WCO Secretariat Activity Report
September 2019

10th National Contact Points Meeting

September 24-26, 2019
Kinshasa DRC
Last report presented to 24th Conference of WCA Directors of Customs (Bangui, March 2019)

This report focuses on the progress achieved since this last conference
WCO Secretariat Activity Report (distributed)

Regional website: http://omdaoc.org

FR:

EN:

- Overall CB delivery
- Main themes at present
- Recommendations addressed to the WCO Secretariat
- Programmes and activities in the WCA region
- Accessions to WCO standards
- Conclusions
Overall capacity building delivery

- Needs expressed/requests
- Regional strategic plans
- Specific Programmes/Projects
- WTO-TFA (Mercator)
- Security and Revenue Package
- AfCFTA
- PC priorities
- Operations
- CB 2019

Needs expressed/requests

Regional strategic plans

Specific Programmes/Projects

WTO-TFA (Mercator)

Security and Revenue Package

AfCFTA

PC priorities

Operations
Recommandations addressed to the WCO Secretariat

• 24th Conference of WCA DG (Bangui, March 2019):
  • Support to RILO=Yaoundé 11/2019
  • Support to Regional Working Group on ICT (Benchmarking)=Ongoing support on maritime and air cargo manifest
  • Make available list of accredited experts to the Region = Sent to RTC’s and ROCB’s in December 2018.
  • Accreditation workshops (Transit and Integrity) = Transit Accreditation WS in March 2019 with 6 WCA Participants / NORAD-AC-IP Program for Ethics.

• 11th session of the Sub-Committee of DG of Customs of the African Union (Kampala, September 2018)
  • 9th meeting of the Contact Points (Yaoundé 2018)
    - Continue initiatives to extend the MADAO program.
    - Improve coordination with the ROCB-WCA in the processing and analysis of capacity building requests
    - Assist the WCA region in organizing a regional workshop on Key Performance Indicators in 2019.
Leadership and Management, Top Executive Retreats

Latest activities:
- Gambia (TER/LMD),
- Nigeria (LMD)

CITES/Objective: Capacity building for WCA Customs to fight against crime related to endangered species

Latest activities:
- Operation Praesidio (March 2019)
- Operation Thunderball (July 2019)
- Assistance to Cameroon, Togo, Nigeria in July and August 2019

Protection of Cultural Heritage
- Training manual on the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural property (PITCH) since the end of 2018.
  - Regional WS in Burkina Faso and Senegal in 2018
    - Seizure in July 2019 in Burkina Faso
    - 2 wooden statues from Cameroon with false documents.

Security Project ++ (Nigeria / WCO)
- Cameroon, Nigeria, Niger, CAR, Chad
- Security Project for AOC PGS (EEI)
- ALPC
- 10 countries in the zone
- Training in Benin in June and August.

WCO Programs with WCA involvement
Support to Gambia / AFE
- TRS management
- Risk management
- 2 actions in February 2019
Implementation until March 2020.

• Promotion of fight against corruption and for ethics:
  • Improving governance
  • Improvement of customs integrity.
• Mali / Ghana / Liberia / Sierra Leone

- Technical Cooperation Tool
- JICA funding
- Specialized trainers in intelligence analysis for AOC
- 1st RWS in Abidjan in February 2019.
- 2nd RWS in Ghana in August 2019

TFA support to certain countries, 3 in WCA (Sierra Leone, Ghana, Liberia)
Support using WCO instruments and tools and UNCTAD expertise related to NCTFs.

Latest activities 2019:
• Sierra Leone (evaluation of TFA implementation, TRS and PCA)

Compendium of operational customs procedures in the area of fight against fraud and seizures.
Better integrate the Customs’ action in the penal framework and challenges linked to border security

2019 Activities:
• Regional WS April 2019 IVORY COAST
• BENIN : Train the Trainee 06 and 08/2019 WCA Security Program
• NIGER : Training WS in 06/2019/ AIRCOP Program.
EU-SH AFRICA PROGRAM
On 4 October 2018, the WCO signed a € 5 million financing agreement with the European Union for the program "Harmonizing the classification of goods on the basis of WCO standards to strengthen trade in Africa".

