A collective response to safeguarding maritime supply chains from criminal threats.

Conference Agenda

Purpose: ***Contemporary briefings, enhanced dialogue, improved collaboration***

The international Customs and broader law enforcement community continues to experience deliberate, persistent, and pervasive threats posed by highly capable and well-resourced organized crime groups. Similarly, liner shippers and global port operators are experiencing new and complex challenges, adversely impacting on a shared and collective mandate to promote a system of legitimate international trade that is safe and secure.

This conference will convene a global audience of stakeholders from the law enforcement community, government and the maritime cargo industry who have a vested interest in preserving the integrity of the world's increasingly interconnected maritime cargo supply chains.

Attendees will receive contemporary insights into the extent of criminal infiltration occurring across global cargo supply chains and hear firsthand from industry partners and technology providers engaging in proactive measures to promote more secure and resilient global trade systems.

Discussions will consider government to business relationships, including where success is most prominent and where improvement may be needed.

Wednesday September 10, 2025: Begin 14:00, end 18:00, followed by a cocktail reception.

Thursday September 11, 2025: Begin 09:00, end at 16:30.

Location: World Customs Organization (WCO), Rue du Marché 30, B-1210, Brussels, Belgium

Pre-registration: details to be provided, **limited audience**.

Pre-registration available under the "Events" section at the WCO Webpage.

Photo ID is required to gain access to the WCO.

Agenda Outline

Wednesday September 10, 2025

Members from the WCO, WSC and IAPH (all sessions to be confirmed) will be invited together with representatives from the broader law enforcement community for an afternoon meeting. Day one will open with keynote speakers and involve scene setting. The WCO Secretariat and invited speakers will provide detailed insights into the levels of systemic corruption and criminal infiltration impacting on cargo carriers, global ports, Customs, and law enforcement agencies. A cocktail reception will welcome participants at the days end.

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Thursday September 11, 2025

Participants will hear from the WSC, IAPH, FEPORT (all sessions to be confirmed) and technology providers from the Smart Container Alliance, gaining a deeper appreciation into what industry is seeing and what industry is doing, in the context of challenges confronting the industry as they seek to foster a system of safe, secure and legitimate trade. Discussions will be complemented by presentations from technology providers engaged in developing security solutions for containerized cargo.

Discussions will then turn towards the Government to Business partnership and encourage open dialogue on what is needed to enhance mutually beneficial collaboration. The day will conclude with a wrap-up session aimed at identifying key takeaways and outstanding issues.

Wednesday 10 September – WCO Kyoto B room, -1		
	Theme	**Facilitator**
1330 – 1400	Arrival and registration	WCO reception desk
1400 – 1410	Welcome remarks	WCO Executive
1410 – 1420	Conference overview	WSC / WCO
1420 – 1500	Keynote address	Belgian Drug Commissioner **Ms. Ine Van Wymersch**
1500 – 1530	Contemporary insights into combatting organized crime – Customs	Customs / Intelligence perspective **French DNRED (tbc)**
1530 – 1600	Contemporary insights into combatting organized crime – Industry	Executive Director, Association of Banana Exporters of Ecuador **Mr. José Antonio Hidalgo**
1600 – 1630	**Coffee break**	
1630 – 1730	Research and analysis findings – where crime in the supply chain is thriving	WCO Secretariat – ABF/WCO Supply Chain Integrity Project
1730 – 1800	Session wrap up and discussion	IAPH / WCO
1800 – 1930	**Cocktail reception**	**WCO, -1 bar area**
Thursday 11 September – WCO Kyoto B room, -1		
	Theme	**Facilitator**
0830 – 0900	Arrival and registration	WCO reception desk
0900 – 0930	Liner Shipping Section WSC Member session, introduction and overview	WSC risk, resilience, crime prevention, insights, initiatives, observations, strategies
0930 – 1030	WSC Member session	Possibly 1 combined panel session to be moderated, with time for Q&A. *Tbc*
1030 – 1100	**Coffee break**	
1100 – 1130	Ports Section IAPH/FEPORT Member session, introduction and overview	Risk, resilience, crime prevention / supply chain integrity. Insights, initiatives, observations, strategies
1130 – 1230	Antwerp Port Barcelona Port Norwegian Coastal Authority CEPA	Possibly 1 combined panel session to be moderated, with time for Q&A. *Tbc*
1230 – 1400	**Lunch break**	
1400 – 1500	Overview of tech solutions	Smart Container Alliance. Practical examples showing how the technology can be deployed to minimize risk, improve security and counter criminal activity
1500 – 1530	Government to business partnerships & opportunities	WCO, WSC, IAPH, what can and should be done to enhance relationships
1530 – 1600	Open floor discussion	WCO, WSC, IAPH
1600 – 1630	Conference wrap up and key take away points	

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