>1</sup> "Customs Co-operation Council" (CCC) is the official name of the World Customs Organization (WCO)