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FIRST INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEES

Boosting capacities and partnerships for implementation

PREMIER FORUM INTERNATIONAL SUR LES COMITÉS NATIONAUX DE FACILITATION DES ÉCHANGES

Renforcement des capacités et des partenariats pour la mise en œuvre

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NTCF Key Considerations and Potential Pitfalls

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“I don't believe in pitfalls. I believe in taking risks and not doing the same thing twice.”

-- Guy Laliberte

“Political novels are full of pitfalls, particularly for a novelist with strong political leanings.”

-- Phil Klay



Recent WCO Perspectives on NTCF Pitfalls

The WCO's perspectives on NTCF pitfalls are informed by...

- Six regional TFA familiarization events in all WCO regions;
- Perspectives from a growing network of experts, who have been engaged in Customs-to-Customs capacity building activities;
- Joint engagement on NTFC Empowerment Programme with UNCTAD;
- 2014 WCO NTCF Survey (79 responses)
- WCO-led coordinated border management-related missions in 2015 – 16;
- Engagement with other Annex D organizations;
- WCO TFA Working Group and Capacity Building Committee meetings.



Information and Data

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Concrete data on real clearance times and processes, taking into account all border stakeholders;
- Perspective on the real, lived experiences of a broad range of traders at the border;
- Intelligence sharing between Customs and other border agencies to support informed risk management.



Technical Competence and Training

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Common understanding of -- and commitment to -- the underlying principles of trade facilitation and the TFA;
- Understanding of relevant cross-cutting technical measures and inter-agency implementation considerations;
- Rotation / career paths take technical competence into account;
- National-level training resources and competencies are leveraged.



Process, Structure and Relationships

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Legal, process, human resource / training and information technology considerations considered holistically;
- Trust-based relationship with trading community; supported by voluntary compliance framework and culture;
- Formal arrangements versus informal arrangements;
- Hierarchy of committees and subcommittees clearly defined;
- Institutionalization versus projectization.



WCO Instruments and Tools

Information and Data

Technical Competence and Training

Process, Structure and Relationships



Final Points for Consideration

People – Partnerships – Political Will

- Continuous professional development, competency-based management and talent management;
- Best practices – WCO instruments and tools, Member best practices, alignment with international standards;
- Greater formalization – procedures, processes, data exchange, roles / responsibilities – for information and goods flow;
- Political and administrative leadership and visioning – champions of reform and modernization.