**Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation**

The survey aims to assess the progress made in implementing trade facilitation and paperless trade measures in Asia and the Pacific. Special attention is given this year to assessing implementation of measures related to *availability of trade-related information*, as key to enhancing transparency of trade procedures.

Given your expertise in trade facilitation, you are kindly requested to complete the survey for your own country to the best of your knowledge. You are encouraged to verify your answers with relevant colleagues and experts before submitting them. Completed questionnaires may please be sent to Mr. Tengfei Wang, Trade Facilitation Unit, Trade and Investment Division, UN ESCAP at [wangt@un.org](mailto:wangt@un.org) , copied to [aptff@un.org](mailto:aptff@un.org), no later than **1 September 2013**. Kindly note that we may seek additional information and clarification from you during or after the Forum. Any questions or clarifications related to the survey may also be addressed to Mr. Wang.

**SECTION A – INFORMATION ON RESPONDENT**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name : |  | Job title : |  | Organization : |  |
| Email : |  | Country : |  | Telephone (optional) |  |

**1. Your organization is** (*please indicate the correct response by putting an* **X** *in the corresponding brackets*):

[ ] A government ministry/agency [ ] A private sector organization [ ] Others, please specify: \_\_\_

**2. Is your organization the lead agency for trade facilitation (i.e., assigned by the government to implement trade facilitation reform)?**

[ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Don’t know

**3. How many years of experience do you have in trade facilitation?**

[ ] Less than 2 years [ ] 2 to 5 years [ ] 6 to 9 years [ ] 10 years and more

**4. What is/are your particular area(s) of expertise in trade facilitation?** *(select all that apply)*

[ ] Customs [ ] Paperless trade/IT [ ] Transit [ ] Trade logistics [ ] Others, please specify: \_\_\_

**SECTION B – TRADE FACILITATION MEASURES**

(*Please indicate the correct response by putting an* **X** *in the relevant column for each measure, depending on its level of implementation in your country;*

***FI****: Fully Implemented ;*  ***PI****: Partially Implemented/Pilot Stage;*  ***NI****: Not implemented;* ***DK****: Don’t know)*

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| **Trade Facilitation Measures** | **FI** | **PI** | **NI** | **DK** | **Was progress or improvement made over the past 12 months?** *(Please specify)* | **Further information** *(e.g., website, date of implementation, geographic coverage, …)* |
| GENERAL TRADE FACILITATION MEASURES | | | | | | |
| 1. Establishment of a national trade facilitation body |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Publication of existing import-export regulations on the Internet |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Stakeholder consultation on new draft regulations (prior to their finalization) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Advance publication/notification of new regulation before their implementation (e.g., 30 days prior) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Advance ruling (on tariff classification)a |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Risk management (as a basis for deciding whether a shipment will be or not physically inspected)b |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Pre-arrival processing c |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a  *An advance ruling for customs purposes can be defined as a binding official decision prior to an import or export, issued by a competent authority in writing, which provides the applicant with a time-bound tariff classification, valuation, entitlement to preferences, or an assessment of the origin accorded to a particular good.*  b *Risk means the potential for non-compliance with customs and/or other relevant laws, regulations or procedural requirements connected with the importation, exportation or transit of goods. Risk Management means the systematic application of management procedures and practices providing customs and other relevant border agencies with the necessary information. in order to address movements or consignments which present a risk.*  c *Pre-arrival processing can be described as a procedure allowing traders to submit clearance data to Customs for advance processing and release of the goods immediately upon arrival into the country. Release may even take place prior to the actual arrival of the goods, provided all necessary details have been communicated and screened by Customs in advance.* | | | | | | |

