

*This is the public version of the Summary Report of the 213<sup>th</sup>/214<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Permanent Technical Committee (12 to 14 October 2016).*

*Please note that sensitive information has been removed from this document including the deliberations from the Joint Meeting of the Permanent Technical Committee and the WCO Working Group on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, held on 11 October 2016.*

PUBLIC VERSION



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES

Established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council  
Créée en 1952 sous le nom de Conseil de coopération douanière

PERMANENT TECHNICAL  
COMMITTEE

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213<sup>th</sup>/214<sup>th</sup> Sessions

-  
11 - 14 October 2016

Brussels, 7 December 2016.

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**(Deliberations from the Joint Meeting of the Permanent Technical Committee and the WCO Working Group on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement held on 11 October are excluded from this Summary Report.)**

**THE 213<sup>TH</sup>/214<sup>TH</sup> SESSIONS OF THE PERMANENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
(12-14 OCTOBER)**

**Item VII – Opening, elections and adoption of the Agenda**

**a) Opening speech by Ms. Ana HINOJOSA, Director, Compliance and Facilitation, WCO**

1. The 213<sup>th</sup>/214<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Permanent Technical Committee (PTC) were opened by Ms. Ana Hinojosa, Director of Compliance and Facilitation, WCO, who shared her opening remarks.
  2. She stressed that the PTC seeks to explore the many Members' innovative initiatives and practices which are out there and how they could be of benefit to the WCO Membership. She reiterated the importance of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), but recognized that many Members were reaching out and implementing trade facilitation measures beyond the TFA.
  3. The Director provided insight into the topics of discussion under PTC and the reasoning behind them. Regarding the e-commerce topic, she mentioned that the WCO organized jointly with the American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI) a working session on e-commerce at the WTO Public Forum this year and underlined that more than 20 out of the 100 sessions held this year were on that same topic, which showed how e-commerce is on the agenda not only of Customs administrations, but also of many other stakeholders, including trade representatives, the private sector, IT companies and NGOs.
  4. She explained that under Digital Customs, there would be a number of topics related to this theme which will provide an opportunity to: raise issues that still need to be resolved,
- 2.

sensitize on the new and emerging topics and hear some good examples of Members practices. Discussions on Data Quality, exchange of information between Customs and Tax administrations, Integrated Supply Chain Management and others would feed into the Digital Customs Work Plan which would provide an opportunity to the PTC to decide on the way forward on some of the objectives already identified by the Policy Commission.

5. She further drew attention to the Future of Customs including the research on Global Value Chains, Synchro-modality and Smart Steaming. Other items of discussion were to include Customs brokers, Transit Guidelines, the Action Plan for Phase III of the Economic Competitiveness Package, Performance measurement and others.
6. Lastly, she invited the PTC delegates to be actively engaged and share their views and experiences on all of the topics and to lead strategic discussions to provide guidance on the way forward.
7. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - acknowledged the opening remarks made by Ms. Ana Hinojosa, Director of Compliance and Facilitation.

**b) Election of the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson**

8. The Director managed the election procedure for the financial year 2016/2017. India submitted a proposal for re-election of Mr. Rob Van Kuik (The Netherlands) for the Chairperson of the PTC, while Swaziland submitted a proposal for re-election of Mr. Matome Mathole (South Africa) for the Vice-Chairperson of the PTC. The two proposals were widely supported by many Members who expressed their appreciation for their active roles in the PTC and their high-level of commitment.
9. Both representatives confirmed their willingness to continue to Chair/Vice-Chair the PTC for the current financial year.
10. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - re-elected Mr. Rob Van Kuik (The Netherlands) for the Chairperson and Mr. Matome Mathole (South Africa) for the Vice-Chairperson of the PTC in the financial year 2016/2017.

**c) Adoption of the Draft Agenda and the Summary Document**

11. The Chairperson explained that, for the Joint Meeting, the items on the agenda and the Summary Document items were already adopted. He, therefore, invited the PTC delegates to share any comments or suggest amendments to the rest of the agenda and Summary Document. There were no comments and both documents were adopted unanimously.
12. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - adopted the full Draft Agenda (Doc. PC0450) and Summary Document (Doc. PC0451).

**Item VIII – Debriefing on TFAWG discussions**

o **Follow-up from the discussions from the 6<sup>th</sup> TFAWG meeting, 10-11 October 2016**

13. The Chairperson introduced the item by noting that the Joint Meeting of the PTC and the TFAWG, held the day before, was introduced for the first time and that the objective of this item was to provide an opportunity to the PTC delegates to discuss any further pending issues from the Joint Meeting and to give feedback on the usefulness of holding such a meeting, as well as to share suggestions for further improvements. He invited the Director, Compliance and Facilitation, to provide an overview of the deliberations from the TFAWG meeting.
14. Ms. Hinojosa shared the outcomes of the discussions which took place on Day I of the TFAWG meeting, including: the presentation from the WTO Secretariat relating to the next steps after entry into force of the TFA; feedback from the Policy Commission and Council; adoption of the TFA Work Programme and Annual Work Plan; the Mercator Programme; the topics discussed at the Joint Meeting such as Border Agency Cooperation, update of the Time Release Study tools; and the many interesting presentations. She concluded by inviting the PTC delegates to share their views on the benefits and considerations for holding such joint meetings in the future.
15. The TFAWG Chairperson mentioned an item that was raised at the 5<sup>th</sup> TFAWG meeting relating to the relationship between Customs and SPS authorities. There was a request from the Members to further discuss this issue and he invited the PTC to provide its support in consolidating a pilot that was on that occasion suggested with the OiE.
16. The delegates shared very positive feedback from the Joint Meeting, especially on the cross-cutting topics selected for the agenda. It was also felt that it would be useful to include work in break-out sessions as they were organized in the past meetings.
17. One delegate emphasized the usefulness of the side event on the US Single Window system and felt that it would've been useful to have a longer session on that topic. He also mentioned the usefulness of piloting the CTS in his country, which was discussed at the Joint Meeting.
18. Another delegate felt that the topic of CBM was very useful and suggested that it be included on the agenda in the future, with a focus on the CBM Compendium and its Chapter 3.
19. A Member wanted to put forward a suggestion relating to the update of the Analysis of the Technical Measures. Namely, she suggested that the Analysis should be divided into two parts in order to have a better handling and use of the document: one part would have already been agreed by the TFAWG, while another would be updated and would include some new parts still to be explored. This would make the document more user-friendly and would also be more useful for the Secretariat to be guided on the actions which would need to be done in the future.
20. Another delegate stressed the importance of the RKC item. She felt the disadvantage of not having enough time to focus on that topic. These discussions reinforce the work that needs to be done by the RKC Management Committee and to clarify the relationship between the TFA and the RKC. She stressed that a lot still needs to be done to reinforce the role of the RKC and of Customs, as a whole. In regard to that, the Director invited the delegates to share by email with the Secretariat any further remarks or comments they may have on this topic.
21. In conclusion, the PTC:

- took note of all the remarks and inputs from the PTC, including the usefulness of holding Joint PTC/TFAWG Meetings when required;
- took note of the Director's invitation to send by email any further comments on the RKC topic discussed on the Joint Meeting.

