



In this issue:

- Introduction to "Legal Framework for Single Window system Implementation: A Study Based on Analysis of International Legal Standards" by Jaemin Cho, Program Manager of the ROCB A/P

Foreword

Dear Readers,

One of the hottest topics these days is how the ROCB A/P can provide effective change management to the Region. The WCO Council has adopted the new Capacity Building Paradigm, and the Secretariat has begun implementing this concept, which has a significant impact on Members as well as on the experts who support these developments. Our role in the Region is to manage this change so that Members continue to receive high-quality WCO capacity-building activities, as before, but with more effective outcomes. Please look forward to our next steps in the months to come.



This issue of the ROCB A/P E-Newsletter features our activities undertaken from September through December 2025. During this period, the ROCB A/P remained highly active and deeply engaged across the Asia/Pacific region, playing a central role in advancing capacity building, regional coordination, and stakeholder collaboration.

The Office participated in and contributed to a wide range of high-level meetings, technical workshops, and enforcement-related operations, including the Heads Meeting for the Regional Training Centres, Regional Customs Meetings and joint activities with RILO A/P, UN agencies, and partner administrations. The ROCB A/P also engaged in discussions with the WCO Secretariat on how to cooperate more effectively in identifying and addressing Members' emerging needs.

Through these engagements, the ROCB A/P facilitated and/or participated in practical knowledge transfer in priority areas such as data analytics, single window, environmental crime, illicit trade, and the application of artificial intelligence. The Office also strengthened partnerships with key donors and counterparts, ensured alignment between regional priorities and global WCO initiatives. Collectively, these efforts make a meaningful contribution to enhancing

Members' capabilities, promoting regional coherence, and reinforcing the Asia/Pacific Region's ability to respond effectively to evolving Customs challenges.

Working in an international organization brings great joy in meeting people from different backgrounds, sharing diverse ideas, and pursuing the same passion toward a common goal. Mr. Jaemin Cho served three years at the ROCB A/P, has to leave our office. Many of you has witnessed that he made significant contributions during his tenure. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to him and to his home Administration, the Korea Customs Service, for providing such high-quality service to the Region. We will miss him greatly, but we are confident that he will serve even more effectively in his home country, drawing on the valuable experience gained at our Office.

It is also always a pleasure to welcome a new face to our Office. Ms. Chananchita (Khun Nook) from Thai Customs Department is a highly proactive and forward-looking colleague who brings a positive spirit to our team. She has already been handling challenging tasks related to the transition to the new Paradigm.

Please look forward to our continued active engagement with the Region.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of two parts. The first part is the Japanese name 'Tajima Jun' (田島 潤) written in a stylized, cursive manner. The second part is a smaller, more compact signature, possibly 'Jun' or a variation of the name.

Jun Tajima

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**Introduction to “Legal Framework for Single Window system Implementation: A Study Based on Analysis of International Legal Standards”, by Jaemin Cho,
Program Manager of the ROCB A/P**

Jun Tajima

It is my great privilege to introduce this publication, Legal Framework for Single Window System Implementation: A Study Based on Analysis of International Legal Standards.

In an era where international trade is rapidly evolving and digital transformation is essential; the establishment of efficient Single Window (SW) systems is of critical importance for governments and border agencies worldwide. This publication illustrates the commitment of the World Customs Organization Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P) to supporting Members in strengthening their readiness for digital trade facilitation.

This paper offers a comprehensive examination of the legal foundations required to develop and operate Single Window systems at both the national and international levels. By systematically analysing the relevant standards, recommendations, and instruments of major international organizations, the author provides an exceptionally clear and structured overview of the legal issues that policymakers must address.

What makes this publication particularly valuable is its practical orientation. It explains complex legal issues into actionable insights, offering a clear reference for policymakers, Customs administrations, and cross-border regulatory agencies in the Asia/Pacific Region. As the author stresses, the legal foundation is critically important to move the efforts forward. By his presenting a structured overview of international standards and their implications, this study supports Members in assessing legal gaps in a coordinated manner.

