



Annual Report 2014/2015



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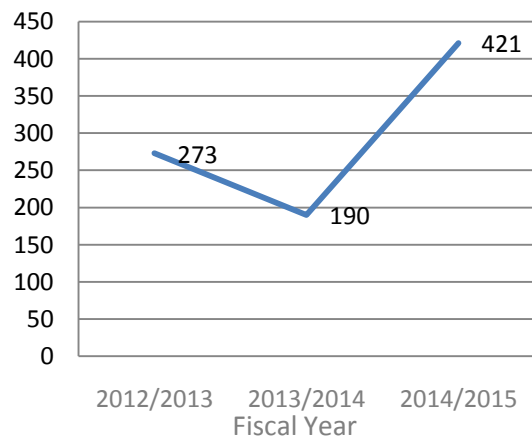
Part 1: Executive Summary by Head of the ROCB A/P

Since 1 July 2014, the new Terms of Reference of the Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P) has been implemented to govern the roles and responsibilities of the ROCB A/P and its stakeholders, including the WCO Secretariat, Regional Vice Chair, the host administration and Regional Training Centers (RTCs). In parallel, my tenure as Head of the ROCB A/P also started on 1 July 2014. After a year of work and objective observation, I believe the Member administrations in the A/P region are eager to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of their work. Accordingly, I have re-affirmed the ROCB A/P’s roles and responsibilities which are quite significant and their potential has no limit. The ROCB A/P shall continue to fulfil its mandates with the unwavering support from the WCO Secretariat, and our partners, with a view to supporting the Member administrations’ continued efforts in line with the objectives established by the WCO.

Record high of number of regional workshop participants

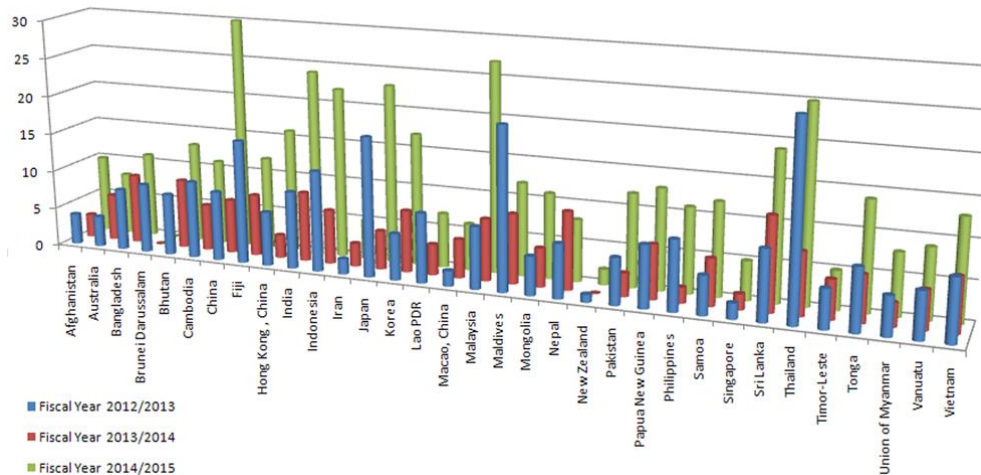
During the fiscal year from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, the ROCB A/P organized a series of capacity building activities after taking into consideration the Members’ needs as well as the regional priorities. A total of 13 regional workshops and 15 national workshops were organized. The total number of regional workshop participants has reached a record high at 421. This is an increase of 120% on the previous year’s attendance. The accumulated number of the workshop participants, since the establishment of the ROCB A/P in 2004 through to 30 June 2015, has reached to approximately 2,400.

Total number of participants



The increase in number of participants is not limited to a few Members. Among the 33 A/P Members, 30 Members sent more participants to regional workshops than the previous year. This may be attributed to the Members’ ever-heightened interests in capacity building. It may be prudent to suggest the WCO and the ROCB A/P have successfully captured and accommodated the most imminent needs of the Member administrations in enhancing their day-to-day operational capabilities. The active participation of A/P Members provides us an increased focus to organize higher quality workshops.

Number of Participants



Strategic focus on Members’ needs and emerging issues in A/P region

The ROCB A/P is seen as the cornerstone of the region’s approach to implementing the WCO’s Capacity Building Strategy. There is a well-established capacity building planning cycle in the A/P region, which is considered a model approach in the global Customs community.

Every year, the ROCB A/P and the Regional Training Coordinator (i.e. Japan Customs) conduct a needs survey to collect and analyze Members’ progress in Customs reforms and modernization. Individual requests from Members are also received around the challenges they face in this ever-changing environment. Taking into account the Members’ needs and the regional priorities as enumerated in the A/P Regional Strategic Plan (RSP), the ROCB A/P devises its own 2-year Strategic Action Plan including the Annual Work Plan. The Annual Work Plan lists out the specific actions with timeframes and is based on the 4 pillars of the ROCB A/P’s activities.



Pillar I: Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools

The WCO has developed a number of conventions, instruments and tools which has led to a number of programs and initiatives being designed to significantly enhance effectiveness and efficiency of the Customs operations. In order to facilitate regional Member administrations to adopt and implement these international standards of the WCO, the ROCB A/P conducted a number of relevant capacity building activities in the A/P region in 2014/2015 as outlined below with generous financial support of donor administrations, namely China, Japan and Korea:

i. Authorized Economic Operator (AEO)

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on AEO in India
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on AEO for Cambodia
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on AEO for Mongolia

ii. Customs Valuation

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Customs Valuation for Thailand

iii. Environmental Protection

- ✧ WCO-UNEP Regional Workshop on Countering the Illegal Trade in Environmentally Regulated Goods in Malaysia

iv. Harmonized System (HS)

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Chemical Analysis in Japan
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Customs Laboratory for Cambodia

v. Intellectual Property Right (IPR)

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Customs-IPR Right Holders Dialogue in Malaysia
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on IPR for Indonesia

vi. Post Clearance Audit (PCA)

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on PCA for Papua New Guinea

vii. Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC)

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on RKC for Tonga
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on RKC for Lao PDR

viii. Risk Management

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Intelligence Management in Hong Kong, China
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Risk Management for Sri Lanka
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Risk Management for Vietnam
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Intelligence/Enforcement Management for Fiji

ix. Rules of Origin

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Origin for Malaysia

x. Single Window

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Single Window in Korea
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Single Window for Maldives

xi. Supply Chain Security

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Air Cargo Security in Thailand
- ✧ WCO-UPU Joint Customs-Post Workshop in China
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Columbus Phase 3 for Papua New Guinea

xii. Time Release Study (TRS)

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on TRS for India
- ✧ National TRS Training for Indonesia

xiii. Trade Facilitation

- ✧ WCO-ADB Regional Workshop on Strategic Initiatives for Trade Facilitation in Indonesia

Pillar II: Further enhance collaboration with development partners

The ROCB A/P continues strategic discussions and cooperation with development partners (DPs) by conducting joint projects and participating in meetings/seminars. Through this cooperation, it fosters mutual understanding between DPs and the ROCB A/P and creates synergy in assisting A/P Members in Customs modernization by complementing each other’s expertise. The ROCB A/P is currently working with a number of DPs including the ADB, ICAO, JICA, OCO, UNEP, UNESCAP, UNODC, etc.



Pillar III: Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities

The ROCB A/P has maintained a comprehensive planning program for identifying the Member administrations’ technical assistance needs through the annual survey. To better accommodate technical assistance needs with limited resources, the WCO maintains a framework to pool, utilize, support and increase Accredited Customs Experts (ACEs) in the A/P region in line with the WCO’s Capacity Building Strategy. The A/P RSP Plan sets out the wider use of those ACEs in the regional capacity building activities. The pool of ACE’s over the years has steadily increased through the collaborative efforts of the WCO, the ROCB A/P and the regional members.

List of accreditation workshops organized by the ROCB A/P in the fiscal year 2014/2015

WCO Events	Date	Location
Regional Accreditation Workshop on AEO	Nov 2014	Malaysia
Regional Accreditation Workshop for IPR Technical Operational Advisers	Jan 2015	Japan
Regional Accredited Expert Refresher Workshop for Expert Trainers on the Revenue Package	Jun 2015	China

List of contributions made by the ACEs in the A/P region in the fiscal year 2014/2015

Event	Date	Location	ACEs from
WCO National Workshops on PCA	Sep 2014	Papua New Guinea	Japan ROCB A/P
WCO National Seminar on IPR	Sep 2014	Indonesia	Italy
WCO National Workshop on Advanced Customs Valuation and Transfer Pricing	Sep 2014	Thailand	ROCB A/P
2nd WCO-ADB Joint Sub-regional Train-The-Trainer Workshop on Customs Valuation under the Multi-Year Assistance for SASEC Countries -Project Diamond V6 Customs-	Oct 2014	Maldives	ROCB A/P
WCO National Workshop on Risk Management	Nov 2014	Vietnam	Japan
Exit Conference on the Cambodia's First TRS	Dec 2014	Cambodia	ROCB A/P
WCO National Workshop on Risk Management	Dec 2014	Sri Lanka	Japan Sri Lanka
WCO National Workshop on TRS	Dec 2014	India	ROCB A/P
WCO Regional Workshop on SAFE Framework of Standards and AEO	Jan 2015	India	China Korea
WCO Regional Workshop on Intelligence Management	Feb 2015	Hong Kong	Japan Sri Lanka
Socialization and Workshops on TRS	Mar 2015	Indonesia	ROCB A/P
WCO Regional Workshop on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy	Apr 2015	Malaysia	Bhutan
First National Expert Mission on Customs Valuation for Maldives Customs Service under the WCO-ADB Multi-Year Assistance for SASEC Countries	May 2015	Maldives	ROCB A/P
First National Expert Mission on Customs Valuation for Bhutan under the WCO-ADB Multi-Year Assistance for SASEC Countries	Jun 2015	Bhutan	Maldives ROCB A/P

Taking this opportunity, the ROCB A/P would like to express its sincere appreciation to these experts as well as their home administrations for their remarkable contributions for the regional capacity building activities.



Publication of Good Practice Paper on Coaching and Mentorship

With a view to sharing information on good practices being employed by the RTCs and the A/P Members in their human resource development, the ROCB A/P has compiled Good Practice Papers on this subject. During the 2014/2015, the ROCB A/P has also developed a Good Practice Report on Coaching and Mentorship based on the contributions from the RTCs of India and Japan in March 2015.

Pillar IV: Enhance communication and information sharing among members


To maintain communication with members in A/P region, the ROCB A/P publishes E-newsletters on a quarterly basis. In addition to the existing communication media, the ROCB A/P has launched its own website (www.rocb-ap.org) on 28 September 2014. Listed on the website are our activities; short articles on our workshops; our contribution to the international conferences; a calendar of future capacity building events, which are all made available to the public.

At the end of June 2015, the ROCB A/P homepage counter marked approximately 180,000 visits, i.e. more than 650 hits a day over the last 9 months between 28 September 2014 and 30 June 2015. This communication media not only helps to strengthen the connection between Customs, but also helps to raise the profiles of the WCO, the ROCB A/P and the regional Member administrations.



A Ceremony on the 10th Anniversary of the ROCB A/P

The ROCB A/P's 10th Anniversary was celebrated on 7 November 2014, in Bangkok, with support from the Thai Customs Department. It was our honour to have had Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, WCO Secretary General, Dato' Sri Khazali bin Ahmad, Director General of the Royal Malaysian Customs Department and Regional Vice Chair, and Dr. Somchai Sujjapongse, Director General of the Thai Customs Department, to officiate the Ceremony. The WCO Secretary General spoke about the WCO's continued efforts in contending with ever changing global pictures surrounding international trade and Customs administrations. He also mentioned how the ROCB A/P will continue to play an important role in building Customs professionalism under the WCO strategy and how every staff member of the ROCB A/P will be unflinching in their efforts to meet Member administrations' high expectation.



Kazunari Igarashi

Head of the ROCB A/P

Part 2: Highlights of the Past Year

July 2014



The new Terms of Reference of the ROCB A/P were endorsed at the 15th WCO A/P RHCA Conference held on 30 April-2 May 2014 in Port Douglas, Australia and have been implemented since 1 July 2014.



July 2014

At the same occasion, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi from Japan Customs was elected as the new Head of the ROCB A/P. His tenure commenced on 1 July 2014 and will last for five years.

September 2014



The new ROCB A/P website was launched on 28 September 2014 coinciding with the ROCB A/P's 10th birthday. This website (www.rocb-ap.org) is open to the general public to provide the latest news on the ROCB A/P and capacity building activities in A/P region. As at the end of June 2015, we recorded over 180,000 visits and accumulated number of viewers over 7,600.

November 2014

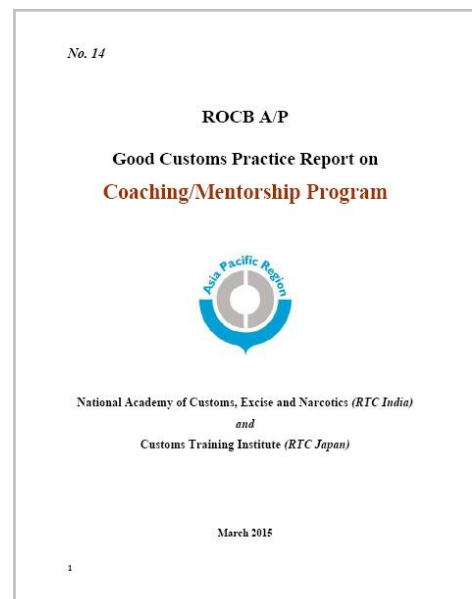


The ROCB A/P 10th Anniversary Ceremony was carried out on 7 November 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Thai Customs Department generously hosted this remarkable ceremony, which was attended by Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, WCO Secretary General, Dato’ Sri Khazali bin Ahmad, Regional Vice Chair and Director General of Royal Malaysian Customs Department, and former ROCB A/P staff members, including two former Heads of the ROCB A/P, Mr. Takashi Matsumoto and Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka.

In accordance with the consent at RTC Heads Meeting held in November 2014, the ROCB A/P published the Good Customs Practices Report on Coaching/Mentorship Program based on the RTCs of India and Japan sharing their experiences and lessons learned for continued human resource development.



