



NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE ENHANCEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE AUTHORIZED ECONOMIC OPERATORS' PROGRAM IN CAREC: TRAINING OF TRAINERS

29-30 April 2024, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Session I I: Raising Awareness Campaign on the AEO Program

Ms. Rhoan P. Escarmosa, LCB

Customs Operations Officer III, Port of Manila conc. Office of the Commissioner

Bureau of Customs, The Philippines



OVERVIEW OF THE PHILIPPINE TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE (PTFC)

- Established under **Executive Order (E.O.) No. 136, s. 2021**
- Acts as the **National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) of the Philippines** in line with the WTO-TFA commitments
- Composed of four (4) Technical Working Groups: Compliance Monitoring TWG, Trade Policy Review TWG, Ad-Hoc TWG, and the National Time Release Study TWG
- Composed of representatives from key government agencies, with the Department of Finance as Chairperson, the Department of Trade and Industry as Co-Chairperson, and the **Bureau of Customs as Vice-Chairperson and Secretariat**
- The BOC PTFC Secretariat is headed by the **Deputy Commissioner for the Assessment and Operations Coordinating Group (AOCG)**, who also serves as the AEO Supervising Deputy Commissioner



PHILIPPINE TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE : DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Study, propose and coordinate the position, activities or actions of the Philippine government on matters pertaining to the implementation of the WTO-TFA and other trade facilitation commitments;
- Call on the assistance of and coordinate with relevant government agencies and stakeholders on various trade and trade-related concerns covered by the WTO-TFA and other trade facilitation commitments;

CATEGORY

A

MAKABAGONG A
MATATAG NA EKO

Article 6.2 Specific Disciplines on Fees and Charges for Customs Processing Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation

Article 6.3 Penalty Disciplines

Article 7.1 Pre-arrival processing

Article 7.3 Separation of Release from Final Determination of Customs Duties, Taxes, Fees, and Charges

Article 7.4 Risk Management

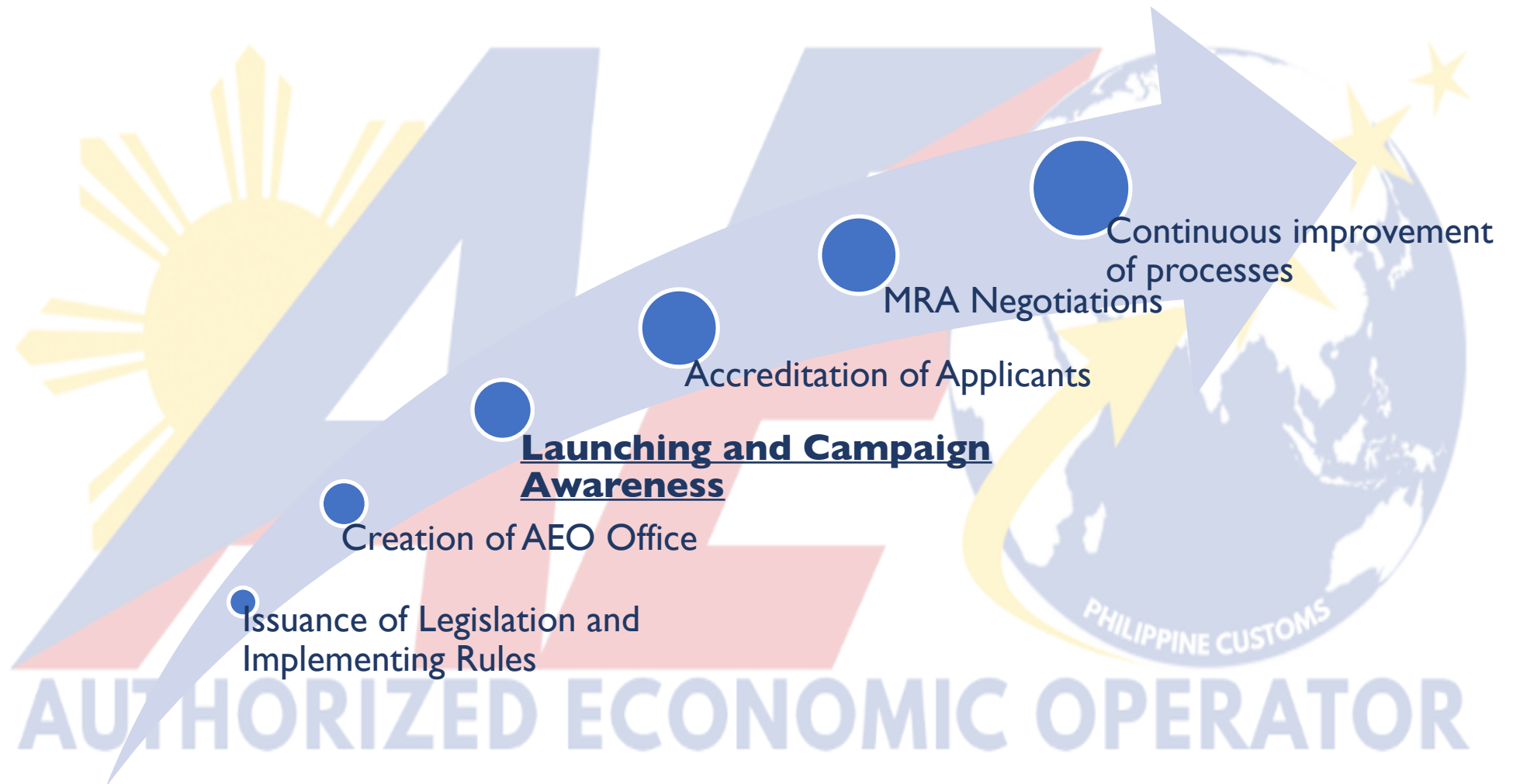
Article 7.6 Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times

