



2nd WCO Europe Regional Workshop

on the Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Stockholm, 1st – 3rd June 2016

**Organised by the:
European Union, Vice-Chair for the Europe Region**

**Hosted by the:
Ministry for Foreign Affairs Sweden
Swedish Customs
National Board of Trade Sweden**

Funded by the European Union



**Government Offices of Sweden
Ministry for Foreign Affairs**



**Swedish
Customs**



**Kommerskollegium
National Board of Trade**

Day 0: Tuesday, 31st May 2016

#	Time	Content	Type & Venue
	16:30-18:30	Registration	Hotel lobby
	18:30-20:30	Welcome drink hosted by the European Union, Vice-Chair of the WCO Europe Region	Hotel lobby Dress code: Smart Casual

Day 1: Wednesday, 1st June 2016

#	Time	Content	Type & Venue
	08:00-08:30	Registration	11 th floor, outside the meeting room.
		Chairman Jean-Michel Grave for the European Union, Vice-Chair of the WCO Europe Region	
1	08:30-08:55	Opening Eva Walder, Director-General for Trade, the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs Therese Mattsson, Director General, Swedish Customs Anna Stellingner, Director General, National Board of Trade Sweden	Plenary speech 11 th floor plenary room
2	08:55-09:10	Keynote Address by the Europe Region Vice-Chair Antonis Kastrissianakis, Director, WCO Europe Region Vice-Chair's representative	Plenary speech 11 th floor plenary room
3	09:10-09:20	The role of international organisations in the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Joakim Reiter, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	Plenary speech 11 th floor plenary room
	09:20-10:00	Group Photo session	Hotel lobby
		Coffee Break	11 th floor
4	10:00-10:20	WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement – State of Play (including ratifications, notifications, worldwide developments, events) Nora Neufeld, Secretary to the Committee on Trade Facilitation, World Trade Organisation	Plenary presentation 11 th floor plenary room
5	10:20-10:40	The support provided by the World Customs Organisation to the implementation of the WTO TFA, including the lessons learnt from the Budapest Workshop Brenda Mundia, Deputy-Director, World Customs Organisation	Plenary presentation 11 th floor plenary room

#	Time	Content	Type & Venue
6	10:40-11:30	WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: Implementation in Practice	Plenary presentations 11 th floor plenary room
		WTO TFA: Capacity Building and Technical Assistance The regional perspective, the role of ROCB Europe in the implementation Aidyn Imashev, Deputy Head, Regional Office for Capacity Building of the WCO Europe Region	
		Global perspectives, challenges, achievements and future plans Bill Gain, Global Program Manager, Trade & Competitiveness Global Practice, World Bank Group	
		WTO TFA: The Impact of Implementation Quantification, performance measurements, indicators Evdokia Moise, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, Organization for Economic Co-operation & Development	
	11:30-13:00	Lunch Break	7 th floor hotel restaurant
7	13:00-14:20	WTO TFA: Implementation benefits and challenges Delegates will exchange their experiences in breakout sessions. Topics to include: ongoing ratifications / the implementation of the TFA. Delegates will also identify challenges, technical barriers, ways to overcome barriers, and identify examples of quick wins and longer term benefits. They will also reflect on identifying cooperation projects within the region / between members including making use of the ROCB and the RTCs. Facilitator group A: Maka Khvedelidze, Deputy Head of International Department, Tax and Customs Administration, Georgia Facilitator group B: Marta Guelbenzu, Deputy Director General for International Relations, Customs and Excise Department, Spain	2 breakout sessions in parallel on the same topic Group A: 5 th floor, room 'Jungfru/Vågen' Group B: 2 nd floor, room 'Venus'
	14:20-14:30	Logistics break	
8	14:30-15:00	Reports from the Breakout Sessions in item 7 Rapporteur group A: Syed Moinuddin, Team leader Trade & Customs Co-Operation, HM Revenue & Customs, United Kingdom Rapporteurs group B: Stojanka Milošević, Head of Department for value and origin of goods, Customs Administration, Montenegro and Agnieszka Witkowska, Senior Customs Expert, Ministry of Finance, Poland	Plenary reports 11 th floor plenary room
9	15:00-16:10	WTO TFA: How to address implementation challenges <i>This session will respond to the needs identified at the breakout sessions and will serve as Q&A on item 6.</i> Moderator: Anneli Wengelin, Trade Policy Adviser, National Board of Trade Sweden Panellists: OECD, ROCB, UNCTAD, WCO, World Bank, WTO	Plenary panel discussion 11 th floor plenary room
	16:10-16:30	Coffee Break	11 th floor