March 2015



March 2015



In collaboration with the WCO, ADB and Indonesian Customs, the ROCB A/P organized the first WCO Regional Workshop under the WCO Mercator Program to support Members' implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement on 16-18 March 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Workshop was opened with a series of remarks and key note addresses by Dr. Kunio Mikuriya (WCO Secretary General), Mr. Agung Kuswandono (Indonesian Customs DG), Mr. Hideharu Tanaka (Japan Customs), Mr. James Lynch (ADB) and Dr. Faustin Luanga (WTO).

May 2015



The first Workshop under the CCF/China was organized by the ROCB A/P in cooperation with the WCO and Universal Postal Union (UPU) in Guangzhou, China, from 19 to 22 May 2015. This WCO-UPU Customs-Post Workshop – *"Fostering greater cooperation between Customs and Posts and promoting the development of cross-border e-commerce"* for the A/P region was attended by over 120 delegates representing Customs and Posts as well as the private sector. A set of special commemorative stamps and envelop were released by the China Post to celebrate this event on 19 May 2015.

Part 3: ROCB A/P Activities in 2014/2015

Introduction

This annual report covers the ROCB A/P activities conducted from July 2014 to June 2015. During this period, the ROCB A/P has organized a wide range of capacity building activities under the 4-pillar strategic framework and has assisted Members enhance their capability in Customs enforcement, efficiency in trade facilitation, and eventually in attaining international standards.

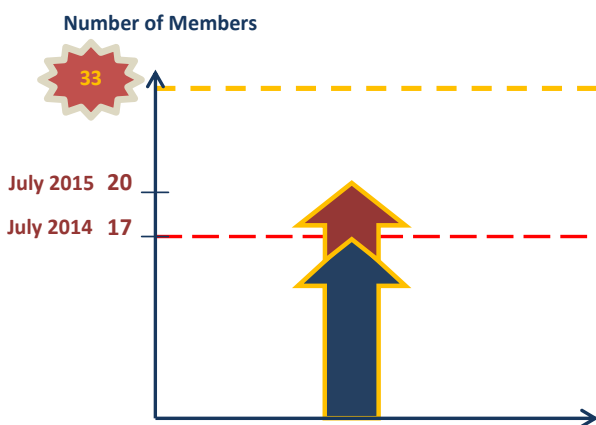
Accession to the RKC by A/P Members

During this fiscal year, Bhutan, Indonesia, and Thailand deposited their instruments of accession to the RKC. Indonesia further became a Contracting Party of the Istanbul Convention.



Photo courtesy: WCO

Total number of RKC Contracting Parties in A/P Region



Expansion of AEO in A/P region

Apart from the RKC Workshops, the ROCB A/P was proactive in organizing more workshops in supporting the expansion of AEO projects at regional and national level. In March 2015, Indonesia formally launched their AEO program. A number of AEO Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) were signed by the A/P Members, such as China-EU, Hong Kong, China-Thailand, Korea-Dominica, Korea-Israel, etc.

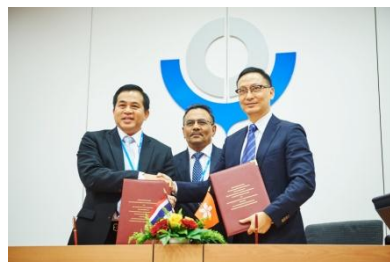
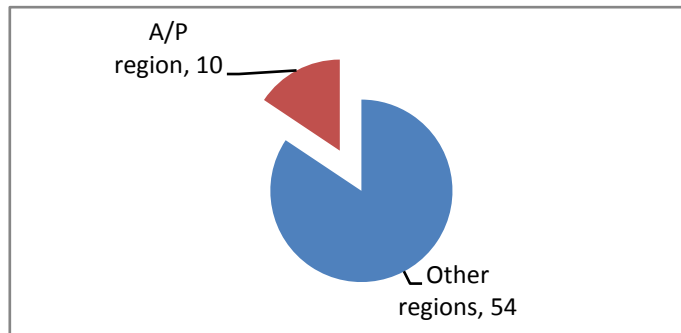


Photo courtesy: WCO and Korea Customs Service

Total number of AEO operational program implemented as of 1 July 2015



Source: WCO

In response to the conclusion of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) in December 2013, the WCO has launched the WCO Mercator Programme in supporting Members in the implementation of the TFA. As a pioneer in capacity building, the ROCB A/P in collaboration with the WCO, ADB and Indonesian Customs organized the first Regional Workshop on Mercator Programme in March 2015. In 2014/2015, the ROCB A/P doubled its efforts to match the fast development of the A/P Members and to stay ahead in order to guide them in the adoption of international standards with a view to enhancing cross-border trade.

Elevating techniques in Customs enforcement



A total of 7 tonnes of ivory from Africa to Asian countries were detected by Thai Customs Department

In combating smuggling, securing supply chain, and protecting IPR, the ROCB A/P spares no effort in promoting the application of the WCO tools and instruments under the WCO Compliance and Enforcement Package. Staff of the ROCB A/P made presentations to explain the CEN, IPM, Risk Management Compendium, SAFE Framework of Standards, use of pre-loading cargo information, Air Passenger Information, Passenger Name Record, etc. in various fora. The ROCB A/P remains alert to emerging risks to Customs enforcement and closely cooperates with the WCO, the A/P Regional Vice Chair, the RILO A/P, A/P Members and donors in developing strategic plans to contend with transnational and organized crime.



nCEN Workshop for Maldives Customs
Photo courtesy: Maldives Customs

Summary of the ROCB A/P Activities

3.1 Support the implementation of WCO Conventions, Instruments and Tools

3.1.1 To assist regional members in developing AEO programs

❖ WCO Regional Workshop on SAFE Framework of Standards and Authorized Economic Operator

5-9 January 2015, New Delhi, India



The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and Indian Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), organized the WCO Regional Workshop on the SAFE Framework of Standards (SAFE FoS) and Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) from 5 to 9 January 2015 in New Delhi, India with the sponsorship of CCF/Korea. A total of 43 participants from 24 Member administrations participated.

The Workshop was led by a WCO Secretariat officer and two ACEs from the China Customs and the Korea Customs Service. The opening ceremony was attended by Chairperson of the CBEC. As part of the general introduction of the Workshop, Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee of the ROCB A/P introduced the ROCB A/P's capacity building activities. The WCO officer presented an overview of the SAFE FoS and the AEO program and current developments regarding the SAFE FoS. ACEs contributed to the Workshop by making presentations on the AEO requirements and the programs' benefits. At the end of the Workshop, participants compiled their own recommendations on the way forward for their respective administrations with a view to implementing AEO programs and Customs-Business Partnerships and, as appropriate, broaden/deepen existing programs.



❖ WCO National Workshop on AEO for Mongolia

27-29 May 2015, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The WCO organized the National Workshop on AEO for Mongolia from 27 to 29 May 2015 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, under the sponsorship of CCF/Korea, to raise awareness on the SAFE FoS and AEO program. Experts from the WCO Secretariat and Japan Customs joined the mission as resource persons. Thirty middle management officers from the different areas in Customs participated in the Workshop. Key achievements of the Workshop included enhanced understanding of the SAFE FoS, Customs' role in the supply chain security, the value of Customs-Business Partnership, AEO implementation process and the road map for the steps forward for

their implementation. A break-out session was held to review the outcomes of a gap analysis on the proposed Mongolian AEO program and the requirements and benefits, primarily based on the standards and requirements of the SAFE FoS and AEO Compendium.

❖ WCO National Workshop on AEO for Cambodia

15-17 June 2015, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The WCO organized the National Workshop on AEO for Cambodia from 15 to 17 June 2015 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, under the sponsorship of CCF/Korea. More than 25 middle management officers from the different offices took part in the Workshop, which was led by a WCO Secretariat officers and an expert from Singapore Customs. The Workshop focused on better implementation and application of simplified procedures and a compliance program in line with the pertinent guidelines. In the course the Workshop, participants discussed the practical issues for the implementation of AEO regime including, application and validation process, AEO benefits, Post Authorization process, and sanctions and other legal considerations, among others, and made some recommendations accordingly.

3.1.2 To assist regional members in acceding to the RKC

❖ National Workshop on RKC for Lao PDR

6 March 2015, Vientiane, Lao PDR

In the wake of WCO Secretary General's visit to Lao PDR in November 2014, where the importance of RKC for modernization of Customs procedures were stressed, Lao Customs organized its own National Workshop as a way to achieve synergies among the government agencies towards accession to the RKC. Experts from the WCO Secretariat and Japan Customs were dispatched as resource persons with financial support of CCF/Japan. They made a set of presentations, including the chronological history of the RKC until it has come into force, as well as the structure of the Annexes, and the role of RKC Management Committee. There was a presentation on the potential social and economic benefits which Lao PDR may enjoy by becoming a Contracting Party to the RKC, including enhancement of investment and trade facilitation, improvement of predictability and so forth.

❖ WCO National Workshop on RKC for Tonga

9-13 March 2015, Nuku'alofa, Tonga

The WCO dispatched 2 Secretariat officials to Tonga from 9 to 13 March 2015 in order to organize the National Workshop on RKC for Tonga, which was sponsored by CCF/Japan. The Workshop aimed at supporting Tonga Customs to move forward the accession process through gap analysis and harmonization of relevant legislation. Resource persons assisted participants to improve their understanding on the RKC and led gap analysis on the provisions of the General Annex and all Specific Annexes. Accordingly, participants developed an initial road map for the

accession to the RKC, including the drafting of the Customs Code and consultations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to make the process of accession smoother.

Special Contribution from the Thai Customs Department

❖ Reaching the New Frontier of Thai Customs



12 June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

Author: Dr. Somchai Sujjapongse

Director General of the Thai Customs Department

Moving towards the RKC

After several years of pushing forwards to become a Contracting Party of the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Revised Kyoto Convention: RKC), Thai Customs officially became the 100th member of the

RKC since the Instrument of Accession was deposited with the WCO Secretary General, Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, during the 125th/126th Sessions of the Customs Co-operation Council on 12 June 2015.

After acceding to the Convention, it is necessary for Thai Customs to comply with Article 3 of the Convention which refers to the acceptance of the Body and the General Annex of the Convention. However, prior to of the accession to the RKC, Thai Customs must amend its national laws and regulations to be in line with the RKC provision.

This is another historical chapter of Thai Customs as it is an important step to streamline and modernize Customs systems which will bear fruit for lifting competitiveness for the entrepreneurs. Furthermore, the revision of national laws/regulations also expedites the import/export procedures and increases the predictability and transparency of Customs procedures, for example; the implementation/revision of advance rulings, de minimis value, outward processing, and duty exemption in returnable box.

It is obvious that becoming the Contracting Party of the RKC is an economic accelerator for the country as well as its trade partners. However, it is undeniable that further improvement of investment environment and trade facilitation is still required.

Building up Business Partnership through AEOs

Recently, Thai Customs signed an MRA on AEO Program with Hong Kong Customs. This MRA mainly aims to maximize trade facilitation for the business as it is expected to expedite the Customs clearance for AEO members while keeping the security in the supply chain remains ensured.

AEO Program significantly reflects the importance of building up partnership with business. Operators while redesigning their security processes to meet the Customs standards and criteria as authorized operators would enjoy certain privileges in processing Customs clearance. This would certainly minimize time in inspecting and releasing cargo, including fewer documents.

In the near future, Thai Customs also plans to further explore AEO program by signing MRAs with new partner countries. Currently, we are cooperating with Korea Customs Service to follow up the action plan for concluding MRA. Even though Thai Customs has recently started up AEO program, it is undeniable that companies are increasingly interested in becoming AEO members.



Coordination with other Agencies

As the importance of virtual integration of government agencies is growing more and more, Thailand is currently investing in the “National Single Window” system. The system has been established to create a single entry point where related government agencies could exchange import/export-related information with each other by interfacing to this platform.

Besides the National Single Window, ASEAN Member states are on the pilot phase to integrate their National Single Windows. This is so called “ASEAN Single Window”, an integrated platform where each Customs in ASEAN Member states can exchange and retrieve all necessary information related to importation and exportation. The pilot phase is expected to be completed within this year. The system would not only benefit Customs administrations, but it will also further improve business environment and economic competitiveness for the region. We believe that the implementation of the ASEAN Single Window will significantly increase trade volume within ASEAN Member states.

Over the past decades, since the establishment of Thai Customs in 1874, we have shifted the scope of responsibilities from revenue collection to social protection and international trade facilitation. This year, in accordance with the WCO’s scheme, CBM-Coordinated Border Management, Thai Customs is ready to implement new measures to respond to the emerging challenges and changing global trend.

3.1.3 To assist regional members in undertaking TRS in accordance with the WCO TRS guidelines

❖ WCO National Workshop on TRS for India Customs

15-18 December 2014, Faridabad, India

Responding to a request from India Customs, the WCO conducted the National Workshop on TRS for India Customs from 15 to 18 December 2014 in Faridabad, India, under the sponsorship



of the CCF/Japan. Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P joined a WCO Secretariat resource person and facilitated the Workshop. A total of 27 Customs officers from 5 regions where the TRS is being planned attended the Workshop and learned details about the TRS, including the objectives of TRS, possible use of TRS results, how to design TRS, etc. With assistance of the facilitators, participants drafted their own TRS questionnaire by using the WCO internet-based TRS software, and developed National Action Plans for the implementation of TRS in 2015.

❖ **Socialization and Workshop on TRS for Indonesian Customs and Excise**

31 March-2 April 2015, Semarang, Indonesia

Responding to a strong request from Indonesian Customs, the ROCB A/P dispatched Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi, a WCO ACE on TRS, to support the Socialization and Workshop on TRS held from 31 March to 2 April 2015 in Semarang, Indonesia. A total of 39 Customs officers and 40 participants from other related government authorities and private sectors attended the Socialization Program and heard a series of presentations on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, the overview of the WCO TRS, and Indonesia’s TRS experience, etc. Indonesian Customs officials learned more practical and detailed matters on TRS such as “how to design TRS”, and “how to create a TRS questionnaire by using the WCO internet-based TRS software”, and developed a draft of implementation work plan for their planned TRS in 2015.



3.1.4 To assist regional members in implementing WCO Data Model Ver. 3.0

❖ **WCO National Workshop on Single Window for Maldives**

30 November-4 December 2014, Malé, Maldives

The WCO conducted the National Workshop on Single Window (SW) for Maldives from 30 November to 4 December 2014 in Malé, Maldives, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. Experts from the WCO Secretariat and Japan Customs led the Workshop and successfully raised awareness of senior management on the across-the-board government nature of SW development through the introductory workshop. In addition, quite a good number of middle management and operational level officers were provided training on fundamental knowledge on SW

development, such as functional assessment and Coordinated Border Management, as well as the basics of the WCO Data Model and data harmonization. In addition to representatives from Maldives Customs, representatives from other government agencies, including the Inland Revenue Authority and Health Protection Authority, participated in this Workshop.

