

**ANNEX – I**

**PROGRESS MADE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE REVISED ECP ACTION PLAN FOR PHASE V**

*(July 2020 - June 2022)*

**1. Economic Competitiveness Package (WCO Strategic Plan - Strategic Process 1 - SP1)**

The WCO will develop and update instruments and tools to unlock the significant potential offered by modernizing Customs procedures through the implementation of IT solutions, moving towards efficient Customs procedures that promote the facilitation of legitimate trade by means of an effective risk management strategy. These tools form part of the Economic Competitiveness Package (ECP).

Bearing in mind the ever-changing trade and business environment, regular updates to existing WCO tools and instruments, as well as the development of new tools, are to be expected. In order to develop practical and useful instruments and tools for Members, examples of innovative practices will be collected from Members and shared on a continuous basis.

The key priorities of the Strategic Plan 2019-2022 include, among others, the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC), E-Commerce and Coordinated Border Management (CBM).

WCO committees and working groups regularly review existing WCO tools and instruments on trade facilitation and security. For instance, based on the decision taken by the RKC Management Committee (RKC/MC), the Policy Commission and Council established a Working Group on the Comprehensive Review of the RKC at their June 2018 Sessions to conduct a comprehensive review of the Convention.

The Working Group on E-Commerce has developed the Framework of Standards on Cross-Border E-Commerce and updated the Immediate Release Guidelines, and these developments/updates were adopted by the Policy Commission and Council in June 2018. Going forward, the Framework of Standards (FoS) has been further enriched by an E-Commerce Package, adopted by the Policy Commission and Council in June 2019 and December 2020. The E-Commerce Package includes the technical specifications, definitions, flow charts, business models, reference datasets, revenue collection approaches, implementation strategy, action plan, and capacity building mechanism that will facilitate expeditious, effective and harmonized implementation of the Framework. A Compendium of Case Studies on E-Commerce was compiled based on implementation experiences of WCO Members and E-Commerce stakeholders. A mechanism to maintain the E-Commerce FoS and

associated tools has also been defined to keep the WCO E-Commerce agenda agile, taking into consideration the dynamically changing E-Commerce environment.

The WCO has already developed several tools related to Coordinated Border Management (CBM) as well, such as the CBM Compendium, the Single Window Compendium and Guidance on National Committees on Trade Facilitation (NCTF). In addition to the regular activities undertaken by the WCO working bodies, the ECP Action Plan for Phase V envisages further discussions on developing or refining certain WCO tools and instruments with a view to enhancing the economic competitiveness of WCO Members.

In light of the evolving COVID-19 situation, the WCO will continue its support to Members to address the challenges related to COVID-19, infectious diseases and other disasters. In the framework of the COVID-19 project, a new tool has been developed, the WCO Guidelines on Disaster Management and Supply Chain Continuity that provides a set of guiding principles, recommendations and best practices that should allow Members to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and be prepared for future disruptive events.

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>1</sup>	Updates
1	Conduct a comprehensive review of the RKC	RKC/MC	4 Step-Framework under the new Work Plan for the RKC Review	March 2023	The RKC/MC commenced with Step-4 review process of the four-step framework starting from the 27 <sup>th</sup> RKC/MC meeting. A revised work plan with an extended review timeline until September 2024 is to be proposed to the 28 <sup>th</sup> RKC/MC meeting scheduled from 7 to 11 March 2022.
2	Review of the SAFE FoS	SAFE WG		June 2021	The SAFE FoS 2021 was endorsed by the June 2021 Council.
3	Annual review of the E-Commerce Package	PTC		June 2021	The "Reference Datasets for Cross-Border E-Commerce" and "Revenue Collection Approaches" were the two documents subject to the 1 <sup>st</sup> annual

\* The WCO Secretariat will support all the actions in the Action column.

<sup>1</sup> The timeframes may be subject to revision due to disruptions that may be caused by the COVID-19.