Objective is to:

- Offer the African countries benefiting from the program to implement the WCO Harmonized System version 2022 in accordance with the:

  HS Convention, WTO TFA, WCO Revised Kyoto Convention.

Launch in Addis Abeba in February 2019.
WCO Programs with WCA involvement (4)

EU-SH AFRICA PROGRAM Update on ongoing activities in WCA:

NIGER (12/2018): SH Diagnosis
Results: Established work plan + Notification of migration to the 2017 version of the HS.
Future Actions = Follow-up mission including advance rulings workshop.

Results: Deposit of the instrument of accession to the HS Convention + Established work plan.
Future actions = Technical assistance for migration to SH2017 and implementation of the advance ruling system.

ECOWAS / UEMOA + Liberia and Nigeria (07/2019) Consultation on the ECOWAS CET and implementation situation in the member countries / Relationship with UEMOA and mode of cooperation
Results: Definition of roles of RECs / member countries in the migration and application of the CET and Work plan / list of established technical support activities.
Future actions = 2 meetings of the ad hoc tariff committee to finalize the TEC 2022 / Establish a migration scheme with responsibilities and deadlines.
EU-SH AFRICA PROGRAM Update on ongoing activities in WCA:

**NIGERIA (07/2019): Diagnosis SH version 2012.**
**Results:** Finalization of the migration to SH2017 by the end of 2019 Establishment of a migration scheme and application of the CET.
**Future actions** = Technical assistance for the implementation of a system of advance rulings / Study visit to Ghana for share of experiences for the establishment of a customs laboratory.

**CEMAC / CEEAC + Member countries (07/2019): Consultations on CEMAC CET and implementation situation in member countries / CEMAC / ECCAS relations.**
**Results:** Definition of the roles of RECs / member countries in the migration and application of the CET / Work plan / list of established technical support activities / Definition of the difficulties and needs of the countries / **Gabon** has finalized its migration process and implementation in place of a project team / Confirmation of the migration to the SH2017 version by 2020 / **Equatorial Guinea** will explore the options for acceding to the HS Convention and joining the WCO.
**Future actions** = 2 meetings of the ad hoc tariff committee to finalize the TEC 2022 / Establish a migration scheme with responsibilities and deadlines. - Technical assistance for member countries for migration to SH2017 and implementation of advance ruling system
After the presentation to ECOWAS in February 2019 =

- SIGMAT Launching (Interconnected System for the Management of Goods in Transit) with operations starting between Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire on March 22, 2019!
- March 2019: Sigmat between Togo and Burkina Faso.
- July 2019: Experience sharing and works with Senegal
- September 2019: Sigmat's planned debut between Togo / Burkina Faso / Niger
- Currently testing in Mali
- Mission to Guinea in October
WCA event

Customs Conference of WCO West and Central Africa Region and Development Partners on the theme.....

Challenges and Opportunities of SMART Borders in WCA.

October 16-18. Radisson Blu Hotel Niamey.

Registration on website.

http://conference-omdaoc.ne
WCA Event

Customs Conference of WCO West and Central Africa Region and Development Partners.

Day 1 High-level and thematic panels:

- "Better collaboration and coordination to support the effective implementation of SMART borders in WCA“

- "SMART Borders and Collaboration between AOC Customs and their Partners for Real Implementation in WCA of Trade Facilitation Standards and Best Practices“

- "Fragile Borders, Insecurity and the Cross-Border Economy: Challenges and Opportunities"
WCA Event

Customs Conference of WCO West and Central Africa Region and Development Partners.

Day 2: 2 topics

- "Trade facilitation, humanitarian aid and regional integration“
- "Safety and Security“.

Day 3: Presentation of Regional Projects
WCO opérations with WCA implication

- Fight against pharma crime in WCA; organized by WCA region.
- CRIPHARM IV from January 26 to February 23, 2019.
- 23 countries of the AOC
- UCO in LOME
- 219 seizures whose 152 of pharmaceutical products in 14 AOC countries, about 70%
Participation of following WCA countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cameroon, CAR, DR Congo, Congo, Liberia, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania and Togo
Coordination Office in Brussels
Cosmo 2: Communication exercise strategic trade control (inspection of goods/detention/identification/contact with industry).

Cooperation and operational information exchange between airports to intercept cocaine and other illicit products bound for Europe.