Article 7.7 Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators

PTFC ROADMAP 2022 - 2028 : MEDIUM-TERM ACTIVITIES

Outcome	Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Baseline	Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlined trade procedures and reduced processing time for permit issuance and clearance time, and Harmonized rules and conditions for securing regulatory permits / clearances 	No. of accredited AEO	AEO Accreditation issued	1	Increase by 10% per year
	No. of MRAs on AEO recognition	MRAs signed	None	2 MRAs by 2028
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase access of MSMEs to trusted trader schemes 	No. of MSMEs accredited as trusted traders schemes (BOC)	AEO Accreditation issued	None	2 MSMEs and increase to 50% yearly
	No. of approved MRAs for AEO	MRAs signed	None (one MRA negotiated with ASEAN)	2 MRAs by 2028

STAGES OF AEO PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT



PHILIPPINE TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE : DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Undertake outreach, advocacy, capacity-building and studies among its members and stakeholders to increase awareness of the practices and benefits of trade facilitation.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS ON THE AEO PROGRAM: PROMOTING BENEFITS FOR VOLUNTARY APPLICANTS

BENEFITS

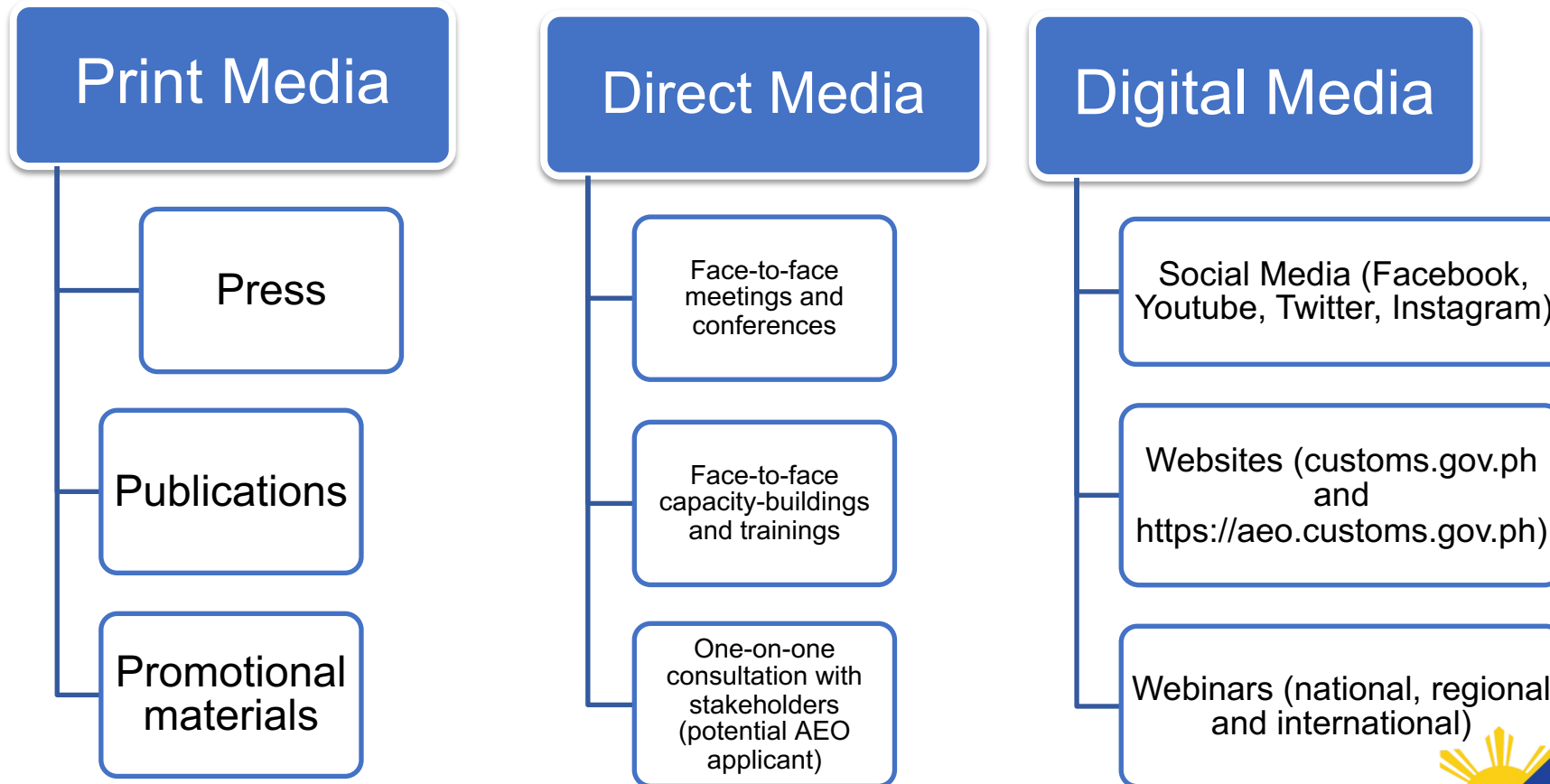
Level 2

- Dedicated processing lane
- Advance Clearance Process
- Periodic lodgement
- One time exemption certificate
- Expedited Customs Clearance for Exports

Level 1