You can find the publication from the link below. please send us your feed back to the ROCB A/P (rocb@rocbap.org)

Link to the publication: https://www.rocb-ap.org/Dashboard/src/uploads/button_901552.pdf

Workshops/Meetings

23rd RTC Heads Meeting



1st – 3rd October 2025, Bali, Indonesia

The 23rd Meeting of the Heads of WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Training Centres (RTCs) was held from 1st – 3rd October 2025 at Bali, Indonesia (RTC Indonesia). The event was organized by the Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P), co-chaired by RTC Indonesia, bringing together ten Heads of RTCs from across the Asia-Pacific region, the WCO Secretariat, the Asia/Pacific Vice-Chair's Office, and the Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific (RILO A/P). The meeting adopted a hybrid format, enabling delegates from the WCO Secretariat to participate online for certain sessions.

Mr. Mochamad Mulyono, Director of RTC Indonesia warmly welcomed the delegates at the RTC Indonesia in Bali. The meeting commenced by opening remarks by.

Acting Chairperson of Financial Education and Training Agency, Mr Sudarto, Mr. Gary Hung, Deputy Head of the Secretariat Office of the WCO Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific Region,

and Mr. Jun Tajima, Head of ROCB A/P. The opening remarks highlighted the critical role of RTCs in advancing customs modernization, promoting collaboration, and supporting regional capacity building.

Over the course of the event, RTC leaders exchanged insights on recent progress and strategies to improve training outcomes. Key sessions featured presentations from RTCs in Cambodia, China, Hong Kong China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, and Thailand, aligned with the 2025 WCO theme: "Customs Delivering on its Commitment to Efficiency, Security, and Prosperity." This emphasized the region's priorities in tackling new issues via enhanced efficiency, security measures, and economic growth. Additional discussions covered regional updates from the Vice-Chair office, RILO A/P, and ROCB A/P, plus WCO policies and programs, with a spotlight on the emerging Capacity Building Paradigm and strategies for cultivating and sustaining WCO experts.



Participants shared best practices on nurturing officers skilled in global capacity building and preserving their expertise. The agenda also incorporated field visits to the Denpasar Regional Training Office and Denpasar Customs Office, as well as immersions into Bali's cultural and economic landscape, ending with a trip to Uluwatu Temple for the iconic Kecak Dance performance.

Mr. Jun Tajima, in his final comments, thanked participants for their engaged input and dedication. He praised the productive exchanges on themes of efficiency, security, prosperity, the updated capacity building framework, and expert cultivation, suggesting these would inform future regional approaches. Optimistic about applying these learnings to elevate capabilities region-wide, he acknowledged RTC Indonesia's hospitality and urged ongoing joint efforts to fortify the Asia-Pacific customs network. The next RTC Heads Meeting is tentatively scheduled to be hosted by RTC Malaysia, with further details to be confirmed in the coming months.

ROCB A/P Participates in Regional Private Sector Group (RPSG) Asia-Pacific Meeting

13th October 2025, Hong Kong, China



On October 13th, 2025, the Regional Private Sector Group Asia-Pacific (RPSG-AP) meeting was held in Hong Kong, China. The meeting brings together Customs administrations and industry sectors from the WCO Asia/Pacific region. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid format, with participants attending both in person and online.

The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Wendy Stanton, Customs Manager at IKEA (Australia), and co-chaired by Mrs. Scarlett Tang, Director of HK Customs Affairs at Huawei International Co., Ltd. The session opened with welcome remarks, followed by a presentation from the WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Vice Chair, delivered by Mr. Kin Kei Li, Assistant Commissioner of Hong Kong Customs and Head of the Vice Chair Office.

Mr. Jun Tajima, Head of the ROCB A/P, provided an overview of the WCO and ROCB A/P, outlining their origins, regional functions, and recent developments. He emphasized the importance of understanding business perspectives and highlighted initiatives aimed at enhancing communication between the ROCB and the private sector.

Throughout the meeting, various speakers presented on topics including strategic trade regulations in the Philippines, outcomes of the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) World Congress in Hanoi, and developments in AEO cooperation within APEC. The meeting also featured an AEO workshop where members discussed the implementation and impact of AEO programs in their respective countries.

The meeting concluded with closing remarks reaffirming the importance of public-private cooperation in promoting efficient and secure trade.

