

COMPENDIUM of Authorized Economic Operator Programmes



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Introduction

The WCO Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme is widely acknowledged as a key driver for a solid Customs-Business Partnership; secure, transparent and predictable trading environment; and in a wider context, enhanced economic prosperity.

The WCO strongly supports the implementation of an AEO programme and welcomes the growing number of countries implementing AEO as well as various Customs compliance programmes and the Authorised Operator scheme under the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA) as a first step towards the implementation of a full-fledged AEO programme.

It is to note that the number of Mutual Recognition Agreements/Arrangements (MRAs) signed and currently being negotiated has considerably increased during last year, and these positive dynamics demonstrate the increased engagement of all relevant stakeholders and provides a basis for a harmonised approach in a view of achieving mutual bilateral and plurilateral recognition agreements.

Beyond developing standards, guidelines and providing capacity building support to the WCO Members in establishing, maintaining and enhancing AEO programmes, the WCO facilitates communication and cooperation among WCO Members and key stakeholders on the AEO and MRAs implementation. Recognising the dynamic development of AEO programmes among WCO Members, the WCO is conducting an annual update of the AEO Compendium, which aims to be a primary source of information including good practices, for developing/enhancing national AEO programmes.

Since its first publication in 2010, the AEO Compendium has become an important source of information for Customs and other key stakeholders, such as the business community, academia and all those who have a professional interest in the latest developments concerning AEO programmes around the world.

The Compendium contains concise but concrete and structured overview of the current AEO programmes and MRAs implemented by WCO Members, so that all interested persons can use it as a reference to existing practice on national, regional and global levels. In addition to the provision of basic information on AEO and Customs compliance programmes, the Compendium also includes a short overview of respective AEO programme accreditation procedures and benefits. Contributions are not confined to the present situation only and most Member States have also provided valuable information on their potential future developments/initiatives.

The AEO Compendium is incorporated in the *WCO SAFE Package* that contains tools to assist in establishing and administering AEO Programmes. While under the SAFE Framework of Standards a single definition for a SAFE AEO programme is provided, there is currently no definition of Customs compliance programmes. There are a number of trusted trader related programmes that are contained within various international instruments, and being implemented by Customs administrations.

The Compendium makes a clear differentiation between the SAFE AEO programme, a Compliance programme (*similar to the Authorized Person concept in the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC) Standard 3.32*) and the WTO TFA Authorised Operator scheme.

Transitional Standard 3.32 of the RKC refers to the concept of “authorized persons” who must have “an appropriate record of compliance with Customs requirements and a satisfactory system for managing their commercial records”. On the other hand Article 7.7 (Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators) of the WTO TFA makes provision for ‘Authorized Operators’ who meet a set of criteria, which may include appropriate record of compliance with Customs and other related

regulations, a system of managing records for necessary internal control, financial solvency and supply chain security. The Authorised Operator concept does not, other than stating that the programme must exhibit one or more of the criteria listed, mandate any need to have security considerations as part of its design. If there is no security requirement, the Authorized Operator scheme could also be considered yet another Customs compliance programme.

For the purpose of this Compendium, a Compliance programme has been clearly differentiated and could possibly be defined as a Customs facilitation programme which requires of an operator an appropriate record of compliance with Customs requirements, a satisfactory system for managing commercial records and, where possible, a good financial solvency.

The main difference between the SAFE AEO Programme and a Compliance programme lies in the fact that security requirements such as those prescribed in Annex IV of the SAFE 2015 are not specifically included in a Compliance programme. Also, unlike the SAFE AEO programme, Compliance programme may not have common specified criteria and standards. As a consequence bilateral/plurilateral/regional mutual recognition of such programmes could be a challenge.

The WTO TFA provides that the WTO Members are encouraged to develop Authorized Operator schemes on the basis of international standards, where such standards exist. The RKC and its guidelines and the SAFE Framework of Standards provide such standards. These WCO Standards, supported by the tools in the SAFE Package, i.e. the AEO Implementation Guidance, the AEO Compendium, the AEO Validator Guide, the Model AEO Appeal Procedures, the Authorized Economic Operator and the Small and Medium Enterprise (FAQ), the AEO Template and the Mutual Recognition Arrangement/Agreement Guidelines, can effectively support and assist WCO Members in developing and implementing WTO TFA - Authorized Operator schemes. Given that the WTO TFA mentions all four criteria (even if non binding) for Authorized Operator scheme, it may be appropriate to use the AEO criteria/requirements as in the SAFE as a standard to develop Authorised Operator scheme under the WTO TFA. Using the AEO criteria as a standard to implement Article 7.7 of the WTO TFA will assist in ensuring a harmonized approach and in enabling those that go for it to achieve seamless mutual recognition at bilateral, sub-regional, regional and, global levels.

In a SAFE context, a Compliance programme could perhaps be a first step or stepping stone to the SAFE AEO programme. This is to say that unless all the requirements of the SAFE Framework of Standard are complied with by an operator in the supply chain, it would not have a SAFE AEO status.

Considering the above, the 2017 edition consists of five parts dealing with AEO programmes based on the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards (Part I), Customs Compliance programmes implemented by Customs administrations (Part II), Customs administrations' experiences of working together with other agencies (Part III), Authorized Operator scheme of the WTO TFA (Part IV) and Mutual Recognition Agreements/Arrangements of AEO programmes (Part V). The Appendix contains a list of AEO programmes.

Based on the information provided by Members as of April 2017, this edition of the AEO Compendium identifies:

- **73** operational AEO Programmes and **17** AEO programmes to be launched
- **44 + 3** (China Taipei) MRAs concluded and **42 + 4** (multilateral) MRAs are being negotiated
- **29** Operational Customs Compliance programmes and **3** Customs Compliance programmes to be launched

The WCO Secretariat appreciates information provided by its Members and encourages all Members to contribute for further sharing of good practises and for strengthening of cooperation between Customs and the private sector.

Disclaimer

The Compendium disseminates the findings of work in progress to encourage the exchange of ideas about Customs issues. The views and opinions presented in this paper do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the WCO or WCO Members.

This Compendium is available on the WCO public website: www.wcoomd.org. The Compliance and Facilitation Directorate can be contacted by email: Facilitation@wcoomd.org

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Abbreviations

AEO	Authorized Economic Operator
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRA	Mutual Recognition Agreement/Arrangement
RKC	Revised Kyoto Convention
TFA	WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation
SAFE	WCO SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
WCO	World Customs Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

I. Operational AEO Programmes and AEO Programmes Under Development

A. Operational AEO Programmes

1. SOUTH AMERICA, NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

a) Argentina

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Customs System of Reliable Operators (SAOC)	2006	Import/export (only for CUSE system ¹)	Exporters (since 2006) Reliable Customs brokers (since 2009) Postal Service Providers System PSP/ safe couriers to be incorporated (CUSE System) (since 2012).	7	External Note No. 37/2006 (requirements and responsibilities for export). External Note No. 50/2006 (determines the office in charge of receiving accession forms). General Resolution No. 2350/2007, issued by the Federal Administration of Public Income (AFIP) to establish the proceedings for the control of the destinations of the exports for consumption. External Note No. 48/2008 (a specific programme for SME). External Note No. 3/2009 (information to be registered in the Maria Computerised System (S.I.M.). The destinations indicated will go through green channel, except when the legal rules indicate otherwise). External Note No.37/2009 (requirements and responsibilities) General Resolution N° 3253/2012 Customs procedure - Foreign Trade Importer/Exporter-Customs Service Auxiliaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reengineering of the Reliable Operators Customs System – Change in the name and new types of certifications Signing MRA

¹ CUSE System is a programme recently incorporated by the Federal Administration of Public Revenues of Argentina. Its main goal is to establish a process based on technological innovations as well as procedures of risk analysis and assessment that will allow certifying Courier service providers. With the aim of guaranteeing the traceability and safety of the deliveries made using Courier services, Resolution 3253/2012 has been enacted and is in its first phase of implementation.

Accreditation (components, process)	Benefits
<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To comply with the rules and if appropriate, to provide a warranty; • To submit the application to the Customs General Directorate, together with the additional documentation proving the fulfillment of the requirements; • To describe the production process, the transportation, the security rules, among other things (secure supply chain); • Availability of the computerized management system – inventory and control. The controls are risk-based; • Availability of the image control system that facilitates a fluent and permanent communication with the Customs control areas. <p>Solvency criteria are lower for SMEs. The fulfillments of the tax and customs obligations are taken into account.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saving costs and time. Reduction of operational costs for the operators; • Anticipation of the consignments sent to other countries; • Competitive difference with other operators; • Use of non intrusive technology for cargo control; • International accreditation of the supply chain; • Identification as Reliable Operator by other Customs Administrations; • Access to the main facilities at the ports of entry in the countries of destination; • Secure and smooth transportation of goods; • Keep the integrity of the shipment.

b) Bolivia

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Operador Económico Autorizado – OEA (Authorized Economic Operator – AEO)	March 24th 2015 January 26, 2016 March 31, 2016 December 2016	Export Customs Brokers airport Highway Carriers	Exporters, gradually incorporate other operators. Customs brokers. Importers. Carriers (rail, air, highway), couriers	4	Supreme Decree N° 1443 that regulates de OEA Program; 2012. Board Resolution of the Bolivian Customs that create the area responsible for implementing the OEA Program in Bolivia; 2013. Board Resolution of the Bolivian Customs that will give sustainability to the Program. Presidency Resolution of the Bolivian Customs that approve the process to certificate operators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To launch officially the AEO Programme of Bolivia. To broadcast nationally and internationally the AEO Programme of Bolivia. To increase benefits in order to streamline the process of transporting goods. Gradually incorporate other governmental entities. Incorporate other operators of the supply chain. To continue the AEO staff training. To promote signs of Mutual Recognition Agreements.

Accreditation (components, process)	General Benefits
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<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To comply with tax and customs regulations. To comply with government and labour regulations. To comply legal regulations. To be financially solvent. Stockholders, partners, legal representative of the company and staff that work with tax and customs procedures should not have police and criminal records related with the supply chain security. To have an adequate security level, complying the supply chain security requirements <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit application to Customs: The applicant should fill and remit the form with supporting documents. Documentary evaluation: The AEO staff will check all the information (form and supporting documents) that the applicant remitted. Validation visits to check the supply chain security requirements: The AEO staff will shift to the locations of the company in order to inspect the supply chain security procedures that the applicant incorporate to comply with the requirements. 	<p>General Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigning a customs official to help companies to coordinate and resolve Customs issues related with their certified operation. Priority attention in operational and administrative procedures. Dissemination of its AEO status at the national and international levels. The AEO can use the logo of the AEO programme of Bolivia. Participation in new customs initiatives. Free delivery Token as bailment. Communication and forwarding of updated customs regulations. Access to the international platform "AEO Community of Practice". <p>Exporters Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of red and yellow channels for export declarations. Priority to handling clearance formalities. Streamlined documentary examination and / or physical recognition, when assigning red or yellow channel. Streamlining in the cancellation of term and return of guarantees for RITEX operations. Reduction of en-route controls. Submission of final export with minimal information.
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Certification:

After performing the validation, the AEO certification will be granted or denied.

The certification is issued by Customs Administration (National Customs of Bolivia) and it is valid for three years. During this period of time, at least 2 control visits will be done in the verification of satisfactory record of compliance with obligations, validation of safety requirements and the granting of benefits. The record of satisfactory performance includes the establishment and legal residence in the country, the absence of sanctions in the tax, customs, currency, sanitary and phytosanitary issue during the two years preceding the filing of the application, background check for the applicant and staff linked to it, be current in payment of obligations and have expertise and experience in performing the activity for which purports to be authorized. The security requirements, provide documents, implemented and verifiable on personnel issues Staff selection, security management

- Evaluation of commercial partners involved in the certified activity.
- Plant capacity in verification remotely shipment and placement of seals.

Customs Brokers Benefits

- Qualification for customs clearance at the national level.
- Reduction of global guarantees to ensure the operations in which they operate.
- Assigning most users on the system of the Customs.
- Prioritization in the attention of requests for exemptions from customs duties.
- Reduction of fines for customs violations.
- Care for contingencies or eventualities.
- Assignment of criteria of lower risk in the selective system of the National Customs.

Importers Benefits

- Reduction of red and yellow channels for export declarations.
- Priority to handling clearance formalities.
- Be a receiver of information for tracking the charge via e-mail
- Streamlined documentary examination and / or physical recognition, when assigning red or yellow channel.
- Reduction of en-route controls.
- Evaluation of commercial partners involved in the certified activity.
- Priority in the revision of merchandise declaration with information sheet.
- For green channels, immediate lift, without the entrance of the merchandise to customs warehouse.
- Reduction of guarantees to access payment facilities.
- Priority attention to present the logistics service in customs areas.

High Way Carriers Benefits

- Enabling transport units with global guarantee.
- Exceptional qualification for importation without a maximum established.
- Reduction of the percentage of documentary revision of Cargo Manifests covering export goods.
- Prioritization in the entrance and exit of the transport units in the customs area.
- Preferential treatment in Border Customs Administrations.
- Availability of spaces for custody, verification and unloading of merchandise.
- Expedition in the habilitation of users in the Customs system.
- Priority treatment in the physical inspection of the transport units loaded in Foreign Customs Agencies.

c) Brazil

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Brazilian AEO Programme (Programa Brasileiro de Operador Econômico Autorizado)	AEO-Security December 10, 2014 AEO-Compliance December 11, 2015 AEO Single Window Status (AEO Integrated with other government agencies)	Import/Export	Importer, Exporter, Bonded Warehouse Keeper, Port and Airport Operators, Carriers, Customs Brokers, Freight Forwarders.	84 AEO: 59 importers/ 4 importers/ 2 Customs Warehouse 2 Carriers, 6 Freight Forwarder, 1 Port operator 1 Airport operator Warehouse	Secretariat of the Federal Revenue Normative: IN RFB nº 1.598/2015 Voluntary participation	<p>The Brazilian AEO Programme is scheduled to be implemented in 3 stages. First stage was launched in 2014, and since then, operators can be certified based on compliance of security criteria (AEO-Security).</p> <p>In 2015, when second stage was launched, certification also occurs based on fulfillment of and customs rules and procedures (AEO-Compliance).</p> <p>AEO-Compliance was implemented as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> AEO-Compliance tier 1: for importers, exporters and customs brokers; <input type="checkbox"/> AEO-Compliance tier 2: only for importers and exporters. <p>AEO holders of both AEO-Security and AEO-Compliance tier 2 certifications are considered AEO-Full.</p> <p>Blue Line, former Brazilian trusted trader programme, was merged with AEO-Compliance in March, 2016, and Blue line certified companies were provisionally certified as OEA-Compliance tier 1 until its Blue Line permission decays.</p> <p>In 2017, the focus will be on integrating other government agencies aiming at the streamlining of regulatory procedures. The first agency to integrate will be Agriculture, and the pilot project will occur in the first semester of 2017.</p>
<p>For certification in the Brazilian AEO Programme compliance shall be verified with the following, according to the chosen system: 1-AEO-Security; 2-AEO-Compliance tier 1 or tier 2; 3 –AEO-Full.</p> <p>General Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An appropriate record of compliance; • Computer-based system to manage commercial, tax, financial and 					<p>General Benefits (to all operators):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specially appointed AEO Customs Support Officer • AEO List on Customs' Website; • Use of the AEO Program Logo; • Priority when applying for a different AEO Type, Tier or System; • Mutual Recognition Agreement Benefits (MRA); 	

<p>operational records;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial solvency; • Commercial partners policy; and • Human Resources policy; • Appropriate Security Standards (for AEO-Security); • Appropriate Compliance Standards (For AEO-Compliance tier 1 and tier 2). <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill in an application and a self-assessment questionnaire, and send them to Customs; • For AEO-Compliance tier 2 and AEO-Full fill in a Supplemental Validation Report that includes risk maps of operators work process; • Customs performs a risk analysis and a physical inspection of the applicant; • Customs awards/rejects the AEO Certification; • Monitoring of AEO after certification to ensure compliance level is maintained; • Customs suspends/revokes the AEO Certification (if needed). <p>The conditions for acceptance and rejection of the applicant as well as suspension and revocation of the AEO certification are laid down in the legislation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation in updating laws and customs procedures related to AEO (Consultative Group); • Requirement waiver when asking for special customs regimes; and • Customs and AEO certified operator's joint workshops and trainings. <p>Benefits to AEO-Security and AEO-Full:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real time channel definition; • Lower rate of document and physical controls in EXPORT operations; • Priority on document and physical controls; • AEO Carriers can realize simplified export procedure to SME; and • Guarantee waiver for transit. <p>Benefits to AEO-Compliance tier 1 and AEO-Full:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority on AEO Classification of Goods Decision (maximum of 40 days); • Guarantee waiver for temporary admission; and • Permission to rectify import declarations in smaller lots. <p>Benefits to AEO-Compliance tier 2 and AEO-Full:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real time channel definition • Lower rate of document and physical controls in IMPORT operations; • Priority on document and physical controls; • Permission to submit import declaration before the goods arrival (only for goods imported by sea); and • Green channel for Temporary Admission (document and physical controls waiver).
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d) **Canada**

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Partners in Protection (PIP)	1995, revision in 2002 and 2008	Import/export	Importers, exporters, carriers (rail, sea, air, highway), customs brokers, couriers, warehouse operators, freight forwarders, shipping agents	1568 approved members	No specific AEO legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplify the application process through automation and streamlining of processes. • Develop a web-based application processing system (web portal) to simplify program application, administration, and information exchange. Phase 1 of Portal launched in 2014. Phase 2 scheduled for 2017-18. • Develop further benefits in consultation with private industry. • Continue to provide AEO assistance and cooperation. • Plan additional MRAs with compatible AEO programs.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Program Membership Application Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants to the PIP program complete and submit a Security Profile (the program's application form) in which they provide detailed information on how they meet the program's minimum security criteria, including: physical security and access controls; procedural security; conveyance, cargo, and equipment (container, trailer and rail car) security; data and document security; personnel security; security training and awareness; and business partner security. • The Security Profile is reviewed, concerns identified, and a thorough risk assessment performed. • An onsite validation of the company is performed to confirm the program requirements are met. • The company is invited to sign the Terms and Conditions of PIP Membership, in which they commit to maintaining PIP's minimum security criteria and providing any updates to their information in a timely manner.. <p>PIP members are revalidated at least once every four years, in which an updated Security Profile, risk assessment, and site validation are performed.</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower rate of physical examinations. • Access to Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) expertise (assignment of a single contact for customs issues). • Dedicated access lanes at certain ports of entry for eligible highway carriers (FAST lanes). • Program communications and stakeholder consultation. • Recognition by international customs administrations via MRAs. Enhanced industry marketability as an accredited low-risk company. • The PIP program is factored into the CBSA's Business Resumption Plan in the event of trade flow disruptions. 	

e) Colombia

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of Operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO – Authorized Economic Operator	September 2011	export	Importer Exporter	23 Exporters	Decree 3568 de 2011. Amended by decree 1894 from 22 September 2015. Resolutions 15 and 67 of 2016	Allow the participation of importers, ports and customs agents to the program
Accreditation (components, process)			Benefits			
Categories: Safety and Simplification. And safety and Sanitary simplification			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition as a safe and reliable operators in the supply chain by control authorities. • Assign an operations officer from each authority that will support its operations. • Participation in Congress to AEO. • Participation in training activities scheduled for AEO, by the supervisory authorities in matters within its competence. • Decreased number of awards, physical inspections and documentary operations for export, import and customs transit by the Tax and Customs and decreased physical inspections for export operations by the Narcotics Division National police. • Do not constitute guarantees to support the fulfillment of their customs obligations. • Submit the request for boarding authorization at the place of shipment. • Do not submit an advance customs declaration in cases where it is mandatory. • Re-shipment the goods that at the time of the customs intervention in the previous and simultaneous control, are different from the ones negotiated and that arrived at the country due to supplier's error. 			

f) **Costa Rica**

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Customs Facilitation Programme for Reliable Trade (PROFAC)	2011: Export 2015: other actors in the logistics chain (Import, Maritime Port, Export cargo terminal)	Export and Import	Export, Import, Maritime Port, End Export cargo terminal	10 Export 10 Import 2 Maritime Port 2 Export cargo terminals.	Executive Decree No 38998-H	2017: Customs brokers, Warehouse keeper, land transport and maritime transport
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Certification Process of the Authorized Economic Operator</p> <p>Article 11°- Application. The natural or legal person who voluntarily requires to be certified as AEO in the Customs Facilitation Programme for Reliable Trade, must submit to the Area of External Relations and Affairs of the Directorate General of Customs, the PROFAC Certification Request Form established for that purpose by administrative decision of general application, attaching the documents and self-assessment questionnaire of the company established for this purpose by administrative decision of general application. Both, the application form and the self-assessment questionnaire shall be submitted and signed by the person with capacity and legal authority to act and contract obligations in its own name or the company's name.</p> <p>Article 14°.- Analysis and verification of admissibility. Once the PROFAC certification application is submitted, the Area of External Relations and Affairs, initiates the process of analysis and verification of the admissibility of the information and required attachments. This process shall consist of a detailed study of the application, accompanying documents and records of the applicant; which shall take place within eighty working days after the submission of the application.</p> <p>When, as result of the admissibility study, the necessity of preventing an error or omission, or the compliance with any of the formalities required for the preprocessing of the application, is determined by the Area of External Relations and Affairs, the person concerned shall be</p>					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Status of reliable and secure company before the National Customs Service. 2) Designation of ROFAC executives. 3) Advertisement for certified companies on the website of the Ministry of Treasury, in national and international events and advertising materials about the AEO. 4) Training in technical customs procedures and customs matters. 5) Simplification and facilitation of customs procedures and operations concerning: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Priority attention in the customs procedures b. Reduction of physical and documentary controls. c. Priority in case of physical and/or documentary examination. d. Extended hours at customs offices. e. Site selection for the inspection of goods in the event of 	

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Customs Facilitation Programme for Reliable Trade (PROFAC)	2011: Export 2015: other actors in the logistics chain (Import, Maritime Port, Export cargo terminal)	Export and Import	Export, Import, Maritime Port, End Export cargo terminal	10 Export 10 Import 2 Maritime Port 2 Export cargo terminals.	Executive Decree No 38998-H	2017: Customs brokers, Warehouse keeper, land transport and maritime transport
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>prevented to correct them within the prescribed period of ten working days. The prevention, duly notified to the person concerned, at the place or means indicated in the request, will suspend the deadline for completion of the process for the administration. When the prevention period ends, the Area of External Relations and Affairs will determine the compliance of the formalities provided in this process and will immediately continue with the next phase of certification, if applicable. If the requester does not comply in time, the Area of External Relations and Affairs shall issue the administrative decision denying the certification and order the closure of the file, within three working days after the prevention deadline. Article 15°.- Assessment and verification requirements. This phase consists on the implementation of a field study and elaboration of a final report carried out by the Area of External Relations and Affairs, to verify and assess compliance with the requirements under this decree. After the field study, if necessary, the Area of External Relations and Affairs will prevent the person concerned to correct the breaches, or procedural requirements for the certification as AEO. The corrections shall be implemented within one month; during which case the process deadline of the respective phase, for the administration, will be suspended. When the prevention period ends, the Area of External Relations and Affairs shall conduct a</p>					<p>physical examination. f. Priority attention and mobilization of loads on border crossings. 6) International recognition as PROFAC trade operators through Mutual Recognition Agreements. 7) Others provided by the Directorate General of Customs, according to its competence. •</p>	

