

# WCO Capacities Building Entities in Asia/Pacific Region

## Vol.2 Regional Customs Laboratory



WCO

ROCB

Asia/Pacific

Updated as of December 2023

# Contents

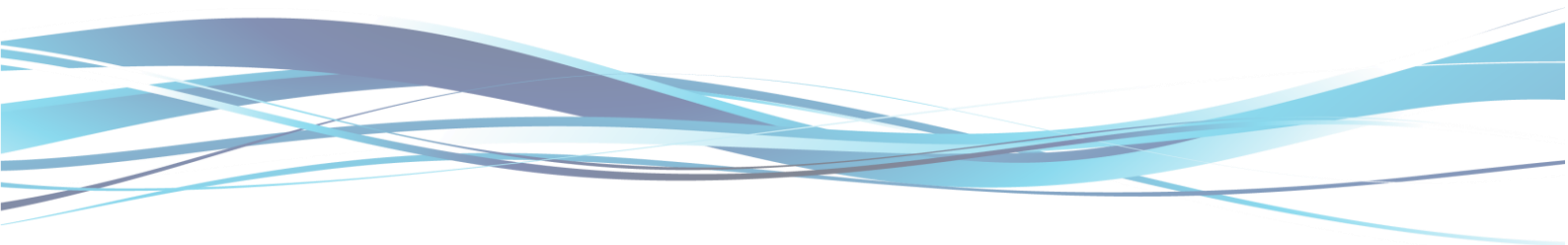
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## Introduction

The World Customs Organization (WCO) is an inter-governmental organization that specializes in customs aspects with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations. Currently, the Organization has 184 Members internationally. The WCO divides its large membership into 6 regions and each region has its own regional bodies to deal with the core Customs subjects, e.g. Customs enforcement and capacity building on Customs competences.

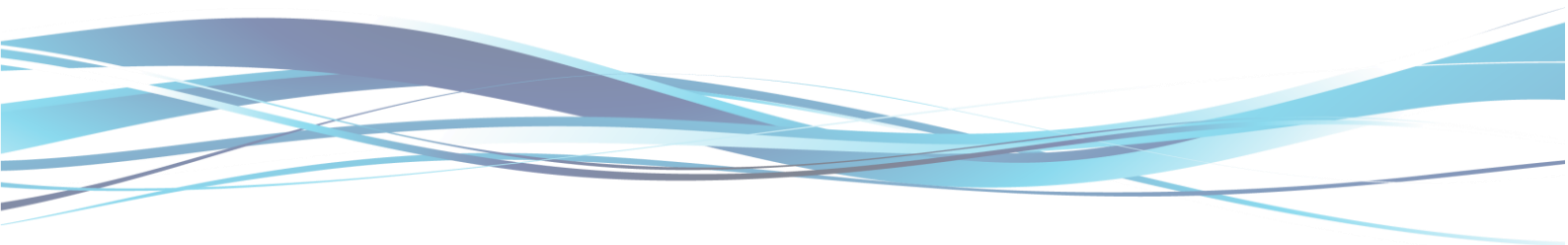
In the area of capacity building, the regional bodies were developed under the WCO Regional Capacity Building Strategy, which aims to promote the sharing among neighboring countries of ideas and actions to achieve regional objectives. This includes economic growth and social development, and to ensure effectual allocation of resources and support via the regional bodies to respond best to regional and national capacity building needs. The Regional Offices for Capacity Building (ROCBs) and the Regional Training Centres (RTCs) are the two main regional entities for capacity building. The key roles of ROCBs include giving support to Members in the capacity building needs assessment process and coordinating the capacity building activities in the respective region. The RTCs focus on bringing specialist training closer to the endusers through the development of regional training expertise and the expansion of the blended learning network. In addition, to cope with the emerging needs of acquiring knowledge in certain customs fields, the regional structure has expanded to develop other specialized regional entities to provide technical assistance and professional knowledge transfer for Members. These institutes include the Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL) and the Regional Dog Training Centre (RDTC) which are specialized in providing training and information sharing on chemical analysis of goods for classification and trade controls and on canine operation in the fight against illicit trafficking respectively.



## Background

At the 11th WCO Capacity Building Committee (CBC) held in March 2020, the latest draft of the revised WCO Capacity Building Strategy was presented to Members which not only advocates a more targeted and coordinated capacity building approach, but also emphasizes the importance of a regional approach in achieving success for all stakeholders. Moreover, the 5th Global Meeting of Regional Capacity Building Structures held back-to-back with the CBC attempted to expand the meeting participants to include the representatives from RCLs and RDTCs.

The Asia/Pacific (A/P) region is renowned as the most active region among all WCO regions in the domain of capacity building through vital coordination and cooperation not only between Members but also the regional entities. To further promote the coherence and synergy of capacity building resources and the unwavering effort pursued by each training entity in the region, the WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P) publishes the brochure of the WCO Capacity Building Entities in Asia/Pacific Region. The brochure, intended to be used as reference material, provides the general background and overview of the ROCB A/P, each RTC, RCL and RDTC, accompanied by photos of training facilities and equipment used at the training institutes/laboratories. It is expected that colleagues in the Customs community will have a better understanding of the operations of all these regional training bodies. For those colleagues who have not yet had a chance to visit the institutes, they will be able to view general images of the facilities and equipment that are used in the training, as well as be a good reference for improving Members training facilities also. This brochure is considered to be a living document that will be maintained and updated as the respective regional body regard necessary.



## WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P)



*Photo 1 Exterior of ROCB A/P office*



*Photo 2: Entrance of ROCB A/P office*

**Date/Year established:** 28 September 2004

**Location:** Thai Customs Department, G Floor, 120 Years Old Building, Sunthornkosa Road, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110, Thailand

### **Main functions/services provided:**

The primary role of the ROCB A/P is to develop and coordinate capacity-building activities for the Members within the WCO A/P region, in order to promote and support the implementation of WCO objectives at a regional level.

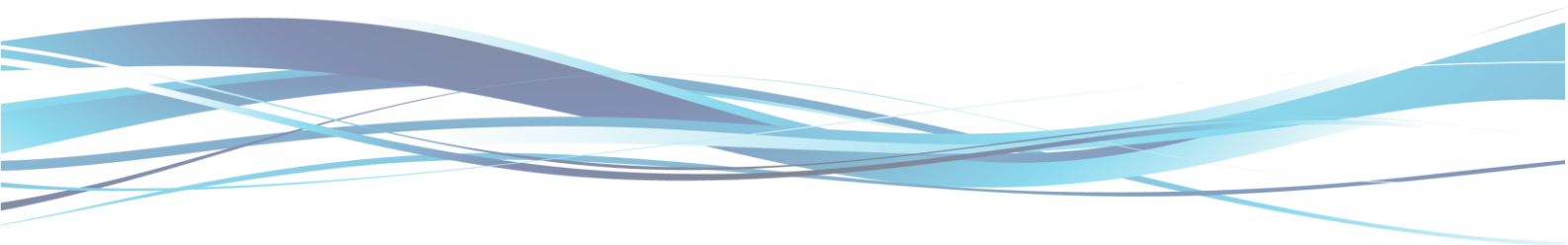


*Photo 3: Group Photo of ROCB A/P*

In close cooperation with other regional bodies and donors and under the supervision and guidance of the WCO Secretariat, the Regional Vice-Chair and the respective Directors General in the region, the ROCB A/P provides services on capacity building to A/P Members in the following four areas:

### **(1) Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments, and tools**

There are WCO instruments and tools on core Customs subjects. Ranging from supply chain security, trade facilitation, revenue collection and protection, enforcement ability and organizational development. Based on the Members' capacity building needs and requests, the ROCB A/P coordinates with other regional capacity building entities to organize regional, sub-regional and national workshops on these subjects with a view to assisting and enhancing Members' capacity to fulfill their obligations as well as carry out their reforms and modernization programs.