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>1</sup>	Updates
					review of the E-Commerce Package. The review was conducted in the first half of 2021. In May 2021, the PTC decided not to amend these two documents at this stage. The outcome of the annual review was reported to the June 2021 Policy Commission and Council.
4	Periodic review of the E-Commerce Package	PTC		June 2022	The first periodic review was launched in January 2021. 63 proposals submitted by Members, partner international organizations and the private sector were discussed in the framework of the first periodic review of the E-Commerce Package. An interim report was submitted to the PTC in October 2021. In April 2022, the PTC will be invited to examine and endorse the proposed revision of the E-Commerce Package resulting from the first periodic review. The outcome will be reported to the June 2022 Policy Commission and Council.
5	Develop Secretariat notes to assist with the implementation of E-commerce FoS	PTC, other related WCO committees		May 2021	Two topic-specific Secretariat Notes were developed to assist Members and stakeholders in implementing the E-Commerce FoS; 1) on expanding the concept of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) to cross-border e-commerce and 2) on effective and

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>1</sup>	Updates
					efficient revenue collection in cross-border e-commerce. The Secretariat Notes were acknowledged by the PTC in May 2021 and by the Policy Commission and Council in June 2021. In April 2022, the Secretariat will provide to the PTC information on the update of the Secretariat Note on expanding the concept of AEO to cross-border e-commerce.
<b>6</b>	Accreditation workshop, capacity building activities utilizing the Practical Guidance on Free Zones	PTC, EC, other related WCO committees or working groups	PTC Work Programme	June 2022	Accreditation workshop and two regional workshops (A/P and MENA) have been already conducted. The regional workshops for EUR, ESA/WCA, and AMS will also be conducted by June 2022.
<b>7</b>	Develop “AEO Implementation and Validation Guidance” (new guidance for AEO Implementation processes, the AEO Template and updated Validator Guide)	SAFE WG		June 2021	The Guidance was taken note of by the June 2021 Council and published on the WCO Website.
<b>8</b>	Develop Guidance on Customs’ role in the collection of indirect taxes on imported goods	PTC, other related WCO committees or working groups	PTC Work Programme 2019-2022	June 2022	The draft Guidance was developed. The PTC in November 2018 examined the draft Guidance and opened a window for Members’ comments. There was limited interest from Members, and no further interest raised since then.

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>1</sup>	Updates
<b>9</b>	Mercury Pilot Project for the e-ATA Carnet (including Continuous improvement and full production version of the system)	International Chamber of Commerce World Chambers Federation (ICC WCF)	Cooperative work between the WCO, ICC WCF and volunteering WCO Members	June 2022	Due to th COVID 19, the Pilot Project has been delayed. The system for production will be technically ready in 2023, based on feedback received from the Pilot participants.
<b>10</b>	Study Report on Smart Security Devices	SAFE WG	Draft PTC Work Programme 2019-2022	June 2022	The Report has been delayed for further consideration by the participating Members.
<b>11</b>	Development of Guidance on Railways	PTC, API/ PNR-related WCO body, DMPT	PTC Work Programme	June 2022	The Railway Guidance will be published after endorsement by Council in June 2022.
<b>12</b>	Promote the implementation of a Single Window paperless environment and interoperability	PTC	PTC Work Programme, Work Programme on Digital Customs	June 2022	The Secretariat has promoted the Single Window paperless environment and interoperability to some Members. When the programme on Digital Customs will be launched, the work can be integrated with Digital Customs.
<b>13</b>	Developing a Compendium on Maritime Passenger Clearance Processes	PFCWG		June 2022	The first draft of the Compendium will be presented to the Passenger Facilitation and Control Working Group (PFCWG) in April 2022.
<b>14</b>	Developing harmonized datasets for Maritime Passengers	PFCWG		June 2022	The final draft of API like dataset was confirmed at the 2 <sup>nd</sup> PFCWG in October 2021, and the final draft of PNR like dataset has been developed by a Mini Group intersessionally. External consultations are progressing with CLIA, IMO and industry which will

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>1</sup>	Updates
					be followed by submission to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> PFCWG meeting in April 2022.
15	Developing a Secretariat Note on extending the scope of AEO Programmes to include Free Zones	SAFE WG, PTC		June 2022	The Secretariat Note was developed and published in June 2021. The updated version will be developed by June 2022.
16	Developing a Secretariat Note on extending the scope of AEO Programmes to include E-Commerce stakeholders	SAFE WG, PTC		June 2021	The Secretariat Note was taken note of by the PTC in April 2021 and published in May 2021. The updated version will be provided to the PTC in April 2022.
17	Update the WCO Guidelines for the Procurement and Deployment of Scanning/NII Equipment (NII Guidelines)	TEG-NII, SAFE WG		October 2020	The updated NII Guidelines were endorsed by the TEG-NII in September 2020 and by the SAFE Working Group in October 2020 and are available on the WCO website.
18	Developing a section to be added to the CBM Compendium on Transboundary management of plastic waste			June 2022	The updated CBM Compendium will be presented to the PTC in April 2022 for endorsement.
19	Developing the WCO Guidelines on Disaster Management and Supply Chain Continuity			June 2021	The Guidelines were approved in June 2021. An updated version was endorsed by the PTC in October 2021.

