



Workshop on World Customs Organization (WCO) Revised Kyoto Convention

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GOVT. OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

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Legal Issues to be Addressed to Accede to RKC

A review of the current Customs Legislation (Customs Code 2005) was undertaken in 2012, which included a comparison of the provisions of the General Annex.

Seventy (70) amendments were made in the current Afghan customs Law. Which were formally submitted to the Afghan - Ministry of Justice (MoJ) in 2012 for their legal consideration.

The ACD (with support from international advisors) are in regular discussion with the MoJ to progress the adoption of these amendments.

Legal Issues to be Addressed to Accede to RKC (cont.)

Besides, a systematic analysis of customs related legislation of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan is currently underway by an international advisor. The purpose of this is to assess the level of conformity of each administration with the WCO RKC and provide recommendations to achieve compliance.

The ACD is also working in partnership with subject issue expert int - advisor to enable access to, and provide explanation of, the antecedent laws, current procedures, and to determine priorities for reform measures.

Recent changes adopted to enhance accession to RKC

- **Automation of Customs Operations:**
 - ACD has automated 98 percent of its BCPs and ICDs operations using ASYCUDA++ (Major BCPs and ICDs are 100 percent covered with ASYCUDA++;
 - ACD will be starting the usage of ASYCUDA World very shortly;
 - ACD has developed and implemented a specialized exemption module (based on single window concept) used for goods comes under exemption regimes (ISAF, US Army, Diplomatic missions and Int Organizations and GoIRA);
- **C2C and Joint Border Deceleration :**
 - Electronic Data Interface (EDI) system has been developed, agreed and implemented by with PAK Customs for Goods in Transit;
 - Planned to extend the C2C with Northern Countries and Iran to develop joint declaration and/or C2C Electronic Data Exchange systems;

Recent changes adopted to enhance accession to RKC

- **Border Management:**

- In March 2011, the ACD and the Afghanistan Border Police (ABP) commenced implementation of the Border Management Model (BMM);
 - The BMM covers activities at official Border Crossing Points (BCPs) and is consistent with international best practices;
 - The ABP continues to be the primary agency in control of immigration and national security, and the ACD as primary agency in control of international trade.
 - Based on presidential decree the ACD has been mandated to perform the tasks of the other agencies involved at the Borders;

Status of Accession to RKC

Draft amendments to the Customs Law have been formally submitted to the MoJ for comment and approval;

In June 2012, ACD commenced implementation of Risk Management within cargo verification;

ACD has established working protocols with other relevant Ministries to ensure any specific requirements are facilitated in respect of the movement of restricted and prohibited goods; and

ACD has commenced regular dialogue with the trade and private sector through the establishment of the Customs & Trade Consultative Committee (CTCC).

Key Next Steps Towards Accession to RKC

The ACD will continue to work towards accession by:

Aiming for amended Customs legislation to be adopted for promulgation between June and October 2013;

Ensuring that all procedure statements and guidelines reflect the provisions of the legislation;

Continuing to implement risk management based processes and procedures across the administration; and

Restructuring the management and operation of provincial customs offices.

International Assistance in Support of Accession

The ACD continues to receive international support and technical assistance from a number of projects, including the:

- USAID funded Trade Accession and Facilitation for Afghanistan (TAFA II) project;
- WB Funded – SCRTFP (UNOPS and UNCTAD); and
- US State Department funded Border Management Task Force (BMTF);

It is anticipated that international assistance will continue for the foreseeable future.