### **Item IX – Digital Customs – where are we now?**

#### **a) E-commerce: Report from the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the WCO Working Group on E-Commerce (WGEC)**

- **Opportunities, Challenges and Potential Solutions**
- **Cross-Border E-Commerce Business Models**
- **Trade Facilitation and Risk Management in the E-Commerce Context**

22. The Customs Co-Chairperson of the Working Group on E-Commerce (WGEC), Mr. Gerard Rodrigues from the Australian Border Force provided a brief overview of the discussions and key outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> WGEC Meeting which was held in Brussels from 21 to 23 of September 2016, with the participation of over 175 delegates from Customs administrations, international organisations, and private sector stakeholders. The meeting brought together participants from the entire value chain of e-commerce and discussed cross-cutting issues from a diverse perspective that included business models, legal and regulatory frameworks, facilitation, risk management, electronic interface and exchange of information, revenue collection, as well as the dark side of growing e-commerce.
23. He concluded by mentioning that the WGEC had identified four broad priority areas and associated work packages to advance the work intersessionally – Trade Facilitation and Simplification of Procedures; Safety and Security; Revenue Collection; and Measurement and Analysis. He then invited delegates to take part in these subgroups and contribute in their respective work programmes.
24. In the discussion that followed, a number of delegates appreciated the work being done by the WGEC by bringing together all stakeholders and shared their national working experiences in the area of e-commerce including its positives (e.g., economic growth, job creation, and revenue) and negatives (e.g., unrecorded transactions, avoidance of duties and taxes, illegal trade, unfair trade practices, and transnational organised crimes – drug trafficking and counterfeiting). They underlined trade compliance, security, and revenue collection as the key challenges stemming from growing e-commerce. In terms of potential solutions and initiatives being undertaken/explored - Customs to Customs cooperation, Customs to Business cooperation, adjustment of de minimis, and data sharing between and among e-commerce actors and Customs were given as examples for securing and facilitating this new business model.
25. A delegate suggested examining different e-commerce business models in greater details with the support of other working bodies such as the Information Management Sub-Committee (IMSC) and the Data Model Project Team (DMPT) and carrying out respective business process mapping to find appropriate solutions suited to each business model. Another delegate alluded to the importance of data emphasising the need to know what, when and with which stakeholder the right information was available to support effective and timely risk management and business decisions. Another delegate mentioned his country's

initiative concerning setting up a special unit dedicated to the issue of e-commerce and small businesses.

26. Delegates further noted the four sub-groups and associated work packages as a balanced and very good way forward, and suggested a few additional items for the inclusion in the work packages (e.g., tracking financial trails; cooperation and information exchange between Customs administrations; risk management; smuggling of high-value items and environmentally sensitive goods). Concerning the suggestion to include risk management under the work package of sub-group on 'Trade Facilitation and Simplification of Procedures', it was clarified that risk management was a cross-cutting topic equally applicable to all four sub-groups.
27. Several delegates volunteered to support the work of various sub-groups. They also requested that the intersessional work should commence by refining and prioritising the sub-group work items with a view to developing policies and programmes involving all stakeholders.
28. The Director thanked delegates for their dynamic support and valuable suggestions which reflected many facets and dimensions of evolving e-commerce, and noted that it was the PTC which was instrumental in establishing the Group. She then mentioned that Customs performance measurement, which was primarily based on revenue collection in many countries, needed to be changed in view of its growing role in facilitating trade and improving economic competitiveness as well as securing borders and supply chain.
29. The Director went on to highlight the significance of WGEC's work over next two year in developing recommendations and simplified solutions which could include diverse perspectives on new revenue collection models, *de minimis* threshold for duties and taxes and required policy changes so that Customs administrations could become the key drivers of e-commerce phenomenon. In conclusion, she assured that all suggested items of work would be dealt with in a cohesive manner involving all stakeholders and mobilising all relevant WCO working bodies.
30. The Secretariat also informed the upcoming regional workshops and other Capacity Building activities in the area of e-commerce for each of the six WCO regions.
31. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - acknowledged the work done, thus far, by the WGEC and suggested a few additional items for inclusion in the work packages for the four sub-groups the future collaborative work;
  - requested the intersessional work should commence by refining and prioritising the sub-group work items with a view to developing practical policies and programmes involving all stakeholders;
  - encouraged Members and other stakeholders to continue sharing working experiences and best practices to support the work of four sub-groups and to further enrich the WCO Study on E-Commerce; and
  - took note of the regional workshops and other Capacity Building activities that would be organised for all the six WCO regions.

**b) Customs-Tax cooperation**

- **Presentation by Russian Federation**
- **Presentation by Hungary**

32. The WCO Secretariat provided an update on the recent work in the area of Customs-Tax cooperation, in particular highlighting the finalisation of the Guidelines for Strengthening Cooperation and the Exchange of Information Between Customs and Tax Authorities at the National Level. The Guidelines were considered by the March 2016 Joint PTC/EC Session and subsequently endorsed by the July Sessions of the Policy Commission and the Council. Following the discussions at the current Sessions of the PTC which would, among others explore the business and IT side of Customs-Tax cooperation, the Guidelines would be published on the WCO Website by the end of October 2016. The Secretariat thanked Members and the private sector for their support, input and working examples in the development of the Guidelines.
33. A representative from Hungary presented their integrated Revenue Authority model (National Tax and Customs Administration), which was established in 2011 after merging Hungarian Tax and Financial Control Administration and Hungarian Customs and Finance Guard. He then explained the interoperability of Customs and Tax IT systems and the role of IT in the information exchange between two entities, highlighting that NTCA had the largest information technological system in Hungarian public administration. He continued to explain their 'Common use (TAX-CUSTOMS) systems' (e.g. Electronic Trade and Transport Control System (EKAER) and 'Integrated TAX-CUSTOMS systems' (e.g. taxpayer/economic operator-reference data system), 'Criminal Systems' and data warehouse. He then addressed the challenges and solutions encountered by his country when establishing a common system with integration of two completely different IT environments for collecting and sharing data, as well as in the development of a uniform taxpayer reference identifier.
34. A representative from the Russian Federal Customs Service provided an overview of their Interagency EDI System, its functions, the three levels of cooperation for information exchange (federal, regional and territorial). She provided detailed information on their model used for integrating the information systems operated by Customs and Tax Authorities where number of goods and declarations for the sale/purchase and export/import by economic operators were seamlessly exchanged between two authorities. She then explained how they ensure the protection of data exchanged and maintenance of interagency information interaction logbook. In terms of benefits, efficient realisation of legally due revenue, enhanced quality of the Customs and Tax controls, and effective risk management were given as examples.
35. In the ensuing discussion, delegates thanked the presenters for the comprehensive and interesting presentations on respective national practices/initiatives with regard to the use of IT in enhancing the Customs-Tax cooperation and sought further information. While welcoming the WCO Guidelines, several delegates shared their national working arrangements and reiterated the need for the exchange of information between two authorities by leveraging IT. Some delegates also suggested extending this cooperation and the exchange of information with other relevant authorities.
36. A delegate mentioned about their new GST regime and the development of associated integrated IT systems and highlighted some of the challenges they faced in establishing a unique identifier for all business, Customs, and Tax related activities. He also noted that

while it was easier to integrate with indirect taxes (VAT/GST), the main challenge laid in linking up with direct tax authorities.

37. Responding to questions from the floor, the presenter from Hungary elaborated his country's taxpayer registration procedure including the issuance of a business registration number which was normally completed after the grant of permission to set up the company by Tax authorities. The presenter from Russian Federation explained how the personal identification tax number was used by both Customs and Tax authorities as a common identifier. She then mentioned their system of CRN (consignment reference number) which was also used by other government agencies for their respective control activities.
38. A delegate shared their regional experiences where most administrations had revenue authorities. She then mentioned the discussion on this topic that was held at the East and Southern Africa (ESA) regional meeting of Directors General. According to her, in the case of revenue authorities, there was no need for a MoU as both authorities belonged to one administration, however, such revenue authorities faced very peculiar challenges in terms of actual cooperation between two arms of the same administration (for example, risk management is largely dealt with from an organisational perspective not from a core Customs risks perspective). She suggested enhancing the Guidelines to provide a more specific guidance on enhancing Customs-Tax cooperation within such revenue authorities and indicated that some examples currently being collected by the ESA Regional Office for Capacity Building.
39. The WCO Secretariat reminded the delegates that the WCO Survey on Customs brokers clearly indicated that there were more than 50 administrations that have integrated revenue authorities and in some of those organisations a lot of challenges still existed, for example separate IT systems and legal and administrative issues. In this sense, the Secretariat underlined that the Guidelines offered a holistic approach and would equally support Revenue Authorities in strengthening Customs-Tax cooperation and welcomed additional contributions and successful experiences from such organisations to further enrich the Guidelines.
40. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - took note on the progress made with the Guidelines for Strengthening Cooperation and the Exchange of Information Between Customs and Tax Authorities at the National Level, as well as the all the comments/input provided by the delegates, and agreed that the Guidelines could be further enriched as a 'living document' by including Members' experiences and practices which would be shared in writing with the Secretariat;
  - took note of the presentations made by Hungary and Russian Federation sharing their respective national experiences on enhancing Customs-Tax Cooperation by leveraging IT;
  - explored the business and IT side of Customs-Tax cooperation and the exchange of information between two authorities and discussed Members' experiences, especially those relating to data exchange mechanisms – interoperable or integrated IT systems and common business identifiers; and
  - suggested that future work could potentially include a more specific guidance on cooperation between Customs and Tax entities within Revenue Authorities, noting their peculiar challenges and issues (though being part of the same organisation), as well as

enhancement of Customs-Tax cooperation by including other relevant authorities (e.g., anti-money laundering authorities) to strengthen the fight against financial crimes including illicit financial flows (IFFs).

