



In this issue:

The Excellency of Training Performance
(Award as the best training institute for 9 Consecutive Years)
by Mr. Seong-Man LIM
Director General of CBCTI, Korea Customs Service (KCS)

And More!

FOREWORD

Dear Readers,

Happy New Year 2019!

I hope that you had a relaxing and heart-warming holiday and new year with family, friends and colleagues. I went back home Japan to spend my year-end and new year holidays with my family. On the way back to Bangkok from Japan, I read an article on an in-flight magazine about the fortune-telling for 2019, which is the year of the boar/pig in the oriental zodiac, for the people who were born in the year of dragon. Although, it is not SOP to believe in fortune-telling. Therefore, I also surfed some of the pertinent websites to compare fortune-telling. I found an interesting article, which generally characterizes the year of the boar (2019) for everybody as the time of preparation to move forward to the next stage of development with individual's knowledge and spiritual maturity, as well as the accumulated organizational investment to human resource and infrastructure development.



It underlines that the fortune could be brought through internal enrichment in various ways other than making a reckless headlong rush. I read this article with keen interest as such a saying could be applicable to our works as well. The ROCB A/P collaborates with the regional Members in Customs reform and modernization by providing platforms to mutually exchange Members' experience and their good practices to overcome various challenges. Enhancement of institutional knowledge and the understanding of the those recommended practices is the key to designing and taking proper action to pave the way towards possible remedial actions to contend with the challenges. Therefore, the ROCB A/P repeatedly underlines the value of follow-up actions in the wake of individual's participation in the regional and national workshops to this end and urges Members' to seize the moment to achieve success in their organizational development. I sincerely hope that 2019 will be a fruitful time for all of the Member administrations and dear fellow colleagues in the Customs community.

This issue of E-Newsletter features the ROCB A/P's activities in the 2nd quarter of FY2018/19, from October through December 2018. This issue also carries a special contribution from the Korea Customs Border Control Training Institute (CBCTI) regarding

their accomplishment in maintaining high-level training performance. This was duly recognized and awarded as one of the excellent government training institutes for 9 consecutive years. Given that the WCO is discussing performance measurement as one of the prioritized work subjects of the organization, this contribution suggests some of food-for-thought to the ROCB A/P and other national training centers. It also touches upon the need for enhancing internal resources' knowledge and work expertise. As some of you may be aware, in March 2019, we are going to organize a regional workshop on training management in Kashiwa, Japan. In tandem with the Korea's good practices, the ROCB A/P is very much interested in hearing other national training institutes' challenges and efforts to provide high quality training to their personnel, which is the very foundation for the organizational performance improvement.

The ROCB A/P always welcomes and looks forward to the readers' feedback and suggestions to this E-Newsletter as well as activities undertaken by us. Please rest assured that I would do my very best to ensure the ROCB A/P lives up to the Members' various expectations in the rest of my tenure. Your continued support and guidance are much sought to this end.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'K. Igarashi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kazunari Igarashi
Head of the ROCB A/P

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The Excellency of Training Performance

(Award as the best training institute for 9 Consecutive Years)

Contribution by Mr. Seong-Man LIM
Director General of CBCTI, Korea
Customs Service (KCS)

Introduction

The Customs Border Control Training Institute (CBCTI) of the Korea Customs Service (KCS) is an institute with the vision of a training institute for raising customs border control personnel who safeguard the national economy and safety of the people and the mission of nurturing performance-oriented staff, using advanced training administration, who are specialized in the customs administration.



The CBCTI is located in the city of Cheonan, which is a major traffic point at the central part of the country. It is 106km south of Seoul, the capital city, and 165km away from the Incheon International Airport. The CBCTI became an independent training institute in 1977 as a training agency, located in Busan, for customs officials. The history of development is as follows;

- 1939 Tax Collector Training Center
- 1977 Separated as an independent training agency for customs officials (temporary office in Busan Main Customs)
- 2008 Relocated to Cheonan City
- 2010 Designated as a WCO Asia-Pacific RTC
- 2012 Designated as a GTI training center
- 2013 Customs Field Training Center opened
- 2014 Designated as a UNEP/UNESCAP training center

The core facility of the CBCTI is the Customs Field Training Complex. It is mainly used for Korean customs officials, but it also serves as a venue for foreign customs officials and civilians including college students who wish to experience customs work.

It took 3 years to complete the complex with construction starting in 2010. The total project had a budget of around 7.6 million dollars. The three-floor training facility has been used for field training programs since its open in August 2013.



Practices

The CBCTI aims to achieve the governing goals of the government as well as the vision of the KCS and trains key players who will realize the world best customs administration. With total a total of 66 staff in the Human Resources Development Section, General Services Section and Detector Dog Training Center, its major task is to train the KCS personnel, public officials working in the field of customs administration home and abroad and public sector players. In addition, it also supports the efforts to make a safer society by raising not only drug and explosive detectors but detector dogs as well. Its tasks also include managing the Customs Brokers Qualifying Examination and examinations for customs officials.

This year the CBCTI took not only 205 National Training Programs with 1,840 trainees as a national training center but also 11 International Training Programs with 201 trainees as a global training domain.

As a WCO RTC, the institute has hosted a number of WCO seminars and workshops to meet the capacity building demand of the Asia-Pacific and African regions. Training evaluation surveys noted that the participants are highly satisfied with its international training programs. The total satisfaction level of 9.4 out of 10 in 2018. As the foreign officials are, in particular, very satisfied and interested with UNI-PASS sessions, the CBCTI hopes the system will be a world leading clearance system in the future.