34th RCP meeting



14th – 17th October 2025, Hong Kong, China

The ROCB attended the 34th RCP meeting in Hong Kong, China, from October 14th to 17th, 2025, organised by Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department, in its capacity as the Vice-Chair for the WCO Asia/Pacific (A/P) Region. The four-day meeting was attended by representatives from Customs Administrations of A/P Region.

The ROCB A/P delivered the presentations on its policy and activities, and Regional Strategic Plan (RSP) Focus Area 3–Capacity Building.

Ms. Asuka Nagamatsu, Program Manager, introduced the outline of the ROCB, followed by Mr. Jun Tajima, Head of the ROCB A/P, who presented the results of the ROCB A/P's questionnaire conducted during the Regional Heads of Customs Administration (RHCA) Conference in May 2025, along with the ROCB A/P's analysis of the results and possible ways forward.

Mr. Tajima also emphasized that the ROCB A/P is committed to supporting Members who may face difficulties arising from the new procedures introduced under the new Capacity Building Paradigm. The ROCB Team talked with some delegates on these procedures so that the WCO's support would be timely without delay. In addition, he encouraged Members to provide responses to the Annual Needs Survey and other information, such as WCO diagnostic reports, to enable the ROCB A/P to respond to their needs more effectively and efficiently.

Ms. Zhengqing Ye and Mr. Jaemin Cho, Program Managers shared implementation status of Focus Area 3 with all the members at the meeting. The Meeting also witnessed thematic issues in the Region and noted presentations such as "Implementing the WTO-TFA and the Mercator Program of the WCO", "E-Commerce Development Through Digital Innovation", "Customs role in Anti-Money Laundering and Its Enforcement Strategy", and "Non-Intrusive Inspection and AI-Enabled Image Analysis".

This conference provided A/P members and regional entities with an important platform to discuss and review regional Customs policies, put forward proposals and keep updated of the latest Customs initiatives. These exchanges promote regional cooperation in response to rapidly changing global challenges.



ROCB A/P and Australian Border Force discuss further Collaboration on Regional endeavor

5th November 2025, Online meeting

On Wednesday, November 5th, 2025, the WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P) headquartered in Bangkok, Thailand, had an online meeting with representatives from the Australian Border Force (ABF).



Mr. Jun Tajima and Mr. Mark Ho joined from the ROCB A/P, with discussions centering on collaborative opportunities to deliver targeted technical assistance programs tailored to the region's evolving needs. ABF outlined its ongoing partnership with ASEAN in delivering technical assistance initiatives. Participants explored plans for in-person assistance programs in the upcoming fiscal year, emphasizing practical, region-specific solutions to bolster Customs efficiency and sustainability.

The dialogue extended to broader collaboration avenues, including joint opportunities with ROCB A/P, interest in Training of Trainers and Learning Development programs, along with strategies to harness mutual expertise for greater impact. The meeting underscored a shared commitment to empowering Customs officials through innovative, high-quality capacity building.



ROCB A/P Engages in 36th Administrative Meeting for National Contact Points of RILO A/P

10th – 12th November 2025, Tokyo, Japan



From November 10th to 12th, 2025, Mr. Mark Ho, Program Manager for Southeast Asia, and RILO cooperation coordinator, represented ROCB A/P to participate in the 36th Administrative Meeting for National Contact Points of the Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific (RILO A/P) in Tokyo, Japan.

Discussions centered on advancing regional intelligence sharing, enforcement operations, and capacity-building synergies to address evolving threats like drug trafficking and illegal trade. Key sessions covered RILO's 2025 Work Plan progress, WCO updates, CEN data status, operations such as Mekong Dragon and Pacific Shield, and trend analyses on methamphetamine from the Golden Triangle and South Asian drug flows.

The agenda extended to strengthening regional networks, inter-RILO cooperation, and anti-money laundering strategies, with contributions from partners including the WCO Secretariat, INCB, INTERPOL, and administrations from Australia, China, Hong Kong China, and Japan. Mr. Ho delivered a presentation to introduce ROCB A/P's role in the capacity-building segment, integrating training with enforcement efforts for enhanced Customs effectiveness.

The meeting underscored a shared commitment to fostering secure and efficient trade across the Asia/Pacific through collaborative intelligence and skills development.

