ADB Regional Training Seminar 17-21 February 2003 Almaty, Kazakhstan

ACHIEVING CUSTOMS INTEGRITY

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Contemporary International Trade Environment

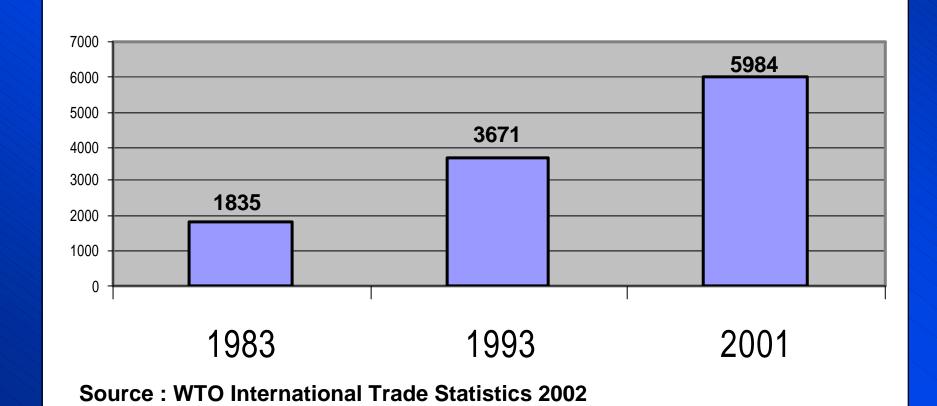
Characterised by

Trade Pressures

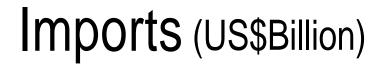
- Volume
- Speed
- Multimodel
- Lowered Tariffs & Removal of NTBs
- Phenomenal growth of Travel & Tourism
- E-commerce

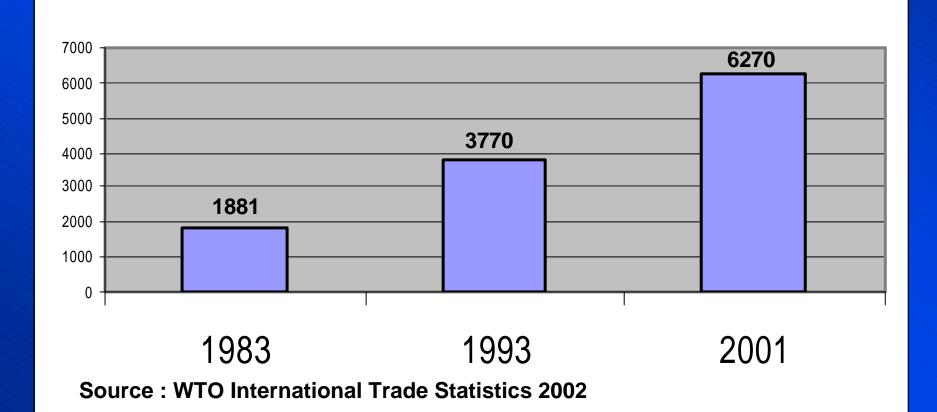
Volume: World Merchandise Trade





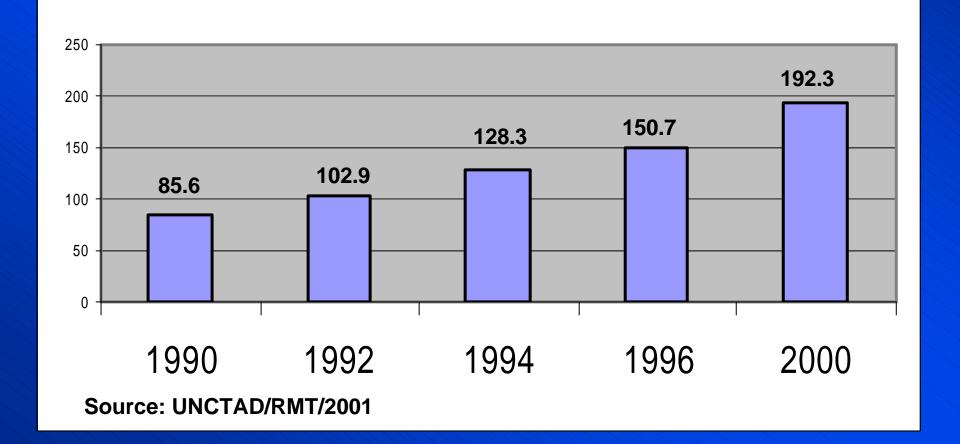
Volume: World Merchandise Trade





Volume: Container Port Traffic

Container Port Traffic (Million TEUs)