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Customs Facilitation Programme for Reliable Trade (PROFAC)	2011: Export 2015: other actors in the logistics chain (Import, Maritime Port, Export cargo terminal)	Export and Import	Export, Import, Maritime Port, End Export cargo terminal	10 Export 10 Import 2 Maritime Port 2 Export cargo terminals.	Executive Decree No 38998-H	2017: Customs brokers, Warehouse keeper, land transport and maritime transport
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>re-inspection of the facilities and evaluate those areas indicated in the prevention. After the reinspection, the final findings report shall be issued, to support the recommendation to authorize or deny the certification as AEO.</p> <p>If, as a result of the recommendation provided in the final findings report, the PROFAC certification is granted, the Directorate General of Customs shall issue the respective administrative decision within the following three working days.</p> <p>If the recommendation is the denial of the certification, the Directorate General of Customs shall also issue the respective administrative decision within the following three working days.</p> <p>Article 16°.- Issuance and validity of the certification. Within five working days after the notification to the requester concerning the certification, the Directorate General of Customs shall issue the AEO certification. This certification shall be authorized for a period of four years.</p> <p>After four years as AEO, the person or company may proceed to make a new application for certification, prior compliance with the formalities and requirements laid down in this Regulation.</p>						

g) Dominican Republic

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator-AEO	22 March 2012	All International Trade Supply Chain Import, Export	Importer Exporter Customs brokers Warehouse keeper Manufacturer	111	AEO Decree 144-12, March 22, 2012. Inter-institutional Agreement (Signed on February 23, 2012). Requirements per operator. Documental validation guide.	Goals for next two years are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the capacity building about the AEO program to all the customs employees working with the AEO program including: Increase the number of members (250 Companies) Sign more MRAs with other Customs administration
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-evaluation questionnaire Application Form Deputation and verification of the previous conditions Security Profile Validation on campus and report of results Certification 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low documentary and data requirements as appropriate; Express Release: Reduced number of physical inspections and examinations, as appropriate; 24 Hour Release, 7 days a week Assignment of Account Agents to follow up and operationalize the benefits of the AEO within Customs. Low rate of physical inspections and examinations as appropriate; Rapid release time as appropriate; 	

h) Ecuador

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator of Guatemala (AEO-GT)	18 th August 2015	operators involved in the international supply chain irrespective the size of their business.	Exporters	3	According with the Ecuadorian Laws, the AEO Ecuadorian Program is established in the COPCI «Código Orgánico de la Producción, Comercio e Inversiones».	<p>The AEO Area estimated that will include by August 2016, three different operators as Importer, Customs Brokers and Shipping Lines.</p> <p>The inclusion of the others operators will be in progressive form. The following operators considered are: Manufacturers, Carriers (airlines, shipping lines, and inland carrier), Freight Forwarders, Consolidated and Unconsolidated, International Freight, Ports, Customs Warehouses, Temporary Storage, Courier, Terminal Operators.</p> <p>Sign by February 2017 an ARM with the other Andean Community Customs Administration. And start negotiations with Korea Customs in 2017</p>
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At first, the Applicant shall check the "Basic Conditions" and "Requirements". When the Applicants' documents are completed, the entire documentation must to be send to Ecuadorian Customs. Then the AEO Area will check that whole documentation sent by the Applicant has been completed according with the AEO Ecuadorian Program requirements Finally, the referred documentation, along with all necessary documented procedures, shall be available when AEO Customs officials go to assess the AEO Ecuadorian Program Requirements inside the company. The verifying time of the AEO Ecuadorian Program requirements submitted on Applicants documents is 6 months and could be outspread according by AEO Department criteria. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase its competitive on world trade, furthermore, will improve its high prestige and company credibility. Raise security controls in its supply chain. Priority attention in customs processes by Ecuadorian Customs, including custom clearance faster. Less post release inquiries. Lower risk score in the Risk Assessment. Permanent assistance of an customs officer. MRA with other countries. 	

i) Guatemala

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator of Guatemala (AEO-GT)	Operational since September 2011	Import/Export	All operators in the international supply chain: Importers, Exporters, Customs Brokers, Logistic Operator, Warehouses, Ports, Carriers, manufacturer	Total 6 1 Customs Broker, 1 Logistic Operator, 1 Seaport, 1 Exporter and 2 Importers	Central American Uniform Customs Code – CAUCA- and regulation –RECAUCA- Central American Customs Code Agreement of the Directors of the Tax Administration Superintendence, No.14-2010 and reforms (No. 17-2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage or promote improvements to strengthen regional customs legislation contained AEO. Strengthen national legislation of the AEO program. Promote the signing of ARM with major trading partners.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Main requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least five consecutive years of operations in international trade; Demonstrate financial solvency to meet obligations and availability of resources to maintain and improve measures aimed at securing the goods supply chain; Compliance with the tax and customs legal framework during the last five years; A CTTV system, particularly in areas identified as sensitive. This system must have link to Customs Authority; Detailed drawings and updated facilities of the company; Industrial Safety Technical Report; Annual operating plan review and maintenance of security measures; Organizational structure of the company; Description of the actors in the supply chain involved in their business operations. <p>General accreditation procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-assessment; Submit an application; Information verification both internally and externally; Validation audit (on site visit); Approval by the Central Customs; Issue a Certificate; Periodical checking of the documents and post validation audit based on risk assessment. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of physical inspections; Personalized service through a supply chain specialist; Technical training; Simplification of customs operations; Mutual Recognition Agreement. Customer Service Priority 	

j) Jamaica

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Programme	28 July 2014	Importers/Exporters	Importers , Exporters, Manufacturers	71	Currently being reviewed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of validations September 2017 • Commence sensitization of programme to new exporters or those not aware of the programme • Internal sensitization of programme to JCA staff and external stakeholders •
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>STEP 1 Completion of online Prequalification Questionnaire, Application & Self Assessment Questionnaire Review of application by JCA to determine acceptance of application</p> <p>STEP 2 Initial validation Initial Validation Findings Report submission to applicant 60dy validation follow-up, 60dys after the initial visit for outstanding requirements 90dy validation follow-up, 30dys after the 60dy validation follow-up for outstanding requirements Final Validation Report</p> <p>STEP 3 Review and Recommendation of Validation Report by AEO Committee Letter of denial / acceptance Where application is recommended for acceptance or provisionally accepted, letter of acceptance along with MOU is sent to the company for signature and returned to JCA Company placed on all systems to commence processing of declarations as an AEO</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplification of Customs processes • Reduction in the inspection of cargo being imported and exported • Possibility of requesting a specific place for Customs inspection to be conducted • Easier access to authorizations and permits through the Public Sector • Inter-Institutional Committee (PSIC) • Post clearance documentary inspection • Stronger strategic alliance with the Customs Agency • Assignment of an Account Manager to each AEO • Competitive advantage for the AEO compared to the non-AEO with regards to marketability: AEO status can lead to further business opportunities, as companies are considered secure and reliable traders • Provides faster logistics handling • Reduced costs as a result of the reduction in turn-around time on the ports • 	

k) Mexico

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
New Programme of Certified Companies (NEEC: Nuevo Esquema de Empresas Certificadas)	2 January, 2012	Import/Export	Importer/Exporter Highway Carriers Customs Broker Railway transport Industrial park Bonded Warehouse Strategic Bonded warehouse Courier	511 Importers/Exporters 73 Highway Carriers 63 Customs Brokers *Numbers correspond to certified companies up to December 2016.	Mexican Customs Law: Article 100-A, 100-B and 100-C of Customs Law Mexican General Rules for Foreign Trade: Title 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote a close relationship with the private sector and continue working on new mechanisms for joint cooperation, such as working groups. Increase the number of certified companies. Continue adding new benefits to certified operators.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Mexican AEO's process consists of the following stages:</p> <p>I. Tax and Customs Analysis</p> <p>An analysis of the company is conducted in internal databases to verify the applicant's tax and customs compliance status.</p> <p>II. Analysis of the Company's Security Profile and validation visit</p> <p>A review of documents and analysis of the Company's Security Profile is conducted, possibly requesting additional or missing information. Once the company meets the application requirements, a validation visit is scheduled to all of the company facilities previously registered.</p> <p>III. Authorization</p> <p>After the AEO specialists conclude their validation report and once it is reviewed and accepted internally, the authorization will be issued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companies that meet all requirements will be issued a written authorization within 120 days. The validity of the certification is 1 year. 					<p>The main benefits for AEO certified companies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplification of administrative operations. Reduced percentage of customs examinations. Expedite customs clearance. Assigning an AEO specialist as an account executive. Exclusive lanes for import and exclusive <i>FAST</i> lanes for export. Increased length of stay for temporarily imported goods. Amendments in customs documentation. Regularization after customs clearance. Imports or return of goods transported by passengers on commercial flights (Hand Carriers) without entering to a bonded warehouse. Virtual transfers for national suppliers to maquila companies. <p>A list of highway carriers, customs brokers, railway carrier, industrial park, bonded warehouses and couriers is published on SAT's (Mexican Tax Administration Service for its acronym in Spanish) website.</p>	

I) Panama

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator	May 2016	Import and Export	Exporters, seaports, freight carriers	3 (logistic operators) to certify. 3 in process	Regional and National. Law 26 of April 17, 2013. G.O. No. 27268-b (approving the protocol of incorporation of the Republic of Panama into the subsystem of economic integration of the Central American integration system). Central American Uniform Customs Code (CAUCA) and its Regulations (RECAUCA). Executive Decree 988 of October 2013.	Incorporation of Importer
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p><u>Self Assessment</u> The Applicant, prior to submitting the application, must conduct a self-assessment to measure the degree of compliance with the requirements.</p> <p><u>Application Submission</u> The applicant must submit the application to Customs, together with the documents requested.</p> <p><u>Analysis and verification</u> To the application presented is made the "Due Diligence" is verified all the data, history of customs compliance, financial viability.</p> <p><u>Performing validation</u> If the result is favorable, proceed to prepare and carry out the validation of prevention and safety requirements in the company's facilities.</p> <p><u>Certification</u> If the result of the validation visit is favorable, certification is granted</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art. 10 Executive Decree 988 of 2014. • Recognition as a safe and reliable AEO in the logistics chain by the ANA. • Categorization in a low risk channel in the ANA risk analysis system. • Priority in the application of customs controls and in inspections selected by risk analysis or other risk management entities. • Facility to carry out the relevant controls in the dependencies of the operator. • Agility in the procedure during the dispatch of goods. • Training on the part of ANA in matters within its competence. • Priority following an incident of closure and reopening of customs or border offices. • Possible international mutual recognition. • Authorization to certified companies for the use of the AEO logo. 	

m) Peru

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator	October 2012	Import and Export	Exporters, importers, customs brokers, Warehouse.	51	General Customs Law Legislative Decree N° 1053 AEO Certificate Rules Supreme Decree N° 184-2016-EF. AEO Certification General Procedure Resolution N° 35-2016-SUNAT/5F0000	Incorporate other operators: 2017 -Increase the number of AEO companies: 2017 Sing MRA with other Customs Administration: 2017 Developing further benefits for AEOs: 2017 Participation of other Government Agencies: 2017
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfactory records of compliance with regulations in force Proper system of accounting and logistics records allowing traceability of operations Financial soundness properly proven Adequate security level. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-assessment questionnaire Submit the application to Customs. Submit the documentation to Customs. Documentation revision Validation visits Whole evaluation Certification <p>Certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The certification is issued by Customs Administration (SUNAT). Undefined validity. Customs Administration shall conduct yearly post validation audits based on risk assessment. The grounds for suspension and cancellation of the AEO certificate are laid down in the legislation. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AEO companies have 28 customs benefits related to: Reducing examination rates to the export and import cargos according to risk; Priority to handling clearance formalities; Preferential treatment in processing claims and refund procedure; Control of customs value in post-clearance; Preferential treatment in technical consultations; Direct export from the business site; Assigning special officers to help companies to coordinate and resolve Customs issues; Use nominal guarantee for clearance of goods in imports and temporary admission; Direct acting as customs dispatcher without security; Priority in handling trade formalities such as modifying or rectifying data; Preferential treatment in actions of extraordinary control; Preferential service during contingencies or the potential closing of ports and/or airports; Exclusive training sessions. 	

n) Uruguay

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Qualified Economic Operator	March 2014	Supply Chain Operators	Importers, Exporters, Custom brokers, Highway carrier, Free trade zone users, Free trade zone, Warehouse, Freight Forwarders, Port operator, Cargo terminal	33	<p>Law 19149, art. N° 148 (Budgetary Law, was created the figure of the QEO)</p> <p>Law 19.276, art. N° 40 Customs Code (introduces the figure of the QEO)</p> <p>Reglamentary Decree of AEO N°51/2014 (It regulates the main aspects of the Program)</p> <p>Customs Regulations N° 31/2014 (regarding the approval of complementary provisions to give effect to the Qualified Economic Operator Program.</p> <p>Customs Regulations N° 62/2014 (regarding the designation of members to the Advisory Committee of the Qualified Economic Operator Program</p> <p>General Resolution N° 10/2015 concerning the incorporation of benefits for Qualified Economic Operators.</p> <p>Decree 210/2015 - replaces Article 10 of Dec. 51/2014 regarding the requirements to obtain and maintain a QEO certificate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen cooperation with customs of other countries – Sign MRAs
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Authorization procedure:</p> <p>1. Application All applicant operators shall submit a written application to begin the application process. This application requires declaring compliance with the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Authorization Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law Compliance (Legal constitution, Antiquity, and Regulatory Compliance requirement) Financial solvency requirement 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the red and orange verification channels Priority Inspection AEO Officers Priority in GEX records: Electronic Files of certified companies have priority. Official updated list with the name and status of the company in the Customs Web Training to the certified operators AEO List Others by sector 	

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Qualified Economic Operator	March 2014	Supply Chain Operators	Importers, Exporters, Custom brokers, Highway carrier, Free trade zone users, Free trade zone, Warehouse, Freight Forwarders, Port operator, Cargo terminal	33	Law 19149, art. N° 148 (Budgetary Law, was created the figure of the QEO) Law 19.276, art. N° 40 Customs Code (introduces the figure of the QEO) Reglamentary Decree of AEO N°51/2014 (It regulates the main aspects of the Program) Customs Regulations N° 31/2014 (regarding the approval of complementary provisions to give effect to the Qualified Economic Operator Program. Customs Regulations N° 62/2014 (regarding the designation of members to the Advisory Committee of the Qualified Economic Operator Program General Resolution N° 10/2015 concerning the incorporation of benefits for Qualified Economic Operators. Decree 210/2015 - replaces Article 10 of Dec. 51/2014 regarding the requirements to obtain and maintain a QEO certificate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen cooperation with customs of other countries – Sign MRAs
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History Customs and Tax compliance requirement Administrative Management Management System Security <p>2. Validation Process (Documentary, On-site Validation)- Verify the fulfilment of the requirements to enter in the program. Audits to verify the fulfilment of requirements. AEO department a report with the recommendation of approve or not the certification of the company. This report is submitted to the General Director who takes the decision.</p> <p>3. Certification</p> <p>4. Monitoring post-certification - Maintenance / Eventual Renovation.</p>						

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Qualified Economic Operator	March 2014	Supply Chain Operators	Importers, Exporters, Custom brokers, Highway carrier, Free trade zone users, Free trade zone, Warehouse, Freight Forwarders, Port operator, Cargo terminal	33	<p>Law 19149, art. N° 148 (Budgetary Law, was created the figure of the QEO)</p> <p>Law 19.276, art. N° 40 Customs Code (introduces the figure of the QEO)</p> <p>Reglimentary Decree of AEO N°51/2014 (It regulates the main aspects of the Program)</p> <p>Customs Regulations N° 31/2014 (regarding the approval of complementary provisions to give effect to the Qualified Economic Operator Program.</p> <p>Customs Regulations N° 62/2014 (regarding the designation of members to the Advisory Committee of the Qualified Economic Operator Program</p> <p>General Resolution N° 10/2015 concerning the incorporation of benefits for Qualified Economic Operators.</p> <p>Decree 210/2015 - replaces Article 10 of Dec. 51/2014 regarding the requirements to obtain and maintain a QEO certificate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen cooperation with customs of other countries – Sign MRAs
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
Evaluate if the company reaches the fulfilment of requirements and audit the company for the renovation.						

o) USA

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Customs-Trade Partnership against Terrorism (C-TPAT)	11.2001	Import/Export	Importers, Exporters, Carriers (Air, Sea, Highway, Rail), Customs Brokers, Third Party Logistics Providers, Consolidators (Air Freight, Ocean transport, NVOCC), Marine Port Authority & Terminal Operators, Foreign Manufacturers (Canada & Mexico Only)	11472 as of February 2017	Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006. Voluntary program.	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certify security profile within 90 days once all information has been provided to CBP; • Conduct an on-site validation – within one year of certification. • Requires that Partners update their security profile and risk assessments on an annual basis. • Conduct revalidations within 4 years of the initial validation or sooner based on risk as assessed by CBP. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced Examination Rates • Eligibility to Participate in other U.S. Government Programs, e.g. the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) & Importer Self-Assessment (ISA) Programs • Stratified Exam Benefit for Importer Partners • Front of the Line Processing • Business Resumption • Expedited Trade Processing • Access to a Supply Chain Security Specialist (SCSS) • Penalty Mitigation • Benefits through Mutual Recognition 	

2. NORTH OF AFRICA, NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST REGION

a) Azerbaijan

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2013	Import/ Export operations Other operations on goods and vehicles	Legal persons	1	The Customs Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan "Rules of assignment, temporary suspension and cancellation of the status of Authorized Economic Operator" approved by Resolution No. 230 of the Cabinet and Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated August 27, 2013	The number of persons with AEO status is considered to be increased.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>In accordance with the norms and standards of the World Customs Organization, the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) is a legal person using simplified forms and methods of customs control to ensure safety of delivery of goods to the place of destination and to facilitate foreign trade.</p> <p>The State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan grants certain rights to the AEO to use simplified forms and methods of customs procedures set out in the Customs code.</p> <p>Terms for granting the AEO status are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existence of possibility of ensuring the delivery of goods to the destination in accordance with the safety norms and standards specified by the World Customs Organization; • to comply with the requirements of customs and tax legislation; • to have a satisfactory system on management of commercial and transport documents, playing an important role in terms of customs control; • to have financial capacity to carry out customs duties and other payments; • to have at least 2 (two) years of experience in the field of operation; 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using simplified forms and methods of customs control; • Carrying out necessary operations with goods and vehicles by the AEO in buildings and outdoor areas that he owns, leases or uses, notifying the customs authorities beforehand; • Customs clearance of goods and vehicles brought to and taken from the customs territory is carried out by the AEO in non-working hours, coordinating with the customs authorities in writing on paper or in electronic form to carry out separate customs operations aimed at facilitation of customs clearance. • Customs clearance of goods and vehicles brought to and taken from the customs territory is carried out by the AEO out of the order defined in the "electronic turn" electronic control system; • Providing the simplified customs declaration by the AEO. 		

b) Egypt

Program me title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
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AEO-Egypt	25/06/2014	Import/ export	Importers, exporters, Customs Brokers and warehouse keepers	115 operators (exporters ,importers), customs brokersand warehouse keepers	<p>The "AEO EGYPT" program is regulated by some rules and administrative instructions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The issuance of the Ministerial decree no. 204/2013 amending some rules of the executive regulation of the customs law no. 66/1963 and its amendments issued by the decree of the Minister of finance no.10/2006. A last paragraph has been added to Article (1) of the introductory Chapter (Definitions) defining the AEO as follows: "Each party involved in flowing the International trade, whatever his role is, authorized by the national customs authority and complies with the WCO SAFE standards." - The Ministerial decree no. 204/2013 stipulates the replacement of the provision of Article 86 of the regulation by the following provision as follows: "The Egyptian Customs Authority shall launch the AEO program, based on the WCO SAFE framework of standards, aiming at the facilitation and expedition of the release process of the AEO's cargos, whether imported or exported, in accordance with the conditions and rules issued by the Director General of the Egyptian Customs Authority." - The decree of the Egyptian Customs Authority no. 36 dated 13/5/2013 stipulates that the Importers and Exporters shall be authorized for the AEO program according to the conditions and standards contained in the specified models. This is provided that the Head of the Central Directorate of the AEO shall issue the decisions of authorization, suspension and revocation as well as apply all the amendments to the rules and conditions of the program. - The Procedures circular no 51/2013 of the Customs Procedures and Regimes Sector define the advantages of the AEO program and procedures regulating the handling process of the AEO's cargos. - A Cooperation Protocol has been signed on 7/7/2013 between the Egyptian Customs Authority and the General Organization for Import and Export Control regarding the activation of the "AEO Egypt" programme in order to overcome all the obstacles hindering the International trade flow to keep up with the increased trade flow through the International supply chain, since both parties play a crucial role in controlling goods movement through the customs offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To include the remaining actors of the supply chain such as: Customs Brokers, Carriers, Ports, etc. • Evaluation of possible mutual recognition with other countries in MENA region.
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Accreditation (components, process)	Benefits
<p>This process includes several steps as follows :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1: the Department of monitoring & evaluation delivers a names list of the companies, Known for their compliance with customs laws, whose imports value exceeds USD 5 millions per year, to the customers Department. • Step 2: the Customers Department undertakes marketing of this program to these companies and carries out checks to ensure whether the importation and the exportation standards specified by the customs administration are being fulfilled by these companies or not. If the standards are Found to be fulfilled, the companies names are sent for verification to the legal affaires Departments, the national & political security in the Arab Republic of Egypt. • Step3: After obtaining these competent authorities approval, a workshop is held for the newly-Joined companies to make them aware of the program advantages and to measure the actual performance level through a questionnaire to be circulated. Exceptional courses are organized for the companies representatives at the Customs Institute to obtain customs clearance licenses and to monitor solving problems, whenever exist, with the assistance of the employees of the General Directorate of Operations to complete the release process within the most reduced possible timeframe. • Step 4 : the Operations Directorate provides all customs procedural services to overcome all the obstacles and problems facing customers during the release process • Step 5: the General Directorate of compliance manages a set of systems to check the customers compliance with the customs regulations, rules, restrictions and procedures regulating the workflow of the Central Directorate of the AEO, aiming at providing the Directorates of Risk Management, compliance & post-clearance Audit with the feedback Knowledge needed for accelerating the release process of these companies cargos. • Step 6 : the General Directorate of monitoring & evaluation is responsible for evaluating the services performance level provided to customers at the customs areas as well as monitoring the services performance level provided by the Central Directorate of the AEO. 	<p>The Advantages of being an Authorized Economic Operator :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A customs committee to be assigned to undertake the completion of all the customs procedural formalities of the cargos AEO's. • All the AEO's cargos To be passed through the green lane using the non – intrusive scanning methods and the electronic random selection. • Maximum expedition of the customs release process. • Enhanced inventory management that reduces the costs incurred by the importer and the other parties. • Minimizing the opportunities for imposing import duty fines. • A specialized accounting manager is assigned to facilitate the release process of the AEO's cargos • Providing an easy, unified, integrated & voluntary services across the ports for the AEOs. • Monitoring release processes of the AEO's cargos in all customs areas. • A representative of the competent authorities sharing the customs committee to facilitate the customs release formalities. • Providing a Data collection system supporting compliance & Integrity. • In addition to the fore mentioned advantages, the Customs administration benefits from this program as well : • Maintaining credibility & transparency among the Customs administration, the trading community & the International organizations, in line with the International standards & conventions. • Getting the benefits of the Mutual Recognition Agreement with Agadir Agreement Member States concluded on 13/4/2016

c) Jordan

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Golden List Programme	08.2005	Import/export	Importers, exporters, carriers, customs brokers, warehouse carriers, QIZ companies	60 members (07 Dec 2016)	n/a	
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>3 categories of compliance: A (Basic), B (important) and C (optional).</p> <p>To qualify for AEO the company must meet customs requirements and security requirements, as follows: compliance with A (basic requirements) , with B (necessary requirements) with the possibility of developing plans to improve the necessary compliance and work to implement them within the specified time limits, and compliance as much as possible with C (optional requirements) .</p> <p>Also company must achieve the required compliance standards by examining samples at all stages.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-improvement by self-checks. • Reduce number of inspections (by expansion of green lane assignments). • Reduce goods post-release compliance audits.Pre-arrival clearance of goods. • Goods release before completing customs formalities. Give priority to the import and export companies and QIZ companies in clearance procedures. • Allowed to remove the goods off working hours against undertakings presented by clearance companies in the clearance centers. • Exception of their goods from customs escort except trucks loaded with cigarettes and alcoholic beverages. • Double public Guarantees for Commercial Companies. • Double compact Guarantees for clearance Companies • Providing consultancy and assistance and all possible facilitations. • Moral privileges such as letters of appreciation to the companies • Publish names of members on the Customs websites. 		

d) Morocco

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
1- AEO - Customs simplifications with 2 sub-categories A and B AEO – Security and safety status for which AEO Customs simplifications accredited companies are eligible	operational since 2006 Phase 1: 16.02.2006 – Launch of the “categorisation des entreprises” programme, open to companies covered by Economic Customs Regimes (RED). Phase 2: 01.02.2008 – extended to operators under the general legislation. Phase 3: 23.02.09 –extended to the logistics sector. Since 12.11.2012, authorization renewed every 3 years.	Import/ Export and external trade activities - AEO Customs simplification Status open to operators involved in the international supply chain and settled in the national territory. This status may be categories A or B depending on how fully the operator satisfies the Customs compliance criteria, and complies with standards for records management and financial solvency.	Importers, exporters and logistics operators (brokers, carriers, express carriers, warehouse keepers).	342 out of which 180 category A.	Customs and Indirect Tax Code: (Art.73 a) regarding the AEO status. Decree No.2-10-121 of 6 July 2010 supplementing Decree No.2-77-862 of 9 October 1977 for implementing the Customs and Indirect Tax Code Arrêté (Ministerial Order) of Ministry of Economy and Finance n°690.11 du 22/07/2011 (BO n° 5987 du 17/10/2011) setting out AEO status categories and the authorization process. Arrêté (Ministerial Order) of Ministry of Economy and Finance n°690.11 of 22/07/2011 (BO n° 5985 of 10/10/2011) concerning the procedure for granting AEO status and the organization and functioning of the accreditation commission Implementing provisions : Circulaire (Circular) 5087/313 of 1/02/2008 concerning the AEO Customs simplifications status Circulaire n° 5142/313 of 23/02/2009 concerning conditions for granting the AEO Customs simplifications status to brokers, carriers and express integrators. Circulaire n° 5336 of 12/09/2012 concerning the renewal of the AEO Customs simplifications status Circulaire n°5516/313 of 17/02/2015 on the AEO denomination. Circulaire n° 5517/313 of 17/02/ 2015 concerning the AEO Security and safety status.	Public Partnership : Harmonization of the application process to facilitate mutual recognition among Customs partners (Tax administration, social welfare agency, national “office des changes”, control bodies) A pilot action has been launched regarding the aircraft industry sector in January 2015 Partnership engagement with the private sector: 8 agreements already signed with trade associations.

