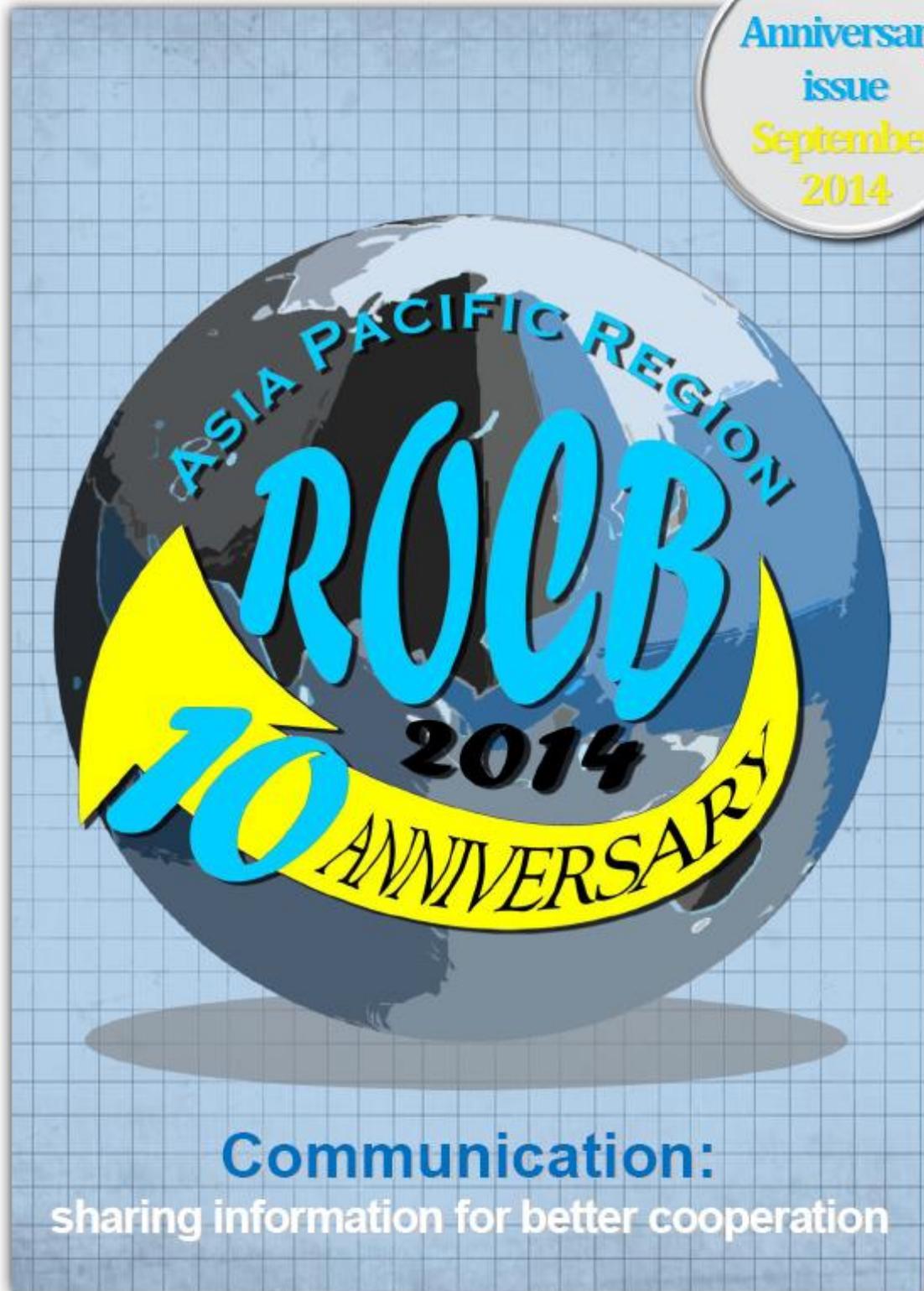


10<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
issue  
September  
2014



**Annual Report 2013/2014**

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## List of Acronyms

ACBPS	Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
ACE	World Customs Organization Accredited Customs Expert
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AEO	Authorized Economic Operator
A/P	Asia Pacific
API	Advance Passenger Information
CB	Capacity Building
CBC	Capacity Building Committee
CBM	Coordinated Border Management
CCF	Customs Cooperation Fund
CCF/Korea	Customs Cooperation Fund / Korea
CCF/Japan	Customs Cooperation Fund / Japan
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
CPs	Contracting parties
DG	Director General
DP	Development Partner
ECP	Economic Competitiveness Package
FRCA	Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority
GMS	Greater Mekong Sub-region
HRM	Human Resources Management
HS	Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IPM	Interface Public Member
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
ITIC	International Tax and Investment Center
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KCS	Korea Customs Service
NCP	National Contact Point
NII	Non-Intrusive Inspection
OCO	Oceania Customs Organization
PCA	Post Clearance Audit
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
RA	Risk Assessment
RCP	Regional Contact Point
RILO A/P	Asia Pacific Regional Intelligence Liaison Office
RKC	Revised Kyoto Convention
RM	Risk Management
ROCB	Regional Office for Capacity Building
ROCB A/P	Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building
ROO	Rules of Origin
RP	Revenue Package
RSG	Regional Steering Group
RSP	Regional Strategic Plan

RTC	Regional Training Centre
SASEC	South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation
SAFE FoS	SAFE Framework of Standards
SCS	SASEC Customs Sub-group
STFSF	SASEC Trade facilitation Strategic Framework
TA	Technical Assistance
TF	Trade Facilitation
TOR	Terms of reference
TRIPS	Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
TRP	Trade Recovery Program
TRS	Time Release Study
TTFMM	Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USPTO	United States Patent and Trademark Office
WB	World Bank
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WCO	World Customs Organization
15th A/P RHCA Conference	15th WCO Asia Pacific Regional Heads of Customs Administrations Conference

## Part 1: Executive Summary

### 1.1 Introduction

The ROCB A/P was formally established on 28 September 2004 and is located at the Thai Customs headquarters. **There are now 8 full-time seconded staff members (as of 1 September 2014), 1 from China, 1 from Hong Kong, China, 2 from Japan (including Head of the ROCB A/P), 1 from Korea and 3 from Thailand.** In addition, the representatives from the Australia Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) and New Zealand Customs Service based in Bangkok provide regular support and assistance to the ROCB A/P's activities. The ROCB A/P very much appreciates the contributions the home administrations of the above-mentioned seconded staff members make to the ROCB A/P and the regional capacity building (CB) activities. The ROCB A/P would like to extend its profound appreciation to Japan Customs and Korea Customs Services (KCS) for providing financial support through their Customs Cooperation Funds (CCF/Japan and CCF/Korea respectively), which are the main sponsors for the CB activities conducted by the ROCB A/P. In addition, the ROCB A/P would like to express its special thanks to our development partners (DPs), in particular the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Regional Vice Chair, the Regional Training Centers (RTCs) as well as our host administration, the Thai Customs Department, for their contribution in various forms.



This annual report covers the ROCB A/P activities conducted from July 2013 to June 2014. During this period, the ROCB A/P, having regard to the members' needs as well as the WCO and regional priorities, has conducted a wide range of effective CB activities under the four-pillar strategic framework, namely; (1) implementation of WCO Conventions, Instruments and Tools; (2) enhance collaboration with Development Partners; (3) improve capacity building needs analysis, delivery and management; and (4) enhance communication and information sharing. In the course of pursuing the operations of the ROCB A/P this year, we have paid particular

attention to “Communication”. We have followed the 2014 WCO slogan “Communication: sharing information for better cooperation.”

Externally, we have strengthened the communication with our 33 WCO regional members. Program Managers of the ROCB A/P for designated areas have assisted Japan Customs in conducting the Annual Needs Survey for CB among regional members. In all workshops facilitated by the ROCB A/P, we have encouraged participants to share their experience with the WCO experts and other Customs colleagues and to pass on what they have learned to participants’ home administrations. Moreover, the ROCB A/P has coordinated and compiled “Good Practice Report on Computer Forensics” for the members’ sharing. We have also met our DPs frequently to foster mutual understanding, sharing our CB activities as well as some of the lessons learned. Through these meetings, DPs now have a better understating of the ROCB A/P’s activities and the CB and technical assistance (TA) needs of the WCO regional members in A/P, which is expected to pave the way for better collaboration instead of competing against each other.

Internally, all eight ROCB A/P staff members have been dedicated to the exchange of ideas and anecdotes after returning from their respective missions. Mission documents and reports have been kept in a common computer drive for future reference and enquiries. Literally, from both internal and external perspectives, the fiscal year 2013/2014 may be regarded as the year of “Communication”.

Into the future, the ROCB A/P will continue to communicate with regional members and DPs so that we may better serve the region and jointly create synergy on CB activities for the benefit of the region’s benefits.

## 1.2 Summary of activities

### 1.2.1 Support the implementation of WCO Conventions, Instruments and Tools

The WCO has developed a number of Conventions, Instruments and tools and introduced a number of programs and initiatives that are designed to significantly enhance effectiveness and efficiency of the Customs operations. In order to facilitate regional member administrations to adopt and implement these international standards of the WCO, the ROCB A/P conducted a number of relevant CB activities in the A/P region in 2013/2014 as outlined below:

**i. Authorized Economic Operator (AEO)**

- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on AEO for Bangladesh

**ii. Computer Forensics**

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Computer Forensics in Hong Kong, China

**iii. Customs Valuation**

- ✧ WCO/ADB Sub-regional Train-the-trainer Workshop on Customs Valuation in Sri Lanka

**iv. Customs Modernization**

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Customs Modernization for Indonesia
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on Training Management for Fiji

**v. Harmonized System (HS)**

- ✧ WCO Sub- Regional Workshop on Harmonized System for Pacific Islands
- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Chemical Analysis for Customs Purposes in Japan

**vi. Intellectual Property Right(IPR)**

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on IPR for Vanuatu
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on IPR for Thailand

**vii. Resource Mobilization**

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Resource Mobilization in Malaysia

**viii. Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC)**

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on RKC for Lao PDR
- ✧ WCO National Workshop on RKC for Maldives
- ✧ WCO/Brunei National Workshop on RKC for Brunei
- ✧ WCO /ADB National Workshop on RKC for Myanmar
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on RKC for Bhutan

**ix. Risk Management (RM)**

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Risk Assessment in Japan
- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Risk Assessment in Korea

**x. Rules of Origin (ROO)**

- ✧ WCO National Workshop on ROO for Indonesia

**xi. Single Window**

- ✧ WCO Regional Workshop on Single Window in Australia

**xii. Time Release Study (TRS)**

- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on TRS for Uzbekistan
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on TRS for Brunei
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on TRS for Bangladesh

The number of participants in the Regional Workshops is shown in Annex i. Regional members' active participation and contribution to the regional CB/TA activities are highly encouraged.

## 1.2.2 Further enhance collaboration with Development Partners (DPs)

Enhancing cooperation/collaboration with DPs is one of the important action items for the ROCB A/P since its inception. The ROCB A/P is currently working with a number of DPs including the ADB, World Bank (WB), UNESCAP, UNEP, UNODC, JICA, ICAO, etc.

The ROCB A/P continued its efforts in 2013/2014 to turn this collaboration into actions and to develop concrete project-based collaboration to provide TA of both high quality and quantity to regional members in need. As a result, the ROCB A/P again made significant progress in 2013/2014 in this regard.

### **i. Enhanced collaboration, coordination and mutual understanding with DPs**

#### **▪ Development and implementation of coordinated strategy/program**

The objectives of this collaboration are to: (1) provide coordinated quality support to regional members; (2) avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts; (3) complement each other taking into account respective strength and weakness; and (4) achieve concrete results with the multi-year assistance. Examples of such collaborations are the Asia Cargo Highway project for Southeast Asia, Multi-year South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Trade Facilitation Project and coordinated strategy/development for South Asia etc.

#### **(Note) Multi-year SASEC Trade Facilitation Project**

According to the ADB, the SASEC Program is to bring together Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka in a project-based partnership that aims at improving the quality of life for people in one of the most needy and densely populated areas. The SASEC program helps build modern and effective Customs administrations with a view to speeding up the time for Customs clearance and reducing the costs for cross-border movement of goods and vehicles at their respective entry points.

In the SASEC Second Meeting of the Customs Subgroup held in May 2014 in Kathmandu, Nepal, it was agreed that the ADB and the ROCB A/P will continue to collaborate to further enhance the CB for the SASEC member countries.

The SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework (STFSF), endorsed by the SASEC countries in March 2014, focuses on strategic thrusts for Customs modernization and harmonization, namely to: (1) simplify and expedite Customs formalities through accession to the RKC, implementation of the SAFE Framework of Standards (SAFE FoS) and the reengineering of business processes and trade documentation; (2) increase the application of ICT processing; and (3) develop national Single Windows. The state of play in these three areas was assessed in each SASEC country by way of identifying gaps that could potentially be addressed in the SASEC Customs Sub-group (SCS) Work Plan.

- **Participation in the meetings organized by DPs**

The two-fold objectives of this effort are to: (1) improve mutual understanding on the respective organization and their program; and (2) explore possibilities of future collaboration. For this purpose, the ROCB A/P participated in a number of workshops/seminars and held a series of consultation meetings with DPs such as, ADB, UNESCAP, UNEP, UNODC, ITIC, USAID, USPTO, ICAO and WIPO etc.

## **ii. Promotion of joint activities**

- **Organization of joint workshop/seminar**

The objectives of this effort are: (1) to provide coordinated support to regional members with DPs particularly on issues which require interagency cooperation, such as AEO, TRS, Single Window, Trade Facilitation (TF), Customs Valuation, RKC and Green Customs, (2) to complement each other by utilizing respective experts, and (3) to invite more Customs and other agencies through cost sharing. The ROCB A/P organized a number of joint events with DPs or contributed to the events organized by the DPs in 2013/2014, such as:

- ✧ WCO/ADB Training Workshop on TRS (Uzbekistan)
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on AEO (Bangladesh)
- ✧ WCO/UNESCAP Regional Workshop on Single Window (Korea)
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on TRS for Brunei (Brunei)
- ✧ WCO/Brunei National Workshop on RKC for Brunei (Brunei)
- ✧ WCO/ADB Sub-regional Workshop on Valuation for South Asian countries (Sri Lanka)
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on TRS for Nepal (Nepal)
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on TRS for Bangladesh (Bangladesh)
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on RKC for Myanmar (Myanmar)
- ✧ WCO/ADB National Workshop on RKC Implementation for Bhutan (Bhutan)

### **1.2.3 Improve capacity building needs analysis, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities**

#### **i. Pool, utilize, support and increase ACE experts in the region**

As part of long-term strategic planning, the ROCB A/P devised a “Framework to Pool, Utilize, Support and Increase accredited experts in the Region” with a view to developing a systematic approach for accumulation and effective use of regional expertise. Based on the Framework and the growing CB needs in the A/P Region, the WCO and the ROCB A/P worked together to identify the gaps between the regional needs and available expertise in the A/P region and to address the perceived gaps by vigorously creating a “pool of regional experts”. During the 11th Meeting of Heads of Asia Pacific WCO Regional Training Centers (RTCs) held in November 2013 in Fiji, the ROCB A/P presented outcomes of a regional survey on the linkage

between the RTCs and regional experts conducted in early 2013. The results of the survey led to a 4-point proposal as follows:

- (1) The RTCs to give opportunities to “regional experts” of their administrations to conduct both international and domestic training as much as possible and send update on these activities to the ROCB A/P twice a year;
- (2) The RTCs to conduct training on the maintenance/improvement of the expertise for the “regional experts” of their respective administration. Training for the “regional experts” from other countries may be considered subject to the funding arrangement to be mutually agreed upon between the ROCB A/P and the RTCs;
- (3) Where available, the RTCs to circulate their respective e-newsletter to the regional experts, either directly or through the ROCB A/P. The RTCs agree to seek opportunity including up-to-date information on the WCO discussion that relates to the topics in their respective “Centre of excellence”; and
- (4) The RTCs and the ROCB A/P will continue to work together for further enhancing coordinated support for the regional experts.

