



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Proposed working arrangements for WCO meetings impacted by COVID-19

24.4.2020 / Brussels

In view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Secretariat has continued to carefully assess the prevailing global circumstances. Considering that international travel will very likely remain restricted for the following months, focus has been placed on exploring alternative arrangements that would allow the World Customs Organization (WCO) to continue advancing its work.

The Secretariat, in consultation with the Council Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons, has developed the following proposed arrangements for WCO meetings scheduled until June 2020 :

Meeting	Topics that can be postponed for the second half of 2020	Topics to be dealt with by paper-based consultations before June 2020	Topics for virtual meetings before June 2020
Harmonized System Committee Working Party	Nearly the entire meeting	Start drafting of additions to the Compendium of Classification Opinions and Explanatory Note changes in preparation for the next HSC meeting	Final negotiations and acceptance of drafts, if required
65 th Session of the Harmonized System Committee	Entire meeting, with the exception of the HS corrigendum	HS corrigendum	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
Private Sector Consultative Group Meeting	Nearly the entire meeting	COVID-19 Collaboration	The PSCG has been meeting virtually on a regular basis
23 rd Meeting of the SAFE Working Group	Nearly the entire meeting	Additional Member input on outstanding items will be sought so documents can be further developed	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
8 th Meeting of the Revised Kyoto Convention Working Group	Nearly the entire meeting	Additional Member input on Step 1 of the 4 Step review process will be sought.	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
103 rd Session of the Finance Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financial investments and income - New business cases - The use of WCO Reserves - Report of the Audit Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "A" Items - Budget for FY 2018/2019 - Revision of staff emoluments and allowances - Budget for FY 2020/2021 (including Members' contributions, GOE, Strategic Plan and capital expenditure) 	Items that could not be finalized via the paper-based consultations

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2 nd Meeting of the Working Group on Performance Measurement Meeting	Nearly the entire meeting	Additional Member input on outstanding items will be sought so documents can be further developed	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
227 th /228 th Sessions of the Permanent Technical Committee	- Member presentations - Panel discussions - New Passenger Facilitation and Control Working Group	- Election of Chair and Vice-Chair - Agenda to be revised and posted after consultation with the current Vice-Chair	Topics where no agreement is reached via the paper-based consultations
Data Model Project Team Meeting	Data Model Revision requests	No paper-based consultation is foreseen at this stage	Entire meeting will be attempted
50 th Session of the Technical Committee on Customs Valuation	Entire meeting	No paper-based consultation is foreseen at this stage	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
ATA/Istanbul Administrative Committee	Entire meeting	No paper-based consultation is foreseen at this stage	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
57 th Session of the Harmonized System Review Sub-Committee	Changes for HS2027	Start examination of Explanatory Notes changes consequential to HS2022 Recommendation	Final negotiations on EN changes consequential to HS2022 Recommendation, if required
23 rd Meeting of the Revised Kyoto Convention Management Committee	Entire meeting	No paper-based consultation is foreseen at this stage	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
78 th Meeting of the Information Management Sub-Committee	Entire meeting	No paper-based consultation is foreseen at this stage	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
83 rd Session of the Policy Commission	Postponed to December 2020 - Entire meeting	No paper-based consultation is foreseen at this stage	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage
135 th /136 th Sessions of the Council	Postponed to December 2020 - Nearly the entire meeting (including the Election of TTA Director and Council Chair, if agreed by Members)	- Budget for FY 2020/2021 - HS corrigendum	No virtual meeting foreseen at this stage

The Secretariat will continue to monitor the situation and provide regular updates. Please stay tuned and follow the updates on our Website www.wcoomd.org and on our social media accounts.