The CBCTI (RTC Korea) has been awarded the Excellent Government Training Institutes for 9 Consecutive Years



Figure 1 (The DG of the CBCTI (4th from left) posed at Award Ceremony 05th Nov. 2018)

On November 5th, 2018, the CBCTI received an excellence award of the comprehensive assessment of training institutes conducted by the Ministry of Personnel Management (MPM). It was a great honor for the institute since it won the award for the 9th consecutive year, confirming its firm status as a training institute.

The award is given to the institute that receives good scores in the four fields of the assessment. The MPM selected the CBCTI as award recipient for running tailored training programs and providing systematic training to enhance the HRD expertise based on its mid and long term strategy.

Way forwards

1. Pursuit of “Human Resource Development”

The KCS requires its staff to take a certain amount of training to be promoted. Therefore, its performance management items include 80 hours of training per year. Moreover, in a pursuit of an improved work expertise of all the personnel, the administration is following the ‘Future-Talent’ nurturing strategy at the headquarter level with a view to leading the development of future customs administrations and proactively responding to

environmental change and generational shift. Once training is completed, the trainees of the Future-Talent program are sent to work for related departments. In 2018, total 48 trainees completed the Future-Talent Training, with 24 people in the first session and another 24 people in the second session.

2. Towards “User & Field-oriented”



Figure 2 Expert demonstrating AR - VR - based training technic in the CBCTI

The CBCTI is currently planning to develop Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality (AR·VR)- based national training courses and enhance the quality of its training by adding new classes such as issue case studies and research cases next year. As an Asia-Pacific RTC, it will also take a further step towards expanding international training infrastructure including securing participants-oriented talented lecturers, developing standardized lecture

contents and providing international training for advanced customs administration by utilizing its high-quality field training infrastructure.

The CBCTI plans to upgrade its 2018 training programs in the coming year by opening new courses such as a field-oriented training course, a future- oriented training course to embrace the 4th industrial revolution and a customized training course based on the life cycle of staff.

It is also planned to expand information sharing and deepen cooperative ties with foreign customs training institutes in order to support the customs administration of Asia Pacific and African countries while pursuing advanced customs administration based on the spirit of mutual respect.

The ROCB A/P greets new Thai Customs Director General



12 October 2018, Bangkok, Thailand

On 12 October 2018, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, and his colleagues paid a courtesy call to Mr. Krisada Chinavicharana, new Thai Customs Director General. Mr. Chinavicharana took his office on 1 October 2018 succeeding Mr. Kulit Sombatisiri, who was promoted to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy. Mr. Igarashi presented Mr. Chinavicharana a flower bouquet and a copy of the recently published ROCB A/P's Annual Report 2017/18. He briefly introduced the WCO and the ROCB A/P, which has been in Bangkok since its inception in 2004 under the strong patronage of the Thai Customs Department. Mr. Igarashi thanked the Thai Customs for unsparing support for the Office and called for continued hosting support for the ROCB A/P. Mr. Igarashi also asked for further contribution to the WCO's regional capacity building and technical assistance programs as one of the leading Member administrations in the region. Mr. Chinavicharana gave his kind words of encouragement to all of the ROCB A/P staffs and expressed his wiliness and readiness to provide same support to the ROCB A/P.

A Bangkok-based WCO Security Project Team, funded by the Japanese government, also paid a courtesy call to new Thai Customs DG and presented their compliments.

16th WCO Regional Training Center (RTC) Heads Meeting



24-25 October 2018, Shanghai, China

The ROCB A/P convened its 16th Meeting of the Heads of the WCO A/P Regional Training Center (RTC) at the Shanghai Customs College (SCC) on 24-25 October 2018. Twenty-seven delegates from 7 RTCs as well as the WCO Secretariat and the ROCB A/P participated. The Meeting was opened by the welcoming address of Dr. Cong Yuhao, President of the SCC, which was followed by the opening remarks of Mr. Shinji Oda, WCO Regional Development Manager for the A/P region, and Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P.

Prior to commencing to the formal meeting agenda, the delegates were escorted on campus tour and visited the SCC Library. The delegates were impressed with the richness of the archives and excellent environment for academic research and studies.

The delegates elected Mr. Jizheng Zheng, Associate Professor of the SCC, as Chairperson of the Meeting by acclamation. In the wake of a round of reports from the WCO Secretariat, the ROCB A/P and the RTCs respectively, the delegates discussed and exchanged their views on the way to optimize the effects of the WCO capacity building and technical assistance programs, including the development and the use of e-learning programs, application of the WCO Training Strategy, a way forward to optimize the benefits of hosting the WCO workshops, and the enhancement of the RTCs' functions, among others. These discussion sessions provided the delegates with a great deal to consider and good practices

for improving the effectiveness of the regional capacity building and technical assistance programs. Delegates also heard a presentation on the facilities and concept of the newly built Dutch Customs Training Center from Beijing-based Dutch Customs Attaché.