### c) Integrated Supply Chain Management (ISCM) – practical examples

#### o Presentation by Korea Customs

41. The delegate from Korea Customs presented the experience of the piloting of E-data exchange with other government partners, implementation strategy and ongoing projects for which they used a number of WCO instruments and tools, inter alia Revised Kyoto Convention, SAFE Framework, WCO Data Model and International Convention on the mutual administrative assistance in Customs matters (Johannesburg Convention).
  42. The delegate mentioned that between 2000 and 2013 Korea Customs undertook four pilot projects on E-data Exchange with four different Customs administrations, namely, Malaysia (2000 – 2006), Belgium (2007 – 2008), Philippines (2008 – 2009) and Australia (2012 – 2013). With its experience from the pilots Korea Customs has now been implementing country of origin data exchange programme with China under Korea-China Free Trade Agreement and with US Customs and Border Protection under Korea-USA AEO MRA.
  43. The delegate explained how its EODES (Electronic Origin Data Exchange System) faced the challenges of distance, huge trade volume and delayed audits and how all the parties (i.e. importers, exporters and Customs) got benefited by saving logistics costs, simplifying origin related audits, preventing illicit trade and not requiring to submit hard copies of CO certificates. On the other hand, Korea Customs is using ADE (Automated Data Exchange) with CBP with a view to supporting exporters to address non-tariff barriers. The KCS is willing to expand its E-data exchange network with other partner administrations with an aim to support the exporters by reducing costs of supply chain management while the government also gets benefited with higher compliance and increased level of data quality.
  44. The delegates thanked the Korean delegate for an interesting presentation and intervened on various issues like proper platform of information exchange, use of 'private' information management system vis-à-vis KCS's UNIPASS for these E-data pilots and other aspects of its experience with bilateral data exchange with government partners. A delegate from the private sector also emphasized on data exchange between government and the private sector given the data to be exchanged is relevant and trustworthy.
33. In conclusion, the PTC:
- took note of the presentation made by Korea Customs Service on E-data exchange pilots and implementation and suggested that some of the related issues may be discussed in the forthcoming PTC.

### d) Big Data and its application by Customs

45. The Secretariat gave a presentation on Big Data in the context of the application by Customs, referring to its engagement in research based on some Members' practices. The presentation highlighted the features, common or individual, of their recent initiatives in this area: data sharing across the organization; greater emphasis on the accuracy and integrity of data; envisaged impacts of analytics on entire Customs service; additional sources and

types of information needed; and 'internalization' of business sector's large data flow by making logistics operators' systems connected with Customs intelligence platform.

46. A delegate showed his interest in how to 'harness' Big Data or data analytics in order to expand 'automation' before establishing a data network for intelligence, referring to the possibility that Big Data would shape the way Customs carries out the task. Another delegate observed that the Big Data would enable Customs to narrow down the scope of potential risks to which the focus should be given.
47. A delegate pointed out privacy concern that calls for actions to prevent businesses from using their data for anything but public purposes, expecting the Secretariat's research to result in a guideline on this matter. Another delegate shared his administration's experience in utilization of a variety of data by Tax officials in an effort to collect information which helps them to profile those who might get involved with tax evasions.
48. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - took note of the Secretariat's presentation, expecting its research outcome to be shared for Members' information.

**e) Digital Customs Work Plan follow-up**

49. The WCO Secretariat presented the document PC0453, explaining the Digital Customs Work Plan and Digital Customs Maturity Model which were endorsed by the July 2016 sessions of the Policy Commission and the Council. It further provided a brief overview of the development of new tools such as the supplement to the Single Window Compendium, the Handbook on Globally Networked Customs, and Data Model version 3.6. and went on to report the progress with several activities of the Work Plan, in particular the comprehensive update of the Single Window Compendium, the development of E-learning module for Single Window, the establishment of a Single Window Interactive Map (SWIM), as well as development of Unified File Format for the interoperability and harmonization of Non-Intrusive Inspection (NII) images and the ongoing work on the Data Security Handbook and development of practical guidelines on the WCO Data Model.
50. In the discussion that followed, delegates discussed the Digital Customs Work Plan and the Digital Customs Maturity Model, with particular reference to tasks/activities directly relating to the PTC and its Working Groups/Sub-Committees, and provided their thoughts on advancing the work in a time-bound manner. A few additional points for further enriching the Work Plan and Maturity Model were also suggested. These included establishing clear linkages between the business/policy and technical aspects in coordination with all relevant WCO bodies (e.g., updating of the TRS Guide mentioned in the Economic Competitiveness Package should be linked with the enhancement of the related software); updating the Supplement to the Single Window Compendium; fine-tuning of the activities to avoid any potential overlap/duplication; delineating a more defined timeline for each task/activity; and enhancing the WCO Website for non-technical audiences.
51. A delegate noted that under Digital Customs agenda the focus should be on digitalising Customs border management processes not the institution per se. He underlined the need for enhancing Customs to Customs (C2C) exchange of information in order to cover the various flows and sources of information. He continued with sharing his perspective on how

to leverage new sources of information coming into place including the role of intermediaries, while revitalising the Customs to Customs exchange of information.

52. Another delegate alluded to that IT was permeating every aspect of Customs to make border processes more smart and efficient. Concerning the Maturity Model, he suggested to include enhancing the IT skill sets of Customs staff, as a skilled human resource was very important for the successful implementation and sustainability of IT projects.

53. The Director thanked all the delegates for their valuable suggestions which would further enrich the Digital Customs Work Plan and Maturity Model and requested Members and partners stakeholders to support the various streams of work to ensure timely deliveries.

54. In conclusion, the PTC:

- took note of the 'Digital Customs Work Plan' and 'Digital Customs Maturity Model' as endorsed by the July 2016 Policy Commission and Council Sessions with certain suggestions as mentioned above to further streamline and enhance them; and
- encouraged delegates to actively support several streams of work for their completion within the defined timelines.

**f) Data Quality**

55. The Chairperson introduced the agenda item by stating the relevance of data quality which underpins the increasing use of ICT in Customs decision making and its relevance for risk management in particular, as good risk management can only be based on good quality of data.

56. The Secretariat guided the PTC through document PC0454 by stressing that wrong data brings to wrong conclusions. Officers and IT systems take decisions based on the data and it therefore impacts revenue collection, protection of society, as well as trade facilitation.

57. He also provided some background to the Virtual Working Group on Data Quality established under the PTC. At the end of November 2015 an attempt was made by the Secretariat to proceed with the Virtual Working Group. However, the response from the Membership was lukewarm.

58. With Digital Customs becoming the theme of the year and with the Digital Customs Work Plan it was felt as good timing for reviving the Virtual Working Group. The PTC was invited to provide guidance on the role of data quality in the Digital Customs agenda and more importantly to provide guidance on what the Virtual Working Group would be exploring.

59. The delegates reiterated the importance of data quality for making the right Customs decisions, especially with the volume of trade continuously increasing. Having that in mind, the PTC supported reviving the Virtual Working Group, with a number of Members volunteering.

60. In conclusion, the PTC:

- agreed on the importance of data quality in the context of the Digital Customs agenda and supported the Virtual Working Group on Data Quality to take this work up further.