- Exemption from Renewal of Accreditation
- Self-Assessment
- Supplementary Goods Declaration
- Dedicated Help Desk

RAISING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON THE AEO PROGRAM: COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES



AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : PUBLICATIONS AND PROMOTION MATERIALS

What is an AEO?

Refers to:

✓ Importer, exporter, customs broker, forwarder, freightforwarder, transport provider, and any other entity

✓ Duly accredited by the Bureau of Customs based on the World Customs Organization (WCO) Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade, the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC), the WCO Supply Chain Management Guidelines and the various national best practices

✓ To promote trade facilitation and to provide a seamless movement of goods across borders through secure international trade supply chains with the use of riskmanagement and modern technology.

Implementing Rules and Regulations:

- Customs Administrative Order (CAO) 5-2017
- Customs Memorandum Order (CMO) 9-2020

Kindly visit <http://customs.gov.ph/aao-philippines/> to download all forms needed for the Application of AEO



www.customs.gov.ph

South Harbor, Gate 3, Port Area, Manila 1099

Email aao@customs.gov.ph

Facebook Bureau of Customs PH

Who May Apply?

Pursuant to Customs Memorandum Order (CMO) 9-2020, the implementation of the AEO Program shall only cover Importers and Exporters. The roll-out of implementation of AEO for other stakeholders shall be upon the issuance of subsequent regulations.