The above 4-point proposal was agreed in the said Meeting and it was also introduced at the Capacity Building Committee (CBC) Meeting which was held from 31 March to 2 April 2014 in Brussels. With the implementation of this proposal, it is hoped that the use and deployment of regional experts will become more effective and flexible to cope with the varied members’ needs for TA and CB.

## **ii. Contribution of WCO Accredited Customs Experts (ACEs) in the A/P Region**

There are four categories of accredited experts under the WCO scheme, namely: Diagnostic Facilitators; Customs Modernization Advisors; Technical and Operational Advisors; and Expert Trainers. As a result of collaborative efforts made by the WCO, the ROCB A/P and, of course, regional members, the A/P region has steadily accumulated the pool of ACEs and they have actively contributed to the regional CB activities. A list of contributions made by these ACEs is shown below. Taking this opportunity, the ROCB A/P would like to express its sincere appreciation to these experts as well as their home administrations for their remarkable contributions for the regional CB activities.

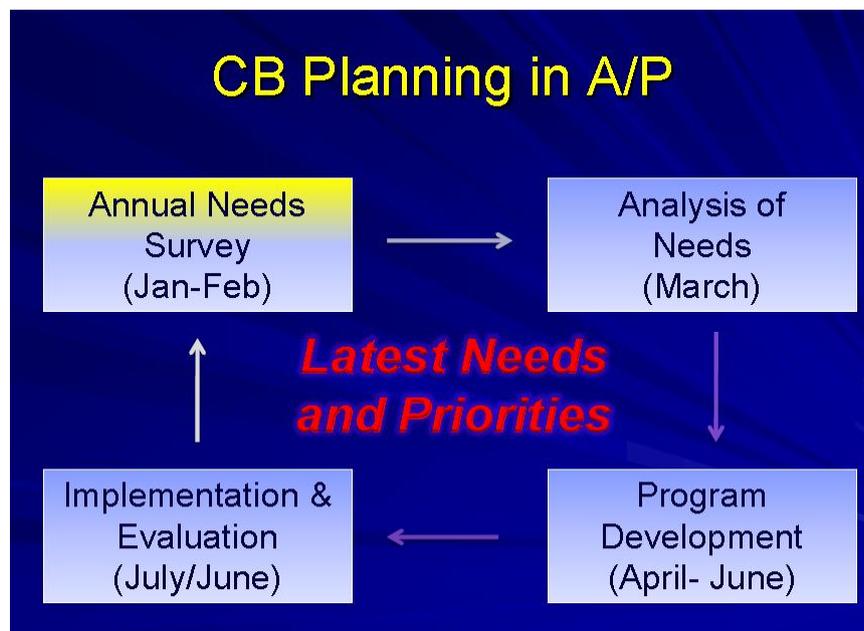
### **List of contributions made by the ACEs during the period July 2013-June 2014**

<b>WCO Events (unless otherwise specified)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>ACEs from</b>
National Workshop on RKC for Lao PDR	August 2013	ROCB A/P
National Workshop on IPR for Vanuatu	August 2013	Hong Kong, China
National Workshop on RKC for Maldives	September 2013	ROCB A/P
Regional Workshop on Risk-based Cargo Selectivity	September 2013	Sri Lanka, Japan

in Japan		
WCO/ADB National Workshop on AEO for Bangladesh	September 2013	ROCB A/P
National Workshop on ROO for Indonesia	November 2013	China
Regional Workshop on IPR Border Enforcement in China	December 2013	Hong Kong, China
WCO/Brunei National Workshop on RKC for Brunei	January 2014	ROCB A/P
WCO/ADB Sub-regional Workshop on Valuation Train-the-trainer for South Asia in Sri Lanka	February 2014	ROCB A/P, Japan, Maldives, Sri Lanka
WCO/ADB National Workshop on RKC for Myanmar	May 2014	ROCB A/P, India
WCO/ADB National Workshop on RKC Implementation for Bhutan	June 2014	ROCB A/P
National Workshop on IPR for Thailand	June 2014	India

Furthermore, the ROCB A/P also initiated the work on “candidate list” for the purpose of providing systematic support for regional experts as well as, where necessary, supplementing the CB needs of our members, in particular on the areas where there is no WCO accredited expert. The ROCB A/P is looking forward to welcoming more registration of “candidates” from the A/P regional members.

**iii. CB needs analysis and planning**



The ROCB A/P placed a great importance on this action item in 2013/2014. There is a well-established CB planning cycle in the A/P region that is considered as a good model for a CB regional approach in the global Customs community. In January 2014, the ROCB A/P and Japan Customs (A/P Regional CB Coordinator) circulated a set of annual CB needs survey to all regional

members. As a result of the joint efforts made between the ROCB A/P and Japan Customs, and more importantly cooperation from regional members, a good number of responses were received with constructive feedbacks on the latest needs and priorities for the capacity building of regional members.

The ROCB A/P and Japan Customs worked together to analyze the feedback against regional/national strategy. Based on the analysis, the ROCB A/P prepared regional CB proposals, and they have been presented to the WCO Secretariat in April 2014 for their consideration and their consultation with available donors. Thanks in particular to the positive consideration of CCF/Japan and CCF/Korea, the ROCB A/P is now at the stage of implementing these proposals.

#### **iv. The 11th Meeting of Heads of Asia Pacific WCO Regional Training Centers**

The 11th Meeting of the Heads of Asia Pacific WCO Regional Training Centers (RTCs) was held in November 2013 in Fiji. In the spirit of Regional Strategic Plan 2012-2014, the agenda of this meeting included issues such as “Exchange of information on the evaluation of training courses”, “Linkage between RTC and Regional Experts”, and “Information Sharing of innovative training methods/approaches including e-learning”. The RTCs updated the meeting on their latest CB activities and discussed contribution of the RTCs for the improvement of training techniques of the regional experts with a view to facilitating an effective use of regional experts for CB events in the region.

### **1.2.4 Enhance communication and information sharing among members**

#### **i. ROCB A/P E-newsletters**

To maintain communication with members in the A/P Region, the ROCB A/P published E-Newsletters on a quarterly basis and distributed them to regional members, the WCO Secretariat and ROCBs in other regions. In 2013/2014, the ROCB A/P prepared and sent out 4 issues of E-Newsletters from issue No. 42 to 45 that provided not only the latest CB activities in the A/P region, but also offered members and stakeholders a platform to share information and experience on their latest development.

#### **ii. ROCB A/P Website**

The ROCB A/P Website (<http://rocb.wcoasiapacific.org>) has been linked to the WCO A/P Region homepage. Aiming to achieve better management of, and improved user-friendliness of the website, a new ROCB A/P website is under reconstruction. Details will be announced when it is ready.

### iii. ROCB A/P Customs Good Practice Report on “Computer Forensics”

The ROCB A/P, with the support of Hong Kong China Customs and Malaysia Customs, has developed the 11th issue of “Good Practice Report on Computer Forensics” in December 2013. In this report, the practices being employed by the above Customs administrations were collected and made readily available as reference for other Customs administrations. This report provides references to law enforcement agencies on the knowledge and skills in handling technology crime including basic concepts of computer forensics, digital data analysis, application of forensic tools, digital evidence collection, digital evidence preservation and adducing digital evidence in court.

### iv. Designation of “Program Manager” for the respective sub-regions

The ROCB A/P has designated each of the ROCB A/P staff members as “Program Managers” responsible for a particular sub-region, in order to provide more focused quality assistance to the respective sub-regions. The role and responsibility as well as the contact details of the “Program Managers” for the sub-regions are as follows:

- Role and responsibility
  - To enhance contact with responsible countries
  - To encourage participation of responsible countries to the regional events.
  - To take care of individual requests made by responsible countries
  - To collect Customs related information from responsible countries
  - To liaise with officers responsible for the sub-region of various DPs
- Contact Details

Sub-region	ROCB staff	Contact details
East, Central and West Asia	Mr. Lee	leesk@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 7026
Southeast Asia	Mr. Wong	jameskwwong@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 7026
South Asia	Mr. Miyoshi	miyoshi@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 6018
Pacific Islands	Mr. Cheng	chengjing@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 7026

## 1.2.5 Other activities

### i. WCO meetings

With the growing recognition of the contribution of the ROCB A/P for Customs CB in the A/P region, the ROCB A/P has received more and more invitations to act as moderators/speakers in the global and regional forums/meetings and been called to assist with cooperative approaches to Customs CB activities at the global/regional levels. Examples of these contributions undertaken by the ROCB A/P are as follows:

- **Global forums/meetings and non-A/P regional meetings**
  - ✧ the 9th WCO Counterfeiting and Piracy (CAP) Group Meeting in Belgium (November 2013)
  - ✧ the Ninth Global Meeting of the ROCBs and RTCs and Vice-Chairs' Offices in Belgium (March 2014)
  - ✧ the WCO CBC Meeting (5th Session) in Belgium (March 2014)
  - ✧ WCO/ICAO Joint Conference on Air Cargo Security in Bahrain (April 2014)
  - ✧ WCO IT Conference and Exhibition in Australia (May 2014)
  - ✧ the Global WCO Accreditation Workshop on TRS in Belgium (June 2014)
- **A/P Regional meetings**
  - ✧ High-level Policy Dialogue in Bhutan and India (October 2013)
  - ✧ The WCO A/P Regional Steering Group (RSG) Meeting and Regional Contact Points (RCP) Meeting in Malaysia (October 2013)
  - ✧ The 11th Heads of WCO A/P RTCs Meeting in Fiji (November 2013)
  - ✧ the 25th Administrative Meeting of National Contact Points for RILO A/P in Vietnam (December 2013)
  - ✧ the 1st Conference of Heads of National Training Centers for the WCO Europe Region in Azerbaijan (Jan 2014)
  - ✧ the 15th WCO A/P Regional Heads of Customs Administration (RHCA) Conference in Australia (April 2014)
  - ✧ WCO and ASEAN Consultation Meeting in Vietnam (June 2014)
  - ✧ WCO/ADB Memorandum of Understanding Implementation and Mid-term Review Meeting in the Philippines (Jun 2014)

## ii. 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ROCB A/P

It was on 28 September 2004, when the ROCB A/P was officially launched in Bangkok, Thailand. The year 2014 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ROCB A/P's establishment. The ROCB A/P would like to thank the WCO Secretariat which 10 years ago approved the establishment of the Office to assist in the CB of Customs Administrations in A/P region. The ROCB A/P would also like to thank the Thai Customs Department for providing the ROCB A/P office venue and facilities and seconding 3 capable Thai Customs officers and other assistance during the past 10 years. A series of celebration activities have begun. We hope that all WCO colleagues, the regional members and DPs continue to provide us with support so as to enhance the capability of Customs in A/P region.

## iii. The Terms of Reference of the ROCB A/P

A new Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ROCB A/P was discussed and adopted at the 15<sup>th</sup> WCO A/P Regional Heads of Customs Administrations (RHCA) Conference held in April-May 2014 in Port Douglas, Australia. In accordance with the adopted TOR, the Head of the ROCB A/P

should have a tenure of five years after endorsement by the RHCA and the tenure should not be held for two consecutive terms.

On 30 June 2014, Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka completed his 5-year tenure as the Head of the ROCB A/P, and on 1 July 2014, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi took over the post as the new Head of the ROCB A/P in the wake of the decision made at the 15<sup>th</sup> A/P RHCA Conference.

### 1.3 ROCB A/P Work Plan

2014/2015 is the first year of implementing the Regional Strategic Plan (RSP) for 2014-2016, which is a 2-year rolling plan. Following the adoption of the RSP 2014-2016 at the 15<sup>th</sup> A/P RHCA Conference, the ROCB A/P developed its own Strategic Action Plan for 2014-2016 (Annex ii), which directly links with the RSP. The ROCB A/P has been conducting its CB activities in the A/P region in accordance with this document and, for the purpose of proper implementation, developed concrete Annual Work Plan for 2014/2015 (Annex iii) in collaboration with Vice Chair, RSG members, RTCs, and subsequently approved by the Capacity Building Directorate of the WCO Secretariat as stipulated in the TOR of the ROCB A/P. This work plan was established based on the following 4 pillars of the ROCB A/P activities.

- i. Support the implementation of the WCO Conventions, instruments and tools**
- ii. Further enhance collaboration with the development partners**
- iii. Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities**
- iv. Enhance communication and information sharing among members**

For the 1st pillar, the ROCB A/P is going to focus its efforts on promoting a set of WCO Packages, including Economic Competitiveness Package (ECP) and Revenue Package (RP) that were given more attention by the A/P regional members. In this regard, the ROCB A/P will continue our efforts in promoting these tools in particular RKC, risk management (RM) and Post Clearance Audit (PCA). For the 2nd pillar, the ROCB A/P is planning to organize more workshops for the SASEC programs to have greater cooperation with our DP. For the 3rd pillar, the Office will continue with analysis of latest regional needs and priorities through CB needs survey and will develop tailor-made projects/training programs, so that the CB activities may remain relevant to the expectations of the regional members. In undertaking this work, the ROCB A/P will explore how to utilize regional expertise more effectively and efficiently. As for the 4th pillar, we are going to continue to strengthen our communication with the regional members and DPs via our regional communication tools, such as A/P and the ROCB A/P webs, E-newsletters as well as good practice reports that share members' good practices.

It is very important to note that the collaborative efforts by the ROCB A/P, RTCs, regional members and the WCO Secretariat is the only way forward to the continuous improvement of regional CB activities, therefore, the ROCB A/P is looking forward to working with all relevant parties together to achieve this objective.

#### 1.4 ROCB A/P Audit

Last year, the ROCB A/P underwent an external audit in October 2013 and no discrepancy was reported. The audit report, as well as the financial statement, was reported to the WCO Finance Committee. The timing of the next ROCB A/P audit is scheduled at the beginning of October 2014.