WCO and UN ESCAP Jointly Organize the 8th UNNEXT Masterclass: Electronic Single Windows and Data Analytics for Trade Compliance and Facilitation

10th – 19th November, Seoul, Korea



The 8th Masterclass workshop, jointly organized by the WCO, ROCB A/P, and UN ESCAP, took place in Seoul, Korea, from November 10th to 19th, 2025. Supported by the Korea Customs Service, the event received financial backing from the Customs Cooperation Fund of Korea (CCF/Korea) and the UN Fund. The workshop was attended by 22 participants representing Customs administrations and relevant border agencies from 17 countries.

Mr. Jaemin Cho, Program Manager of ROCB A/P, and Ms. Vareemon Chairungsilert, Program Coordinator, facilitated the workshop. Mr. Jaemin Cho presented the legal frameworks for Electronic Single Window and AI systems, while Ms. Vareemon Chairungsilert presented ROCB A/P's work programme and handled the evaluation session.

The workshop included hands-on training sessions and thematic discussions on topics such as: "Fundamentals and Benefits of Data Analytics," "BACUDA Algorithms," "Data Analytics Hands-on Training," "Data Ethics and AI Governance," "Electronic Single Windows and Interoperability," and "Leveraging Innovative and Emerging Technologies for Electronic Single Window and Cross-border Paperless Trade."

Participants were divided into four groups, each actively engaging in exercises involving BACUDA algorithms. They also participated in group discussions and presentations, including developing a master plan to expedite cross-border paperless procedures and formulating national data analytics policies by selecting one country among the group members.

The program featured study visits to the WCO Regional Training Center in Cheonan, the Incheon Airport Express Cargo Clearance Center, and a private logistics company's Global Distribution Center, providing participants with practical insights and observations.

ROCB A/P shares its GCI efforts at the Mid-term Evaluation Meeting of Operation DEMETER XI

10th - 12th November 2025, Mombasa, Kenya



The Mid-term Evaluation Meeting of Operation DEMETER XI, funded by the Customs Cooperation Fund of China (CCF-China), was held in Mombasa, Kenya from 10th to 12th November 2025. At the invitation of the WCO Secretariat, Ms. Zhengqing YE represented the ROCB A/P at this important event.

First launched in 2009 with 64 Customs administrations, Operation DEMETER has grown into one of the WCO's flagship enforcement initiatives. Operation DEMETER XI targets illegal cross-border shipments of hazardous and other waste, as well as ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) controlled under the Montreal Protocol. With 115 participating Members, this year's operation is the largest in the series to date, reflecting the international Customs community's strong and united commitment to combat environmental crime through cooperation and collective enforcement action.

During the meeting, the ROCB A/P presented its ongoing efforts to advance the Green Customs Initiative (GCI) in the Asia/Pacific region. In recent years, our office has observed increasing attention on Green Customs, particularly as several Members face significant waste inflows and rising domestic concern. In response, WCO capacity building activities in AP region [JT1] have progressively evolved. The earliest workshops focused on introducing the Basel Convention, the Montreal Protocol, and other key MEAs. Over time, the content expanded to include best practices—such as the use of mobile applications that enable frontline officers to upload photos of suspicious goods for initial AI-assisted assessment. Our office [JT2] also shared Members' experiences, including China Customs' use of Customs laboratories for plastic waste identification during these meetings. These exchanges provided valuable insights and practical takeaways for our African colleagues. Later on, our office recommended incorporating sessions on frontline officer protection when drafting workshop agendas, emphasizing the importance of proper procedures for handling hazardous waste. While Customs must work proactively to stop illegal waste shipments at the border, ensuring the safety of officers is an equally critical component of Green Customs capacity building.

Discussions revealed that some African Members face challenges similar to those encountered in the Asia/Pacific region, such as the identification of second-hand clothing and other difficult-to-assess commodities. As a regional office, our work primarily focuses on the Asia/Pacific region, but the opportunity to join an Operation DEMETER-related event in Africa proved extremely valuable. It allowed us to gain a broader perspective on global challenges and learn from diverse experiences and insights that will strengthen our ability to support AP Members more effectively.

On this occasion, the ROCB A/P expressed its sincere appreciation to the WCO Secretariat, and all partners and Members for their continued collaboration. Operation DEMETER exemplifies

how enforcement and capacity building can reinforce each other. By working together, Customs administrations can act not only as facilitators of trade but also as protectors of our environment.