## (2) Further enhance collaboration with development partners

The ROCB A/P works closely with development partners such as Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Asia Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP). This collaborative approach is critical to maintain continued cooperation and secure quality support to A/P Members through joint activities or the exchange of experts at organized workshops or capacity building events.



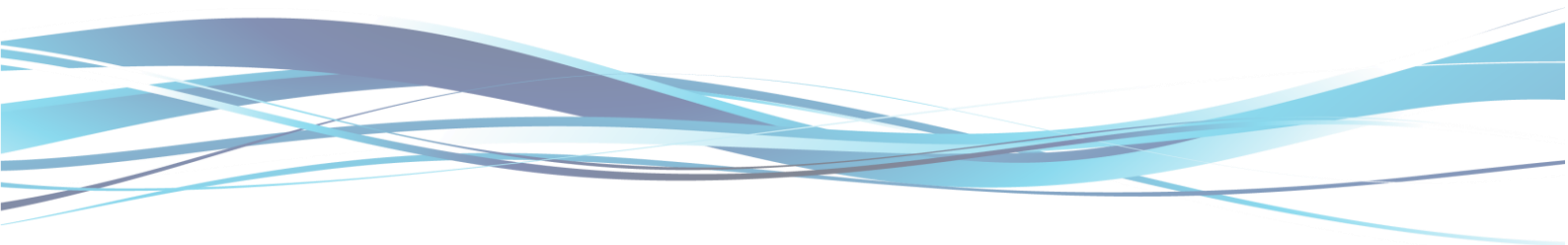
*Photo 4: Conference Room*



*Photo 5: Greeting Area*

## (3) Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery, and management of capacity building activities

Every year the ROCB A/P conducts the “Capacity Building Needs Survey” aiming to gather information on customs development, capacity building needs and priorities of the A/P Members. With the support of this invaluable information, the ROCB A/P is able to develop its comprehensive Strategic Actions Plan and Annual Work Plan on the regional capacity building activities in close cooperation with WCO Capacity Building Directorate (CBD) especially the Regional Development manager (RDM). The ROCB A/P also maintains active partnership with the Members and the RTCs in order to deliver and manage the workshops more effectively.



#### (4) Enhance communication and information sharing among Members



*Photo 6: 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Heads of RTCs in Thailand*

Recognizing the importance of sharing updated and useful information in the course of customs reforms and modernization, the ROCB A/P utilizes different forms of communication tools to strengthen the ties between A/P Members and promote the new ideas of or tools for

organizational or structural development. The communication tools include, the ROCB A/P website ([www.rocb-ap.org](http://www.rocb-ap.org)), the quarterly ROCB A/P E-newsletter, the ROCB A/P Annual Report and the Good Practice Reports on specific customs techniques.



*Photo 7: Workplace of ROCB A/P office*

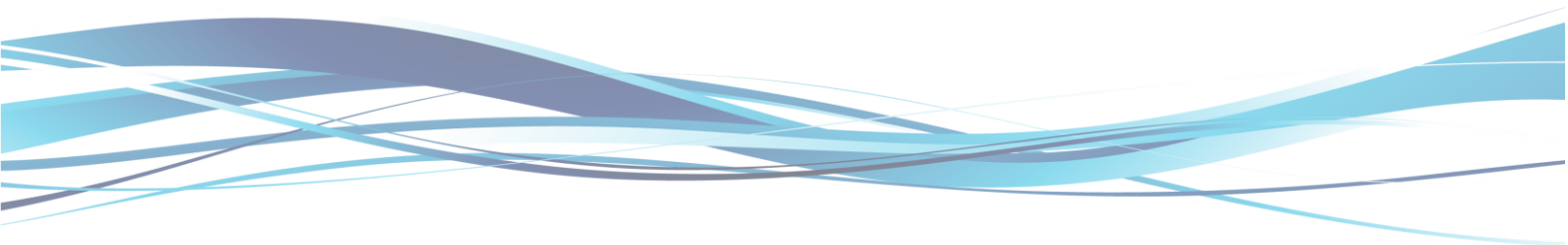


*Photo 8: Office of Head of ROCB A/P*

### Key deliverables:

#### (1) Annual Needs Assessment Survey

Every January/February, ROCB A/P work together with Japan Customs to conduct the “Capacity Building Needs Survey” with all A/P Members to collect their inputs on the customs environment in their home administrations, current or expected challenges, technical assistance needs and the priorities of these assistance and needs. The analysis





result is available for Members' information in every March/April and it is indeed a very reliable source for the planning of regional capacity building activities.

## (2) Capacity building activities organized

To enhance Members' knowledge, abilities and skills and improve their institutional structures and processes, the ROCB A/P coordinates and cooperates with the RTCs, RCLs and RDTC to organize various regional, sub-regional or national workshops. At the workshops, Members are not only introduced to newly developed WCO instruments and tools but are also able to share good practices in various Customs operations in dealing with challenges they face.



*Photo 9: Opening ceremony of the renovated office*

## (3) Foster the pool of WCO Accredited Customs Experts (ACEs)

The WCO ACEs are the experienced Customs professionals who have undertaken expert training on specific Customs subjects provided by the WCO. They are the main resource persons at the WCO workshops. ROCB A/P works closely with the WCO CBD in organizing the ACE Accreditation Workshops for the A/P region and

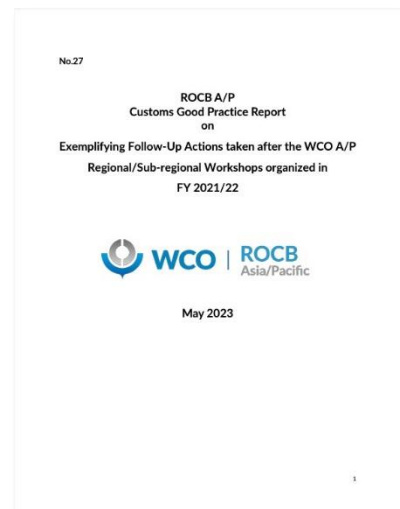
also works with A/P Members to nominate knowledgeable and qualified Customs officials to become ACEs. ROCB A/P also endeavors to liaise with the WCO to mobilize the A/P ACEs within the region for the sake of fostering collective efforts and mutual assistance among the regional Members for continued Customs development.