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

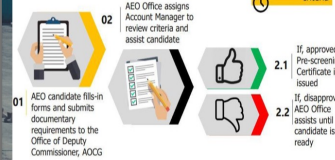


DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS

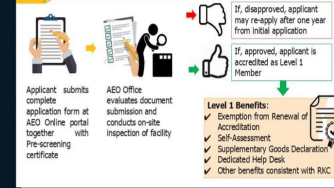
PRE-SCREENING

1. Notarized Pre-Screening Form (Annex A);
2. Notarized Self-Assessment Questionnaire (Annex B);
3. Risk Evaluation Sheet (Annex C)
4. Notarized Undertaking (Annex D)
5. Financial Documents (e.g. Annual BIR Returns, Financial Report, etc.)
6. SEC/DTI Registration, as applicable;
7. Mayor's Permit and/or Certificate of Registration (i.e. BOI, PEZA, SBMA, etc.), as applicable; and
8. General Information Sheet (GIS)

PRE-SCREENING



LEVEL 1: APPLICATION



ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

- GENERAL CRITERIA**
- Business ownership, structure, and organization
 - Corporate or business profile and projected business activity
 - End-to-end import or export process and local distribution system, if any
 - Entities involved in foreign supply and/or local distribution chain
 - In operation for at least one (1) year prior to the date of application
 - Note of the executive officers and directors have violated customs laws and procedures and/or found criminally liable for violation of any Philippine laws, rules and regulations within three (3) years from
 - List of goods imported or exported
 - Internal customs compliance control
 - Customs compliance history
 - Business process continuity mechanism
 - Financial Viability
 - Obtained the necessary permits, licenses, and/or concession if regulated by another government agency
 - Must have a dedicated office or unit or responsible officer whose main function is to ensure the applicant's compliance

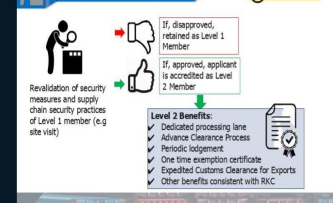
SECURITY CRITERIA

- Cargo handling and warehousing**
 - Procedures in place to protect against the introduction of unauthorized material and persons
 - Documentation, inventory and verification
 - Records and Release of Cargo
 - Procedural Documentation
 - Container Seals
 - Storage of Conveyances, Containers and Cargo
- Record keeping and IT System**
 - Essential elements of your business processes that include a full audit trail
 - Procedures in place to maintain confidentiality and integrity of data
 - Accuracy
 - Data Back-ups and Recovery Plans
- Supply and trading partner**
 - List of regular business partners including the modes of transportation
 - Procedures in place for the selection of and working with business partners
 - Procedures in place for business partners to demonstrate they are meeting the company's supply chain security requirements
- Personnel complement**
 - Pre-Employment Verification and Background Checks
 - Periodic Background Checks / Reinvestigations for Current Personnel
 - Resignation and Termination of Personnel
 - Temporary personnel security standards
 - External Services

SECURITY CRITERIA

- Physical premises and access control**
 - Personnel Screening
 - Gates and Gate Houses
 - Building Structure
 - Locking Devices and Key Controls
 - Alarm systems and video surveillance cameras
 - Security Personnel and Organization
 - Access Control for Employees, Visitors and Vendors / Contractors
- Security training, threat awareness, and outreach**
 - Procedures in place to educate your personnel with regard to the risks associated with movements of goods
 - Training on the identification of potentially suspect cargo
 - Security Personnel and Organization
 - Reporting of suspicious incidents
 - Training provided for employees in crisis management and any drill conducted for the contingency plan
- Conveyance Security**
 - Procedures in place to consider potential places of concealment on conveyances
 - Procedures in place to train drivers on subjects such as:
 - Identification of Conveyances
 - Confidentiality of load, route and destination;
 - Stops on high parking areas, refueling and unattended stops, etc.
 - Reporting for accident or emergency;
 - Security of any equipment in loading, loading and unloading; and
 - Testing of security alarms and tracking devices, if any

LEVEL 2: REVALIDATION

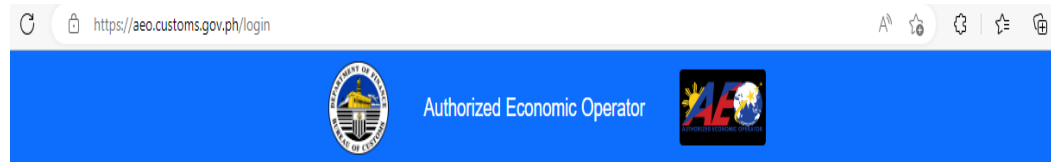


LEVEL 3





The Commissioner, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Finance, shall designate appropriate criteria and benefits to validated Level 3 members

