MONGOLIAN CUSTOMS: TIME RELEASE STUDY

CAREC 11th CCC Meeting October 22-24, 2012 Chengdu, PRC

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TRS Policy Issues

- ▶ CAREC 9th CCC Meeting Japan, Tokyo/Sept 2010
- ▶ CAREC Planning workshop on Time Release Study (Uzbekistan, Tashkent/March 2011) – 3 mongolian officers were trained
- Mongolian Customs concluded tripartite MOU with USAID and MNCCI – TRS among other joint actions
- Mongolian Customs signed Action Plan with GASI collaborate on TRS

TRS in Mongolian Customs

- ▶ Stage 1 Pilot TRS
- WCO TRS Guide was translated into Mongolian
- Pilot tests and attempts by Mongolian Customs "on its own" and for customs purposes
- ► Stage 2 Full Scale TRS
- USAID Business Plus Initiative Project collaboration on RM, Customs Brokers, TRS
- 2 Consultants hired: for TRS Manual designed for BCP's selected and for Analysis

TRS in Mongolian Customs

- ▶ TRS Mongolia: started Sept 29, 2012 up to now
- Border (with PRC and Russia) and inland Customs were selected: in Central Mongolia-3, East-1, West-1, North-1 and South-3
- Covering: road, rail, air; high workload, low workload (type of goods were taken into consideration)
- Involvement of related stakeholders
- Duration: 1 week at each selected location

Lessons learned

Preparatory Stage:

- Involvement of all stakeholders responsible for the trade facilitation (organize prior meetings for different levels high level.is.org/ a must)
- Select a <u>ministry</u> as the main "conductor": Customs directives not sufficient
- Hire an experienced Consultant (Single Consultant for the preparation of both TRS Manual and Analysis)
- Sufficient Training for all the participants in TRS (Customs Officers, students, staff from other government agencies and private sector)
- Public Awareness Campaign among importers and exporters

Lessons learned

Start of the TRS

- Start from Central Customs to gain experience with further expansion to border Customs (helps for uniform interpretation and application of TRS procedures and survey questionnaire)
- Involve staff from local Customs to practice in Central Customs
- Ads to be placed in the customs areas informing about the TRS taking place
- ▶ TRS staff to wear identification badges
- ▶ 1-2 days testing period

Lessons learned

TRS in progress

- Proper organization and management of the working groups on sites (group leader, stable staff)
- Daily input of the collected data into the system by the working groups (software to be ready)
- Team leader responsible for the regional Customs house to be appointed
- Daily wrap-up meetings by the Team leader with working group leaders to discuss the TRS progress and take appropriate actions (helps to ensure uniformity)

CONCLUSION

- *Learning by Doing' experience for Mongolian Customs
- Important that the results of the TRS be accepted by other agencies and used for policy determination (simplification and harmonization of procedures, documentation, coordinated border management, etc.)
- Survey results will be available in November 2012

Thank you for your attention

Questions and enquiries to:

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