**(4) Follow-up actions questionnaire**

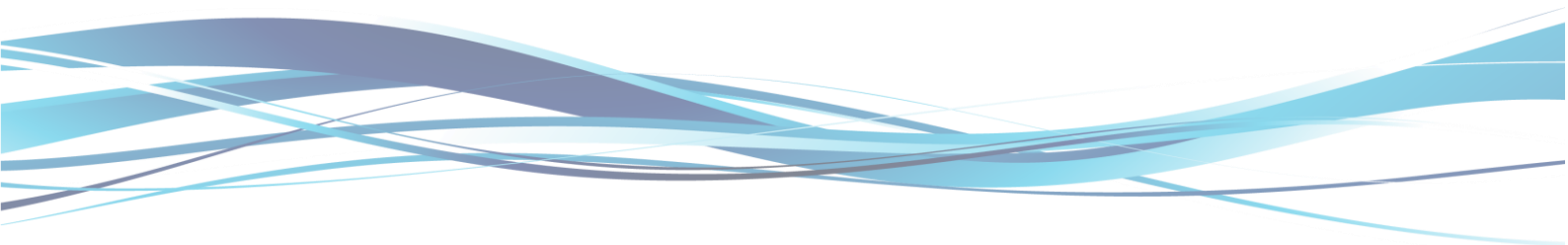
The ROCB A/P conducts the “Questionnaire on the Follow-Up Actions taken after the participation in the WCO Regional/Sub-regional Workshop” to evaluate the impact that the WCO capacity building programs has had on the performance of the regional Member administrations in terms of work efficiency and effectiveness as well as organizational development. In the questionnaire, workshop participants are asked to provide information on the follow-up actions, such as sharing training materials with colleagues and conducting inhouse training sessions that they have delivered at their home administrations 6 months after the respective workshops.

**(5) Customs Good Practice Report**

Among various forms of communication tools provided by the ROCB A/P, the Customs Good Practice Report is the most beneficial to Members in the course of customs reform and modernization. Each Customs Good Practice Report is focused on a single specific customs technique and contains not only the respective international standards or guidelines but also the best practices implementing in the Member administrations contributed. As of July 2023, there are 27 Customs Good Practice Reports, covering topics on Computer Forensics, AEO, Training Management and Follow-up Actions

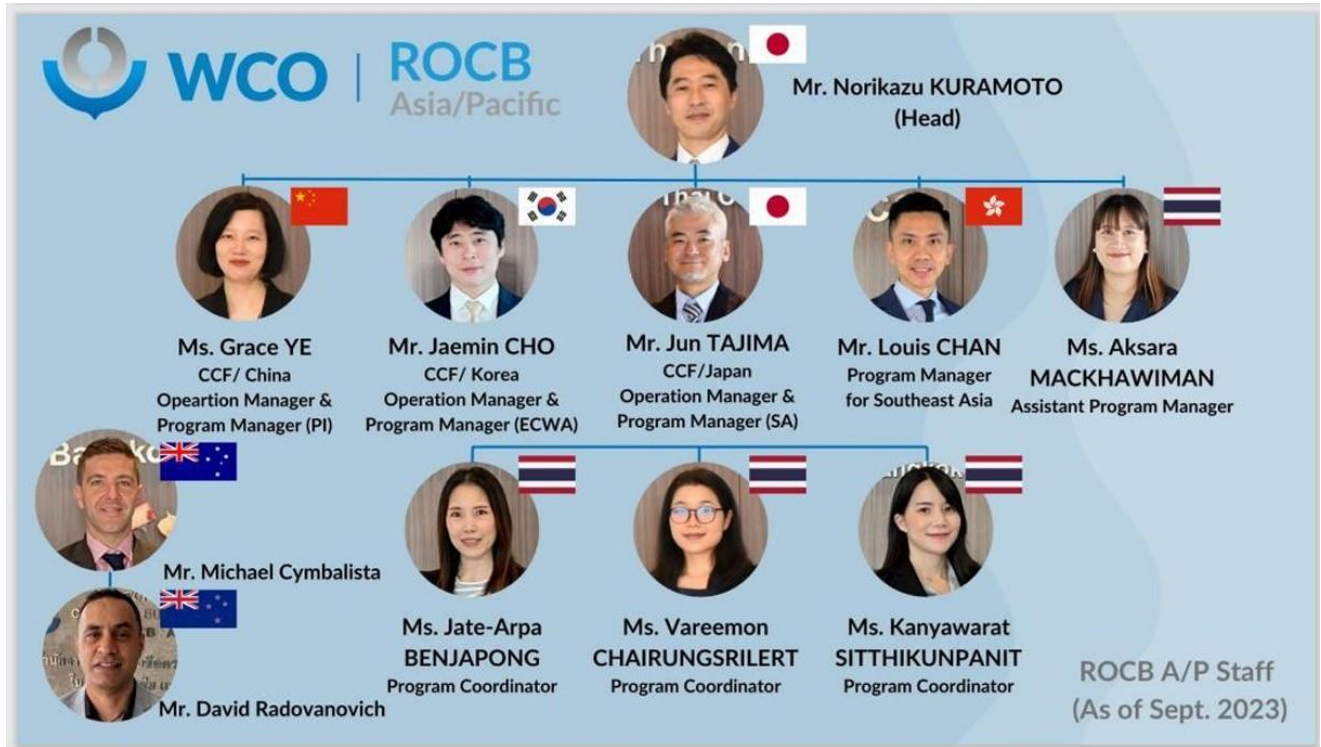


*Photo 10: ROCB A/P Customs Good Practice Report on Exemplifying Follow-Up Actions taken after the WCO A/P Regional/Sub-regional Workshops organized in FY 2021/22*



Survey, etc., compiled by the ROCB A/P in collaboration with the contributing Members.

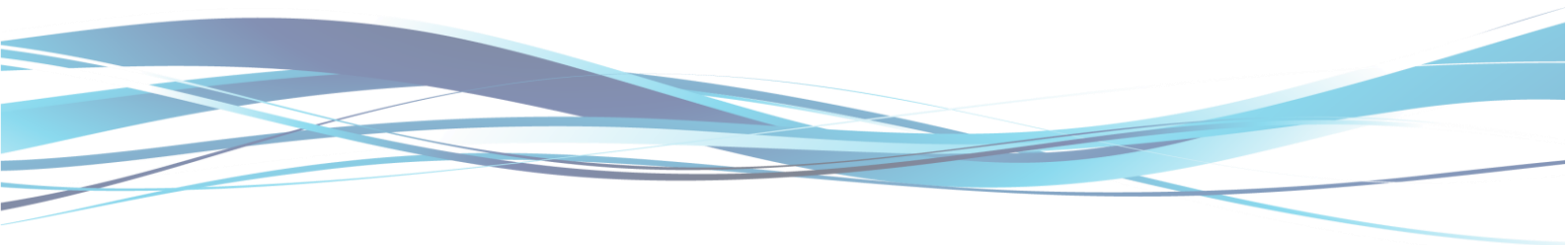
**Staffing:**



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# WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Customs Laboratory

## China



*Photo 1: Laboratory Building*

On June 24, 2021, Dr. Ni Yuefeng, Minister of the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), and Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, Secretary General of the World Customs Organization (WCO), signed the Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of a WCO Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL) in China, officially conferring the status of WCO RCL on the Nanjing Customs Laboratory of GACC.