Kazunari Igarashi

Head

ROCB A/P

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## Part 2: Activities of 2013/2014

### Introduction

The World Customs Organization (WCO) Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P) was formally established on 28 September 2004, following the approval from the Thai Government on 7 September 2004. It is located at the headquarters of the Thai Customs Department in Bangkok, Thailand. **There are now 8 full-time staff (as of 1 July 2014), 1 from China, 1 from Hong Kong, China, 2 from Japan (including Head of the ROCB A/P), 1 from Korea and 3 from Thailand.** In addition, the representatives from the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) and New Zealand Customs Service based in Bangkok provide regular support and assistance to the ROCB A/P activities. Taking this opportunity, ROCB A/P would like to express sincere appreciation to the home administrations of the above-mentioned staff members for their contributions to the ROCB A/P as well as the regional capacity building (CB) activities. We also express our heartfelt appreciation to Japan Customs for providing the Customs Cooperation Fund/Japan (CCF/Japan) and Korea Customs Services (KCS) for providing Customs Cooperation Fund/Korea (CCF/Korea), the main sponsors of CB activities conducted under the ROCB A/P. In addition, we would also like to express our special thanks to a number of Developing Partners (DPs), in particular, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), for their contributions to a number of joint projects we had in the reporting period, i.e. July 2013 to June 2014. Enhanced collaboration with DPs became one of the highlights in the last year and we are glad to report our progress in detail later.

CB includes activities which strengthen the knowledge, abilities, skills, and behavior of individuals and improves institutional structures and processes so that the organization can efficiently meet its missions and goals in a sustainable way. In Customs context, it embraces key factors, for instance, leadership, organizational structure, Customs procedures, technology, partnership/cooperation and good governance.

**This annual report covers the ROCB A/P activities conducted from July 2013 to June 2014.**

During this period, the ROCB A/P, having due regard to the member needs as well as the WCO and regional priorities, has conducted a wide range of effective CB activities under the four-pillar strategic framework. The fiscal year 2013/2014 may be regarded as a year of “Communication”. This can best be illustrated by the proactive responses from members and development partners. Taking this opportunity, the ROCB A/P would like to express its heartfelt appreciation to all those experts and participants who devoted to share and exchange their valuable experiences with each other. Of course, thanks should also be given to home administrations of participants and experts, the WCO Secretariat and all ROCB A/P's DPs. Only with their support, the ROCB A/P can provide chances for us to exchange and to share such work experience and knowledge.

## Summary of activities

### 2.1 Support the implementation of WCO Conventions, Instruments and Tools

The WCO has developed a number of Conventions, instruments and tools as well as introduced a series of programs and initiatives that can significantly enhance Customs operations. To facilitate regional member administrations to adopt and implement those useful products of the WCO, ROCB A/P conducted a number of relevant CB activities in the A/P region last year. Some of the major activities are illustrated below.

#### 2.1.1 To assist regional members in developing AEO programs

##### ❖ WCO/ADB National Workshop on AEO in Bangladesh

17-19 September 2013, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh



The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) organized a national workshop on implementing an Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) program in Bangladesh from 17 to 19 September 2014. Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P and Ms. Asha Menon, Technical Officer from the WCO participated in this workshop as facilitators and presented background information on the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards (SAFE FoS), AEO Program requirements and benefits, and examples of international best practices.

The workshop was attended by Mr. Md. Farid Uddin (Member Customs) Bangladesh National Board of Revenue, and 26 Customs officials including several Commissioners and other high ranking officials.

To support Customs-Business partnerships, representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, Clearing and Forwarding Agents, Customs Agents, the Port Authority, the Tariff

Commission, and several businesses participated during the last day of the workshop. The level of participation reflected the importance that Bangladesh Customs accords to this initiative.

The workshop achievements included an action plan, the establishment of an AEO Implementation Team, and the delineation of program criteria including requirements and benefits.

### 2.1.2 To assist regional members in acceding to the RKC

The Economic Competitiveness Package (ECP) of the WCO again highlighted the importance of RKC as a core of modern Customs procedures. There were 94 Contracting Parties (CPs) to the RKC (as of July 1, 2014), including 17 CPs in the A/P region. A number of Customs administrations in the A/P region have been making extensive efforts to accede to the RKC as soon as possible. The ROCB A/P has been assisting those administrations by providing various quality supports to accelerate their accessions.

#### ✧ **Cambodia's Accession to the RKC**

28 June 2014, Brussels, Belgium



In the Strategy and Work Programs on Reform and Modernization of Cambodia Customs (2009-2013), under Strategic Objective 3, Cambodia Customs set an important plan to modernize customs system, procedures and technique in order to maximize trade facilitation by becoming a CP to the RKC.

After more than two years of hard work and well-planned preparations, Cambodia finally became the 94th CP to the RKC when Dr. Pen Siman, delegate of the Royal Government in Charge of the General Department of Customs and Excise deposited the Instrument of Accession with the WCO Secretary General during the 123rd/124th Sessions of the Customs Co-operation Council on 28th June 2014.

Cambodia acceded to the Convention through article 3, which means the acceptance of the Body and the General Annex. Furthermore, Cambodia has decided to accept, without

reservations, Chapter 2 of Specific Annex A, Chapter 1 of Specific Annex B and Chapter 1 of Specific Annex C under Appendix III. In accordance with the provision of the RKC, the said Convention will come into force for Cambodia 3 months after the deposit of the Instrument of Accession.

Becoming contracting party to the RKC requires a number of important tasks to be fulfilled such as the assessment of national legislation, identification of the legislation and regulations needing to be amended and developed, and establishment of management and expert team for the preparation. The main steps are summarized in the below table.

Date	Process
January 2012	Step 1: Establish a project team
February 2012	Step 2: Conduct gap analysis (with support of the WCO and ROCB A/P)
2012	Step 3: adopt new regulations on Advanced Ruling, Authorized Economic Operator - Translation into national language
2013	Step 4: Ministry of Economy and Finance requested Prime Minister for approval in principle, 24 December 2013 - Prime Minister approval, 29 December 2013 - Review and decision on specific annexes and/or chapters to be accepted
January-June 2014	Step 5: Preparation of the accession documents and approval process: - Discussion at the Council of Ministers by Legal Committee - Council of Ministers' approval, 18 April 2014 - Parliament adoption, 20 May 2014 - Senate approval, 29 May 2014 - His Majesty the King promulgation, 14 June 2014 - Instrument of Accession signed, 24 June 2014
28 June 2014	Step 6: Deposit the Instrument of Accession with the Secretary General of the WCO

As shown in the table, administrative endorsement and legal approval process are recognized as the most challenging steps as they need to go through several rigorous discussions and reviews by relevant Committees of the Council of Ministers, National Assembly and the Senate respectively before passing them on to their plenary sessions for formal approval. According to the timetable above, Cambodia spent more than 1 year to go through the administrative endorsement and legal approvals.

Cambodia's accession to and the implementation of RKC will benefit all players from business, Customs and the country as a whole in terms of improving trade competitiveness, increase revenue collection, reducing the transaction cost, improving business climate, attracting foreign direct investment, promoting trade and sustainable economic development.

Accession to the RKC is an important historical event for the country, especially for the business community because this Convention is the only document of Customs procedures, international standards and best practices, with over 500 standards. The provisions of this Convention will be a foundation for reform and modernization of Cambodia Customs. The accession to the Convention also sends a positive message to the world business community about the government commitment to improving trade facilitation and Customs reform and modernization. Moreover, it reflects that government service for the international trade, business transaction, investment climate in Cambodia is being carried out in a rule-based environment and using international standards.



In accordance with the WB's Report, Cambodia LPI ranking has risen spectacularly by 46 places, to 83 in 2014 out of 160 countries, from 129th in 2010. This improvement can be linked to the time to Customs clearance which decreased from 5.9 days in 2010 to only 1.4 days in 2014. The GDP growth was maintained at average of 7% in the same period. The volume of international trade has increased from USD10 billion in 2010 to about USD20 billion in 2013, which resulted in more revenue collection by Customs. The World Bank also reported that the poverty rate in Cambodia fell from 45% in 2007 to about 20% in 2011.

It is expected that further improvement of investment climate and trade facilitation which contribute to sustainable economic development will be maintained after the Cambodia's accession to the RKC.

✧ **WCO National Workshop on the RKC in Lao PDR**

6-8 August 2013, Vientiane, Lao PDR

The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO and ADB, organized the WCO National Workshop on RKC in Vientiane, Lao PDR from 6 to 8 August 2013 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. It was attended by 27 mid-level Customs officers of Lao PDR. Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P attended this workshop as an expert.



Ms. Krittika Panprasert from Thai Customs Department also participated in this Workshop and shared her valuable experience in the Thai Customs Department for the preparation of the RKC accession.

In light of the RSP 2012-2014, the ROCB A/P makes every effort to accelerate Members’ accession to the RKC. In April 2013, the WCO Sub-regional Workshop on the RKC for South East Asian countries, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan, was held in Malaysia with the involvement of three WCO accredited Customs experts (ACEs). As one of the follow up activities, this National Workshop was held to provide the targeted technical support to Lao PDR based on gaps identified in the Sub-regional Workshop.



The tangible outcome of this Workshop was that Lao PDR had an improved understanding of the RKC, particularly of its benefits. By conducting a gap analysis, they had a clear roadmap to accede to the RKC in the very near future. The experts agreed to render ongoing support to Lao Customs.

✧ **WCO National Workshop on the RKC for Brunei Darussalam**

13-16 January 2014, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam



Responding to the invitation made by Royal Customs and Excise Department of Brunei Darussalam, Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P as well as an ACE on the RKC, visited Bandar Seri Begawan in Brunei Darussalam and conducted the WCO National Workshop on the RKC from 13 to 16 January 2014. It was attended by a total of 29 mid-level Customs officers of Brunei Customs.

In light of the RSP 2012-2014, the ROCB A/P has been making every effort to accelerate members' accession to the RKC in the A/P region. In April 2013, the WCO Sub-regional Workshop on the RKC for South East Asian countries, under the sponsorship of CCF Japan, was held in Malaysia, in which Brunei Customs participated. As one of the follow-up activities, upon invitation by the Brunei Customs, this national Workshop was held to provide targeted and country-focused technical support to Brunei Customs based on the initial identified gap between the RKC provisions and national legislation of Brunei Darussalam during the Sub-regional Workshop.

The outcome of this Workshop was tangible, and enabled Brunei Darussalam to have a clear understanding of the RKC, particularly its benefits and the accession process. With the session on gap analysis and strategic planning, they drew a clear roadmap to accede to the RKC in the near future. The ROCB A/P agreed to render continuous support to Brunei Customs to achieve that goal.

✧ **WCO National Workshop on the RKC for Myanmar**

28 - 30 May 2014, Yangon, Myanmar

The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO and the ADB organized the WCO National Workshop on the RKC in Yangon, Myanmar, from 28 to 30 May 2014. It was attended by 27 mid-level Customs officers of Myanmar Customs. Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P attended this workshop as an expert.

In light of the RSP 2012-2014, the ROCB A/P makes every effort to accelerate Members' accession to the RKC. In April 2013, the WCO Sub-regional Workshop on the RKC for South East Asian Countries was held at the Regional Training Center (RTC) in Malaysia, under the sponsorship of the CCF/Japan. As one of the follow-up activities, this national workshop was held to provide targeted technical support to Myanmar Customs based on the gaps identified in the sub-regional workshop.

The tangible outcomes of this workshop include improved understanding of the RKC, particularly on its benefits. By conducting a gap analysis, they now have a clear roadmap to accede to the RKC in the near future. The experts agreed to render ongoing support to Myanmar Customs as appropriate.

✧ **WCO/ADB National Workshop on the RKC for Bhutan**

9 - 12 June 2014, Thimpu, Bhutan



Responding to the needs expressed by the Department of Revenue and Customs (DRC) of Bhutan, the WCO in cooperation with the ADB delivered a 4-day National Workshop on the RKC Implementation in Thimpu, Bhutan, from 9 to 12 June 2014. Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P, together with the experts from the WCO, the ADB and Japan Customs, participated in this workshop.

This Workshop was considered as timely assistance as Bhutan had been at the final stage of accession to the RKC. The workshop agenda was customized to meet emerging needs at this critical moment. Through the information exchange and the discussions among resource persons and participants, the DRC came up with a clear idea of how to implement these important provisions and developed an action plan for their smooth implementation.

The Workshop also provided an opportunity for relevant stakeholders to communicate with the RKC expert team. This session brought together about 25 stakeholders from the Bhutan Exporter Association (BEA), the Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (BCCI), the Bhutan Agriculture and Food Regulatory Authority (BAFRA) and the Department of Trade (DOT).

This delicate arrangement was very much appreciated by all the participants.

This Workshop was part of the joint coordinated support of the ROCB A/P and the ADB for assisting the South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. The WCO, the ROCB A/P and the ADB will continue this collaborative approach for the provision of tangible assistance for the members.

### 2.1.3 To assist regional members in undertaking Time Release Study (TRS) in accordance with the WCO TRS guidelines

#### ✧ WCO/ADB Workshop on the TRS for Uzbekistan

21 August 2013, Tashkent, Uzbekistan



Responding to the request from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Mr. Jing Cheng of the ROCB A/P joined the WCO expert team to conduct the Workshop on the TRS in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, from 21 to 22 August 2013. It was attended by 23 participants from Customs Departments of five Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) countries, namely Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan financed by the ADB.

The objective of this Workshop was to enable Customs officials to explore options for employing the TRS to strengthen Customs cooperation among the CAREC members. WCO experts systematically introduced the WCO instruments and tools, the TRS overview, purpose and methodology, the development of the process map, work plan and timetable and the use of the WCO TRS software.

This Workshop also provided participants with an opportunity to exchange information and experience on their Customs procedures and the implementation of the TRS. Uzbekistan Customs introduced the results of the TRS implemented in 2011 and 2012, which provided useful information for the other four participating countries. At the end of the Workshop, participants agreed to discuss the TRS implementation at the next CAREC Customs Cooperation

Committee meeting in September 2013. All participants thanked the host and the WCO for this timely technical assistance (TA) and expressed the willingness to disseminate the acquired knowledge and ideas among their colleagues.

✧ **Thai Customs TRS Exit Conference**

20 September 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

The Thai Customs Department, in cooperation with the ADB, successfully held the Exit Conference for Publicizing the TRS 2012 on 20 September 2013 at Bangkok, Thailand. The ROCB A/P sent two representatives to attend the Conference. In the acknowledgement of the Conference, the WCO was appreciated for its training assistance and efforts to raise awareness among its member administrations of the importance of the TRS as a tool to measure their own performance in trade facilitation. The TRS has become a useful instrument for member administrations to identify the bottlenecks in their own Customs clearance process and to take steps to improve the Customs efficiency.

The ROCB A/P took note of the experience of the Thai Customs Department and this would be a good practice discussion for future related CB activities.

✧ **WCO/ADB/UNESCAP Sub-regional Inception Workshop on Trade and Transportation Facilitation Performance Monitoring System**

26-27 November 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

Asia Development Bank (ADB) and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP) jointly organized the inception workshop on trade and transport facilitation performance monitoring system (TTFPM) in Bangkok, Thailand from 26 to 27, November 2013. It was attended by around 25 participants from the members of national trade and transport committees of South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC). At the invitation of the ADB, Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of ROCB A/P and Mr. Jing Cheng, Program Manager of ROCB A/P joined Mr. Takashi Matsumoto, TRS expert from the WCO, and participated in this meeting as resource persons.