COCAIR 7: December 2018
2 training sessions including one in Abidjan
26 seizures for AOC area including 184 kg of narcotics, 160112 cigarettes and $314745 in foreign currency
No COCAIR 8 in 2019 (AW with CenCom using).
**WCO Secretariat Programmes**

**Virtual Academy**
- For new Customs officers
- Currently only available in English
- 2018: two sessions with Ghana, DR and Sierra Leone
- 2019: new session without WCA participation.

**Fellowship Program**
- 4 weeks at the WCO Secretariat
- 2 weeks in a host Adm.
- Includes LMD training
- 2018: 2 AOC
- 2019: 6 AOC. 79ème session le 21/09 sans AOC

**PA**
- Career development programme
- 10 months at the WCO Secretariat
- 1 WCA participant from Nigeria in 2018-2019
- 1 WCA participant from Gambia in 2019-202

**Visits by African students**
- For African students: 1/2 days at the WCO Secretariat
- END Tourcoing June 5th, 2019
- ENDB Brussels: 25th and 27th, November 2019
WCO accreditations of WCA Experts

OTC in Revenue Package
March: 6 pre-accredited (Burkina Faso, Benin, CI, Senegal, Togo)

March 2019
4 Transit pre-accredited (Mali, RDC, Togo, Benin)

February 2019: 2
HR pre-accredited in HR (Liberia, Gambia)
## WCO skills of WCA Experts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Themes</th>
<th>Accredited</th>
<th>Pre-accredited</th>
<th>Recognized</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customs Modernization (CMA)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercator Programme (MPA)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Window</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post clearance audit</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RKC</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk Management</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Package</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuation</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental crime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue mobilization</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Learning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Origin</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non intrusive Technology (NII )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Progress with regard to inspection companies

Burkina Faso: contract ended in September 2018
Support Mission 09 et 10

Côte d’Ivoire: contract ending in March 2019
Support in process

Sierra Leone: WCO support continues for a contract ending in 2019 for SL

CHAD: Preloading Inspection contract still in progress. End in 11/2019 without request for assistance
CB activities in WCA

Exercice 01/07/2017 - 30/06/2018

- Regional: 7
- Sub-regional: 7
- Accreditations: 2
- National: 60

Exercice 01/07/2018 - 30/06/2019

- Regional: 4
- Sub-regional: 18
- Accreditations: 2
- National: 62
Accessions to standards: current situation

1. HS Convention
22 WCA countries
Only missing country: Gambia

2. RKC
16 WCA countries
In 2017
Benin
Burkina Faso
Republic of Congo
Sao Tome
In 2019: Ghana

3. WTO-TFA
16 WCA countries
Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo (Rep.), Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, CAR, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Chad, Togo
Conclusions I

The capacity to implement strategies and action plans remains insufficient. Difficulties in absorbing and coordinating the support.

In general, participation ok; however some Members participate very little in WCO and the Region’s work and activities.

Big number of tools for WCA challenges

Major challenges: terrorism, revenue drop (oil, natural resources, informal trade), lack of political sustainability, cyber-crime, protection of cultural heritage and natural resources

The focus on revenue collection and security remains; Still too little recognition and investment for other missions

Great lack of stability in certain Administrations (new DGs, staff rotation, lack of transfer of knowledge)
Conclusions II

More and more WCA Experts available and mobilized for WCO activities.

Strong participation and encouraging results; However, little activity outside the operations organized by the WCO.

Strong demand for assistance; Donors and development partners available to finance and provide expertise but need results.

Week return on the request of the WCO SG to express needs.

Tools consolidated and Member’s capacities built; However, incapacity of WCA Members to implement and apply promoted HRM concepts

1 country WCA/Competency

Strong demand; workshop appreciated by the participants; New tools to measure the impact under development.
Conclusions III

Many of the WCA Customs still do not apply HS2017

Finding - regional workshop, Abuja:
There are no operational SW and OSBP in WCA

Little evolution

Increasing problem; More and more consumers in WCA

WCA markets full of counterfeited products;
Action of Customs remains often too timid

Spreads rapidly in WCA:
Challange - goods ordered by Internet, express couriers and postal consignements

Conclusions III
THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?