



Geneva Trade & Development Symposium “Trade Facilitation”

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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**



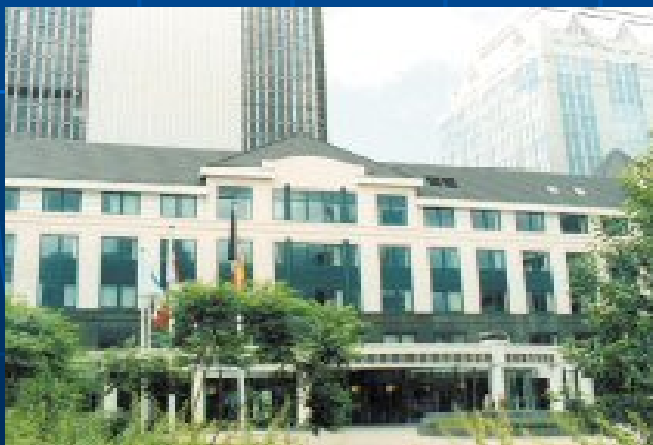
Customs in the 21st Century

- **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**



WCO, Brussels