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| ***(FI****: Fully Implemented;*  ***PI****: Partially Implemented/Pilot Stage;*  ***NI****: Not implemented;* ***DK****: Don’t know)* | | | | | | |
| **Trade Facilitation Measures** | **FI** | **PI** | **NI** | **DK** | **Was progress or improvement made over the past 12 months?** *(Please specify)* | **Further information** *(e.g., website, date of implementation, geographic coverage, …)* |
| 8. Post-clearance audit d |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. Independent appeal mechanism (for traders to appeal Customs and other relevant trade control agencies’ rulings) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. Separation of Release from final determination of customs duties, taxes, fees and charges |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Establishment and publication of average release times |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. Trade facilitation measures for authorized operators e |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. Expedited shipments f |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14. National single window g |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d *Post-clearance audit means audit-based Customs control performed subsequent to the release of the cargo from Customs' custody. The purpose of such audits is to verify the accuracy and authenticity of declarations and covers the control of traders' commercial data, business systems, records, books. Such an audit can take place at the premises of the trader, and may take into account individual transactions, so-called "transaction based" audit, or cover imports and/or exports undertaken over a certain period of time, so called "company based" audit.*  e *Authorized operators refers to parties involved in the international movement of goods (e.g., a manufacturer, trader, carrier, terminal operator…) that have been recognized by Customs or other relevant authorities as having achieved high-level of compliance with trade-related laws and regulations and, therefore, are provided with simplified import, export and transit formalities.*  f  *Expedited shipments refer to trade facilitation procedures allowing for expedited release of at least those goods entered through air cargo facilities to persons (e.g., express shipping company) that apply for such faster procedure, while maintaining Customs control. The applicant typically has to cover the additional costs involved in expediting release.*  g *A national single window refers to a facility that allows parties involved in trade and transport to lodge standardized information and documents with a single entry point to fulfill all import, export, and transit-related regulatory requirements. If information is electronic, then individual data elements should only be submitted once.* | | | | | | |

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| |  | | --- | | ***(FI****: Fully Implemented;*  ***PI****: Partially Implemented/Pilot Stage;*  ***NI****: Not implemented;* ***DK****: Don’t know)* | | | | | | | |
| **Trade Facilitation Measures** | **FI** | **PI** | **NI** | **DK** | **Was progress or improvement made over the past 12 months?** *(Please specify)* | **Further information** *(e.g., website, date of implementation, geographic coverage, …)* |
| PAPERLESS TRADE FACILITATION |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. Electronic/automated Customs System (e.g., ASYCUDA) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. Internet connection available to Customs and other trade control agencies at border-crossings |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. Electronic Single Window System *h* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | ***Submitted through e- single window?*** |
| 18. Electronic submission of Customs declarations |  |  |  |  |  | [ ] yes [ ] No  [ ] don’t know |
| 19. Electronic Application and Issuance of Trade Licenses |  |  |  |  |  | [ ] yes [ ] No  [ ] don’t know |
| 20. Electronic Submission of Sea Cargo Manifests |  |  |  |  |  | [ ] yes [ ] No  [ ] don’t know |
| 21. Electronic Submission of Air Cargo Manifests |  |  |  |  |  | [ ] yes [ ] No  [ ] don’t know |
| 22. Electronic Application and Issuance of Preferential Certificate of Origin |  |  |  |  |  | [ ] yes [ ] No  [ ] don’t know |
| 23. E-Payment of Customs Duties and Fees |  |  |  |  |  | [ ] yes [ ] No  [ ] don’t know |
| 24. Electronic Application for Customs Refunds |  |  |  |  |  | [ ] yes [ ] No  [ ] don’t know |
| *h an electronic single window refers to a single window where data and documents are exchanged in electronic form. Please refer to definition of single window* | | | | | | |

***(FI****: Fully Implemented;*  ***PI****: Partially Implemented/Pilot Stage;*  ***NI****: Not implemented;* ***DK****: Don’t know)*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Trade Facilitation Measures** | **FI** | **PI** | **NI** | **DK** | **Was progress or improvement made over the past 12 months?** *(Please specify)* | **Further information** *(e.g., website, date of implementation, geographic coverage, …)* |
| TOWARDS CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25. Laws and regulations for electronic transactions are in place (e.g. e-commerce law, e-transaction law) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26. Recognised certification authority issuing digital certificates to traders to conduct electronic transactions i |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 27. Engagement of your country in trade-related cross-border electronic data exchange with other countries |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 28. Certificate of Origin electronically exchanged between your country and other countries |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 29. Sanitary & Phyto-Sanitary Certificate electronically exchanged between your country and other countries |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30. Banks and insurers in your country retrieving letters of credit electronically without lodging paper-based documents |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BORDER AGENCY COOPERATION | | | | | | |
| 31. Cooperation between agencies on the ground at the national level |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 32. Government agencies delegating controls to Customs authorities |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 33. Alignment of working days and hours with neighbouring countries at border crossings |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 34. Alignment of formalities and procedures with neighbouring countries at border crossings |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TRANSIT FACILITATION | | | | | | |
| 35. Information on transit fees and charges is available in paper publications |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 36. Information on transit fees and charges is available on customs or trade-related website |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 37. Periodic review of fees/charges and adaptation to changing circumstances |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 38. Customs Authorities limit the physical inspections of transit goods and use risk assessment |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 39. Supporting pre-arrival processing for transit trade |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40. Cooperation between agencies of countries involved in transit |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *i:*  *For digital signatures to work, a trusted third party known as a Certification Authority (CA) is needed to issue digital certificates that certify the electronic identities of users and organisations. Examples of such certification authority include Controller of Certification Authorities in Malaysia and Singapore.* | | | | | | |

