RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE NINTH MEETING OF CAPACITY BUILDING
CONTACT POINTS OF CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS OF
THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (WCO) REGION
FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA (WCA)

YAOUNDE, FROM OCTOBER 31 TO NOVEMBER 02, 2018
The 9th Meeting of the Capacity Building Contact Points of Customs Administrations of West and Central Africa Region, was held in Yaounde, Cameroon, from October 31 to November 2, 2018.

This meeting, which is part of the continuing implementation of the regionalization policy on capacity building and Customs modernization initiated by the World Customs Organization (WCO), registered the participation of thirteen (13) Customs administrations representing their respective countries, the Vice-Chair’s Office, the WCO secretariat, the African Union Commission and the Regional Training Centers of Brazzaville and Ouagadougou.

At the end of their deliberations, participants made the following recommendations:

. **To the Vice-Chair and the WCO Secretariat:**

1- Maintain in the agenda for the next Directors General meeting, an awareness session on leadership and its impact on the success of the reform process.

2- Continue the policy of cooperation with the Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS, UEMOA, CEMAC, ECCAS ...) as well as other potential donors with a view to obtaining additional funding for the regional capacity building activities of Customs Administrations;

3- Encourage Member Administrations of the Region to promote the sharing of experiences and good practices, particularly within the framework of the Regional Coaching Program.

. **To WCO Secretariat:**
1- Continue initiatives to extend and expand the WACAM Project to the entire WCA Region;

2- Improve coordination with the ROCB-WCA in the processing and analysis of capacity building requests from Customs Administrations in the WCA Region;

4-Assist the region in organizing a regional workshop on key Performance Indicators in 2019. (new)

. To the ROCB-WCA:
1- Improve the ToR of the Capacity Building Contact Points to be submitted for adoption by the Directors General (new);

2- Develop for the attention of member administrations and regional structures instruments for assessing the relevance and impact of capacity building activities carried out in the WCA Region (Reformulation);

3- Encourage and assist Administrations to benefit from the sharing of experiences of members who have developed expertise in the competency-based Human Resource Management, project management and stakeholder engagement as part of the Regional Coaching Program (new).

4- Promote the sharing of good practices in resource mobilization. (new).

• To the member Customs Administrations of the WCA Region:

1. Continue to share experiences and good practices within the region, particularly within the framework of the Regional Coaching Program;
2. Administrations that have terminated contracts with inspection companies should share their experiences and good practices with other Administrations in the Region and to report on the impact of this at the meetings of Contact Points;

3. Provide the modernization committees and the capacity-building Contact Points with the necessary means to fulfill their mandates;

4. Align national plans with the regional strategic plan;

5. Establish of a governance structure to improve the monitoring and evaluation of all the high level management tools (i.e. regional strategic plan, national strategic plan, performance contracts, etc.). (new)

6. Establish a control mechanism and the validation of the quality and sincerity of the data collected during monitoring and evaluation. (new)

7. Establish a project management methodology for the Administration; (new)

8. Design and use a Strategic Dashboards to support informal decision making as decision support tools. (new)

• To the Capacity Building Contact Points:

1. Inform the ROCB-WCA as soon as possible of the Collaboration Agreements concluded by their Administrations, mentioning the partner countries and areas of collaboration.

2. Sensitize their administrations to participate in African Union activities. (new)
3. Make available to the ROCB a summary document of their experiences with the operation of their respective Modernization Committees (Gambia, Congo and Guinea) (new).

• **CEMAC and ECCAS** to develop a legal framework for mutual administrative assistance between the Customs Administrations of the member countries. (new)

**Customs Administrations and regional structures** should identify their capacity building stakeholders and establish functional and structured relations with them.

Done in Yaounde on 2 November, 2018

The participants