



Key Principles of the RKC and the benefits of Accession

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World Customs Organization (WCO)



- ❖ Sole Intergovernmental Organization specialized in Customs matters
- ❖ Established in 1952 as **Customs Cooperation Council (CCC)**
- ❖ Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium
- ❖ 179 members (as of September 2014)
- ❖ Responsible for processing 98% of global trade

REVISED KYOTO CONVENTION (RKC)

- ❖ Protocol of Amendment adopted by the Council in June 1999 in Brussels
- ❖ Came into force in February 2006



*The blueprint for modern, efficient and effective
Customs Procedures in the 21st century*

- ❖ Structure- Convention; GA; SA and Guidelines (not a part of the legal text)
- ❖ Contracting Parties
 - *total 95 Contracting Parties to RKC
(as of September 2014)*

KEY PRINCIPLES

- ❖ Promotes trade facilitation and effective controls
- ❖ simplified and harmonized Customs procedures;
- ❖ transparency and predictability
- ❖ standardization and simplification of the goods declaration and supporting documents;
- ❖ simplified procedures for authorized persons;
- ❖ minimum necessary Customs control to ensure compliance with regulations;
- ❖ maximum use of information technology and modern techniques (e.g. risk management, pre-arrival information and post clearance audit)
- ❖ coordinated interventions with other border agencies;
- ❖ partnership with the trade.

CONDITIONS FOR ACCESSION

- ❖ **Contracting Parties must accept**
 - a) **Body of the Convention**
 - b) **General Annex**
- ❖ **Acceptance of Specific Annexes and/or Chapters therein optional and at Contracting Parties' discretion**
- ❖ **No reservations permitted to Standards**
- ❖ **Reservations permitted to Recommended Practices in the Specific Annexes**
- ❖ **Contracting Parties to review the reservations every 3 years**
- ❖ **Inform the depositary if reservations are to be continued**

Implementation of provisions

- Standards: 36 months (GA & SAs)
- Transitional Standards: 60 months (GA)
- Recommended Practices (SAs): 36 months unless reservation entered
- Management Committee may grant extension (no more than one year)
- CPs shall be members of the **Management Committee** and have the right to vote & recommend amendments to Body, GA, SA or review and update the Guidelines
- CPs have the right to apply all prohibitions and restrictions deriving from their national legislation :
 - public morality or order, public security, public health,
 - protection of patents, trademarks and copyrights
 - those imposed on economic or any other grounds

4 Major Stages to accede to RKC (Typical case)

**Stage A : Commitment to Accede RKC
& Gap-Analysis**

**Stage B : Communication among Stake
holders**

Stage C : Legal (Parliament) Works

Stage D : Official Diplomatic Works

RKC Benefits

Accession

- ❖ Certification of international standards
- ❖ Participation to future standard setting
- ❖ Preparedness for trade negotiation
- ❖ Advantage in CB activities

Implementation

- ❖ Fewer Customs formalities
- ❖ Faster release and lower trade costs
- ❖ Reduced data requirements
- ❖ Increased revenue
- ❖ Higher transparency and predictability
- ❖ More FDI and economic competitiveness
- ❖ Enhanced security
- ❖ Sound base for other international instrument

Thank you!

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