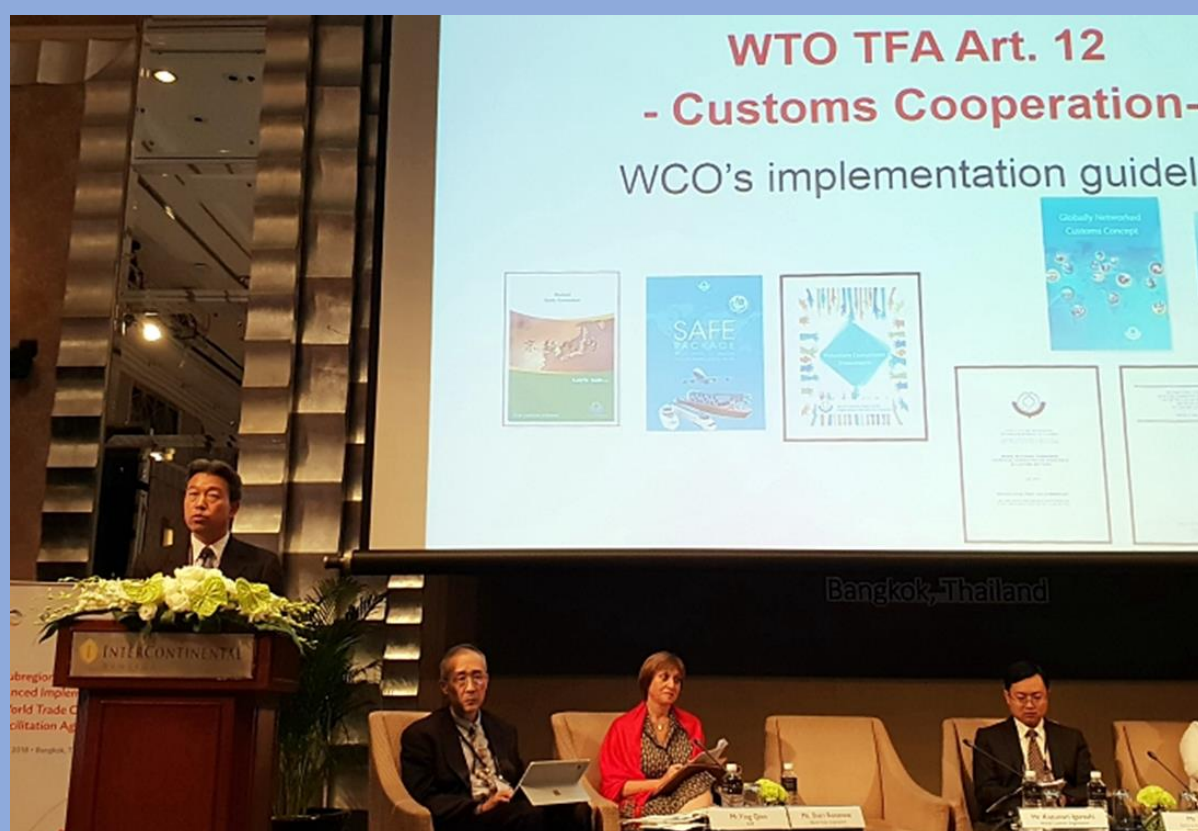
The SCC also kindly arranged a field trip to the Shanghai Free Trade Zone, which showcased a series of reform measures taken to facilitate and promote trade for furthering economic growth.

At the invitation of the RTC Korea, next RTC Heads Meeting will be held in 2019 in Korea.

The ROCB and delegates appreciated the warmest hospitality and excellent arrangements made by China Customs and the SCC for this Meeting.



ROCB A/P promotes the WCO instruments and tools for the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement



30-31 October 2018, Bangkok, Thailand

At the request from the WCO Secretariat, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, participated in the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Inter-Sub regional Forum on Enhanced Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) held on 30-31 October 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand, as a resource speaker, along with Ms. Milena Budimirovic of the WCO Secretariat. This Inter-Sub Regional Forum brought more than seventy delegates from various Customs administrations and the Trade and Commerce Ministries of twenty six Member States of the South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation, the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation and other sub-regional economic cooperation mechanisms and shared their experiences in implementing the TFA provisions, such as release of goods, freedom of transit, publication of average release time, Customs cooperation, border agency cooperation and single window. In the wake of Opening session, which was officiated by Mr. Wencai Zhang, Vice President of the ADB, there were series of panel discussion sessions on the pertinent trade facilitation measures. Mr. Igarashi participated in the panel sessions on freedom of transit, Customs cooperation, border agency cooperation and single window with

other resource persons and participants and spoke about key component of the pertinent WCO instruments and tools made readily available for the implementation of these essential trade facilitation measures. Ms. Budimirovic of the WCO Secretariat participated in the panel sessions for AEO, publication of average release times, national Committee on Trade facilitation. She also gave a presentation on the overview and progress in the WCO Mercator Program.

WCO-UNESCAP 4th UNNExT MASTERCLASS: License, Permits, Certificates and Other regulatory requirements (e-LPCO) in a Single Window Environment



5-14 November 2018, Cheon An, Korea

The WCO and the UNESCAP organized the 4th UNNExT MASTERCLASS: License, Permits, Certificates and Other regulatory requirements (e-LPCO) in a Single Window Environment from 5 November to 14 November 2018 in the Customs Border Control Training Institute (CBCTI) in Cheon An, Korea, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and the Korea Customs Service under the financial support of Customs Cooperation Fund of Korea (CCF/Korea). This workshop was to organize with a view to support the WCO Members' commitment to the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and

effective use of information and communications technology in the introduction of the National Single Window environment in the A/P region.

38 participants from 21 Member Customs administrations and relevant border agencies participated in the Workshop. Mr. Hong-Young Jo, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P, attended this workshop as one of the resource persons, and took a role of facilitator and presented on the ROCB A/P's contributions and activities in capacity building.

