

## Colombia

### ARTICLE 12: CUSTOMS COOPERATION

The National Tax and Customs Directorate (DIAN) of Colombia cooperates with the Customs administrations of other countries, with which it has signed several cooperation and information exchange agreements.

Below is the link to the cooperation and information exchange agreements currently signed by DIAN:

<https://www.dian.gov.co/normatividad/convenios/Paginas/AgentesExtranjeros.aspx>

#### Relevant government agencies :

- Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales -DIAN. (National Tax and Customs Directorate). Customs Authorities. Link.  
<https://www.dian.gov.co/aduanas/Paginas/Inicio.aspx>
- Ministerio de Comercio Industria y Turismo. (Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism) Link.  
<https://www.mincit.gov.co/>
- INVIMA Instituto Nacional de Vigilancia de Medicamentos y Alimentos. (“National Institute for the Surveillance of Medicines and Food”) Link.  
<https://www.invima.gov.co/>
- ICA Instituto Nacional Agropecuario. (National Agricultural Institute). Link.  
<https://www.ica.gov.co/>
- SIC Superintendency of Industry and Commerce – Technical regulations - certificates of compliance with technical standards . Link  
<https://www.sic.gov.co/reglamentos-tecnicos>
- Ministry of Defense (importation of war material). Link  
<https://www.mindefensa.gov.co/irj/portal/Mindefensa>
- Ministry of foreign relations. Link  
<https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/>
- Ministry of Justice. Single Normative Information System (“Juriscol”). Link  
<https://www.suin-juriscal.gov.co/>
- Andean Community. Link  
<https://www.comunidadandina.org/>
- World Customs Organization. Link  
<http://www.wcoomd.org/>
- World Trade Organization. Link  
<https://www.wto.org/>
- ALADI Asociación Latinoamericana de Integración. Link  
<https://www.aladi.org/sitioaladi/>
- Ministry of Health and Social Protection / National Narcotics Fund (“Fondo Nacional de Estupefacientes”). Link  
<https://www.minsalud.gov.co/salud/MT/Paginas/fondo-nacional-de-estupefacientes-fne.aspx>

### **Relevant private agencies and industry groups :**

- National Association of Industrials (Spanish abbrev. “ANDI”). Link <https://www.andi.com.co/>
- The National Association of Shipowners and Maritime Agents (Spanish abbrev. “ASONAV”). Link <https://www.asonav.org>
- National Trade Council ((Spanish abbrev. “CGN”). Link <https://cgn.org.co/>
- Colombian Federation of Logistics Agents in International Trade (Spanish abbrev. “FITAC”). Link <https://fitac.net/>
- Latin American Conference of Express Transport Companies (Spanish abbrev. “CLADEC”). Link <https://cladec.org.co/>
- Colombian Association of Flower Exporters (Spanish abbrev. “ASOCOLFLORES”). Link <https://asocolflores.org/es/>
- Association of the Automotive Sector and Its Parts (Spanish abbrev. “ASOPARTES”). Link <https://asopartes.com/>
- Colombian Federation of Road Freight Transporters (Spanish abbrev. “COLFECAR”). Link <https://www.colfecar.org.co/>

### **CASE STUDY**

On January 9, 2023, due to increased rainfall in Colombia, a landslide occurred in the Department of Cauca, which forced the closure of the road in the Rosas Cauca sector of the Pan-American Highway that connects Colombia with the south of the continent (Departments of Cauca, Nariño, Putumayo and the Republic of Ecuador). This had a significant impact on foreign trade operations, mainly concerning Ecuador and Peru. However, urgent action by the Colombian and Ecuadorian Customs authorities under the cooperation agreements between both border authorities, as well as the appropriate coordinated actions of both, allowed for the effective implementation of alternative solutions for the Customs users of the two countries. As a result of the coordinated action, an alternate route was quickly established via the San Miguel border crossing in the Department of Putumayo, Colombia, for the transit of merchandise related to foreign trade and the paralysis of operations involving various different companies was avoided.

Over a period of two months, it was possible to efficiently and effectively solve solutions according to specific requirements, with the aim of maintaining the volume of operations, minimizing the risks linked to road closures and temporary route diversions. The actions of the Colombian and Ecuadorian Customs authorities were taken in close communication with the health entities of both countries, since both were part of the Customs operation value chain.

Currently, the situation has returned to normal, but the experience gained is a positive and important benchmark, which demonstrates the value of cooperation between Customs and companies.