The workshop was part of the ADB and UNESCAP's effort to undertake integrated methodologies, namely Business Process Analysis (BPA), Time Release Study (TRS) and Time-Cost-Distance (TCD) to examine trade barriers in SASEC countries. In cooperation with Mr. Matsumoto, Mr. Jing Cheng made a presentation on overview, purpose and methodology of TRS. With the assistance of the WCO expert, the follow up activities to promote the WCO TRS methodology among the SASEC countries were specified.

The convening parties expressed their heartfelt thanks to the WCO for the valuable contribution.

✧ **WCO/ADB/Brunei Darussalam Customs TRS Workshop**

9-10 December 2013, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam



The WCO, in cooperation with the ADB and Brunei Darussalam Royal Customs and Excise Department (RCED), held a workshop on TRS at the Headquarters of the RCED, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, from 9 to 10 December 2013.

This Workshop was attended by about 25 participants from the RCED, other government authorities, and private companies. The objectives of the Workshop were to enable Customs officials to conduct the TRS by using the WCO TRS software and to raise the awareness of stakeholders for the next TRS in Brunei Darussalam scheduled in early May 2014.

WCO experts introduced the WCO TRS such as overview, purpose, methodology, development of the process mapping, work plan and timetable, use of the WCO TRS software, and TRS experience in member administrations. This Workshop also provided an opportunity for Customs officials to make an actual TRS questionnaire in line with the import procedures in Brunei Darussalam by using the WCO TRS software.

At the end of the Workshop, all participants thanked the WCO and the ADB for this timely and practical TA and expressed their confidence to properly conduct the coming TRS.

✧ **WCO/ADB/UNESCAP National Workshop on Trade and Transportation  
Facilitation Performance Monitoring System for Bhutan**

10-14 March 2014, Phuntsholing, Bhutan

The WCO, the ADB and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) jointly organized a National Workshop on Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM) for Bhutan from 10 to 14 March 2014. At their invitation, Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi, the ROCB A/P Program Manager for South Asia, and Mr. Jing Cheng, the ROCB A/P Program Manager for Pacific Islands, joined this Workshop as resources persons on behalf of the WCO.



TTFMM program aims to strengthen the capability of the SASEC members in examining its trade barriers through the combined use of performance measurement instruments and tools, such as Business Process Analysis, the TRS and Time Cost and Distance. The objective of the National Workshop was to assist the individual country to develop a suitable strategy for the better implementation of these tools, taking their actual geographical and trade situation into consideration.

During the Workshop, the ROCB A/P representatives introduced the WCO TRS, a useful tool to improve the overall border performance. The convening parties of the Workshop thanked the resource persons for the valuable contribution to this Workshop.

✧ **WCO/ADB/UNESCAP National Workshop on TTFMM for Nepal**  
21 - 24 May 2014, Kathmandu, Nepal

The WCO, the ADB and the UNESCAP jointly organized a National Workshop on the TTFMM for Nepal from 15 to 17 April 2014. At the organizers invitation, Mr. Jing Cheng, the ROCB A/P Program Manager for Pacific Islands joined this Workshop was a resource person on behalf of the WCO.

The TTFMM program aims to strengthen the capability of the SASEC members in examining their trade barriers through the combined use of performance measurement instruments and tools, such as Business Process Analysis, the TRS and Time Cost and Distance. The main objective of the National Workshop was to assist the country to develop a suitable strategy for better implementation of these tools, taking their actual geographical and trade situation into consideration.

During the Workshop, Mr. Cheng introduced the WCO TRS Guidelines, a useful tool to improve the overall border performance. The convening parties of the Workshop thanked the resource persons for their valuable contribution to this Workshop.

✧ **WCO/ADB National Workshop on the TRS for Bangladesh**

28-30 April 2014, Dhaka, Bangladesh

A National Workshop on the TRS for Bangladesh was held from 28 to 30 April 2014 at Dhaka, Bangladesh. The workshop was jointly organized by the WCO and the ADB. WCO experts participated in the Workshop and delivered relevant training to participants.

✧ **TRS Exit Conference for Malaysia**

29 April 2014, Putrajaya, Malaysia



The Royal Malaysian Customs Department in cooperation with the ADB organized the Exit Conference on Customs TRS, in Putrajaya, Malaysia on 29 April 2014. The Conference was attended by about 130 participants from the Customs Department, the private sector, and other government authorities. At the organizer's invitation, Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi, the ROCB A/P Program Manager for South Asia joined the Conference as a resource person.

The main objective of the Conference was the release by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department of the findings of their 2012 TRS, and an opportunity to hear feedback from all stakeholders, including the private sector and other government authorities. The plan for the next TRS was also released during the Conference. In his presentation, Mr. Miyoshi introduced the outline of the WCO and the ROCB A/P, the WCO initiatives for the implementation of the WTO ATF, the WCO TRS instrument and the TRS agenda in the A/P region. His presentation was well received by all the participants.

#### **2.1.4 To assist regional members in implementing risk management tools including guidelines and Standardized Risk Assessment**

✧ **WCO A/P Regional Workshop on Risk-Based Cargo Selectivity**

9-13 September 2013, Kashiwa, Japan

The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO, Japan Customs and the ADB, organized the Regional Workshop on Risk-Based Cargo Selectivity in the RTC Kashiwa, Japan, from 9 to 13 September 2013 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. This Workshop was attended by a total of 38 participants from 23 Customs Administrations in A/P region. Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P and Ms. Ben Chamkrom, Program Coordinator of the ROCB A/P participated in this workshop as facilitators.



This workshop covered a wide range of topics pertaining to risk management (RM), including the overview of RM in a Customs context, risk assessment, targeting and profiling, risk-based compliance management, intelligence and information sharing and cargo selectivity techniques. The participants actively contributed in the syndicate group work through the real case simulation, which greatly deepened their understanding of this important topic.

This Workshop also provided a valuable opportunity for the participants to have in-depth discussions and experience sharing on how to identify high-risk cargo based on the WCO Risk Management Compendium as well as practical work experiences. The participants highly acclaimed the efforts of the WCO, the ROCB A/P and Japan Customs in organizing such a useful Workshop and expressed the strong wishes to apply the expertise delivered through this Workshop to their administrations.

✧ **WCO A/P Regional Workshop on Risk-Based Passenger Selectivity**

9 - 13 June 2014, Cheonan, Korea

The ROCB A/P in cooperation with the WCO and the KCS organized the WCO Regional Workshop on Risk-Based Passenger Selectivity from 9 to 13 June 2014 at the WCO RTC in Cheonan, Korea, under the sponsorship of CCF Japan. A total of 33 representatives from 28 Customs administrations in the A/P region participated in this Workshop.

This 5-day Workshop covered the main elements of operational RM and then focused on risk-based passenger selectivity by examining several elements of risk assessment, profiling and targeting, including information and intelligence. Some elements of RM at the organizational level were also covered throughout the Workshop with several syndicate group tasks, practical exercises, case studies and country presentations.



The spotlight was put on passenger selectivity. Each session was followed by lively discussions, questions and answers.

During the syndicate group tasks and country presentations, participants entered into in-depth discussions on how to identify high-risk passengers by utilizing the methodology explained in the WCO Customs Risk Management Compendium. Case studies and practical exercises also contributed to deeper understanding of the topics.

Participants had a study visit to the K-9 Center of the KCS and Incheon International Airport which was chosen as the world's best airport in service quality for the ninth consecutive years on the last day of the workshop. Participants had a chance to observe the operation of Advance Passenger Information (API) and Non-Intrusive Inspection (NII) system at Incheon Airport Customs.

### 2.1.5 To assist regional members in promoting awareness of IPR issues

#### ✧ **WCO Regional IPR Workshop on Border Enforcement**

2- 6 December 2013, Shanghai, China

The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO and China Customs, organized the WCO A/P Regional Workshop on IPR Border Enforcement in the RTC in Shanghai, China, from 2 to 6 December 2013 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan.

A total of 26 participants from 26 countries took part in the Workshop. The Workshop was led by IPR experts from the WCO, Japan and Hong Kong China. Participants shared knowledge and good practices for IPR border enforcement. Through the Workshop, participants' awareness of the damage of counterfeit and infringing goods was raised. The application of TRIPS' Agreement and Interface Public-Members (IPM) were introduced.



There were sessions for 16 right holders to give their presentations on identification of genuine and counterfeit goods. The participants were also given practical exercises in relation to risk assessment and selection of suspicious air cargoes and sea cargoes. The participants gave positive feedback and were able to apply what they had learned immediately. Finally, all participants indicated that they would pass what they had learned onto their home Customs administrations.

✧ **WCO National IPR Workshop for Thailand**

24– 27 June 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

As one of the celebration events of its 10th Anniversary, the ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO and the Thai Customs Department organized a WCO National Seminar on IPR at the Thai Customs Academy in Bangkok, Thailand, from 24 to 27 June 2014 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan.

Two IPR experts from the WCO and India Customs facilitated the Seminar, which was attended by 39 participants from 10 Thai Customs Bureaus. Also representing the ROCB A/P, Mr. James Kai Wah Wong, Project Manager for South East Asia and Ms. Pariyabhat Ariyapongkason, Program Coordinator, attended the Seminar as facilitators. The Seminar aimed at enhancing participants' awareness of the threat posed by counterfeit goods and knowledge and techniques in fighting against such threat. The application of TRIPS' Agreements and the WCO IPM were introduced.



During the Seminar, 10 representatives of right holders made presentations on identification of genuine and counterfeit goods. In the presentations, information on the locations of where genuine goods are produced, the normal transportation routes and descriptions of the goods was shared. Practical exercises in relation to risk assessment and selection of suspicious cargoes were given to the participants. Participants gave positive feedback and were able to apply what they had learned immediately. On the last day of the Seminar, the participants visited Thailand's Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) which is responsible for the registration of various IPRs such as trademarks and patents. The Department is also involved in amendments of the IPR laws, copyright recordation and coordination of law enforcement in fighting against counterfeit goods and promotion of awareness of IPR protection in Thailand. The WCO experts and the ROCB A/P facilitators exchanged practical ideas with the representative of DIP concerning trademark recordation process and the active role and function of the DIP in IPR protection.

### 2.1.6 To undertake capacity building activities to promote trade security and facilitation in the region (e.g. SAFE FoS and RM)

During the reporting period, the ROCB A/P organized various CB activities to promote trade security and facilitation as illustrated in section 2.1 above on the AEO, the RKC, the TRS and RM. In addition, the ROCB A/P organized a number of activities responding directly to the latest needs identified through the CB needs survey. Examples of these activities are shown below.

#### ✧ **Thai Customs Study on Revenue Package, Economic Competitiveness Package and Coordinated Border Management**

3 December 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

Responding to the request made by the Thai Customs Department, the ROCB A/P organized a National Workshop for the Thai Customs Department on Coordinated Border Management (CBM), Revenue Package (RP) and Economic Competitiveness Package (ECP) on 3

December 2013. This event was attended by around 25 participants from the various Bureaus of the Thai Customs Department. An expert team from the ROCB A/P, led by Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P, facilitated this event as resources persons.



The objective of this workshop was to educate newly recruited Customs staff and to also provide consultative advice on various issues raised by the Thai Customs Department. The expert team of the ROCB A/P introduced the concept of CBM, including the examples of methods of CBM implementation in various countries such as Switzerland, France, Germany, and New Zealand. They also introduced important instruments and tools contained in the RP and ECP and how they fit into the national context.

The Thai Customs Department appreciated the contribution made by the ROCB A/P, which enabled them to align their Action Plan with the WCO standards.

✧ **WCO National Workshop on Rules of Origin for Indonesia**

25-29 November 2013, Jakarta, Indonesia



The WCO, in cooperation with the ROCB A/P, conducted a workshop on Rules of Origin (ROO) for the Customs Administration of Indonesia at the Indonesian Customs and Excise Training Center in Jakarta, Indonesia from 25 to 29 November 2013. This workshop was

financed by the CCF/Japan and hosted by Indonesian Customs within the framework of the WCO Action Plan on Preferential Origin and the RP Action Plan. Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P attended this Workshop as a facilitator.

The objective of the Workshop was to enhance the capability of the Customs officers present to effectively and efficiently manage all issues related to ROO. A total of 33 Customs officers participated in the Workshop from several Departments around the country.

The WCO delivered presentations on the relevant WCO tools and instruments, such as the WCO Guidelines on Preferential Origin Verification and the Comparative Study on Preferential ROO. Furthermore, the WCO outlined the technical knowledge necessary to ensure proper and streamlined origin determination. Experts from China and Japan expanded on the technical element and shared practical case studies. These regional experts also presented on their countries' practices in dealing with origin matters, including advance rulings and origin-dedicated units in their respective Customs administrations.

The host country commended the organizers, presenters and participants stating that the Workshop was beneficial, relevant and above all, timely.

✧ **WCO/ADB Sub-regional Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Customs Valuation**  
3-7 February 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka



The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the ADB and Sri Lanka Customs, held the “WCO/ADB Joint Sub-regional Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Customs Valuation” in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 3 to 7 February 2014. This Workshop commenced the joint WCO/ADB multi-year assistance project for the SASEC members on the proper management of Customs Valuation control.

The objectives of this multi-year assistance project are to implement valuation control, ideally through PCA among the SASEC members; pool trainers for the sustainable implementation of valuation control; and enhance regional connectivity through the use of

ACEs pooled in the targeted member administrations, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. In line with the ROCB A/P Work Focus 2013/2014, this multi-year project was initiated to materialize the proper management of Customs Valuation through the PCA among the SASEC members with financial support from the ADB.

It involved a team of ACEs from Japan, Maldives and Sri Lanka Customs, and was led by Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P, the Program Manager for South Asia.

This Workshop was attended by 17 participants from 6 SASEC countries. Through the Workshop, the participants developed an understanding of the nature of the multi-year project for each of their administrations.

The Workshop discussed a number of key issues that were closely related to the valuation control. It covered the WTO Valuation Agreement, review of the effective valuation control through the PCA, and the necessary steps to move about the implementation of the PCA etc. Through the intensive discussion, the participants exchanged their respective practices on valuation control and deliberated how to improve Customs valuation control in line with the respective national contexts.

Through the Workshop, the participants learned the latest information on the WCO instruments on Customs Valuation control. With the support of the experts, they successfully drafted national action plans, which would be immediately submitted to the respective administrations for approval.



The participants also actively networked with experts on topics that their respective administrations were concerned about. The participants developed national action plan, which is a pivotal achievement for a clearer roadmap towards more harmonized and consistent valuation control among the SASEC members. The participants also expressed strong commitment to follow up of outcomes of the Workshop. The draft action plans will be brought to the top management of respective Customs administrations, who will feedback to the ADB and the ROCB A/P.

This multi-year assistance is part of the ROCB A/P’s ongoing efforts for donor engagement work following the success of similar multi-year PCA project for Pacific Islands, which was completed in the previous year. The coordinated assistance from the WCO, the ROCB A/P and the ADB, with leadership and ownership of recipient countries, was expected to deliver high quality assistance to DPs and produce tangible outcomes. The ROCB A/P is committed to continuing its best efforts to achieve the objectives of this project together with the ADB and the SASEC countries.

During the SASEC Trade Facilitation Week held in April 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand, there was a strong need identified by the SASEC members to improve their practices on Customs Valuation Control. To meet their needs, the ADB and the ROCB A/P developed a multi-year assistance program to ensure sustainable development for South Asia sub-region on Valuation control ideally through the PCA. The Sub-regional Train-the-Trainer Workshop as the kick-off of the project was therefore specified and organized.

