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WCO in Brief

- **Sole independent international intergovernmental organization specialized in Customs matters**
  - Established as the Customs Co-operation Council in 1952;
  - 176 Customs administrations as Members;
  - Members’ coverage: over 98% of global trade.

- **Mission**
  - Enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of Member Customs administrations;
  - Standard setting
  - International cooperation
  - Capacity building
Customs function at the borders

- Receive commercial data
  - Associated with the movement of goods

- Risk assessment
  - Revenue fraud
  - Drug and firearm trafficking
  - Fake medicines and consumer goods
  - Environmentally controlled goods etc.

- Inspection of the goods identified as high risk
  - Using non-intrusive technology

- Facilitate legitimate trade for economic development
What are lacking...

- Accurate commercial data in a timely manner
- Transport and border infrastructure
- Information technology to assess the risk
- Coordination with other border agencies
- Banking system (payment of duties, guarantee)
- Compliance culture and integrity
Customs best practice

- Streamline procedures and data requirement
- Better use of information technology
- Risk management - selectivity
- Audit-based control

Incorporated in the WCO Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC, International Convention on Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures)
WTO negotiations

- Streamline border procedures (GATT Articles V, VIII and X)

- Most proposals are inspired or derived from RKC
  - Implementation tool for a WTO TF Agreement with detailed guidelines

- Provide political support, framework of cooperation among International Organizations.

- WCO support together with other Annex D org.
  - Technical advice to negotiations
  - Needs assessment missions
  - Capacity building at the implementation stage
Performance measurement

- Time Release Study
  - Time required from arrival to release of goods at border crossing

- Identify bottlenecks
  - Preparation of data by traders
  - Other border agencies requirement
  - Customs process with payment

- WCO support available
  - WCO Guide, software
  - Pool of regional experts
Single window

- **One-stop service**
  - Traders submit data once to the designated agency which circulate data among relevant agencies
  - Coordinated inspection and clearance

- **WCO Data Model**
  - Standardized dataset and electronic message
  - Requirement of Customs and other border agencies
  - From e-Customs towards e-government
  - Implementation at the upgrade of IT system
Customs business partnership

- Dialogue, consultation and cooperation
  - Understand each other to maximize the mutual benefit
  - Transparency and predictability
  - Increased compliance
  - Theme of WCO in 2010

- Authorized Economic Operator (AEO)
  - Provide facilitation to compliant traders
  - Partner for supply chain security and facilitation
  - WCO AEO standards – national AEO programs
  - Mutual recognition
Customs in the 21st Century

- Globally Networked Customs
- Better Coordinated Border Management
- Intelligence-driven Risk Management
- Customs Business Partnership
- Standards and tools
- Enabling technologies
- Enabling legal competence
- Knowledge-based and customer-oriented culture
- Capacity building
- Integrity
Thank you for your enhanced co-operation with WCO!

For more information, please visit the WCO Web site:  www.wcoomd.org