❖ WCO-UNESCAP UNNExTMASTERCLASS 2015: The Single Window in the Context of the WTO TFA

12-21 January 2015, Cheon-an, Korea

The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P, Korea Customs Service and the UNESCAP, organized the “2nd WCO-UNESCAP UNNExTMASTERCLASS: The Single Window in the Context of the WTO TFA” from 12 to 21 January 2015 at the RTC Korea (Customs Border Control Training Center) in Cheon-an,



Korea, with the sponsorship of CCF/Korea. A total of 38 participants from 24 Member administrations in the A/P region participated in the Workshop. This 10-day Workshop aimed to provide Member administrations, which were in the early stages of examining the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement commitments and Single Window implementation, with the pertinent understanding of how to begin their Customs modernization journey. As part of the general introduction to the Workshop, Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee of the ROCB A/P introduced the ROCB A/P's roles and undertakings.

3.1.5 To assist regional members in implementing risk management tools including guidelines and Standardized Risk Assessment

❖ WCO National Workshop on Risk Management for Vietnam

24-28 November 2014, Hanoi, Vietnam

The WCO conducted the National Workshop on Risk Management for Vietnam from 24 to 28 November in Hanoi, Vietnam, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. This Workshop aimed at assisting Vietnam Customs to strengthen the existing risk management practices focusing on cargo and passenger selectivity, intelligence support and compliance management. Two ACEs from Japan Customs joined the WCO resource person to conduct this Workshop. Representatives from the Headquarters and operational/field units participated actively and enthusiastically. During the syndicate group tasks, participants entered into in-depth discussions on how to identify high-risk cargo/passengers by utilizing the methodology explained in the WCO Customs Risk Management Compendium. Case studies and practical exercises also contributed to deepening and understanding of the topics.

❖ WCO National Workshop on Risk Management for Sri Lanka

8-12 December 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka

The WCO organized the National Workshop on Risk Management for Sri Lanka from 8 to 12 December 2014, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan, with the purpose of assisting the General Directorate of Customs of Sri Lanka in strengthening the existing risk management practices focusing on cargo selectivity, intelligence support and compliance management. Two ACEs from Sri Lanka Customs and Japan Customs worked together with the WCO Secretariat resource person to facilitate the Workshop, which included participants and representatives from the Headquarters and operational/field units. Participants had in-depth discussions on how to identify high-risk cargo by utilizing the methodology explained in the WCO Customs Risk Management Compendium. Case studies and practical exercises also contributed to deepening and understanding of the topics.

❖ WCO Regional Workshop on Intelligence Management

10-13 February 2015, Hong Kong, China

The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and Hong Kong Customs, organized the WCO Regional Workshop on Intelligence Management from 10 to 13 February 2015 at the RTC Hong Kong, China with the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. A total of 37 participants from 27 Member administrations took part in the Workshop, which was led by a WCO Secretariat officer and ACEs of Risk Management and Intelligence Management from Japan Customs and Sri Lanka Customs. Participants shared knowledge and good practices on how to tackle and manage risks. Resource persons introduced participants to methodologies and techniques which can be used to produce intelligence products.



❖ WCO National Workshop on Intelligence/Enforcement Management for Fiji

17-22 May 2015, Suva, Fiji

The WCO conducted the National Workshop on Intelligence/Enforcement Management for Fiji from 17 to 22 May 2015 in Suva, Fiji, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. The main objective of this Workshop was to assess Fiji Customs' practices in Customs control process, thus enhancing enforcement capability against narcotics smuggling, by way of establishing virtual border (i.e. application of advanced intelligence techniques), real/actual border (i.e. application of advanced inspection techniques and effective controlled delivery process) and post border (i.e. effective investigations). Resource persons from the WCO Secretariat and New Zealand Customs Service were dispatched and conducted a series of assessments on existing control and law enforcement practices. Based on the findings, resource persons compiled a set of recommendations to enhance border control capability.

Special Contribution from the Maldives Customs Service

❖ nCEN Implementation in Maldives



10 July 2015, Malé, Maldives

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Maldives Customs Service (MCS) has been utilizing the CEN's online database since 2007, for collecting information on customs related offences, seizure information as well as to analyze regional trends on narcotics and psychotropic substances. Despite having a vast collection of local data on seizures and suspects for over a decade, it was rather cumbersome to do an analysis and identify systematic trends on narcotics and other customs related offences for the region due to the lack of a proper automated system.

Consequently, MCS had shown interest in nCEN application since 2012 and had completed the pre-assessment questionnaires sent from the WCO in 2013 and 2014. After the initial step of the implementation process, the WCO Secretariat assessed the request and MCS was selected to proceed for the next phase of nCEN implementation and bilateral contracts were signed in 2015.

Even though MCS had been selected for implementation of nCEN in 2014, funds for procurement of the necessary hardware and training was secured only in January 2015. The hardware needed for nCEN was funded by UNODC whereas a comprehensive training workshop was conducted in Malé by WCO nCEN experts with the sponsorship of Euro Customs Co-operation Fund. The training was conducted for 16 MCS officers from 26 May 2015 to 4 June 2015 providing the participants with the necessary knowhow about the application.

The nCEN consists of 3 independent databases (a seizure database, a suspect database, and a company database), as well as a communication component. The core database of national seizures and offences comprises data required for analysis, including means of conveyance, routes and the possibility to view photos, for example depicting exceptional concealment methods. Two supplementary databases contain information on suspected persons and offending business entities, facilitating a structured investigation process. (Source: WCO)

The nCEN application enables its users to effectively collect and store law enforcement information at national level, with the additional capability to exchange this information at regional and international levels. Hence, with the successful implementation of nCEN, MCS is now able to connect with all the regional customs and share data for enforcement purposes. MCS has started working on Operation Pangea VIII right after the implementation of nCEN utilizing the full CEN Application Suite, WCO nCEN online database, nCEN national database and CENcomm for secure communication.

The process of implementing nCEN in Maldives

- Since 2007 MCS has been using the CEN database and there was a need for a similar local database for enforcement. MCS had promptly responded to the WCO's initiative to identify the countries who were interested in nCEN
- The initial step involved replying to the WCO for expression of interest on the application
- MCS completed nCEN pre-assessment questionnaire in 2013 and 2014
- After the assessment of questionnaires, the WCO informed the tentative dates for pre-deployment missions. Hence, the pre-deployment mission was carried out during the WCO CTS implementation process in 2014 and MCS was notified of its selection. The objective of the assessment was to identify the capability and capacity of the local IT department to deploy such an application
- Once funding was secured, the WCO sent a contract together with the implementation guideline. The legal approval of the contract was a long process as approval had to be sought from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Attorney General's office in addition to MCS's legal department
- Tentative dates of hardware procurement and training was finalized when the signed contract was sent to the WCO.
- As it was important to allocate a highly competent technical staff for the project, MCS selected a specific IT staff for the project who would adhere to the instructions of WCO in setting up the hardware and software
- As a hands-on training was conducted, participants were selected from the relevant sections so that the application can be utilized as soon as they completed the training
- The final step was providing the user access to the trained officers only, as the confidentiality of the information is of paramount importance
- MCS is now in the process of entering the current and past seizure information in addition to suspect data in order to work on analysis and trends of narcotics and psychotropic substances.

3.1.6 To assist regional members in enhancing cooperation under GNC

❖ UNESCAP Capacity Building Workshop on Cross-Border Paperless Trade Facilitation

31 March 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

At the invitation of the UNESCAP, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, and Ms. Alpha Wong of the ROCP A/P participated and contributed to the Capacity Building Workshop on Cross-Border Paperless Trade Facilitation, which was held on 31 March 2015 at the UN Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand. Some 45 government



representatives, including Customs officials, from 24 Member states of the UNESCAP participated in this Workshop. This Workshop was organized prior to the 1st Meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-Border Paperless Trade Facilitation to facilitate the discussion at the Steering Group Meeting by providing snapshots on the key principles for enabling cross-border paperless trade from the legal, technical and implementation perspectives. Mr. Igarashi participated in the panel discussion at the plenary session on the actions for enabling cross-border paperless trade and introduced the WCO tools and programs for trade facilitation. He also provided a briefing on the continued collaboration with relevant development partners, including UNESCAP, towards assistance for the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

3.1.7 To assist regional members to undertake Customs reform and modernization

❖ WCO National Workshop on Columbus 3 for Papua New Guinea

19-26 August 2014, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

From 19 to 26 August 2014, the WCO dispatched a team of experts, consisting of WCO Secretariat staff and a diagnostic expert from New Zealand, to Papua New Guinea (PNG) in order to analyze PNG Customs Service implementation of reform measures as recommended at the WCO Columbus Program Phase 1 Diagnostic Mission of May 2007. Through a series of consultations with PNG Customs executives and stakeholders, the experts evaluated the overall progress achieved in terms of Customs modernization, as well as the results of the key actions taken to achieve this progress. Subsequently, the experts have drafted a progress report based on the findings of the analysis and made recommendations for future reforms.

3.1.8 To assist regional members in promoting awareness of IPR issues

❖ WCO National Seminar on IPR for Indonesia

23-25 September 2014, Jakarta, Indonesia



The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and Indonesian Customs and Excise, organized the WCO National Seminar on IPR at the Headquarters of Indonesian Customs, from 23 to 25 September 2014 in Jakarta, Indonesia, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. A total of 36 participants from various offices of Indonesian Customs and other relevant agencies

attended the Seminar. The Seminar was led by the WCO Secretariat staff and 4 IPR experts, including 1 ACE in IPR from Italy. Participants examined IPR enforcement mechanisms being exercised by other Members with a view to adopting best practices within their own practices. In the course of the Seminar, experts delivered a set of presentations on various Information

and Intelligence Sharing Systems and shared the experience in working with stakeholders such as other government departments, industries and right holders.

❖ **WCO Regional Workshop on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy**

20-22 April 2015, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

WCO Regional Workshop on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy was conducted from 20 to 22 April 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan, with generous support of the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD). A total of 69 persons representing Member administrations, Malaysian competent authorities and various industries took part in this dialogue-format training program. This



Workshop was opened with remarks by Director General of the RMCD and A/P Regional Vice Chair. Both Customs and business representatives actively participated in the programs facilitated by a WCO Secretariat officer and an ACE on IPR from Bhutan Customs. At the Customs-only session, participants shared their enforcement mechanisms and experiences in collaborating with IPR holders at national and international levels, and discussed possible ways forward towards continued collaborative efforts among public and private sectors to tackle illicit trafficking in counterfeit goods.

❖ **ASEAN-USPTO Workshop on Effective Practices in Transnational Cooperation in the Border Enforcement of IPR**

19 May 2015, Bangkok, Thailand



At the invitation by the USPTO, Ms. Alpha Wong of the ROCB A/P participated and contributed to the ASEAN-USPTO Workshop on Effective Practices in Transnational Cooperation in the Border Enforcement of IPR, which was held from 19 to 21 May 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. A total of 42 persons representing Customs administrations from the ASEAM

Members and other Asian countries, as well as the private sector, participated in this Workshop. On behalf of the ROCB A/P, Ms. Wong made a presentation to introduce the WCO's approach in IPR protection and the functions of the ROCB A/P in coordinating IPR-related enforcement capacity building activities. She remarked the vital role of the WCO in supporting Members to strengthen their cooperation at multiple levels with the application of WCO tools and instruments. She encouraged the use of IPM in order to enhance their capacity in identifying suspicious counterfeited goods on the spot.

3.1.9 To undertake capacity building activities to promote trade security and facilitation in region

❖ WCO Regional Workshop on Strategic Initiatives for Trade Facilitation-Mercator Program- 16-18 March 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia



The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and Indonesian Customs and Excise, organized the WCO Regional Workshop on Strategic Initiatives for Trade Facilitation-Mercator Program- from 16 to 18 March 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Workshop was co-sponsored by the ADB and CCF/Japan. The Workshop was attended by nearly 100 participants from the Member administrations and other government agencies, partner organizations and business associations. This Workshop was the first of this kind under the auspices of the WCO calling for across the board collaboration for effective and early implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended this Workshop as the coordinator and a resource person. The Workshop was opened with a series of remarks and key note addresses, including by WCO Secretary General and the Indonesian Customs Director General. Each day of the Workshop was dedicated to a specific theme, namely an overview of the TFA, capacity building program, and cooperation with other government agencies. Participants shared their experiences and measures being taken to further facilitate legitimate trade in order to provide other participants, especially those from other government agencies, with food-for-thought for possible concerted approaches to be initiated by respective National Trade Facilitation Committees.

❖ WCO-ICAO Joint Workshop on Air Cargo Security and Facilitation

28-30 April 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

The WCO, in cooperation with ICAO and the ROCB A/P, held a joint Workshop on Air Cargo Security and Facilitation at the ICAO Regional Training Center in Bangkok, Thailand, from 28 to 30 April 2015 with the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. The Workshop brought together a total of 60 participants from Customs and aviation security authorities from 28 States, as well as representatives from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU). This Workshop was to exercise newly developed training module on air



cargo security, based on the existing guidelines. In the course of the Workshop, participants were provided an overview of the international air cargo supply chain security and its governing rules and standards. They also shared their respective national practices on various security and facilitation measures. Based on feedback from the participants, ICAO and the WCO will further develop the program to expand future workshops in other regions.

❖ WCO-UPU Joint Customs-Post Workshop

19-22 May 2015, Guangzhou, China

The WCO, in cooperation with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the ROCB A/P, organized the WCO-UPU Joint Customs-Post Workshop—"Fostering greater cooperation between Customs and Posts and promoting the development of cross-border e-commerce" for the A/P region from 19 to 22 May 2015 in Guangzhou, China, under the sponsorship of CCF/China. Around 120 delegates representing Customs and Post authorities as well as private sector participated in this Workshop. Mr. Jing Cheng and Ms. Manita Sreeta of the ROCB A/P joined this Workshop. The primary objective of this Workshop was to improve participants' knowledge of the relevant WCO and UPU instruments and tools. Participants explored possible ways to promote advance electronic exchange of information (pre-loading/pre-arrival) between Customs and Posts by using the UPU's Customs Declaration System and/or any other solutions based on the WCO/UPU Customs Post EDI Messaging Standards. This Workshop provided an opportunity for relevant parties to discuss issues of mutual interest at various levels, including how to enhance the capabilities of both Customs and postal operators in facilitating cross-border movement of postal items under the advancing e-commerce environment through improving cooperative relationships between Customs and postal operators. During the Workshop, participants visited the Guangzhou Airmail Center to observe practical aspects of the Customs clearance process on postal items.