#	Time	Content	Type & Venue
10	16:30-18:00	WTO TFA: How to address implementation challenges <i>continued</i>	2 breakout sessions in parallel
		Breakout session I: 1. Fact finding on current activities ongoing in the Europe region both in capacity building and technical assistance. Brainstorming best practices regarding coordination of donor activities and "handbook" for beneficiaries. Facilitator: Eva Bursvik, Senior Policy Specialist: Trade, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency 2. This session brings together donors and beneficiaries to consider how and why assistance could be sought. This is in a "Trade Fair" mode.	Brainstorming session followed by individual discussions in a "Trade Fair" mode. 5 th floor, room 'Jungfru/Vågen'
		Breakout session II: Brainstorming on how the Europe Region can contribute to the work of the WCO TFA Working Group including the work on performance indicators. Facilitator: Ulrika Lyckman-Alnered, Counsellor, Permanent Representation of Sweden to the European Union	Brainstorming session. 2 nd floor, room 'Venus'

Day 2: Thursday, 2nd June 2016

#	Time	Content	Type & Venue
11	09:00-10:40	Crossing Borders -Release and Clearance of Goods (Article 7 – TFA) with focus on Pre-arrival Processing (article 7.1 – TFA), Risk Management (article 7.4 – TFA) and Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators (article 7.7 – TFA) Introduction by moderator followed by discussions on the scope and content (controls and risk management, Authorised Economic Operators, etc.), the commitments, and the benefits. Moderator: Alexandre Larouche-Maltais, International Consultant on Trade Facilitation, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Panellists: Jean-Michel Grave, Head of Unit, European Commission Maïder Casanave, International Affairs Unit, Customs administration, France Milka Živanović, Senior advisor, Ministry of Finance, Serbia Bernard Bau, Industrial Development Officer, United Nations Industrial Development Organisation	Plenary presentations followed by Q&A 11 th floor plenary room
12	10:40-11:10	Reports from the Breakout Sessions in item 10 Rapporteur session 10. I: Ramunė Tartilaitė, Customs attaché, Customs Department, Lithuania Rapporteur 10. II: Yehor Bielkin, Counsellor Customs Matters, State Fiscal Service, Ukraine	Plenary reports 11 th floor plenary room
	11:10-11:30	Coffee Break	11 th floor