Two (2) years from effectivity of CAO 5-2017

AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : THE AEO PORTAL



Authorized Economic Operator Accreditation Process

 <p>Step 1. Register Register basic user profile to be use as login credentials to the system.</p>	 <p>Step 2. Fill-out Application Form Supply the company profile, contact information, addresses and other information.</p>	<p>Login</p> <input type="text" value="Email address"/> <input type="password" value="Password"/> Sign In Sign Up Forgot password?
 <p>Step 3. Fill-out SAQ and RES Answers all questions and upload images/documents as proof.</p>	 <p>Step 4. Upload attachments Uploads all necessary files/documents needed for application's verification.</p>	



Log-in at <https://aao.customs.gov.ph/>

Serves as a comprehensive online platform designed to facilitate interactions and transactions related to the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Program

AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : WEBINARS AND INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS

PORT OF BATANGAS
LATEST UPDATES ON
CUSTOMS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

WEBINAR ON AUTHORIZED ECONOMIC OPERATOR (AEO)
via Zoom

April 5, 2022 | 2:00 p.m.

WATCH US LIVE **JOIN THE FORUM** **REGISTER**

ATTY. MA. RHEA M. GREGORIO
District Collector

ATTY. MARIA YASMIN OBILLOS-MAPA
Director, Legal Service, RCMG /
Chief, AEO Office

GENILYN MINARDO
Account Manager,
AEO Office

TOYOTA MOTOR PHILIPPINES CORP.
First Philippine AEO

A modernized and credible Customs administration that is among the world's best.

BOC IN ACTION
SERVING THE PUBLIC

The Port of Clark and the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Office of the Bureau of Customs conducted a briefing with the Clark Development Corporation (CDC) and Clark Freeport Zone stakeholders regarding the benefits, requirements, and procedures for AEO accreditation.

Professionalism Integrity Accountability

Online engagement with stakeholders regarding the benefits, requirements, and procedures of the AEO Program

AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEWS POSTINGS



Bureau of Customs PH

@BureauofCustomsPH • 4.4K subscribers • 253 videos

This is the official Youtube account of the Bureau of Customs, R...more

facebook.com/BureauOfCustomsPH and 3 more links

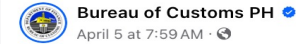
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Bureau of Customs PH

April 5 at 7:59 AM

#BOCNewsToday | The delegation from the Bureau of Customs (BOC) Philippines comprises of key officials responsible for Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) matters, engaged in a Joint Validation Visit (JVV) with Hong Kong Customs which aims in advancing mutual recognition arrangements and bolstering trade facilitation efforts.

Full story: <https://customs.gov.ph/boc-engages-in-joint-validation.../>

Photo Courtesy of HKAO Programme



Kyle Ablat, Karen Noronio - Gabion and 89 others

62 comments 15 shares

Regular posting of AEO updates on the BOC social media accounts and website.

AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : FACE-TO-FACE ACTIVITIES



BUREAU OF CUSTOMS



BOC GEARS UP FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF AEO PROGRAM, FINALIZES OPERATIONS MANUAL

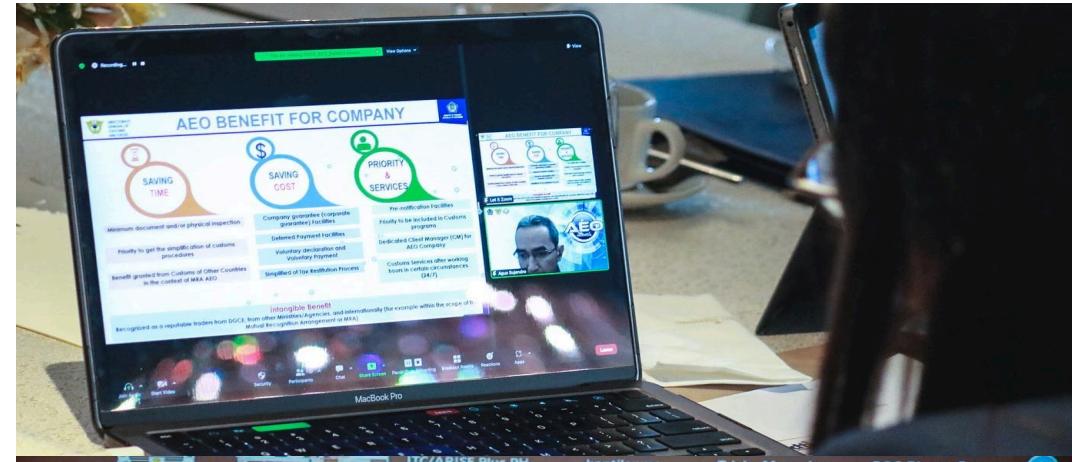
Bureau of Customs officials, through the Interim Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Office, participated in a two-day Writeshop for the drafting of the AEO Operations Manual on September 6-7 at F1 Hotel Manila, Taguig.