General requirements

The administration grant Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) status to companies established on the national territory pursuing industrial, commercial or service-related activities involving international import or export trade which:

- have no criminal records of serious Customs infringements;
- have a transparent system for the management of commercial documents and warehouses;
- are financially solvent;
- comply with the safety and security standards laid down in the reference documents drawn up by the administration.

Authorization:

The authorization programme is related to facilitation and security matters and combines Customs facilities and security requirements.

There are two types of authorization:

- AEO Customs simplification status, Category A or Category B, (National Programme) may be granted to operators who satisfy the Customs compliance criteria and who comply with standards for records management and financial solvency;
- AEO security and safety status: may be granted to operators who satisfy the requirements for AEO Customs simplification (Category A) status who apply security and safety standards.
- Evaluation:

AEO Customs simplification status: initial authorization is granted on the basis of an audit visit conducted by an independent external audit team selected by the undertaking. The audit framework is drawn up in advance by the administration. It is based on nine criteria seeking to examine the overall operations of the undertaking (identification of the undertaking being assessed (general information);

place of the undertaking in its environment; organization and infrastructure; business sectors, technology used and manufacturing process(es); accounting and financial situation; commercial matters; security of the supply chain; social and environmental circumstances; transparency of the undertaking and benchmark economic indicators).

The application and the audit report is submitted to an ad hoc committee set up centrally proposing marks. Authorization is awarded on a permanent basis.

Granting of status:

An ad hoc committee has been set up centrally to rule on files proposing the conferral and withdrawal of Authorized Economic Operator status. The Authorization takes the form of :

Direct benefits:

Expedited access to Customs facilitations and simplifications such as:

- Access to “green” lanes
- Customs simplified procedures and less physical inspections
- Access to authorized exporter status;
- Access to local clearance procedure (clearance at operator’s premises)
- Waiver of financial security in respect of economic Customs procedures;
- Priority processing.

Indirect benefits:

- Awareness raising among authorized operators of security and safety issues and of the necessity of improvements;
- Optimization of cost and supply chain timings;
- Development of an audit culture internally and a commitment to implement upgrades for any matters;
- Enhanced reputation and credibility nationally and internationally (status as a safe, reliable operator).

- an Agreement between the administration and the economic operator concerned laying down the nature of the category of AEO status conferred, the benefits granted and the obligations for the grantee, the granting of the AEO certificate and the registration of his/her statement
- Withdrawal or suspension: AEO status may be withdrawn temporarily or permanently by decision of the director of the administration, after consulting the ad hoc committee, where the recipient:
 - has committed a Customs offence punishable by criminal penalties;
 - has renounced to the AEO status.

Monitoring of authorization:

Authorization is awarded on a permanent basis. However, the authority will, by way of a periodic review, regularly monitor compliance with the conferral conditions and criteria that resulted in the undertaking being authorized.

That review takes place every three years. It takes the form of an audit visit by Customs on the basis of a self-assessment questionnaire submit in advance by the operator.

e) **Tunisia**

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. Of Operators	Legislation	Further plans
AEO	26.01.2010	Import and Export	<p>Category 'Simplification of Customs Procedures': undertakings carrying out external trade operations relating to goods in connection with the exercise of their activities</p> <p>Category <Security and safety> to undertakings whose activities are directly or indirectly related to customs operations (carriers, warehouses, etc)</p> <p>Categorie <Complete> to profit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - undertakings carrying out foreign trade operations in respect of goods in the course of their business - undertakings which have obtained the status of economic operator approved category <Simplification of customs procedures> and processing for their storage, transport and other logistical operations with undertakings which have obtained the status of economic operator approved category <Security and safety> 	25 (Simplification of Customs procedures)	<p>Article 121a of the Tunisian Customs Code (Law 34/2008 of 02.06.2008 promulgating the Customs Code</p> <p>Draft government decree (in the course of publication) laying down the conditions, procedures and procedures for the granting, suspension and withdrawal of the status of the approved economic operator</p>	50 AEO by the end of 2017
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>The draft Order provides for three categories of AEO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category <Simplification of customs procedures> • Category <Security and safety> • Category <Full> <p>Common conditions for the award of the three categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -To see a customs situation as a rule, especially for the last three years preceding the filing date of the application for a benefit, the customs situation shall be determined in such a way as not to commit serious or repeated customs offenses during the period concerned. 				<p>Benefits common to all three categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the immediate removal of their goods without being subject to physical control at the border points, by means of simplified declarations drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Code or the declarations in detail automatically oriented to the green circuit. • the disposal of their goods after the expiry of a period laid down in the Convention if they have not been informed by the customs authorities of the decision to carry out a physical check of these marks within the premises of the customs office. 'business • The attachment of all their customs operations to a regional 		

- -Any tax situation in place
- To have a solvent financial situation for the last three years preceding the filing date of the profit application, both for the company and its directors
- To keep commercial accounts in accordance with the legislation in force and a computerized accounting and answering the requirements of customs controls.
- Adoption of procedures that are reliable and accepted by the customs authorities for the archiving of records and information of the enterprise in order to protect them against loss, destruction or intrusion.
- adherence to the system of the credit of abduction or adherence to any other system of payment of duties and taxes in accordance with the legislation in force and accepted by the customs authorities.

Specific conditions for categories <Security and Safety> and <Full>:

- To comply with the safety and security standards relating in particular to the appropriation of the premises, the persons and the entire logistics chain of the goods taken in charge.
- Deposit means and equipment necessary for the exercise of its activity to adopt a reliable logistics system
-

customs office called "home office".

- The appointment of a single contact among the customs officers in the office of the company, in particular responsible for resolving the difficulties which it may encounter and to support it, if necessary, in the completion of the formalities Customs authorities.
- **Specific Advantages for <Security and Safety>**
- -Priorite in the processing of customs files and declarations.
- Fulfillment of customs formalities outside normal working hours according to the available possibilities and in accordance with the legislation in force.
- -Facilitation of transit procedures by making the approved economic operators benefit from better procedures applied in this matter.
- The replacement of the guarantees by any other method accepted by the customs administration and in accordance with the legislation in force.

-Advantages specific to the <Full> category:

- Priority in the processing of customs files and declarations.
- Fulfillment of customs formalities outside the normal working hours according to the available possibilities and in accordance with the legislation in force.
- Facilitation of transit procedures by making the approved economic operators benefit from better procedures applied in this matter.
- The replacement of the guarantees by any other method accepted by the customs administration and in accordance with the legislation in force.
- Depot anticipates customs declarations and completion of formalities of customs clearance of the goods before its arrival.
- Facilitation of technical control procedures after agreement of the organizations concerned.

3. EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION

a) Kenya

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	11.2010	Import/export	Importers, exporters, transporters/shippers, clearing agents	38 importers/exporters 24 clearing agents; 2 transporters/shippers	East Africa Community Customs Management Act 2004 (EACCMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of AEOs by 40% annually; • Continue to sensitize and attract major stakeholders, including importers, clearing agents, port authorities etc; • Expand the programme to include top importers, manufacturers, container freight stations, shippers, oil importers, transporters and warehouse keepers; • Appointment of more liaison officers to service existing AEOs; • Develop a risk analysis mechanism, undertake annual audit to ensure suspension of non-compliant companies; • Ensure information sharing system with other revenue authorities, departments and governmental agencies.
Accreditation (components, process)						Benefits
<p>Obligations of the AEO operator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with all statutory requirements and laws as per SAFE Framework of Standards, EACCMA and Regulations; • Compliance with all KRA and Customs requirements and laws; • Self regulation and assessment. • Submit monthly reports on declarations made to Customs. • Satisfactory accounting, logistical and file management systems. • Satisfactory security and safety standards (building, transporters and personnel). • Continuous participation in activities and programmes organized by Customs. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitization of all Customs stakeholders and staff; • Application submission; • Company profile; • Company's accounting and logistics system; • Financial viability ; • Safety and security requirements ; • Education, training & awareness of staff; • Information exchange, access and confidentiality; • Application form scrutiny if it's duly filled and with the requisite documentation; • Site visit & validation of the information provided in the application form; • Request for no objection from Customs Divisions, Regions & other Kenya Revenue Authority Departments; • Seek no objection from other Governmental Agencies (Police, Standards Bureau, Market Authority); • Receive reports of the site visits from the vetting committee and their recommendations); • Customs Commissioner's approval and admission to the programme; Issuance of certificate. 						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedited document processing ; • Expedited cargo release due to minimal checks at the control and release points; • Lower storage costs due to faster release of cargo; • Reduced transit time from faster clearance at Transit Points and fewer road-block checks; • Easy access to information from Customs Services Department; • Blue channel which denotes direct release in the Customs declaration system; • Improved partnership model between trade and government; • First consideration for participation in any enhanced cargo processing programmes in the course of improving the Customs Services Department; • Have a relationship officer who is their contact person at the Department.

b) Uganda

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	5 th September 2013)	1. Importer/Exporter 2. Customs bonded Warehouse Operators 3. Customs Agents	1. Importers/ Exporters/ Manufactures and Bonded Warehouse 2. Customs clearing Agents Operators	17 19	1. East African Community Customs Management Act; 2. East African Community (EAC) AEO policy Framework 3. WCO SAFE Framework of standards 4. Revised Kyoto Convention 5. National AEO MOUs	1. Roll out of the Transporters and Freight Forwarders component by August 2017 2. Automation of the Authorisation process and M&E by September 2017 3. Increase the number of AEO operators from 36 to 100 by December 2018 4. Mutual Recognition Arrangements by March 2018 5. Research on new AEO benefits •
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expression of Interest by the Applicant to Join the Program 2. Preliminary Consultation with Applicant 3. Issuance of Self-Assessment Forms to the Applicant 4. Onsite Inspection 5. Vetting 6. Preliminary Inspection Report 7. Common risk Mapping 8. Inspection management Letter 9. Authorisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary consultation; • Application; • Vetting; • On site inspection; • Memorandum of understanding; • Certificate. 					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Priority treatment in Customs areas 2. Simplified Customs Procedures 3. Pre-Arrival Clearance 4. Choice of place of Customs control 5. Self-Management of Customs Bonded Warehouses 6. Automatic Renewal of Customs Licences 7. Withholding Tax Exemption 8. Priority to Participate in all customs initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	

c) Burundi

Program me title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorised Economic Operator	2014	Pilot phase	Exporters, Importers, Customs agents Manufacturers Warehouses	3 at regional level 8 at national level	Since Burundi is a member of the East African Community, it is the regional economic operator's manual of procedures that governs the program at the national level	The plan in force began in September 2016 and is valid until March 2018 •
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accreditation application form ▪ Self-assessment form ▪ Conduct of an audit in the applicant company ▪ Decision of accreditation or not by the Customs ▪ Notification of the applicant/company ▪ Signing of an undertaking (AEO License) • 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-clearance system • Clearance system • Self-management of warehouse • Inward Processing • Waiver of Guarantee • Automatic declaration processing • Priority treatment • 	

4. FAR EAST, SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST ASIA, AUSTRALIA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

a) Australia

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Australian Trusted Trader (ATT)	1 July 2016	Import/Export	ATT is open to all entities within the supply chain.	11 accredited Trusted Traders as of 10 January 2017.	Customs Act 1901 enables accreditation as a Trusted Trader and provide the relevant benefits.	Initiatives being explored include secure trade lanes, cross collaboration with border agencies and expansion of benefits for Trusted Traders.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The entity completes an expression of interest to determine whether it meets key eligibility criteria of an Australian Business Number and two years trading history. The entity completes a self-assessment questionnaire that requests information against ATT qualification criteria. The Australian Border Force will ensure compliance with ATT qualification criteria by undertaking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a review of the entity's documentary application and physical validation of an entity's supply chain security and trade compliance practices. If the application is approved, the entity will enter into an ATT Agreement with the Australian Border Force. This outlines the conditions of ATT accreditation and the trade facilitation benefits available to the entity. The Australian Border Force works with the accredited Trusted Trader to manage ongoing compliance, including through periodic revalidation. 					<p>Current ATT benefits include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiated examinations Account Manager Priority trade services Use of the ATT logo Mutual recognition arrangements <p>Future benefits to be implemented under ATT include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlined reporting requirements Duty deferral 	

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Australian Trusted Trader (ATT)	1 July 2016	Import/Export	ATT is open to all entities within the supply chain.	11 accredited Trusted Traders as 10 January 2017.	Customs Act 1901 enables accreditation as a Trusted Trader and provide the relevant benefits.	Initiatives being explored include secure trade lanes, cross collaboration with border agencies and expansion of benefits for Trusted Traders.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	

b) China

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO programme	April, 1 st 2008	Import/export	Importers, Exporters, Manufacturers, Customs Brokers, Warehouses, or other	Advanced Certified Enterprises:3475; General Certified Enterprises:35778 (by Nov 31 st 2016)	Interim Measures of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China for Enterprise Credit Management (IMECM)	
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEO Application of Enterprises. • Initial check on AEO application and other documents. • Review on AEO application and other document. • On-site certification or authorization. • Final Conclusion. • AEO certificate Issued. • Follow-up monitoring and Re-authorization. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low physical inspection rate . • Simplified documents check. • Priority in clearance formalities. • Coordinator service. • Guarantee release. • Benefits under AEO MRA. • Others. <p>Clearance facilitation measures are offered by the Customs administrations of foreign countries or regions covered by mutual recognition of AEOs.</p>		

c) Hong Kong, China

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Hong Kong Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Programme	02.04.2012	Import and Export	All local operators engaging in the international supply chain activities	36 AEOs (including two SME) (as of 12.2016)	n/a Voluntary participation	To develop MRAs with other Customs administrations
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A history of good compliance with Customs requirements; • A good maintenance of verifiable commercial records; • Proven financial solvency; and • Appropriate security and safety measures. <p>AEO Status: Tier 1 and Tier 2</p> <p>Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companies conduct a self-assessment on their internal policies and operational procedures against the pre-determined criteria set under the Hong Kong AEO Programme; • Companies submit applications to Customs; • Customs conduct documentary check and on-site validation visits; and • Customs grant AEO status and issue certificates to companies which fulfil the pre-determined criteria set under the Hong Kong AEO Programme. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less Customs inspection; • Prioritized Customs clearance; • Enhanced goodwill as a secure trader with industry “kitemark”, boosting customer confidence; • Strengthened competitiveness and marketability; • Reduced stock loss, theft and pilferage; and • Privileged benefits granted by other economies under MRAs. 	

d) India

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
"Authorized Economic Operator"(AEO) Programme	23.08.2011, 16.11.2012 and 22.07.2016.	Imports and Exports/CHA/Freight Forwarders/ Custodians or Terminal Operators/ Warehouse Operators	Importer, Exporter, Freight Forwarders, Warehouse Operator, Custodian/ Terminal Operator	432 as on 22.12.2016	Circular No. 37/2011, Circular No. 22/2012 and Revised by Circular No.33/2016	1 1000 AEOs by 31 st March, 2017. 2. Sign more MRAs
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny of documents for general compliance, legal compliance, management of commercial and transport records, financial solvency, safety and evaluates safety and security with respect to procedural security, premises security, cargo security, conveyance security, personnel security, business partner security and security training and threat awareness. On-site validation for AEO T2 and AEO LO within 90 days of the information and documents provided to confirm the security profile. Certification of AEO T1 within 30 days of submission of information and/ or documents. Preparation of reports with recommendation to the AEO Programme Manager within 60 days of completion of onsite verifications. 					<p>Depending upon the category of the AEO, benefits are as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher facilitation level; Facility of direct port delivery of direct port entry of the import and export containers; Furnishing of reduced bank guarantee; Expedited investigations and dispute resolution on matters relating to Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax; Facility of Deferred Payment of Custom duty; Benefits of Mutual Recognition Agreements with other Customs Administrations for AEO T2 and AEO T3; Appointment of Client Relationship Manager (CRM) as a single point of contact; Facility of submitting paperless declarations with no supporting document in a physical form. 	

e) Indonesia

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	17 March 2015	Export	Exporters,	9	Minister of Finance Regulation number 219/PMK.04/2010 date 9 December 2010	To have companies certified in future
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Questionnaire (Self Assessment) • Document Checking (e.g. Self Assessment Questionnaire, Internal Control Organization, Maturity Model) • On Site Visit • Recommendation • Conclusion (Certification) 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal percentage of document and/or physical examination • Priority for Customs Procedure Simplification; • Special services while the emergency and elevated threat level situation; • Priority offering as participant on a new Customs Program; • Corporate guarantee; • Trucklossing Facility; • Pre-notification; • Defer Payment; • Dedicated client manager for AEO; and/or • Outside of working hours services in certain condition 		

f) **Japan**

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2006 Exporters 2007 (importers)- subsequently expanded the scope of the AEO programme	Import/ Export	Importers, exporters, warehouse operators, customs brokers, logistic operators (carriers, forwarders, shipping companies, airlines), manufacturers	Importers: 92, Exporters: 240 Customs brokers: 140 Warehouse operators: 127 Logistic operators:7 Total number: 606 operators (as of 2017.1)	Customs laws , Cabinet Order, Ministerial Ordinance and Order of the DG of Customs and Tariff Bureau	
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance record; • Proper ability to conduct operations; • Cargo conveyance/premises security • Compliance programme. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior consultation (voluntary); • Self-assessment; • Examination of documents, on-site audit => AEO status; • Post-authorisation audit. If there is a problem –“Administrative order for improvement”. If no change – the status is revoked. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance-reflected examination and inspection; • Pre-arrival lodgement of import declaration and permission; • Release of cargo before duty/tax payment declaration and duty/tax payment; • Periodical lodgement of duty/tax payment declaration; • Waive the requirement to place export goods into the Customs area; • Establishment of a new Customs warehouse only by notification to Customs; • Compliance-reflected reduced audit for warehouse operators; • No monthly fee for customs warehouses; • Simplification of Customs transit procedure; <p>Lodgement of import/export declaration to any customs offices (to be introduced in Autumn 2017)</p>		

g) Korea

Program me Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	15.04.2009	Import/export	9 stakeholders: Exporters, importers, customs brokers, freight forwarders, transporters (bonded transporters), sea/air carriers, ground handlers, warehouse operators (bonded area operators, port terminals)	292 companies authorised: 78 exporters, 80 importers, 60 freight forwarders, 11 warehouse operators, 9 transporters, 5 sea carriers, 49 customs brokers. 139 companies are SMEs (as of 1.04.2012)	Customs Act 259 (01.2008); Enforcement Decree of Customs Act 255-2,255 (04.02.2009); AEO Enforcement Rule (15.04.2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding AEOs continuously; • Supporting SMEs to obtain AEO status; • Developing further benefits for AEOs and measuring effect of the AEO program & MRAs; • Strengthening post monitoring and management on AEOs; • Expanding MRAs.

Accreditation (components, process)	Benefits
<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal compliance; • Internal control; • Financial solvency; • Security management. <p>Accreditation process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the application (self-assessment, risk evaluation, statement on AEO management, and internal AEO manager); • Audit (documentary and on site validation) ; • Assignment of the AEO Certificate classes according to the level of compliance: class AA (90% or greater); class A (80% or greater), or request for improvement measure; • AEO Certificate granted (valid for 3 years, renewal within 6 months before expiration) and a Customs Client Coordinator assigned; • Self-management/post monitoring; • Compliance assessment (by application or selection): class adjustment (especially AAA class needs greater than 95% compliance and appropriate best practices to share with other companies), or request for improvement measures 	<p>General benefits: simplified and less physical inspection, simplified customs procedures, less financial burden, etc. The benefits differ according to the types of AEOs and AEO classes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplified and less physical inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less physical inspection by the customs in the ex/import process; • Inspection at a place the importer wants. • Simplified procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearance without supporting trade documents; • Exemption from pre-clearance audit as well as post-clearance audit; • Provision of convenience in customs clearance, etc at international (air)ports to AEOs' representatives; • Self-determination on application of customs tariff rates, customs duty reduction/exemption, and instalment payment of customs duties and taxes. • Less financial burden: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exemption from the obligation to deposit collateral for import clearance; • Monthly instalment payment of customs duties and taxes • Other: reduction of punishment for violation of customs-related laws.

h) Malaysia

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	1.01.2010	Import/export	Importers and exporters, consisting of: - Licensed Manufacturing Warehouses, - Manufacturers in Free Industrial Zone, - Other Manufacturers, - Trading Companies.	59 companies (as of 14.11.2016)	Customs Act 1967 Standing Instruction No.75 – Authorized Economic Operator	Expand the AEO scope to include: - Logistics Service Providers, - Warehouse Operators. Increase the number of MRAs.
Accreditation (components, process)						Benefits
<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companies involved in importation, exportation and movement of goods. • Must be In operation for past 3 years in the country. • High level of compliance with legal and regulatory requirements of Malaysian Customs. • No outstanding duty/ tax arrears with Malaysian Customs. • Prior security clearance from the Malaysian Customs and other relevant government agencies such as the Police Department and Company Commission for directors and personnel dealing with Customs clearance procedures. • A proper internal control (audit trail) of all imports, exports and movement of goods. • High security features in place in line with the requirements under the AEO guidelines and preferably with internal security compliance programme. • Available facilities to pay duties and taxes via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). • Mandatory training on Customs procedures approved by Malaysian Customs are required for the personnel and its forwarding agents/Customs brokers. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of the application form with necessary supporting documents. • Verification on the application and the Company, the directors' and staff's background and others. • Validation Audit (On-site Audit) • AEO status granted by AEO Panel 						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Release (fast clearance) from Customs control for importation, exportation and movement of goods. • Customs clearance with minimum data and simplified process. • Self-assessed declaration in import, export and movement of goods periodically in accordance with specific schedules. • Deferred payments of Duties/taxes via Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT). • Simplified drawback claims based on self-accounting principles.

