CAPACITY BUILDING MEETING
(11TH SESSION)

Presented by:
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Chief Customs/Revenue Officer/Training Unit
Bahamas Customs and Excise Department (BCED) partnered with World Customs Organization (WCO) in March 2018 to begin preparing for The Bahamas’ accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) which was happen at the end 2019. The training was intensive and was combined with a national Mercator Program Implementation.

This Program was funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and was embedded in the execution of the Trade Sector Support Program (TSSP).
WCO /BAHAMAS TRAINING PROGRAM

Three key areas:

• Strengthening customs management

• Modernization of customs procedures

• Enhancing trade capacity (implementation of Electronic Single Window)
Time frame: 20 months

Specific challenges:

• Addressing the most urgent needs
• Prioritizing the activities according to the identified needs
• Quick assimilation of new knowledge and procedures
Overall Objective

• WCO to provide technical assistance and capacity building support
• To enhance organizational development and training programs within BECD.
• WCO training through their Mercator Program Advisers (MPAs) was specifically designed to assist BECD with meeting the requirements of WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).
Components and Activities

33 activities carried out in key customs areas, which were grouped into two components:

**Component A**
Organizational development, linked to RKC/TFA/WCO Mercator implementation, Risk Management and Electronic Single Window roll-out.
Component B /Activities

Human Resource Development through leadership and management, Integrity and HR, Advance Rulings, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) enforcement and review and Appeal framework

Train the Trainers Workshops in:

✓ Valuation
✓ Rules of Origin
✓ Classification
✓ Authorized Economic Traders (AEO)
Special projects supported by WCO

- Time Release Study to compare clearance performance before and after implementation of the Single Window (ESW).
- Drafting a Strategic Plan covering 5 years (2019-2024), a Program to ensure sustainability of training over the next years, advance ruling forms and review & appeal provisions.
New Initiatives

- National Electronic Single Window
- AEO pilot programme
- Performance Management
- People Development Plan
- Time Release Study (TRS)
- Strategic planning
- Risk management and profiling
- Use of CLiCK!
Improved areas

• Enhanced website

• New organizational chart

• Coordinated Border Management (CBM)
Program participants: quantity and diversity

Number of trained participants

More than 400 registered participants

250 BCED officials (on 838 staff)

Gender equality

Reflecting BCED staff balance