www.customs.gov.ph

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AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : FACE-TO-FACE ACTIVITIES



Outreach, advocacy, and capacity-building sessions with private stakeholders, other government agencies, and international partners

AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES



ASEAN Authorised Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Arrangement (AEO MRA) – On-site AEO Joint Validation on Thailand's AEO Programme



Participation in discussions with international partners on the Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Arrangement (AEO MRA), including AEO workshops and conferences

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON THE AEO PROGRAM: BUILDING TRUSTED TRADERS

The introduction of **VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE** is generally based on three principles:

- In the performance of its tasks, **Customs seeks to improve compliance** with the relevant laws.
- **Voluntary compliance by operators (importers, exporters) with their Customs obligations** has a dual effect (win-win for the Customs administration and for businesses)
- The WCO defines voluntary compliance as a strategy that...*”aims to improve the level of voluntary compliance of traders and creating the conditions necessary to facilitate voluntary compliance as the most cost-effective and efficient approach.”*

Source: *Customs Modernization Handbook: How Authorized Economic Operators Have Evolved: Latest Developments (2018)*, USAID

AEO Program Criteria

1. REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

2. Business records management
3. Financial viability
4. Security
5. Crisis management and incident recovery

6. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRAININGS

Source: *SAFE Framework*.

RAISING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON THE AEO PROGRAM: BUILDING TRUSTED TRADERS

1. Establishing transparency on Customs rules and procedures

- WTO TFA Article I: Publication and Availability of Information
- Creation of **dedicated Customs Care Centers** in all ports of entry

2. Strengthening coordination between Customs and other government agencies

- Clearance of certain commodities are covered by regulatory government agencies other than Customs
- Work collaboratively with the **Philippine National Trade Repository (PNTR)** of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to develop a comprehensive trade portal that provides detailed information to the trading community
- Conduct of a **National Time Release Study** to identify bottleneck in the supply chain

