

Participating in the Policy Commission meeting is about exchanging experiences and tackling challenges with other Customs administrations. There is tremendous value gained from in person engagement in the WCO. The United States is invested in furthering the WCO's efforts in global supply chain security and trade facilitation. In fact, I announced yesterday that the United States has nominated a candidate for the WCO Director of Compliance and Facilitation.

During this meeting, we hoped to advance a number of items related to coordination with the private sector. At CBP, we have learned that the key to working with the private sector is consistency and predictability. Through co-creation, we have worked hand in hand with members of the trade to develop and advance initiatives together. We are pleased the Policy Commission has endorsed the WCO Customs-Business Partnership Guidance and a new Terms of Reference for the Private Sector Consultative Group this week. Together with the private sector, we will move forward to support trade facilitation.

I am looking forward to participating in the launch of Brazil's Authorized Economic Operator program tomorrow. Brazil's AEO team has worked hard to build the program and CBP is optimistic that we will be able to begin talks towards achieving Mutual Recognition in 2015. This linkage of our industry partnership programs will create and sustain seamless, end-to-end security and expedite the movement of commerce across nations to the benefit of our economic prosperity.