Post Approval Audit (Compliance Audit and Security Compliance Audit) – actions such as suspension or revocation would be taken based on audit findings.

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of Operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Secure Exports Scheme (SES)	2004	Export	Exporters NB: operates from point of pack to port of loading. As part of SES the exporters is responsible for third party sites and logistics including transport operators and brokers	124 members (December 2016)	Customs and Excise Act 1996, Section 53C	

i) New Zealand

Accreditation (components, process)	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exporter lodges application to join SES. Application must be supported by a security plan, process map, site plan and a security plan from their transport operator(s). The security plan documents the policies, processes and procedures that the exporter has in place that show their export products are securely packed, accurately accounted for, sealed with a NZ Customs approved seal and securely transported to the point of export from NZ. If they use a third party site to pack their export products into a container then a further security plan and site plan is required. • Validation process is undertaken by NZ Customs. This process includes a data integrity check on export documentation, Customs data base check, a Situation Report is requested from NZ Customs intelligence Unit and site validation visits undertaken. • On completion of the validation process a quality assurance check is undertaken on the application file to ensure above processes have been completed and a Management Report is compiled recommending the application be approved or declined. • Manager Service Delivery signs off on the recommendations in the Management Report. • If the application is declined the exporter is advised in writing on the reasons. • If the application is approved NZ Customs and the exporter sign an approval document. This numbered approval document covers all the conditions the exporter must adhere to and includes a Customs approved seal that must be used to seal SES export containers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced export transaction fees for lodgement of all export entries. • Lower potential for intervention by NZ Customs which allows more time to load shipments and complete export documentation, lowering compliance costs. • Provides access to border clearances with countries that have mutual recognition arrangement (MRA) with NZ Customs. • NZ Customs can provide advice and assistance for unexpected issues in respect of export goods with overseas border agencies that have a MRA with NZ Customs.

j) **Singapore**

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Secure Trade Partnership (STP)	25.05.2007	Import/export	Singapore's STP is open to all entities within the supply chain. This includes importers, exporters, manufacturers, warehouses, customs brokers, freight forwarders and carriers.	153 (as of Nov 20165)		
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>General requirements: Under the STP Guidelines and Criteria, companies are required to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have security management system; • Conduct risk assessment of their business operations; • Implement the stipulated security measures under the STP guidelines and Criteria (consistent with the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards). to secure their supply chain <p>Accreditation: Companies applying for certification under the STP programme will need to submit the application form, completed TRADEFIRST self-assessment checklist and support document. Validation visit at all sites of the company conducted by Singapore Customs; Singapore Customs certify the company as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STP status if the company achieves at least an "Intermediate" band in TradeFIRST; • STP-Plus status if the company achieves the "Premium" band in TradeFIRST and implements effective security measures that fulfil all the minimum criteria stipulated in the STP Guidelines and Criteria. <p>Details available at https://www.customs.gov.sg/.</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cargo less likely to be inspected; • STP – Serves as "Quality Mark", Enhanced branding (recognised as a low-risk company); • Reduced inspection or expedited clearance if the certified status be also recognised by overseas countries; • Automatic recognition as a known consignor (KC) under the Regulated Cargo Agent Regime (RCAR); • Designated account managers; • Trade Facilitation benefits under TradeFIRST bands; • Companies who wish to enhance their capabilities in supply chain security may get funding or assistance through training assistance schemes and development programmes offered by other government agencies. 	

k) Thailand

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2011 for Importers/Exporters and extended to Customs brokers in 2013	Import/Export	Importers/Exporters, Customs brokers	Importers/Exporters : 166 Customs Brokers: 168 Total number: 334 operators (May 18, 2017)	Customs Notification 12/2013(for importer/exporter) Customs Notification 13/2013(for Customs broker)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding the amount and type of AEOs operators. Increase number of MRA.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a juristic person registered in Thailand with paid-up capital 5 million baht for importer-exporter and 1 million baht for customs broker Have a stable financial status over 2 yrs. for importer-exporter and 3 yrs. for customs broker Operate in import/export or customs broker business over 3 yrs. No serious violation of customs law and customs related laws within 3 yrs. <p>Application, Verification and Authorization process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant submits an application form with supporting documents and the completed self-assessment checklist. The submitted application form and the security profile will be examined if it meets AEO requirements or not. Thai Customs conducts an on-site visit. (validation visit) Thai Customs will notify the applicant of the approval or disapproval of the application within 90 days after the submission of the application form. <p>Thai Customs conducts an on-site visit. (validation visit) Thai Customs will notify the applicant of the approval or disapproval of the application within 90 days after the submission of the application form.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Privileges on customs procedures covering import, export and re-export; Tax privileges to be granted on more speedy tax refund and compensation; Privileges on using guarantee as standardized Authorized Economic Operator of placing a guarantee on transshipment and transit; Privileges on legal cases under the conditions specified by the Customs Department; Exports will be recognized by foreign Customs Administrations having Mutual Recognition Agreement; Other qualified privileges will be announced by the Director-General of Customs. Expedition in undertaking duty drawback process, bonded warehouse, Customs Free Zone etc.Privileges concerning the reduction of time consuming for administrative proceeding for the minor customs offences concerning false declarations such as a case without any change in tariff and tax amount. 		

I) Vietnam

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	13/05/2011 (pilot implementation) 27/06/2013 (official implementation)	To apply the priority regime in the state management of customs to businesses satisfying the conditions specified in the Circular No 86/2013/TT-BTC	- Export enterprises - Import enterprises - High technology enterprises	30 (02/2015)		- 2015: 30-35 businesses are expected to be recognized as AEOs - Feb/2015: Issue new circular on AEO including new regulations on security (narrow down the difference between regulations of Vietnam and SAFE WCO)
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Dossiers of request for authorization of AEO include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written request: 01 original in which businesses propose and request for type of prioritized business; • Report on export and import statistics of the business in the last 02 years: 01 original; • Statistical duration is counted from 1st Jan to 31 Sep. For ongoing year: in case under 6 months, use statistics in 2 previous years; in case over 6 months, use statistics in previous months and remaining months of the counted year. • Compliance record of business in the last 02 years (in case the business has been handled for violations, number of handling times, acts of violation, sanctions applied and level of sanction, sanctioning authorities and execution of sanctioning decisions): To submit 01 original; • Written conclusions on the latest audit or inspection (conducted within 1 year, if any): To submit one copy certified by the business and produce the original thereof; • Document on self-analyzing, assessing business operation and finance conditions of business; • Document on self-analyzing the system of internal control of business; process of internal professional operation, in which fully describe the process of professional operations of all related divisions in the supply chain (such as divisions related to procedures for export and import: logistic, accounting, goods purchase, goods 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priorities at the stage of customs clearance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exemption from examination of customs dossiers, exemption from physical examination of goods (except cases showing clear signs of violation). In case of having to examine, AEO are able to be applied prioritized examination, examined by technical means, request for goods inspection at places selected by businesses. • Allowed to use set of documents including commercial invoices, goods package papers, goods delivery orders and tax self-declaration with seal and signature of representatives of businesses for customs clearance in case the database system of customs encounters malfunction or temporarily stops operation. • Do not have to register the consumption norm of raw materials with customs, do not have to submit the liquidity reports to customs provided that businesses have software to management of exports and imports meeting the requirements on management and inspection of customs. • Priorities at the post clearance stage • During the time of application of the priority regime to businesses, customs offices shall not conduct post clearance audit at the offices of these businesses (except cases showing clear signs of violation). • Single customs declaration 	

<p>sale, product quality control);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other papers which enterprises consider necessary to provide customs, and assist customs to have an overview of the business' operation and support the assessment/accreditation process. <p>Document validation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority receiving and processing applications: Post Clearance Audit Department, General Department of Viet Nam Customs • Customs receives application of request of businesses • On the basis of documents provided by business, customs shall use its database and other information sources to see the compliance level and export and import turnover of the business. • Collect evaluations and comments of the concerned agencies on the compliance of law on customs and law on tax of the business. • Validation of HS code of exports, imports <p>On site validation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct PCA to assess the compliance of customs law, tax law on export and import operations of business; • Assess internal control ability of business; • Checking the technical infrastructure applying information technology of business so as to meet the requirements on e-data connection and exchange between businesses and customs offices, tax agencies. • Processing time: from 45 to 75 working days <p>Making the memorandum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify type of AEO, liability of customs administration and enterprise <p>Decisions on authorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The General Director of the General Department of Viet Nam Customs shall sign the decision on authorization of prioritized businesses. • Validation period of the first authorization: 36 months from the signing date. <p>Post authorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, extend • Temporary suspension • Suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEO may make single customs declaration as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For goods exported or imported across the border or through border gates, customs declaration shall be made first, exportation or importation later; • For goods imported on the spot; and materials, components and spare parts purchased from bonded warehouses for production, importation shall be conducted first (supervised and recorded in minutes of goods delivery and receipt by businesses and owners of bonded warehouses), customs declaration shall be conducted later. <p>Priorities on tax procedures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To be prioritized to apply self-liquidity regime, tax refund first and inspection later.
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5. EUROPE REGION

a) EU

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Miscellaneous
AEO	1.01.2008	Import/export	Whole supply chain	Authorisations AEOC=8153 AEOF=8702 AEOS=694 TOTAL=17549 Applications AEOC=9217 AEOF=10924 AEOS=848 TOTAL=20360	Voluntary participation covered under the EU Customs Code and Implementing provisions and delegated act New AEO guidelines are in use as from 1 May 2016. “	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p><u>Two types of authorisations</u> The AEOC (Customs Simplifications) enjoys easier admittance to simplifications under the customs legislation. The AEOS (Security and Safety) benefits from a reduction of security and safety controls upon entry and exit. The AEOC and AEOS authorisations may be held at the same time resulting in one combined authorisation</p> <p><u>Conditions and criteria</u> Economic Operator Established in the EU Customs Territory Compliance with customs legislation and taxation rules and absence of criminal offences related to the economic activity Appropriate Record Keeping Proven Financial Solvency Practical Standards of Competence or Professional Qualifications</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easier admittance to customs simplifications Fewer physical and document-based controls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - related to security & safety - related to other customs legislation Prior notification in case of selection for customs control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - related to security & safety - related to other customs legislation Prior notification in case of selection for physical control (related to safety and security) When necessary a physical control may be performed even though no prior notification of inspection was given Priority treatment if selected for control Possibility to request a specific place for customs controls Mutual Recognition with third countries Indirect benefits, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved relationship with Customs 	

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Miscellaneous
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Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
Security & Safety					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced theft and losses; • Fewer delayed shipments; • Improved planning; • Improved employee commitment; • Reduced security and safety incidents; 	

b) Israel

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2011	Export	Exporters, Custom brokers, international freight forwarders, Warehouses, Air Cargo Terminal, Seaport, Airlines	Exporters: 51 Custom brokers: 34, international freight forwarders: 32 Warehouses: 6 Air Cargo Terminal: 2 Seaports: 2 Airlines: 1 Total: 100	Voluntary participation Formal customs procedure.	Management and Maintenance program to expand the program to additional links of the supply chain, to enlarge number operators and participants, and to act towards the signing of MRAs.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary participation • Must meet compliance requirements; • Must meet security requirements; • Application to Customs; • Validation by Customs; • Customs issues AEO standing; • Follow-up inspections by Customs; • Customs may revoke/extend AEO status. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced probability for examinations. • Easier examinations in import and export (preference to documentary inspections). • Early stage release (document examination before arrival of goods). • Paperless procedures • AEO contact point • Mutual recognition with other international AEO programs <p>Indirect benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower costs; • Increased security awareness and improved process; • Reduced security and safety incidents; • Improved marketability worldwide; • Ensure the smooth and secure flow of goods. 		

c) Republic of Macedonia

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	01.07.2009 (AEO pilot launched)	Import/ Export	Importers, exporters, carriers (rail, sea, air, highway, shipping agents), customs brokers, couriers, warehouse operators, freight forwarders	Customs Code of the Republic of Macedonia (amendments No.4/08) and Customs Code Implementing Regulation (amendments No. 42/09) Operational instruction (Guidelines) on AEO	Further promotion of AEO programme and 2-3 operators recognized as AEO till the end of 2017
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<p>3 types:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AEO certificate for customs simplification, intended for economic operators who want to benefit only on the basis of customs simplification; 2. AEO security facilitations, provides facilitation of customs controls when importing or exporting goods to or from the customs territory of the Republic of Macedonia; 3. AEO full customs simplification and security facilitation. <p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To comply with the general requirements from the customs authorities for proper implementation of the customs formalities; • Not to be a high risk entity; • To have efficient system for management of business evidence, and when necessary to have proper transport evidence which will be base for performing of the proper customs controls; • To be solvent, when necessary for the type of certificate; To apply adequate security and safety standards, when necessary for the type of certificate recognition. 				<p>In general, depending on the type of certificate, operators can benefit from trade facilitation and simplifications, reduced waiting time and faster clearance of the goods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality mark for the company; • Valuable investment for global companies; • Trade facilitations; • Security facilitation; • Reliable trading partner. 	

d) Norway

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	03.03.2009	Import/ export	All operators involved in international movement of goods	29	Customs act section 3-1 (5) Customs Regulation section 3-1-20 to section 3-1-27	
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration in the Norwegian Business Register; • Prior satisfactory compliance with Customs requirements; • A satisfactory system for managing accounts and transport information; • An appropriate financial solvency condition; • Appropriate safety and security standards. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application and self-assessment; • Risk analysis and inspection (on-site); • Decision on application: Issue/ reject the certificate; • Management of authorisation (monitoring and follow-up: e.g. periodical checks based on risk analysis) . • Authorisation for a period of 5 years 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The customs authorities may, before the goods enter or leave the customs territory, inform the AEO when the consignment has been selected for further physical control; • An AEO may lodge pre arrival/departure notifications comprising of the reduced data; • An AEO shall be subject to fewer physical and document-based controls than other economic operators; • When goods are selected for further examination, the necessary controls shall be carried out as a matter of priority.. • An AEO may request that customs control is carried out at another location than the location of the customs office involved. However, this is subject to individual agreements with the customs authority concerned. 		

e) Republic of Moldova

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	03.03.2014	Import/export	Whole supply chain	102 AEO (01.01.2017)	<p>Customs Code of the Republic of Moldova - Section 28¹ Authorised Economic Operator; Government Decision no. 647 of 07.08.2014 on the implementation of the provisions of the Customs code;</p> <p>Customs Order no. 483-o of 13.11.2014 on approval of the Methodological Norms on pre-audit procedure; Customs Order no. 50-O of 16.02.2015 for implementing customs simplifications and benefits for Authorized Economic Operators.</p>	<p>Elaboration of instructions in the monitoring and re-assessment process of AEO;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continues harmonisation with EU standards and good practices; - continue to implement EU AEOs recognition pilot project Moldova-Romania Border crossing point - Leuseni-Albita (as from 1 July 2015); - drafting MRA road map on EU Moldova AEO mutual recognition (planned for April 2017); - reporting the development of the AEO concept in the DCFTA countries to DGTAXUD.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	

The status of AEO shall consist in the following types of authorisations:

- AEOC – AEO authorisation for customs simplification
- AEOS – AEO authorisation for security and safety

Both types of authorisations may be held at the same time.

General requirements:

- No debts to the national public budget;
- Proven financial solvency;
- Record of compliance with customs and fiscal legislation, including no record of serious criminal offences relating to the economic activity of the applicant;
- Record keeping;
- practical standards of competence or professional qualifications directly related to the activity carried out (applies for AEOC)
- Appropriate security and safety standards (applies for AEOS/AEOF).

Accreditation:

- Assess the readiness of the economic operator to meet the AEO criteria;
- Submission of the application by applicant;
- Acceptance of the application by the customs authority;
-

- Fewer physical and document-based controls;
- Priority treatment if selected for controls/possibility to request a specific place for customs controls;
- Easier admittance to customs simplifications;
- Prior notification;
- Possibility to lodge entry/exit summary declaration comprising the reduce data requirements set;
- The priority access to state border crossing points on a separate entry/exist lane;
- MRA;
- Possibility to use the AEO logo.

Indirect benefits:

- Recognized as a secure and safe business partner;
- Reduced theft and losses;
- Improved relations and acknowledgement by other government authorities;
- Lower inspection costs of suppliers and increased co-operation;
- Reduced crime and vandalism;
- Improved security and communication between supply chain partners.

f) Republic of Serbia

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of Operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator	01.09.2014	Import and export	Everyone involved in the supply chain related to customs procedures	9 AEO certificates have been issued	Voluntary participation The Customs Law was adopted (effective from 3.4.2010) Regulation on customs- approved treatment of goods, Art. 21-40 (effective from 1.1.2011)	It is expected that AP5 CEFTA, which provides for the mutual recognition of AEO status between CEFTA parties, will be adopted in the year 2017.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>There are three different types of AEO Certificate as follows:</p> <p>1. AEO Certificate – Customs Simplifications: allows economic operators to benefit from simplifications provided for under the customs rules;</p> <p>2. AEO Certificate – Security and Safety: allows economic operators to benefit from facilitations of customs controls relating to security and safety at the entry into the customs territory of the Republic of Serbia or at the exit from customs territory of the Republic of Serbia;</p> <p>3. AEO Certificate – Customs Simplifications/Security and Safety: allows economic operators to benefit from both customs simplifications and facilitations as described above.</p> <p>Following criteria must be satisfied by the applicants applying for AEO status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an appropriate record of compliance with customs requirements in the previous period; • a satisfactory system of managing commercial and, where appropriate, transport records which allow appropriate customs controls; • financial liquidity; and • if necessary, appropriate security and safety standards in international trade in goods. <p>Accreditation aprocess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the application shall be submitted on the prescribed form to the customs office Belgrade; • the application shall be submitted along with the documents as prescribed in the Regulation on customs- approved treatment of goods; • the applicant shall submit a completed self-assessment questionnaire; • the competent authority shall collect the necessary information and data on the applicant; • Commission shall verify compliance with the criteria and requirements for issuing certificates; • decision making. <p>Monitoring, suspension, reassessment, revocation of AEO certificates.</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easier admittance to customs simplifications • Prior notification of AEO when, as a result of security and safety risk analysis, the consignment has been selected for further physical control. This notice shall only be provided where it does not jeopardise the control to be carried out. • Reduced data set for entry and exit summary declarations • Fewer physical and document-based controls • Priority treatment of consignments if selected for control • Choice of the place of controls • Indirect benefits 	

g) Switzerland

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	01.06.2011	Import/ Export	Whole supply chain	65 certificates, 140 applications (01.2015)	Voluntary participation; covered under National Customs Law and Customs Ordinance	
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An appropriate record of compliance; • A satisfactory system of managing records; • Proven financial solvency; • Appropriate security and safety standards. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill in an application and a self-assessment, and send the documents to Customs; • Customs performs a risk analysis, inspection of the applicant; • Customs awards/rejects the AEO status; • Monitoring of AEOs after authorization to ensure compliance level is maintained; Customs suspends/revokes the AEO status (if needed). <p>The conditions for acceptance and rejection of the application as well as suspension and revocation of the AEO certificate are laid down in the legislation.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower risk that flow of goods into and out of Switzerland will be stopped for security examination; • Possibility to request a specific place for customs security checks; • Facilitations in the form of a reduced number of data to provide in the summary declarations; • Lower controls for paper-based security inspections (audit) and physical security inspections; • Advanced notice on inspections when it does not jeopardize customs security controls. When necessary a physical security control may be performed even though no prior notification of inspection was given; • Priority treatment; • Mutual recognition. <p>Indirect benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced theft and losses; • Fewer delayed shipments; • Improved planning; • Improved employee commitment; • Reduced security and safety incidents; • Lower inspection costs of suppliers and increased cooperation; • Reduced crime and vandalism; • Reduced problems through recognition of employees; • Improved security and communication between supply chain partners. 		

h) Turkey

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO (in Turkish, YY: Yetkilendirilmiş Yükümlü)	10.01.2013	Import and Export	Exporters, Importers, International Freight Carriers	20 Certificates as of January, 2015.	Voluntary participation; covered under Implementing Provisions for The Facilitation Of Customs Procedures (second version published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Turkey on 21.05.2014)	Expansion of the scope of the programme to the rest of the supply chain, addition of import facilitations and development of MRAs with other Customs administrations.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>Only one type of certificate which includes both customs simplifications and security and safety measures.</p> <p>General requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An appropriate record of compliance with customs rules and regulations; • A satisfactory system of managing commercial and transport records; • Proven financial solvency; • Appropriate security and safety standards. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application to the Regional Directorate where the main accounts related to the customs arrangements are held; • Pre-evaluation by the Regional Directorate (examination of submitted documents and database query) • On-site audit based on the Self-Assessment Form; • Authorization or rejection of application; • Monitoring of AEOs after authorization to ensure highest compliance level is maintained. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower risk score for risk profiling within the risk management system • Priority treatment if physical or paper based controls are to be conducted • Priority for border crossings • Reduced data sets for entry and exit summary declarations • Submit declaration with incomplete documentation • Paperless declarations for imports and exports • Guarantee facilitations (lump-sum or partial guarantee) • Green line facilitation (no physical or paper-based controls) • Approved exporter status, with • Authorization on A.TR Movement Certificate and Invoice Declaration of EUR.1 and EUR. MED Certificates • Right of local clearance (for imports and exports) • Right of authorized consignor and authorized consignee • Other facilitations currently recognized for authorized traders in Turkey • Use of the AEO logo 		

B. AEO Programmes Under Development

1. SOUTH AMERICA, NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

a) Chile

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2017	Exports		Modification of Resolution Num. 0849/2009 2 Modification of Art. 23 of Customs law (Ordenanza de Aduanas)	1. Congress approval of "Technical Modernisation of Customs Law" in which text include the modification of Art. 23. • 2.Redact and publish the customs regulation for AEO programme, including the processes for certification, appeal and suspension or revocation of AEO accreditation.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits
<p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Application: The companies must complete and deliver to Customs the Pre-Application Single Form; • Pre-Evaluation: Customs will conduct a summary risk assessment process, to determinate the compliance of customs, legal, financial and tax standards. The assessment is based on the information supplied by the applicant in the Pre-Application single form; • Auto-Evaluation: The companies must complete and deliver to Customs the Auto-Application single form; • Evaluation: Based on the information supplied by the applicant in the Auto-Application single form, Customs will conduct a risk assessment process and "in situ" verification procedures, to determinate the compliance of security standards. • Certification: The certification is valid for a defined period, after which companies should apply to renewal of the certification, updating all information and backgrounds; • Monitoring and Reassessment: Customs will evaluate if the trade operator maintains its compliance with the obligations and standards. In the event of any breach, the Customs may suspend or revoke the certification. <p>Suspension & Revocation: Customs could suspend or cancel an AEO certificated company, if the company doesn't maintain the AEO standards and/or seriously fails guarding integrity and security of cargo.</p> <p>Appeal: All trade operators could appeal to any customs authorities decision through a legal procedure established in current national law.</p>					<p>In general, depending on the type of certificate, operators can benefit from trade facilitation and simplifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced waiting time and faster clearance of the goods.Quality mark for the company; • Valuable investment for global companies; • Trade facilitations; • Security implementation guidance for the companies; • Reliable trading partner.

b) El Salvador

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Operador Economico Autozado de El Salvador (OEA-SV)	2 nd Quarter 2015	Import/Export (Exporters in first Phase and other actors on the supply chain will be include in the future	Exporters, carriers, Importers, Customs Brokers, Warehouse Operator, Couriers	Single Customs Code of Central American (CAUCA) and its Regulations (RECAUCA), Mutual for AEO's Accreditation Process.	5 operators certified in the first year. Inclusion of Carriers in the 2016 programme and Expanding AEOs continuously.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<p>General Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with Tax and Customs regulations. • Adequate system of commercial records and interal control • Proven financial solvency • Adequated security measure <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summit application to Customs Authority (Self assessment, risk evaluation) • Documentary evaluation • Audit (documentary and on site validation) • Certification in Security and Simplification <p>Certification granted (Valid for 3 years) Audits: Customs Administration may conduct periodical checking visits, post clearance audits based on risk assessment and for renewal the certification.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less physical inspection by Customs in the process • Rapid release time • Clearance of goods at the premises of the AEO or in the Customs facilities. • Priority in the Customs administrative requests. • Priority in Customs control, in case that are selected for inspection. • Possibility for being considered in new trade facilitation programs. • Personalized attention by means an Account's Official. • Specialized training in Customs procedures and security measures. • Special measures in situation of trade chocks, contingency or high levels of threat. • Possibility of being recognized as AEO for the Customs Authorities of other countries. 	