**2. Sharing of knowledge and best practices (WCO Strategic Plan - Strategic Process 6 - SP6)**

The WCO fosters knowledge exchange and the sharing of policies and best practices through the organization of missions, international and regional events and the promotion of Customs-to-Customs meetings, workshops and forums.

The WCO established the TFA Working Group, inviting Member Customs administrations, trade ministry representatives, international organizations relevant to border management, the private sector, academia and other stakeholders to participate therein. It has examined each article of the TFA and developed new tools for the uniform implementation of the TFA provisions, drawing on existing WCO instruments, tools and examples of best practices among Members. The TFA Working Group has discussed how its own Work Programme can support the effective implementation of the WTO TFA provisions.

The WCO has developed a Customs-Business Partnership Guidance document to assist Members with putting in place processes for regular consultation and for establishing a robust partnership with business. The ECP Action Plan for Phase V seeks that the private sector be more involved in WCO committees and working groups.

The ECP Action Plan for Phase V highlights the main points of action, but leaves concrete and detailed actions to the TFA Working Group and other relevant committees.

The PTC will review the progress of the ECP Action Plan.

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>2</sup>	Updates
<b>20</b>	Fifth WCO Global Conference on AEO	SAFE WG		25-27 May 2021	The Fifth Global Conference on AEO was held in May 2021.
<b>21</b>	Second WCO Global Conference on Cross-Border E-commerce	PTC		28-29 June 2021	The Second Global Conference on Cross-Border E-Commerce was held on 28-29 June 2021.
<b>22</b>	Technology Conference 2021			November 2021	The 2021 WCO TECH-CON was held on 10-11 November 2021.

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	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>2</sup>	Updates
23	Regional ICAO-WCO joint training workshops on air cargo security and facilitation	SAFE WG	PTC Work Programme	June 2022	Due to the pandemic and because ICAO prefers that this activity is not carried out in virtual mode, this joint initiative is pending.
24	Regional IMO - WCO Joint Workshop on Customs - Maritime Coordination	DMPT		June 2022	The planned joint workshop was conducted with the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH), instead of with the IMO, in November 2021 as part of WCO – IAPH collaboration to develop Guidelines on Customs – Port Cooperation.
25	Compile the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Compendium of Case Studies on E-Commerce	PTC		May 2021	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Compendium of Case Studies on E-Commerce was endorsed by the PTC in May 2021 and by the Policy Commission and Council in June 2021 and is publicly available on the WCO web-site.
26	Update of the AEO Compendium (online)	SAFE WG		Annual	The Online AEO Compendium will be presented to the April SWG Meeting for taking note.
27	Developing and piloting the Digital AEO Compendium (subject to approval from the SWG and other relevant working bodies of the WCO)	SAFE WG		June 2022 (Tentatively)	This issue will be discussed at the upcoming SWG Meeting in April 2022.
28	Online repository of case studies on the Single Window environment			June 2022	Some case studies have been published on the WCO website. The work will depend on Members' contribution of their case studies.



	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>2</sup>	Updates
29	Update of the Single Window Compendium Vol. 2 Part IX	PTC		June 2022	The update was presented at the 77 <sup>th</sup> IMSC as a working document, but no agreement was reached.
30	Publishing the Joint WCO-ICAO brochure “ <i>Moving Air Cargo Globally</i> ”	SAFE WG		December 2021	Ongoing
31	Developing a repository of Members practices on “Account-based management”	SAFE WG		June 2022	The issue is pending further discussion.
32	Piloting a survey to develop a compendium on the implementation of Pillars 1 and 3 of the SAFE FoS	SAFE WG		June 2022	The issue is pending further discussion.
33	Regional A/P Plastic Waste Border Management Conference	EC, PTC		June 2022	The Conference was held online from 24 – 25 Feb 2022.