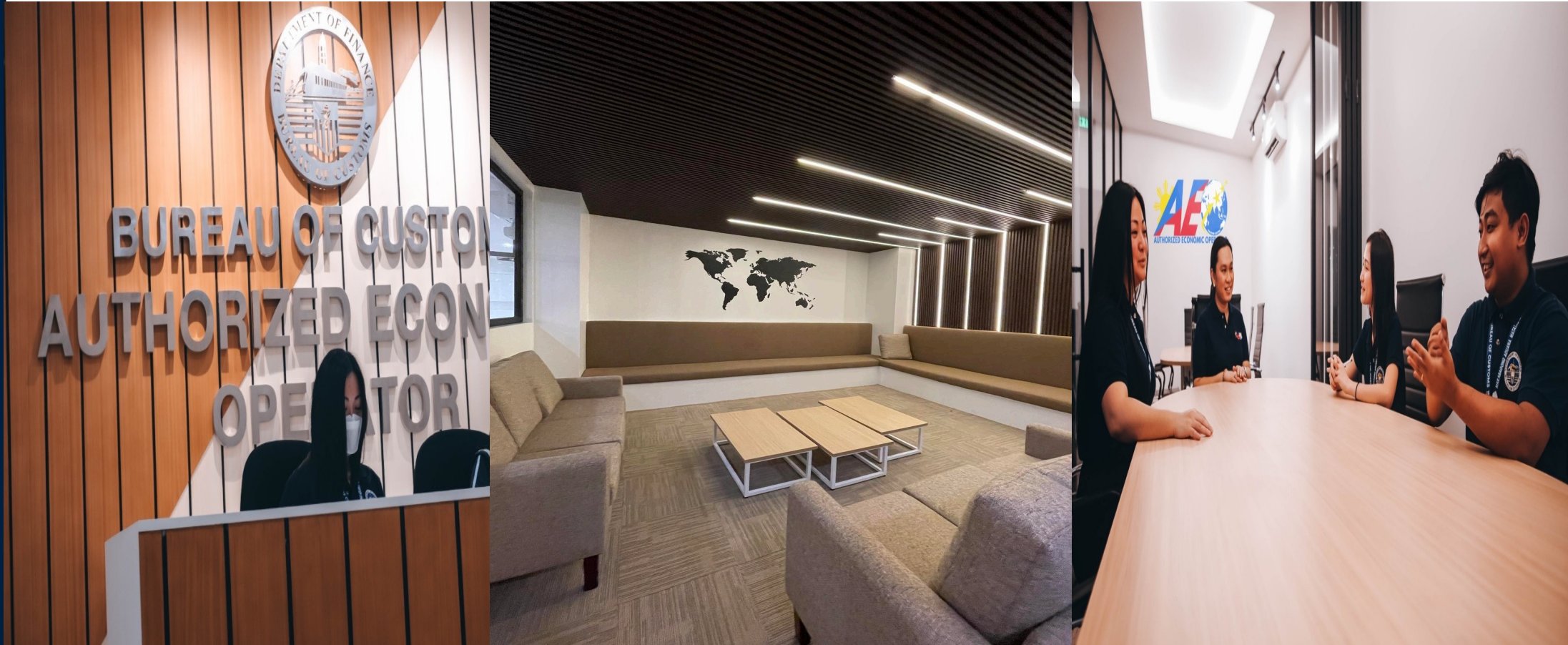
3. Building effective working relationships with the private sector

- To raise the awareness of the private sector on the importance of and the benefits associated to the effective implementation of trade facilitation measures
- **Customs Industry Consultative and Advisory Council (CICAC)**

4. Trainings on supply chain management principles

- Having an **efficient supply chain management**, which includes processes beyond Customs control, has a significant impact on business operations and trade compliance.

AEO AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS : ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS



Each applicant is assigned with a dedicated AEO Account Manager, to be assisted by an AEO Inspector to guide them on the standards and requirements

CAPACITY BUILDING SESSIONS ON SUPPLY CHAIN AND OTHER TRADE FACILITATION INITIATIVES



To enhance the capacity and knowledge of Customs officials, key government agencies and private stakeholders on the fundamentals of supply chain and logistics management

INDUSTRY CONSULTATIONS

Bureau of Customs - Ninoy Aquino International Airport
 April 16 at 1:39 PM · 🌐

LOOK: The Bureau of Customs - NAIA (BOC-NAIA), led by District Collector Atty. Yasmin O. Mapa, held its 1st General Assembly with the Customs Industry Consultative and Advisory Council (CICAC) to strengthen collaboration between the BOC-NAIA and industry stakeholders and discuss key initiatives moving forward.

The industry representatives provided valuable feedback and suggested practical solutions to further improve the experience of stakeholders. CICAC's diverse representa... [See more](#)

Bureau of Customs PH ✓
 March 27 · 🌐

LOOK: The Bureau of Customs (BOC) successfully conducted its 2nd Customs Industry Consultative and Advisory Council (CICAC) meeting on March 21, 2024, at the OCOM Conference Room. The event, chaired by Commissioner Bienvenido Y. Rubio and attended by key BOC officials and CICAC members, served as a platform for open dialogue between the BOC and industry stakeholders.

In a significant display of unity, members of CICAC signed a manifesto supporting the bureau's mission of fac... [See more](#)

April 11 at 10:54 AM · 🌐

LOOK: The Bureau of Customs-Port of Manila (BOC-POM) Customs Industry Consultative and Advisory Council (CICAC) held its first meeting on April 8, to foster close collaboration between the Port and its stakeholders.

POM regularly conducts its inter-agency coordination before the harmonization of its District's CICAC, in order to align with Commissioner Bienvenido Y. Rubio's directives.

District Collector Rizalino Jose C. Torralba expressed his gratitude to the Port's indus... [See more](#)



Conduct of regular Customs Industry Consultative And Advisory Council (CICAC) Meetings at the Customs Headquarters, and all ports of entry