2. NORTH OF AFRICA, NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST REGION

Programme Title	Date to be launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2018	Import/Export/Transit	Importers, exporters, Transport and Transportation Mgmt, Warehouses and Storage, Clearance offices	Customs Law Revised Kyoto Convention AEO Programme	To sign Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA) with other countries and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with government organizations and control bodies.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<p>The Basic AEO requirements are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compliance with basic Customs requirements. 2. Compliance with financial system requirements. 3. Compliance with internal control system. 4. Compliance with data processing systems. 5. Compliance with international security requirements. <p>Accreditation process includes the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The submission of the application by the company wishing to join AEO Programme. 2. Primary audit stage. 3. Field audit stage. 4. Post audit on the compliance improvement plan stage. 5. Compliance assessment stage (The results). 6. Periodical audit stage. 				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Priority in clearance procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specified counter working 24/7 to provide services to AEOs in clearance phase. • Immediate and fast release of goods against financial or written guarantees upon the completion of Customs declaration procedures including control bodies procedures based on the type of goods. • Exemption from examination and physical inspection except in cases determined by Customs Affairs. • Distinguishing AEOs Customs declarations through distinguished marks. • Priority in dealing with AEOs within the facilitation mechanism applied in emergency procedures when electronic clearance system (OFOQ) breakdown or X-ray scanners. 2. Priority in release procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefiting from examination at AEO premises. 3. Granting AEO certificate and honouring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granting AEO certificate to operators that have passed AEO programme conditions and requirements. AEOs are announced through press release including Customs Affairs website and official newspapers. Awards ceremony is held to AEOs and their representatives, upon the receipt of AEO certificate. • Announcement of AEOs at Customs borders. 4. Determination of points of contact and follow-up. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigning an employee in the suggested Single Window to undertake: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance and provision of advice to resolve issues and 	

Programme Title	Date to be launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2018	Import/ Export/ Transit	Importers, exporters, Transport and Transportation Mgmt, Warehouses and Storage, Clearance offices	Customs Law Revised Kyoto Convention AEO Programme	To sign Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA) with other countries and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with government organizations and control bodies.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
				<p>answer inquiries and proper guidance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up of AEOs procedures until release of goods. • Follow-up of release procedures of AEOs consignments and ensure resolving any problems encountered. • Providing AEOs with all instructions and issued administrative orders and answering any inquiries. <p>.5 In the long run:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) • Provision of additional AEOs advantages through signing memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Customs Affairs and government organisations and control bodies. • Coordination with control bodies to facilitate the work of AEOs and accredit and prioritise them in examination and finalisation of procedures. 	

2. EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION

a) Angola

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Angola AEO Program	2019 (estimate)	Import/Export	Importer and Exporter	Specific legislation to be created	The working group for the implementation have been established, the draft legislation and the implementation plan is ready and waiting for the board approval.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A notification of intention to release prior to goods' arrival and pre-clearance • Priority of inspection and use of non-intrusive inspection equipment whenever physical examination is required and others to be introduced. 	

b) Botswana

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines) Miscellaneous
TransKalahari Accreditation Scheme	Preliminary date – 2010. Current stage – national consultations	Import/export	Freight forwarders, bonded warehouse operators, importers, exporters, transporters.	SACU act is being reviewed but it does make provision for the implementation of the scheme. Security elements have to be incorporated as currently it reflects customs facilitation requirements and benefits.	Borrowed South African, EU and SAFE elements (for security). Since the programme is corridor based RSA, Botswana and Namibia are working on the development of the harmonised programme and will recognise operators registered in TKC Member States. The plan is to roll out the scheme to the SADC region, to ensure mutual recognition in the region. No other countries engaged as a group to negotiate mutual recognition. Once SADC becomes a Customs Union, it will be able to negotiate bi-laterals.

c) Ghana

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	June 2017	Import/export	Importers, exporters	Yet to be determined	Customs Act 2015 (ACT 891)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enactment of Customs Regulation • Broaden the scheme to include other operators in the supply chain.
Accreditation (components, process)						Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties involved in international supply chain. (For now the attention is on importers & exporters) • A record of compliance with customs requirements • Satisfactory system of managing commercial and, where appropriate, transport Records, which allows appropriate customs controls • Proven financial solvency • Appropriate security and safety standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expression of interest (complete an application form) ○ Preliminary consultation ○ Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) is administered and risk level evaluated ○ Audit (documentary and on-site validation) ○ Certificate 						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplification of Customs documentary procedures • Priority treatment of consignments if selected for control • Recognized as a secure and safe business partner • Swift customs clearance • Reduced cost and time of doing business • Improved control and better allocation of resources • Improved risk management • Improved safety and security within the supply chain

d) **Seychelles**

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines) Miscellaneous
AEO	To be determined	Import/Export	Whole Supply Chain		Awaiting approval of draft legislation from Attorney General's chamber Seek Technical Assistance to assist with the followings : Proposed Phase 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conduct facts finding mission to establish benefits/challenges for the implementation of AEO • conduct meetings/ training workshop for Customs & stakeholders • develop capacity to facilitate proper implementation of the programme Proposed Phase 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop guidelines, forms, questionnaire, check list, reference or training manual as required. • support with introduction of a pilot phase • Evaluation of pilot phase prior to full implementation of AEO
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits
<p>General requirement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An appropriate record of compliance with customs requirements; • A satisfactory system of managing commercial; • Where appropriate, proven financial solvency; • Appropriate security and safety standards for AEOs who want to benefit from safety and security facility facilitations. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validation of application form and supporting document submitted • Communication and consultation with relevant authorities • Risk Assessment; security check (WCO criteria) • Audit 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower risk goods imported or exported out of the Seychelles will be stopped for examination; • Possibility to request a specific place for customs checks; • Facilitations in the form of a reduced number of data to provide in the summary declarations; • Easier access to authorizations and permits for customs simplifications; • A specially appointed customs support officer; • Lower controls for paper-based inspections (audit) and physical inspections; • Advanced notice on inspections when it does not jeopardize customs controls. • When necessary a physical control may be performed even though no prior notification of inspection was given; • Priority treatment; • Mutual recognition.

e) **South Africa**

Programme Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator (AEO)	Changes included in the new Customs Control Act, signed off by parliament but awaiting implementation	Safety and security requirements across supply chain	exporters Importer, exporters, Clearing agents, transporters, shipping lines, depots, container terminals, warehouses	Chapter 30 Customs Control act (new act awaiting implementation, phase 2) More specific rules will be drafted in line with operational and systems readiness for AEO operators.	2015/16: AEO Capacity development from Preferred Trader unit,

3. FAR EAST, SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST ASIA, AUSTRALASIA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

a) Bangladesh

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	Pilot stage launched in March 2015	Export at the pilot stage	Exporter at the pilot stage	Customs Act, 1969	To be decided
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
To be decided				To be decided	

b) Philippines

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO Philippines	2015	Import and Export	Importer, Exporter, Warehouse Operator, Customs Brokers, Freight Forwarders	Executive Order to be signed	2015 : 10 AEOs
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
in process				in process	

4. EUROPE REGION

a) Armenia

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorised Economic Operator (AEO)		Import Export	Exporter, Importer, registering entities in the field of customs affairs	-Customs Code of the Customs Union Customs code of the Eurasian Economic Union, Law of the Republic of Armenia "On customs regulation"	
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<p>Conditions for granting the status of an authorized economic operator</p> <p>1) provision of security for payment of customs duties, taxes in the amount equivalent to one million Euros, The persons carrying out activities of production of goods and/or export thereof, with regard to whom customs duties are not applied in case of meeting the standards set by the decision of the Commission of the Customs Union, the security for payment of customs duties and taxes shall be provided in the amount equivalent to one hundred fifty thousand Euros;</p> <p>2) carrying out of foreign commercial activity within the period prescribed by the legislation of the Member State of the Customs Union, but within a period not less than one year before applying to the customs authority;</p> <p>3) absence of outstanding liabilities with respect to payment of customs fees, interests, penalties as of the day of applying to the customs authority;</p> <p>4) absence of respective debts (arrears) in accordance with the legislation of the Member States of the Customs Union on taxes and levies (tax legislation) as of the day of applying to the customs authority;</p> <p>5) absence of facts of having been imposed to administrative liability for violations — prescribed by the legislation of the Member States of the Customs Union — in the field of customs affairs during 1 (one) year before applying to the customs authority;</p> <p>6) availability of a system for registration of goods, which enables to compare the information submitted to the customs authorities during performance of customs operations with those related to performance of economic operations in accordance with the requirements prescribed by the legislation of the Member States of the Customs Union;</p> <p>7) compliance with other requirements and satisfaction of other conditions prescribed by the customs legislation of the Customs Union and/or the legislation of the Member States of the Customs Union</p> <p>For the purpose of obtaining the status of an authorized economic operator, the person carrying out foreign economic activity must submit to the superior customs authority, electronically</p>				<p>Providing authorized economic operator with an opportunity to work under special simplified procedures</p> <p>1) temporary storage of goods in the premises, outdoor areas and other territories of the authorized economic operator;</p> <p>2) release of goods before submitting a customs declaration in accordance with Article 197 of the Code;</p> <p>3) performance of customs operations related to the release of goods in the premises, outdoor areas and other territories of the authorized economic operator;</p> <p>The first type certificate shall give an authorized economic operator the right to benefit from the following special simplified procedures:</p> <p>1) to perform customs operations related to the arrival of goods in the customs territory of the Union, the departure of goods from the customs territory of the Union, customs declaration and the release of goods on a priority basis;</p> <p>2) not to provide security for fulfillment of the obligation to pay customs duties, taxes, special, anti-dumping and countervailing duties when placing those goods under the "Customs Transit" customs procedure;</p> <p>3) under the peculiarities provided for by Articles 121 and 122 of this Code, not to provide security for fulfillment of the obligation to pay customs duties, taxes, special, anti-dumping and countervailing duties when releasing goods, in which case the authorized economic operator acts as a declarant;</p> <p>4) to release goods before submitting the declaration of goods</p> <p>5) to carry out customs control, in case of designating it in</p>	

or in a paper format, an application and a self-assessment sheet regarding the activities carried out during the previous three years, the form and procedure for submission of which shall be established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

The authorized economic operator shall, together with the application and self-assessment sheet, submit the original copies of documents certifying the information contained therein and the document certifying the security for payment of customs duties and taxes provided for by the Customs Code of the Union, which shall be returned after being examined.

The customs authority shall, based on the information at its disposal and the information received from other state authorities and third persons, study, within a one-month period, the activities carried out by the person during the previous years, and the data revealed as a result shall be compared with the information included in the self-assessment sheet submitted by the person, and one of the following decisions shall be rendered:

(1) on granting the status of an authorized economic operator, where the person having submitted the application meets the standards prescribed by the Customs Code of the Union and this Law;

(2) on requiring additional data from the person carrying out foreign economic activity, and where the customs authority suspects that the submitted data are incomplete or false — on conducting an inspection.

After completion of the activities provided for by point 2 of this part, the customs authority shall, within a period of one month, render a decision on granting the status of an authorized economic operator, where the inspection reveals that the person carrying out foreign economic activity meets the standards prescribed by the Code of the Union and this Law, or on rejecting the granting of that status, where the inspection reveals that the person carrying out foreign economic activity fails to meet the standards prescribed by the Code of the Union and this Law.

Decision on rejecting the granting of the status of an authorized economic operator shall also be rendered, where the person carrying out foreign economic activity refuses to provide the data requested by the customs authorities according to point 2 of this part.

Conditions for including in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators 1. The conditions for including a legal person in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators by way of issuance of the first type certificate shall be as follows:

1) carrying out of foreign economic activity by that legal person, carrying out of the activity as a customs representative, temporary storage warehouse, customs warehouse keeper in the field of customs affairs for at least 3 years, or carrying out of the activity as a customs carrier for at least 2 years before the day of filing an application with the customs authority for inclusion in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators (hereinafter referred to as "the application" in this Chapter), during which

2) the persons who carry out foreign economic activity, except for the activity of providing services related to the transportation of goods, have submitted for each year declarations of goods in the quantity prescribed by the legislation of the Member States on customs regulation, but no less than 10, or the total cost of the goods transported across the customs border of the Union for each year amounts to the value prescribed by the legislation of the Member States on customs regulation, but no less than an amount equivalent to 500 000 Euros, at the exchange rate that is current on the day of filing the application with the customs authority;

the manner of visual customs inspection or customs inspection on a priority basis;

6) to recognize by customs authorities the lead seals placed by an authorized economic operator on the load compartment (sections) of vehicles or on the parts thereof as a means of identification.

7) not to set a route for the transport of goods to be transported by an authorized economic operator;

8) to participate, on a priority basis, in the pilot projects and experiments being carried out by customs authorities aimed at reducing time and optimizing the procedure for performance of customs operations;

9) to carry out by a transporter being an authorized economic operator unloading, reloading (transshipping) and other loading operations with goods under customs control and being exported from the customs territory of the Union, except for goods being transported (conveyed) under the "Customs Transit" customs procedure, as well as substituting the vehicles carrying out international transport of such goods with other vehicles, including by way of removing the placed lead seals and seals, without the permission of the customs authority within the scope of activities of which the relevant action is being carried out, or without notifying the customs authority.

The second type certificate shall give the authorized economic operator the right to benefit from the following special simplified procedures:

1) to temporarily store the goods of authorized economic operators within the structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) of the authorized economic operator;

2) to temporarily store the goods of persons not being authorized economic operators within the structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) of the authorized economic operator, where this is provided for by the legislation of Member States;

3) to deliver the goods to the customs control zones created within the structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) of the authorized economic operator, to place them in the customs control zone, to carry out customs control and to perform customs operations related to the completion of the operation under the "Customs Transit" customs procedure within such structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas);

the persons who carry out foreign economic activity aimed at providing services related to the transportation of goods have submitted at least 250 transit declarations for each year;

the persons who carry out activities in the field of customs affairs as a customs representative, have submitted for each year customs declarations in the quantity prescribed by the legislation of the Member States on customs regulation, but no less than 200, or the total cost of the goods declared in the submitted customs declarations for each year amounts to the value prescribed by the legislation of the Member States on customs regulation, but no less than an amount equivalent to 500 000 Euros, at the exchange rate that is current on the day of filing the application with the customs authority;

the persons, who carry out activities in the field of customs affairs as temporary storage warehouse, customs warehouse keepers, have carried out storage of goods, the total cost whereof for each year amounts to the value prescribed by the legislation of the Member States on customs regulation, but no less than an amount equivalent to 500 000 Euros, at the exchange rate that is current on the day of filing the application with the customs authority;

the persons who carry out activities in the field of customs affairs as a customs carrier have submitted at least 250 transit declarations for each year;

2) security for fulfillment of obligations of the authorized economic operator provided in accordance with Article 436 of this Code;

3) absence — in all Member States on the day of filing the application with the customs authority — of the liability with respect to customs fees, special, anti-dumping, countervailing duties, penalties, interests that are outstanding within the prescribed time limit.

4) absence of debts (arrears) — in the Member State where that legal person is registered — as of the day of filing the application with the customs authority, in accordance with the legislation on taxes and payments (tax legislation);

5) absence, in all Member States, of facts of imposing, within a year before the day of filing the application with the customs authority, administrative liability on that legal person for the administrative offences for the commission of which the imposition of liability is prescribed by the legislation of Member States as a ground for rejecting inclusion in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators.

6) absence, in all Member States, of facts of imposing criminal liability — on natural persons of the Member States who are shareholders of that legal person, have 10 or more percent of stocks of the legal person seeking to be included in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators, are its founders (participants), managers, chief accountants — for the crimes or criminal offences, the proceedings of which are reserved to the customs and other state authorities, and imposition of liability for the commission of which is prescribed by the legislation of Member States as a ground for rejecting inclusion in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators.

7) availability of a system for registration of goods, which meets the requirements prescribed by the legislation of the Member States on customs regulation, enables to compare the information submitted to the customs authorities during the performance of customs operations

4) to carry out customs control within the structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) of the authorized economic operator;

5) to perform customs operations related to customs declaration and release of goods within a customs authority different from the customs authority within the territory of activity of which the goods are found, where those customs authorities are located in the territory of a Member State;

6) to carry out customs control, in case of designating it in the manner of visual customs inspection or customs inspection on a priority basis;

7) to apply by the authorized economic operator the means of identification that are used by customs authorities;

8) under the peculiarities provided for by Articles 121 and 122 of this Code, not to provide security for fulfillment of the obligation to pay customs duties, taxes, special, anti-dumping and countervailing duties when releasing the goods in which case the authorized economic operator acts as a declarant;

9) to release goods before submitting the declaration of goods

10) not to provide security for fulfillment of the obligation to pay import customs duties in case of postponing payment of import customs duties in accordance with point 1 of Article 59 of this Code, where the authorized economic operator is the declarant of the goods.

4. The third type certificate shall give the authorized economic operator the right to benefit from the special simplified procedures referred to in points 2 and 3 of this Article.

with the information related to the performance of economic operations and which ensures accessibility (including distance) of that information to the customs authorities. The Commission shall have the right to set the standard requirements for the system of registration of goods.

2. The conditions for including a legal person in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators by way of issuance of the second type certificate shall be as follows:

1) the conditions referred to in sub-points 1, 3-7 of point 1 of this Article;

2) compliance of the financial stability of a legal person

3) possession, by right of ownership, by right of economic control, by right of operational management or by right of lease of such structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) that are envisaged for temporary storage of goods. Where structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) are under lease, the lease contract for structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) must be concluded on the day of submission of the application for a term of at least one year;

4) observance of the requirements prescribed by the Commission for the structures, premises (parts of premises) and/or outdoor areas (parts of outdoor areas) in the territory of which temporary storage of goods will be carried out, discharge of the "Customs Transit" customs procedure and/or customs control over the vehicles and employees of the legal person seeking to be included in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators.

3. The conditions for including a legal person in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators by way of issuance of the third type certificate shall be as follows:

1) the legal person has been included in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators by way of issuance of the first or third type certificate within at least 2 years after filing the application with the customs authority.

2) The conditions for including a legal person in the Register of Authorized Economic Operators by way of issuance of the second type certificate shall be as follows:

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b) Georgia

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator	2018	Import/Export	TBD	Amendments to the Tax Code of Georgia; Amendments to the Order N290 of the Minister of Finance of Georgia from July 26, 2012 “on the Approval of instruction on the movement and clearance of goods on Customs territory of Georgia”	Amendments to the legislation; followed by the setting up of the AEO institution system within the Revenue Service of Georgia; expected time of implementation - 2018
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
Under development				Under development	

c) Iceland

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Viðurkenndir rekstraraðilar (AEO)	N/A	Import/Export	All supply chain operators based in Iceland that meets the requirement for the program	In progress	Implementation in 2017
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration in the Icelandic Business Register; Prior satisfactory compliance with Customs requirements; A satisfactory system for managing accounts and transport information; An appropriate financial solvency condition; Appropriate safety and security standards. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application and self-assessment; Risk analysis and inspection (on-site); Decision on application: Issue/ reject the certificate; Management of authorisation (monitoring and follow-up: e.g. periodical checks based on risk analysis). <p>Authorisation for a period of 5 years.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The customs authorities may, before the goods enter or leave the customs territory, inform the AEO when the consignment has been selected for further physical control; An AEO shall be subject to fewer physical and document-based controls than other economic operators; When goods are selected for further examination, the necessary controls shall be carried out as a matter of priority. An AEO may request that customs control is carried out at another location than the location of the customs office involved. However, this is subject to individual agreements with the customs authority concerned. Customer service representative who inter alia ensures priority response to requests for rulings from national Customs authorities. 	

d) Montenegro

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO				Article 6b of the Customs Law of Montenegro prescribes the term "Authorized economic operator" Regulation on the conditions for granting the status of authorized economic operator in the customs territory of Montenegro	- The Regulation on the conditions for granting the status of authorized economic operator in the customs territory of Montenegro in accordance with European Commission Regulation no. No 2454/93 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation No. 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code.

5. WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION

a) Cote d' Ivoire

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator (OEA) programme.	Experimental phase 2nd quarter 2017 with 10 pilot companies	Import/export	Importers, Exporters	Order No 276 / MPMBPE / DGD / 29 April 2016 implementing the status of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) - Order No. 277 / MPMBPE of the 29 April 2016 on the establishment, composition and powers of the Accreditation Committee for the Certification of Authorized Economic Operators (AEO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program will start with a pilot phase with 10 companies before extending to a larger number of operators fulfilling the required conditions Security aspects will be taken into account at a later stage
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<p>- Conditions of eligibility</p> <p>The Company shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> be established in Côte d'Ivoire and be subject to the system of real taxation; have carried on business on a continuous basis over a minimum period of three (03) years; produce a certificate of customs regularity; produce a certificate of regularity; not have committed customs offenses in the last three years; justify the commitment of the Company to a quality approach; contributed to the mobilization of customs revenues of at least 4 billion CFA francs during the previous financial year; <p>- Grant procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> submit an application for AEO status to the Director General of Customs (application form + self-assessment questionnaire duly filled in); admissibility of the application by Customs processing of the application by the Accreditation Committee the granting of the AEO Accreditation by the Minister of the Budget 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediate removal of imported goods except those subject to prior authorization (fresh food, food, medicines, etc.); automatic admission to the interim voucher procedure for air mail; automatic admission to the home visit in the event of eligibility for the visit circuit; preferential treatment for home visits; exemption from the production of declarations of acceptance of the country of destination in the procedure for refunding VAT credits. exemption from the production of a deposit in the Inter-State Road transit; 	

b) Democratic Republic of Congo

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme	Decision planned but no date mentioned so far.	Import/export	Single type of Operators subdivided into 3 categories : A : Customs simplifications B: Security and safety C : Full certificate	*Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code *Decree n° 11/46 of 24 December 2011 implementing provisions of Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code *Executive order n° 16 of 11 April 2011 implementing provisions of Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code *Decision n° DG/DG DA/DG/2011/296 of 11 August 2011 implementing provisions of Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code.	Currently looking for Partnerships experience sharing and capacity building
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The granting AEO status is subject to a written request to customs and to a satisfactory investigation of customs. The representative must complete the 12-page application form, structured around the following 5 sections and sub-sections: Information on the applicant: Organizational Character; Internal organization; Volume of activity; Information relating to customs . Customs Compliance: customs records; Information regarding potential subjection to fraud. Accounting and logistical system of the business; Monitoring of commercial and logistic records; Accounting and logistics system; Internal control system; Flow of goods; Establishment of the goods declaration and the use of customs brokers; Maintenance, preservation, restoration and archiving of information systems; Information security and security of computer systems; Securing information and documentation. <p>Financial solvency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and Security Requirements: Security-related assessment conducted by the applicant (self- assessment) 				<p>Special procedures granted to authorized economic operators in Category A include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing the number of physical and documentary checks; priority treatment of consignments when selected for Control; submission of a minimum of information during the release of goods; prior notification of Control; possibility of clearance at the declarant's premises or in other locations within the country, chosen by the authorized economic operator; possibility of lodging a goods declaration covering multiple transactions during a given period; option for authorized economic operators of calculating and paying themselves duties and taxes based on their own commercial records, on which Customs refers, where appropriate, to ensure compliance with other Customs requirements ; possibility for the authorized economic operator of lodging a goods declaration by means of an entry in the records and subsequently by a supplementary declaration. <p>Authorized Economic Operators in category B receive the following benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> prior notification of Control; 	

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme	Decision planned but no date mentioned so far.	Import/export	Single type of Operators subdivided into 3 categories : A : Customs simplifications B: Security and safety C : Full certificate	*Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code *Decree n° 11/46 of 24 December 2011 implementing provisions of Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code *Executive order n° 16 of 11 April 2011 implementing provisions of Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code *Decision n° DG/DG DA/DG/2011/296 of 11 August 2011 implementing provisions of Law n° 10/002 of 20 August 2010 Laying down the Customs Code.	Currently looking for Partnerships experience sharing and capacity building
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Security; • Transport units; • Logistics Process; • goods received; • Storage of goods; • Manufacturing of goods; • Loading of goods; • Safety requirements for providers; • Personnel Security; • external service providers. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possibility of clearance at the declarant's premises or in other locations within the country, chosen by the authorized economic operator; • possibility to submit the goods cargo declaration to Customs based on limited set of information; • Recognition by Customs of seals used by the authorized economic operator; • exemption of controls to authorized economic operator's means of transport; • possibility of shipping goods for export before lodging the goods declaration. <p>The AEO category C enjoys the benefits of those in categories A and B.</p>	

II. Operational Customs Compliance Programmes and Customs Compliance Programmes Under Development

b. Operational Customs Compliance Programme

1. WCO Americas and Caribbean Region

a) Belize

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Voluntary Compliance Programme	May 1st 2015	Import/ export/	Importer and Exporter	30	Draft	To be fully launch in mid 2017
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VCP Application is submitted to Customs Voluntary Compliance task force(VCTF) • VCTF approves, defer or rejects application based on the objective compliance assessment matrix • Approved members are afforded 80% Green Lane subject to periodic audit • VCP members submits voluntary disclosure form • VCTF processes submission with 60 days • SAD is amended, additional duties and taxes are collected 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater predictability for customs regimes (valuation, classification, etc.) • Simplified procedure • Preferred treatment for VCP members • Unique benefits for low-risk traders • Enhance revenue performance • Cost reductions (no delays, inventory, capital, storage space) • Lowering the risk of penalties or sanctions • Reduction of opportunities for corruption • Increased Green lane treatment for VCP members • Faster processing during physical checks • Reduced customs intervention (inspection, documentary checks) • Enhanced competitiveness of the approved company. • Promote transparency 		

b) Brazil

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Blue Line (Express customs clearance)	2004	Import/export/	Importer and Exporter (a company must be involved in a minimum of 100 international trade transactions per month worth a total of at least 20 million USD)		Secretariat of the Federal Revenue Normative: IN RFB nº 476/2004	Merge Blue Line with Brazilian AEO Compliance
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>General criteria :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be an enterprise with a consolidated social contract; • Have well established internal audit systems; • Adhere to the financial criteria; • Electronic archive of the results of audit and other paperwork. 				<p>For importers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferential storage for cargo; • Less customs inspections of cargo; • Preferential treatment of cargo, selected for inspection. <p>For exporters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispatch of cargo with reduced number of customs inspections involved; • Preferential treatment for cargo, selected for customs inspections. 		

c) Canada

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Customs Self Assessment (CSA)	2001	Import	Importers and carriers	98 Approved CSA Importers 930 Approved CSA Carriers (2015-02-17)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish cooperative agreements with other compatible programs. Expand CSA eligibility to other modes and partners. Enhance benefits and expedited clearance at ports of entry. Collaborate with Other Government Departments and Agencies to expand the CSA service options and enhance benefits for expedited/simplified Customs clearance.
Accreditation (components, process)						Benefits
<p>Program Membership Application Process:</p> <p>Importers:</p> <p>Two-part application; importer must meet the criteria in the first part of application process in order to qualify to submit the second part.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security profile information - risk assessment of client which includes the collection of corporate structure information, key business activities and products; company policies related to risk management; and upon request, a quarterly report or their most recent audited financial statements. Importers have to demonstrate that their books, records and business systems have the necessary internal controls and procedures - including linkages, controls and audit trails to meet customs requirements. <p>Carriers:</p> <p>Two-part application; carrier must meet first part of application to qualify to submit second part.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carriers must provide detailed information such as a complete corporate structure and all relevant registration identifiers; details about their business specialty, clients, equipment and drivers; security measures for freight facilities and personnel policies; terminal and warehouse locations; and the location of all their divisions; Carriers are asked to demonstrate their internal process for an international Canada bound shipment; identify their current business process for all shipments, starting from the order through to billing; identify how they assign an internal control number for each order they accept; provide detailed dispatch procedure and systems; provide sample documents, descriptions and the appropriate linkages for each step in the shipping process; identify how CSA-approved importers, drivers and eligible shipments will be identified in the systems, identify how their reporting system to trace all Canada-bound shipments, including CSA-approved shipments; and identify the location of books and records. 						<p>Importers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced importer data set for imports and reduced costs Expedited processing at ports of entry Streamlined, self-assessing and accounting <p>Carriers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ends the transactional transmission of data elements Increases the certainty of expedited customs processing Enables carriers to meet their obligations easily Streamlines the process for legitimate trade <p>The CSA program is factored into the CBSA's Business Resumption Plan in the event of trade flow disruptions.</p>

d) El Salvador

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
PACE (Programa Aduanero de Cumplimiento Empresarial; Customs programme on business compliance)	December 2008 – launching the programme	Import	Importers (all sizes, including SMEs) PACE includes account administrators of companies to facilitate attention on incidents during import procedures.	3 operators (37 accepted; 34 refused; 00 being evaluated; 24 have not responded)		Evolution to AEO programme including security requirements .
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>General criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial cap for big companies and SMEs (more or less USD 2,000,000 of trade volume per year); Solvency criteria (incl. ISSS and AFP); Not more than 2% of tributary discrepancies per year; Conformity of documents (on VAT, rent); Transparent accounting etc. <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance to buy goods in conformity with law; The process of buying; Arrival of goods; Calculation of tariffs and identification of obligations; Submission of declaration; No red/green line decision; no inspection = > payment; Goods arrive and are dispatched; Post-clearance audit. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predictability; Concrete official to deal with big importers; Special benefits for low risk companies; Facilitation of processes in ports; Cost reductions (no delays, inventory, capital, storage space); Lowering the risk of penalties or sanctions; Reduction of opportunities for corruption; Special lane for PACE members; Fast processing during physical checks. 		

e) USA

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Trusted Trader Pilot Program	Test launched July 2014	Import	Importer	Seven (7) test participants	None-voluntary program	The program is still in the testing phase, full implementation is schedule for later this year.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>To be considered a Trusted Trader, importers have to be a member of C-TPAT, and be a U.S. or Canada resident, and have at least a 2 year import history.</p> <p>The method used to validate and approve an applicant is based on an evaluation of its internal control for achieving compliance with CBP laws and regulations and their ability to self-govern.</p>				<p>Some of the benefits offered during the test of the Trusted Trader Program are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedited Rulings and Internal Advice. • Retroactive flagging or un-flagging of Reconciliation Entries. • Allow summary of Chemical Abstract Service Registry Number instead of on each entry. • Exemption from comprehensive audits • Expedited Cargo Release – Exempt from random NII exams • Provided with free Importer Trade Activity (ITRAC) Data • Assigned a National Account Manager 		

2. WCO Middle East and Northern Africa Region

a) Algeria

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	07.03.2012	Import/Export	Importers, exporters	AEO status to be granted to operators in the course of 2012 (from June 2012).	<p>Articles 38 and 39 of the Algerian Finance Act 2010; amendments to the Algerian Customs Code, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N°78 of 31.12.2009</p> <p>Article 89 TER of the Algerian Customs Code (law N 79-07 of July 21, 1979).</p> <p>Executive Decree of the Government, No. 12/93 of 1 March 2012 stating the terms and conditions of AEO status, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N° 14 of 07.03.2012.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and develop the status and its implementation progressively. Strengthen the security and safety measures. comply its legal frame with Global trade context. Approving a Circular which explains the terms for the implementation of AEO status and an audit guide. <p>Since the amendment of the Algerian Customs Code, the AEO status has been the subject of an agreement signed on 04 March 2012, between the Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACI), the National Agency for Promotion of Foreign Trade (ALGEX) and the General Directorate of Customs (DGD). This is to establish a framework of partnership to develop and support the partnership between the public and the private sector (ALGEX and CACI are public entities depend to the Ministry of Commerce). Algerian Customs established public relations and information Units within all the national territory, to listen, inform and advise the economic operators on AEO.</p>
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>General requirements and conditions for granting status :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The economic operator must be established in Algeria, natural or legal person, engaged in the import or export and operating in the areas of production of goods or services; No previous offences records, during the last 3 years, against its legal representatives, 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve productivity and competitiveness of the national economy which require the involvement of the customs administration through the facilitation and simplification of procedures. 	

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	07.03.2012	Import/Export	Importers, exporters	AEO status to be granted to operators in the course of 2012 (from June 2012).	<p>Articles 38 and 39 of the Algerian Finance Act 2010; amendments to the Algerian Customs Code, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N°78 of 31.12.2009</p> <p>Article 89 TER of the Algerian Customs Code (law N 79-07 of July 21, 1979).</p> <p>Executive Decree of the Government, No. 12/93 of 1 March 2012 stating the terms and conditions of AEO status, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N° 14 of 07.03.2012.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and develop the status and its implementation progressively. • Strengthen the security and safety measures. • comply its legal frame with Global trade context. Approving a Circular which explains the terms for the implementation of AEO status and an audit guide. <p>Since the amendment of the Algerian Customs Code, the AEO status has been the subject of an agreement signed on 04 March 2012, between the Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACI), the National Agency for Promotion of Foreign Trade (ALGEX) and the General Directorate of Customs (DGD). This is to establish a framework of partnership to develop and support the partnership between the public and the private sector (ALGEX and CACI are public entities depend to the Ministry of Commerce). Algerian Customs established public relations and information Units within all the national territory, to listen, inform and advise the economic operators on AEO.</p>

Accreditation (components, process)	Benefits
<p>senior officers or principal associates with government administrations including customs, tax, trade, labour and social security and with other institutions involved in the supervision of Foreign Trade;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not subject to a procedure of bankruptcy, being wound up, suspended business activities, under judicial settlement or concordat; • Justify the financial solvability during the last 3 years; <p>Accreditation : It is attended that the first phase will cover the producers of goods and services involved in foreign trade. The resale in the state operations will be concerned by the status in a second phase after establishing the proper regulatory provisions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote economic activity, stimulate and promote international trade, boost strategic sectors and support investments. • Contribute to the improvement of economic competitiveness of businesses (SMEs in particular) and value their credibility at both national and international levels. • Strengthening Customs-to-Business. partnership and confidence (to offer personalized treatment for economic operators in terms of facilitation of customs clearance procedures).

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	07.03.2012	Import/Export	Importers, exporters	AEO status to be granted to operators in the course of 2012 (from June 2012).	<p>Articles 38 and 39 of the Algerian Finance Act 2010; amendments to the Algerian Customs Code, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N°78 of 31.12.2009</p> <p>Article 89 TER of the Algerian Customs Code (law N 79-07 of July 21, 1979).</p> <p>Executive Decree of the Government, No. 12/93 of 1 March 2012 stating the terms and conditions of AEO status, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N° 14 of 07.03.2012.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and develop the status and its implementation progressively. • Strengthen the security and safety measures. • comply its legal frame with Global trade context. Approving a Circular which explains the terms for the implementation of AEO status and an audit guide. <p>Since the amendment of the Algerian Customs Code, the AEO status has been the subject of an agreement signed on 04 March 2012, between the Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACI), the National Agency for Promotion of Foreign Trade (ALGEX) and the General Directorate of Customs (DGD). This is to establish a framework of partnership to develop and support the partnership between the public and the private sector (ALGEX and CACI are public entities depend to the Ministry of Commerce). Algerian Customs established public relations and information Units within all the national territory, to listen, inform and advise the economic operators on AEO.</p>
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>To qualify for an AEO status, the applicant must: (article 04, ED No. 12/93)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit an application, accompanied by the requisite documents and materials, to the Customs office of jurisdiction to which depends on the core business; • Subscribe and comply with the terms of reference and answer with precision to the questionnaire; • Provide the documents or copies of documents hereinafter, as appropriate: • Status for legal persons; A copy of the Commercial Register (company house record); Tax registration card; Terms of reference and the questionnaire signed and approved; 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalise the control based on risk analysis. • Adapt clearance procedures with international standards through an efficient performance in terms of reducing release time. 	

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	07.03.2012	Import/Export	Importers, exporters	AEO status to be granted to operators in the course of 2012 (from June 2012).	<p>Articles 38 and 39 of the Algerian Finance Act 2010; amendments to the Algerian Customs Code, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N°78 of 31.12.2009</p> <p>Article 89 TER of the Algerian Customs Code (law N 79-07 of July 21, 1979).</p> <p>Executive Decree of the Government, No. 12/93 of 1 March 2012 stating the terms and conditions of AEO status, published in Official Journal of the Republic of Algeria (J.O.R.A) N° 14 of 07.03.2012.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and develop the status and its implementation progressively. Strengthen the security and safety measures. comply its legal frame with Global trade context. Approving a Circular which explains the terms for the implementation of AEO status and an audit guide. <p>Since the amendment of the Algerian Customs Code, the AEO status has been the subject of an agreement signed on 04 March 2012, between the Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACI), the National Agency for Promotion of Foreign Trade (ALGEX) and the General Directorate of Customs (DGD). This is to establish a framework of partnership to develop and support the partnership between the public and the private sector (ALGEX and CACI are public entities depend to the Ministry of Commerce). Algerian Customs established public relations and information Units within all the national territory, to listen, inform and advise the economic operators on AEO.</p>
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any necessary documents for the audit that will be done by the Customs officers. <p>When the application for accreditation is deemed admissible, the competent customs proceed to a checking in terms of audit for a period not exceeding 6 months. (article 05, ED No. 12/93)</p> <p>If the application is inadmissible, a motivated rejection is notified within 1 months from the date of submitting the application. Otherwise, the application is considered admissible.</p> <p>If the audit results are positive, the AEO status is granted to the applicant, by decision of the Director General of Customs.</p> <p>The term of validity of AEO accreditation is 3 years and is renewable. AEO status may be suspended or revoked in accordance with the regulations.</p>						

b) Azerbaijan

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
The Green Corridor	2016	Import, Export	Legal and physical persons	9	The Customs Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan "Rules for use of 'The Green Corridor' and other border crossing systems for transportation of goods and vehicles through the customs border" approved by Presidential Decree No. 920 dated May 21, 2016.	The number of participants of foreign economic activity (FEA) using this system is considered to be increased.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>Basic requirements for a FEA participant to be able to use the Green Corridor system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of customs offenses; • Lack of tax offenses; • Providing a short import declaration to the customs authorities in advance. <p>The process of putting the system into operation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FEA participants apply to the State Customs Committee based on the certain application form on putting the "Green Corridor" system into operation; • The given application form contains the FEA participant's registration data, financial information, information on customs and tax offenses, as well as on customs and tax audits; • Based on the information noted in the application, as well as on other received data on the economic operator's foreign trade activity, the State Customs Committee makes analyses and takes a decision on the use of the system; • The State Customs Committee can cancel the granted permission in case of violation of the defined requirements or at the economic operator's request. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferential implementation of customs control based on the automated risk management system; • Simplified customs control and customs procedure; • Import and export operations and cost savings related to the customs clearance; • Minimizing the time spent on border crossing. 		

c) Iran

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2014	Import, Export	Currently Importers, Exporters, Manufacturers	11 companies	National Legislation, WTO-TFA, WCO-RKC	Other types of operators will be covered.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
Based on criteria detailed in RKC, WCO guidelines				Reduced release time; reduced cost of operations for private sector; clearance facilitation; minimized customs controls and physical inspections;		

d) Sudan

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Golden List	December 2016	Import	Import and Customs Brokers	5 (five) companies	Customs Post Clearance Regulation 2010	
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Company and trader are introduce request to involve in golden list . Customs authority will be checked compliance a and system to related Accounting and other issues . The Director general agrees to join to list according to recommendation of Risk management . 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release their goods in minimum time . Post clearance audit in their locations . More facilities in customs stations . Reduce the import Cost . 		

e) **United Arab Emirates**

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Golden list programme (Abu Dhabi)	2007	The programme was designed to give the trusted companies a golden list status through which the party can import and export its goods into or out of the country with a minimum paper work requirements and with the shortest amount of time	Trusted companies that have a certain threshold of trade volume in imports and exports, and have a minimum number of contravention or discrepancies in dealing with Customs,	currently 26 operators joined the programme	Under the umbrella of Customs law and in light of instructions issued by Customs for this scheme in particular called "golden List programme" instructions	It is anticipated that the total number of beneficiaries from this programme is going to reach 200 companies by end 2014.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>After the member is selected upon the criteria decided for the programme, a memorandum of understanding is signed with the member regulating the procedures to be followed and the requirements from the member.</p> <p>Members will stay under Customs Control and Abu Dhabi Customs will keep random-checking consignments of the beneficiaries.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Customs : This is an initial stage to build a full-ledged AEO programme. It is also beneficial as it simplifies customs procedures. Moreover, there is a concentration on dangerous shipments and allows for the involvement of stakeholders • To Clients: The benefits include simplification of procedures, optimized time of release, more trust with Customs and good reputation, and an increase in profit. 		

3. WCO West and Central Africa Region

a) Cameroon

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Contrat de Performance Opérateurs (Performance Operators' Contracts)	June 2011	Import	Importers	27	Contracts signed between companies and the Direction Générale des Douanes du Cameroun (Directorate General of Cameroon Customs).	Extension to other port stakeholders (Customs Brokers, freight forwarders , stevedores etc ...)
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application made by the operator Acceptance by Customs on the basis of the volume of the company's business, financial position, regularity concerning the importation, Customs criminal records (amount of duties adjusted on Customs declarations made by the company and the frequencies of these adjustments). 					<p>Eligibility of at least 40 % of the importer's operations to the blue circuit (port exit without customs control)</p> <p>The companys' blue circuit (channel) rate may increase (up to 90%) or decrease based on its performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit to the premises benefit from a deferment of payment procedure (duties and taxes paid several weeks after the release of the goods) customized assistance granted to importers 	

b) Senegal

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Privileged Partnerships Programme (PPP)	17 June 2011	Import/Export	Importers, exporters, companies involved in the international supply chain	22	Law n° 2014-10 of 28 February 2014 amending the Customs Code of Sénégal (Article 121); - Décision (Decree) n°0381 DGD/DFPE/BREP of 17 June 2011 setting out the Programme de Partenaires privilégiés (privileged Partnerships Programme)	A benchmarking action involving 3 countries with large experience in AEO programme implementation, is planned to be launched before 2017. The final goal is to fully align the PPP to the SAFE AEO programme
accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Accreditation: The relevant body to deal with applications is called Comité d'agrément au Programme de Partenaires privilégiés Members of the "Comité d'agrément au PPP"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of the Direction de la Facilitation et du Partenariat avec l'Entreprise (Facilitation and Partnership with Trade Directorate); • Deputy-Head of the Direction de la Facilitation et du Partenariat avec l'Entreprise (Facilitation and Partnership with Trade Directorate) ; • Représentatives of other Directorates within the Direction générale des Douanes; • Head of Bureau du Conseil aux Entreprises et de la Facilitation (Trade and Facilitation advisory board unit); • Représentatives of the Direction générale des Impôts et des Domaines (Tax administration directorate). <p>Authorization process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick up free of charge an application form at the Direction générale des douanes headquarters; • Complete the application form regarding information on the internal organizational process of the company • Sign up and submit the form with the following supporting documents to the Trade and Facilitation advisory board unit (Bureau du Conseil aux Entreprises et de la Facilitation): • fiscal receipt • Customs compliance certificate • social security contributions certificate • Convocation from the Comité d'agrément au Programme de Partenaires privilégiés in view to take a decision on the application : • Favourable opinion delivery with a draft authorization request submit to the signature of the Director General, Notification of the authorization to the applicant. 					<p>Ten benefits classified in 4 categories are offered to accredited companies :</p> <p>A category :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate release of goods upon registration of the accounting documents and fast-track removal procedure; • Declarations acknowledged as "In Compliance" for randomly selected operations in the inspection channel and priority processing of those operations; • Possibility to obtaining binding advance information <p>B Category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A category Benefits • Establishment within the Customs service of mandatory time limits on processing for all stages; • Possible conclusion of protocols to deal with special circumstances; • Reduction and rationalization of post-clearance audits <p>C Category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A and B category Benefits • Possibility of replacing the usual financial securities (e.g. bonds, cash deposits) with a company surety; Relocation of physical controls to the undertaking's premises; • Granting of export simplified procedures <p>D Category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be granted the Citizen and responsible company label 	

4. WCO East and Southern Africa Region

a) Madagascar

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Programme Accélérée de dédouanement (Accelerated Clearance Programme or PAD)	June 2011	Import	Importers	108	Executive Order (Décision) n°23 MFB/SG/DGD of 8 June 2011 setting conditions for the granting of the Accelerated Clearance Programme (PAD) and its implementing provisions.	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
General requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership in a professional association recognized by Customs • No serious offense against Customs Law and regulations over the past three years • Satisfactory system of business records and accounting book keeping • Satisfactory financial position • Authorization process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of an application through the relevant professional association • Review of the application on the basis of potential breaches of the Customs legislation and on financial legislation. • Monitoring and control after the authorization to ensure the maintenance of the rule of law • Revocation or suspension in case of infringements 					Customs declarations selected for the blue circuit (without control or documentary or physical at time of clearance – but possible post clearance control)	

b) Mauritius

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2012	Import & Export	Importer/ Exporter	2	Customs (Cargo Community System) Regulations 2008.	
Qualified TradeNet User (QTU) [Fast Track Cargo Release Initiative] <i>Note:</i> This programme is equivalent to the Customs Simplification category under the AEO Scheme	2007	Import & Export	Import/Export	Thirty three (33)	(i) Customs Act, Section 16B; (II) Customs (Use of Computer) Regulations 1997	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>AEO Category: 1. Customs Simplification 2. Security and Safety Facilitation 3. Customs Simplification/Security and Safety Facilitations</p> <p>Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of Application Form and Questionnaire duly filled in • Face vetting of above documents • Onsite audit for past 3 financial years plus system security • Submit report • Approval • Letter to inform applicant of appointment including requirements to adhere with and obligations <p>QTU Category: Customs Compliance Monitoring (Delivery of Documents) Programme</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast track for Customs clearance of goods: reduction in dwell time and costs. • These operators are exempted from submission of trade documents when processing customs declarations. • If the electronic system at Customs (the CMS) randomly selects any of the declarations for physical examination, such inspections are done at the premises of the operator. 	

