WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation

The WCO’s Role and the Customs Community in Implementing the TFA

16 June 2014
Dublin Resolution

WCO Instruments and Tools
What is the WCO?

The WCO represents **179** Customs Administrations across the globe that collectively process approximately **98%** of world trade.

- **Capability and responsibility for global standard setting for Customs**
- **Network of accredited experts from Customs Administrations**
- **Cooperation with other international organizations and other agencies**
- **Capacity Building / Technical Assistance delivery**
The Dublin Resolution, issued on 11 December 2013, emphasizes the commitment of the WCO to the efficient implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

- Engage immediately with the WTO
- Assist Members to identify their needs, including availing of donor funding to enhance capacity building to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement
- Together with other international organizations and the business community, further enhance provision of TA/CB in an efficient and coordinated manner
- Base its TA/CB on existing WCO tools, tools under preparation and expertise in Member administrations and include tailor-made assistance to meet Members’ identified and specific needs
- Enhance communication activities to raise its profile and that of national Customs administrations among political and business leaders
WCO activities cover a wide range of Customs matters, including economic competitiveness, compliance and enforcement, revenue collection and organizational development.
The WCO has developed a number of instruments and tools, which respond to Members’ needs as regards TFA implementation. The WCO is continuing to develop and fine-tune an inter-active guidance tool designed to help Customs implement the TFA.

Examples

- Revised Kyoto Convention
- SAFE Framework of Standards
- Time Release Study Guide
- Single Window Compendium
- Data Model
- Globally Networked Customs
- Risk Management Compendium
- Post Clearance Audit Guidelines

Upcoming

- Coordinated Border Management Compendium
- Transit Handbook
- Customs/Business Partnership Guidelines
The TFA obliges Members, to the extent possible, to adopt or maintain a risk management system for Customs control.

The RKC sets out principles of Customs risk management and the RKC Guidelines cover technical aspects of risk management and Customs control.

The Risk Management Compendium introduces detailed and technical information on risk management, based on practices and experiences of WCO Members.
Members shall endeavour to establish or maintain a single window using Information Technology (IT) to the extent possible and practical.

The RKC sets out principles regarding the application of IT and RKC ICT Guidelines cover technical aspects of IT application.

The Single Window Compendium introduces detailed and technical information on Single Window based on practices and experiences of WCO Members.
Course on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, WCO Headquarters in Brussels, 7-11 July 2014

For more information go to: https://www.etouches.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=82501
WCO Implementation Guidance

Cooperation with other regulatory and border agencies
The WCO has launched on its website the WCO Implementation Guidance for the TFA to support WCO Members in their efforts to implement the TFA.

Release and clearance of goods

OVERVIEW

The ATF obliges Members, to the extent possible, to adopt or maintain a risk management system for Customs control.

The RKC sets out the principles of Customs risk management, and the RKC Guidelines cover the technical aspects of risk management and Customs control. The Risk Management Compendium introduces detailed and technical information on risk management, based on the practices and experiences of WCO Members.
WCO Implementation Guidance for the TFA

Release and clearance of goods

1. Pre-arrival Processing
2. Electronic Payment
3. Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees and Charges
4. Risk Management
5. Post-clearance Audit
6. Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times
7. Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators
8. Expedited Shipments
9. Perishable Goods

OVERVIEW

WTO ATF

REVISED KYOTO CONVENTION

General Annex - Chapter 6 (Customs Control)
Standards 6.3 to 6.5 of the General Annex to the Revised Kyoto Convention set out the principles of Customs risk management. The Guidelines to these standards cover many aspects of risk management, including control methods, supporting infrastructure and examples of a Customs control process.

6.3. Standard
In the application of Customs control, the Customs shall use risk management.

6.4. Standard
The Customs shall use risk analysis to determine which persons and which goods, including means of transport, should be examined and the extent of the examination.

6.5. Standard
The Customs shall adopt a compliance measurement strategy to support risk management.

RKC Guidelines on RKC General Annex - Chapter 6 (download)
Annex to the RKC Guidelines – Chapter 6 (download)

OTHER WCO TOOLS

MEMBERS PRACTICES

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
WCO Implementation Guidance for the TFA

Release and clearance of goods

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OVERVIEW

WTO ATF

REVISED KYOTO CONVENTION

OTHER WCO TOOLS

Risk Management Compendium
The Compendium deals with the systematic application of management procedures and practices which provide Customs with the information needed to address movements or consignments which present a risk.
- Common Part (download)
- Volume 1 (download)
  (Volume 2 is available on the WCO Members’ Website)

SAFE Framework of Standards (download)
Risk management is a core element of SAFE. Each country that joins the SAFE Framework commits to employing a consistent risk management approach to address security threats.

MEMBERS PRACTICES

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Cooperation with other International Organizations

The WCO has working relationships with other standard setting international bodies.
The TFAWG is the platform for Members to share experiences regarding the implementation of the TFA among its 179 Members, coordinate with the donor community, engage with other international organizations and bodies, as well as with the Private Sector.

- Analyse TFA and prepare relevant actions
- Set new standards or modify existing tools
- Discuss technical assistance activities
- Donor information
- Report to PTC/CBC/Policy Commission/Council

NEXT MEETING: 29/30 SEPTEMBER 2014
The WCO is ready to support the implementation of the TFA!