The workshop provided Members with the opportunity to examine their WTO TFA engagement and Single Window Implementation status by sharing international standards and best practices in the area of business processes, and information exchange on the Licenses, Permits, Certificates, and Other regulatory requirements (e-LPCOs) for verification and validation of the supporting documents for customs clearance.

Through this 10-day workshop, the participants actively took part in all the discussions and exercises and shared their views on the possible steps for their administrations to materialize the lessons learned from the workshop. In the course of the workshop, the participants had a study visit to regional customs house and observed the virtual training center for exercising customs process electronically and studied practical cases on the utilization of Single Window System for verifying required certificates for clearance, which were authorized by the responsible government agencies.



WCO National Workshop for Lao Customs on Border Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights



12 -16 November 2018, Vientiane, Laos

The WCO National Workshop for Lao Customs on border enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPR) was held on 12-16 November 2018 in Vientiane, Laos, under the sponsorship of Japan Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF/Japan). A total of 12 Lao Customs officers participated in the Workshop and Ms. Saori Nojima, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P, together with an expert from Japan Customs, moderated the sessions and facilitated the discussion in the Workshop.

The Lao Customs has showed its strong commitment and eagerness to revise the existing administrative regulation for further enhancing the IPR enforcement and the Workshop participants intensively discussed the elements to be added or to be amended. In parallel with the discussion on the revision of the pertinent regulation, the participants also examined the organizational setting required to effectively implement relevant laws and regulation regarding the IPR border enforcement. They also exchanged opinions and views with the representatives from right holders to address existing challenges and identify possible way forward.

The Workshop was concluded with the strong determination of the Lao Customs to continuously work towards enhancing their IPR border enforcement in close cooperation and collaboration with the right holders.

WCO A/P Regional Contact Points Meeting



14-16 November 2018, Jaipur, India

28th WCO A/P Regional Contact Points (RCPs) Meeting was convened on 14 November 2019 for a three-day session in Jaipur, India, under the initiative of the Regional Vice Chair, i.e. India. 38 delegates from 20 A/P regional Member administrations and 5 representatives from the WCO Secretariat, the RILO A/P and the ROCB A/P, as permanent observers, attended the Meeting and discussed series of region's collective efforts in such important topics as digital Customs, e-commerce, small islands economic development and counter-terrorism under the chairmanship of Mr. P.K. Das, Member of the Central Board of Indirect Tax and Customs (CBIC) of India. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, participated in the Meeting and made a report on the ROCB A/P's activities in the last fiscal year 2017/18 and overview of the planned activities in the current fiscal year as well as the impacts of the WCO's regional workshops conducted in the last 3 years. Given the critical importance and

ever-increasing needs of the institutional capacity building and professional human resource development, the delegates called for continued dedication of the ROCB A/P and suggested a couple of constructive ideas to further optimize the impacts of its undertakings. Mr. Igarashi also reported on the implementation of the A/P Regional Strategic Plan 2018-2020, focusing on capacity building-related actions, and the outcomes of the Regional Training Center Heads Meeting held in October 2018 in Shanghai, China (refer to <http://www.rocb-ap.org/article-detail/443/>). Other WCO regional bodies, namely the RILO A/P and Regional Customs Laboratories presented their activity reports. The delegates called for continued close collaboration among the WCO regional bodies, including the ROCB A/P, for continued good coordination and greater synergies in capacity building and technical assistance.

Prior to the RCPs Meeting, the WCO organized its Strategic Plan Workshop at the same venue as part of their global consultation approach for the renewal of the current 3-year Strategic Plan for the next 3-year term from 2019 through 2022 so that the WCO's strategic policy and tactical activities remain relevant to the Members' needs and continuously exercise their leadership amid of the rapidly changing business environment surrounding the Customs community. More than 30 delegates participated in this regional consultation workshop and shared their views and visions with WCO Deputy Secretary General and Regional Vice Chair. Members' views and inputs are aggregated and further examined at the upcoming WCO Policy Commission and subsequent WCO management committees for the adaption at the WCO Council in June 2019.