### **CONTINUOUS ACTIVITIES**

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
1	Collect, analyse and share examples of innovative practice (for example in areas such as Customs handling)	PTC		Continuous activity	In 2020, the Secretariat collected, analysed and shared information from 115 Members on the measures implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
	dangerous goods, COVID-19, etc.)				<p>In 2021, the Secretariat collected, analysed and shared information from 27 Members regarding the cross-border movement of vaccines, as well as vaccine manufacturing inputs and components.</p> <p>Through the 2021 Annual Consolidated Survey, the Secretariat collected Members' experiences on the use of three groups of disruptive technologies (blockchain/DLT, IoT and big data analytics/AI/ML), based on which a joint WCO/WTO paper was developed and published in November 2021.</p>
<b>2</b>	Involve the private sector in relevant WCO committees and working groups (consistent with Rules of Procedure and Terms of Reference), seminars and workshops, enhance cooperation with the Private Sector Consultative Group (PSCG)	PTC, other related WCO committees or working groups, PSCG		Continuous activity	<p>Members of the NII industry are full-fledged members of the TEG-NII.</p> <p>The private sector was involved in the informal ad hoc meetings held under the annual and periodic reviews of the E-Commerce Package. Private sector e-commerce stakeholders were involved in the delivery of the series of regional workshops on e-commerce held between January 2021 and January 2022 for the six WCO regions.</p>

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
					<p>Private sector stakeholders were heavily involved in the WCO 2021 TECH-CON and the regional workshops on disruptive technologies.</p> <p>The cooperation with the PSCG which was intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic, has continued throughout the reporting period. The PSCG was also more actively involved in PTC meetings.</p>

**3. Technical assistance, training and tools for implementation of international standards (WCO Strategic Plan - Strategic Process 7 - SP7)**

The WCO will provide tools and capacity building to Members in accordance with their expressed needs, and/or needs identified through performance measurement tools. The WCO will assist Members in implementing the tools and instruments developed for the Economic Competitiveness Package (ECP), Revenue Package (RP), Compliance and Enforcement Package (CEP) and Organizational Development Package (ODP).

In June 2014, the WCO launched the Mercator Programme to ensure the uniform implementation of the WTO TFA, using WCO instruments and tools, as most of the TFA provisions are Customs-related.

The WCO may offer comprehensive tailor-made operational and technical support to implement ECP tools and instruments, based on WCO Members' needs.

Under the ECP Action Plan for Phase V, the WCO will strengthen its supporting activities for National Committees on Trade Facilitation (NCTF), E-Commerce, SAFE FoS, AEO programmes and Mutual Recognition Arrangements/Agreements (MRAs), Single Window (SW), One Stop Border Control and interconnectivity/interoperability of IT systems (as they are the main components of CBM).

Under the COVID-19 Project, the WCO is delivering capacity building activities to Members to improve their capacity to respond to COVID-19, other infectious diseases and other disasters. At an early stage, the project will provided support to selected Members based on WCO existing instruments and tools. The list of beneficiaries may be extended (subject to the extension of the project timeframe).

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>3</sup>	Updates
34	Support and enhance Members' exchange of information capabilities within Globally Networked Customs (GNC)	PTC		June 2022	Ongoing. The Secretariat, in cooperation with the UN/ESCAP Secretariat, is developing Utility Blocks in the scope of a Joint Task Force with four Members. As part of a Sida-WCO TFCM programme, regional workshops are being held with the objective of developing Utility Blocks.
35	Provide capacity building and technical assistance support for the implementation of the WCO's existing instruments and tools in line with annual needs assessment			June 2022	Ongoing in line with the WCO Corporate Plan.
36	Provide periodic regional workshops on TFA, Disruptive Technologies, E-Commerce			June 2022	The first regional online workshop on the WTO <b>TFA</b> was organized in the A/P region in April 2021 and the second one was conducted in

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	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>3</sup>	Updates
					<p>ESA/WCA regions in December 2021. The third workshop as part of this new round of regional TFA workshops will be held in AMS region in June 2022.</p> <p>The WCO Secretariat conducted four regional online workshops on <b>Disruptive Technologies</b> where five out of the six WCO regions have been covered. The first one was in the A/P region in March 2021 followed by the second one in Europe region in May 2021. The third workshop was in AMS region in November 2021, and the fourth one was organized in ESA/WCA regions in January 2022.</p> <p>In the period May 2021 – February 2022, the Secretariat delivered three regional workshops on <b>e-commerce</b> covering four of the WCO regions (ESA, WCA, MENA and EUR).</p>