3.1.10 To assist regional members in enhancing capacity of compliance and enforcement in the region (e.g. IPR, commercial fraud, drugs and precursors and environmental crime)

❖ WCO National Workshop on PCA for Papua New Guinea

22-26 September 2014, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Responding to a request from Papua New Guinea (PNG) Customs Service, the ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO conducted the National Workshop on PCA from 22 to 26 September



2014 in Port Moresby, PNG, with the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. A total of 18 Customs auditors from all regional PNG Customs attended the Workshop. The Workshop was organized as a follow-up from the WCO Multi-year (2011-2013) PCA project for Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO) Members, which was coordinated by the WCO Secretariat and the ROCB A/P. A series of lectures were provided by experts from the WCO, the ROCB A/P and Japan Customs. Participants renewed their intention to utilize the Guidelines for their internal training and pledged themselves to share the knowledge acquired from the Workshop with their colleagues at the frontline.

❖ **WCO National Workshop on Advanced Customs Valuation and Transfer Pricing for Thailand**

29 September-3 October 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

As part of contribution events to celebrate the ROCB A/P's 10th Anniversary, the WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P, organized the WCO National Workshop on Advanced Customs Valuation and Transfer Pricing for Thailand from 29 September to 3 October 2014 at the Thai Customs Academy in Bangkok, Thailand, under the sponsorship of



CCF/Japan. This Workshop was aimed at enhancing understanding of Advanced Customs Valuation issues and Transfer Pricing. In total, more than 100 participants from the Thai Customs Department attended this Workshop. Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P joined other 2 experts from the WCO and the New Zealand Inland Revenue Department to facilitate the Workshop. A series of comprehensive lectures were given by the experts on such key instruments as the WCO Valuation Compendium. A panel discussion on the complexity and the best practices for intersection of Customs Valuation and Transfer Pricing was organized as well.

❖ **26th Administrative Meeting of the National Contact Points of the RILO A/P**

11-13 November 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka



At the invitation of the RILO A/P, Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee represented the ROCB A/P at the 26th Administrative Meeting of the National Contact Points of the RILO A/P, which was held from 11 to 13 November 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. During the meeting, the participants shared experiences and information on the most recent trends in transnational organized crimes, such as illicit drug trafficking and environmental issues. Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee of the ROCB A/P introduced the work undertaken by the ROCB A/P, including

its 4-pillar approach and capacity building activities, and suggested ways to collaborate with the RILO A/P to improve the effectiveness of the regional capacity building activities.

❖ 1st CADS Regional Anti-drug Expert Group Meeting

5-6 March 2015, Hong Kong, China

The 1st Meeting of the RAEG, which is a managing body of the Customs Anti-Drug Strategy (CADS), was convened from 5 to 6 March 2015 in Hong Kong, China. Some 40 delegates from 17 Member administrations, the RILO A/P, the ROCB A/P and Regional Vice Chair's Office attended the Meeting. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the Meeting as an observer. Delegates discussed a series of collective actions to take with a view to contending with drug smuggling problems in the years to come, which include the need for capacity building. On this occasion, Mr. Igarashi paid a courtesy visit to RTC Hong Kong, China and exchanged views on the way to deepen the existing good collaboration.

❖ UNODC Conference on Illegal Wildlife and Timber Trafficking

7 April 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

At the request of the WCO Secretariat, Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P participated in the Conference on Illegal Wildlife and Timber Trafficking, which was held on 7 April 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Conference was co-hosted by the UNODC and the Royal Thai Police, and attended by the representatives of the ASEAN countries and other related organizations. Delegates exchanged their opinions and information on illegal wildlife and timber trafficking especially on the harmonization of the legal frameworks in the ASEAN countries, and information sharing among competent authorities of the ASEAN Member countries. Mr. Miyoshi joined the panel discussion on information sharing as a panelist and introduced the WCO's information exchange platform, named CENcomm for their reference.



❖ WCO Regional Workshop on the Use of Passenger Name Record

26-29 May 2015, Kashiwa, Japan

The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and RTC Japan (Japan Customs Training Institute), conducted the Regional Workshop on the Use of Passenger Name Record (PNR) from 26 to 29 May 2015 in Kashiwa, Japan, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. A total of 38 delegates, including resource speakers from the WCO Secretariat, the RILO A/P and the United States Customs and Border Protection, participated in this Workshop. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended this Workshop as the facilitator. The Workshop was designed to showcase good practices based on recommended practices outlined in the WCO Recommendation on the Use of Air Passenger Information (API) and PNR for Efficient and Effective Customs Control (June 2012). The WCO Secretariat resource person provided

participants with an overview of the international instruments available and the benefits of using PNR. Participants whose administrations are using PNR shared their experiences in risk assessment and targeting. Practical examples of coordination with other border agencies were also shared. In the course of the Workshop, participants had a field visit to the Haneda Airport Branch of Tokyo Customs, and observed passenger selectivity and control practices including a demonstration of equipment that is being used to analyze suspicious objects detected in the Customs inspection at the airport.



3.1.11 To develop and undertake leadership and management training programs to foster high ethical standards

❖ WCO A/P Regional Integrity Dialogue

5 February 2015, Melbourne, Australia

At the invitation of the Regional Vice Chair (Malaysia) and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) who hosted the event, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Integrity Dialogue held in Melbourne, Australia. It was attended by delegates from 23 Member administrations. Resource speakers include, among others, WCO Secretary General, and representatives of the ACBPS, Australian Federal Police and Australian Crime Commission. Resource speakers stressed that high-level political determination and commitment are critical and senior and middle management plays an important role to visualize the organization's integrity. Risks associated the access to social media (e.g. twitter) was discussed. Delegates shared the view that public trust is the basis of Customs' work, and it is a valuable asset, which Customs agencies have accumulated and must collectively be held to account.

3.2 Further enhance collaboration with development partners (DPs)

3.2.1 Enhanced cooperation, coordination and mutual understanding with DPs

❖ ADB National Workshop on TRS for Mongolia

29 July-1 August 2014, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

At the invitation of the ADB, Mr. Jing Cheng of the ROCB/AP attended the ADB National Workshop on TRS for Mongolia, which was conducted from 29 July to 1 August 2014 in Ulaanbaatar, as a resource person along with a WCO Secretariat officer. The main objective of this Workshop was to update Mongolia Customs on the WCO TRS Guideline and share the experience of the A/P regional members in order to facilitate their action planning for the 3rd round of the TRS. Resource persons systematically introduced the TRS methodology, with the

establishment of TRS working group, data collection, environmental scan, etc. To ensure the study results were more meaningful to the overall border efficiency improvement, the resource persons highlighted the need of stakeholders' involvement in the TRS.

❖ Regional Organization Cooperation Mechanism for Trade Facilitation

23 September 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

At the invitation of the UNESCAP, 13 international and regional organizations providing capacity building assistance for trade facilitation gathered on 23 September 2014 at the UN Conference Center in Bangkok, Thailand, to explore ways to improve information sharing and collaboration among them. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, and Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee attended the meeting along with a WCO representative. In the wake of the introductory remarks and presentation, Mr. Lee made a presentation jointly with the WCO representative on the activities and undertakings of the WCO Working Group on WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. At the end of the meeting, representatives discussed the way to improve cooperative mechanism and recommended a set of actions to this end, including continuous dissemination of a collective annual calendar and bi-annual newsletters, and increased use of this mechanism's website, among others.

❖ Asia/Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum

24-25 September 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

UNESCAP and the ADB co-hosted the Asia/Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum (APTFF) from 24 to 25 September 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand, which was attended by around 200 participants. At the invitation of the organizers, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee and Mr. Jing Cheng attended this event. APTFF is the main regional platform to exchange information, experiences and practices for trade facilitation in the A/P region. Under the theme of "Trade Facilitation for Inclusive Development", APTFF arranged a discussion session on the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and implications for the region. It also conducted special discussion sessions of agricultural trade facilitation, small and medium enterprises trade facilitation, and inter-agency coordination for trade facilitation.

❖ Asia/Pacific Postal Union Strategic Seminar on Postal Supply Chain

22 October 2014, Bangkok, Thailand



At the request of the WCO Secretariat, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the Asia/Pacific Postal Union (APPU) Strategic Seminar on Postal Supply Chain held on 22 October 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand, as the WCO representative. Approximately 45 representatives from the APPU Members and speakers attended the Seminar. Mr.

Igarashi spoke about the SAFE FoS and the WCO’s work on air cargo security. In terms of WCO-UPU collaboration, he gave explanations about the work undertaken by the WCO/UPU Contact Committee, including the development of a series of guides as well as examination of the electronic data exchange between Customs and the postal authorities. Mr. Igarashi also stressed the need to further strengthen collaboration among the relevant stakeholders to contend with security-related threats posed against postal supply chain.

❖ **3rd UNEP Workshop of Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste**

10-12 November 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka

The 3rd Workshop of the Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste (REN) was held from 10 to 12 November 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. At the invitation of the UNEP, Mr. Jing Cheng of the ROCB A/P attended this Workshop as a resource person. The Workshop was attended by a total of 50 participants from 22 Members in the A/P region and the UNEP’s partner international organizations. Participants exchanged experience in a number of important topics, such as risk profiling techniques for detecting suspicious shipments, intelligence and information sharing on controlling the illegal shipments of chemicals and wastes, and multi-agency cooperation in combating illegal trafficking of chemicals and shipments. Mr. Cheng facilitated a group discussion on the capacity building and awareness raising and provided inputs relating to the organization of capacity building activities on environmental issues.

❖ **Exit Conference on the Cambodia’s First Time Release Study**

1 December 2014, Phnom Penh, Cambodia



At the request of the WCO Secretariat, Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P represented the WCO at the Exit Conference on 2013 TRS, which was organized on 1 December 2014 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia by the General Department of Customs and Excise of Cambodia (GDCE) in cooperation with the ADB and JICA. Approximately 150 persons, including representatives from the

private sector and other government authorities attended the Conference. The Conference provided the attendees with the report on the 2013 TRS findings by GDCE, and had a series of constructive and interactive discussions among the participants. Mr. Miyoshi made a presentation on the recent trend in the TRS, and stressed the importance of the TRS for promoting trade facilitation through identifying bottlenecks in the respective import procedures.



❖ **3rd IOM Conference on Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building for Border Management**

2 December 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

At the request of the WCO Secretariat, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, represented the WCO to the 3rd International Organization for Migration (IOM) Conference on Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building for Border Management held on 2 December 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand. More than 300 delegates from the IOM Member governments, international organizations and businesses participated in the Conference. At the Conference, Mr. Igarashi spoke about the concept of coordinated border management from the Customs perspective. In synchronizing the message from the presentation made by the UN Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate representative, he touched upon the amendment of the WCO Recommendation on the Use of API/PNR (June 2012) in order to incorporate the mandatory use of advance passenger information to implement UN Security Council Resolution 2178 (24 September 2014). WCO’s theme for 2015, namely “Coordinated Border Management” was also highlighted as the Conference was timely and relevant to current WCO initiatives.

❖ **UNODC National Workshop on Container Control Program for Vietnam**

4 December 2014, Hai Phong, Vietnam

The ROCB A/P contributed to the successful opening of National Workshop on the WCO-UNODC Container Control Program, which was held on 4 December 2014 in Hai Phong, Vietnam, by the UNODC Bangkok Office with the sponsorship of the United States and Canada. The Workshop was attended by some 30 participants representing importers and exporters, Customs brokers, freight forwarders and port operator in Vietnam. Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee of the ROCB A/P made a presentation on the WCO SAFE FoS Pillar 2 (Customs–Business Cooperation), focusing a practical way to secure supply chain logistics in conjunction with the AEO program. He also covered several international instruments and guidelines to implement the AEO program, such as the RKC and WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.



❖ **Meeting of IFCBA Managing Directors**

15 December 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

At the invitation of the International Federation of Customs Brokers Associations (IFCBA), Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, and Mr. James Wong of the ROCB A/P took part in the Meeting of Managing Directors of the IFCBA held on 15 December 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand, and had an informal dialogue on possible collaboration between Customs and Customs Brokers in capacity building domain. In the course of the dialogue, both sides shared views on the important roles being played and to be played by Customs Brokers in terms of supply chain

security and trade facilitation by provision of good compliance guidance to traders as well as collection and provision of accurate data to Customs, which is an enabler for Customs to conduct proper risk assessment at a right time. IFCBA's probable contribution, as one of the prominent business associations and key stakeholders, to the global efforts in implementing WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement was also discussed.



❖ UNEP Thematic Meeting of South Asia Ozone Officers and Customs Officers

17-19 December 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

The UNEP organized the Thematic Meeting of South Asia Ozone Officers and Customs Officers from 17 to 19 December 2014 at the UN Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand, which was attended by more than 30 delegates from 12 countries. At the invitation of the UNEP, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the Meeting as a facilitator for the Thematic Session on Montreal Protocol Enforcement Capacity Building on 18 December 2014. By way of introduction, Mr. Igarashi gave an explanation on the WCO's regional approach in capacity building delivery and made online demonstrations of the WCO's CLiKC! and the ENVIRONET. Mr. Igarashi facilitated a panel discussion on the Customs capacity building experiences on ozone depleting substance (ODS) and other environmental issues, which reaffirmed the value of layered and continuous provision of training and awareness raising with a view to maintaining pertinent environmental issues as an integral part of the Customs administrations' enforcement agenda.

❖ 16th Meeting of the UNEP Asia Partners Forum on Combating Environmental Crime

15 January 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

At the invitation of the UNEP, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the 16th Meeting of the UNEP Asia Partners Forum on Combating Environmental Crime on 15 January 2015 at the UN Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand. There were 26 representatives from the UNEP's partner organizations and entities, including UNODC and WWF. Throughout the Meeting, the role of Customs was often referred to, especially in countering exploitation of wildlife, which often involves cross-border movement of commodities, such as wildlife, ODS, etc. by its nature. Mr. Igarashi briefed about the WCO's environment programs, including the Green Customs Initiatives and the ENVIRONET. He outlined planned regional training sessions in countering environmental crime, and called for partners' continued support for Customs capacity building to complement the strengths of respective partners in this field.