Photo 2: Hazardous Chemicals Testing



Photo 3: Food Safety Testing

As a new Member of the WCO RCL family, Nanjing Customs Laboratory is committed to providing regional Customs with capacity building, technical assistance and information-sharing service in such areas as commodity classification and testing, solid waste attribute identification, endangered species identification, food safety testing, classification and identification of hazardous chemicals, etc., to enhance regional Members' communication and cooperation in Customs laboratories, and promote trade security and facilitation of the region.



Photo 4 & Photo 5: Solid Waste Attribute Identification

Nanjing Customs laboratory is located in Nanjing, the capital city of China's Jiangsu Province, a city also known as China's "Ancient Capital of Six Dynasties". Covering an area of 48,000 square meters, the laboratory has 1665 sets of instruments and equipment such as LC/Q-TOF, GC/Q-TOF, UPLC-MS/MS, GC-MS/MS, ICP-MS,

digital NMR spectrometer, the fully automatic gene analyzing system, the AI identification system, etc., with a total value of 38.55 million USD.

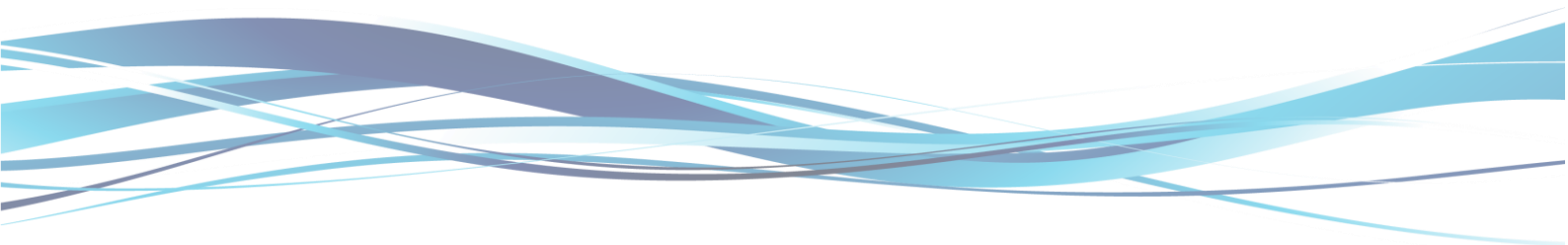


*Photo 6 & Photo 7: Testing Instruments*

The laboratory currently has 367 technical personnel including professors, associate professors and other experts. It is a laboratory designated, accredited or authorized by international organizations such as the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC), Technischer überwachungs Verein (TUV), Australian Wool Testing Authority (AWTA), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), etc. It's also a member of the International Association of Wool Textile Laboratories (INTERWOOLLABS), the Technical Committee of the International Down and Feather Bureau (IDFB), the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the Unique Manuka Factor Honey Association (UMFHA) and the International Association of Wood



*Photo 8: Endangered Species Identification*





The Training Department of Nanjing Customs Laboratory has adopted a standardized training model that features the combination of expert lectures, workshops and field visits, built “three databases and one platform” (namely, the database of training resources, the database of translator resources, the database of field visit sites and the training management platform), and established a training system featuring advanced management methods, a strong team of management staff, lecturers, translators and interpreters, and rich training resources. The training languages include English, French, Russian, Spanish, Arabic, Mongolian, Lao, Cambodian and Portuguese. Up to now, a total of 201 seminars and training programs of various topics have been held in the laboratory, involving 5,603 officers and technical personnel from Customs, inspection, quarantine and standardization agencies of 140 countries (regions) and international organizations.



Photo 9: Three-in-One Standardized Training Mode



Photo 10: Training Facilities and Equipment

Nanjing Customs Laboratory provides 7 meeting rooms, several multifunctional halls, 5 multimedia training rooms, 3 remote online training rooms, 260 guest rooms, 27 Chinese-style private dining rooms and a western-style restaurant that accommodates 300 people. It can simultaneously host multiple online or offline meetings, training programs and workshops.



*Photo 11: Training Center of Entry-exit Inspection of Dangerous Goods and Packaging*

Contact person: Mr. HOU Jianjun, Head of Nanjing Customs Laboratory.

Tel: (+86) 25 52345206

E-mail: [houjj1973@163.com](mailto:houjj1973@163.com) or [eggshell618@126.com](mailto:eggshell618@126.com)

Address: Nanjing Customs District Industrial Products Inspection Center, 39 Chuangzhi Road, Nanjing, China, 210019

# WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Customs Laboratory

## India



### Central Revenues Control Laboratory, India (RCL India)

Central Revenues Control Laboratory, India (CRCL), under the flagship of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, was established in 1939. It heads a chain of 12 Customs Laboratories and 02 laboratories of the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works, at various locations across India.

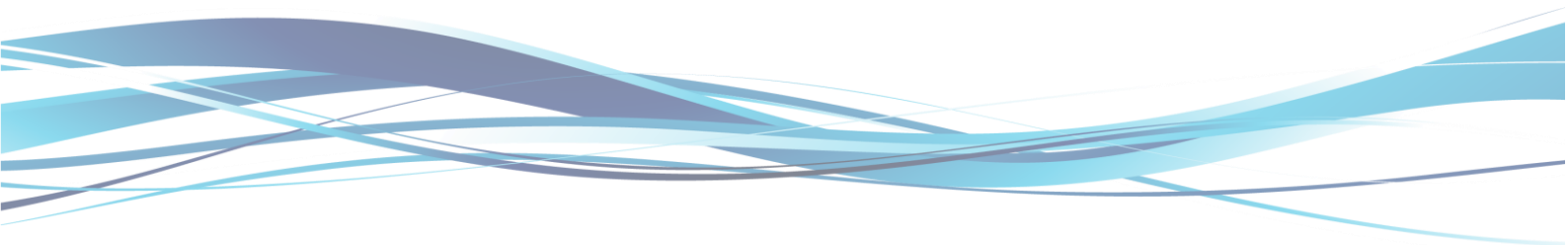
Main functions of CRCL are analysis of Customs Samples for their correct identification as per the HS Code; providing technical support on Customs classification matters; offering expert opinion on Export-Import trade policy requirements; analysis of Narcotics Drug and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) and; coordination with global organizations and institutions.

Major commodities tested at CRCL are food, mineral, chemical and allied products, plastic, textile, ceramic and glass, precious metals, base metals and NDPS. Customs Laboratories handle about 100,000 samples every year (45,000 customs samples + 55,000 raw opium samples). CRCL plays a significant role in trade facilitation with its ICES (Indian Customs EDI system) portal, a real time electronic interface between CRCL and field Customs officers to expedite Customs clearance procedures. CRCL is also the single point for re-test, in respect of all Customs laboratories in India.



CRCL and other Revenue Laboratories have been extensively upgraded, recently, as per the requirements of WCO Customs Laboratory Guide, 2017. The state-of-the-art modern equipment in CRCL include ICP-MS, LCMS-MS, NMR, SEM, GC-FID-ECD, HPLC, GCMS, LCMS, Pyrolysis GCMS, HPTLC-MS, Automatic Nitrogen Analyzer, XRD and XRF etc.

