Seminar for the Promotion of Electronic Exchange of Customs Information and the Adoption of Standard Electronic Messages

Geneva, Switzerland, 20 – 21 June 2016



Implementation of the UNDA project 1213AA "Strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration" in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan
and results achieved

Fedor Kormilitsyn
Economic Affairs Officer
Transport Infrastructure Section
Transport Division, UNESCAP

# I. Brief description of the delivered outputs

# Outputs delivered for Kyrgyzstan

-Gap Analysis undertaken in 2014


-Technical workshop on Customs-to-Customs electronic data exchange organized in 2015 with participation of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

# Main points of the Gap Analysis

-Key traffic flows from, to and through Kyrgyzstan (including TIR operations)

-Legal regime for international road transport

-Single window

-Joint customs control

-Development of Uniform Automated Information System (UAIS)

-Risk management and post-entry audit

-TIR automation

-Electronic digital signature

# Recommendations of the Workshop

- Examine international standards for electronic transit related messages, more specifically, through organization of a thematic workshop involving international experts;

- Review best practices in customs-to-customs electronic information exchange;

- Review the application of electronic tools in the framework of the TIR Convention with relevant adjustments, more specifically, RTS and TIR-EPD for potential improvement of C2C electronic data exchange in Central Asia;

- Upon mutual consent between customs administrations of Central Asia provide information on existing technical, organizational and legal environment for C2C electronic data exchange;

- Upon mutual consent between customs administrations of Central Asia provide access to the lists of transit transport data based on existing international standards;

- Establish platform to discuss the issues of customs-to-customs electronic information exchange in Central Asia.

# Outputs delivered for Tajikistan

- Comparative analysis of conditions and proposed roadmap for electronic data exchange between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan undertaken in 2015-16 (structured to match Gap analysis for Kyrgyzstan)

-National technical workshop on Customs-to-Customs electronic data exchange organized in 2016

-Proposed Roadmap for establishment of  Customs-to-Customs electronic data exchange between the two countries  developed on the basis of the comparative analysis and agreed upon by the workshop

# II. Main findings of the comparative analysis

# Customs agencies

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
|  Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan |  State Customs Service of the Kyrgyz Republic |
| World Customs Organization's members | |

# INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| 12 signed bilateral Agreements on international road transportation | 8 signed bilateral Agreements on international road transportation |
| Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Belorussia, China, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Russia, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Ukraine | Azerbaijan, China, Tajikistan, Turkey, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan |
| Cross border and transit agreement (CBTA - CAREC) ||

# INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| •        Customs Convention on International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets, 14.11.1975; | |
| •        Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Vehicles for Commercial Purposes, 05.18.1956; | |
| •        International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, 21.10.1982; | |
| •        Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), 19.05.1956; | |
| •        Customs Convention on Containers (1972) | |
| •        Agreement of 1970 of Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and the Special Equipment to be used for such Carriage (ATP); | |
| | |

# INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| • UNESCAP Intergovernmental Agreement on Asian Highway network; | |
| • SCO intergovernmental Agreement on facilitation of international road transportation | |
| • ECO Trade and Transit Framework Agreement (TTFA); | |
| Kyoto International convention on simplification and harmonization of customs procedures (1999) | |
| | |

# TIR OPERATION

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| Ratified by Resolution №287 from 11.03.1996 | Ratified by Resolution №99 of KR dated 19.12.1997. |
| Designated agency for TIR carnets issuance  - Association of International Road Carriers of Tajikistan ABBAT | Designated agency for TIR carnets issuance - Association of International Road Carriers of the Kyrgyz Republic AIRTO |
| TIR Carnet operation started in 2004 | TIR Carnet operation started in 2002 |
| Number of Issued TIR Carnet in 2015 - 2518 | Number of Issued TIR Carnet in 2015 – 20,900 |

# National legislation on electronic document and digital signature

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| • The Law of The republic of Tajikistan "On electronic documents", 2005<br><br>• The Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On electronic digital signature" in 2010. | • The law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On electronic document and electronic digital signature", 2004 |

# SINGLE WINDOW

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| Concept for introduction of the Single Window principle in foreign trade of the Republic Tajikistan approved in October 2008 | Concept for introduction of the Single Window principle in foreign trade of the Kyrgyz Republic approved in June 2008. |
| SUE "Single Window Center" established under the Customs service of Tajikistan in 2010 | State enterprise «Single window Center» established under the Ministry of economy and trade of Kyrgyzstan in 2009 |

# Uniform automated information system (UAIS)

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| UAIS is fully operational since 2011. A unified automated information system installed in 72 customs posts. Tajikistan has also introduced a risk management component which allows for selective inspection instead of 100% inspection at border crossings. The risk management units have been established at the Tajik Customs Headquarters and at other regional customs stations. | Kyrgyzstan is using a Unified Automated Information System (UAIS) at its border posts. In 2012, UAIS pilot testing started and in 2013, UAIS was fully implemented for industrial use in the northern part of the country.