**SECTION C – TRADE-RELATED INFORMATION AVAILABILITY**

(*Please indicate the correct response by putting an* **X** *in the corresponding columns or brackets)*

**C-1. Publication and Availability of Information**

**1. How is the following information published?**

***NP:*** *not published* ***PP:*** *published**on paper* ***PI:*** *published on Internet* ***IE:*** *published* ***i****n English (in addition to local language)*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **NP** | **PP** | **PI (please provide relevant website)** | **IE** |
| 1. Relevant trade-related legislation |  |  |  |  |
| 2. A summary description of importation, exportation and transit procedures |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Importation, exportation and transit procedures (including port, airport, and other entry-point procedures |  |  |  |  |
| 4. The forms and documents required for importation into, exportation from, or transit through the territory of that Member |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Applied rates of duties and taxes of any kind imposed on or in connection with importation or exportation |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Fees and charges imposed by customs and other border/governmental agencies on or in connection with importation, exportation or transit |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Rules for the classification or valuation of products for customs purposes |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Laws, regulations and administrative rulings of general application relating to rules of origin |  |  |  |  |
| 9. Import, export or transit restrictions or prohibitions |  |  |  |  |
| 10. Penalty provisions against breaches of import, export or transit formalities |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Appeal procedures |  |  |  |  |
| 12. Agreements or parts thereof with any country or countries relating to importation, exportation or transit |  |  |  |  |
| 13. Procedures relating to the administration of tariff quotas |  |  |  |  |
| 14. Contact information on enquiry points (to answer inquiries on trade facilitation) |  |  |  |  |

**2. Who is responsible for publication of the trade information? (select all that apply)**

[ ] Ministry of Trade [ ] Customs [ ] other agency, please specify \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [ ] don’t know

**3. How do different government departments/agencies/ministries coordinate to collect and publish trade-related data and information? Please elaborate**

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| --- |
|  |

**C-2. Enquiry Points** (*Please indicate the correct response by putting an* **X** *in the corresponding brackets)*

**1. Has your country established one or more enquiry points to answer reasonable enquiries of on trade facilitation?**

[ ] fully implemented [ ] partially implemented [ ] not implemented [ ] don’t know

**2. Please provide the contact details or weblink of existing enquiry points**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**C-3. Customs website** (*Please indicate the correct response by putting an* **X** *in the corresponding brackets)*

**1. Has your country established a national Customs website?**

[ ] yes [ ] no [ ] don’t know

If yes, please provide Weblink: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Is rate of duties published on Customs website?**

[ ] fully published ] partially published [ ] not published

**3. Is information on import and export procedures published on Customs website?**

[ ] fully published [ ] partially published [ ] not published

**4. Procedures of border agencies**

[ ] Some documents and forms are available for downloading on the Customs website.

[ ] There is no possibility to download the required documents and forms.

**5. Publication of rules and examples of customs classification**

[ ] Both rules and examples are published [ ] Only rules, but not examples, are published [ ] Neither rules nor examples are published

**SECTION D – KEY CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRADE FACILITATION & PAPERLESS TRADE**

**1. Referring to measures listed in Sections B and C, please list up to three trade facilitation measures for which your country has made the most progress in implementation in the last 12 months.**

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**2. Please describe any other important trade facilitation measures/initiatives implemented in your country in the last 12 months:**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**3. What are the most serious challenges faced by your country in implementing trade facilitation measures**

*(Please rank the three main challenges from 1 to 3. ‘1’: the most challenging factor; ‘3’: the least challenging factor)*

|  |
| --- |
| [ ] Lack of coordination between government agencies [ ] Lack of political will  [ ] No clearly designated lead agency [ ] Financial constraints  [ ] Limited human resource capacity [ ] Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Please elaborate further: |

**\*\*\*\*\*\* End of Survey, Thank You for Your Time \*\*\*\*\*\***