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
-
215th/216th Sessions
-
3 – 7 April 2017

PC0469E1b

Brussels, 29 March 2017.

DATA ANALYSIS – WCO THEME OF 2017

- Break-out session on data analysis -

(Item IV. (b) on the Agenda)

Introduction

1.　　　Data is generated by every economic activity, including the movement of goods and people and circulates extensively along the global value chain. Collecting and analyzing data to enhance the effectiveness of border management is of paramount importance to Customs administrations.

2.　　　This year, in the context of the International Customs Day, the WCO has introduced the theme "Data Analysis for Effective Border Management" to encourage the global Customs community to pursue their efforts and activities in this area.

Discussions at the SAFE Working Group

3.　　　The 17th Meeting of the SAFE Working Group (SWG) which took place from 1 to 3 March 2017 discussed the WCO theme 'Data Analysis for Effective Border Management' from a secure and efficient supply chain perspective.

4.　　　Representatives from the Canadian Customs and Microsoft made presentation that led to detailed discussion on how data analysis could further strengthen the security and facilitation of supply chains. The SWG agreed that the Secretariat and interested SWG members develop resource guidance on how data analytics could be used to enhance the implementation of the SAFE Framework of Standards and the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programme. A draft document would be presented at the autumn SWG Meeting for further deliberation.

Exploring data analysis through a break-out session

5.　　　While developments in Information Communication Technology (ICT) and its wider use have made the collection of data and access to open data easier, the real challenge is about making sense of a vast amount of information through proper processing and

analysis. This will help Customs officers to drive priority-setting, decision-making, performance measurement, integrity and compliance strategy, budget planning and forecasting, and operations.

6.   With all above in mind, the PTC will discuss the theme of this year Data Analysis and its different aspects, including objectives, data collection and IT solutions.

7.   The PTC delegates are invited to break into two groups and discuss the following questions, each separately, and report back to the plenary:

    i.   **Objectives**: How is data analysis relevant for Customs in terms of facilitating and securing the supply chain? Which are the more specific areas it contributes to, such as risk management, post-clearance audit, etc? How advanced are Members in analysing data? Is there a relevant level of awareness of its benefits for Customs business? What data analysis projects are out there?

    ii.   **Data collection**: What type of data can be collected and analysed by Customs? How can other government authorities and the private sector support availability of data? What are the required structures for collecting data? What are the data security issues that can present obstacles? How is the issue of data quality impacting analysis of collected data? How relevant are data standards in this context?

    iii.   **IT solutions**: What are the different IT solutions which can support extracting meaningful information from raw data? What are the data mining and data analytics tools available on the market? Are they well equipped to serve Customs and other border agencies' purposes? Are the Customs officer well trained to use the different data analytics tools?

<u>Action required from the PTC</u>

8.   The PTC is invited to:

-   discuss and draw conclusions and recommendations on the questions on data analysis indicated in paragraph 7 above.

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