**Item X – Future of Customs – where are we going?**

**a) Global Value Chains**

61. The Chairman introduced the item by stressing that the Future of Customs is in the focus of the PTC work and invited the Vice-Chairperson of the PTC Mr. Mathole, in his role as Moderator of the Virtual Working Group on the Future of Customs (VWG FC), to provide an overview of the inter-sessional work.
62. Mr. Mathole explained the background to the establishment of the VWG FC in the first quarter of 2015. He underlined that the role of Customs was changing in an alarming pace and the role of the Group was to research how current developments would have an impact on Customs procedures and systems in the future.
63. Finally, he shared some of the work that was carried out on 3D printing in the intersession. He encouraged all members of the Group to provide their active contribution and invited all interested delegates who are not yet members, to contact either him or the Secretariat.
64. The Chairman then introduced the topic of Global Value Chains (GVCs) which is one of the topics listed by the VWG FC as being future oriented and potentially requiring more research.
65. The Secretariat had chosen to explore how GVCs impact Customs business today and will impact Customs in the future, as well as how Customs can improve the competitiveness of their countries in terms of supporting connectedness to GVCs especially from procedures point of view.
66. The Secretariat presented document PC0455 and the key points stemming out of the paper including: definition, difference between GVCs and global supply chains, the information contained in the WTO/OECD Trade in Added Value (TiVA) database and GVC mapping and their relevance for Customs, as well as the discussions on GVCs which took place in the SAFE Working Group, Policy Commission and the Technical Committee on Customs Valuation.
67. Finally, it focused on the importance of trade facilitation measures for improving connectedness to GVCs, especially those relating to processing trade, such as inward and outward processing procedures, which also present mandatory measures under the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.
68. The topic generated comprehensive discussions and inputs from the Members who were also willing to provide more detailed information on the work ahead. A number of delegates shared their experiences with inward/outward processing procedures and offered their support to the future work to be carried out under the VWG FC both on inward/outward processing procedures, as well as on GVCs in general.
69. There was general agreement on the benefits of better connectedness to GVCs in particular for developing countries and for MSMEs, especially with the growth of e-commerce.
70. Some delegates felt that despite the fact that many Members had provisions on inward/outward processing embedded in their legislation, the procedures were often too complex and/or underused. In one case a Member explained that the recently introduced

changes in legislation are putting more emphasis on the inward/outward processing procedures and its wide access to the industry.

71. Some of the points raised as of key importance in terms of better connectedness to GVCs included: bonded factories, economic/industrial zones, warehousing, manufacturing on premises and movements from one manufacturing location to another in the same Customs territory, as well as refund procedures. In the context of use of special zones, a Member pointed out to the VAT implications if goods are removed out of the zones. Other relevant trade facilitation measures mentioned include Authorized Economic Operators including Mutual Recognition Agreements, Single Window, Risk Management, Advance Rulings etc.
72. A delegate also pointed out to the issues arising from the Free Trade Agreements and rules of origin, as well as valuation issues. He felt that it was useful to study GVCs at micro/product-level.
73. There was also a suggestion to place the topic of inward/outward processing procedures on the agenda of the TFAWG and Capacity Building Committee meetings.
74. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - took note of the Members' experiences shared in terms of actions undertaken to support their economies in ensuring better connectedness to GVCs, including experiences on inward/outward processing procedures; and
  - agreed to take the work forward on GVCs, including on inward/outward processing procedures in terms of developing new or updating current guidance in that respect and based on the wide scope of national examples offered to be shared by the PTC delegates.

#### **b) Synchro-modality and smart steaming**

75. The representative of MCJ2 presented the SYNCHRO-NET project on behalf of the Customs Border Research Association (CBRA), who is one of the members of the Virtual Working Group on the Future of Customs.
76. CBRA is involved in the SYNCHRO-NET project funded by the EC as an initiative under Horizon2020 programme. A consortium of 20 partners is working on the project, which will last for 42 months and will demonstrate the synchro-modality and smart steaming concepts in real-world examples of global freight movements and trade lanes.
77. SYNCHRO-NET focuses on applying the concepts of synchro-modality and smart steaming to global supply chain freight movements. Specifically:
  - **Synchro-modality:** SYNCHRO-NET is developing new logistics software optimisation tools which allow end-to-end multimodal freight movements to be optimised. These synchro-modal tools enable shippers and logistics operators to not only save money but also to plan freight movements taking into account environmental impact, risk, reliability of service and duration. In essence these tools “de-stress” the supply chain.
  - **Smart steaming:** The concept of slow steaming has been extensively studied. Smart steaming offers a way to optimise shipping services to present the right balance of services to the market based on requirements – faster services when needed but slower (and therefore much more fuel-efficient) services when appropriate. Furthermore,

integration with terminal planning systems allows ships to optimise their passage dynamically. To take a simple example – if there is known congestion at the next port then there is no point in the ship going at full speed and then waiting at anchor for several days.

78. SYNCHRO-NET is expected to drive a significant increase in the quality and availability of consignment data. SYNCHRO-NET needs accurate information about the origin, destination and type of goods, and uses this information to create cost savings of the order of 10% of the total transport costs i.e. \$millions for a large operation.
79. There is therefore a very large incentive for the logistics operator or shipper to provide accurate, timely information, which of course can easily be made available to Customs. This should result in several major benefits: data is available earlier and is of higher quality, saving time for Customs; real-time visibility of movements allows better planning of resources at the operational level; better, more accurate historical data is available for strategic planning and analysis.
80. The presentation raised the interest of the delegates who raised the issue of the role of Customs processes in SYNCHRO-NET and other optimization packages, especially having in mind that the Customs processes will be an important deciding factor. In that context a delegate urged the WCO to closely follow the development of such packages. Other questions raised were around how security risks would be addressed along the supply chain.
81. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - took note of the SYNCHRO-NET project and of its potential benefits for Customs, as well as of the need to closely follow the development of such optimization packages which include Customs processes as well.

## **Item XI – Economic Competitiveness Package**

### **a) ECP Action Plan for Phase 3**

82. The WCO Secretariat presented document PC0456 on the ECP Action Plan for Phase III which covers the period from January 2017 to December 2018. He explained that the last Policy Commission in July 2017 tasked the PTC to develop the ECP Action Plan and introduced new aspects included in the draft such as Transit Guidelines, further support for regional integration, Guidelines on Customs Brokers, review of the Time Release Study and Guidelines on Special Customs Zones.
83. A delegate stated that the draft Action Plan need to have clear time frame instead of 'Continuous Activity' and pointed out that the review of Time Release Study is covered by Action Plan of TFA Working Group and Digital Customs Action Plan as well. Another delegate suggested the Action Plan need to highlight the capacity building activities on the RKC more because it is a core of the ECP.
84. Several Members were of the opinion that the cooperation and coordination with other organizations including the Global Alliance should be highlighted as an individual section because cooperation and coordination with those organizations are relevant to all other actions. A delegate stated that the possible scope of additional Guidelines of Customs Brokers may include various matters. He also suggested including the Mercator Programme

in column of Relevant Work Programme or Action Plan of the draft Action Plan to make the Mercator Programme be a part of the ECP.

85. In conclusion, the PTC:

- endorsed the draft ECP Action Plan for Phase III, subject to changes suggested by participants.

**b) Transit Guidelines**

86. The WCO Secretariat presented document PC0457 on the Transit Guidelines. It explained the progress made so far. The first workshop on the Transit Guidelines was held in June 2016 with participations from various international and regional organizations and Customs administrations. Many Members have replied to the survey on transit guarantees and the Secretariat is still collecting Members' experiences on transit to reflect them into the draft guidelines. The PTC will review the updated draft at the next sessions to be held in April 2017. He also informed participants that the Global Conference on Transit will be held on 10 and 11 July 2017.

87. A delegate of Mexico appreciated hard work of the Secretariat and reminded participants of the importance of transit to support Land-locked Developing Countries (LLDCs). A delegate of Turkey shared their national projects on electronic TIR Carnets. Turkish Customs started pilot projects to exchange the data of TIR Carnets with its neighboring countries which are Iran and Georgia. Their projects are in line with WCO standards such as the SAFE. The Secretariat replied that those national experiences should be included in the Transit Guidelines.

88. Another delegate suggested considering Customs administrations' role to check passengers in the Transit Guidelines. In response to a question from a participant, the Secretariat confirmed that any regional organizations and interesting Members may check the updated draft guidelines and submit comments to the Secretariat.

89. In conclusion, the PTC:

- the PTC took note of the progress made in developing the Transit Guidelines.

**c) Customs Brokers**

- **Presentation by Malaysia**
- **Presentation by ASAPRA**

90. The Secretariat presented document PC0458, highlighting that the WCO Study Report on Customs brokers (which was endorsed by the December 2015 Policy Commission) had been published on the WCO Website. The Study Report provided the general background and overview of Customs brokers' role in the international supply chain together with some policy and organizational considerations on Customs brokers' regimes and licensing criteria. One of the key policy considerations of the Study is that Customs broker's regulatory regime (where applicable) should be *optional, transparent, and non-discriminatory*. The Secretariat then highlighted some of the challenges in brokers' compliance management and invited the delegates to share and discuss their experiences and initiatives in this domain.