❖ 4th Meeting of the Development Partners for Cambodia Customs

26 January 2015, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The General Department of Customs and Excise of Cambodia (GDCE) organized the 4th Development Partners Meeting on 26 January 2015 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The primary objectives of the Meeting were to share the implementation result of the GDCE's 5-year Reform and Modernization Plan (2009-2013) and overview of the next 5-year Reform and Modernization Plan (2014-2018) with the GDCE's Development Partners. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the Meeting along with other representatives of the GDCE's development partners, and made a presentation highlighting the



GDCE's participation in the regional capacity building programs as well as the ramifications of the Cambodia's accessions to the RKC among other things. The Meeting also discussed way forward towards better coordination of the technical cooperation provided by the partner organizations in pushing forward the new Reform and Modernization Plan for 2014-2018.

❖ WCO-TRAFFIC Consultative Workshop

29 January 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

Upon the invitation of the TRAFFIC, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, and Mr. Jing Cheng of the ROCB A/P along with the experts from the WCO and RILO A/P attended the Consultative Workshop held from 29 to 30 January 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Workshop was attended by the representatives from leading air and sea carriers, logistic companies, industry associations, Customs, UN organizations and wildlife experts. The primary objectives of the Workshop were to increase awareness of the role of transportation and logistics industries in the illegal wildlife trade, build a deeper understanding of the risks and weak points along supply chains, and enhance collaboration and leadership to identify effective solutions to prevent illegal wildlife smuggling operations with a view to strengthening healthy supply chains and corporate policies.

❖ UNODC CCP Customs-Business Workshop for Malaysia

11 February 2015, Port Klang, Malaysia

The UNODC Bangkok Office organized the UNODC Container Control Program (CCP) Customs-Business Workshop on 11 February 2015 in Port Klang, Malaysia, with the sponsorship of the United States and Canada. Some 40 participants representing importers and exporters, Customs brokers, freight forwarders and port operator based in Port Klang, Malaysia, took part in the Workshop. Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee of the ROCB A/P joined the Workshop as a resource

person and made a presentation on the WCO SAFE FoS Pillar 2 (Customs-Business) focusing on practical ways to secure supply chain logistics through the AEO program. He also emphasized the ROCB A/P's activities for the promotion of the AEO program in the A/P region through a series of capacity building programs.

❖ ADB SASEC 3rd Customs Subgroup Meeting

11-12 March 2015, Goa, India



The ADB SASEC 3rd Customs Subgroup Meeting was held from 11 to 12 March 2015 in Goa, India. Directors General and senior executive officials from Customs administrations of the SASEC countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka) attended the Meeting and discussed a series of strategic topics, including the Work Plan for 2014-2016 and national and sub-regional capacity building programs for Customs. Mr.

Takayuki Miyoshi represented the ROCB A/P and made a presentation on the WCO's capacity building programs and the way to further strengthen the existing partnership with the ADB to assist the SASEC countries' efforts in reform and modernization. The meeting was preceded by a learning event on the Customs Compliance Programs and a WCO Secretariat representative made a presentation on the principles of the AEO program and other compliance-related programs.



❖ ADB-ASEAN Workshop on Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

19 March 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia

At the invitation of the ADB, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, along with a WCO representative, participated in the ADB-ASEAN Workshop on Implementation, which was held on 19 March 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia. This Workshop was to supplement the WCO Regional Workshop on Strategic Initiatives for Trade Facilitation held on 16-18 March 2015 in Jakarta with sponsorship of CCF/Japan and ADB. Approximately 60 representatives from the relevant Ministries of the ASEAN Member states and development partners attended the Workshop. The overall objective of this Workshop was to maximize the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation discussion among ASEAN Member states, including the sharing of information on their respective trade facilitation efforts both at national and regional contexts. Participants stressed the needs for national strategy on trade facilitation, including assistance for business, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, an effective monitoring mechanism, as well as capacity building on human resources, through train-the-trainers to transfer knowledge.

❖ UNESCAP 1st Meeting of Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-Border Paperless Trade Facilitation

1-3 April 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

At the request of the WCO Secretariat, Ms. Alpha Wong the ROCB A/P attended the UNESCAP 1st Meeting of Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation, which was convened from 1 to 3 April 2015 at the UN Conference Center in Bangkok, Thailand. Approximately 50 government representatives and some Customs officials from 28 Member states of the UNESCAP, UN bodies and other international organizations participated in the Meeting. Delegates discussed creation of the Legal Working Group and the Technical Working Group respectively, to provide assistance to the Steering Group in further improving the draft text and prepare the road map towards paperless cross-border trade.

❖ 24th ASEAN Customs Directors General Meeting

20-22 May 2015, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam



At the invitation of the ASEAN Secretariat, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the 24th ASEAN Customs DGs Meeting held on 20-22 May 2015 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, as a representative of the WCO. At the WCO-ASEAN DGs Consultation Session on 20 May 2015, Mr. Igarashi made a presentation of the summary of capacity building activities undertaken by the ROCB A/P and the participation of ASEAN Customs administrations thereto. Referring to some updates of the works accomplished by the WCO after the recent A/P Regional Heads of Customs Administrations Conference held in February 2015 in Melbourne, Australia, he also explained the capacity building program plan for 2015/2016 and encouraged them to further take advantage of the WCO capacity building activities for their on-going reform and modernization.

❖ 17th Oceania Customs Organisation Annual Conference

22 June 2015, Koror, Palau

At the invitation of the OCO, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the 17th OCO Annual Conference held from 22 to 24 June 2015 in Koror, Palau, as an observer. The Meeting was attended by some 35 delegates from the OCO Member administrations, donors, international organizations and business associations. His Honorable President of the Republic

of Palau attended the opening ceremony and delivered his keynote speech. In the course of two and a half day-long sessions, the Conference adopted a series of important management documents and assigned Mr. Seve Paeinu (Tuvalu) as new Head of the OCO by acclamation for 3-year term starting from July 2015. The Conference recognized outstanding efforts of outgoing Head of the OCO, Mr. Allwyn Netto, during his tenure. Before concluding the Conference, representatives of Fiji and Vanuatu signed an MOU on Mutual Assistance Cooperation.



❖ 9th FIATA Region Asia/Pacific Field Meeting

24 June 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

At the invitation of the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) of the Region Asia/Pacific (RAP), Ms. Alpha Wong of the ROCB A/P participated and contributed to the 9th FIATA RAP Field Meeting, which was held on 24 June 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. Ms. Supatcha Supapant, an internship student from the Thammasat University, also joined as an observer. Ms. Wong made a presentation of the WCO strategic initiative for trade facilitation and explained the role of the ROCB A/P in pushing forward the WCO Mercator Program with a view to supporting the WCO Member administrations in the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. She emphasized the pivotal role of freight forwarders in supply chain security and enhanced collaboration with Customs for implementing trade facilitation measures.



3.2.2 Promotion of joint activities

❖ UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Program "Kick-off" Meeting for Southeast Asian Countries

20-21 August 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

UNODC/WCO Global Container Control Program (CCP) "Kick-off" Meeting was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 20 to 21 August 2014. This meeting aimed at expanding CCP to 5 countries in Southeast Asia region, namely, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. Approximately 90 delegates representing Customs, police and port authorities attended this event. Staff members of the ROCB A/P attended this meeting as observers.

❖ ICAO Air Cargo Development Forum

2-5 September 2014, Zhengzhou, China

More than 330 delegates from international organizations, airport authorities, and air cargo industry gathered in Zhengzhou, Henan Province of China for the ICAO Air Cargo Development Forum held from 2 to 5 September 2014. The Forum was organized with a view to addressing key issues related to the air cargo industry, and providing a better understanding of the challenges for the sustainable development of air cargo logistics. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, participated in the Forum as a resource speaker. This panel discussion-style Forum covered broad topics related to the international air cargo transport business. Mr. Igarashi joined a panel discussion on “Enhancement of Air Cargo Security and Facilitation” and spoke about a range of works being undertaken by the WCO in cooperation with other partner international and regional organizations, including relevant industries, through such platforms as ICAO-WCO Joint Conferences, and WCO Technical Experts Group on Air Cargo Security.

❖ 2nd WCO-ADB Joint Sub-regional Train-The-Trainer Workshop on Customs Valuation under the Multi-year Assistance for SASEC Countries-Project Diamond V6 Customs-*

21-24 October 2014, Malé, Maldives

The ROCB A/P and the ADB, with support from the WCO Secretariat, Japan Customs, and Maldives Customs Service, conducted the Second WCO-ADB Joint Sub-regional Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Customs Valuation under the Multi-year Assistance Program for the SASEC Countries from 21 to 24 October 2014 in Malé, Maldives. A total of 18 participants, with



3 from each SASEC Country, attended the Workshop. Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P, along with experts from Japan Customs, Maldives Customs Service and the WCO Secretariat, attended this Sub-regional Workshop as a resource speaker. In the Workshop, the participants refined their national Action Plans initiated at the first Sub-regional Workshop, to ensure realistic and achievable goals for its implementation at the national level. Participants examined potential added value of regional cooperation in Customs Valuation control.

() “Diamond” represents the wish that this project will be successful and become a precious thing like a diamond for SASEC countries, “V” stands for Customs Valuation, and “6 Customs” means 6 SASEC Customs administrations.*

❖ UNODC National Workshop on the Container Control Program for Thailand

30 October 2014, Pattaya, Thailand

The ROCB A/P contributed to the UNODC National Workshop on the Container Control Program for Thailand held on 30 October 2014 in Pattaya, Thailand, with sponsorship of the governments of the United States and Canada. Some 30 participants representing importers

and exporters, Customs brokers, freight forwarders and port operator, who are based in the Laem Chabang Port area, attended the Workshop. The ROCB A/P, represented by Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, and Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee made a presentation on the importance and value of the Customs-business collaboration, which are articulated in a series of the WCO Convention and instruments, including the SAFE FoS. This Workshop is the first of a round of National Workshops planned for the Southeast Asian countries as a follow-up to the WCO-UNODC Container Control Program “Kick-off” Meeting held from 20 to 21 August 2014 in Bangkok.

❖ **WCO-UNEP Joint Regional Risk Management Workshop on Environmental Issues**

6-10 April 2015, Malacca, Malaysia

The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P, UNEP and Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD), organized the Joint Regional Risk Management Workshop on Environmental Issues from 6 to 10 April 2015 at the RTC Malaysia (Royal Malaysian Customs Academy (AKMAL)) with the sponsorship of CCF/Korea. This Workshop brought together a total of 40 participants from the Member administrations and resource persons from some international institutes, including



the WCO, UNEP, CITES, TRAFFIC, the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network, and the RILO A/P. Mr. Jing Cheng and Ms. Manita Sreeta of the ROCB A/P attended the Workshop as facilitators. The Workshop provided the participants with an overview of a range of international conventions on conservation of nature, such as the Montreal

Protocol, Basel/Rotterdam/Stockholm Conventions, Cartagena Protocol etc. With the guidance of the resource speakers from the UNEP and enterprises, participants conducted group exercises on how to identify the suspicious shipments for control. They also paid a field visit to Malacca Custom house with the kind arrangement of the AKMAL.

❖ **First National Expert Mission on Customs Valuation for Maldives Customs Service under the WCO-ADB Multi-year Assistance for SASEC Countries**

18 May 2015, Malé, Maldives

The ROCB A/P and the ADB, with support from the WCO Secretariat and Sri Lanka Customs, conducted the First ADB National Expert Mission on Customs Valuation for Maldives Customs Service under the WCO-ADB Multi-year Assistance for the SASEC Countries from 18 to 22 May 2015 in Malé, Maldives. This Multi-year Project was designed to support SASEC Countries’ efforts to realize the proper management of Customs Valuation control ideally



through PCA for ensuring both effective trade facilitation and proper collection of national revenue. Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P joined this Mission as a resource person. They also discussed how to prepare for the next final activity under this project, which is to deliver lectures on Customs Valuation control for their colleagues by using the training materials created under this Multi-year Project.

❖ **First National Expert Mission on Customs Valuation for Bhutan under the WCO-ADB Multi-year Assistance for SASEC Countries**

22 June 2015, Paro, Bhutan



The ROCB A/P and the ADB, with support from the WCO Secretariat and Maldives Customs Service, conducted the First National Expert Mission on Customs Valuation for Bhutan under the WCO-ADB Multi-year Assistance for the SASEC Countries (Multi-year Project) from 22 to 26 June 2015 in Paro, Bhutan. Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P and an ACE from Maldives Customs Service led the

Mission as resource speakers. During the 5-day mission, the experts joined the participants to update the Standard Operational Procedures (SOP) on valuation and discussed how to prepare the final activity under this Project, which was provisionally scheduled in May 2016 to organize briefing sessions on the newly created SOP for providing a uniform guide to implement proper Customs Valuation control in-line with international standards.

3.3 Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities

3.3.1 Pool, utilize, support and increase ACEs in the region based on the framework

❖ **WCO Regional Accreditation Workshop on AEO in Malaysia**

10-14 November 2014, Malacca, Malaysia

The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and the RTC Malaysia, organized the WCO Regional Accreditation Workshop on AEO from 10 to 14 November 2014 at RTC Malaysia in Malacca under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. Fourteen candidates from 9 Member administrations underwent a series of assessment. Ms. Yotsawadee Trakonsup and Mr. James Wong of the ROCB A/P attended and assisted in the assessment work.



❖ **WCO National Workshop on Origin for Malaysia**

12-16 January 2015, Malacca, Malaysia

The National Workshop on Origin was conducted for the benefit of the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) from 12 to 16 January 2015 at RTC Malaysia in Malacca under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan with objectives of assisting RMCD officers deepen their knowledge on preferential and non-preferential rules of origin. Customs officers from the RMCD were trained on the theory and practice of rules of origin, as well as the Revenue Package and the WCO Guidelines on Preferential Origin Verification adopted by the Council in 2012. Experts from Japan shared practical aspects of the above topics in relation to implementation and organization in Japan. At the end of the Workshop, participants drafted a group report which included a number of recommendations on the way forward in relation to the origin related work in Malaysia.

❖ **WCO Regional Accreditation Workshop for IPR Technical Operational Advisers**

19-23 January 2015, Kashiwa, Japan



As part of the current WCO Capacity Building Strategy, and to be responsive to the needs of the A/P region, the WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and RTC Japan, organized the WCO Regional Accreditation Workshop for the Technical and Operational Advisers in Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy from 19 to 23 January 2015 at the RTC Japan in Kashiwa, Japan, with the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. Ten candidates from 8

Member administrations participated in the Workshop and demonstrated their knowledge and skills on IPR in such programs as role-playing, presentation sessions, case-studies with scenarios and discussion sessions. Ms. Pariyabhat Ariyapongkason represented the ROCB A/P and made a presentation on the framework of the use of regional expertise in the A/P region.

