



Cross-Border Transport Agreement

Implementation at the
Hekou-Lao Cai Border Crossing Points

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Brief Introduction of Hekou & Lao Cai

Hekou, located in Hekou County of Yunnan Province, is classified as the port of national level. It is about 469 km apart from Kunming, and 296km distant from Ha Noi, capital of Vietnam. Hekou and Lao Cai face each other across the Red River.

In 2008, the total trade volume of imports and exports is ?. The volume of inward and outward vehicle is ?, and inward and outward trains is ?.





Laocai, located in Lao Cai Province of Vietnam, links Ha Noi (capital of Vietnam) with Kunming. It has rail -way, waterway and , 296km away from Ha Noi and 416km apart from Haiphong (the biggest harbor in Vietnam).

In Lao Cai Province, the Laocai International Economic zone is under construction, also called Border Economic Zone. The high -way at 300 km length from Hanoi to Lao Cai City is being built.





Background

The GMS Cross-Border Transport Agreement (CBTA) is a multilateral instrument to facilitate cross-border transport of goods and people. GMS countries agreed to undertake the initial implementation of the CBTA on a pilot basis at 5 of the 15 crossing points. One of those crossings was Hekou-Lao Cai, providing a route from Haiphong and Ha Noi, Viet Nam, Kunming China. MOU was signed on 20 March 2007.





Assist and cooperate GACC and ADB to do on-the-spot investigation before implement the CBTA at Hekou-Lao Cai.



In 2006, Kunmin Customs organized working group to Laos, Thailand and Vietnam to investigate the “Single stop Inspection” at their implemented at their crossing points.



Since 2002, Kunming Customs has held six international seminars on CBTA for Customs officials from GMS Countries .



In order to realize the trans-border trade facilitation, Kunming Customs is initiatively preparing for the implementation of CBTA (Cross-Border Transport Agreement) and working with her foreign counterparts in relevant GMS countries to push forward the CBTA (Cross-Border Transport Agreement) .



Kunming Customs Participation of Implementation CBTA at Hekou-Lao Cai



At present, Hekou and Lao Cai have coordinated their working hours , which is currently between 0800 and 2300 hours (PRC) , seven days a week; and implement round-clock operation on request when a notice has been sent in advance.



In Hekou, the Immigration Bureau, Quarantine Authority and Customs of China are implementing Single Window Inspection.



Kunming Customs and the related Custom bureaus in Vietnam have established a regular meeting mechanism. This allows both sides to develop a close cooperation in aspects of customs clearance facilitation, suppression of smuggling, investigation assistance and information exchanges. In 2007 and 2008 two meetings have been held between the two sides.



Difficulty in Implementation CBTA at Hekou-Lao Cai

We need:

- ◇ **to fix the Modality of Single Stop Inspection**
- ◇ **intact infrastructural facilities at the crossing points**
- ◇ **information or electronic data exchange platform**
- ◇ **harmonized border crossing documents**
- ◇ **a systematical training for the Customs Officers
working at the crossing points**