91. A representative from Malaysia made a presentation on their 'Customs brokers Demerit System' implemented since 2007, which helped them in controlling and monitoring the level

of compliance of Customs brokers with a view to improving it. According to him the objective of this system was to increase the level of trust of the business community as well as to have a more systematic and efficient performance management system, rather than penalising Customs brokers. He continued to mention that for each offence committed by a broker, specified demerit points were imposed, and once the aggregate demerit points reached to a certain level, either a warning would be issued to enable the broker to improve (if the explanation was found satisfactory by the administrative committee) or the broker's license would be suspended.

92. A representative of the Customs Professionals Association of America - *Asociación de Agentes Profesionales de Aduana de las Americas* (ASAPRA), presented their perspective and considerations/recommendations, primarily based on the results of the WCO Study Report on Customs Brokers. He underlined that from the brokers' perspective, the WCO Study was a turning point to determine future work and potential opportunities for brokers. In particular, he supported the 'optional' use of brokers and shared his thoughts/work on ethics code for brokers; Know Your Customers (KYC); and transparency agreement between Customs and brokers, underlining the need of commitment for transparency by brokers, Customs, and other users.
93. In the wide-ranging discussion that followed, delegates discussed several issues relating to Customs brokers, which included, among others, the changing role of brokers in the emerging supply chain especially in the e-commerce environment as well as shared their related working experiences. They emphasised that there should also be a 'Merit System' to reward compliant brokers, for example AEO scheme for brokers. For brokers' inclusion in AEO programme, a delegate explained his country's experiences and noted that the error rate of brokers should not be more than average error rate and they should have an internal periodical audit mechanism to become an AEO.
94. Noting the high percentage of Customs broker's usage even in those countries where their use was made optional, it was emphasised that Customs brokers should move towards a more strategic role within the supply chain. In this context, a delegate highlighted that brokers were key to the modernization and economic competitiveness and shared his country's experience on how they successfully moved from a 'mandatory' to the 'optional' regime by working closely with brokers and other stakeholders. Concerning brokers' obligations, some delegates mentioned that data quality and risk management needed to be an integral part of a Customs brokers' daily work.
95. Delegates also raised several issues and challenges concerning Customs brokers – a delegate mentioned that how payment of duties and taxes by brokers (more like financial services) and later on collecting it from their principals, was creating a non-level playing field among them. At the same time, another delegate noted that in her country brokers charged different fees which were causing problems to traders. Another problem raised by a delegate indicated that declarations were normally submitted by brokers with a joint responsibility of paying duties and taxes but when there was some problem; brokers would refuse to pay duties and taxes.
96. In that vein, another delegate brought an interesting issue of transfer pricing (retroactive adjustments) which were done by multi-national companies at a later date, sometimes after several years of the clearance of the shipment, which brokers might not be aware at the time of Customs processing. Additionally, he stated that quality of review by brokers was often influenced by the value of the contract which in other words meant high-value contract would have a lesser review. It was also mentioned that unethical practices by brokers might lead to several risks associated with revenue, health, and security.

97. A delegate mentioned that the issue of liability of brokers in terms of non-compliance as information was provided by traders. She noted that knowledge was the key to the compliance of brokers. From the private sector perspective, legal framework, standards training conditions, general agency agreement, compliance tools, standard operating procedures, linking the value of Capacity Building to compliance enhancement, were noted by her a few measures to enhance compliance of brokers.
98. Responding to a question on the liability of brokers and differentiation between a willful offence and an inadvertent error, the representative from Malaysia clarified that there was a Committee to review and decide level of seriousness and how points to be assigned for respective offences through a consultation process where brokers get an opportunity to explain their position before a decision was taken. It was also mentioned that cases of same mistakes recurring frequently needed to be carefully examined to understand whether there was a malafide intent or not.
99. In terms of the future work, there were a few suggestions that included developing further guidance on the 'optional' use, brokers' compliance management and related processes, and capacity building in terms of education and professional development; best practices on improving compliance including brokers' perspective and initiatives taken by them. Concerning new guidance on Customs brokers, a delegate suggested to bear in mind the different practices and different requirements among Members. Additionally, a delegate recommended that the WCO should consider a study on broker compliance process that might provide for determining how Customs should interact with brokers and enhance brokers' compliance.
100. The Chairperson thanked presenters and delegates for their valuable input which would be included in the future work streams on this topic.
101. In conclusion, the PTC:
- took note of the presentations made by Malaysia and ASAPRA who respectively shared their working experiences, policy initiatives and recommendations from a Customs perspective and a brokers' perspective;
  - discussed working experiences and initiatives concerning the compliance of Customs brokers and related sanction/reward policies and frameworks; and
  - suggested several areas for future work (e.g., the 'optional' use of brokers, brokers' compliance management and related processes, and enhancing cooperation including Capacity Building in terms of education and professional development).

#### **Item XII - Update and reports**

- a) **Report from the 75<sup>th</sup> Session of the Policy Commission, 11-13 July 2016 and the 127<sup>th</sup>/128<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Council, 14-16 July 2016**
- b) **Inter-sessional developments**
- c) **Update on WCO Recommendations**
- d) **Report from the 70<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Information Management Sub-Committee (IMSC), 12-13 May 2016**
- e) **Report of the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SAFE Working Group, 24-26 February 2016**

**f) Report from the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Experts Group on Air Cargo Security, 21-22 March 2016**

102. The intention of the “A” items under “Update and reports” is to take note without discussion, but with a possibility for Members to raise any issues, if required.
103. Under sub-item a), the Chairperson invited the Director to present some key suggestions stemming from the July 2016 sessions of the Policy Commission and Council on the topics of relevance to the PTC.
104. The Director provided more information on the Digital Customs Work Plan and the recommendations put forward by the Policy Commission in terms of the need for coordination between relevant WCO bodies and for further exploring emerging usage of 3D printing, etc. Under e-commerce she drew attention to the suggestions put forward in the Post/Customs context, especially in terms of Members being urged to consider prioritizing the implementation of an electronic interface between Post and Customs at the national level by using joint WCO-UPU messaging standards, but also the recommendation to further enhance cooperation with the OECD, WTO, UNCTAD and other relevant stakeholders, including new and emerging e-commerce actors. She also provided some of the suggestions put forward in respect of Customs-Tax cooperation: related Guidelines to be enhanced with more examples of experiences and best practices; exploring development of key performance indicators to measure success of an established cooperation mechanism/framework; continue working with the OECD and IMF etc.
105. There was no request from the floor and the item was concluded without discussion.
106. In conclusion, the PTC:
- took note of the Director’s presentation on the outcomes of July 2016 Sessions of the Policy Commission and Council (sub-item a);
  - took note of various reports and Secretariat’s updates (sub-items b), c), e) and f)); and
  - adopted the Report from the 70<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Information Management Sub-Committee (sub-item d).

**Item XIII - Performance Measurement**

**a) Achieving Excellence in Customs (AEC)**

- **Presentation by India**

**b) Benchmarking Methodology**

- **Presentation by the World Bank**

107. The Secretariat briefly explained the state of play regarding Achieving Excellence in Customs (AEC) framework. More than 100 Members responded to the survey on AEC. Most probably, the first analysis of AEC will be submitted to the next Policy Commission in December.