**CONTINUOUS ACTIVITIES**

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
3	Maintain an appropriate number of Mercator Programme Advisors (MPAs); accredit, where required, Technical and Operational Advisors in the areas addressed by the TFA; and/or carry out refresher workshop for the active MPAs and other experts, as appropriate (such as Transit, RKC, SAFE, AEO, TRS, Single Window, Data Model and E-Commerce)	TFAWG, CBC and other relevant committees or working groups	TFA WG Work Programme, TFA WG Annual Work Plan	Continuous activity	<p>In the period May 2021 – February 2022, five pre-accredited experts on <b>e-commerce</b> completed their accreditation as Technical and Operational Advisors (TOAs) on e-commerce.</p> <p>In the period May 2021 – February 2022, a global virtual pre-accreditation event for TOAs specialized in <b>Free Zones</b> was successfully conducted for the first time. Among twelve pre-accredited experts, four experts completed their accreditation as TOAs on Free Zones in June 2021.</p> <p>In the <b>AEO</b> area, 24 accredited and pre-accredited AEO experts participated in the refresher event held in December 2021.</p>
4	Capacity building to support the implementation of the WCO Guidelines on disaster management and supply chain continuity, resource permitting under the COVID-19 Project			Continuous activity	<p>In the framework of the COVID-19 Project, several activities were/will be organized (May 2021- June 2022):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 national workshops: Madagascar (May 2021), Benin (July 2021), Guatemala (September 2021), Comoros (January 2022) and Angola (February 2022).</li> </ul>

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 sub-regional workshops: Pacific Islands in collaboration with Oceania Customs Organization (October 2021), Central American Customs Committee Members in collaboration with SICA (November 2021), for eligible countries in Europe and Central Asia (March 2022).</li> <li>- 1 regional workshop for Europe region (May 2022).</li> <li>-</li> </ul>

#### **4. Use of technology and data (WCO Strategic Plan - Learning and Development 2 - LD2)**

The WCO will consider the use of technology in all its activities, and will continue to update Members on the latest developments in IT solutions for Customs procedures and objectives. The effective use of data, and the related methodologies for processing and analysing it, is a core task under Digital Customs.

The Digital Customs Concept is intended to provide a thematic overview of existing WCO tools and instruments. Its aim is to serve as a conceptual framework to support Member administrations in understanding and implementing the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)-related tools, instruments and guidelines that have already been developed by the WCO. At the Policy Commission in July 2016, a two-year WCO Work Plan on Digital Customs for 2016-2018 was endorsed as a living document. After two years of focused work in the area of Digital Customs, it is an opportune time to take stock of the situation and take forward the topic of Digital Customs, by leveraging new opportunities.

The ECP Action Plan for Phase V highlights the main actions concerning Digital Customs.

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>4</sup>	Updates
<b>37</b>	Promote the implementation of GNC. Develop new Utility Blocks, also taking into account the application of new technologies for information exchange (including blockchain and cloud computing)	Data Model Projects Team (DMPT), PTC, other related WCO committees or working groups	WCO Digital Customs Agenda	June 2022	Please see Action #34
<b>38</b>	Update of the RKC ICT Guidelines	RKC/MC		June 2022	Ongoing under the DMPT and will be presented to the RKC/MC when appropriate.
<b>39</b>	Exploration of new and emerging technologies (e.g. blockchain) in the Customs environment, and related work in terms of standardization, interoperability and data quality. Development of a comprehensive concept paper on blockchain : policy and technical perspectives	Other related WCO committees or working groups		June 2022	The use of blockchain in the Customs environment was further explored through the update of the Study Report on Disruptive Technologies in 2022.
<b>40</b>	Examination of the use of Product Identification Systems in Customs and other regulatory processes	PTC		May 2022	Ongoing

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	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>4</sup>	Updates
41	Update of the WCO TRS Software	PTC, CBC, Working Group on Performance Measurement (WGPM)		June 2022	The Secretariat presented a plan regarding the update the WCO TRS Software to the PTC and the participants requested more details on the scope, the model and the funding aspects. Following the intersessional work carried out by the core team of interested WCO Members and a TRS accredited expert supported by the Secretariat, the requested details will be presented to the upcoming PTC for possible endorsement.
42	Update of the API Guidelines	API PNR CC		October 2021	The API/PNR Contact Committee approved the draft update of the API Guidelines. The draft Guidelines will be subsequently submitted to the PTC in its meeting in Spring 2022.
43	Update of the Study Report on Disruptive Technologies	PTC, Virtual Working Group on Future of Customs		June 2022	After the endorsement of the PTC in April 2022, the Updated Study Report on Disruptive Technologies will be presented to the June 2022 Council for approval.
44	Release a new major version (Version 4.0.0) of the WCO Data Model	DMPT		December 2022	The PTC supported the business needs and marketing strategy of version 4.0.0 of the WCO Data Model at its meeting in October 2021. Considering the need for final endorsement by the Council, version 4.0.0 will be published in June 2023.