Customs jointly ensure the security of the global ecological environment



20-23 November 2018, Shanghai China

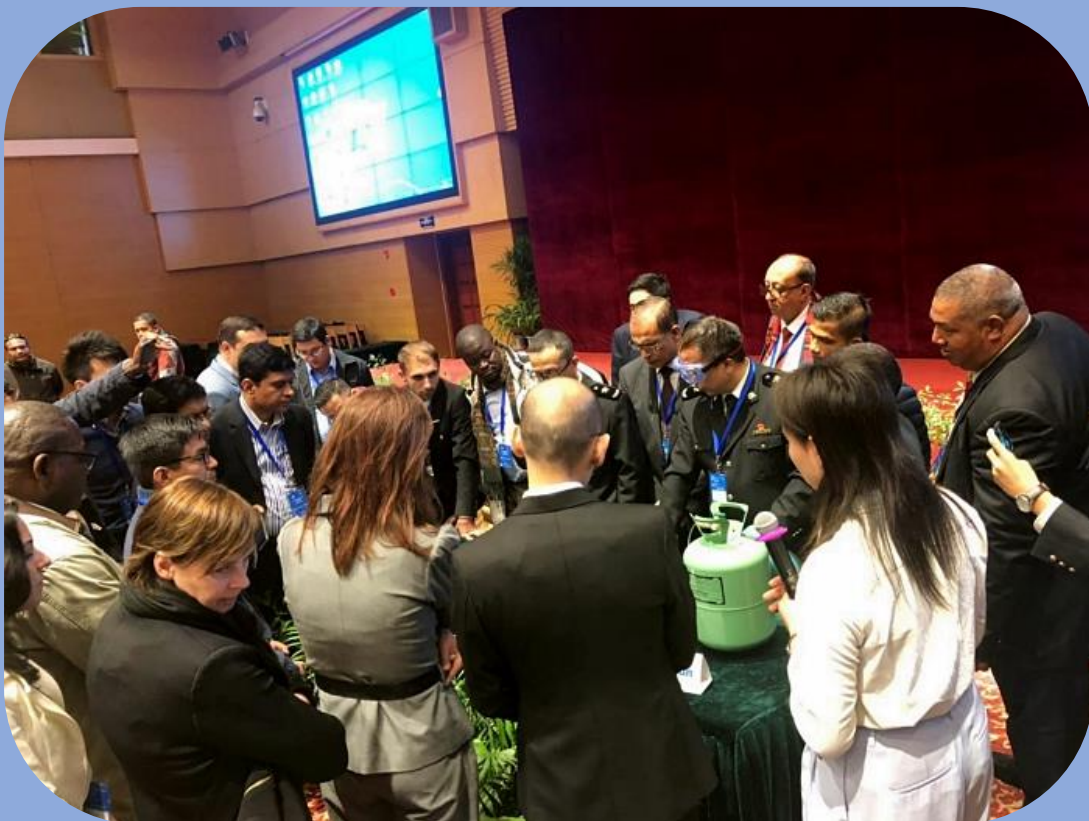
The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and the General Administration of China Customs (GACC), organized the WCO Regional Workshop on Combating Environmental Crime and the Debriefing of the WCO Operation “Demeter IV” on 20-23 November 2018 in Shanghai, China, with financial sponsorship of the Customs Cooperation Fund of China (CCF/China). More than 60 representatives from 36 WCO Member Administrations, 7 international organizations, 7 Chinese competent authorities and Academia participated in this years’ second environment-related WCO regional event in the A/P region after [the Green Customs Regional Workshop and briefing of “Demeter IV” Operation](#) held in April 2018.

Dr. Tong Hua, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P, and Ms. Vareemon Chairungsilert, ROCB A/P’s Program Coordinator, participated in this workshop as facilitators.

The Workshop was conducted to retain the fostered momentum and raise full awareness of the long-term and arduous nature of the work on combating illegal transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODS) and wildlife as well as protecting the global ecological environment in the Customs enforcement context. Participants duly share their view and reaffirmed that, for law enforcement agencies, ecological and environmental protection is a long-term task, and members cannot expect to get it done just in one battle. Thus, Customs administrations should work together through continuous cooperation. Among the other things, information sharing, online illegal

trade, risk profiling, new trade routes and the application of new technologies were the key topics discussed among the participants vigorously.

In the course of the Workshop, the debriefing session of the WCO Operation “Demeter IV” was arranged on 20 November and more than 150 guests, including Minister of the GACC, Vice Minister of the Ministry of China Ecology and Environment, Deputy Secretary General of the WCO, Secretary General of the IRU, Vice Mayor of Shanghai Municipal Government, other GACC executives, foreign Customs Attachés and police officers in China, witnessed the fruitful outcomes of the joint operation and supported the proposed way forward. The Operation “Demeter IV” initiated by China in March 2018 involved 15 international organizations, including the WCO, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Criminal Police Organization, the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and 75 solid waste importing and exporting countries and regions. Mr. Ni Yuefeng, Minister of the China Customs, referred to the operation as "a pioneering success" in international collaboration. Mr. Ni stressed that "For the law enforcement departments, ecological environment protection is a long-term task," in his remarks addressed at the debriefing ceremony. Mr. Ni of the GACC underlined that "China Customs will continue to work with the international organizations and other member countries and regions to construct a prosperous, clean and beautiful world together."



WCO National Workshop on Customs Valuation and Transfer Pricing for Thailand



26-30 November 2018, Bangkok, Thailand

The WCO organized 5-day National Workshop on Customs Valuation and Transfer Pricing in Bangkok, Thailand, under the sponsorship of the Japan Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF/Japan), in which 15 English-speaking Thai Customs representatives participated. A WCO Senior Technical Officer and a recognized Valuation Expert from China Customs were invited as resource speakers.

Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the opening session of the Workshop held on 26 November 2018 along with Mrs. Nunthita Sirikup, Director of Thai Customs Human Resource Development Bureau, WCO resource persons and Mr. Tetsuro Higuchi, Second Secretary and Vice Consul of the Japan Embassy in Thailand, representing the CCF/Japan. In his opening remarks, Mr. Igarashi recalled the previous National Workshop held 2 years ago, and then spoke about the notions of the differentiated workshop modality and the expected outcomes for optimizing the value of the workshop for the sake of the Thai Customs' interest. Other guest speakers also touched upon the importance of Customs' revenue collection function and wished a successful workshop. The ROCB A/P hopes that this result-oriented workshop brings some tangible outcomes for their sustainable self-development and training on Customs valuation and other Customs businesses

WCO National Workshop for Myanmar Customs on Border Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights



26 -30 November 2018, Yangon, Myanmar

The WCO National Workshop for Myanmar Customs on border enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPR) was held on 26-30 November 2018 in Yangon, Myanmar, under the sponsorship of Japan Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF/Japan). A total of 12 Myanmar Customs officers participated in the Workshop and Ms. Saori Nojima, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P, together with an expert from Japan Customs, shared their knowledge and practices with the participants and facilitated the discussions.