108. A representative of the Customs administration of India made a presentation on the Achieving Excellence Framework and its national experiences on performance indicators. It explained the journey towards achieving excellence and main initiatives including Customs single window system, coordinated border management, revamped AEO programme, the implementation of the TFA, and Customs-tax cooperation. His presentation highlighted that Indian Customs shifted from a control-based approach to a trust based approach. As a result, the Logistic Performance Indicator (LPI) score and rank of Indian Customs were improved.
109. A representative of the World Bank Group gave a comprehensive presentation on World Bank's performance measurement tools. He explained methodologies and scopes of Doing Business and LPI and gave several examples of performances of specific countries and regions. In his presentations, benefits and challenges of Doing Business and LPI were introduced. He emphasized that checking several performance indicators and understanding their differences makes us understand performance level appropriately. He also explained top-down private sector savings methodology and bottom-up private sector savings methodology. In addition, the World Bank is developing the Trade Facilitation Agreement Tracking Tool which will examine alignment with the TFA and enable countries to track reform implementation.
110. A number of participants appreciated both presenters for their informative presentations. Several delegates mentioned that Indian's presentation gave us a very clear picture on AEC. A delegate of Vietnam shared its experiences of World Bank's supports for Customs modernization.
111. In response to a question from Members, India emphasized that capturing a gap between perception and reality based on actual data is key to improve the rank of performance indicators. He added further explanations on national experiences of human resource development, analysis of AEO programme, changing attitude of officers, ensuring transparency for trade.
112. A Member considered that WCO's information on members' administrations may be useful in World Bank's performance indicators. The World Bank agreed to the suggestion. The WCO Secretariat said that it was decided that the AEC would give a summary of inputs from Members and could not disclose data of each Member. A delegate questioned the methodology of Doing Business. The World Bank replied that under its new methodology of Doing Business, the survey involves not only private sectors such as freight forwarders but also border agencies in particular Customs administrations.
113. In conclusion, the PTC:
- took note of the presentations from India and the World Bank.

#### **Item XIV – Managing the PTC**

##### **a) PTC Work Programme**

114. The Chairperson introduced the item and document PC0461 stressing that the PTC works in line with a long-term Work Programme which is directly linked to the WCO Strategic Plan.
115. The Secretariat explained the background to the development of the PTC Work Programme whose objective is to serve as monitoring tool for this Committee. The three-year Work

Programme 2013-2016 was developed as a 'living document' to be updated according to the PTC decisions and decisions made by the governing bodies of the WCO. This Work Programme was updated with the progress made in the past three years (Annex I to doc. PC0461). The vast majority of the tasks were accomplished, but the Secretariat nevertheless invited the delegates to provide any findings and recommendations stemming from the progress made.

116. The focus of this item was primarily on the Draft PTC Work Programme 2016-2019 (Annex II to PC0461) which was produced to guide the PTC in the next three financial years. It is in line with the newly adopted Strategic Plan of the WCO and focuses on implementing Strategic goal 1 (promote the security and facilitation of international trade, including simplification and harmonization of Customs procedures = Economic Competitiveness Package) and Strategic goal 5 (Promote Digital Customs to support, in particular, Coordinated Border Management and Information exchange between all stakeholders).
117. The new Draft Work Programme is based on the previous one: topics are largely the same, while the tasks and performance indicators are mainly new. Substantial additional input to the Work Programme is actions from the Digital Customs Work Plan already adopted by the Policy Commission.
118. The Secretariat explained that the PTC is invited to provide recommendations stemming from implementation of the previous plan and to put forward suggestions for improvements for the next one.
119. A delegate suggested bringing back into the Work Programme the topic of end-use codes and product identification. This could be related to Data Quality, CBM and SW. Additional suggestions relating to the implementation of the RKC, CBM and Customs-to-Business Partnership were also suggested and forwarded electronically to the Secretariat.
120. In addition there were two proposals suggested in terms of better managing the Work Programme: 1. To make a clear identification of which working bodies would be responsible for which tasks; and 2. To make a distinction between tasks which are primarily ongoing or maintenance work and those which are new tasks.
121. A delegate felt that the WCO Time Release Study should be an important part of the performance measurement and performance indicators. Regarding the proposed task of updating the CBM Compendium, he also explained the need for introducing changes to its Chapter 3.
122. Another delegate reflected on the topic of Unique Consignment Reference (UCR), acknowledging that despite the previous Work Programme including an update of the UCR Guidelines, the IMSC concluded there was no need for an update, yet there was no progress made on this topic which has been with us for almost two decades. He felt this was an area where more needed to be done on what is the change that could be made to the UCR concept to give it more relevance.
123. A number of delegates felt that the indicators should reflect the impact on the work of the Members. It was suggested that introducing a number of specific tasks for Members to carry out in the intersessional period could be beneficial also in terms of ownership of the work carried out under the PTC and would require commitment from the delegates.
124. The Director stated that the question of performance in Member administrations in respect of the envisaged PTC tasks was also raised in relation to other WCO plans (i.e. ECP action plan, Digital Customs Work Plan) and needed to be raised with the Policy Commission and

Council. Namely, determining how far expectations contained in the work plans of the WCO committees would be able to guide the national policies will still need to be discussed by the governing bodies of the WCO. Therefore, guidance on this matter was desired and will be sought.

125. One Member also felt that the issue of bottlenecks for accession to the RKC would need to be reflected in the PTC Work Programme.
126. It was agreed that a revised version of the Work Programme, incorporating the suggestions made, would be circulated to the delegates together with the Draft Summary Report for any further comments.
127. The Secretariat invited the delegates to provide further suggestions relating especially to tasks to be carried out under the PTC in respect of End-Use-Codes and Product Identification, as well as to the UCR.
128. In conclusion, the PTC :
  - endorsed the Draft PTC Work Programme 2016-2019, subject to changes put forward by the PTC; and
  - agreed to potentially come back to the revised Draft Work Programme 2016-2019 in the PTC meeting in April 2017, if required.

#### **b) Proposals for the next PTC meeting**

129. In line with the decision of the PTC, this long-standing item provides an opportunity to the delegates to put forward suggestions for items at for the next meeting.
130. The Chairperson invited delegates to propose any relevant items for discussion at the April 2017 meeting. Even though no proposal was put forward, the Chairperson encouraged delegates to send their suggestions to the Secretariat in the coming months.
131. In conclusion, the PTC:
  - acknowledged there were no immediate proposals for items to be discussed at the April 2017 PTC Meeting; and
  - took note of Chairperson's encouragement to provide suggestions to the Secretariat in the upcoming months.

#### **Item XV – Any other business**

##### **○ Upcoming events**

132. The Secretariat provided an update on the relevant WCO meetings and events in the current financial year:
  - meetings of WCO working bodies: PSCG and SAFE Working Group, Information Management Sub-Committee, Working Group on Revenue Compliance and Fraud,

ATA/Istanbul Administrative Committee, RKC Management Committee, WCO/IATA/ICAO API/PNR Contact Committee, WCO/UPU Contact Committee, Policy Commission, Data Model Project Team, Administrative Committee for the Customs Convention on Containers (1972), TFAWG, Capacity Building Committee, PTC; and

- WCO events: WCO 2017 IT Conference & Exhibition (7-9 June 2017, Tbilisi, Georgia), and WCO Global Conference on Transit (10-11 July 2017, Brussels).

133. The delegate from Brazil used the opportunity to share that the success of the Olympic and Paralympic Games held in Brazil this year was also due to the Customs efficiency and the value of the WCO instruments and tools used on that occasion.

134. The delegate from Georgia also took the floor to invite the delegates to join the WCO 2017 IT Conference in Tbilisi.

135. In conclusion, the PTC:

- took note of the upcoming WCO meetings and events.

#### **Item VII – Closing**

136. The Director thanked all the delegates for their interactive participations throughout the meeting and, in particular, appreciated the presentations made by the delegates and experts from different international organizations and private sector. She went on to highlight the main issues discussed inviting proactive participation in the Virtual Working Group on the Future of Customs and other activities.

137. The Chairperson thanked the WCO Secretariat for the hard work and the delegates for their active engagement in the Meeting. He repeated that the dates of the next PTC meeting that will take place from 2 to 6 April 2017, and closed the PTC.

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## DRAFT PTC Work Programme 2016-2019

### Introduction

The Work Programme of the Permanent Technical Committee ~~is in line with~~follows the WCO Strategic Plan and supports implementation of its goals and activities. It will be regularly updated to reflect the decisions taken by the Committee and the governing bodies of the WCO and to reflect the progress made.

### Work Programme 2016-2019

The Work Programme aims to consolidate all the topics the Committee will be dealing with in a three-year period. This Work Programme refers to the three financial years: 2016/2017, 2017/2018 and 2018/2019.

The Work Programme should be considered as a living document and will be updated to reflect the changes taking place in the Customs environment and to reflect the new demands of the Membership or decisions of the Policy Commission and Council. Topics which are being proposed for inclusion in the Work Programme, would first need to be discussed in a PTC meeting. In accordance with the PTC Agenda setting guidelines, two or more Members (and possibly Observer(s)) would be expected to put forward a document for discussion in order to allow the PTC to have a clear understanding of the topic and the reasons for its inclusion in the Work Programme.