❖ **WCO Workshop for Development of Revenue Package/TTA Diagnostic Expert Pool**

1-5 June 2015, Shanghai, China

The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P, conducted the WCO Regional Workshop for Development of Revenue Package/TTA Diagnostic Expert Pool from 1 to 5 June 2015 in Shanghai, China, with the financial support of CCF/China. A total of 20 Customs experts from 12 Member administrations participated in this Workshop. The objective of this event was



to establish a pool of experts or facilitators capable to conduct diagnostic missions on behalf of the WCO to assist Members to use new diagnostic tool developed under the Revenue Package program, which covers the topics of classification, valuation and origin. During the Workshop, the participants demonstrated their competencies as expert facilitators on the Revenue Package

and were evaluated by the WCO Secretariat officers. This Workshop also provided an excellent opportunity for participants to improve their skills and update their knowledge of the WCO instruments and tools for the benefit of their Customs administrations.

3.3.2 Work with developed members to ensure their contribution to the regional capacity building activities

❖ WCO Regional Seminar on Capacity Building on Customs Chemical Analysis

12-14 November 2014, Kashiwa, Japan



The WCO, in cooperation with the Central Customs Laboratory of Japan Customs and the ROCB A/P, organized the WCO Regional Seminar on Capacity Building on Customs Chemical Analysis from 12 to 14 November 2014 in Kashiwa and Tokyo, Japan, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, and Ms. Manita Sreeta represented the ROCB A/P as facilitators. The Seminar coincided with the official opening of the WCO A/P Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL), the world's first WCO RCL. The seminar, which was attended by 26 participants from 23 Member administrations, focused on a series of challenges associated with chemical analysis and discussed way to strengthen regional cooperation and mutual assistance to mitigate difficulties faced by Customs administrations in chemical analysis. Participants shared their chemical analysis practices and reaffirmed the significance and important role of Customs laboratories as an integral part of commodity classification infrastructure. During the Seminar, the participants also had a site visit to the Tokyo Customs laboratory.

❖ WCO National Workshop on Customs Laboratory for Cambodia

23-27 March 2015, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The WCO, in cooperation with the A/P Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL) (i.e. Central Customs Laboratory of Japan (CCL)), conducted the National Workshop on Customs Laboratory for Cambodia from 23 to 27 March 2015 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. This Workshop, to which a WCO Secretariat officer and 2 experts from Japan CCL were dispatched, was to assist the Customs administration of Cambodia with the implementation of its Customs laboratory. During the 5-day sessions, participants received expert training regarding the use and possibilities of a Customs laboratory for the classification in the Harmonized System and Tariff Management. Specific "in-situ" training for the detection

of drugs using test-kits was provided. Experts from Japan CCL offered an introduction to Japan CCL and other important aspects, such as laboratory management, advisory role on the development of analytical instruments and apparatus necessary to meet specific analysis needs, including drug detection equipment. Explanation about the role and function of the WCO RCL as well as WCO/Japan RCL Program were also given.

3.3.3 Work with regional training coordinator to identify and review Members’ capacity building needs and priorities through conducting a needs assessment via a survey and ongoing consultation

❖ 24th WCO A/P Regional Contact Points Meeting

18-20 November 2014, Langkawi, Malaysia

The 24th WCO A/P Regional Contact Points Meeting was held from 18 to 20 November 2014 in Langkawi, Malaysia. Nearly 60 delegates from 21 Member administrations and 4 observer organizations attended and discussed a series of important policy issues for furthering regional cooperation and coordination under the chairpersonship of Dato’ Ab. Hamid Bin Salleh of the Royal Malaysian Customs Department. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the Meeting and made presentations on the Update of the Capacity Building Activities in the A/P region, as well as the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Capacity Building Activities for the sake of an observer organization. Taking advantage of this opportune occasion, Mr. Igarashi had a series of consultations with the regional members and observer organizations on how to collaborate to assist their efforts in Customs reform and modernization.



❖ 16th WCO A/P Regional Heads of Customs Administrations Conference

6 February 2015, Melbourne, Australia

The 16th Regional Heads of Customs Administration (RHCA) Conference was convened on 6 February 2015 in Melbourne, Australia, and delegates from 23 Member administrations in the A/P region attended the event chaired by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department as Vice Chair of the WCO A/P Region and hosted by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS). Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB, along with WCO Secretary General and representatives from the RILO A/P and the WCO Secretariat, attended the Conference as observers. Delegates discussed a series of policy matters. Mr. Igarashi gave a brief report on the ROCB A/P’s staff composition, 2-year Strategic Plan and Annual Work Plan, 4-pillar based activities and close collaboration with its host administration, including the ROCB A/P’s 10th Anniversary Ceremony. After the Conference, delegates and observers were escorted to the ACBPS’s National Detector Dog Program Facility located in Bulla, outer Melbourne.

❖ 6th WCO Capacity Building Committee Meeting

23 February 2015, Brussels, Belgium



The 6th WCO Capacity Building Committee Meeting was held from 23 to 25 February 2015 at the WCO Headquarters in Brussels and discussed a range of strategic topics and examined a series of guidelines, programs and tools on issues such as supporting people and donor engagement. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P and other staff members of the ROCB A/P attended the Meeting and advocated the A/P region's good practices, including the case study of Bhutan and Papua New Guinea as featured in the WCO Capacity Building Report. In the course of the Meeting, the ROCB A/P representatives actively socialized and exchanged views with the WCO Secretariat and a number of delegates on the way to further increase the effective delivery and management of capacity building activities in the A/P region.

❖ 14th WCO Integrity Sub-Committee Meeting

26-27 February 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The 14th Session WCO Integrity Sub-Committee was held from 26 to 27 February 2015 at the WCO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, and Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, along with Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi and Mr. Jing Cheng, attended the Session. The Committee noted the Secretariat's update on the latest activities undertaken by the WCO and the progress made by Members in terms of integrity over the last 12 months. Members were encouraged to continuously contribute practical cases and to share their best practices in order to keep the WCO Guides updated as "living documents". Initiating cooperation with the private sector and other key stakeholders to collectively fight against corruption was also discussed, and the Committee urged the Members to be proactive in establishing solid partnerships with a variety of stakeholders to fight against corruption.

3.3.4 Further strengthen cooperation among 7 RTCs and ROCB paying due attention to establishing/supporting regional experts for more sustainable capacity building delivery in the region

❖ The 12th Meeting of Heads of the A/P Regional Training Centers

6-7 November 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

The 12th Meeting of Heads of the WCO A/P RTCs was convened from 6 to 7 November 2014, in Bangkok, Thailand. Heads of 7 RTCs and the delegates, representatives from the WCO and the Regional Vice Chair's Office attended and discussed the way forward towards better coordination of the regional capacity building activities and cooperation among RTCs. The Meeting was opened with remarks by Director General of the Thai Customs Department (TCD).

Ms. Nitaya Tiengtrongpinyo, Director of International Cooperation Division of the TCD was unanimously elected as the Chairperson. Heads and delegates of the RTCs shared the recent training initiatives and discussed way to contribute to the WCO's efforts in developing Training Diagnostics and Training evaluation. Experiences in the application of the regional training program contents to their national training programs, and the usage of the ACEs, were also discussed.



❖ 10th ROCBs/RTCs/Vice Chairs Meeting

19-20 February 2015, Brussels, Belgium



The 10th ROCBs/RTCs/Vice Chairs Meeting was held from 19 to 20 February 2015 at the WCO Headquarters in Brussels. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P and other staff members of the ROCB A/P attended the Meeting and actively participated in the deliberation. The Meeting discussed a series of important topics, such as, the overall

WCO capacity building approach and supporting mechanism to maintain and enhance expertise of ACEs, the Center of Excellence function of the RTCs, effective technical assistance needs assessment, and the regional training evaluation proposals. In the course of the Meeting, there were informal meetings for each region, where the ROCB A/P and A/P RTCs discussed possible ways to have the RTCs' active involvement in the delivery of the regional capacity building programs and other relevant issues.



3.4 Enhance communication and information sharing among members

3.4.1 Work with Members, Vice Chair and the RILO A/P to share experiences on capacity building activities with Members on regular basis via regional communication tools (e.g. WCO A/P Website and Newsletter, ROCB A/P Website and Newsletter)

❖ Launch of the ROCB A/P Homepage

September 2014

Communication and information sharing is one of the 4 pillars of the ROCB A/P's tactics to better serve to the region. In this regard, a new ROCB A/P homepage (www.rocb-ap.org) was launched on 28 September 2014, coinciding with the official 10th Anniversary day of the ROCB A/P. Since then, the ROCB A/P staff members have promoted the homepage at various occasions and

made efforts to update information on it at the earliest possible time. At the end of June 2015, the ROCB A/P homepage counter marked approximately 180,000 visits. Considering that the homepage was officially launched on 28 September 2014, there were more than 650 hits a day over the last 9 months.

The ROCB A/P's homepage is aimed at providing information to Member administrations and the general public who are interested in the Customs capacity building activities. In addition to the summary of recent ROCB A/P activities, for example, "Future Events" on top page, provides Member administrations with indicative information of planned workshops and capacity building-related conferences in the near future so that the interested Member administrations may make advance planning of personnel and to take advantage of regional training sessions. "Workshops/Meetings" under the "Resource" page outlines a series of workshops organized by the ROCB A/P since 2009 until today. The ROCB A/P has archives of the training materials used in these workshops. In case Member administrations or incumbent Customs officers are in need of those training materials, the ROCB A/P is pleased to provide them upon their request and as appropriate. "Contributions from ACEs/Experts" under the same page provides information on the resource persons' activities and contributions to the region's training sessions with a view to further encouraging other Customs officials to take part in these collectives and mutually-beneficial activities on Customs reform and modernization. In other words, the ROCB A/P would like to make its homepage a platform for sharing experiences and values human and organizational development among the regional Member administrations and other stakeholders.



The ROCB A/P would like to call for the feedback and inputs to our Homepage as well as activities undertaken by the ROCB A/P, so that our work may be relevant to the regional Member administrations' needs and better serve to the respective regional Member administrations for the sake of facilitating legitimate trade and securing cross-border supply chain. For comments and suggestions, please write to us at rocb@rocb-ap.org.

❖ Publication of the ROCB A/P Newsletters

The ROCB A/P has published its E-newsletters on a quarterly basis, which features the ROCB A/P's activities in the respective quarterly periods. In the year 2014/2015, the ROCB A/P issues 4 E-newsletters and a Special Edition on 10th Anniversary Ceremony in December 2014. E-Newsletters do not necessarily feature only the ROCB A/P's activities but also carry contributions from the region's ACEs and resource persons on their work and thoughts on the Customs reform and modernization activities.

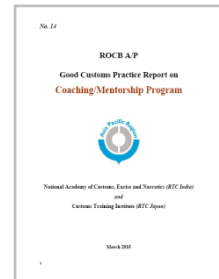


A copy of E-Newsletters can be downloaded from the ROCB A/P homepage at www.rocb-ap.org.

❖ **Publication of Good Practice Paper on Coaching and Mentorship**

March 2015

Given that the sustainable institutional development for Customs administrations relies on the continued strength of human resources, the WCO has discussed Customs Professionalism over the last a couple of years and adopted the WCO Framework on Customs Professionalism at the recent WCO Capacity Building Committee. In parallel with such an initiative, the WCO has launched the Virtual Customs Orientation Academy (VCOA) on a pilot basis to provide supplementary learning opportunities for selected induction trainees with online dialogue with qualified trainers in pertinent Customs work. Subsequently, at the 12th Meeting of the Heads of the WCO A/P RTCs, held in November 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand, it was suggested and agreed to compile a Good Customs Practice Report on coaching and mentorship with a view to sharing some of the information practices taken by the RTCs for continued human resource development.



The ROCB A/P would like to express its profound appreciation to the RTCs of India and Japan for sharing their experiences and lessons learned in this important human resource development initiative. It is hoped that this Good Customs Practice Report provides the regional Customs administrations with some valuable thoughts for implementing this good practice.

3.5 Special Event

❖ ROCB A/P Celebrates its 10th Anniversary

7 November 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

The ROCB A/P's 10th Anniversary Ceremony was carried out on 7 November 2014 at the Sukhothai Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. The Thai Customs Department (TCD), the host administration of the ROCB A/P since its inception in September 2004, generously hosted the ceremony, which was attended by a number of distinguished guests including Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, WCO Secretary General, Dato' Sri Khazali bin Ahmad, Regional Vice Chair and Director General of Royal Malaysian Customs Department, and former ROCB A/P staff members, including 2 former Heads of the ROCB A/P, Mr. Takashi Matsumoto and Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka.



At the ceremony, Dr. Somchai Sujjapongse, Director General of the TCD, delivered his congratulatory remarks and re-affirmed his administration's continued unsparing support for the ROCB A/P, which is the A/P region's focal point for WCO capacity building activities. Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, WCO Secretary General and one of the twin fathers of the ROCB framework, spoke about the historical background of establishing the ROCB in Bangkok, the world's first of this kind, and the WCO's continued efforts in contending with ever changing global picture of international trade and Customs administrations.



Dato' Sri Khazali bin Ahmad, the A/P Regional Vice Chair, outlined his determination to use his leadership to foster further enhanced cooperation and coordination among the Customs administrations in the A/P region, including the collaboration with the ROCB A/P during his tenure in the office.

Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P made a speech and thanked all stakeholders for their unsparing support for the Office’s activities. In his speech, Mr. Igarashi introduced all of the officials who served at the ROCB A/P as permanent staff and ad hoc supporters and complimented their great dedication and accomplishment. In concluding the speech, he pledged the ROCB A/P’s renewed determination to redouble its efforts in coordinating the capacity building for the benefit of the regional members in the next 10 years and beyond.



Following the speeches, as a commemorative activity, all guests were invited to join a tree planting ceremony, which symbolizes the region’s cooperation for, and commitment to the rooting and blooming of the world’s first ROCB in the center of the A/P region. Guests poured soil and watered the twin trees, icons of the close relationship between the WCO and the A/P region, as well as the twin fathers of the ROCB A/P. These trees were named “the ROCB Trees.” The Ceremony was concluded with a gala dinner hosted by Dr. Somchai.