<b>MULTI-YEAR ASSISTANCE FOR SASEC COUNTRIES</b>		
<b>ON THE PROPER MANAGEMENT OF CUSTOMS VALUATION</b>		
➤	Effective implementation of valuation control ideally through PCA	
➤	Pool of trainers for the sustainable implementation of valuation control	
➤	Enhance regional connectivity through the use of WCO accredited experts in the SASEC countries	
<b>ROADMAP</b>		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Regional Workshop</b>	<b>3-7 February 2014</b>	<b>Sri Lanka</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> round of National Workshops (P)</b>	<b>From March to September 2014</b>	<b>Depending on the consultation based on each country’s Action Plan except for Maldives and Sri Lanka</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Workshop (P)</b>	<b>October 2014</b>	<b>Maldives (P)</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> round of National Workshops (P)</b>	<b>2015-2017</b>	<b>Depending on the consultation based on each country’s Action Plan except for Maldives and Sri Lanka</b>

❖ **WCO A/P Regional Workshop on Chemical Analysis for Customs Purposes**

16-19 December 2013, Kashiwa, Japan

The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO and Japan Customs, organized the “WCO Asia Pacific Regional Workshop on Chemical Analysis for Customs Purposes” at the Central Customs Laboratory (CCL) of Japan Customs in Kashiwa, Japan from 16 to 19 December 2013 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. A total of 29 participants from 21 A/P Custom administrations took part in the Workshop.



Throughout this 4-day Workshop, the participants shared information on their good practices, experiences and challenges of Customs chemical analysis and obtained knowledge on the WCO tools and instruments relating to the Harmonized System (HS), in particular how the Customs Laboratory works. They emphasized the importance of the Customs Laboratory for achieving Customs mission, such as revenue collection and border enforcement of illicit drugs by providing analytical results. They also discussed the effective way forward in strengthening regional cooperation in the area of Customs chemical analysis and agreed to work together for the further improvement of Customs efficiency in the A/P.

This workshop is part of the ongoing trial project on the “WCO Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL) initiative” in the Asia Pacific Region and, through this Workshop, the participants reaffirmed the value of this initiative in order to further strengthening regional cooperation in the area of Customs chemical analysis.

✧ **WCO Regional Workshop on Leadership in Single Window and WCO Data Model**  
5 - 9 May 2014, Brisbane, Australia



The WCO Regional Workshop on Leadership in Single Window and WCO Data Model was held from 5 to 9 May 2014 in Brisbane, Australia, under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan and in collaboration with the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS). It was attended by 36 participants from 24 Customs administrations in the A/P region and 3 additional participants from the United States and Namibia. Mr. Satya Prasad Sahu, Senior Technical Officer of the WCO, together with the experts from the WB, KCS, Royal Oman Police, and Netherlands Customs, facilitated the Workshop. Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi, Project Manager of the ROCB A/P for South Asia and Ms. Pariyabhat Ariyapongkoson representing the ROCB A/P also attended the Workshop as facilitators.



The participants of the Workshop were senior executives in Customs administrations. It was held together with the WCO IT Conference & Exhibition 2014. The two-day Workshop, 8-9 May 2014, focused on theoretical presentations and practical case studies, as well as exercises which participants were involved in identifying and dealing with the strategic issues in building a Single Window Environment. Participants were also exposed to key management aspects of Single Window functional assessment, Business Process Development, Data Harmonization using the WCO Data Model and Dematerialization.

Prior to the two-day lecture sessions, participants were invited to attend the three-day WCO IT Conference & Exhibition and to interact with the exhibitors in order to help them contribute to the final session of the Workshop with regard to “Developing a list of features for a National Single Window”. The participants actively exchanged their views on presentations delivered and case studies provided from the experts both during the Workshop and in the breakout sessions. As a result of very fruitful discussions among participants and experts, the participants greatly improved their understanding of the goals and strategic priorities to be clarified in developing a Single Window solution from a Customs and Border Management perspective. The participants expressed their appreciation to the WCO and the ROCB A/P for organizing the Workshop.

### 2.1.7 To undertake capacity building activities to enhance capacity of compliance and enforcement in the region

During the reporting period, the ROCB A/P organized various CB activities to enhance capacity of compliance and enforcement, including IPR as illustrated in the section 2.1 above. In addition, the ROCB A/P organized a number of activities responding directly to the latest needs identified through the CB needs survey. Examples of these activities are shown below.

#### Computer forensics and Cyber-crime

Nowadays, Customs officers, and in particular, Customs investigators have to face not only traditional investigations but also cyber-crime investigations. There is an increasing trend for criminals to commit Customs offences by making use of digital equipment. Drugs traffickers may communicate with each other via mobile phones and computers. Counterfeit medicines are sold on the internet. Illegal proceeds are transferred through internet banking. Thousands of transactions of illicit trade are completed through the internet and digital communication tools.

Three main issues or challenges that arise are, first, how do we conduct cyber-crime investigations and track and trace suspects in the cyber-world? Second, how should we manage a digital crime scene? Third, how would digital evidence be processed and analysed to make it admissible in court?

To coordinate the capacity building development in relation to cyber-crime and computer forensics in the A/P region, the ROCB A/P organized the Regional Workshop on Computer Forensics and participated in the Regional Seminar on Anti-Cyber-crime Techniques. The ROCB A/P will continue to coordinate the capacity building activities within the region concerning this hot topic.

#### ✧ **WCO Regional Workshop on Computer Forensics**

20-22 August 2013, Hong Kong China



The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO and Hong Kong Customs organized the WCO Regional Workshop on Computer Forensics in Hong Kong China from 20 to 22 August 2013 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. This workshop was the first of its kind organized in the A/P region.

A total of 34 participants from 25 member administrations participated in the Workshop. The Workshop was led by a regional expert from Hong Kong, China, who briefed participants on the Digital Forensics Model, Digital Forensics Principles and Digital Forensics Processes. The participants were also given opportunities to visit the Computer Forensic Laboratory, the Electronic Crime Investigation Center and the computer rooms in the Customs Headquarters Building of Hong Kong Customs.

The Workshop was a good opportunity for regional members to share their experiences in applying digital forensics to Customs investigations and enhanced investigation capability of participants through digital forensics. The Workshop also set up a pool of experts to render technical support to regional members in applying digital forensics against technology related crimes, which had increased sharply in recent years and it geared up the Customs administrations to face the challenges of technology crimes. Hence, more training on computer forensics and similar workshops could be organized in the near future.

After the Workshop, the ROCB A/P consolidated one Good Practice Report on Computer Forensics for sharing with members in the A/P region and related parties on this emerging issue. This Good Practice Report was compiled by Hong Kong Customs and Malaysia Customs and was distributed to WCO regional members and relevant parties for reference. Such Good Practice Report will provide some more guidelines for setting up the Computer Forensics Office and the Computer Forensics Laboratory. It will also strengthen the capability of law enforcement agencies in handling technology crime.

#### ✧ **Regional Seminar on Anti-Cyber Crime Techniques**

13-15 May 2014, Cheonan, Korea



To coordinate the capacity building development in relation to cyber-crime and computer forensics in A/P region, the ROCB A/P participated in the Regional Seminar on Anti-Cyber-crime Techniques from 13 to 15 May 2014 at Cheonan, Korea. The Seminar was organized by the RILO A/P in collaboration with Hong Kong Customs and KCS. The Seminar aimed at providing the participants with concepts on cyber-crime and enriching their skills in handling the increasing volume of forensic-related investigations. The Seminar covered essential topics of network investigation, crime scene management and computer forensic analysis.

47 participants from 24 Customs administrations attended the Seminar. Thanks to Hong Kong Customs, KCS and speakers from other Customs administrations, some basic and practical anti-cyber-crime techniques were introduced.

The ROCB A/P has taken note of the success of the Seminar and is trying to provide a platform for the development of CB in relation to anti-cyber-crime. On top of the Good Practice Report on Computer Forensics (uploaded onto WCO CLiKC! <http://clikc.wcoomd.org/>) written by Hong Kong Customs and Malaysia Customs, the ROCB A/P is trying to coordinate Good Practice Reports on Cyber-crime Investigation and Crime Scene Management.

If members have suggestions or comments on CB activities concerning cyber-crime investigation or computer forensics for A/P region, they may contact Mr. James K W Wong (email address : [jameskwong@rocbap.org](mailto:jameskwong@rocbap.org)), Program Manager for South East Asia of the ROCB A/P. The ROCB A/P's aim will be to enhance regional members' capability to fight cyber-crime.

✧ **WCO Regional Seminar on Strategic Trade Controls Enforcement (STCE)**

24-26 September 2013, Faridabad, India



WCO, in cooperation with ROCB A/P, organized the Regional Seminar on Strategic Trade Controls Enforcement (STCE) at National Academy of Customs, Excise and Narcotics (NACEN)-WCO RTC, India in Faridabad, India from 24 to 26 September 2013. It was attended by

a total of 24 participants, most of the participants were Customs officers in charge of strategic trade controls/export control related issues. Mr. Seung-Kyoo, Lee, Technical Attaché of ROCB A/P, attended this workshop as one of the facilitators.

This three-day workshop provided participants with an overview of Strategic Trade Control, including the main components of national strategic trade control, and the key ingredients of effective enforcement process. The agenda also included a series of case studies which enabled participants to have an in-depth discussion on a range of related issues and an opportunity to exchange their best practices.

✧ **WCO A/P Regional High-level Seminar on Customs Anti-drug Strategy**

17 - 19 December 2013, Hong Kong, China

The A/P Regional High-level Seminar on Customs Anti-Drugs Strategy was held at the Headquarters of Hong Kong Customs from 17 to 19 December 2013. This Seminar was organized jointly by the ACBPS and Hong Kong Customs.

The Seminar was attended by 27 participants, who were mostly senior level Customs officers in charge of drug enforcement strategy issues. Mr. Seung Kyoo Lee and Mr. Takayuki Miyoshi of the ROCB A/P, joined this Seminar and delivered a presentation.

The overall objective of the Seminar was to provide a platform for senior Customs officials in the region to have a high-level discussion on their experience and strategy in combating drug offences, and charting the way forward in developing a sustainable drug enforcement strategy across the regions.



Hong Kong Customs also provided participants with an opportunity to visit the Electronic Crime Investigation Center, the Computer Forensic Laboratory, and Hong Kong Customs' operations at the Hong Kong Airport.

During the seminar, two ROCB A/P representatives made presentations, one on Capacity Building Strategy in the A/P region and the other on Methamphetamine Trafficking

Trend from African Countries. The seminar also highlighted the focus the ROCB A/P placed on member countries' training needs.

The Seminar ended with the attendees adopting four recommendations, which will be put forward to the WCO in relation to drug enforcement strategy.

## 2.2 Further enhance collaboration with development partners (DPs)

Enhancing cooperation/collaboration with DPs is one of the key action items for the ROCB A/P in 2013/2014 and future. The ROCB A/P organized a number of events to promote/enhance donor collaboration. The ROCB A/P is currently working with a number of DPs including the ADB, WB, UNESCAP, UNEP, UNODC, JICA, USAID etc.

To boost further collaboration with DPs, the ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO Secretariat and Malaysia Customs, organized the WCO A/P Regional Workshop on Resource Mobilization from 24 to 28 February 2014 at Melaka, Malaysia.

A total of 24 participants from 23 Customs administrations in A/P region attended the Workshop which was financially supported by CCF/Japan. In addition, there were 5 observers from Royal Malaysian Customs who also attended the Workshop.

The Workshop was a great success. The participants greatly appreciated the WCO and the ROCB A/P for this timely assistance on this emerging issue. The Workshop was very practical and useful for members in A/P region to enhance future donor engagements. Donors, Japan Customs, the WB and the ADB contributed greatly to the success of this workshop. Their sharing of information and experience was a crucial part of the Workshop. The participants were encouraged to develop their own business cases and to make efforts to outreach prospective donors

### 2.2.1 Enhanced collaboration, coordination and mutual understanding with DPs.

#### i. Development and implementation of coordinated strategy/program

The objectives of this collaboration are: (1) to provide coordinated quality support to regional members; (2) to avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts; (3) to complement each other taking into account respective strengths and weakness; and (4) to achieve results with the multi-year assistance. Examples of such collaboration are as follows.

Project/Initiative	Outline
OCO PCA Project	This is a multi-year project implemented in cooperation with <b>Japan Customs</b> and the <b>OCO Secretariat</b> aiming at development of the PCA guidelines and pool of resources. The project was recently completed successfully with the adoption of the PCA guidelines at the 15 <sup>th</sup> OCO Council in Tonga in May 2013.
Asia Cargo Highway Initiative	This is a multi-agency initiative involving the WCO and the <b>ADB</b> which provides a number of coordinated CB activities to the Customs

(Southeast Asia)	administrations in Southeast Asia. Areas of support vary from country to country while the WCO is involved more in the RKC, the TRS, etc.
Coordinated strategy/program development for South Asia	The <b>ADB</b> and the ROCB A/P are working together to provide coordinated multi-year support to the SASEC countries, particularly to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal. A number of regional program and national programs on the RKC and PCA are under consideration.
Coordinated strategy/program development for Pacific islands (Pacific Islands)	The <b>ADB</b> and the ROCB A/P are working together to provide coordinated multi-year support to pacific islands countries. The development of a strategy/program is still at a very early stage. The areas of support may include, training development (for RTC Fiji), HS, PCA, SAFE FoS, HRM, etc.

## ii. Participation in the meetings of DPs

The objectives of this effort are: (1) to improve mutual understanding in their respective organization and their program; and (2) to explore possibility of future collaboration. Examples of such collaboration are as follows.

Time	Event (Place)	DP name
Jul 2013	Inaugural Regional Aviation Security Coordination Forum (Thailand)	ICAO
Sep 2013	Consultation Meeting on Development of Nepal e-Customs Master Plan (Thailand)	UNESCAP
Sep2013	International Conference to Combat Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products (Singapore)	ITIC
Nov 2013	the UNOCHA Humanitarian Partnership Forum (Thailand)	UNOCHA
Nov 2013	ADB Project Coordination Meeting for South Asia (Thailand)	ADB
Nov 2013	Environmentally Safe Disposal of Intellectual Property (Thailand)	WIPO
Jan 2014	Meeting with ADB for GMS Trade and Transport Facilitation Action Plan (Thailand)	ADB
Mar 2014	UNODC Consultation on Container Control Program (Thailand)	UNODC
Apr 2014	WCO/ICAO Joint Conference on Air Cargo Security (Bahrain)	IACO
Apr 2014	GMS Transport and Trade Facilitation DPs' Meeting (Philippines)	ADB
May 2014	International Federation of Customs Brokers Association Global Conference (Korea)	IFCBA
May 2014	SASEC Second Meeting of the Customs Subgroup (Nepal)	ADB
May 2014	ASEAN JICA experts Meeting	JICA
Jun 2014	ADB-WCO Mid-term Review 2014	ADB

## 2.2.2 Promotion of joint activities

### Organization of joint workshops/seminars

The objectives of this effort are (1) to provide coordinated support to regional members with DPs particularly on issues which require interagency cooperation, such as Single Window, Trade Facilitation and Green Customs, (2) to complement each other by utilizing respective experts and (3) to invite more Customs and other agencies through cost sharing. ROCB conducted a number of joint events with DPs and contributed to the event organized by the DPs in 2013/2014.