The Programme largely supports achieving Strategic Goals 1 and 5 of the WCO Strategic Plan 2016/2017-2018/2019 and contributes to the implementation of the following Strategic activities falling under the two goals:

**Strategic Goal 1** – Promote the security and facilitation of international trade, including simplification and harmonization of Customs procedures = Economic Competitiveness Package:

- **Strategic Activity 1.1:** Develop, manage and promote conventions, guidelines, standards and tools on trade security and facilitation;
- **Strategic Activity 1.2:** Support effective implementation of WTO TFA provisions through use of WCO instruments, tools and assistance
- **Strategic Activity 1.3:** Promote cooperation with other border agencies to enhance border efficiency and effectiveness;
- **Strategic Activity 1.4:** Enhance partnership with private sector.

**Strategic Goal 5** – Promote Digital Customs to support, in particular, Coordinated Border Management and information exchange between all stakeholders:

- **Strategic Activity 5.1:** Digital Customs: Provide a framework to consolidate the development, promotion and deployment of the WCO's Information Technology (IT)-related standards, instruments, tools, guidelines and systems;
- **Strategic Activity 5.2:** Implement Globally ~~Networked~~ Networked Customs (GNC);
- **Strategic Activity 5.3:** Use of IT in support of Coordinated Border Management;
- **Strategic Activity 5.4:** Develop, promote and manage WCO instruments and tools that provide the legal basis for technology enabled reforms.

For each of the Strategic Activities, the PTC Work Programme 2016-2019 provides a list of topics and related tasks to be carried out by the PTC.

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PUBLIC VERSION

1. PTC tasks to support Strategic Activity 1.1: Develop, manage and promote conventions, guidelines, standards and tools on trade security and facilitation

*“The WCO will continue to work on developing international standards for Customs procedures. It also promotes the Revised Kyoto Convention. The WCO will manage, further develop and promote the Economic Competitiveness Package, including the SAFE Framework of Standards, the Time Release Study, and other instruments and tools to achieve trade security and facilitation.”*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task <sup>1</sup>	Responsible body <sup>2</sup>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
Economic Competitiveness Package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the progress in implementing the ECP Action Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in implementing the Action Plan reported to the PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise the ECP Action Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Draft of the revised Action Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2016</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update the ECP Toolkit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised Action Plan submitted to the Policy Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 2016</li> </ul>	
Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advise the RKC Management Committee on maintenance, promotion, and implementation of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations of the PTC regarding the maintenance of the RKC agreed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> The Work Programme differentiates two types of tasks: 1. 'Maintenance' which refers mainly to ongoing activities and update of existing tools; and 2. 'Advanced' which refers mainly to new tools and more advanced initiatives.

<sup>2</sup> Apart from the PTC itself, responsible bodies include only those reporting to or informing the PTC and have a role to play in the completion of a task (discussion, guidance, endorsement). Other responsible bodies not mentioned here could, for example, be the Enforcement Committee (i.e. in the case of Coordinated Border Management), but as it does not report to the PTC, it is not included in this table either.

Topic	Tasks	Type of task <sup>1</sup>	<a href="#">Responsible body<sup>2</sup></a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	the RKC			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Bottlenecks regarding accession to the RKC identified</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">April 2017</a></li> </ul>	
Time Release Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that WCO Members report to PTC and share best practices related to TRS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of reports received by the Secretariat with permission to share the results with WCO members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the use and implementation of the Time Release Study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of presentations given by WCO members during PTC meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep TRS tools up to date</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update of TRS tools discussed by the PTC and recommendations put forward</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2016</li> </ul>	
Supply Chain Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss/approve technical issues forwarded by the SAFE WG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of issues discussed and approved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure issues related to Customs and SAFE Framework are brought to the PTC for information/update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, SWG, Technical Expert Group on Air Cargo Security</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on SAFE FoS including its 2018 review cycle reported to the PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task <sup>1</sup>	Responsible body <sup>2</sup> (TEGAC S)	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide guidance on the development of new tools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New and updated tools developed and presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2017</li> </ul>	
Integrated Supply Chain Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise awareness on the ISCM Guidelines and explore further its key concepts, in particular, integrated Customs control, authorized supply chain, and connectivity between and among Customs administrations together with other stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, SWG, <a href="#">Information Management Sub-Committee (IMSC)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge and presentations shared on Members' initiatives, best practices and other related projects in this domain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided guidance on the potential update of the ISCM Guidelines to reflect new developments and opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
Natural Disaster Relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor implementation of the 2011 WCO Resolution on Natural Disaster Relief (NDR) and other related WCO tools and initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit to PTC paper on implementation measures relating to the Resolution on NDR</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodically</li> </ul>	
Immediate Release Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support maintenance and ensure that</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, <a href="#">Working Group on</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of WCO Members using the IRG increased</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task <sup>1</sup>	Responsible body <sup>2</sup>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	technical issues related to IRG are reported to PTC for discussion and guidance		<a href="#">E-commerce (WGEC)</a>			
Glossary of International Customs Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update the Glossary of International Customs Terms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New terms proposed to be included in the Glossary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>November 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give guidance on the way forward for the definitions proposed by the Secretariat and reviewed by the Virtual Group, which do not form part of any WCO instrument</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least three new definitions reviewed and approved yearly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
Postal Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take actions to promote the use of Customs/Post EDI messages and exchange of information in Postal Traffic with a view of enhancing facilitation and security of shipments transported by post</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, WCO/UPU Contact Committee, IMSC, <a href="#">WGEC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operational Guidelines for exchange of electronic messages between Customs and posts based on the pilots' experiences and lessons learned developed and approved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2017</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task <sup>1</sup>	Responsible body <sup>2</sup>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and provide guidance to the work of the WCO/UPU Contact Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WCO/UPU CC reports, work programme, draft tools approved and issues arising resolved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised WCO–UPU Memorandum of Understanding signed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
Regional integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate and support the implementation of the RKC and the use of TRS in Regional Integration Projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <a href="#">number of meetings or tools in which the implementation of RKC and the use of TRS in Regional Integration Projects discussed</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Transit Guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transit Guidelines adopted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
Data Quality and Data Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide guidance and support to the Virtual Working Group on Data Quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, Virtual Working Group on Data Quality</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report of the Virtual Working Group on Data Quality to July 2017 Policy Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>July 2017</li> </ul>	
E-Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss issues emanating from growth in e-commerce and provide strategic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, WGEC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specific issues stemming from growing e-commerce, in particular those relating to facilitation,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task <sup>1</sup>	Responsible body <sup>2</sup>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	guidance and potential solutions			procedures, and revenue collection identified and discussed		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and provide guidance to the work of the Working Group on E-Commerce (WGEC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WGEC Meeting reports submitted and issues referred to discussed/approved/c larified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
Future of Customs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss topics submitted to the PTC by the Virtual Working Group on the Future of Customs (VWG FC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, Virtual Working Group on the Future of Customs (VWG FC)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A number of topics discussed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore recommendations submitted by the VWG FC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations discussed and put forward to the Policy Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>July 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Develop new/update existing guidance on inward/outward processing and other procedures relevant for ensuring better connectedness in</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, VWG FC</a></li> <li><a href="#">Revised Kyoto Convention on Management</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">New/updated guidance approved by the PTC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">April 2017</a></li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task <sup>1</sup>	Responsible body <sup>2</sup>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	<a href="#">particular of SMEs and developing countries to Global Value Chains</a>		<a href="#">Committee (RKC/MC)</a>			

2. Tasks to support Strategic Activity 1.2 Support effective implementation of WTO TFA provisions through use of WCO instruments, tools and assistance

*“The WCO will continue to work towards consistent and effective implementation of the TFA. The WCO and its Members have developed, and continue to develop, instruments and tools to unlock the significant potential of trade facilitation and assist Members to implement the TFA.”*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	Responsible body	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA/ATF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek means to support implementation of commitments stemming from the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation through the Mercator Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, Working Group on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFAWG)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At a joint meeting with the Working Group on the TFA (TFAWG) a number of topics and issues resolved jointly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2016</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of technical guidance tools developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respond to Members' concerns regarding specific provisions and consider implications in terms of Capacity Building and Technical Assistance requirements within the framework of the Mercator Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, Capacity Building Committee (CBC), TFAWG</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Explore</a> implementation of particular TFA provisions, especially those forwarded by the TFAWG <a href="#">explored</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

