

**Speech by Representative of the Azerbaijan Republic Delegation (State
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Mongolia, Ulaan Baator**

Over recent years strong foundation has been created in Azerbaijan. During these activities some steps were made to improve customs procedures, enhance professional skills of customs officers, strengthen the regulatory framework, the material and technical base of customs bodies and integrate into the world customs system.

Currently, the development activities are focused on such priorities as automation of customs registration and control procedures; ensuring the online transmission of information between the border and internal customs authorities; creation of a system that allows collecting information on goods turnover and record of vehicles engaged in international trade; information support in combating smuggling and infringement of customs rules; creation of the automated workplaces for customs inspectors; check of information in-coming to the head office on a daily basis and creation of appropriate database, automated analysis of foreign economic relations.

For unification of customs legislation with legislation of the European Union, as well as with legislation of other developed countries, with support of the European Union and ongoing UN Development Program within the project on Modernization of Customs Services in Azerbaijan, the new Customs Code has been drafted. To simplify the procedures of customs control and registration, and improve the regulatory framework in this area, amendments were also made in a number of key normative legal acts regulating different areas of customs.

Under circumstances of dynamic development of the country ongoing improvement of customs activity is critical. And ensuring appropriate customs procedures, bringing them into compliance with international standards mainly depend on wide application of information technologies in customs procedure and control.

Since January 1, 2009 for the purpose of control of border crossing goods and vehicles Single Window system was implemented in our republic by Presidential Decree. And authorities of the single regulatory state body were delegated to the State Customs Committee of the Azerbaijan Republic. Since Azerbaijan represents an important part of transport corridors, such as Silk Way, North-South the increase of passing capacities of state borders is critical. The main purpose of new control rules is to make favorable conditions for transport operators for crossing border check points, carrying out export and import operations under the modern requirements. Having applied Single Window at the border checkpoints, integrating types of control at the borders, having eliminated additional checks, the border crossing procedures are simplified, time loss by transport operators is minimized.

Single Window is used in veterinary, phytosanitary and sanitary inspection of goods, check of documents for goods and vehicles crossing the state border, and

while their veterinary, phytosanitary, hygienic and other certificates are checked by customs bodies.

With the purpose of quick inspection of goods non-intrusive forms of customs control are applied. For these purposes inspection facilities were purchased and put into operation that allows inspecting containers and vehicles without delays, to identify smuggling and other illegal movement across borders.



Under the Customs Development Program for 2007-2011, for development of infrastructure of customs bodies, all the border check points of the country with international status are being reconstructed. In order to create conditions for cargo transport operations, terminals and customs warehouses are constructed in the direction of North-South, East-West. These terminals create favorable conditions for quick registration and loading – unloading operations for vehicles engaged in international cargo transportation.





Azerbaijan is an active participant of international trade in implementation of the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures with use of information technologies. This Convention considers information technologies as one of the principles of customs registration contributing to simplification and harmonization of customs procedures. The important priorities in use of information technologies in foreign trade activity are implementation of a comprehensive risk management system and development of the electronic declaration system. Therefore, all customs units and posts are equipped and provided with new version of the “Automated system of customs registration and control”. The Risk Management System has been completed and installed. The Project includes the concept of automated risk management system, regulations, use of the expert methods, criteria of risk and appropriate scores, forms of “primary information”, risk profiles, technological scheme of interrelation of the systems and general functional scheme. Also efforts are made to create centralized databases and their remote control.

One of the priorities of customs services of Azerbaijan is implementation of the personnel policy. These priorities are also included in the strategic document of the Azerbaijan customs services “Program for Development of Customs Bodies for 2007-2011”. To improve capacity of the staff the resources of the national Training Center of Customs Service, as well as the Regional Training Center of the World Customs Organization are used to organize workshops and seminars with participation of local and international experts.

The Azerbaijan Republic participates in many regional projects aimed at streamlining and increasing transit transport. Active participation of customs bodies in these projects, particularly, those under the CAREC program, has effective outcome for development of international transit and trade in our country. Close cooperation of the relevant bodies in this area is one of success factors in achieving the established goals. As above said, with the help of many available projects on trade facilitation the national bodies closely cooperate at the inter-agency level, jointly addressing the issues under their competence. The experts who are authorized representatives and contact persons of some projects hold working meetings at the inter-agency level to resolve certain issues. For the purpose of more effective and efficient exchange of data between customs bodies

and relevant agencies it is planned to invent the electronic system covering the information flows related to foreign trade activity, using with use of advanced information technologies.

Regional cooperation under the CAREC program is an important factor for effective management and facilitation of transit cargo transportation.

Our activity under the CAREC program aims at creating favorable conditions for smooth movement of transit goods that has an impact on the national economy of a member country.