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2012	Import & Export	Importer/ Exporter	2	Customs (Cargo Community System) Regulations 2008.	
Qualified TradeNet User (QTU) [Fast Track Cargo Release Initiative] <i>Note:</i> This programme is equivalent to the Customs Simplification category under the AEO Scheme	2007	Import & Export	Import/Export	Thirty three (33)	(i) Customs Act, Section 16B; (II) Customs (Use of Computer) Regulations 1997	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
Process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of application duly • Audit of internal control system of operator • Verify compliance level in respect of transactions at Customs • Monitoring of performance (risk assessment) of transactions at Customs for a period of 3 months from date of application • Report finalised • Approval as QTU if satisfies all requirements 						

c) Mozambique

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
AEO	2012	Import & Export both	Importer, Exporter	06 (six)	DM nr. 314/2012, 23 rd November	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening and assessment of the applicant's documentation; Survey and Inspection; and 3. Allocation of the certificate (if meet the requirements) 					<p>Simplified procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually have been used the electronic clearance; Physical checks only when is requested; Priority when the consignment is selected for inspection cording to the Risk Management assessment; and Personalized and early warning for documental verification or physical check. 	

d) Rwanda

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
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Compliant Trader schemes of two types: 1. Gold Card Scheme (Risk based selectivity channels). 2. Pre-clearance (enables low risk importers to clear their goods before the arrival of the consignment)	Gold Card scheme – 03.2008; Pre-clearance facilitation – 09.2007.	Import	Importers		Programmes supported by national legislation. System built on importers' compliance records.	To continue developing the Compliant Trader Scheme as it is in line with the determination to facilitate international trade and encourage compliance.
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e) South Africa

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Preferred Trader (Accreditation Level 2)	2011	Importer & exporter	N/A	~ 520 engaged on the programme ~215 audits have been finalised. 30 Approved by the Review Committee, pending awarding of status.	Section 64E, Customs and Excise Act; 1964 and Rules to Section 64E	Implementation of a full AEO Safety and Security program, including all supply chain operators – timing To be confirmed. Launch of a domestic Excise Accreditation Program
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	

<p>Self-assessment questionnaire SARS Risk undertakes screening of application including analysis and profiling of client including their historical contravention and errors SARS undertakes a comprehensive audit to establish client meets legislative criteria and standards: Appropriate record of compliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the applicant, the person having the management of the applicant and the employee of the applicant responsible for customs matters shall— not have been convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty; not have been convicted of any offence in terms of the Act; not have incurred an administrative penalty over a period of three years immediately preceding the application in respect of any offence in terms of sections 80 to 84 and 86 of the Act; not have been convicted of any offence in terms of— section 59 of the Value-Added Tax Act, 1991 (Act No. 89 of 1991); or section 104 of the Income Tax Act, 1962 (Act No. 58 of 1962). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tasked with facilitating the relationship between the client and customs Reduction of the amount of any security required for compliance with a customs procedure Fewer routine documentary and physical inspections - Prioritising a request for tariff and valuation determinations; Prioritising access to non-intrusive inspection techniques when goods are stopped or detained for inspection.
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f) Tanzania

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
Compliant Traders' Scheme	07.2007	Import	Transporters, importers (58 partners; 06.2012)	A model for EACCMA	To broaden the scheme for clearing and forwarding agencies, Inclusion of other supply chain operators in long term perspective.	n/a

g) Togo

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
PRIVILEGE D PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK	November 2016	Import, Export	Customs Brokers, warehouse keepers, manufacturers or other.	10 operators for pilot	National Customs Code des Douanes CPP Framework Instruction Decision about the establishment, composition and powers of the CPP Accreditation Committee	Sensitization on CPP during the first quarter 2017
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>ELIGIBILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with customs and tax legislation Organization system, control and archiving of customs and tax documents Reliability of the company, both functional and safe Solvency of the company Economic operators must not have customs or tax criminal records <p>AGREEMENT :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit the application to Customs: the applicant must complete the form and deliver it along with the supporting documents Assessment of documents: the staff in charge of the CPP verify all information (forms and supporting documents) submitted by the applicant. Visits of the company's premises to ensure that the security procedures applied by the applicant comply with the requirements. Certification: following the validation visit, the CPP certification is granted or not by the Accreditation Committee. Approval is issued by the Customs authorities (national customs of the "toto / OTR") and is valid for three years. During this period, at least two monitoring visits will be carried out to verify that the obligations are being met, as well as to validate safety requirements and acquired benefits. The Privileged Partnership Framework offers businesses three types of A, B and C authorizations. 				<p>Type « A » Authorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediate release of the goods upon registration of the Customs declaration and accelerated removal procedure; Obligation to obtain binding information prior clearance Possibility to lodge advance Customs declaration Possibilité d'obtenir des <p>Type « B » Authorization</p> <p>All "A" benefits :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of mandatory time limits for Customs for processing requests Possible signature of a protocol to resolve specific situations; Customs services to process as a matter of priority of all requests submitted; Rationalization of post-clearance controls; Priority to clearance formalities <p>Type « C » Authorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical controls relocated to the company premises Appointment of a manager to monitor all customs operations of the beneficiary company Flexibility in paying Customs duties and taxes Technical assistance in customs and tax matters to the company Signature of protocols to resolve specific situations Improved reputation as a low risk enterprise Accompanying and assisting the company in gaining access to the status of Authorized Economic Operator as defined Participation in work with Customs 		

h) Zambia

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Customs Accredited Clients Programme (CACP)	November 2007 as a pilot. On 12 June 2008, opened to the importing community	Import	Any Client that meets the requirements for the programme.	Twelve (12)	Section 188 of the Customs and Excise Act. This legislation provides Customs auditors to call for the presentation of books and records for examination by every person carrying on business in Zambia. Failure to do so within the stipulated time leads to a contravention of the customs laws. Sanctions are provided for under section 188 (3).	Review program and address challenges before embarking on expanding the programme covering all relevant traders and operators who include exporters, agents, bonded warehouse operators, transporters and freight forwarders.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits		
<p>Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application for the programme by a trader; • Self assessment conducted by the trader against check list; • Due diligence evaluation by Customs of the self assessment; • Comprehensive audit conducted by Customs ; • Agreement on improvement programme ; • Full or probationary admission to the programme accompanied by a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release of shipments with minimal scrutiny; • Preferential clearance at borders ; • Pre-clearance of certain goods, under certain conditions; • Periodic settlement of taxes (through A++ Credit facility); • Full electronic clearance process for Green lane entries with paper presentation after the fact; • Specific training and support to operate within the programme; • Allocation of a Case Manager, as a main point of contact with Customs to deal with any issues arising from with the programme or their operations; • Once officially authorized, permission to use an “Accredited Client” logo; • Possibility of extending their accreditation to other countries with similar Programs under the WCO Framework of Standards; • Better communication between the accredited client and Zambia Revenue Authority; • Improved understanding of Customs requirements ; • Less Customs audits as reliance is placed on the client’s internal systems and controls; • Good image to Government, customers and suppliers resulting from accreditation status; • ASYCUDA Installation at the client’s premises; • Self rebate confirmation ; • Preferential treatment ; • Opportunity to negotiate additional benefits. 		

5. WCO Asia Pacific Region

a) Cambodia

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
High Compliant Trader Incentive Mechanism	11/ April/ 2013	Both Import and Export	Importer and exporter	8	Prakas (Ministerial decree) No 452 dated 11th April 2013 on High Compliant Trader Incentive Mechanism. GDCE Decision No 278 dated 27th February 2014 on Criteria Determination for the Implementation of High Compliant Trader Incentive Mechanism. GDCE Decision 279 dated 27th February 2014 on the Establishment and Operation of Best Trader Management Unit	N/A
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>The companies who wish to apply to be a member of the best trader group shall follow the process below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of application form. • Qualification verification • Proposed letter to the Ministry of Economy and Finance for approval. • Certificate Issuance 					<p>BTG Member will receive a package of incentive treatment as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority not to queue up in the order of First-in First-out Principle, both in the stages of file lodgment, physical inspection / documentary check, and goods clearance as soon as possible . • Be granted the customs pre-clearance without security deposit. • Be exempt from pre-verification procedure on customs value. • Be exempt from pre-verification procedure on rules of origin. • Number of containers subjected to cross scanning machines reduced according to existing regulations not to exceed 50 percent of the total number of containers of shipment consisting of more than one. • Be granted with the Pre-arrival clearance and other incentive in the future, determined by GDCE. 	

b) Fiji

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Number of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Gold Card Service	20 November 2012	Import/Export	Importers/Exporters	63	Government Initiative. 2012 National Budget Address. • Gold Card Unit established in FRCA	To increase the number of companies as and when required. Noted: Review of Gold Card members at the end of membership period i.e. every two years.
Accreditation (components, process)			Benefits			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression of Interest from companies. • Companies that require Tax & Customs service on a daily need. • Top most revenue contributors to Customs & Tax prioritised. • Excellent compliance history in both Customs & Tax responsibilities identified. 			<p>Services</p> <p>The Gold Card Unit will provide the following services to all Gold Card members in a friendly and VIP environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend to all Tax and Customs general enquiries. • Process Tax and Customs clearances applications. • Facilitate and give preference to the processing of returns, applications, lodgements, requests, services and review of assessments without compromising compliance. • Receipt payment of all taxes and penalties. • Direct referrals within all FRCA business units. • Introduction of the Approved Economic Operator (AEO) program. Privileged Services <p>Some of the benefits of being a Gold Card Member include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority services and personal baggage duty free allowance of up to \$2000 at international arrival counters. • Priority services for passports and permits at the Immigration Department • Baggage collection and escort services by Airports Fiji Limited. • Express lane and priority services for all inspection and clearance services at Biosecurity Authority of Fiji. • Express lane for all Land Transport Authority services. • Priority check-in at the Tabua Club Counter whenever the member is flying on the national airline, Fiji Airways. 			

c) India

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Accredited Client Programme (ACP)	24.11.2005	Grant assured facilitation to importers who have demonstrated capacity and willingness to comply with the laws.	Importers	362 (as on 01.02.2016)	Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) Circular No 42/2005	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>The Accredited Client Programme is intended for importers who have a clean track record and a history of compliance with the laws and regulations under the Customs Act and the various Allied Acts administered by Customs. The eligibility criteria for ACP status is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entity should have imported goods valued at Rs Ten Crores (i.e.Rs.100 millions) [assessable value] in the previous financial year; or paid more than Rs One Crore (i.e Rs.10 millions) of Customs duty in the previous financial year; or, in the case of importers who are also Central Excise assessees, paid Central Excise Duties over Rs. One Crore (i.e Rs.10 millions) from the Personal Ledger Account in the previous financial year. • The entity should have filed at least 25 Bills of Entry in the previous financial year in one or more Indian Customs stations. • The entity should have no cases of Customs, Central Excise or Service Tax booked against them in the previous three financial years. Cases booked would imply that there should be at least a show cause notice, invoking penal provisions, issued to an importer. • The entity should also not have any cases booked under any of the Allied Acts being implemented by Customs. • The quality of the submissions made by the applicants to Customs should be good as measured by the number of amendments made in the bills of entry submitted by them in relation to classification of goods, valuation and claim for exemption benefits. The number of such amendments should not have exceeded 20% of the bills of entry during the previous financial year. • The entity should have no duty demands pending on account of non-fulfillment of Export obligation. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective of the programme is to grant assured facilitation to importers. • Bills of Entry filed by ACP clients are processed in the EDI system and a larger number of consignments are allowed clearance based on the importer's self assessment without examination, after checking the marks and numbers on the packages or in the case of Full Container Load (FCL Cargo), the container numbers and seals. • Onsite Post Clearance Audit facility has been made available to ACP clients. • Thus, an ACP client can benefit from reduced clearance time and can deal with the goods promptly with reduced transaction cost, saving on insurance, warehouse and storage charges. 	

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Accredited Client Programme (ACP)	24.11.2005	Grant assured facilitation to importers who have demonstrated capacity and willingness to comply with the laws.	Importers	362 (as on 01.02.2016)	Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) Circular No 42/2005	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The entity should have reliable systems of record keeping and internal controls and their accounting systems should conform to recognized standards of accounting. They are required to provide the necessary certificate from their Chartered Accountants in this regard as per format given in the Application form. <p>The importers desirous of availing the facility as “Accredited Clients” are required to apply for registration under the scheme to the Risk Management Division under the Directorate of Systems which after verifying the eligibility criteria grants ACP status. The importers who have been granted the status of Accredited Clients will be required to maintain high levels of compliance.</p>						

d) Indonesia

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Number of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
MITA (Mitra Utama; Facilitation Service for Priority Importers)	2003	Import	Importers		Decree of the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia No: 07/BC/2003 dated on 31.01.2003 concerning General Guidance on the Implementation of Customs Procedures on Import; Decree of Director General of Customs and Excise No: P-11/BC/2005 of 15.06.2007 concerning Priority Line; P-24/BC/2007 of 08.2007 concerning Mitra Utama	Expanding the programme for exporters
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
General requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importer with verified track record (good record in customs); • Adequate/ sufficient internal control; • Clear nature of business. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For importers: less costs, faster customs clearance; • For Customs: decreased congestion of imported goods and decreased quantity of physical inspection. 	

e) Sri Lanka

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Number of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Compliant Traders Facilitation Programme	Oct. 14,2013	Facilitation of Compliant Traders	Importers	100 operators participating to this programme	In the process of amending the legislation to provide flexibility and tailored solution to enable relevant Risk Management principles to be implemented.	To extend this facility to other compliant importers and their by increase the No.of operators in this programme To expand the programme to cover the export sector.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced release time. • Lower Transaction costs. • Improved compliance with laws and regulations. • Improved collaboration between traders and Customs. • Better human resource allocation. 	

6. WCO Europe Region

a) Georgia

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
<p>"Golden List"</p> <p>Previous title in use during July 15, 2008 to December 31, 2010: "Customs-Trade Cooperation"</p>	15.07.2008	Import/export	Importers, exporters	156	<p>Tax Code of Georgia Article 224;</p> <p>Order N290 of the Minister of Finance of Georgia (July 26, 2012) On the Approval of Instructions on Movement and Clearance of Goods on the Customs Territory of Georgia Chapter XXI</p>	Implementation of Periodical Declaration
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Conditions for getting the status of the Party to the "Golden List" are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the first one year (continuous 12 calendar months) upon the first day of the calendar month of candidate selection by the Revenue Service or registration of candidate's application: • high rate of tariff value of the goods declared under the import and/or export procedure in the territory of Georgia – at least GEL 5,0 million; • high rate of the amount of paid import duties – at least GEL 900 000, or a large amount of goods declarations submitted for the purposes of importation and/or exportation of goods – at least 100; • As of the first day of the calendar month of candidate selection by the Revenue Service or registration of candidate's application: • absence of valid decision on imposing responsibilities for the tax offenses prescribed by Parts 4, 5, 10, 11, 19-21 of Article 289 the Tax Code of Georgia (when 1 calendar year has passed upon entry into force of such decision on imposing the responsibility for tax offenses); 					<p>According to the Provisions Laid out in the Order N290 of the Minister of Finance of Georgia (July 26, 2012) On the Approval of Instructions on Movement and Clearance of Goods on the Customs Territory of Georgia, Gold List members Are entitled to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of simplified procedures when importing and/or exporting of goods to and from Georgian customs territory; • Payment of Customs Duty, Import VAT and Import Excise can be deferred for 30 day; • Can place goods on a private premise • Fill in commodity customs declaration in the automated data system "ASYCUDA" • Service fee is not doubled during the non-working hours 	

b) Kazakhstan

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	tFurther plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator	2013	Import/Export	Importer, Exporter, Producer	As of 01/01/2017 year 5 legal entities have AEO status (operator)	RK Code <Customs Affairs in the Republic of Kazakhstan> the CCC Decision No, 872 09.12.2011	The conclusion of the Agreement on mutual recognition in conjunction with other Customs Administrations
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of general security for the payment of customs duties; • Implementation of foreign economic activity within three years until the day of the appeal to customs authority on obtaining the status of Authorized Economic Operator in the presence of at least ten declarations on goods per year; • The absence of debt on customs payments and taxes according to the customs legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the date of the appeal to customs authority; • The absence of debt on customs payments and taxes according to the tax law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the date of the appeal to customs authority; • The absence of the facts of the presence of unspent conviction according to articles 209, 214, and 250 of the Criminal Code of Kazakhstan of July 16, 1997 and also with articles 234, 236, and 286 of the Criminal Code of Kazakhstan of July 3, 2014, on the day of the appeal to the customs authority at the applicant, founders, shareholders having a controlling stock; • The absence of the applicant's imposition of an administrative penalty within one year under Articles 527, 534, 549, 550, 551, 552, 558 of the Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Administrative Violations 5 July 2014 on the day of the customs authority of an enforceable decision; • Availability of the automated system of accounting of the goods allowing to compare the data provided to customs authorities at commission of customs operations with data on carrying out business transactions; • The presence of the auditor's report and (or) the auditor's reports drawn up not later than ninety days prior to the filing date of the application; • The presence of the property right or the right of economic maintaining, or the right of operational management or lease (sublease) or based on other legal ground of premises, open areas and other territories where production operations are performed; • Availability of the contract (agreement) on use of an information system of electronic invoices. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To minimize the time of customs operations related to the arrival of goods at the checkpoints; • The movement of detached sectors of following (in the presence of infrastructure capabilities at the checkpoint); • Detached (individual) workplaces (windows) in order to carry out documentary control in operating rooms; • Temporary storage of the goods in the premises, outdoor areas and on the other areas of the Authorized Economic Operators (hereinafter-AEO) • Absence of requirements to provide guarantee for the payment of customs duties and taxes in the implementation of the customs transit procedure. • The priority order of customs operations preceding the filing of the customs declarations, and premises under the customs procedure; • There is no usage of guarantee for the payment of customs duties and taxes in the implementation of periodic customs declarations. 	

c) Russia

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Authorized Economic Operator	14.09.2011	Russian Federation	1. Legal entities carrying out production activity 2. Legal entities not carrying out production activity	145	Articles 38-41 of the Customs Code of the Customs Union; Chapter 6 of the Federal Law of November 27, 2010 № 311-FZ "On Customs Regulation in the Russian Federation"; Administrative Regulations of the Federal Customs Service for provision of public services by maintaining a register of Authorized Economic Operators, approved by the Order № 1877 of the FCS of Russia of September 14, 2011	Currently development of the new chapter "Authorized Economic Operator" of the Draft Customs Code of the Eurasian Economic Union is carrying out.
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>Main conditions for obtaining the AEO status for legal entities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fulfillment of payment of customs duties and taxes; • the foreign trade activity of at least one year; • no unfulfilled obligation to pay customs duties, percent, penalties; • absence of debt in accordance with the tax laws; • no facts to attract over one year to administrative responsibility for customs offenses; • account system corresponding to requirements established by customs authorities; • other requirements and conditions established by legislation of the Russian Federation. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce of time for carrying out customs operations during customs declaration process and release of goods; • temporary storage of goods in the own warehouses; • conducting of customs operations related to release of goods including termination of customs procedure • no need to make provision of payment of customs duties, taxes in the process of customs transit of goods and release of goods before provision of the customs declaration in specific cases. 	

d) Serbia

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	No. of operators	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Simplified customs clearance procedure	Simplified procedure as per the invoice is applicable from 10.10.2010 Simplified procedure in the consignee/consignor premises is applicable from 1.6.2011	Import/export	Importers, exporters	As of 1.10.2010 the number of companies using simplified procedures on basis of commercial document is 256. As of 4.4.2011 the number of companies using simplified import and export procedures in the consignee/consignor premises is 84. A total of 133 authorisations were issued.	Voluntary participation The Customs Law was adopted (effective from 3.5.2010) Regulation on customs-approved treatment of goods, Art. 21-40 (effective from 1.1.2011)	Reviewing of existing explanations delivered to customs offices, for the purposes of uniform operation and innovation of the same
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<p>There are two different types of authorizations for simplified customs clearance on the basis of accounting document as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an authorisation for using simplified customs clearance in import procedures; • an authorisation for using simplified customs clearance in export procedures; <p>Accreditation process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic subject shall apply for simplified customs clearance (type 1 or type 2) at the competent customs office; • The competent authority (customs office and Headquarters) shall review the application. A specially established working group shall examine the submitted documentation; • The Post-clearance Audit Department shall, after a thorough audit of company's business, deliver the opinion and recommendation in writing to the Working Group. Working Group shall, based on the recommendation and opinion make the final Headquarters shall send its opinion to the competent customs office which shall, either issue the approval for simplified customs clearance in import/export procedure or reject the application. The customs office shall reply to the request not later than 60 days after the submission. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Local clearance"; • Simplified procedure • Customs procedure after working hours • Reduced costs • Increase of the authorized company competitiveness 	

d. Customs Compliance Programme Under Development

2. WCO Asia Pasific

a) Mongolia

Title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Compliance Programme	2015	Import/export	Phase 1 - Importers, exporters Phase 2 – Transporters and freight forwarders program Program Phase 3 – Warehouse Keepers and customs brokers	Article 271.1.16 of the Customs law of Mongolia Decree of Director General of Customs on Methodology for measurement of Compliance level of enterprises No: A151 11.09.2014	Program expansion to include top 2 importers and 2 exporters by the end of calendar year 2015. Plan to initiate MRA negotiation with other countries.
Accreditation (components, process)				Benefits	
<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The foreign trade activities of at least 3 year; A history of good compliance with Customs requirements; A good maintenance of verifiable commercial records; Proven financial solvency; <p>Accreditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-assessment; Submitting application; Information verification both internally and externally; Validation audit (on site visit); Approval by the Central Customs; Issuing a Certificate; Periodical checking of the documents and post validation audit based on risk assessment 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminate document examination and/or reducing physical inspection according to risk assessment; Customs clearance with minimum data and simplified process; Exemption from the obligation to deposit collateral for import clearance; Monthly installment payment of customs duties and taxes; Assigning special officers to help companies to coordinate and resolve Customs issues; Inspection at a place the importer wants. 	

a) Timor Leste

Programme title	Date launched	Scope	Type of operator	Number of operator	Legislation	Further plans (deadlines)
Secure Economic Operator program	Will be launch in the third quarterly report of 2016	Import/ Export	Importer and Exporter	Will we know until the companies applied for SEO program	The Timor-Leste Customs Code that will be introduce in the next year	
Accreditation (components, process)					Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Company's Information • Standard 2 Compliance Record Standard 3 Company's Accounting and Logistical System System • Standard 4 Financial Solvency • Standard 5 Safety and Security Requirements 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedited processing and release of shipments and minimum number of cargo inspections; • Containers/shipments in line for examination, those belonging to SEO members may be examined first by the Customs Officer or Container Examination Facility; • increases the certainty of expedited customs processing through reduced examinations; • Simplified post clearance programs for trade data reporting; more time allotted to provide detailed trade data; • Facilitates compliance by increasing clients' awareness of their obligations; eligibility for self audit 	