3. Tasks to support Strategic Activity 1.3: Promote cooperation with other border agencies to enhance border efficiency and effectiveness

*“The WCO will promote border agency cooperation to enable governments to reduce their border control costs whilst simultaneously delivering enhanced efficiency and effectiveness, when facing an increasing flow of goods and travellers, thereby contributing to a nation’s economic competitiveness by better facilitating trade and travel.”*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
Coordinated Border Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collect innovative practices from Members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, TFAWG, SAFE WG</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study on existing Customs-Police collaboration practices, with a view to the production of a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>July 2017</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
				reference source discussed and submitted to the Policy Commission		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update of the CBM Compendium.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, TFAWG, SAFE WG</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update CBM Compendium with results of the study on Customs-Police collaboration practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with other International Organizations concerning CBM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, TFAWG, SAFE WG</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue engaging <a href="#">The number of meetings or tools reflecting engagement with IPPC, OiE, Codex Alimentarius, World Health Organization</a> and other relevant organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
Customs-Tax Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Guidelines for strengthening cooperation and the exchange of information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, WGEC, Working Group on Revenue Compliance and Fraud</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidelines finalised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2016</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The topic of Customs-Tax cooperation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<u>Responsible body</u>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	between Customs and Tax authorities at the national level		<u>(WGRCF)</u>	discussed from different perspectives and related Members' practices collected		

4. Tasks to support Strategic Activity 1.4: Enhance partnership with private sector

*“Fostering Customs-trade partnership has traditionally been an important part of the WCO.s work. The WCO maintains close partnerships with a large number of private sector organizations. Such partnerships are in many cases formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding.”*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<u>Responsible body</u>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
AEOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide input on the AEO Compendium where necessary/relevant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, SAFE WG</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annually updated AEO Compendiums presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide guidance on MRAs and related work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, SAFE WG</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated on MRAs developments and related activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
Customs-Business Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support strengthening of Customs to Business Partnerships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, SAFE WG, TFAWG</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New and emerging <u>opportunities</u> of enhanced cooperation discussed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best practices and working experiences, including SMEs'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

				engagement presented <u>and incorporated into the Customs to Business Partnership Guidance</u>		
Customs Brokers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue work on policy considerations including the 'optional' use of Brokers as detailed in the WCO Study Report on Customs Brokers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, TFAWG</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed working experiences concerning compliance of Brokers and related sanction/reward policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

5. Tasks to support Strategic Activity 5.1: Digital Customs: Provide a framework to consolidate the development, promotion and deployment of the WCO's Information Technology (IT)-related standards, instruments, tools, guidelines and systems

*"The WCO will provide a cohesive, comprehensible and scalable framework to consolidate the development, promotion as well as deployment of the WCO's IT-related instruments, tools, guidelines and systems to enable ICT implementation to support Customs work, including enforcement and facilitation activities."*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<u>Responsible body</u>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
IT Guide for Executives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update the IT Guide for Executives to include Members' practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, IMSC</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The updated IT Guide presented to the PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April <u>Autumn</u> 2017</li> </ul>	
Data Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce annual updates of the Data Model to reflect the standard up-to-date requirements of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, IMSC, Data Model Project Team (DMPT)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Release 3.7.0 produced in 2017 and presented to the Policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 2017</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	Members that are adopting the instrument			Commission		
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A decision on potential Migration to version 4.0 reached</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2018</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update report on global adoption of the WCO Data Model presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce and Maintain Information Packages to cover a wider array of cross-border regulatory procedures including all Customs major types of licenses, certificates and permits used in international trade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, IMSC, DMPT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical /non-technical documentation regarding Data Model developed and approved by PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information packages covered by the scope of release 3.7 finalized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 2017</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information packages covered by the scope of release 3.8</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 2018</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
				will be finalized		
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support provided to the maintenance of IMO FAL Compendium</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support provided to Development of global standards for Trader Identification in the AEO – MRA Context</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 2017</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support provided to connectivity and interoperability in e-commerce environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support to the adoption of the WCO Data Model for the IPPC's e-Phyto project provided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerate adoption by Members and regional organizations by promoting 'My Information Packages'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, IMSC, DMPT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One example of "My Information Packages" produced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Member encouraged to produce a further example of "My Information Package"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
API Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce updates of the PNRGOV Message Implementation Guide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, WCO/IATA/ICAO API/PNR Contact Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PNRGOV Guidelines 16.1 finalized and presented to PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain the WCO/IATA/ICAO API Guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, WCO/IATA/ICAO API/PNR Contact Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update to "Umbrella Document" – Executive Summary on Passenger Information) completed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop guidance on how to build API / PNR System</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTC, WCO/IATA/ICAO API/PNR Contact Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance on how to build API / PNR Systems is finalized and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
				approved		
UCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote implementation of UCR</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC, SAFE WG</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UCR implemented in a project and presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous</li> </ul>	
Review/updating of IT related WCO instruments and tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop/enhance guidance in the area of Information Security Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update to the guidance on data security management is produced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update and collect Members' practices guidance in the area of the Business Continuity Planning Guidelines,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update to the guidance on Business Continuity Planning Guidelines produced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work on the use of WWW sites by Customs - potential development of a Guide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance on the use of WWW produced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2018</li> </ul>	

6. Tasks to support Strategic Activity 5.2: Implement Globally Networked Customs (GNC)

*“The WCO will continue to provide a systematic approach which aims to deliver seamless, real-time and paperless flows of information between Customs administrations to meet the challenges of the 21st Century which require new approaches for cooperation between Customs administrations and all relevant stakeholders for purposes of applying Customs controls while facilitating legitimate trade.”*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	Responsible body	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
Globally Networked Customs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor progress of proof-of-concept for Utility Blocks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress on Utility Blocks presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodically</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further <del>enhancement</del><a href="#">enhancement</a> of guidance documentation to assist Members in developing and submitting Utility Blocks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on PC guidance, further work on GNC Governance to inform PC July 2017</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a GNC UB Repository for the sharing of completed Utility Blocks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance the GNC UB Repository on Members' web site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>June 2017</li> </ul>	

7. Tasks to support Strategic Activity 5.3: Use of IT in support of Coordinated Border Management

*“The WCO will continue to promote and enhance the use of IT related to Coordinated Border Management, including Single Window environments.”*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<u>Responsible body</u>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
Single Window	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update the Compendium on ‘How to Build a Single Window Environment’ by including the successful Single Window implementations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, IMSC</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SW Compendium updated and approved by the PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with other International Organizations concerning Single Window</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintenance</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, IMSC</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other international organizations presented their projects on Single Window</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop SW E-Learning module (7-10 hours)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Advanced</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>PTC, IMSC</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The PTC informed about the development of a SW E-Learning module</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 2017</li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SW E-Learning course reviewed and translated into three languages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 2017</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enlarge the pool of global experts through the accreditation process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two Global/Regional Workshops conducted and PTC informed about the number of experts accredited (at least 15 by March 2018)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 2018</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and Update the WCO Single Window Interactive Map (SWIM) database on Single Window procedures and services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WCO SWIM database updated and presented to the PTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2017</li> </ul>	
<a href="#">Product identification</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Examine product identification systems</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Advanced</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC, WGEC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Members to continue reporting their initiatives</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">October 2017 PTC (and subsequent PTCs as appropriate)</a></li> </ul>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Secretariat to advise PTC of related discussion in other groups (WGEC, for example)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">October 2017 PTC (and subsequent PTCs as appropriate)</a></li> </ul>	

8. Tasks to support Strategic Activity 5.4: Develop, promote and manage WCO instruments and tools that provide the legal basis for technologically enabled reforms

*“The WCO will continue to develop, promote and manage WCO instruments and tools that provide for a firm legal basis for interconnectivity.”*

Topic	Tasks	Type of task	<a href="#">Responsible body</a>	Performance Indicators	Timeline	Progress
ICT Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce an update of the WCO ICT Guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Maintenance</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">PTC, IMSC, RKC/MC</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An update of the ICT Guidelines approved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 2018</li> </ul>	

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