A pilot project is already underway which is automating work stations in six customs houses. |

# Uniform automated information system (UAIS)

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|:---:|:---:|
| UAIS project was funded by ADB in both countries and staff in the customs agencies has been trained to correctly use the new system.<br><br>The differences between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan UAIS system is in database and programming language. While Kyrgyzstan using SQL database and C+ language, Tajikistan uses ORACLE database and Java language. | |

# SAFE TIR and TIR EPD

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| • According to the adopted Action Plan, introduction of SAFE TIR product intend to start by the end of 2016.<br><br>• In order to facilitate electronic provision of information, the "infologistic" platform has been considering to be used by the Custom service | • As a part of the introduction of SafeTIR technology, the Customs Service has updated the Unified Automated Information System, and on 17 July 2013 the new version of the UAIS was launched with embedded block of the automatic transmission of the data on the processing of TIR Carnets from IRU (SafeTIR in real-time mode). The successful transmission of the data to the IRU database in Geneva was confirmed. |
|  | • SafeTIR system successfully implemented |

# SAFE TIR and TIR EPD

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| • Action plan has been adopted by the Custom Service, URU and ABBAT Association in order to start a pilot operation of TIR EPD system in 2017<br><br>• Testing of compatibility of UAIS system with EPD is ongoing. | On 25 April 2014 the Agreement on the development of application software for TIR-EPD in Kyrgyzstan between the Customs Service of the Kyrgyz Republic, LLC "Screen", the IRU and the Association of International Road Carriers of the Kyrgyz Republic AIRTO KR was signed. |
| • Starting of full operation of TIR EPD is planned in May 2017 | Despite having some technical issues according to IRU database – Kyrgyzstan implements TIR EPD system. |

# Electronic Data Exchange practice

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| • Customs signed a Technical Protocol with Afghanistan Customs Department under the Ministry of finance, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on electronic exchange of customs information on a pilot basis. | • Not practiced. |
| • Under the said protocol, Electronic Customs Data Exchange started between two countries on real time basis for transit and bilateral trade. | |

# Compatibility between Customs Software

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
| --- | --- |
| Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan customs information systems have evolved to use web-based platforms to store, retrieve, and use data. Accessing information from a web-based application eliminates the issue of compatibility and ensures real time exchange of information. Electronic data exchange (EDE) between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan can also avoid systems compatibility issues by exchanging information using their web-based customs systems, as these countries have up-to-date, functional ICT systems. A good example is the EDE framework between the Customs systems of Tajikistan and Afghanistan. The information exchange is seamless through the web-based Extensible Markup Language (XML) messaging, although both countries use different information systems. Tajikistan uses UAIS and Afghanistan uses ASYCUDA. | |

# Compatibility between Customs Software

| TAJIKISTAN | KYGYZSTAN |
|---|---|
| These two systems are fully capable of exchanging information without any systems compatibility issues. Tajikistan Customs could implement EDE in a similar fashion with any of the customs systems once the data fields, trigger events, frequency of messaging, and messaging content are agreed upon between the respective administrations. | |

# III. The proposed Roadmap for establishment of Customs-to-Customs electronic data exchange

# The proposed Roadmap

| Steps | Actions Required | Key Stakeholders |
|---|---|---|
| I. Analysis of ICT solutions developed by UNESCAP for facilitation of international transport | 1. Request ESCAP to organize a seminar for Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan for informing on the developed ICT solutions<br><br>2. In case of interest in the introduction of ICT solutions expressed by supervisory authorities of both countries, request ESCAP to support in organization of bilateral meetings involving relevant supervisory authorities | UNESCAP, national Customs administrations and other regulatory authorities |
| II. Consideration of the scope electronic data exchange (EDE) | Determine the type and volume of Customs-to-Customs exchange data | National Customs administrations |
| III. Establishment of a project team to consider matters related to Customs-to-Customs electronic information exchange | 1. Establish a team of Customs officials and ICT specialists<br><br>2. Elaborate working plan setting necessary objectives and timeframes for its implementation<br><br>3. Appoint focal points for each objective and its implementation | National Customs administrations |
| IV. Making decision on electronic data exchange | 1. Decide on the type and technical specifications for EDE<br><br>2. Draft an interagency document on EDE | National Customs administrations |
| V. Development of the Terms of Reference and its implementation | 1. Develop the terms of reference for the development of the software (as well as for possible establishment of the contact center)<br><br>2. Allocate funds for implementation of the ToR | National Customs administrations |

# The proposed Roadmap (cont'd)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| VI. Selection of the contractor | Determine the contractor for software development | Donor and national Customs administrations |
| VII. Software development for EDE | Develop and test the interface for related customs information systems | Contracted organization |
| VIII. Introduction and testing of the software product | Technical testing of the software for connection and information exchange | Contracted organization and national Customs administrations |
| IX. Establishment of the EDE technical contact center | Establishment of the EDE technical contact center on a permanent basis for resolving problems in electronic data exchange and ensuring thereby its smooth operation (subject to funding availability) | National Customs administrations (subject to funding availability) |

# *Thank you*

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