

Panama

ARTICLE 7: RELEASE AND CLEARANCE OF GOODS

Sub-article 7: Trade Facilitation measure for Authorized Economic Operators

The AEO program is open to all links in the logistics chain: importers, exporters, Customs agents, cargo agents, courier, logistics operators, land transport. A work table has been established with the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture for the continuous improvement of Panama's AEO program and the identification of new benefits.

What was done:

1. Implementation of the AEO Programme, based on the recommendations of the WCO SAFE Framework;
2. AEO programme updates according to SAFE versions;
3. Application of the WCO guidelines for the negotiations of Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA);
4. Subscription of MRA with the Customs services of Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Honduras;
5. An action plan has been signed in order to sign an MRA with Ecuadorian Customs.

Impact:

- Strengthening of the AEO program, integration of other control agencies to the OAS program.
- Private sector support, continuous improvement of the AEO.
- Participation of more companies in the AEO program.