CRCL is ISO 17025:2017 certified for chemical and forensic analysis. It has also been recently recognized as a Food Laboratory by India's Food Regulator, FSSAI. CRCL actively participates in Proficiency Testing Programs conducted by National and International bodies as well as



the International Quality Assurance Programmes like UNODC-ICE (International Collaborative Exercise).



CRCL has held 11 training programmes for about 226 foreign participants over past 5 years. It has highly qualified and experienced personnel, a library with a collection of 5500 books and e-journals. A spacious conference room having a capacity of 50 participants is available.

In March 2021, WCO and CBIC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL, India) for the Asia Pacific (A/P) region. CRCL is keen to play an active role as RCL to support capacity building & information sharing in the areas of Customs Analysis and NDPS in Asia Pacific Region. Our Vision as RCL is to build capacities for laboratory testing through coordinated exchange of information on techniques and best practices. RCL, India proposes to play a leading role in the region by undertaking the following:

- (i) Capacity building;
- (ii) Information sharing in good laboratory practices;
- (iii) Consulting in the field of laboratory administration and technical matters;
- (iv) Research to develop new analysis methods, and;
- (v) Assist member states by testing complicated Customs samples on request basis.



The CRCL, as the RCL, will elevate its cooperative relationship with other Customs administrations in the region by regularly organizing training programmes to enhance technical competencies in Customs chemical analysis and to overcome challenges together. For more information on CRCL, India please visit our homepage at <https://www.crcl.gov.in/> or please contact the following contact point.



### Contact Point:

#### Central Revenues Control Laboratory (CRCL)

12, Hill Side Road, IARI Campus

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Mr. Sandeep Prakash (Director (RLs)) / Email: [sandeep.moca@nic.in](mailto:sandeep.moca@nic.in)

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# WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Customs Laboratory

## Indonesia



*Photo 1: ICEL buildings in Medan, Jakarta, and Surabaya*

### Background

In 1975, Indonesia Customs and Excise Laboratory (ICEL) was established as the supporting unit of the Directorate General of Customs and Excise, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia. Fifteen years later, the ICEL buildings were built in Jakarta, Medan, and Surabaya. Since its establishment, ICEL has been the backbone of Indonesian Customs for identifying and analyzing goods, either for export or import. Furthermore, ICEL also contributes to law enforcement, by laboratory analysis of illicit drugs and other restricted or prohibited goods.

To address the needs for faster customs inspection, ICEL has built 26 satellite laboratories and provided 3 mobile laboratories across the nation since 2016. Those laboratories are operated under the coordination of 3 main laboratories which are located in Jakarta, Medan, and Surabaya. As Indonesia had a vast geographical condition, divided into more than 17.000 islands, these 26 laboratories were built for providing faster laboratory testing and technical assistance for remote Customs Offices across the nation. Some of those laboratories are specialized for the analysis of narcotics and even new psychoactive substances (NPS) as well as certain export commodities, such as Crude Palm Oil (CPO) products and mineral ore.



Photo 2: ICEL Location



Photo 3: Mobile laboratory

After going through a long process since 2019, ICEL finally became the WCO A/P Regional Customs Laboratory. The commencement of RCL Indonesia is marked with the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between WCO and Ministry of Finance of The Republic of Indonesia regarding the Establishment of a WCO Regional Customs Laboratory in Indonesia during International Customs Day 2021 Virtual Gathering on 29 January 2021.



## Training

As a Regional Customs Laboratory, ICEL is prepared to actively contribute to the capacity building in the A/P region. Both classroom and online training are expected to be held by ICEL in the years ahead. Any participants from WCO members are welcome to learn more about the analysis of NPS, mineral, tobacco products, CPO, and other products in ICEL.

Practical training is available in ICEL 3 main laboratories, with a capacity of up to 5 trainees. It will include sample preparation (if needed), instrument utilization, and data interpretation. Currently, ICEL Jakarta is in the process of improving the laboratory capacity by extending the facilities. Thus, until 2023, any classroom training can only be held in Surabaya and Medan due to the current progress of improving the ICEL Jakarta laboratory capacity. Adapting to the current situation, online training is also encouraged to limit the physical contact during the COVID-19 pandemic and enable more participants to join.

The main laboratories are equipped with vast analytical instruments to analyse various products, including mineral ore and concentrate, coal, crude palm oil, illicit drugs, textile, steel, and even gemstone. For mineral analysis, X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF), X-Ray Diffraction (XRD), and Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-OES) are used to provide qualitative and quantitative analytical results. Moreover, Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS) with Multi-Purpose Autosampler, Gas Chromatography-Flame Ionization Detector (GC-FID), and Fourier Transform Infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) with Attenuated Total Reflectance (ATR) are also utilized to analyse organic compounds, including NPS.

Other instruments such as High Performance-Liquid Chromatography (HP-LC), Optical Emission Spectrophotometer (OES), Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry (AAS), Smoking Machine, Surface Area Analyser, Bomb Calorimeter, Polarimeter, Densitymeter, Ultracycnometer, and Surface Tensiometer are also available. Since 2016, ICEL has started to implement non-destructive inspection towards many samples using various portable instruments.

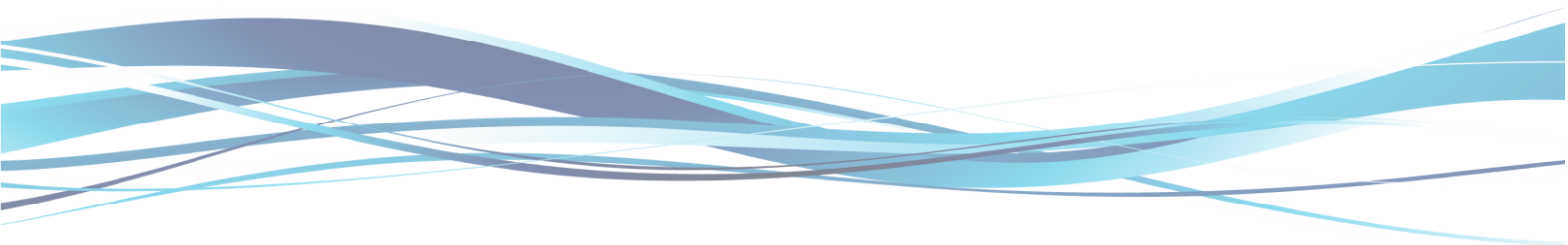




Photo 4: Analytical instruments for mineral analysis: XRD & ICP-OES



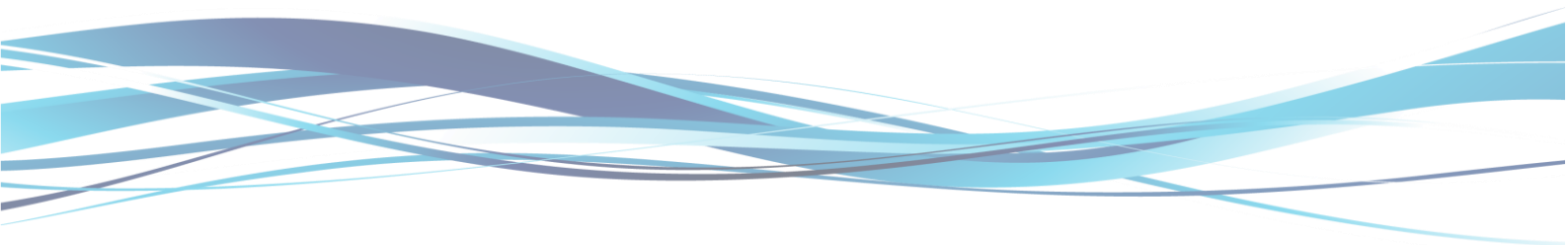
Photo 5: GC-MS with multi-purpose autosampler