The “ROCB Trees” were planted in the premises of the TCD on 10 November 2014 jointly by Thai Customs Executives and the ROCB A/P staff members.

The ROCB A/P staff members express sincere appreciation for the guests that attended the Ceremony and, most importantly, express profound appreciation to Dr. Somchai and all of the Thai Customs colleagues who contributed tremendously to make the Ceremony a remarkably success.

Part 4: ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan 2014-2016 and Annual Work Plan 2015/2016

In accordance with the ROCB A/P's Terms of Reference, the ROCB A/P develops its Strategic Action Plan for a 2-year term and Annual Work Plan. The Plans are worked out in close consultation with the Regional Vice Chair with the intent of assuring effective use of limited resources and making the region's capacity building more focused and relevant to the needs of the regional Member Customs Administrations.

The Strategic Action Plan is closely linked with the A/P Regional Strategic Plan. For the purpose of devising the ROCB A/P's Annual Work Plan, the ROCB A/P conducts an annual Technical Assistance Needs Survey in cooperation with the Regional Training Coordinator (i.e. Japan Customs) each year. After consultations with donor administrations for the funding of the proposed capacity building programs, ROCB A/P's Annual Plan for 2015/2016 was approved by the WCO Capacity Building Directorate in mid-2015 accordingly.

The Annual Work Plan for 2015/2016 accommodates for the largest number of the regional/sub-regional and national workshops. These workshops are categorized into the improvement of 4 core Customs functions, namely: (1) WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation; (2) revenue; (3) compliance; and (4) organizational development.

The workshops focus on a series of internationally-recognized good practices for Customs reform and modernization including, among others:

- i. implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and other international instruments, including HS 2017;
- ii. enhancement of coordinated border management, including better coordination for single window;
- iii. accumulation of the regional expertise on the subjects of prominent technical assistance needs;
- iv. implementation of security-related WCO tools and programs, including strategic trade control enforcement and detection of explosives; and
- v. corridor-focused transit facilitation.

Regional Training Centers play key roles to deliver those planned regional/sub-regional workshops for the interest of the Member Customs Administrations in the A/P region.

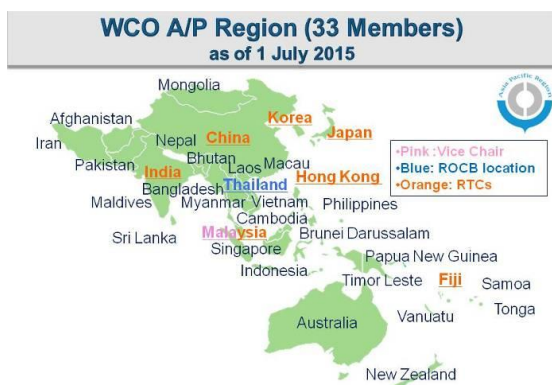
Part 5: Understanding the ROCB A/P

5.1 Who WE are

The ROCB A/P was formally established on 28 September 2004 as the world’s first ROCB. Since its establishment, through the generous hosting of the Thai Customs Department (TCD), we have been located at the TCD Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand.



The ROCB A/P is seen as a cornerstone for the region’s approach to implementing the WCO’s Capacity Building Strategy. In cooperation with seven WCO RTCs in the A/P region, it supports 33 regional Member administrations.



With the WCO Customs Cooperation Funds voluntarily contributed from China, Japan and Korea, the ROCB A/P organizes a series of the capacity building activities to the A/P Member administrations in need of technical assistance. The ROCB A/P works with development partners, such as the ADB and UN agencies, as well as private and business sector. The WCO Secretariat and the Regional Vice Chair provide the ROCB A/P

with guidance and support to fulfill the mandates and responsibilities as set forth in the Terms of Reference.

5.2 Mission

The ROCB A/P’s mission is to: deliver organizational development support to the WCO Member administrations in the region; project WCO strategy; exploit regional synergy; liaise closely with regional and local stakeholders and donors supporting capacity building; and deal with regional specific issues in a more immediate and relevant way.

5.3 Staff

The ROCB A/P consists of 8 full-time seconded staff members (as of 1 July 2015). This includes 1 from China, 1 from Hong Kong, China, 2 from Japan (including Head of the ROCB A/P), 1 from Korea and 3 from Thailand. In addition, representatives from the Australian Border Force and New Zealand Customs Service based in Bangkok provide ad hoc support and assistance to the ROCB A/P’s activities, especially for its communications and publications.

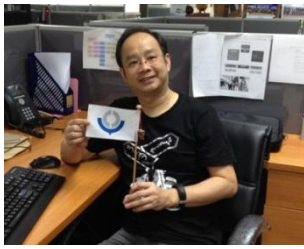


In order to provide more focused quality assistance to the A/P Members, the ROCB A/P has designed a Program Manager responsible for a particular sub-region. Their roles and responsibilities as well as contact details are as follows:

- Role and responsibilities
 - To enhance contact with responsible countries
 - To encourage participation of responsible countries to the regional events
 - To take care of individual requests made by responsible countries
 - To collect Customs related information from responsible countries
 - To liaise with officers responsible for the sub-region of various DPs

Contact Details

Sub-region	A/P Members	Responsible Program Manager	Contact
East, Central and West Asia (ECWA)	Afghanistan, China, Hong Kong China, Iran, Japan, Korea, Macao China, Mongolia, Pakistan	Mr. Kangsik Cho	Email: choks@rocbap.org Tel No.:+66 2 667 6000 ext. 5920
Pacific Islands (PI)	Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu	Mr. Jing Cheng	Email: chengjing@rocbap.org Tel No.:+66 2 667 7026
South Asia (SA)	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka	Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi	Email: miyoshi@rocbap.org Tel No.:+66 2 667 6018
Southeast Asia (SEA)	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Union of Myanmar, Vietnam	Ms. Alpha Wong	Email: alphasywong@rocbap.org Tel No. +66 2 667 6000 ext. 5922



During the year 2014/2015, Mr. James Wong, from Hong Kong Customs (HKC), completed his 2-year term and returned to his home administration in March 2015. Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee, from Korea Customs Service (KCS), also completed his extended secondment term of 1 year and 10 months and returned to his home administration in March 2015.

The ROCB A/P would like to extend its profound appreciation for their invaluable dedication to the ROCB A/P's activities. Their hard working ways have been duly passed on to their successors seconded from the HKC and the KCS respectively.



Strategic Action Plan 2014-2016
For
WCO Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P)

1. Vision

Being a focal point of capacity building to achieve “World Best Regional Customs effectively enhancing security and prosperity together”

2. Mission

To assist building the capacity of Member Customs Administrations to continuously improve securing and facilitating trade

3. Strategic Action Plan

In accordance with the direction given by the Director-Generals and Commissioners of the Customs Administrations in the Asia Pacific Region, the ROCB A/P has set the following Strategic Action Plan. In order to ensure the close linkage between RSP 2014-2016 and ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan, most of the ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan refers to or directly quoted from the RSP 2014-2016 and is specified under the following four pillars of ROCB activities. Like the RSP 2014-2016, this ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan is also applicable from July 2014 to June 2016.

- i. Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools
- ii. Further enhance collaboration with development partners
- iii. Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities
- iv. Enhance communication and information sharing among members

ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan (2014-2016)

1. Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Work with the WCO Secretariat to assist all requesting developing members to have undertaken Diagnostic Phase II	1.1.2-2 nd milestone	Number of members assisted	19/19 members	On-going
b) Upon request, assist Member's efforts: (1) to develop AEO (Authorized Economic Operators) program; (2) to increase AEO MRA (Mutual Recognition Arrangement); and (3) to share experiences on the implementation of SAFE FoS including TRP (Trade Recovery Program)	1.1.2-3 rd to 5 th milestones	Number of assistance provided	At least once per year	On-going
c) Upon request, assist Non-contracting Member's effort to accede to the RKC	1.1.3-1 st milestone	Number of contracting members	At least 18/33 members	June 2016
d) Upon request, assist Member's effort on the (1) smooth implementation of HS 2012 (for CPs) (2) adoption of the HS (for non-CPs)	1.1.3- 2 nd milestone	(1) Number of implementing members (2) Number of contracting members	At least 23/23 members At least 30/33 members (for non-CPs)	On-going
e) Upon request, assist Member's effort in introducing Advance Ruling system for tariff classification decision	1.1.3-3 rd milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 20/33 members	On-going

f) Upon request, assist Member's effort to undertake TRS in accordance with the WCO TRS guidelines	1.1.3-4 th milestone	Number of members	33/33 members	June 2016
g) Upon request, assist Member's effort in implementing WCO Data Model Ver. 3.0	1.1.3-6 th milestone	Number of implementing members	33/33 members	On-going
h) Upon request, assist Member's effort in implementing the resolution on Natural Disaster Relief	1.1.3-7 th milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 15/33 members	On-going
i) Upon request, assist Member's effort in implementing risk management tools including guidelines and Standardized Risk Assessment	1.1.1-1 st milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 22/33 members	June 2016
j) Upon request, assist Member's effort in developing national risk management database (e.g. nCEN)	1.1.1-3 rd milestone	Number of members	At least 11/33 members	June 2016
k) Upon request, assist Member's effort in developing and using national valuation database or the like as a risk management tool	1.1.1-4 th milestone	Number of members	33/33 members	June 2016
l) Upon request, assist Member's effort to enhance cooperation under GNC	1.2.2- 1 st to 3 rd milestones	Number of activities	Once in two years	June 2016
m) Upon request, assist Member's effort to promote cooperation and coordination for CBM	1.2.1-1 st to 2 nd milestones	Number of activities	Once in two years	June 2016
n) Work with Vice Chair and Members to promote activities to raise awareness of IPR issues and increase the application of sustainable anti-drug initiatives (e.g. WCO Compliance and Enforcement Package (CEP))	2.2.1-2 nd and 3 rd milestones	Number of discussions in meetings in AP region	At least once per year	June 2016

o) Undertake capacity building activities to promote trade security and facilitation in the region (e.g. SAFE FoS, RM)	3.2.2- 1 st milestone	Number of CB activities undertaken	At least 3 times per year	June 2016
p) Work with RILO A/P and Members to undertake capacity building activities to enhance capacity of compliance and enforcement in the region (e.g. IPR, commercial fraud, drugs and precursors, environmental crime)	3.2.2-2 nd milestone	Number of CB activities undertaken	At least 3 times per year	June 2016
q) Develop and undertake leadership and management training programs to foster high ethical standards	3.2.3- 1 st milestone	Number of activities	At least once per year	June 2016
r) Work with interested Members to share good practices on measures improving integrity	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of activities	Once in two years	June 2016

2. Further enhance collaboration with development partners

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Enhance cooperation, coordination and mutual understanding between development partners and ROCB A/P	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of exchange of information	At least 4 times per year	June 2016
b) Work with interested Members to organize national meeting with development partners to follow up regional workshop on resource mobilization	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of national meeting with development partners	At least once per year	June 2016
c) Promote joint activities with international and regional development partners	3.1.1-2 nd milestone	Number of activities	At least twice per year	June 2016

3. Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities

Specific Actions of ROCB	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Pool, utilize, support and increase accredited experts in the region based on the framework	3.1.2-1 st milestone	Number of experts utilized	Use of accredited experts for at least one half of the requested missions	June 2016
b) Upon request, assist Members to promote the WCO e-learning programs in cooperation with RTCs and accredited experts	3.1.2-2 nd milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 6/33 members	June 2016
c) Work with developed members to ensure their contribution to the regional capacity building activities	3.1.2-3 rd milestone	Number of contributions	Meet at least 75% of the ROCB requests	June 2016
d) Work with regional training coordinator to identify and review Members' capacity building needs and priorities through conducting a needs assessment via a survey and ongoing consultation	3.2.1-1 st milestone	Number of surveys conducted	At least once per year	June 2016
e) Work with Members to ensure their inputs to the development of ROCB A/P annual plans by responding to the regional needs survey	4.1.2- milestone	Number of contributing members	33/33 members	June 2016
f) Develop and conduct capacity building activities paying due attention to the needs and priorities identified	3.2.1-2 nd milestone	Number of CB activities	At least once per month	June 2016
g) Work with the WCO Secretariat and Members to evaluate the regional capacity building program	3.2.1-3 rd milestone	Results of participants' evaluation	At least average of 4 out of 5	June 2016

h) Work with Regional Training Coordinator to feed results back into planning for regional capacity building activities	3.2.1-4 th milestone	Number of post action undertaken	At least once per year	June 2016
i) Work with the WCO Secretariat and RTCs to enhance Members' national capacity on training management and delivery	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of follow-up work undertaken	At least once per year	June 2016
j) Further strengthen cooperation among 7 Regional Training Centers and ROCB paying due attention to establishing/supporting regional experts for more sustainable capacity building delivery in the region	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of activities	At least once per year	June 2016

4. Enhance communication and information sharing among members

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Work with Members, Vice Chair and RILO A/P to share experiences on capacity building activities with Members on regular basis via regional communication tools (e.g. WCO A/P Website and Newsletter, ROCB A/P Website and Newsletters)	3.1.1- 1 st milestone	Number of sharing experiences	At least once every quarter	June 2016
b) Work with Members, Vice Chair and RTCs to share good practices with other Members via regional communication tools	4.1.4- milestone	Number of items shared	At least once per quarter	June 2016

<p>c) Work with WCO to utilize CLiKCl platform or with Vice Chair to utilize WCO A/P website “Forum” for virtual discussion for exchange of ideas on a number of capacity building related topics</p>	<p>ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)</p>	<p>Number of use of forum</p>	<p>Once in two years</p>	<p>June 2016</p>
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ROCB A/P Annual Work Plan (2015/2016)

1. Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P <i>(Relevance to A/P RSP 2014-2016)</i>	Annual Work Plan for 2015/2016	Timeframe
<p>a) Work with the WCO Secretariat to assist all requesting developing members to have undertaken Diagnostic Phase II</p> <p><i>(RSP 1.1.2-2nd milestone)</i></p>	<p>➤ Upon request, assist requesting developing members to undertake Customs reform and modernization based on the diagnostic recommendations</p>	June 2016
<p>b) Upon request, assist Member's efforts:</p> <p>(1) to develop AEO (Authorized Economic Operators) program;</p> <p>(2) to increase AEO MRA (Mutual Recognition Arrangement), and;</p> <p>(3) to share experiences on the implementation of SAFE FoS including TRP (Trade Recovery Program)</p> <p><i>(RSP 1.1.2 -3rd, -4th, and -5th milestones)</i></p>	<p>➤ Conduct a national workshop on AEO for Vietnam to assist them to assist its introduction of an AEO programs.</p>	June 2016
<p>c) Upon request, assist Non-contracting Member's effort to accede to the RKC</p> <p><i>(RSP 1.1.3-1st milestone)</i></p>	<p>➤ Conduct a national workshop for Samoa to enhance its understanding on the RKC and develop a roadmap for its accession.</p>	June 2016