Speed: Express Carriers & Consignments

1200 Aircrafts

1350 Daily flights

175,000 Trucks & Vehicles

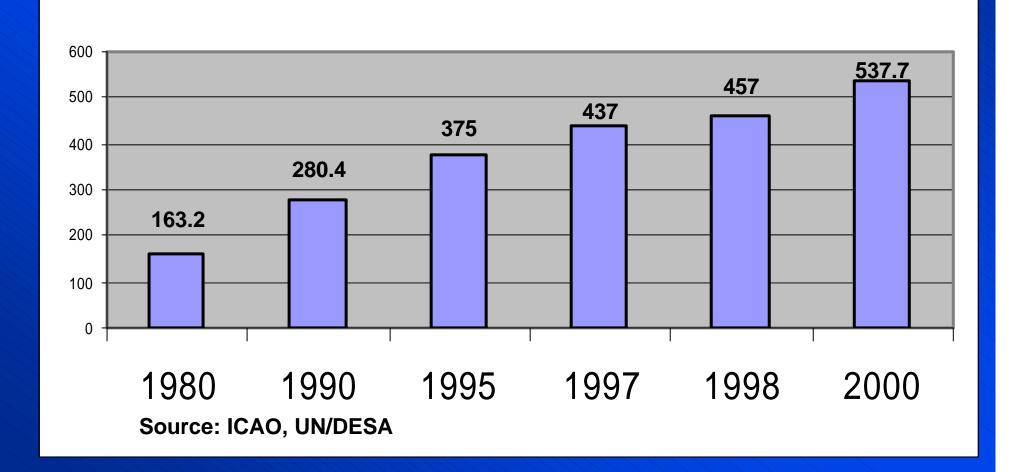
20 million Daily Shipments

 25% of World Trade now being handled by Express carriers.

Source: International Express Carriers Conference

Phenomenal Growth of Travel & Tourism

International Passengers on Scheduled Services(Million)



Development Pressures

- Revenue
 - Lowered Tariffs but need for more revenue
- Investment
 - Customs perceived as a barrier, by foreign & domestic investors
- Good Governance
 - More aware society demands better public governance

Development Pressures

- Institutional inadequacies
 - Customs outdated laws, cumbersome procedures, ill trained human resource etc.
 - Integrity related issues



Harassed, ill-prepared, inefficient and unmotivated Customs



Way out



Balancing



Control

VS.

Facilitation

Do we have a choice?

No!

- No controls
- In-effective controls
- Expensive controls
- Irrational controls
- Outdated laws & regulations
- Cumbersome procedures
- Inadequate human & technological resources
- Corruption

We don't have a choice but be efficient, effective and honest.

No!

Best Practices

Some examples:

Function

Cargo clearance

Pressure

Volume of cargo to clear

Possible best practices

- Pre-arrival processing
- Selectivity
- Post-clearance audit
- Fast track (green channel) clearance
- Simplification of procedures
- One window facilitation

Best Practices

Function

Passenger clearance

Pressure

- Speedy clearance
- Facilitation
- Effective control

Possible best practices

- Free & timely information & documentation on board
- Rational rules
- Green & red channels
- Profiling, selectivity & targeting
- Technology & physical layout

Best Practices

Profiling, selectivity & targeting

Rational rules

Simplification of procedures

Pre-arrival processing

Post-clearance audit

However, best of the best practices is

Profiling, selectivity & targeting
Rational rules
Rational rules
Simplification of procedures
Post-clearance audit

Pre-arrival processing

Integrity

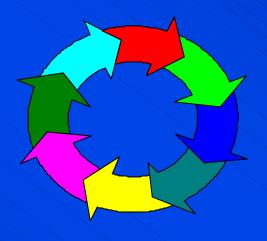
Corruption can fail any best practice!!

Integrity in Customs

Sessions 3 and 4

Integrity in Customs

- Why is corruption a problem for Customs
- Some Key Themes
- WCO Integrity program



Integrity in Customs - Why A Problem

"There are few public agencies in which the classic pre-conditions for institutional corruption are so conveniently presented as in a Customs administration. The potent mixture of administrative monopoly coupled with the exercise of wide discretion, particularly in a work environment that may lack proper systems of control and accountability, can easily lead to corruption"

WCO Secretary General (1998)

Some Key Themes

- Customs is a microcosm of the society in which it operates
- Good governance and integrity are closely related to the adoption of effective and efficient systems and procedures
- Building integrity requires long term commitment and leadership - There are no quick fix solutions
- It is a shared responsibility for both the public and private sectors
- Integrity is a key aspect of national security and economic development

WCO Arusha Declaration on Integrity in Customs

- 1. Minimum Administrative Regulation
- 2. Transparency
- 3. Automation
- 4. Strategic Segregation, Rotation and Relocation
- 5. Management Responsibility and Accountability
- 6. Auditing

WCO Arusha Declaration on Integrity in Customs

- 7. Morale and Organisational Culture
- 8. Recruitment and Selection
- 9. Code of Conduct
- 10. Professional Development
- 11. Adequate Remuneration
- 12. Relationship with the Private Sector

WCO Integrity Self Assessment Guide

- Based on the provisions of the Arusha Declaration
- Designed to assist Member administrations to analyse their current situation and identify solutions which fit their culture, needs, resources and operating environment
 - Non prescriptive and flexible
 - Compatible with wider reform and modernisation strategies
 - Equally relevant to non-Customs agencies

WCO Model Code of Ethics and Conduct

- Designed to provide a model for the development of national Codes of Conduct
- Based on the unique Customs operating environment
- Contains 11 key elements
- Designed to complement rather than replace civil service codes

For further information:

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