World Customs Organization
Initiatives for Transit

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The WCO Transit Handbook provides valuable information on: the Revised Kyoto Convention; relevant WCO tools, the best practices of WCO Members.
Transit Handbook - 8 approaches

- Effective information sharing
- Customs seals and other security measures
- Coordinated Border Management
- Performance measurement
- Risk Management
- Border infrastructure
- Simplification of Customs formalities
- Guarantee system
Approach 1 Information Sharing

Members’ Practices
- NCTS (EU)
- TIM (Mesoamerica)
- Raddex (Uganda)
- SINTIA (Argentina)
Approach 2 - Guarantee

General Principles of guarantee for transit

- Limitation of guarantees
- Discharge of guarantees
- Comprehensive guarantees
- Availability of relevant information

International Guarantee system

- Istanbul/ATA Convention
- TIR Convention

Members’ Practices
- Comprehensive Guarantee (EU)
- State Insurance Company (Ghana)
Approach 3
Simplification of formalities

✓ Minimum Requirements
✓ Use of Commercial or transportation document for declaration
✓ Regular review
✓ Acceptance of copies

International Customs documents

ATA Carnets
TIR Carnets

Members’ Practices
✓ SMGS consignment note (Lithuania)
Approach 4
Risk Management

TFA Article 7 (Paragraph 4)
Risk Management

TFA Article 7 (Paragraph 7)
Authorized Operators

TFA Article 11 (Paragraph 9)
Advance Filing

SAFE
Framework of Standards

Risk Management Compendium

Revised Kyoto Convention

Members’ Practices
- Authorized consignor/consignee (Switzerland and EU)
- ACAS (US)
- SAMS (Azerbaijan)
Approach 5
Customs seals and other measures

Customs Seals

- RKC Specific Annex E

Customs Escort

- TFA Article 11 Paragraph 11.4
- RKC Specific Annex E

Time period

- RKC Specific Annex E

Members’ Practices
- ITFS (Hong Kong)
- ISTA (Argentina)
- MIC/DTA (Chili)
- Jordan
E-tracking System (Uganda)
Approach 7
Coordinated Border Management

TFA Article 8
Border Agency Cooperation

- Immigration
- Quarantine
- Agriculture
- Transport
- Environment
- Other Border Agencies
- Port Authority
- Customs

Members’ Practices
- Chirundu
- Malaba
- Swiss-French border

- Revised Kyoto Convention
- SAFE Framework of Standards
- Single Window Compendium
- Coordinated Border Management Compendium
One Stop Border Post (OSBP)
Malaba (Uganda/Kanya)

Waiting time for Trucks
From 48 hours
to **less than 6 hours**

Average border-crossing time
From 24 hours
to **4 hours**
Approach 8
Performance Measurement

TFA Article 7 (paragraph 6) Average Release Time

[Map showing routes and locations in East Africa, including Kampala, Weighbridge Busitema, Weighbridge Amagoro, etc.]

Time Release Study Guide
Transit Guidelines
Transit Guidelines

The WCO will develop **new guidelines for transit** based on the Transit Handbook.
Steps for Transit Guidelines
from June 2016 to June 2017

- **June**
  - First Workshop in Cote d’Ivoire
  - ✓ Discussion on possible contents

- **July-September**
  - Survey and draft Guidelines

- **October**
  - Second Workshop in Zambia
  - ✓ Review the draft guidelines

- **January**
  - Third Workshop in Bolivia
  - ✓ Refinement of the draft guidelines

- **April**
  - WCO Technical Committees
  - ✓ Further refinement

- **June or July**
  - WCO Global Conference
  - ✓ Endorsement
Scope of Transit Guidelines

- Effective information sharing
- Guarantee system
- Simplification of formalities
- Risk Management
- Infrastructure
- Performance Measurement
- Customs seals and other security measures
- Coordinated Border Management
- AEO
- Transparency and anti-corruption
- Fees and Charges
- Partnership with Business
- Legal Framework
(1.4) Supporting documents


Given the greater use of automated systems for Customs clearance, and the issues of cost efficiency and transit facilitation, this Recommendation strongly advocates the acceptance of electronic copies or electronic supporting documents for transit formalities. However, the introduction of electronic declaration systems that do not accept electronic copies of supporting documents does not bring the necessary facilitation effects for international trade in general and transit in particular.

71. Customs administrations and OGAs should identify and publish the list of required supporting documents that should accompany the transit declaration, and only keep those documents that are essential.

72. Customs administrations and OGAs should accept electronic copies or electronic supporting documents for transit formalities.

Relevant international agreements and standards:

RKC Specific Annex E, Chapter 1
Standard 6.
Any commercial or transport document setting out clearly the necessary particulars shall be accepted as the descriptive part of the Goods declaration for Customs transit and this acceptance shall be noted on the document.

Recommended Practice 7.
The Customs should accept as the Goods declaration for Customs transit any commercial or transport document for the consignment concerned which meets all the Customs requirements. This acceptance should be noted on the document.
74. When national legislation obliges transit operators to submit an electronic transit declaration in advance, the time limit and other requirements should follow the standards and technical specifications of the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards.

126. Governments should ensure that all relevant information on transit operations is made publicly available, is free of charge and easily accessible to all transit operators, in line with the WCO Transparency and Predictability Guidelines and the WCO Arusha Declaration.

137. Governments are encouraged to conduct a periodic Time Release Study on transit operations in cooperation with their partners along trade routes in order to identify bottlenecks for transit operations following the WCO Time Release Study Guide.
WCO Global Conference on
10-11 July 2017
Thank you for your attention

MORE INFORMATION

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