#	Time	Content	Type & Venue
13	11:30-12:15	<p>Customs – Customs Cooperation, Border Agency Cooperation, Customs – Business Partnership</p> <p>The presentations will provide food for thought for discussion in the breakout sessions in the afternoon.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mathias Grönlund, Director, Head of Department for EU and International Affairs, Swedish Customs</p> <p>Botagoz Abilova, Technical attaché, Capacity Building, World Customs Organisation</p> <p>Alexandre Larouche-Maltais, International Consultant on Trade Facilitation, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</p>	<p>Plenary presentations</p> <p>11th floor plenary room</p>
	12:15-13:45	Lunch Break	7 th floor hotel restaurant
14	13:45-15:15	<p>Breakout Session I. Customs – Customs Cooperation, Border Agency Cooperation for group A (Border Agency Cooperation Article 8 – TFA: Single Window Article 10.4 – TFA, National Committee on Trade Facilitation Article 23.2 – TFA.)</p> <p>Facilitators:</p> <p>Christopher Kristensson, Senior Advisor EU and International Affairs, Swedish Customs and</p> <p>Dimce Adjioski, Head of Department for Customs Tariff, Value, Origin and TARIC, Customs Administration, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</p> <p>Breakout Session II. Customs – Business Partnership for group B (Information before entry into force, Consultation and Opportunity to comment on law and regulations Article 2 – TFA: National Committee on Trade Facilitation Article 23.2 – TFA.)</p> <p>Facilitators:</p> <p>Michael Praschak, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Finance, Austria and</p> <p>Bülent Orhan Türel, Head of Department, Ministry of Customs and Trade, Turkey</p>	<p>2 breakout sessions in parallel on 2 different topics. Participants will remain in the same room after the coffee break, facilitators will change rooms and groups.</p> <p>Group A: 5th floor, room ‘Jungfru/Vågen’</p> <p>Group B: 2nd floor, room ‘Venus’</p>
	15:15-15:45	Coffee Break	3 rd floor
15	15:45-17:15	<p>Breakout sessions continue.</p> <p>Breakout Session I. Customs – Customs Cooperation, Border Agency Cooperation for group B</p> <p>Breakout Session II. Customs – Business Partnership for group A</p>	<p>Group A: 5th floor, room ‘Jungfru/Vågen’</p> <p>Group B: 2nd floor, room ‘Venus’</p>
	18:00	Bus leaves for the reception	In front of the hotel
	18:30-20:30	Drinks reception with canapés hosted by Eva Walder, Director-General for Trade, the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs	<p>Gustav Adolfs torg 1</p> <p>Dress code: business formal</p>
	20:30	Bus leaves for the hotel	In front of venue

Day 3: Friday, 3rd June 2016

	Time	Content	Type & Venue
16	09:00-10:10	<p>Breakout I. Digital Customs: Information Available through Internet and other IT dimensions (e.g. Article 1.2 – TFA)</p> <p>Facilitator: Sigfríður Gunnlaugsdóttir, International Affairs Manager, Directorate of Customs, Iceland</p> <p>Breakout II. Perishable goods (Article 7.9 – TFA)</p> <p>Facilitators: Thy Nguyen, Policy Advisor Business Relations, Customs Administration, and Marieke Van Overveld, Legal policy advisor, Ministry of Finance, Netherlands</p>	<p>2 breakout sessions in parallel on 2 different topics.</p> <p>Breakout I: 5th floor, room ‘Jungfru/Vågen’</p> <p>Breakout II: 2nd floor, room ‘Venus’</p>
	10:10-10:15	Logistics break	
17	10:20-11:10	<p>Reports from the Breakout Sessions in items 14, 15 and 16</p> <p>Rapporteurs 14.-15. I: Joseph Brincat, Senior Official, Customs Department, Malta and Arpine Grigoryan, Senior Customs Inspector, Department of International Cooperation, State Revenue Committee, Armenia</p> <p>Rapporteurs 14.-15. II: Krisztina Gaál, customs executive officer, National Tax and Customs Administration, Hungary and Viorica Zagrenco, Head of Strategic Planning and Quality Management Section, Customs Service, Republic of Moldova</p> <p>Rapporteur 16. I: Declan O’Hora, Assistant Principal, Revenue Commissioners (Customs), Ireland</p> <p>Rapporteur 16. II: Viktoria Vinokur, Senior Officer of International Affairs, Customs Directorate, Israel</p>	Plenary reports 11 th floor plenary room
	11:10-12:00	Coffee Break	11 th floor
18	12:00-13:00	Conclusions and Closing	Plenary debate 11 th floor plenary room
	13:00-14:15	Lunch Break	7 th floor hotel restaurant
	14:15	Bus leaves for the sightseeing	In front of the hotel
	14:30-15:30	Sightseeing	
	16:00	Bus leaves for the hotel	Old Town
	16:15	Bus arrives to the hotel	In front of the hotel