



**FOURTH CONFERENCE OF THE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE  
WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION'S WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION  
(WCO WCA)  
ABUJA (NIGERIA), FROM 7 TO 11 APRIL 2025**

***THEME: Partner mobilization around the priority projects of the WCO's WCA region: a genuine pledge to meet the modernization goals and performance targets of Member Customs administrations***

NB: In the two days preceding the Conference, meetings will focus on the work undertaken by experts from the region's Customs administrations and by officials from the regional structures.

**DAY 1 (9 APRIL 2025)**

Time	Activities
(XI) 09:00 10:15	<b>Official opening ceremony:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Welcome address by the Comptroller General of Nigeria Customs Service;</li> <li>▪ Address by the spokesperson for the Secretary General of the WCO;</li> <li>▪ Address by the Vice-Chair for the WCO's WCA region;</li> <li>▪ Opening speech (Nigeria Customs Service).</li> </ul>
10:15 11:00	<b>Photo shoot and cocktail reception</b>
(XII) 11:00 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Appointment of the Presidium and team of rapporteurs;</li> <li>▪ Keynote speaker presentation on new WCO capacity-building initiatives (representative from the WCO Secretariat);</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>12:30</b> <b>14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>(XIII)</b> 14:00 15:30	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> SUB-THEME: The challenge of financing the capacity-building activities of the WCO's West and Central Africa region</b>  <b>Moderator: Vice-Chair for the WCA region</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of the Vice-Chair's vision in respect of the challenges presented by, for example, fragile borders, cross-border crime, e-commerce and artificial intelligence;</li> <li>Regional activities presentation by the Regional Development Coordinator;</li> <li>Discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>15:30</b> <b>16:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>(XIV)</b> 16:00 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ROCB WCA presentation of the regional capacity-building strategy;</li> <li>Discussions.</li> </ul>

## DAY 2 (10 APRIL 2025)

Time	Activities
<b>(XV)</b> 09:00 10:30	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> SUB-THEME: The challenge of financing the capacity-building activities of the WCO's West and Central Africa region (contd.)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priorities, requirements, approaches and initiatives of the development partners: <b>presentations by development partners</b>;</li> <li>Discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>10:30</b> <b>11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>(XVI)</b> 11:00 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priorities, requirements, approaches and initiatives of the development partners: <b>presentations by development partners (contd.)</b>;</li> <li>Discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>12:30</b> <b>14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>

<b>(XVII)</b> 14:00 15:30	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> SUB-THEME: A priority-based approach and a targeted financing strategy for capacity-building activities with a view to modernizing the Customs administrations of West and Central Africa</b>  <b>Moderator: WCO Secretariat representative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ROCB WCA presentation of the priority regional projects;</li> <li>▪ Discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>15:30</b> <b>16:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>(XVIII)</b> 16:00 17:30	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> SUB-THEME: A priority-based approach and a targeted financing strategy for capacity-building activities with a view to modernizing the Customs administrations of West and Central Africa</b>  <b>Moderator: Director of ROCB WCA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of priority projects by WCA Customs administrations;</li> <li>▪ Discussions.</li> </ul>

### DAY 3 (11 APRIL 2025)

Time	Activities
<b>(XIX)</b> 09:00 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussions on enhancing collaboration between the Customs administrations of the WCA region and the development partners.</li> </ul>
<b>10:30</b> <b>11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>(XX)</b> 11:00 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of Conference conclusions.</li> </ul>
<b>(XXI)</b> 12:00 12:30	<b>Closing ceremony:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Address by the spokesperson for the WCO Secretary General;</li> <li>▪ Address by the Vice-Chair for the WCO's WCA region;</li> <li>▪ Closing speech by Nigeria Customs Service.</li> </ul>
<b>12:30</b>	<b>End of Conference</b>