Timing	Event	DP name
Jul 2013	Expert Group Meeting on the Model Border Academy Guide (Indonesia)	UNODC
Jul 2013	The Interpol Workshop on CITES	USAID
Aug 2013	WCO/ADB Training Workshop on Time Release Study (Uzbekistan)	ADB
Sep 2013	Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum 2013 (China)	UNESCAP
Sep 2013	WCO/ADB National Workshop on AEO for Bangladesh	ADB
Nov 2013	WCO/UNESCAP Regional Workshop on Single Window (Korea)	UNESCAP
Dec 2013	WCO/ADB National Workshop on TRS for Brunei (Brunei)	ADB
Jan 2014	WCO/Brunei National Workshop on RKC for Brunei (Brunei)	Brunei
Feb 2014	WCO/ADB Sub-regional Workshop on Valuation for South Asian Countries (Sri Lanka)	ADB
Apr 2014	WCO/ADB National Workshop on the TRS for Nepal (Nepal)	ADB
Apr 2014	WCO/ADB National Workshop on the TRS for Bangladesh (Bangladesh)	ADB
May 2014	WCO/ADB National Workshop on the RKC for Myanmar (Myanmar)	ADB
Jun 2014	WCO/ADB National Workshop on RKC Implementation for Bhutan (Bhutan)	ADB

## 2.3 Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities

### 2.3.1 Pool, utilize, support and increase accredited Customs experts (ACEs) in the region based on the framework

For long-term strategic planning, the ROCB A/P devised a “Framework to Pool, Utilize, Support and Increase accredited experts in the Region” with a view to developing a systematic approach for the effective use of regional expertise for the regional CB programs. Based on the

Framework and the growing CB needs in the A/P Region, the WCO and the ROCB A/P worked together to enhance the availability, efficiency and effectiveness of regional experts. To contribute to this, the following workshops was organized in the A/P region during the reporting period under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan.

✧ **National Workshop on Training Management for Fiji**

9-13 December 2013, Suva, Fiji



The WCO National Workshop on Training Management was held in Suva, Fiji, from 9 to 13 December 2013 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan. The Workshop was attended by 25 Customs officers from Fiji Revenue and Customs Administration (FRCA). Ms. Benedicte Meille, Senior Officer of the WCO Capacity Building Directorate, Mr. Jing Cheng, Technical Attaché of the ROCBAP, and Mr. Ryoji Tajima of Japan Customs participated in this workshop as subject matter experts.

During the workshop, the issues discussed included the WCO Human Resource Development, Human Resource Management policies, NTC Guidelines, training course development, training evaluation, core training techniques and the regional coordination mechanism. The practices from the relevant RTCs on the development and implementation of training programs were also introduced and discussed. Their specialist inputs vividly explained how to optimize the model of national curriculum development and training management to suit the requirements of states and administrations. All participants had a clearer idea about the WCO regionalization strategy and how the RTC Fiji could better serve pacific islands sub-region through the provision of capable experts and high quality training programs. At the end of the Workshop, the participants also produced practical and feasible action plans for applying the learned methods and knowledge into the actual work environment.

The joint effort made by the WCO and the ROCB A/P in this workshop was appreciated by FRCA and all the participants.

✧ **WCO A/P Regional Workshop on Resource Mobilization**

24-28 February 2014, Melaka, Malaysia



The WCO and the ROCB A/P, in cooperation with Malaysia Customs, organized the WCO A/P Regional Workshop on Resource Mobilization at the RTC in Melaka, Malaysia, from 24 to 28 February 2014 under the sponsorship of CCF/Japan.

A total of 24 participants from 23 A/P regional members took part in the Workshop. Ms. Heike Barczyk, Deputy Director, and Mr. Richard Chopra from the Capacity Building Directorate of the WCO, as well as Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka, Head of the ROCB A/P, facilitated the workshop. In addition, 3 development partners, namely WB, ADB and Japan Customs, participated in the Workshop and contributed significantly to the discussion on the resource mobilization for the successful implementation of Customs reform and modernization program by sharing their valuable experience on this topic from the donors' perspectives.

This Workshop was part of the on-going efforts of the WCO and the ROCB A/P in supporting A/P Customs administrations to enhance engagement of DPs for their reform and modernization programs. The WCO and the ROCB A/P jointly organized the Regional Donor Conference in May 2012, which provided members in the A/P region with the opportunity to enhance their understanding of partnership with DPs. This Workshop built upon the event in 2012 and enabled participants to address needs in the field of resource mobilization, which are essential for subsequent CB/Customs reform and modernization processes at national level.

Reflecting the strong interest of A/P regional members on this emerging topic, many DGs and Deputy DGs participated in this Workshop and discussed the way forward. The Workshop was very timely and is expected to further enhance the collaboration between the A/P Customs administrations and DPs for the successful implementation of Customs reform and modernization program. The WCO, the ROCB A/P, participating members and DPs agreed to continue to work together in this regard.

### 2.3.2 Contribution of WCO Accredited Customs Experts (ACEs) in the A/P region

Accreditation of Customs experts and their utilization of the WCO activities are important CB policies of the WCO for providing quality assistance to its members.

Taking this opportunity, the ROCB A/P would like to express its appreciation to the experts as well as their home administrations for their remarkable contributions to the regional CB activities.

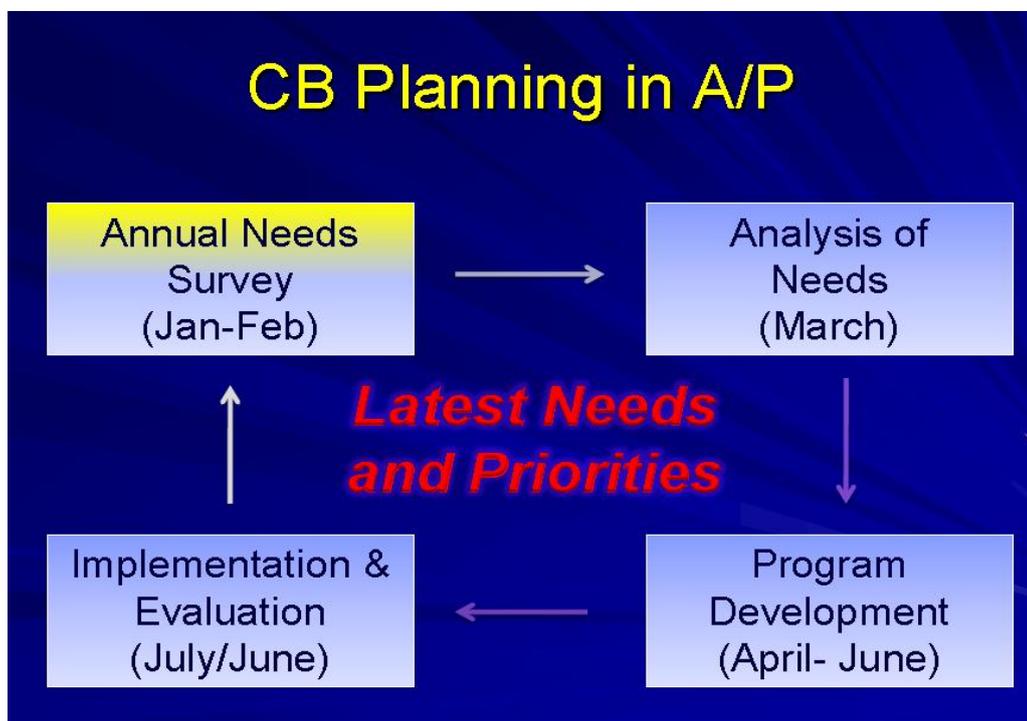
#### **List of contributions made by the ACEs during the period July 2013-June 2014**

<b>WCO Events (unless otherwise specified)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>ACEs from</b>
National Workshop on the RKC for Lao PDR	August 2013	ROCB A/P
National Workshop on IPR for Vanuatu	August 2013	Hong Kong
National Workshop on the RKC for Maldives	September 2013	ROCB A/P
Regional Workshop on Risk-based Cargo Selectivity in Japan	September 2013	Sri Lanka, Japan
WCO/ADB National Workshop on AEO for Bangladesh	September 2013	ROCB A/P
National Workshop on ROO for Indonesia	November 2013	China
Regional Workshop on IPR Border Enforcement in China	December 2013	Hong Kong
WCO/Brunei National Workshop on RKC for Brunei	January 2014	ROCB A/P
WCO/ADB Sub-regional Workshop on Valuation Train-the-Trainer for South Asia in Sri Lanka	February 2014	ROCB A/P, Japan, Maldives, Sri Lanka
WCO/ADB National Workshop on the RKC for Myanmar	May 2014	ROCB A/P, India
WCO/ADB National Workshop on the RKC Implementation for Bhutan	June 2014	ROCB A/P
National Workshop on IPR for Thailand	June 2014	India

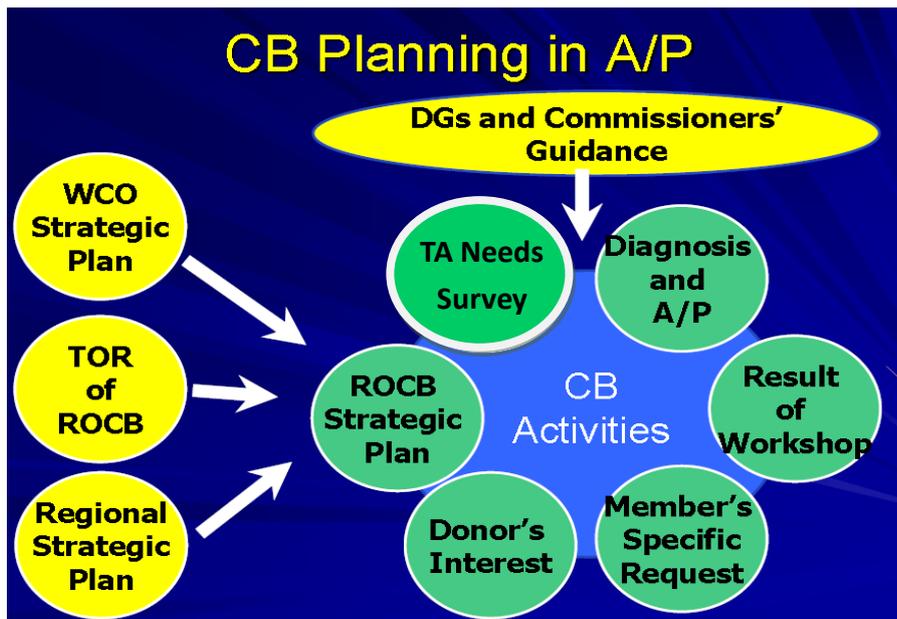
Furthermore, the ROCB A/P continues to maintain a “candidate list” for the purpose of providing systematic support for regional experts as well as, where necessary, supplementing the CB needs of our members particularly in areas where there are no WCO accredited experts. The ROCB A/P, in cooperation with the WCO, regional members and the RTCs, will continue its efforts to provide quality assistance to our members in cooperation with those regional experts. In this regard, the ROCB A/P is looking forward to welcoming more registration of “candidates” from the A/P regional members.

### 2.3.3 Work with regional training coordinator to identify and review members' CB needs and priorities through conducting a needs assessment via a survey and ongoing consultation

The ROCB A/P placed great importance in this action item in 2013/2014. There is a well-established CB planning cycle in the A/P region which is considered a model approach in the global Customs community. In January 2014, the ROCB A/P and Japan Customs (A/P regional CB coordinator) circulated the annual CB needs survey to all regional members. As a result of the joint efforts done by Japan Customs and the ROCB A/P, and more importantly cooperation from regional members, a good number of constructive feedback from our regional members on the latest needs and priorities of their CB were received.



The ROCB A/P and Japan Customs worked together to analyze the feedback against regional/national strategy and prepared regional CB proposals. The proposal was presented to the WCO Secretariat in April 2014 for their consideration and their consultation with available DPs. The ROCB A/P has received very positive feedback from their consultation with these DPs. Thanks in particular to the positive consideration of CCF/Japan and CCF/Korea, the ROCB A/P is now at the stage of implementing these proposals and, based on the information we have received so far, prepared the ROCB A/P Annual Work Plan for 2014/2015 as attached as Annex iii to this report.



### 2.3.4 The 11th Meeting of Heads of WCO A/P Regional Training Centers



The 11th Meeting of the Heads of the WCO A/P Regional Training Centers (RTCs) was held at the RTC Fiji in Suva, Fiji, from 5 to 6 November 2013. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Jitoko Tikolevu, Chief Executive Officer of Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority (FRCA). In addition to the delegates from 7 RTCs in the region, namely RTC China, RTC Fiji, RTC Hong Kong, China, RTC India, RTC Japan, RTC Korea and RTC Malaysia, representatives from the WCO Secretariat, A/P Vice Chair's Office and the ROCB A/P attended the meeting. A delegate from Oceania Customs Organization (OCO) Secretariat also attended the meeting as an observer.

At the meeting, all RTCs shared information on their respective activities and initiatives. In the spirit of A/P RSP 2012-2014 that states the high importance of enhancing regional cooperation on CB, the RTCs agreed to work together on several concrete actions for the benefit of regional experts who will be the key for regional CB delivery. The actions include, but not limited to, disseminating valuable information and providing further opportunity to enhance their

expertise/facilitation and training techniques. The RTCs also exchanged ideas on how to improve training evaluation and on the use of innovative training methods/approaches.

It is expected that the forward-looking discussions among the RTCs and the ROCB/ Vice Chair/ WCO Secretariat contribute to further progress of the region through enhanced regional cooperation on CB.

## 2.4 Enhance communication and information sharing among members

### 2.4.1 ROCB A/P E-newsletter

To enhance communication among members in the A/P Region, the ROCB A/P publishes an E-Newsletter on a quarterly basis. The E-newsletters were distributed to our members, the WCO Secretariat and the ROCBs in other regions and also placed on the ROCB A/P Website. In 2013/2014, the ROCB A/P prepared and sent out 4 issues of E-newsletters from issue No. 42 to 45. The E-newsletters not only provided the latest news on the CB activities in the A/P Region, but also offered members / work partners a platform to share information / experience on their latest development.

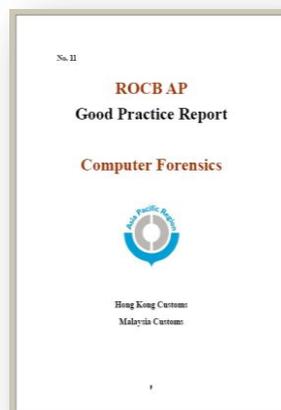


### 2.4.2 ROCB A/P Website

Since 2006, the ROCB A/P has developed and maintained the ROCB A/P Website, which has been linked to the WCO A/P Region homepage for further communication between the ROCB A/P and members. In the wake of the change of the Vice Chairmanship, and in order to better manage the website, the ROCB A/P has now re-launched the new website at <http://www.rocb-ap.org>. The new website is open to general public and we continue to make the new website more user-friendly. The latest information about the regional CB activities as well as some of publicized Customs reports and documents will be uploaded, but some documents are made available only upon request. We are looking forward to your visits to our new website and let us share and communicate.