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe <sup>4</sup>	Updates
45	Develop a repository of WCO DM Information Packages, one of which to host Members' implementation of the WCO DM in a "My Information Package" format.	DMPT		Spring 2022	The WCO DM App, a new platform for publishing the WCO DM was launched in December 2021, together with the launch of version 3.11.0 of the WCO DM. The Repository will be added as a module to the WCO DM App.

### **CONTINUOUS ACTIVITIES**

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
5	Provide a framework to consolidate the development, promotion and deployment of the WCO's Information Technology (IT)-related standards, instruments, tools, guidelines and systems	PTC, SAFE WG, other related WCO committees or working groups	WCO Digital Customs Agenda	Continuous activity	Ongoing
6	Revision of the technical and non-technical Guidelines of the WCO Data Model	DMPT, PTC, other related WCO committees or working groups	WCO Digital Customs Agenda	Continuous activity	The DMPT approved the revised My Information Package (MyIP) specification at its 62 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting in January 2022.
7	Support the use of WCO DM by relevant International Organizations (IMO, UPU, Codex, BCS, OIE)	DMPT		Continuous activity	The DMPT supported the review of the WCO – UPU Joint Message Standard (JMS) at its meeting in September 2021. Subsequently, the revised JMS

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	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
					<p>was approved by the WCO – UPU Contact Committee at its Meeting in November 2021.</p> <p>The DMPT contributed to the development of the revision of the CODEX Guidelines by introducing the potential use of the WCO DM CODEX Derived Information Package (DIP) as the basis for e-certification. The Guidelines were endorsed by the CODEX Alimentarius Commission in November 2021.</p>

**5. Raise the profile of the WCO and promote Customs’ role (WCO Strategic Plan - Learning and Development 3 - LD3)**

Through the update and implementation of an effective Communication Strategy and engagement with other strategic stakeholders, the WCO will promote its tools and instruments, as well as its main results, and will increase awareness of the importance of Customs’ role in trade, security and global economic development.

The WCO has already developed a range of instruments and tools relevant to the growth of economic competitiveness, and these are listed in the ECP. Raising the awareness of existing and newly developed WCO tools and activities contributes to enhancing the economic competitiveness of WCO Members.

The WCO undertakes a range of promotion activities in order to disseminate its instruments and tools. As a means to promote the importance of Customs for national economic competitiveness, the WCO uses multiple platforms to communicate information about its activities and tools to its stakeholders.

Raising the profile of Customs and promoting its role at the border requires raising awareness of external stakeholders on these matters.

**CONTINUOUS ACTIVITIES**

	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
<b>8</b>	Enhance cooperation with the World Trade Organization (joint actions and participation in events) and other international organizations (IPPC, OIE, Codex, IMO, etc.) in areas of common interest (joint actions and participation in events)	TFAWG, relevant working bodies	TFAWG Work Programme, TFAWG Annual Work Plan	Continuous activity	<p>The WCO participated in the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee (TFC) meetings in March, June and October 2021 and provided updates on COVID-19 related work, Mercator Programme activities and made presentations on available WCO monitoring tools and on the 2021 WCO survey results on the state of play in the area of NCTFs.</p> <p>Under the umbrella of the WTO Public Forum 2021 (WTO PF21), the WCO hosted a panel session on 29 September 2021 focusing on recovery, renewal and resilience for a sustainable supply chain.</p>
<b>9</b>	Enhance WCO Secretariat's active advocacy of Customs interests at events or conferences organized by other international organizations or by the private sector, with the purpose of strengthening visibility on the role of Customs in enhancing economic competitiveness			Continuous activity	<p>The WCO was one of the organizations that have joined forces in organizing the Global NTFC Forum 2022 from 1 to 4 February 2022: UNCTAD, GATF, ITC, OECD, UNECE, UNESCAP, WBG, WCO and WTO.</p> <p>The WCO continues to maintain excellent cooperation with APEC, ICAO, UNECE, UN OHRLLS, WHO,</p>

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	Action	Responsible body*	Relevant Work Programme/ Action Plan	Timeframe	Updates
					development banks, etc. and enhances the active advocacy of Customs interests.

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