

## Azerbaijan

### ARTICLE 10: FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION AND TRANSIT

#### 10.4. Single Window

According to the recommendations of the World Customs Organization and international best practices, “**Green Corridor**” release system was applied since February 1, 2019 in order to form a culture of voluntary compliance among foreign trade participants and to ensure flexible and transparent Customs clearance and Customs control of goods.

Since 2019, totally 1140 foreign trade participants have applied for the right to permanent use of the "Green Corridor" release system. From them only 682 foreign trade participants applied for import, 152 participants for export, 306 foreign trade participants applied for import and export. As a result of the analysis of the received applications, 284 foreign trade participants were given the right to permanent use of the "Green Corridor" release system for export, 506 foreign trade participants for import operations and a total of 790 foreign trade participants were given the right to use the "Green Corridor" release system.

According to subsection 2.1 of the "Rules for providing information on Customs issues to state bodies, legal entities and natural persons" approved by the decision No. 167 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated August 3, 2012, persons can obtain information on Customs issues from information centers installed at the entrance of Customs authorities and they can obtain it either through the Internet, by directly addressing an official of the Customs authority or by phone, by submitting a written request to the customs authority in person, by mail, fax, or e-mail and by being approved as a user of the Customs authorities electronic information system.

In addition, please be informed that information is constantly updated on the official website of the State Customs Committee in Azerbaijani and English languages ([www.customs.gov.az](http://www.customs.gov.az)) on specially dedicated pages.

According to Article 51 of the Customs Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, interested parties have the right to file a complain in order to protect their rights, freedoms and interests protected by law from the decisions, actions or inaction of the customs authorities, their officials with regard to this Code, the Administrative Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, "On Administrative Proceedings" of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

According to Article 82.2 of the Customs Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, no person can be deprived of the right to bring goods to the customs territory or take them out of this territory, or limit this right.

The principle of "**Single Window**" is applied since January 1, 2009 by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 12 dated November 11, 2008 for the inspection of goods and means of transport carried out at the exit points of the state border of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In this direction, in order to expand the "Single Window" principle, a support project for the State Customs Committee to create a "National Single Electronic Window" and ensure the investigation of possible technical facilities was approved by the Asian Development Bank. The estimated budget of the project is 36 thousand US dollars. Within the framework of the mentioned project, national legislation and existing systems will be examined with the involvement of international

experts and based on the best practices suggestions will be made for the establishment of the "e-Window" system in Azerbaijan.

At the same time, the measure for the implementation of the "e-Window" system, which includes trade facilitation and digitization of procedures during Customs clearance and Customs control of goods, is included to the next 2022 meeting "Action Plan" project on "Commission on business environment and international ratings of the "Trade at the Border" working group.

According to item 1.5 of "Action Plan" together with the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the establishment of the **National Committee for Trade Facilitation** of the Republic of Azerbaijan" and the structural projects of the National Committee for Trade Facilitation were agreed considering the opinions of the relevant state institutions. At the same time, the draft Decree on the establishment of the National Committee on Trade Facilitation was prepared and submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers within the framework of the cooperation between the State Customs Committee and the Ministry of Economy. The above-mentioned draft decree has been agreed with 19 state institutions, and finally work is underway to agree the draft decree with the Ministry of Digital Development and Transport of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The establishment of the "National Committee on Trade Facilitation" will lead to the effective management of the "e-Window" system, to the development of the inter-agency integration process and cooperation, the organization of regular dialogue between the state and the private sector, saving time and costs, the optimal solution of problems that may arise, as well as will serve to further increase rating of the country in global trade.