### 2.4.3 ROCB A/P Customs Good Practice Report on “Computer Forensics”



The ROCB A/P with the support of Hong Kong Customs and Malaysia Customs developed the 11th issue of Customs Good Practice Report on Computer Forensics in December 2013. In this report, the best practices from these Customs Administrations were collected for use as a readily available reference for global Customs capacity builders.

This report has been uploaded onto the website of CLiKC! (ROCBs Document/Archive/Regional Co-operation/CLiKC. (<http://clikc.wcoomd.org/>))

### 2.4.4 Designation of “Program Manager” for the respective sub-regions

In order to meet the expectations from both DPs and regional members, it is important to note that the ROCB A/P is required to improve its own capacity to take care of these increasing

interests to further improve effectiveness and efficiency of its service. For this purpose, the ROCB A/P designated respective ROCB A/P staff members as “Program Manager” for the respective sub-regions and is moving forward to provide more focused quality assistance. They are ready to work with regional members and please do not hesitate to contact them whenever you find it necessary.

The roles and responsibilities of the “Program Manager” for the sub-regions are as follows:

- To enhance contact with the members in the responsible sub-region
- To encourage participation of responsible countries to the regional events
- To take care of individual request to be made by responsible countries
- To collect Customs related information of the responsible countries
- To liaise with officers responsible for the sub-region of various DPs

#### List of respective “Program Manager” for the 4 sub-regions

Sub-region	ROCB staff	Contact
East, Central and West Asia	Mr. Lee	leesk@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 7026
Southeast Asia	Mr. Wong	jameskwwong@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 7026
South Asia	Mr. Miyoshi	miyoshi@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 6018
Pacific Islands	Mr. Cheng	chengjing@rocbap.org, + 66 2 667 7026

## 2.5 Other activities

### 2.5.1 WCO meetings

With the growing recognition of contribution of the ROCB A/P for Customs CB in the A/P region, the ROCB A/P has received more and more invitations to act as moderators/speakers in the global and regional forums/meetings. This has called for cooperative approaches to the Customs CB activities at the global/regional levels. Examples of these contributions undertaken by the ROCB A/P are as follows:

- **Global forums/meetings and non-A/P regional meetings**
  - ✧ the 9th WCO Counterfeiting and Piracy (CAP) Group Meeting in Belgium (November 2013)
  - ✧ the Ninth Global Meeting of the ROCBs and RTCs and Vice-Chairs’ Offices in Belgium (March 2014)
  - ✧ the WCO CBC Meeting (5th Session) in Belgium (March 2014)
  - ✧ WCO/ICAO Joint Conference on Air Cargo Security in Bahrain (April 2014)
  - ✧ WCO IT Conference and Exhibition in Australia (May 2014)

- ✧ the Global WCO Accreditation Workshop on TRS in Belgium (June 2014)
- **A/P Regional meetings**
- ✧ High-level Policy Dialogue in Bhutan and India (October 2013)
- ✧ The WCO A/P Regional Steering Group (RSG) Meeting and Regional Contact Points (RCP) Meeting in Malaysia (October 2013)
- ✧ The 11th Heads of WCO A/P RTCs Meeting in Fiji (November 2013)
- ✧ the 25th Administrative Meeting of National Contact Points for RILO A/P in Vietnam (December 2013)
- ✧ the 1st Conference of Heads of National Training Centers for the WCO Europe Region in Azerbaijan (Jan 2014)
- ✧ the 15th WCO A/P Regional Heads of Customs Administration (RHCA) Conference in Australia (April 2014)
- ✧ WCO and ASEAN Consultation Meeting in Vietnam (June 2014)
- ✧ WCO/ADB Memorandum of Understanding Implementation and Mid-term Review Meeting in the Philippines (Jun 2014)

### 2.5.2 The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ROCB A/P

On 28 September 2004, the ROCB A/P was officially launched in Bangkok, Thailand. This year marks the ROCB A/P's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The ROCB A/P would like to thank, the WCO Secretariat for approving the establishment of the Office to assist in the CB of Customs administrations in A/P region. The ROCB A/P also would like to thank the Thai Customs Department for rendering the ROCB A/P office venue and facilities and seconding 3 capable Thai Customs officers and other assistance during the past 10 years. A series of celebration activities have begun. We hope that all WCO colleagues, the regional members and DPs would continue to provide us with support to this Office so as to enhance the capability of Customs in A/P region.

### 2.5.3 The Terms of Reference of the ROCB A/P

A new Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ROCB A/P was discussed and adopted at the 15<sup>th</sup> WCO A/P RHCA Conference held in April-May 2014 in Port Douglas, Australia. In accordance with the adopted TOR, the Head of the ROCB A/P should have a tenure of five years after endorsement by the RHCA and the tenure should not be for two consecutive terms.

On 30 June 2014, Mr. Yoshihiro Kosaka completed his 5-year tenure as the Head of the ROCB A/P. On 1 July 2014, Mr. Kazunari Igarashi took over the post as the new Head of the ROCB A/P as a result of the decision made at the 15<sup>th</sup> A/P RHCA Conference.

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### Part 3: ROCB A/P Work Plan for 2014/2015

This is the first year in implementing the Regional Strategic Plan (RSP) 2014-2016. Following the adoption of RSP 2014-2016 at the 15<sup>th</sup> A/P RHCA Conference, the ROCB A/P developed its own Strategic Action Plan 2014-2016 (Annex ii) which directly links with the RSP. The ROCB A/P has been conducting CB activities in A/P region in accordance with this document and, for the purpose of proper implementation, developed an Annual Work Plan for 2014/2015 (Annex iii) in collaboration with Vice Chair, RSG members and the RTCs. It has been approved by the Capacity Building Directorate of the WCO Secretariat as stipulated in the TOR of the ROCB A/P. This work plan was established based on the following 4 pillars of ROCB A/P activities.

- i. Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools**
- ii. Further enhance collaboration with the development partners**
- iii. Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities**
- iv. Enhance communication and information sharing among members**

For the 1st pillar, the ROCB A/P is going to focus its efforts on promoting a set of the WCO Packages, including ECP and RP that were given more attention by our regional members. In this regard, the ROCB A/P will continue its efforts in promoting these tools in particular the RKC, the RM and the PCA.

For the 2nd pillar, the ROCB A/P is planning to organize more workshops for the SASEC programs to have greater cooperation with our DP.

For the 3rd pillar, the Office will continue with analysis of latest regional needs and priorities through the CB needs survey and will develop tailor-made projects/training programs, so that the CB activities may remain relevant to the expectations of the regional members. In undertaking this work, the ROCB A/P will explore regional expertise more effectively and efficiently.

As for the 4th pillar, we are going to continue strengthening our communication with our regional members and DPs via our regional communication tools, such as A/P and the ROCB A/P webs, E-newsletters as well as the Good Practice Report to share members' good practices.

It is very important to note that the collaborative efforts by the ROCB A/P, the RTCs, regional members and the WCO Secretariat is the only way forward to the continuous improvement of regional CB activities, therefore, the ROCB A/P is looking forward to working with all relevant parties together to achieve this objective.

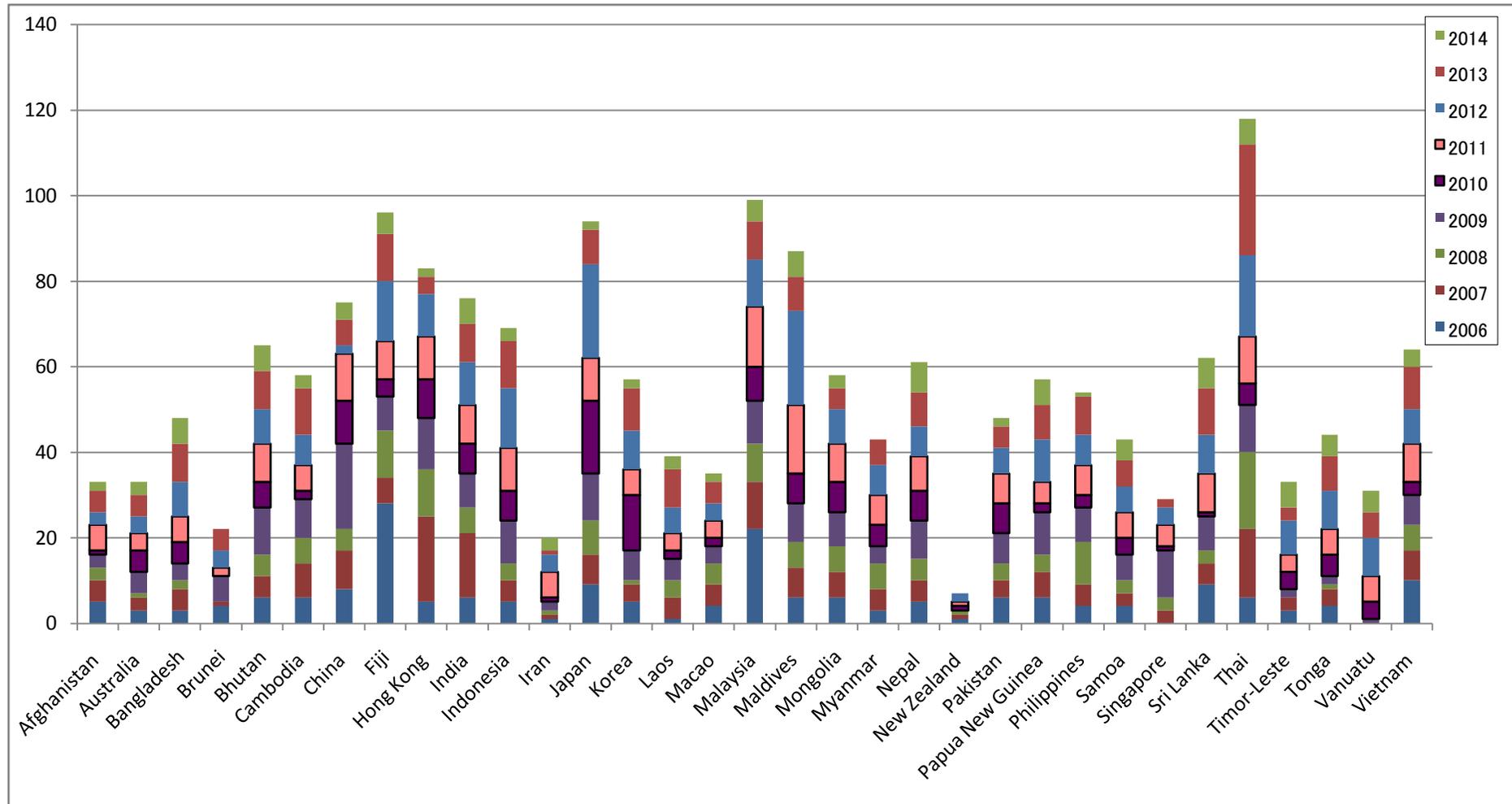
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**Part 4: ROCB A/P Audit**

There are 3 different kinds of projects in A/P region, namely: (1) projects under the CCF/Japan; (2) projects under the CCF/Korea; and (3) projects financed by DPs, such as the ADB. Among those 3 different sources of funding, the ROCB A/P primarily manages CCF/Japan and thus it is subject to the financial audit of the WCO. Last year, the ROCB A/P underwent an external audit in October 2013 with no discrepancy reported. The audit report, as well as the financial statement, was reported to the WCO Finance Committee. The timing of the next ROCB A/P audit is scheduled in the beginning of October 2014.

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### Number of Participants in the Regional Workshops



2014 (Jan – June)

**Strategic Action Plan 2014-2016**  
**For**  
**WCO Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P)**

**1. Vision**

Being a focal point of capacity building to achieve “World Best Regional Customs effectively enhancing security and prosperity together”.

**2. Mission**

To assist building the capacity of Member Customs Administrations to continuously improve securing and facilitating trade

**3. Strategic Action Plan**

In accordance with the direction given by the Director-Generals and Commissioners of the Customs Administrations in the Asia Pacific Region, the ROCB A/P has set the following Strategic Action Plan. In order to ensure the close linkage between RSP 2014-2016 and ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan, most of the ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan refers to or directly quoted from the RSP 2014-2016 and is specified under the following four pillars of ROCB activities. Like the RSP 2014-2016, this ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan is also applicable from July 2014 to June 2016.

- i. Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools
- ii. Further enhance collaboration with development partners
- iii. Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities
- iv. Enhance communication and information sharing among members

ROCB A/P Strategic Action Plan (2014-2016)

1. Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Work with the WCO Secretariat to assist all requesting developing members to have undertaken Diagnostic Phase II	1.1.2-2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone	Number of members assisted	19/19 members	On-going
b) Upon request, assist member's efforts: (1) to develop AEO (Authorized Economic Operators) program; (2) to increase AEO MRA (Mutual Recognition Arrangement); and (3) to share experiences on the implementation of SAFE FOS including TRP (Trade Recovery Program).	1.1.2-3 <sup>rd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> milestones	Number of assistance provided	At least once per year	On-going
c) Upon request, assist Non-contracting member's effort to accede to the RKC	1.1.3-1 <sup>st</sup> milestone	Number of contracting members	At least 18/33 members	June 2016
d) Upon request, assist member's effort on the (1) smooth implementation of HS 2012 (for CPs)  (2) adoption of the HS (for non-CPs)	1.1.3- 2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone	(1) Number of implementing members (2) Number of contracting members	At least 23/23 members  At least 30/33 members (for non-CPs)	On-going
e) Upon request, assist member's effort in introducing Advance Ruling system for tariff classification decision	1.1.3-3 <sup>rd</sup> milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 20/33 members	On-going

f) Upon request, assist member's effort to undertake TRS in accordance with the WCO TRS guidelines	1.1.3-4 <sup>th</sup> milestone	Number of members	33/33 members	June 2016
g) Upon request, assist member's effort in implementing WCO Data Model Ver. 3.0	1.1.3-6 <sup>th</sup> milestone	Number of implementing members	33/33 members	On-going
h) Upon request, assist member's effort in implementing the resolution on Natural Disaster Relief	1.1.3-7 <sup>th</sup> milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 15/33 members	On-going
i) Upon request, assist member's effort in implementing risk management tools including guidelines and Standardized Risk Assessment	1.1.1-1 <sup>st</sup> milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 22/33 members	June 2016
j) Upon request, assist member's effort in developing national risk management database (e.g. nCEN)	1.1.1-3 <sup>rd</sup> milestone	Number of members	At least 11/33 members	June 2016
k) Upon request, assist member's effort in developing and using national valuation database or the like as a risk management tool	1.1.1-4 <sup>th</sup> milestone	Number of members	33/33 members	June 2016
l) Upon request, assist member's effort to enhance cooperation under GNC	1.2.2- 1 <sup>st</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> milestones	Number of activities	Once in two years	June 2016
m) Upon request, assist member's effort to promote cooperation and coordination for CBM	1.2.1-1 <sup>st</sup> to 2 <sup>nd</sup> milestones	Number of activities	Once in two years	June 2016
n) Work with Vice Chair and members to promote activities to raise awareness of IPR issues and increase the application of sustainable anti-drug initiatives (e.g. WCO Compliance and Enforcement Package (CEP))	2.2.1-2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> milestones	Number of discussions in meetings in AP region	At least once per year	June 2016

o) Undertake capacity building activities to promote trade security and facilitation in the region(e.g. SAFE FoS, RM)	3.2.2- 1 <sup>st</sup> milestone	Number of CB activities undertaken	At least 3 times per year	June 2016
p) Work with RILO AP and members to undertake capacity building activities to enhance capacity of compliance and enforcement in the region (e.g. IPR, Commercial Fraud, drugs and precursors, environmental crime)	3.2.2-2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone	Number of CB activities undertaken	At least 3 times per year	June 2016
q) Develop and undertake leadership and management training programs to foster high ethical standards	3.2.3- 1 <sup>st</sup> milestone	Number of activities	At least once per year	June 2016
r) Work with interested members to share good practices on measures improving integrity	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of activities	Once in two years	June 2016