In order to strengthen border enforcement, Myanmar Customs has strived to review its current practices and establish administrative regulations to implement international agreements, namely WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. The participants from the IPR Working Group and newly established IPR Section of Myanmar Customs intensively discussed provisions and elements to be included in the regulations. The participants also discussed the roles and responsibilities of related sections especially regarding the communication in the IPR border enforcement procedures as well as the capacity building of Customs officers in order to effectively implement the rules and regulations.

Through the workshop, the participants reaffirmed the importance of robust IPR border enforcement whilst ensuring the procedures themselves do not become barriers to trade and showed their eagerness to continuously commit to the future necessary works for strengthening IPR border enforcement measures at Myanmar Customs.

ROCB A/P discusses Customs Human Resource Management with ASEAN Member administrations



29 November 2018, Jakarta, Indonesia

At the invitation of the Director of the Indonesian Customs and Excise Education and Training Center (Pusdiklat BC), Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the ASEAN Seminar on Customs Human Resource Development. This was held on 29 November 2018, at the Education and Training Center, under the initiative of Indonesia Customs as coordinator for Customs capacity building within the ASEAN framework. Nearly 20 representatives from 6 ASEAN Member Customs administrations and the Jakarta-based Australian Border Force Liaison Office attended this 2-day Seminar to discuss and share their experiences in the development and assessment of the respective customs officers' performance and competencies. This included their training management approaches, including learning needs analyses, teaching staff development and the assessment of training effectiveness.

In the wake of the official opening remarks delivered by Mr. Harry Mulya, Director of the Pusdiklat BC, Mr. Igarashi gave a half-day lecture on the WCO's Framework on Principles and Practices on Customs Professionalism, focusing on the competency-based human resource management and job profiling as well as training management. Mr. Igarashi also introduced a series of WCO human resource development programs and guidelines. In the context of the assessment of the training, he gave them an explanation on the ROCB A/P's initiatives in conducting Regional Workshop Follow-Up Actions Surveys that are conducted with a view to taking a snapshot of the impacts and effects accrued from these capacity building programs, instead of merely evaluating the satisfaction of respective workshops. Likewise, referring to the afore-mentioned WCO Framework, Mr. Igarashi suggested the result-based management approach to assessing "training effectiveness" rather than evaluating the training itself. Participants showed their keen interests in these principles and practices, which led to an interactive question and answer sessions.

Prior to attending the Seminar, Mr. Igarashi paid a courtesy call to Mr. Heru Pambudi, Director General of the Indonesian Directorate of Customs and Excise, at his office and thanked him for kind guidance to the ROCB A/P and sought further contribution to the regional capacity building and technical assistance programs through provision of both soft and hard resources. DG Pambudi echoed his administration's



determination and readiness to support the WCO's initiatives and gave his kind words and encouragement to the ROCB A/P. DG Pambudi also explained his administration's efforts in enhancing international collaboration in law enforcement and human resource development.

Mr. Igarashi was escorted to the "WCO garden and pool" where a large WCO logo is designed at the bottom of the fountain pond in front of the Customs complex and observed Indonesian Customs' training and welfare facilities, including the dormitory, guesthouses and dog training center. He also received an interview for the Indonesian Customs Radio Program (Kanal Bea Cukai).

WCO Sub-regional Workshop on Customs Valuation for the Pacific



3-7 December 2018, Suva, Fiji

The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P and the Fiji Revenue and Customs Services (FRCS), organized the WCO Sub-regional Workshop on Customs Valuation on 3-7 December 2018 at the WCO Regional Training Center in Suva (FRCS Training Center) with sponsorship of the Japan Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF/Japan). 19 participants from the 5 WCO Members in the Pacific region and 5 OCO-funded non-WCO participants took part in this Workshop, which was led by a resource person from the WCO Secretariat and 2 resource speakers from Japan. Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P joined the Workshop as one of the facilitators.

The Workshop was officiated by the keynote address delivered by Mr. Visvanath Das, Chief Executive Officer of the FRCS, who stressed the critical importance of proper appraisal of Customs valuation as approximately 98% of the global trade in goods is verified for ad valorem duty and taxes legally due. He also touched upon emerging challenges associated with e-commerce as “game-changer.” Representatives from the WCO Secretariat, Japan Customs, the ROCB A/P, and the Oceania Customs Organisation also gave their opening remarks and wished a successful workshop. Participants took part in the workshop programs in a very interactive manner and exchanged their valuation challenges and views on the way

to enhance their valuation knowledge and proper application of the valuation principles at the border.

The program of this Sub-regional Workshop included, among other things, valuation key principles, overview of the transaction value, related party transaction, adjustments under Article 8, stages of valuation control including advance ruling and post clearance audit, alternative methods of valuation as well as group exercises on valuation case studies and the WCO Revenue Package Diagnostic Tool. Mr. Igarashi made a presentation on the regional capacity building approach. In addition to the demand-driven planning exercise, he explained the ROCB A/P's initiatives in monitoring post-workshop impacts by way of Follow-Up Action Survey. He showed some of the findings from the last three rounds of the Surveys, in particular, the impacts realized the Pacific colleagues in the wake of their participation in the WCO Regional Workshop on Customs Valuation held in June 2017 in Japan and encouraged them to institutionalize the lessons-learned from this Sub-regional Workshop through engaged post-workshop actions.