Photo 6: Surface Area Analyzer



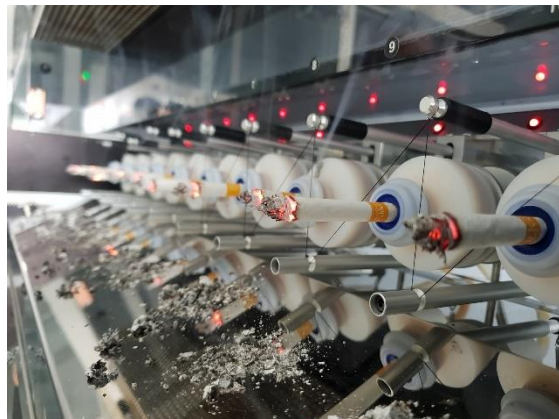
Photo 7: Diamond & gem identification tools





*Photo 8: Non-intrusive instruments: handheld XRF & Mobile OES*

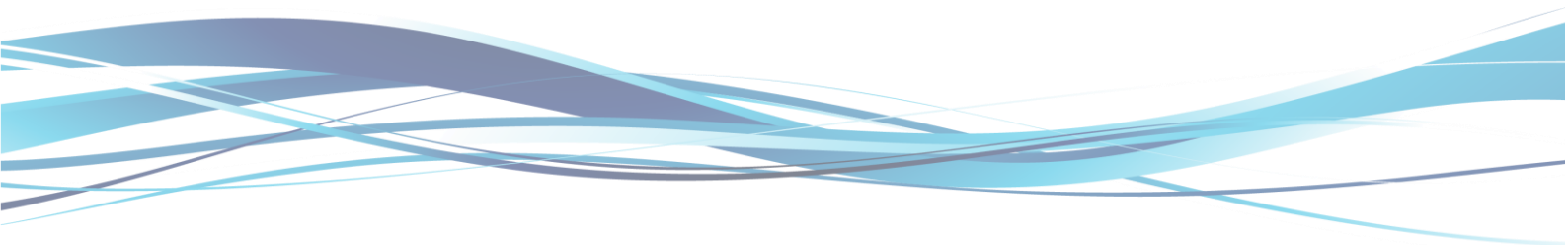
The office building of main laboratories also has a conference room for meeting and in-house training purposes. Other facilities, such as a reference room, lactation room, dining room, and prayer room, are also available.



*Photo 9: Smoking machine in ICEL Surabaya*



*Photo 10: Conference rooms*



## Information-sharing

ICEL is currently planning to establish a new website for sharing information and as a communication tool with other WCO A/P members. The website will contain several customs analytical methods, ICEL NPS database, and other relevant information about goods identification.

## Contact point:

Indonesia Customs and Excise Laboratory

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Mohamad Saptari (Jakarta)

Heni Kusmaryani (Medan)

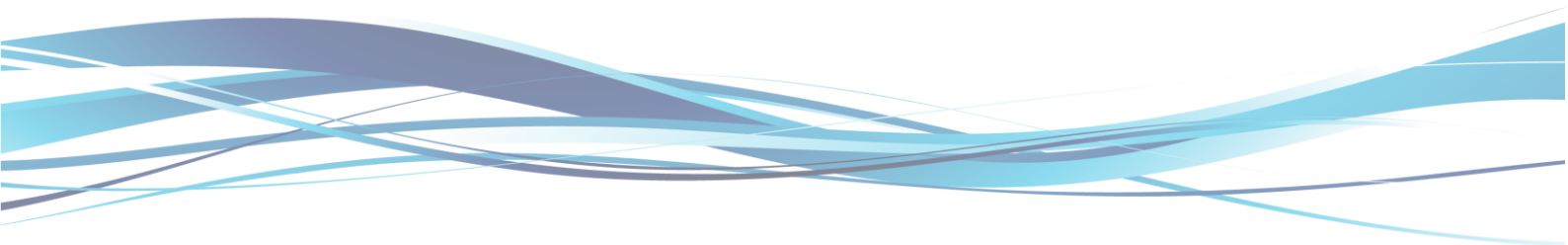
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# WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Customs Laboratory

## Japan



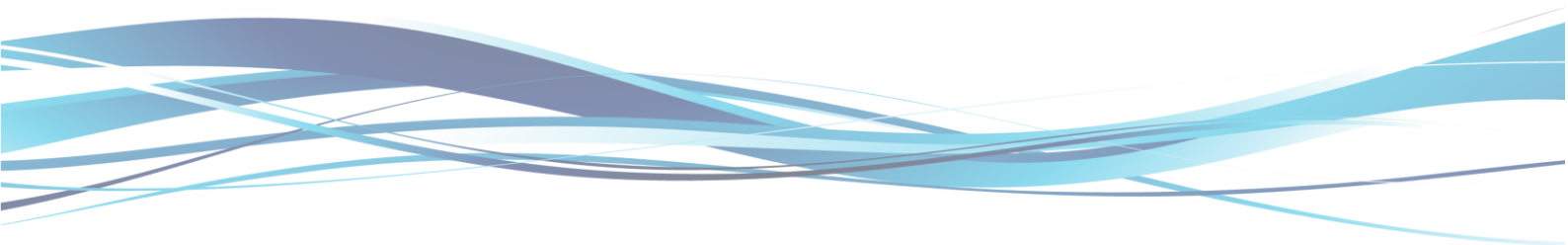
*Photo 1: CCL in Japan*

### Central Customs Laboratory in Japan (RCL Japan)

In 1963, the Central Customs Laboratory (CCL), Ministry of Finance (MOF) of Japan, was established under the concept of centralizing regional Customs Laboratories (\*1) in MOF building in Tokyo as a subordinate organization of MOF. After twice relocation, the CCL is independent laboratory located in Kashiwa city in Chiba prefecture (\*2) at present. The CCL building is three-story building which is



*Photo 2: DNA sequencer & SEM*





*Photo 3: Facilities of CCL building*

divided into two floors, “Administration office building” and “Laboratory building”, for the purpose of security control. The administration office building includes office room, meeting room, conference room, library, cafeteria, and prayer room. The laboratory building of the CCL has various types of analytical instruments

from basic instruments such as FT-IR, GC-MS, HPLC, etc. to specific state-of-the-art instruments such as DNA sequencer, SEM, IR-MS, etc. The CCL has been providing training programs as well as conducting the various kinds of analysis for Customs purposes by utilizing these facilities.