## 2. Further enhance collaboration with development partners

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Enhance cooperation, coordination and mutual understanding between development partners and ROCB A/P	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of exchange of information	At least 4 times per year	June 2016
b) Work with interested members to organize national meeting with development partners to follow up regional workshop on resource mobilization	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of national meeting with development partners	At least once per year	June 2016
c) Promote joint activities with international and regional development partners	3.1.1-2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone	Number of activities	At least twice per year	June 2016

**3. Improve needs analysis, planning, delivery and management of regional capacity building activities**

Specific Actions of ROCB	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Pool, utilize, support and increase accredited experts in the region based on the framework	3.1.2-1 <sup>st</sup> milestone	Number of experts utilized	Use of accredited experts for at least one half of the requested missions	June 2016
b) Upon request, assist members to promote the WCO e-learning programs in cooperation with RTCs and accredited experts	3.1.2-2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone	Number of implementing members	At least 6/33 members	JUN 2016
c) Work with developed members to ensure their contribution to the regional capacity building activities	3.1.2-3 <sup>rd</sup> milestone	Number of contributions	Meet at least 75% of the ROCB requests	June 2016
d) Work with regional training coordinator to identify and review members' capacity building needs and priorities through conducting a needs assessment via a survey and ongoing consultation	3.2.1-1 <sup>st</sup> milestone	Number of surveys conducted	At least once per year	June 2016
e) Work with members to ensure their inputs to the development of ROCB A/P annual plans by responding to the regional needs survey	4.1.2- milestone	Number of contributing members	33/33 members	June 2016
f) Develop and conduct capacity building activities paying due attention to the needs and priorities identified	3.2.1-2 <sup>nd</sup> milestone	Number of CB activities	At least once per month	June 2016
g) Work with the WCO Secretariat and members to evaluate the regional capacity building program	3.2.1-3 <sup>rd</sup> milestone	Results of participants' evaluation	At least average of 4 out of 5	June 2016

h) Work with regional training coordinator to feed results back into planning for regional capacity building activities	3.2.1-4 <sup>th</sup> milestone	Number of post action undertaken	At least once per year	June 2016
i) Work with the WCO Secretariat and Regional Training Centers to enhance members' national capacity on training management and delivery,	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of follow-up work undertaken	At least once per year	June 2016
j) Further strengthen cooperation among 7 Regional Training Centers and ROCB paying due attention to establishing/supporting regional experts for more sustainable capacity building delivery in the region	ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)	Number of activities	At least once per year	June 2016

#### 4. Enhance communication and information sharing among members

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Relevant part of RSP 2014-2016	KPI	Target	Timeframe in the RSP
a) Work with Members, Vice chair and RILO AP to share experiences on capacity building activities with members on regular basis via regional communication tools (e.g. WCO AP Website and Newsletter, ROCB AP Website and Newsletters)	3.1.1- 1 <sup>st</sup> milestone	Number of sharing experiences	At least once every quarter	June 2016
b) Work with members, Vice chair and RTC to share good practices with other members via regional communication tools	4.1.4- milestone	Number of items shared	At least once per quarter	June 2016

<p>c) Work with WCO to utilize CLiKC! platform or with Vice-Chair to utilize WCO AP website "Forum" for virtual discussion for exchange of ideas on a number of capacity building related topics</p>	<p>ROCB A/P specific (not mentioned in the RSP)</p>	<p>Number of use of forum</p>	<p>Once in two years</p>	<p>June 2016</p>
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## Annual Work Plan for ROCB A/P (Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building) (2014/2015)

### 1. Support the implementation of WCO conventions, instruments and tools

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Work Plan for 2014/2015	Timeframe
a) Work with the WCO Secretariat to assist all requesting developing members to have undertaken Diagnostic Phase II	➤ Upon request, assist requesting developing Members to undertake Customs reform and modernization based on the diagnostic recommendations	June 2015
b) Upon request, assist member's efforts: (1) to develop AEO (Authorized Economic Operators) program; (2) to increase AEO MRA (Mutual Recognition Arrangement), and; (3) to share experiences on the implementation of SAFE FOS including TRP (Trade Recovery Program).	➤ Organize a regional workshop on AEO in India (TBC) to assist Member for the implementation of action planning, in conjunction with the WTO TFA requirements, which will be complemented by a series of national workshops for Mongolia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Sri Lanka to assist them to introduce AEO programs.	June 2015
c) Upon request, assist Non-contracting member's effort to accede to the RKC	➤ Conduct national workshops for Tonga, Maldives and Iran to enhance their understanding on the RKC and develop implementation plan and, where applicable, roadmap for its accession.	June 2015
d) Upon request, assist member's effort on the (1) smooth implementation of HS 2012 (for CPs) (2) adoption of the HS (for non-CPs)	➤ Conduct national workshops for Tonga and Vanuatu ➤ Upon request, provide assistance to interested Members for smooth implementation of HS 2012 and/or adopt HS 2012.	June 2015

<p>e) Upon request, assist member's effort in introducing Advance Ruling system for tariff classification decision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Conduct national workshops for Tonga and Vanuatu</li> <li>➤ Upon request, provide assistance for introduction of advance ruling system</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>f) Upon request, assist member's effort to undertake TRS in accordance with the WCO TRS guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Send experts to India and, if any, other interested Members to organize national workshops to assist them to undertake TRS based on the WCO guidelines.</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>g) Upon request, assist member's effort in implementing WCO Data Model Ver. 3.0</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on Single Window in Korea to deepen understanding on the Single Window and its implementation, in conjunction with the WTO TFA requirements</li> <li>➤ Aiming at complementing the regional work, conduct a national workshop in Bhutan and Maldives to assist them to implement Single Window</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>h) Upon request, assist member's effort in implementing the resolution on Natural Disaster Relief</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upon request, provide assistance for the implementation of the Resolution on the Customs Role on the Natural Disaster Relief (2011).</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

<p>i) Upon request, assist member's effort in implementing risk management tools including guidelines and Standardized Risk Assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on risk management in Hong Kong China to support Members to apply intelligence-led risk management, supported by national intelligence database (including nCEN), national targeting center etc.(See also 1 – (n))</li> <li>➤ Aiming at complementing the above-mentioned regional workshop, organize a national workshops for Vietnam and, if any, other interested Members to support their effort in introducing and using relevant risk management tools, including nCEN</li> <li>➤ Conduct a national workshop on organizational management for Fiji, focusing on enhanced use of IT infrastructure for effective knowledge management, development of IT strategy in relation to organizational development</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>j) Upon request, assist member's effort in developing national risk management database (e.g. nCEN)</p>		
<p>k) Upon request, assist member's effort in developing and using national valuation database or the like as a risk management tool</p>		
<p>l) Upon request, assist member's effort to enhance cooperation under GNC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upon request, provide assistance to improve understanding on GNC and contribute to the WCO work on the development of GNC action plan.</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>m) Upon request, assist member's effort to promote cooperation and coordination for CBM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upon request, provide assistance for the implementation of CBM</li> <li>➤ Encourage Members to share their experiences in CBM using the ROCB A/P's communication tools, such as ROCB A/P web or ROCB A/P e-newsletters</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

<p>n) Work with Vice Chair and members to promote activities to raise awareness of IPR issues and increase the application of sustainable anti-drug initiatives (e.g. WCO Compliance and Enforcement Package (CEP))</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on IPR (TBD) focusing on enhancement of Customs-right holders cooperation, increase of the use of the IPM and development of national action plans thereof.</li> <li>➤ Organize a sub-regional workshop for an IPR enforcement operation (TBD)</li> <li>➤ Conduct an IPR diagnostics national workshops for Vanuatu., Indonesia, and Bangladesh</li> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on risk management in Hong Kong China to support Members to apply intelligence-led risk management, supported by national intelligence database (including nCEN), national targeting center, etc. (See also 1 – (i) and (j))</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>o) Undertake capacity building activities to promote trade security and facilitation in the region (e.g. SAFE FoS, RM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on air cargo security in Thailand to promote trade security and facilitation in the region</li> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on trade facilitation (TBD) focusing enhanced understanding of the WTO TFA requirements, development of implementation action plan, and enhancement of business partnership through to-be-developed guidelines</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

<p>p) Work with RILO AP and members to undertake capacity building activities to enhance capacity of compliance and enforcement in the region (e.g. IPR, Commercial Fraud, drugs and precursors, environmental crime)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on risk management in Malaysia (TBC) to enhance risk assessment particularly focusing on environmentally hazardous items</li> <li>➤ Organize a sub-regional workshop regarding the train-the-trainers in India for valuation and valuation control via Post Clearance Audit</li> <li>➤ Conduct a national workshops for Lao PDR and PNG to assist implementation of PCA based on the PCA Guidelines</li> <li>➤ Cooperate with RILO A/P and regional experts on anti-drug activities with a view to strengthening Members' drug enforcement capacity</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>q) Develop and undertake leadership and management training programs to foster high ethical standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cooperate with interested Member(s) to organize a regional workshop on integrity issues (See also 3-(c))</li> <li>➤ Upon request, provide assistance on integrity issues and share Members on-going efforts and accomplishments on improving integrity</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>r) Work with interested members to share good practices on measures improving integrity</p>		

## 2. Further enhance collaboration with the development partners

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Work Plan for 2014/2015	Timeframe
<p>a) Enhance cooperation, coordination and mutual understanding between development partners and ROCB A/P</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Continue strategic dialogues and cooperation with development partners through participation in the meetings and seminars organized by them</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

<p>b) Work with interested members to organize national meeting with development partners to follow up regional workshop on resource mobilization</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upon request of interested Members, organize national meetings with development partners to follow up regional workshop on resource mobilization held in Malaysia in May 2014</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>c) Promote joint activities with international and regional development partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work with WB, ADB, UNEP and other interested development partners to conduct joint projects for reform and modernization of Member administrations and send experts for the joint projects on such areas as Customs valuation and PCA</li> <li>➤ Participate in sub-regional meetings organized by these development partners to monitor and assist Members' efforts in reform and modernization</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

### 3. Enhance communication and information sharing among members

Specific Actions of ROCB	Work Plan for 2014/2015	Timeframe
<p>a) Pool, utilize, support and increase accredited experts in the region based on the framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Organize an accreditation workshop on AEO in Malaysia (TBC) and utilize the region’s accredited experts on various occasions of regional/national workshops on their respective expertise.</li> <li>➤ Discuss and cooperate with Regional Training Centers to keep update the knowledge and skills of these accredited experts and candidates Conduct a train-the-trainers national workshop for Malaysia to build a pool of trainers on rules of origin</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>b) Upon request, assist members to promote the WCO e-learning programs in cooperation with RTCs and accredited experts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Take every possible opportunity to promote the WCO e-learning programs and CLiKC! Platform in cooperation with the RTCs and accredited experts to support Members’ continuous self-efforts for training of their personnel</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>c) Work with developed members to ensure their contribution to the regional capacity building activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Organize a regional workshop on chemical analysis in Japan for the implementation of the Regional Customs Laboratory Initiative</li> <li>➤ Conduct a national workshop on chemical analysis for Cambodia as a pilot project to establish a small-scale laboratory under the Regional Customs Laboratory Initiative</li> <li>➤ Cooperate with interested Member(s) to organize a regional workshop on integrity issues (<i>See also 1-(q) and (r)</i>)</li> <li>➤ Identify areas of existing expertise and their possible inputs from the developed Members and seek further contribution from them for the regional capacity building activities at an early stage of planning.</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

<p>d) Work with regional training coordinator to identify and review members' capacity building needs and priorities through conducting a needs assessment via a survey and ongoing consultation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work with the Regional Training Coordinator to further review capacity building needs survey aiming at properly collecting Members' most current needs and reform/modernization priorities</li> <li>➤ Work with the WCO Secretariat, Member and development partners to plan, deliver and review capacity building activities paying due attention to the Members' needs and priorities.</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>e) Work with members to ensure their input to ROCB A/P annual plans by responding to the regional needs survey</p>		
<p>f) Develop and conduct capacity building activities paying due attention to the needs and priorities identified</p>		
<p>g) Work with the WCO Secretariat and members to evaluate the regional capacity building program</p>		
<p>h) Work with regional training coordinator to feed results back into planning for regional capacity building activities</p>		
<p>i) Work with the WCO Secretariat and Regional Training Centers to enhance members' national capacity on training management and delivery,</p>		
<p>j) Further strengthen cooperation among 7 Regional Training Centers and ROCB paying due attention to establishing/supporting regional experts for more sustainable capacity building delivery in the region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Convene Heads of RTC meeting to further strengthen their network and devise regional strategy for the pooling and better use of the regional experts in capacity building activities</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

4. Enhance communication and information sharing among members

Specific Actions of ROCB A/P	Work Plan for 2014/2015	Timeframe
<p>a) Work with Members, Vice chair and RILO AP to share experiences on capacity building activities with members on regular basis via regional communication tools (e.g. WCO AP Website and Newsletter, ROCB AP Website and Newsletters)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Issue ROCB A/P e-newsletters every 3 months and include more information on Members’ experiences in reform and modernization</li> <li>➤ Create a new ROCB website and upload pertinent information more frequently to inform the regional Members of the ROCB A/P’s activities in a timely manner.</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>b) Work with members, Vice chair and RTC to share good practices with other members via regional communication tools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Assist Members, Vice Chair and the RTCs to share good practices by issuing a series of regional good practice reports on selected topics</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>
<p>c) Work with WCO to utilize CLiKC! platform or with Vice Chair to utilize WCO AP website “Forum” for virtual discussion for exchange of ideas on a number of capacity building related topics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work with the WCO Secretariat and experts to promote CLiKC! platform to reinvigorate virtual discussion on the topics of the Members’ interest</li> </ul>	<p>June 2015</p>

# Annual Report 2013/2014



**WCO ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE FOR CAPACITY BUILDING (ROCB A/P)**

Thai Customs Department, 1, Sunthornkosa Road, Klong Toey, Bangkok 10110 THAILAND

Phone : +66 2667 7026 Fax : +66 2667 6814 E-mail : [rocb@rocbap.org](mailto:rocb@rocbap.org)