III. Cooperation with other agencies at national and international level (MRA excepted)

1. WCO Americas and Caribbean Region

a) Canada (at national level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
<p>1) Partners in Protection (PIP)</p> <p>2) Customs Self Assessment (CSA)</p>	<p>1) PIP: Transport Canada</p> <p>2) CSA: Canadian Food Inspection Agency Natural Resources Canada</p>	<p>1) PIP: No specific AEO legislation.</p> <p>2) CSA: Customs Act, Section 32 Accounting for and Payment of Duties and Taxes Regulations.</p>	<p>1) PIP: Importers, exporters, carriers (rail, sea, air, highway), customs brokers, couriers, warehouse operators, freight forwarders, shipping agents.</p> <p>2) CSA: Importers and carriers.</p>		
Accreditation (components, process)			Benefits		
<p>1) PIP: The Partners in Protection (PIP) program cooperates with Other Government Departments and Agencies (OGD) within the federal government to achieve its goal of facilitating trade while securing the international supply chain.</p> <p>Through the Canada Border Services Agency's (CBSA) Memorandum of Understanding with Transport Canada, PIP gathers key information from public and CBSA commercial databases and shares it with Transport Canada for their agency requirements.</p> <p>2) CSA: The Customs Self Assessment program partners with OGDs to expand the range of goods eligible for the program. CSA is currently involved in pilot projects with OGDs such as the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) to allow goods with OGD requirements at the border to be cleared under the CSA program.</p>			<p>1) PIP and CSA: Such PIP and CSA inter-departmental cooperation contributes to the CBSA's ability to carry out its mandate of providing integrated border services that support national security & public safety priorities and facilitate the free flow of persons & goods, while simultaneously assisting other governmental branches in fulfilling their own mandates.</p> <p>2) CSA: These pilot projects benefit the CSA importers and also benefit the CBSA by allowing it to focus on high and unknown risk at the border.</p>		

b) Canada (at international level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
<p>1) Canada and the United States (U.S.). Canada's Partners in Protection (PIP) and Customs Self Assessment (CSA) programs and the U.S. Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) and Importer Self Assessment (ISA) programs</p> <p>2) Canada and Peru. Canada's PIP program and Peru's Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) program.</p> <p>3) Canada and the Americas and Caribbean Region. Canada's PIP program and the AEO Regional Strategy of the Regional Conference of Customs Directors General of the Americas and Caribbean Region (RCCDG).</p>		<p>1) The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).</p> <p>2) CBSA and Peru's Superintendency of Customs and Tax Administration (SUNAT).</p> <p>3) CBSA and the AEO Regional Strategy's Steering Committee.</p>	<p>Canada's PIP: No specific Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) legislation.</p> <p>Canada's CSA: Customs Act, Section 32 Accounting for and Payment of Duties and Taxes Regulations.</p>	<p>Canada's PIP: Importers, exporters, carriers (rail, sea, air, highway), customs brokers, couriers, warehouse operators, freight forwarders, shipping agents.</p> <p>Canada's CSA: Importers and carriers.</p>	<p>1) Canada and the United States (U.S.). 2) Canada and Peru. 3) Canada and the Americas and Caribbean Region.</p>
Area of cooperation (application process, joint audit, joint monitoring, joint re-assessments)			Benefits for agencies and/or for programmes participants		
<p>1) Canada-U.S.: Following the issuance of a joint declaration entitled <i>Beyond the Border: A Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness</i>, Canada and the United States developed an associated Action Plan to implement the goals of enhanced security and accelerated flow of legitimate people, goods and services. As set out in the Beyond the Border Action Plan, the adoption by both programs of a common framework will align program requirements and enhance member benefits.</p>			<p>1) Related program benefits include: Applicants will have the opportunity to submit one application and receive a single site validation when applying to both the Canadian and U.S. programs. Development of a web-based application processing system (web portal) to simplify program application, administration, and information exchange. Better allocation of resources for customs administrations and program members resulting in more focus on areas of greater risk. Mutual recognition</p>		

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
<p>2) Canada-Peru: Canada is currently exploring the feasibility of a capacity building project to provide assistance to Peru in strengthening their AEO program.</p> <p>3) Canada-Americas and Caribbean Region: Following the decision of the Regional Conference of Customs Directors General of the Americas and Caribbean Region (RCCDG) to draft a regional strategy for the implementation of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programs based on World Customs Organization (WCO) guidelines, Canada was identified as a subject matter expert and appointed to the Steering Committee tasked with drafting the AEO Regional Strategy and its Implementation Action Plan.</p>				<p>of site validations between the programs avoids duplication for both programs and members, thereby increasing efficiencies. Improved supply chain security for both government and industry.</p> <p>2) Peru's AEO program will benefit from receipt of program expertise and sharing of best practices; Peruvian AEO program members will benefit from an improved commercial trade program; and the Americas and Caribbean Region will benefit from an improved regional AEO program that can in turn provide assistance to developing programs in the region.</p> <p>3) Enactment of the RCCDG's AEO Regional Strategy Implementation Action Plan will result in benefits that include the promotion and development of AEO programs in the region; an increase in AEO program members in the region; strengthened partnerships with industry, foreign customs administrations and international organizations; and promotion of Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) within the region and worldwide that will contribute to increasing the security of the international supply chain.</p>	

c) Uruguay (at national level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Scope	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
Program INTRA-MERCOSUR Customs Security in the Supply Chain of Goods	Customs Agencies of Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela	Resolucion 2/09 Mercosur	Exporters, customs agents and carriers	<p>Establish the mechanism of exchange of information between the countries</p> <p>Develop a Pilot Program between the countries that allows to adjust the program design.</p> <p>Mutual Recognition Agreement signed between the countries.</p>	Program INTRA-MERCOSUR Customs Security in the Supply Chain of Goods	
Area of cooperation (application process, joint audit, joint monitoring, joint re-assessments)				Benefits for agencies and/or for programmes participants		
				<p>Minimum control and agility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Release of goods when they cross the border without verification preferentially, in the case of selection for verification, this will be done on a priority basis. → Exports of companies authorized in a State Party shall have preference in import clearance in the other States Parties, without implying not having controls, where applicable. <p>Center for the exclusive attention AEO: AEO whenever the need, should go to the center, so that it can be expedited care;</p> <p>Pilot Program Logo Intra-MERCOSUR Customs Security Supply Chain (AEO): the program should create a logo and disclose that companies which have that brand are reliable and partners of the Customs of the countries involved;</p>		

2. WCO Asia Pacific Region

a) Hong Kong China (at national and international level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
<p>Customs Cooperative Arrangement (21 bilateral arrangements)</p> <p>Customs Cooperation Agreement (1 bilateral agreement)</p>	<p>21 Customs authorities</p> <p>EU Customs authorities</p>				
Area of cooperation (application process, joint audit, joint monitoring, joint re-assessments)				Benefits for agencies and/or for programmes participants	
<p>Mutual administrative assistance (e.g. exchange of information, intelligence, best practices) between the contracting parties for the proper application of Customs laws and the fight against transnational Customs crimes</p>				<p>Strengthening Customs enforcement capabilities</p>	

b) Indonesia (at national level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
Regulated Agent	Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Transportation Republic of Indonesia	Regulation of Director General of Civil Aviation number KP.152 Year 2012 on Air Cargo and Mail Security	Business Entities on Air Transport Legal Entities on Airport or Air Cargo and Mail. Manufacturers with regular production.	Companies that are stipulated as AEO are expected to be equalized to the companies stipulated as Regulated Agent	
Area of cooperation (application process, joint audit, joint monitoring, joint re-assessments)			Benefits for agencies and/or for programmes participants		
Cooperation in air cargo and mail security with the following procedures: Cargo and posts admission; Inspection; Storage; Build up; Loading to aircraft; Placement in aircraft;and Airfreight.			Ensuring supply chain security for air carried goods. May conduct an effective goods inspection for air carried goods efficiently.		

c) Japan (at national level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
Cooperation between AEO and Known Shipper / Regurated Agent Program	Japan Customs and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	National Civil Aviation Security Program	Exporter (Shipper)	Cooperation between AEO and Known Shipper / Regurated Agent Program	
Area of cooperation (application process, joint audit, joint monitoring, joint re-assessments)			Benefits for agencies and/or for programmes participants		
Application process			To be able to avoid the duplication of application process.		

d) Singapore (at international level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
<p>AEO programme: Secure Trade Partnership (STP)</p> <p>Regulated Air Cargo Agent Regime (RCAR)</p> <p>Cooperation with other government authorities at national level through the Inter Ministry Supply Chain Security Committee (IMSCSC)</p>	<p>The IMSCSC comprises 15 government agencies.</p>	<p>RCAR: Air Navigation (Regulated Air Cargo Agents) Regulations</p>	<p>All supply chain operators based in Singapore, including air cargo agents.</p>	<p>To complete the study on aligning STP and RCAR in Singapore.</p> <p>To coordinate and collaborate in the area of supply chain security and facilitation.</p>	
Area of cooperation (application process, joint audit, joint monitoring, joint re-assessments)			Benefits for agencies and/or for programmes participants		
<p>The IMSCSC discusses all supply chain security relevant issues and provides the direction for various agencies to collaborate so as to improve our national practices and contribute further to global supply chain security.</p> <p>Singapore Customs has been tasked by the IMSCSC to lead the study on aligning the STP and RCAR. Customs is working closely with Singapore Police Force (Airport Police Division).</p>			<p>Agencies collaborate and make decisions collectively under IMSCSC to balance supply chain security with facilitation.</p> <p>The alignment of STP and RCAR could potentially reduce the administrative burden for regulators and the private sector.</p>		

3. WCO Europe Regional

a) EU (at EU and MS level)

Programmes involved	Agencies involved	Legislation	Type of operator	Further plans (deadlines)	Miscellaneous
1) AEO 2) Regulated Agent 3) Known Consignor	1) Customs (AEO-Network Group, CCC-Gen Subgroup AEO, EOS-Group) 2) and 3) Civil aviation authorities 4) Maritime Safety administration	Regulation (EC) No. 300/2008 on common rules in the field of civil aviation security Commission Regulation (EU) No. 185/2010 laying down detailed measures for the implementation of the common basic standards on aviation security Regulation (EC) No. 725/2004 on enhancing ship and port facility security Commission Regulation (EC) No. 324/2008 laying down revised procedures for conducting Commission inspections in the field of maritime security	Any person involved in activity covered by customs legislation and 3) Air carriers; freight forwarders; consignors Company which operates in port	Currently an update of the respective legislation and other relevant tools is under discussion with a view to further develop already existing cooperation.	
Area of cooperation (application process, joint audit, joint monitoring, joint re-assessments)			Benefits for agencies and/or for programmes participants		
All indicated areas			Cooperation is beneficial for the competent authorities and programmes participants. <u>For competent authorities:</u> more efficient use of resources through avoidance of duplications; enhancement of the respective programmes through more efficient exchange of information. <u>For programmes participants:</u> avoidance of duplicated checks and examinations.		

IV WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation

The WCO, besides the Implementation Guidance, has launched a Strategic Initiative to Support Trade Facilitation, known as the Mercator Programme, aimed at assisting governments worldwide to implement the trade facilitation measures expeditiously and in a harmonized manner by using core WCO instruments and tools, and providing tailor-made technical assistance and capacity building programmes.

The TFA contains 12 Articles regarding Trade Facilitation (Section I); Special and Differential Treatment for Developing and Least-Developed Countries (Section II); and Institutional Arrangements and Final Provisions (Section III). It largely deals with Customs-related topics and foresees coordination with other government agencies.

Article 7.7 (Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators) of the TFA incorporates trade facilitation measures for Authorized Operators (AOs). AOs in this context are specified traders who comply with certain criteria and can therefore benefit from additional trade facilitation measures.

The criteria shall be related to compliance or the risk of non-compliance. They may include an appropriate record of compliance with customs and other related regulations, a system of managing records for necessary internal control, financial solvency and supply chain security. It is important to notice that none of these criteria are mandatory. An AO scheme may therefore include only some of them.

If the specified criteria are fulfilled, AOs shall benefit from at least three of the following trade facilitation measures: low documentary and data requirements, low rate of physical inspections, rapid release time, deferred payment of duties /taxes, use of comprehensive guarantees or reduced guarantees, periodic customs declaration, clearance of goods at the premises of the AO or another place authorized by Customs.

It is imperative to differentiate between AOs as stipulated in the WTO TFA and AEOs as defined in the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards. The focus in the AO scheme is on trade compliance; supply chain security may be one of the components. AEOs on the other hand must always - but not exclusively - comply with a range of security standards to ensure supply chain security.

Another difference is that the SAFE AEO programme is based on global standards for launching and maintaining the AEO status (provided in Pillar 2 of the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards) while WTO AO scheme is apparently non-standardised and could vary from one Member to another depending upon the criteria and the thrust specified by Members. In such a scenario, mutual recognition of AOs could be a challenging task.

Para 7.4 of Article 7.7 of the WTO TFA encourages Members to develop AO schemes on the basis of international standards. The Revised Kyoto Convention and its guidelines and the SAFE Framework of Standards provide such standards. A common and shared understanding of an AO scheme based on an agreed set of common standards is essential for any meaningful and effective mutual recognition in the future.²

² Further information on the WTO TFA is available on the WCO website and regularly being updated: <http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/wco-implementing-the-wto-atf/wto-agreement-on-trade-facilitation.aspx>.

V. Mutual Recognition Arrangements/Agreements (MRA)

Under the WCO's SAFE Framework Customs administrations are encouraged to develop partnerships with business and between each other to secure and facilitate trade. It calls upon Customs administrations to work with each other to develop mechanisms for mutual recognition of AEO authorizations and validations, mutual recognition of Customs security control standards and control results and other mechanisms that may be needed to eliminate or reduce redundant or duplicative efforts.

Mutual Recognition is a broad concept embodied within the WCO SAFE Framework whereby an action or decision taken or an authorization that has been properly granted by one Customs administration, is recognized and accepted by another Customs administration. The document that formalizes this action or decision has generally been termed a "Mutual Recognition Arrangement/Agreement" (MRA).

The objective of Mutual Recognition of AEO is that one Customs administration recognizes the validation findings and AEO authorizations of the other Customs administration issued under the other programme and agrees to provide substantial, comparable and – where possible – reciprocal benefits/facilitation to the mutually recognized AEOs. This recognition is generally premised on the existence or creation of both relevant legislation and operational compatibility of both or more programmes.

Mutual recognition of AEO programmes may ultimately lead to the globalization of supply chain security and compliance standards and is therefore of great importance for those companies seeking true global supply chain security and compliance benefits.

1. Concluded MRAs (44 + 3)

Date	Country	Date	Country
June 2007	New Zealand – USA	February 2014	Hong Kong, China – Korea
May 2008	Japan – New Zealand	March 2014	Korea - Mexico
June 2008	Canada – USA	May 2014	EU - China
June 2008	Jordan – USA	June 2014	Hong Kong, China - Singapore
June 2009	Japan – USA	June 2014	Korea - Turkey
July 2009	EU – Norway**	June 2014	Malaysia - Japan
July 2009	EU – Switzerland**	June 2014	USA - Israel
June 2010	Canada – Japan	October 2014	USA - Mexico
June 2010	Canada – Korea	December 2014	USA - Singapore
June 2010	Canada – Singapore	March 2015	Israel – Korea
June 2010	EU – Japan	April 2015	Korea – Dominican Republic
June 2010	Korea – Singapore	June 2015	Hong Kong, China - Thailand
June 2010	Korea – USA	October 2015	India-South Korea
January 2011	Andorra – EU**	March 2016	Hong Kong, China - Malaysia
May 2011	Japan – Korea	November 2015	Switzerland- Norway
June 2011	Korea – New Zealand	December 2015	USA – Dominican Republic
June 2011	Japan – Singapore	May 2016	Mexico - Canada
May 2012	EU-USA	July 2016	Australia- New Zealand
June 2012	China - Singapore	August 2016	Hong Kong, China - Japan
July 2013	Korea - China	December 2016	Brazil - Uruguay
October 2013	China - Hong Kong, China	December 2016	Thailand - Korea
November 2013	India- Hong Kong, China	January 2017	China- Switzerland

*Chinese Taipei - as Non Member

USA-Chinese Taipei (May 2012); Israel-Chinese Taipei (Dec 2013); China-Chinese Taipei (Oct 2016)

**The agreements between the EU and Switzerland, EU and Norway, and EU and Andorra, are not traditional MRAs of AEO. The mutual recognition aspect of those agreements applies only to indirect export cases, as Customs security measures in relation to the movement of goods do not exist between them

2. MRAs being negotiated 42 + 4 (multilateral)

Countries	Countries
China – Japan	China – USA
EU – Canada	Australia- Korea
Canada - Israel	Hong Kong, China – EU
Malaysia-Thailand	New Zealand-China
New Zealand - Singapore	Thailand -Singapore
Norway – Switzerland	Australia- Canada
USA-Brazil	USA -Peru
China – Israel	USA-Uruguay
China – Switzerland	Switzerland – Japan
China – Kazakhstan	Australia-Hong Kong
Uruguay – South Korea	Peru – Korea
Mexico – Costa Rica	Australia-Thailand
Malaysia – Korea	Mexico – Israel
Mexico – Hong Kong, China	Kazakhstan- Turkey
China – Australia	Kazakhstan-Korea
Bolivia – Brazil	Colombia – Ecuador
Bolivia – Uruguay	Brazil – Argentina
China –Brazil	China – New Zealand
Ecuador – Korea	Australia-Singapore
Thailand – Japan	Iran – Russia
Costa Rica - Mexico	China - USA
CEFTA (Poland, Hungary Czechoslovakia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo on behalf of Kosovo.	Agadir Agreement Member States (Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, Jordan)
Pacific Alliance (Mexico, Chile, Colombia, Peru)	ANDEAN Community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru)

*Chinese Taipei - as Non Member

Hong Kong, China – Chinese Taipei*

Annexes : List of Programme

3. Operational AEO Programmes (73)

WCO region	Country	Title	Type
Americas and Caribbean (16)	Argentina	Customs System of Reliable Operators (SAOC)	Import/Export
	Bolivia	AEO	Import/Export/Customs Brokers, Highway Carriers
	Brazil	AEO	Import/export/ Bonded Warehouse, Port and Airport Operators/Carriers/Customs Brokers/Freight Forwarders
	Canada	Partners in Protection (PIP)	PIP - Import/export
	Colombia	AEO	Import/export
	Costa Rica	Customs Facilitation Programme for Reliable Trade (PROFAC)	Export/Import
	Dominican Republic	AEO	Import/export
	Ecuador	AEO	Export/Customs Brokers/Operators of Special Economic Development (ZEDE)
	Guatemala	AEO	Import/export
	Jamaica	AEO	Import/export
	Mexico	Authorized Economic Operator	Import/export
	Nicaragua*	AEO	
	Panama	AEO	Exporters/Sea ports/ Freight carriers
	Peru	AEO	Import/Export
	Uruguay	Qualified Economic Operator	Import/export/Customs Brokers/ Highway Carrier/FTZusers/FTZ warehouse/ Freight Forwarders/PortOperator/Cargo Terminal
USA	Customs-Trade Partnership against Terrorism (C-TPAT)	Import	
Middle East and Northern Africa (6)	Azerbaijan	AEO	Import/Export
	Egypt	AEO-Egypt	Import/export/Customs Brokers/Warehouse

			keepers
	Jordan	Golden List	Import/export/Customs Brokers/Warehouse/Carriers/QIZ Companies
	Morocco	AEO	Import/export
	Oman*	AEO	Import/export
	Tunisia	AEO	Import/export
East and Southern Africa (4)	Burundi	AEO	Import/export
	Kenya	AEO	Import/export
	Uganda	AEO	Import/export
Asia Pacific (12)	Australia	Australia Trusted Trader Programme (ATT)	Import/export
	China	AEO	Import/export
	Hong Kong, China	AEO	Import/export/Manufacturers/Customs Brokers/Warehouses
	India	Hong Kong AEO Programme	Import/export
	Indonesia	AEO	Import/export/Freight Forwarders/Terminal Operators/Warehouse Operators
	Japan	AEO	Export
	Korea	AEO	Import/export/Warehouse Operators/Customs Brokers/Logistic Operators/Manufacturers
	Malaysia	AEO	Import/export
	New Zealand	AEO	Import/export/Manufacturing Warehouses/Manufacturers in FIZ/Trading Companies
	Singapore	Secure Exports Scheme (SES)	Export
	Thailand	Secure Trade Partnership (STP)	Import/export
	Vietnam	AEO	Importers/Exporters/Customs Broker
	Andorra*	AEO	Import/export
Europe (36)	EU (28 countries)	AEO	
	Israel	AEO	Import/export
	Moldova,	AEO	export/Customs

	Republic of		Brokers/Int'l Freight Forwarders/Warehouses/Cargo Terminal/Seaport Airlines
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	AEO	Import/export/Whole Supply Chain
	Norway	AEO	Import/export
	Serbia	AEO	Import/export
	Switzerland	AEO	Import/export/Whole Supply Chain
	Turkey	AEO	Import/export
		AEO	Import/export

*Information is not available

1. AEO Programmes Under Development (17)

WCO region	Country	Title	Type
Americas and Caribbean (2)	Chile	AEO pilot	Export/Customs Brokers
	El Salvador	El Salvador Authorized Economic Operator (OEA-SV)	Import
North of Africa, Near and Middle East Region (1)	Bahrain	AEO	Import/Export/Transit
West and Central Africa (2)	Cote d'Ivoire	AEO	Import/export
	Democratic Republic of Congo	AEO	Import/export
East and Southern Africa (4)	Angola	AEO	Import/Export
	Botswana	Trans Kalahari Accreditation Scheme	Import/export
	Ghana	AEO	Import/Export
	Seychelles	AEO	Import/export
	South Africa	AEO	Import/export
Asia Pacific (2)	Bangladesh	AEO	Export
	Philippines	AEO	Import/export
Europe (5)	Armenia	AEO	
	Georgia	AEO	Import/export
	Iceland	AEO	Import/export
	Russian Federation	AEO	
	Montenegro	AEO	-

1. Operational Customs Compliance Programmes (29)

WCO region	Country	Title
Americas and Caribbean (4)	Belize	Voluntary Compliance Programme
	Brazil	Blue Line
	Canada	Customs Self Assessment (CSA)
	El Salvador	PACE
	USA	Trusted Trader Pilot Program
Middle East and Northern Africa (4)	Algeria	AEO
	Azerbaijan	The Green Corridor
	United Arab Emirates	Golden List programme
	Sudan	Golden List
	Iran	AEO
West and Central Africa (2)	Senegal	Privileged Partnership Programme
	Cameroon	Performance Operators' Contracts
East and Southern Africa (7)	Madagascar	Accelerated Clearance Programme (PAD)
	Mauritius	Qualified TradeNet USER (QTU)
	Mozambique	AEO
	Rwanda	Compliant Trader Schemes (Gold Card Scheme and Pre-clearance Scheme)
	South Africa	Preferred Trader (Accreditation Level 2)
	Tanzania	Compliant Traders' Scheme
	Togo	Privileged Partnership Framework
	Zambia	Customs Accredited Clients Programme (CACP)
Asia Pacific (5)	Cambodia	High Compliant Trader Incentive Mechanism
	Fiji	Gold Card Service
	India	Accredited Client Programme (ACP)
	Indonesia	MITA
	Sri Lanka	Compliant Traders Facilitation Programme
Europe (4)	Georgia	Golden List
	Kazakhstan	AEO
	Russian Federation	AEO
	Serbia	Simplified Customs Clearance Procedure

4. Customs Compliance Programmes to be launched (2)

WCO region	Country	Title
Asia Pacific (2)	Mongolia	Compliance Programme
	Timor Leste	Service Economic Operator Programme