The CCL plays three main roles: (i) to provide chemical analysis services requiring advanced technology on the request of regional Customs, the Customs and Tariff Bureau and the WCO, (ii) to conduct Research & Development on Customs analysis including standardization of Customs analysis methods as well as technical guidance to regional Customs laboratories and (iii) to conduct Research & Development and technical guidance on Non-Intrusive Inspection equipment. Furthermore, the CCL has engaged in the capacity building activities such as assisting foreign Customs administrations in establishing their own laboratory and enhancing their chemical analysis technics.

In June 2014, by virtue of the Memorandum of Cooperation for the establishment of WCO Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL) for the Asia Pacific (A/P) region signed by the WCO and Japan Customs, the CCL was designated as the world's first WCO RCL. As the RCL A/P, the CCL has strengthened capacity building activities for Customs Laboratories of the members in the A/P region. RCL's main activities consist of two pillars, namely (i) Capacity building and (ii) Information sharing, of chemical analysis for Customs purpose as well as in respect of other related scientific matters.



Photo 4: Receiving the flag of WCO



Photo 5: WCO RCL

### (i) Capacity building

As one of main capacity building activity, the CCL conducts the training programme called the "Attachment training" under the "WCO Regional Customs Laboratory Professionals Programme in Japan", which is to provide selected candidates with an opportunity to obtain and update their knowledge and skills in chemical analysis of specific samples for HS classification purposes and to improve their knowledge about HS classification. The duration of the attachment



Photo 6: Attachment training (On-site visit to regional Customs)



Photo 7: Attachment training in CCL



Photo 8: Attachment training (Final presentation)

training at the CCL is six weeks after one-week training in the WCO headquarters. The trainees stay at the hotel nearby the CCL during the duration of the attachment training. Under the program, the CCL accept about 6 trainees from foreign Customs administrations in regional as well as non-regional members, and 39 chemists have already attended the attachment training at the CCL since October 2013 (as of June 2020). The programme of the attachment training includes practical analysis training of their individual themes according to their interest supported by the tailor-made program which had jointly been organized by trainees and includes on-site visit to regional Customs and result

presentation.

## (ii) Information sharing

Under the RCL's initiative, to serve as a reference for good practices on chemical analysis for Customs purpose, the CCL has provided information on Customs analysis methods on our [homepage](#). These methods are applied by the Japan Customs as the standard analysis methods to contribute to the implementation of a unified analysis in Customs.



Photo 9: Attachment training (Group photo)



The CCL, as the RCL A/P, will elevate its cooperative relationship with the respective Customs administrations in the A/P region and contribute to further strengthening the network to enhance the technical competences in Customs chemical analysis to overcome series of challenges together.

For more information on the CCL in Japan as RCL A/P, please visit our homepage at [https://www.customs.go.jp/ccl/e\\_index.htm](https://www.customs.go.jp/ccl/e_index.htm) or please contact the following contact point.

JCAM No.404-R2	
<b>Japan Customs Analysis Methods</b>	
<b>No. 404</b>	
<b>Analysis Method for Leathers</b>	
(Issued in June 1999)	
(Updated in November 2013)	
<p><b>1. Scope</b></p> <p>This analysis method is applied for identification of elephant hide, water buffalo hide, cowhide, sheepskin, goatskin, kidskin, horse hide, pigskin, crocodile skin, lizard skin, python skin and turtle skin, and their products.</p> <p><b>2. Outline of Test Method</b></p> <p>This method identifies elephant hide, water buffalo hide, cowhide, sheepskin, goatskin, kidskin, horse hide, pigskin, crocodile skin, lizard skin, python skin and turtle skin, mainly by observation of their surfaces (grain sides).</p> <p><b>3. Apparatuses</b></p> <p>(1) Loupes with <math>\times 10</math> to <math>\times 20</math> magnification powers                  (2) Stereomicroscope (for scanning electron microscope)</p> <p><b>4. Reagents</b></p> <p>Organic solvents (chloroform, dimethylformamide, acetone and so on)</p> <p><b>5. Features of Surface (Grain Side) and Others (Refer to Photographs)</b></p> <p>To identify the kinds of hides or skins it is necessary to note the following features of elephant hide, water buffalo hide, cowhide, sheepskin, goatskin, kidskin, horse hide, pigskin, crocodile skin, lizard skin, python skin and turtle skin.</p> <p>(1) Elephant hide                  On the surface (grain side), close protuberances with a diameter of approximately 1 mm to 5 mm are observed and pores (see the photo</p>	<p>elephant hide (2*)) are found lying mainly along creases at intervals of a few millimeters to 1 cm.</p> <p>(2) Water buffalo hide                  Pores, which are large and deep, are distributed uniformly along creases and they can be observed with the naked eye. Pore density of water buffalo hide is lower than that of cowhide.</p> <p>(3) Cowhide                  Pores are small and hardly observed with the naked eyes. Pore density of cowhide is approximately 5 to 10 times higher than that of water buffalo hide. Pores are distributed uniformly and mostly arranged in regular rows.</p> <p>(4) Sheepskin                  The size and disposition of pores resemble those of goatskin. In the cross section, it shows a lower density on the whole, and a more sparse structure compared to cowhide. The intersection of the fasciculi is poorly developed and fasciculi run in parallel with the grain side in most cases, which means a tenuous connection between the inner skin and the outer skin.</p> <p>(5) Goatskin and kidskin                  Surface of the grain side is flat. Pores are small and each of the three pores seems to form a cluster. In the cross section, it shows lower density on the whole, and a more sparse structure compared to cowhide. Fasciculi run in parallel with the grain side and a few intersections of fasciculi are observed. Fasciculi particularly in kidskin are fine.</p> <p>(6) Horse hide                  The size, disposition and pore density are</p>

**Contact point:**

Central Customs Laboratory, Japan

Co-ordination of International Affairs Section

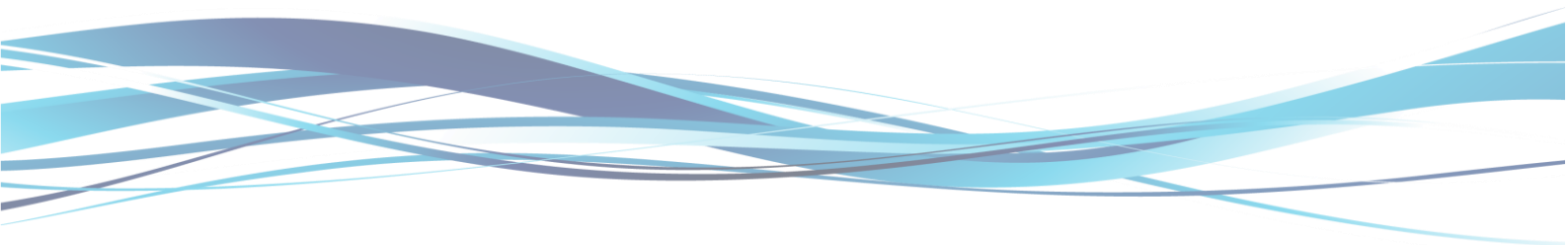
Mr. Masayoshi TOKU

Tel: +81-4-7135-0161

E-mail: [cclmaile@mof.go.jp](mailto:cclmaile@mof.go.jp)

(1\*) The total number of regional Customs Laboratories is 9. (Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Nagoya, Moji, Nagasaki, Hakodate, and Okinawa)

(2\*) Address of the CCL in Japan: 6-3-5, Kashiwanoha, Kashiwa-shi, Chiba, 277- 0882, Japan



# WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Customs Laboratory

## Korea



*Photo 1: Korea Central Customs Laboratory*

### **Korea Central Customs Laboratory (KCCL)**

Korea Central Customs Laboratory (KCCL) established in 1961 as Appraisal & Analysis office under the Ministry of Finance. The laboratory has implemented various tasks such as scientific and technical assistance, tariff classification, and analysis of importing and exporting goods over 60 years. KCCL is currently located in 408, Dongjin-ro, Jinju-si, Gyeongsangnam-do.