In the course of the Workshop, all Workshop participants and resource persons were kindly invited to join FRCS colleagues for their official Christmas program, where everybody present was blessed by a prayer by the FRCS Chief Executive Officer and wished a Happy New Year 2019.



WCO National Workshop for Cambodia Customs on Border Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights



4 -7 December 2018, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The WCO National Workshop for Cambodia Customs on Border Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) was held on 4-7 December 2018 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, under the sponsorship of the Japan Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF/Japan) and in close cooperation and coordination with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). A total of 10 Cambodia Customs officers from the relevant departments and sections participated in the Workshop and Ms. Saori Nojima, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P, together with an expert from Japan Customs, led the Workshop and shared their respective expertise and knowledge, including other A/P regional Members' practices regarding IPR border enforcement.

The participants revisited the recommendations provided by the WCO team at the previous [WCO National Seminar for Cambodia Customs on IPR](#) held in 2017 and reaffirmed the future necessary actions in Cambodia Customs. This Workshop focused on the key components of the regulatory procedures of IPR border enforcement in line with the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. The Workshop also provided the participants with an opportunity to identify the areas for further work to be undertaken by the relevant parties with a view to supporting their continuous effort in strengthening IPR border enforcement capability.

ROCB A/P discussed the IPR Border Enforcement with CLMVT Customs administrations

13 - 14 December 2018, Bangkok, Thailand

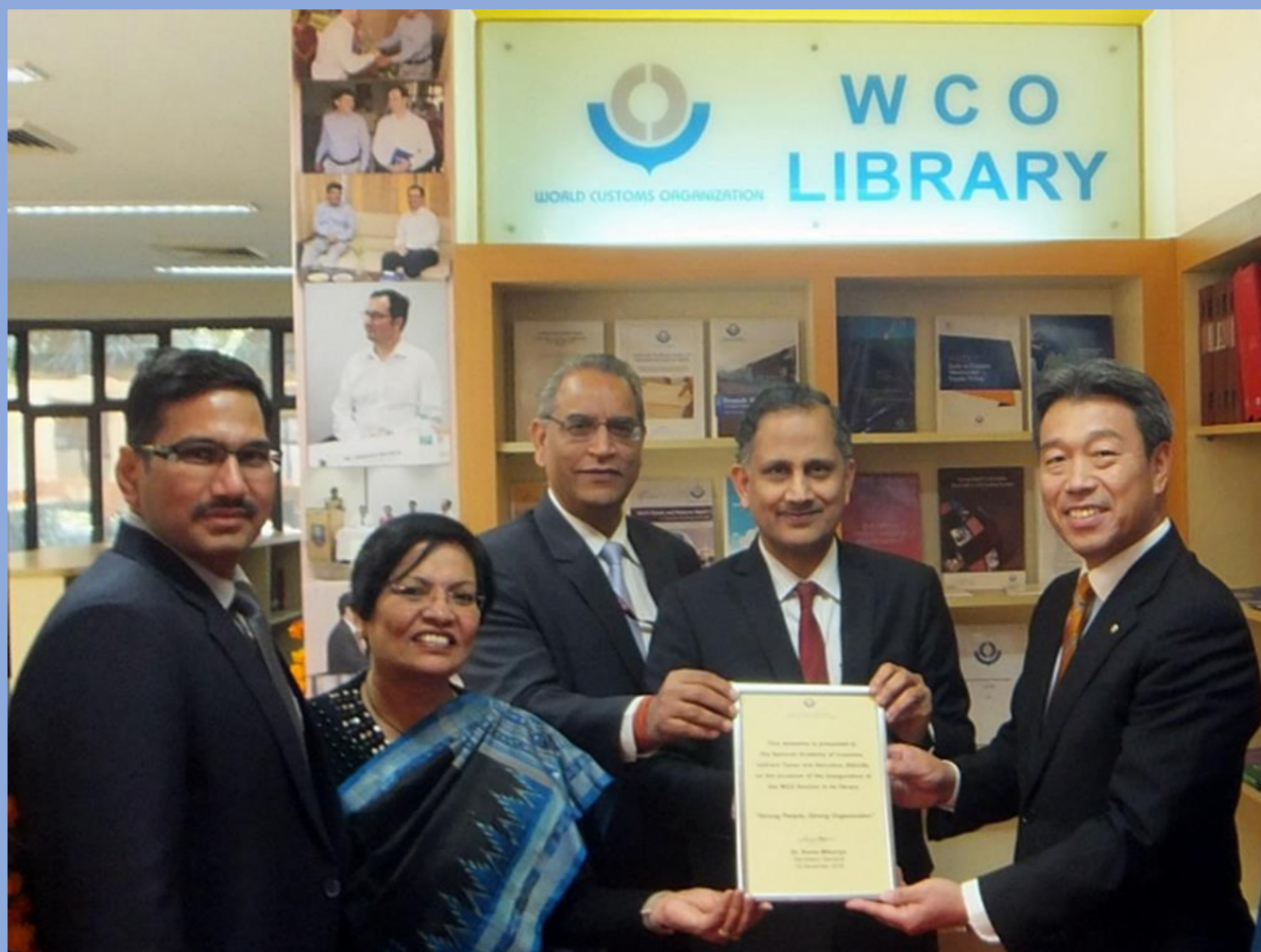
As an initiative of Thai Customs, the Workshop on Trade Facilitation Agreement and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) was held on 10 -14 December 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand, Ms. Saori Nojima, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P, participated in the IPR-related sessions on 13 -14 December 2018 as a resource speaker. More than 20 officials of Customs administrations from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand (CLMVT) participated in the workshop and intensively discussed their border enforcement challenges and procedural regulation reviews regarding IPR border enforcement.