<p>d) Upon request, assist Member's effort on the</p> <p>(1) smooth implementation of HS 2012 (for CPs)</p> <p>(2) adoption of the HS (for non-CPs)</p> <p><i>(RSP 1.1.3-2nd milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a regional workshop on HS 2017 ➤ Upon request, provide assistance to interested Members for smooth implementation of HS 2012 and/or adopt HS 2012 or the versions thereafter. 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>e) Upon request, assist Member's effort in introducing Advance Ruling system for tariff classification decision</p> <p><i>(RSP 1.1.3-3rd milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a regional workshop on revenue package and advance ruling ➤ Upon request, provide assistance to Members in need for introduction of Advance Ruling system on tariff classification in the context of implementing the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) ➤ Upon request, provide assistance to Members in need for introduction of Advance Ruling system in the context of implementing the WTO TFA, such as by conducting a national workshop on Advance Ruling on origin for Malaysia 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>f) Upon request, assist Member's effort to undertake TRS in accordance with the WCO TRS guidelines</p> <p><i>(RSP 1.1.3-4th milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upon request, work with interested Member(s) to organize national workshop(s) for the implementation of the TRS and the use of the WCO software thereof in context of implementing the WTO TFA 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>g) Upon request, assist Member's effort in implementing WCO Data Model Ver. 3.0</p> <p><i>(RSP 1.1.3-6th milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize regional workshops on Strategic Leadership on IT and SW respectively to deepen understanding on the Single Window and its wider implementation, in the context of implementing the WTO TFA requirements ➤ Aiming at complementing the regional work, upon request of the interested Members, conduct national workshop(s) assist Member(s) to implement Single Window in the context of implementing the CBM 	<p>June 2016</p>

<p>h) Upon request, assist Member's effort in implementing the resolution on Natural Disaster Relief <i>(RSP 1.1.3-7th milestone)</i></p>	<p>➤ Upon request, provide assistance for the implementation of the Resolution on the Customs Role on the Natural Disaster Relief (2011).</p>	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>i) Upon request, assist Member's effort in implementing risk management tools including guidelines and Standardized Risk Assessment <i>(RSP 1.1.1-1st milestone)</i></p>	<p>➤ Organize a regional workshop on risk management on air cargoes through the use of advance cargo information in the context of implementing the SAFE Pillar 3 <i>(See also 1-(o))</i></p> <p>➤ Conduct national workshops on risk management and assessment for Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Vietnam <i>(See also 1-(o))</i></p>	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>j) Upon request, assist Member's effort in developing national risk management database (e.g. nCEN) <i>(RSP 1.1.1-3rd milestone)</i></p>	<p>➤ Organize a regional workshop on air passenger targeting and control to contend with terrorism and transnational organized crime <i>(See also 1-(n))</i></p>	
<p>k) Upon request, assist Member's effort in developing and using national valuation database or the like as a risk management tool <i>(RSP 1.1.1-4th milestone)</i></p>	<p>➤ To supplement the above regional workshop on air passenger targeting and control, upon request, work with interested Members to conduct national workshops in particular to assist their challenges for passenger targeting using API/PNR <i>(See also 1-(n))</i></p>	
<p>l) Upon request, assist Member's effort to enhance cooperation under GNC <i>(RSP 1.2.2-1st, 2nd and 3rd milestones)</i></p>	<p>➤ Organize sub-regional workshops on streamlining transit procedures for South Asia Sub-region (i.e. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal) and Greater Mekong Sub-region (i.e. Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Union of Myanmar and Vietnam) respectively to improve understanding on GNC and contribute to the WCO work on the development of GNC action plan through application of principal concepts of the WCO's Transit Handbook.</p>	<p>June 2016</p>

<p>m) Upon request, assist Member's effort to promote cooperation and coordination for CBM <i>(RSP 1.2.1-1st and 2nd milestones)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a regional workshop for the implementation of CBM ➤ Conduct supplementary national workshops on CBM for Bangladesh, Malaysia, Mongolia and Thailand ➤ Encourage Members to share their experiences in CBM using the ROCB A/P's communication tools, such as ROCB A/P homepage and ROCB A/P E-newsletters 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>n) Work with Vice Chair and Members to promote activities to raise awareness of IPR issues and increase the application of sustainable anti-drug initiatives (e.g. WCO Compliance and Enforcement Package (CEP)) <i>(RSP 2.2.1-2nd and 3rd milestones)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a regional workshop on CEP to deepen Members' understanding and encourage adoption of a series of instruments and guidelines covered by the CEP ➤ Organize regional workshops on IPR enforcement, especially for the increased use of the IPM and development of national action plans thereof. ➤ To supplement the above regional workshop on IPR enforcement, conduct national workshops for Fiji, India and Union of Myanmar to assist their particular challenges associated with the IPR enforcement ➤ Organize a regional workshop on air passenger targeting and control to contend with terrorism and transnational organized crime ➤ To supplement the above regional workshop on air passenger targeting and control, upon request, work with interested Members to conduct national workshops in particular to assist their challenges for passenger targeting using API/PNR ➤ Organize a sub-regional workshop on inspection and investigation techniques against drug trafficking for Pacific Islands 	<p>June 2016</p>

<p>o) Undertake capacity building activities to promote trade security and facilitation in the region (e.g. SAFE FoS, RM)</p> <p><i>(RSP 3.2.2-1st milestones)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a regional workshop on Strategic Trade Control Enforcement (STCE) in the context of contending with the breach to supply chain security ➤ Organize a regional workshop on the image analysis technique of Non-Intrusive Inspection (NII) equipment, including the detection of explosives, among others ➤ Organize a regional workshop on risk management on air cargoes through the use of advance cargo information in the context of implementing the SAFE FoS Pillar 3 ➤ Conduct national workshops on risk management and assessment for Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Vietnam ➤ Organize a regional workshop on the implementation of the WTO TFA ➤ To supplement the above regional workshop on the implementation of the WTO TFA, upon request from interested Member(s), conduct national workshop(s) to assist Member(s) to implement pertinent trade facilitation measures set forth in the WTO TFA. ➤ Conduct national workshops on Post Clearance Audit techniques for Cambodia, Malaysia and Samoa 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>p) Work with RILO A/P and Members to undertake capacity building activities to enhance capacity of compliance and enforcement in the region (e.g. IPR, commercial fraud, drugs and precursors, environmental crime)</p> <p><i>(RSP 3.2.2-2nd milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a regional workshop on border control against illicit trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons ➤ Organize a regional workshop on IPR operation ➤ Cooperate with RILO A/P and regional experts on anti-drug activities with a view to strengthening Members' drug enforcement capacity, as appropriate. 	<p>June 2016</p>

<p>q) Develop and undertake leadership and management training programs to foster high ethical standards <i>(RSP 3.2.3-1st milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cooperate with interested Member(s) to organize a regional workshop on integrity issues, as appropriate <i>(See also 3-(c))</i> ➤ Conduct a national workshop on Leadership and Management Development for Indonesia 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>r) Work with interested Members to share good practices on measures improving integrity <i>(ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in RSP))</i></p>		

2. Further develop partnerships with development partners

<p>Specific Actions of ROCB A/P (Relevance to A/P RSP 2014-2016)</p>	<p>Annual Work Plan for 2015/2016</p>	<p>Timeframe</p>
<p>a) Enhance cooperation, coordination and mutual understanding between development partners and ROCB A/P <i>(ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in RSP))</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue strategic dialogues and cooperation with development partners through participation in the meetings and seminars organized by them 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>b) Work with interested Members to organize national meeting with development partners to follow up regional workshop on resource mobilization <i>(ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in RSP))</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize a regional workshop on Resource Mobilization for Customs Reform and Modernization 	<p>June 2016</p>

<p>c) Promote joint activities with international and regional development partners <i>(RSP 3.1.1-2nd milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue to work with WB, ADB, UNEP and other interested development partners to conduct joint projects for reform and modernization of Member administrations and send experts for the joint projects on such areas as Customs Valuation and PCA ➤ Participate in sub-regional meetings organized by development partners to monitor and assist Members' efforts in reform and modernization 	<p>June 2016</p>
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3. Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities

<p>Specific Actions of ROCB (Relevance to A/P RSP 2014-2016)</p>	<p>Annual Work Plan for 2015/2016</p>	<p>Timeframe</p>
<p>a) Pool, utilize, support and increase accredited experts in the region based on the framework <i>(RSP 3.1.2-1st milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize regional accreditation workshops on PCA and TRS respectively and utilize the region's accredited experts on various occasions of regional/national workshops on their respective expertise. ➤ Discuss and cooperate with RTCs to keep update the knowledge and skills of these accredited experts and candidates 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>b) Upon request, assist Members to promote the WCO e-learning programs in cooperation with RTCs and accredited experts <i>(RSP 3.1.2-2nd milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Take every possible opportunity to promote the WCO e-learning programs and CLiKC! platform in cooperation with the RTCs and accredited experts to support Members' continuous self-efforts for training of their personnel 	<p>June 2016</p>

<p>c) Work with developed members to ensure their contribution to the regional capacity building activities <i>(RSP 3.1.2-3rd milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct a national workshop on the establishment of Customs Laboratory for Fiji, in cooperation with the WCO A/P Regional Customs Laboratory ➤ Cooperate with interested Member(s) to organize a regional workshop on integrity issues <i>(See also 1-(q) and (r))</i> ➤ Identify areas of existing expertise and their possible inputs from the developed members and seek further contribution from them for the regional capacity building activities at an early stage of planning. 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>d) Work with regional training coordinator to identify and review Members' capacity building needs and priorities through conducting a needs assessment via a survey and ongoing consultation <i>(RSP 3.2.1-1st milestone)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Work with the Regional Training Coordinator to further review capacity building needs survey aiming at properly collecting Members' most current needs and reform/modernization priorities ➤ Work with the WCO Secretariat, Member and development partners to plan, deliver and review capacity building activities paying due attention to the Members' needs and priorities. 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>e) Work with Members to ensure their input to ROCB A/P annual plans by responding to the regional needs survey <i>(RSP 4.1.2 milestone)</i></p>		
<p>f) Develop and conduct capacity building activities paying due attention to the needs and priorities identified <i>(RSP 3.2.1-2nd milestone)</i></p>		

<p>g) Work with the WCO Secretariat and Members to evaluate the regional capacity building program <i>(RSP 3.2.1-3rd milestone)</i></p>	<p>-ditto-</p>	<p>-ditto-</p>
<p>h) Work with regional training coordinator to feed results back into planning for regional capacity building activities <i>(RSP 3.2.1-4th milestone)</i></p>		
<p>i) Work with the WCO Secretariat and RTCs to enhance Members' national capacity on training management and delivery <i>(ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in RSP))</i></p>		
<p>j) Further strengthen cooperation among 7 RTCs and ROCB paying due attention to establishing/supporting regional experts for more sustainable capacity building delivery in the region <i>(ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in RSP))</i></p>	<p>➤ In cooperation with the Regional Vice Chair, convene a Meeting of Heads of RTCs to further strengthen their network and devise regional strategy for the pooling and better use of the regional experts in capacity building activities</p>	<p>November 2015</p>

4. Enhance communication and information sharing among members

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P (Relevance to A/P RSP 2014-2016)	Annual Work Plan for 2015/2016	Timeframe
<p>a) Work with Members, Vice Chair and RILO A/P to share experiences on capacity building activities with Members on regular basis via regional communication tools (e.g. WCO A/P Website and Newsletter, ROCB A/P Website and Newsletters) (RSP 3.1.1-1st milestone)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Issue ROCB A/P E-newsletters every 3 months and include more information on Members’ experiences in reform and modernization ➤ Maintain ROCB website and upload pertinent information in a timely manner to inform Members and stakeholders of the ROCB A/P’s activities. 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>b) Work with Members, Vice Chair and RTCs to share good practices with other Members via regional communication tools (RSP 4.1.4 milestone)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assist Members, Vice Chair and the RTCs to share good practices by issuing a series of regional good practice reports on selected topics 	<p>June 2016</p>
<p>c) Work with WCO to utilize CLiKC! platform or with Vice Chair to utilize WCO A/P website “Forum” for virtual discussion for exchange of ideas on a number of capacity building related topics (ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in RSP))</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Work with the WCO Secretariat and experts to promote CLiKC! platform to reinvigorate virtual discussion on the topics of the Members’ interest 	<p>June 2016</p>

Abbreviations

ACE	World Customs Organization Accredited Customs Expert
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AEO	Authorized Economic Operator
A/P	Asia Pacific
API	Advance Passenger Information
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CADS	Customs Anti-Drug Strategy
CB	Capacity Building
CBM	Coordinated Border Management
CCF	Customs Cooperation Fund
CEN	Customs Enforcement Network
CENcomm	Customs Enforcement Network Communication
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CLiKC!	Customs Learning and Knowledge Community
CP	Contracting Parties
CTS	Cargo Targeting System
DG	Director General
DP	Development Partner
ECP	Economic Competitiveness Package
GNC	Globally Networked Customs
HS	Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IPM	Interface Public Member
IPR	Intellectual Property Right
IT	Information Technology
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRA	Mutual Recognition Arrangement
nCEN	national Customs Enforcement Network
NCP	National Contact Point
NII	Non-Intrusive Inspection
OCO	Oceania Customs Organisation
PCA	Post Clearance Audit
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
PNR	Passenger Name Record
RAEG	Regional Anti-drug Expert Group
RCP	Regional Contact Point
RILO A/P	Asia Pacific Regional Intelligence Liaison Office
RKC	Revised Kyoto Convention
RM	Risk Management

ROCB	Regional Office for Capacity Building
ROCB A/P	Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building
RSP	Regional Strategic Plan
RTC	Regional Training Center
SASEC	South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation
SAFE FoS	SAFE Framework of Standards
TFA	Trade Facilitation Agreement
TRAFFIC	Trade Record Analysis of Flora and Fauna In Commerce
TRP	Trade Recovery Program
TRS	Time Release Study
TTA	Training and Technical Assistance
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
WB	World Bank
WCO	World Customs Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

