# Introduction to WTO TFA Implementation – Korea's Experience Regarding Advance Ruling

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# [Part 1] **TFA (Section 3) Advance Ruling**

#### Advance Ruling

- Trade facilitation
- Transparency
- Predictability(
   ← Uncertainty)
- Binding power(↔ Arbitrariness)

#### 1. Application and Denial

- Reasonable time-bound
- In Writing with all necessary information

#### 2. Conditions for Denial

- Pending in governmental agency, appellate tribunal, or court
- Already decided by appellate tribunal or court

#### 3. Expiration Date

Reasonable period under same law, facts, circumstances

#### 4. Revoke, Modification, Invalidation

- In writing with the relevant facts and the basis for decision
- Retroactively only with incomplete, incorrect, false, misleading information

#### 5. Binding

Issuing Member (not the any other member countries)

#### 6. Publication

- The requirement for the application
- The time period for issuance
- The expiration date (valid time)

#### 7. Review

- In written request
- Revoke, Modification, Invalidation

#### 8. Open public

- Considering the confidential information
- Significant interest to other interested parties

#### 9. Definition and Scope

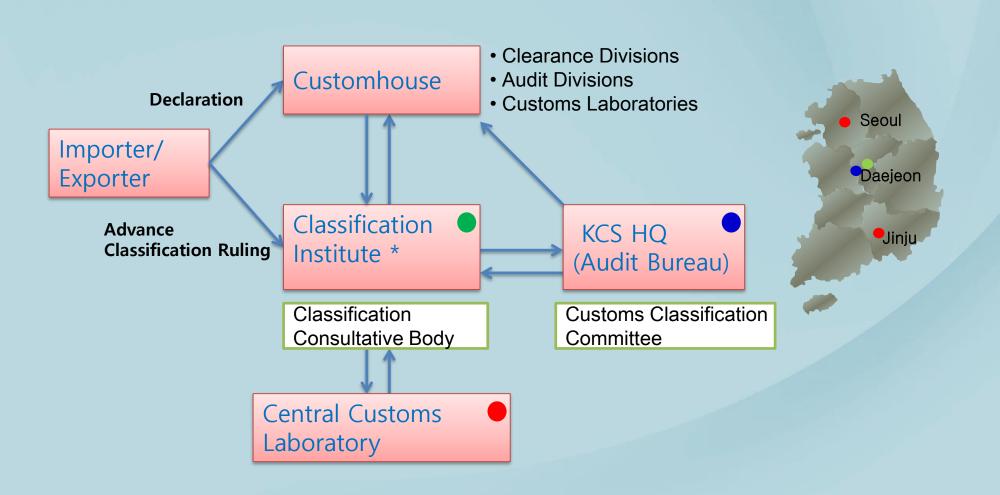
- Shall: ① Tariff classification, ② Origin
- Encouraged : ③ Customs Value, etc.
- Applicant : exporter, importer, any person with a jusifiable cause or a representative

# [Part 2] KCS Advance Ruling Experience

### KCS Advance Ruling

- The Good's tariff classification 4 Sections
- The Customs Value I Sections
- The Origin of the Good

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
HS classification	6,191	7,002	7,394	7,591	8,511
Customs Valuation	60	72	168	135	145
Origin	8	0	4	2	9



#### Main Roles of Audit Bureau of KCS

- Administrating the classification system, such as organization, manpower, procedure, policies, etc.
- Operating the Customs Classification Committee
- Drafting amendments of Customs Nomenclatures (supporting the MOSF)
- Establishing and maintaining national classification criteria
- Notifying amendments of HS Explanatory Notes and Compendium of Classification Opinions
- Cooperating with WCO and foreign Customs Administrations

#### Main Roles of Classification Institute

- Issuing the Advance Classification Rulings
- Operating the Classification Consultative Body
- Providing classification advice to regional customhouses, traders and enterprises
- Conducting research on international and domestic classification issues
- Doing activities for international cooperation including WCO committees (HSC, RSC)
- Publishing classification information

#### Main Roles of Central Customs Laboratory

- Doing scientific analysis of goods for customs clearance and Advance Classification Rulings
- Providing classification opinions for the analyzed goods
- Developing analytical techniques for customs purposes, such as, classification, origin determination, border control, etc
- Providing scientific and technical support for KCS HQ and regional customhouses
- Doing activities for international cooperation with WCO and foreign customs laboratories

#### Binding Pre-entry Classification Information

Importers, exporters, customs brokers, or manufacturers may make a request in writing to the KCS for <u>binding information</u> <u>on the HS classification</u> of goods in respect of an actually envisaged import or export operation <u>prior to import or export</u> <u>of goods</u>.

#### Legal Basis

- Article 86 of the Customs Act of Korea
- WCO Recommendation
  - Recommendation of the Customs Co-operation Council on the Introduction of Programmes for Binding Pre-entry Classification Information (18 June 1996)

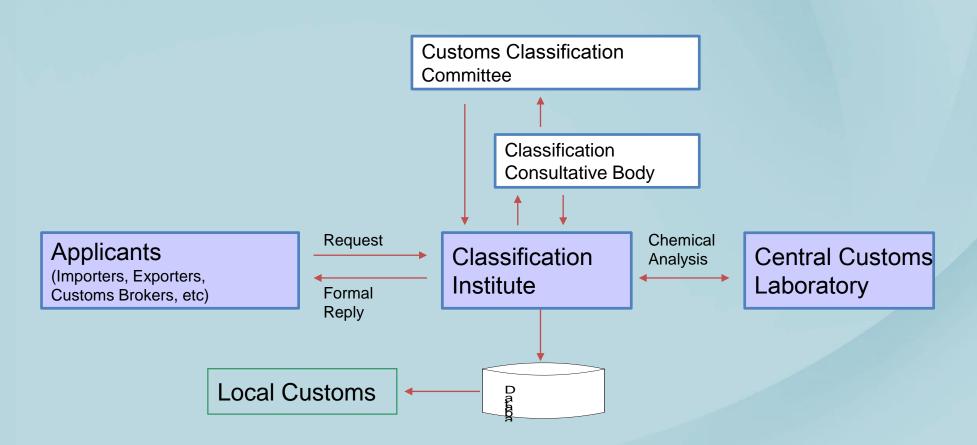
#### Issuing Organization :

 Customs Valuation and Classification Institute (supported by the Central Customs Laboratory)

#### Requirements for Application :

- A full description of the goods as well as any necessary additional details to enable their identification
- Samples to be classified
- Application fee (30,000 KRW/item) for items which require laboratory analysis

- Issue period : Within 30 working days (except period for analysis and supplement of additional information)
- Duration of binding force : One year from the date of issue
- Review : Just once in 30 days from the date notified
- Advantages
  - Ensuring fast decisions in advance
  - Ensuring proper and prompt clearance
  - Prior settlement of possible classification dispute
  - Maintaining transparency in classification to coordinate with other government agencies
  - Ensuring predictability in business



#### International HS information SystemRuling

http://unipass.customs.go.kr/clip/index.do