The WCO has conducted a series of regional and national workshops regarding IPR border enforcement for the WCO A/P Members, including the CLMVT (please see these following articles : [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) and [4](#))

This workshop provided them with an opportunity occasion to optimize the synergy between the WCO capacity building assistance activities and the Thai Customs' leadership in promoting regionally concerted IPR border enforcement. To this end, Ms. Nojima delivered a refreshing presentation about the pertinent WCO activities and tools. She also provided technical guidance and suggestions to follow up those WCO capacity building assistance activities so that the CLMVT Customs' efforts in amelioration of administrative procedures and enhancement of border enforcement are synchronized.

ROCB A/P joins inauguration of the WCO Section at the NACIN Library



19 December 2018, Faridabad, India

At the invitation of Director General of the National Academy of Customs, Indirect Tax and Narcotics (NACIN) of India, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi, Head of the ROCB A/P, attended the inauguration ceremony of the WCO Section at the NACIN Library on 19 December 2018. The newly established WCO Section provides the NACIN faculty and trainees with abundant archives of the WCO reports and publications for their research and study purposes. Mr. Igarashi joined Mr. S. Ramesh, Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Tax and Customs (CBIC), Mr. Raj Kumar Barthwal, Member of Customs (CBIC), Ms. Archana Pandey Tiwari, DG of NACIN CBIC Chairman and NACIN faculties for its tape-cutting ceremony. On this occasion, he presented a memento from Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, WCO Secretary General, on his behalf. (Please also see [WCO A/P Regional website](#))

Prior to the inauguration ceremony of the WCO Section, Mr. Igarashi was also invited to the opening ceremony for the 2018 batch of inductees held on the same day at the NACIN. 65 new batches of Indian Customs and Excise officers and 3 Bhutanese Customs officers commenced their 2-year long training, including a field attachment program. CBIC Chairman and chief guests addressed the new recruits. Mr. Igarashi joined the chief guests for a lamp-lighting ceremony. Following the keynote addresses and a group photo session with new batches, Mr. Igarashi gave a special lecture on the Customs and its evolving roles to the trainees. In the course of the lecture, he introduced a brief history of Customs, and explained its evolving roles and function from revenue collection to protection of society and facilitation of legitimate trade as well as trade supply chain security. He also provided an overview of the WCO and its regionalization approach in fostering mutual administrative assistance cooperation and capacity building support. He also touched upon the current priority work subjects of the WCO, including trade facilitation, e-commerce, security, performance measurement as well as application of disruptive technology for smart Customs operations. Mr. Igarashi stressed the significance of networking among the colleagues, the need for career-long learning and the value of individual professionalism and integrity, so that they may better exercise their capabilities in their duties and to better serve for their nation.



WCO A/P CB/TA Programs and Meetings Schedule

January 2019 and onwards (Indicative)

(NB) Official invitation will be circulated in due course

Event	Dates	Venue
◆ WCO Regional Workshop on Transit	8-10 Jan. 2019	Faridabad, India
◆ WCO National Workshop on Mercator Program Implementation for Cambodia	9-19 Jan. 2019	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
◆ WCO Regional Workshop on Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing	21-25 Jan. 2019	Kashiwa, Japan
◆ WCO National Workshop on Risk Management for Thailand	21-25 Jan. 2019	Bangkok, Thailand
◆ WCO National Workshop on ICT for Pakistan	28 Jan. - 1 Feb. 2019	Islamabad, Pakistan
◆ WCO National Workshop on SAFE Implementation for Myanmar	29 Jan. - 1 Feb. 2019	Yangon, Myanmar
◆ WCO National Workshop on Risk Management for the Philippines	18-22 Feb. 2019 (tbc)	Manila, Philippines
◆ WCO Regional Workshop on Data Analytics	25-28 Feb. 2019	Cheonan, Korea
◆ WCO Regional Workshop on Training Management	4-8 Mar. 2019	Kashiwa, Japan
◆ WCO-OECD Joint Regional Workshop on Customs Valuation and Transfer Pricing	4-8 Mar. 2019	Yangzhou, China
◆ WCO Regional Workshop on Accreditation of TRS Experts	11-15 Mar. 2019	Xiamen, China
◆ WCO Sub-regional Workshop on Risk Management for the Pacific	18-22 Mar. 2019	Suva, Fiji
◆ WCO Regional Workshop on NII and Automated Threat Recognition	1-5 Apr. 2019	Shanghai, China
◆ Meeting of Heads of the ROCBs, RTCs and Vice Chair's Offices	4-5 Apr. 2019	Brussels, Belgium
◆ WCO Capacity Building Committee	8-10 Apr. 2019	Brussels, Belgium
◆ WCO National Workshop on Risk Management for Malaysia	8-12 Apr. 2019	Melaka (p), Malaysia

◆ WCO Integrity Sub-Committee	11-12 Apr. 2019	Brussels, Belgium
◆ WCO A/P Regional Heads of Customs Administration Conference	8-10 May 2019	Cochin, India
◆ OCO Annual Meeting	13-16 May 2019	Saipan, USA
◆ WCO Regional Workshop on Accreditation of IPR Legal Advisors	27-31 May 2019	Bangkok, Thailand
◆ WCO Council Sessions	27-29 Jun. 2019	Brussels, Belgium

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