Analytical assistance includes a scientific and rigorous analysis of names of goods, standards, components, usage, and county of origin for fair taxation and proper



Photo 2: Analysis room for LC-QTOF



Photo 3: Auditorium

Customs management. Additionally, a broad range of analyses is performed on commodities to determine whether the merchandise meets the requirements in compliance with Customs laws & regulations and the Harmonized System (HS).

The laboratory supports the analysis and screening on a requested item before import & export declaration for faster and more precise clearance. This process also enables Customs to forecast the potential volume of trade. The KCCL strives to promote the uniformity of analysis work by providing technical information on purchasing analytical equipment, new analytical methods, and a professional training program.

KCCL has participated in international conferences such as HSC (Harmonized System Committee), RSC (HS Review Sub Committee), and SSC (Scientific Sub-Committee) hosted by the World Customs Organization (WCO). In particular, KCCL held 'WCO Asia/Pacific Regional



Photo 4: Analysis Room for GCMS

Workshop' for showing our capacities in April 2018 along with the support of Information Management and International Affairs Bureau in Korea Customs Service. WCO and Korea Customs Service (KCS) have reached a Memorandum of

Understandings (MOU) on the establishment of a World Customs Organization Regional Customs Laboratory for the Asia/Pacific Region at the WCO Council in June 2018. Korea RCL was finally newly opened in August 2018 in Jinju-si, Gyeongsangnam-do.



*Photo 5: Analysis Room for XRD and XRF*

Three key factors are considered as the driving force for raising the global standing as the WCO RCL in the Asia/Pacific region. First of all, 'WCO Regional Customs Laboratory Professional Programme' was launched to provide opportunities to gain knowledge and skills for chemists of developing countries. Moreover, this program includes lectures for practicing the chemical analysis for Harmonized System (HS) classification.

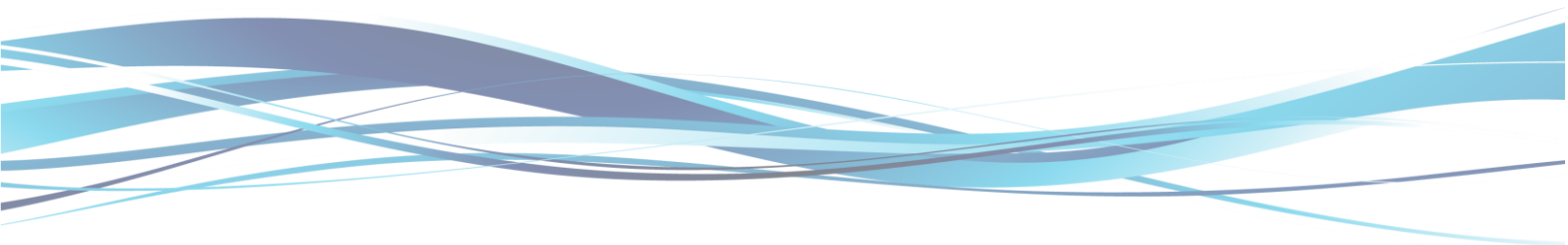
Second, the KCCL offers consulting services on the establishment and operation of the laboratory. In this light, KCCL has delivered the best practices of our system to WCO's members in developing countries who want to learn more knowledge and skills. Moreover, there is a tour program which introduces our high-tech equipment and facilities to trainees.

The third is information exchange. The KCCL has cooperated with other RCLs to exchange information. As a part of information exchange, we have actively involved in international conferences like Hands-on Science Conference. Besides, the English version of the website was opened in May 2019.



*Photo 6: RCL room*

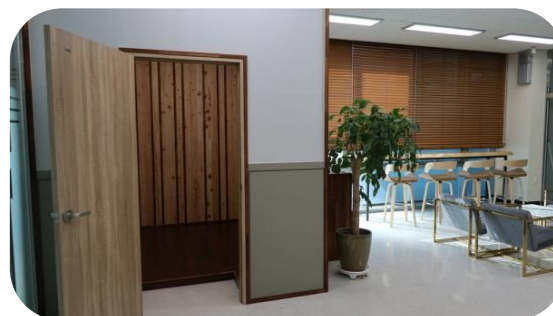
Therefore, KCCL plays a central role in delivering capacity building as WCO A/P RCL. The Korea RCL sincerely asks for your affection and attention to our further activities.



There are 52 kinds of equipment such as UPLC-MS/MS (Ultra-Performance Liquid Chromatography Quadrupole Mass Spectrometry), GC/MS (Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry), and XRD (X-Ray Diffractometer) in the laboratory. The new equipment is regularly purchased for more accurate analysis. The laboratory can accommodate maximum of eight trainees. There are two auditoriums equipped with a beam projector and one lecture room equipped with computers and an electronic blackboard which trainees can use freely. Also, trainees can take a break time at the lounge with a coffee machine and comfortable chairs. Trainees also can use a prayer room if they want.



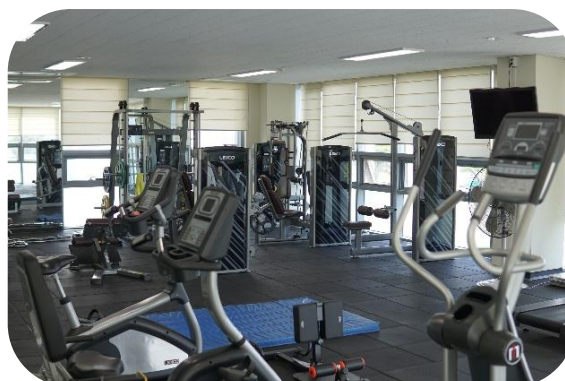
*Photo 7: Lounge*



*Photo 8: Prayer's room*



*Photo 9: Reference room*



*Photo 10: Fitness room*

If you have any questions about our services, please feel free to contact us Keunsik LIM and Juran Kim by e-mail and phone. The phone number is +82 055 792-7351 and the e-mail address is [kcscl@korea.kr](mailto:kcscl@korea.kr) We opened the new website for foreigners in 2019. You can explore a lot of useful information including research papers, consulting service, and tour program. Please visit our website if you are interested in.