Japan Customs Liaison Office (JCLO) Senior Liaison Officer visits ROCB A/P

11th November 2025, Bangkok, Thailand

On 11th November 2025, Mr. Hiroya Tomio, Senior Liaison Officer from the Japan Customs Liaison Office (JCLO) paid a courtesy visit to the ROCB A/P. He was warmly welcomed by Mr. Jun Tajima, the Head of the ROCB A/P and Ms. Chananchita Rueng-O-Cha, Assistant Program Manager.



During the visit, Mr. Tomio provided an overview of his current responsibilities and introduced one of the work areas of the International Intelligence Office (IIO), focusing on Trends in Drug Smuggling Seizures. He also shared valuable insights and invited constructive discussions on emerging challenges surrounding drug smuggling and Customs enforcement.

Both sides exchanged views on strengthening regional cooperation and information sharing to effectively address cross-border illicit trade. The discussion highlighted the importance of continuous cooperation among Customs Administrations in exchange information, and the important roles to play by the JCLO and the ROCB A/P. The meeting concluded in a positive and constructive atmosphere, with both parties reaffirming their commitment to ongoing partnership and mutual support in tackling these challenges.

ROCB A/P joins Operation Mekong Dragon VII Debriefing Meeting

18th – 19th November 2025, Nha Trang, Vietnam



The World Customs Organization (WCO) Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific (RILO A/P) and the UNODC Global Programme on Crimes that Affect the Environment (GPCAE) jointly hosted the Operation Mekong Dragon (OMD) VII Debriefing Meeting on 18th – 19th November 2025 in Nha Trang, Vietnam. The ROCB A/P participated in this event to support regional cooperation and capacity building in combating illicit drug trafficking and environmental crimes.

Initiated under the leadership of China Customs and Vietnam Customs, with support from RILO AP and UNODC, the OMD series has grown into one of the most impactful joint enforcement operations in the Asia/Pacific region. Bringing together Customs and law enforcement agencies from across the region, OMD has made significant contributions to intercepting illicit drugs, wildlife products, and other contraband linked to transnational organized crime.

The two-day debriefing meeting, attended by OMD focal points and enforcement experts, provided a platform for Members to review the results of OMD VII, discuss operational challenges, and consolidate lessons learned.

RILO A/P presented the overall updates and statistics of OMD VII, highlighting trends in drug trafficking and wildlife smuggling, key operational follow-ups, and challenges faced during the operation. Participating Members shared seizure data, post-seizure investigation progress, and recommendations for enhancing future operations.

As part of the discussions, the ROCB A/P emphasized its commitment to supporting Members through strengthened capacity building in areas closely linked to OMD priorities. This includes training on environmental crime enforcement, risk management, and cross-border cooperation—key elements that enable Customs administrations to respond more effectively to evolving trafficking trends.

The ROCB A/P also acknowledged the operational and institutional challenges shared by Members, noting the importance of continuous capacity development, especially in areas such as evidence handling, detection technologies, and interagency coordination. The insights gathered from this debriefing will contribute to shaping future training activities tailored to the needs of the region.

The meeting concluded with group discussions on operational enhancements and future expectations for OMD VIII. Participants reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining strong regional cooperation, improving information exchange, and applying the lessons learned to strengthen future enforcement efforts.

The ROCB A/P expresses its sincere appreciation to RILO A/P, UNODC, China Customs, Vietnam Customs, and all participating Members for their continued dedication and collaboration. Operation Mekong Dragon remains a powerful example of how regional enforcement and capacity building can reinforce each other to combat transnational crime more effectively.

Japan Customs Delegation Visits the ROCB A/P

21st November 2025, Bangkok, Thailand



Mr. Hiroshi Nishino, Counselor of the International Cooperation Division, Customs and Tariff Bureau (CTB), Japan Customs, paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Jun Tajima, the Head of the ROCB A/P, together with his colleagues Ms. Mariko Haga, Deputy Director; Ms. Satsuki Kondo, Unit Chief; and Mr. Daisuke Yoshikawa, Chief Advisor (JICA Expert) on 21st November 2025.

Mr. Tajima warmly welcomed Mr. Nishino and the Japan Customs delegation to the ROCB A/P. He expressed his deep appreciation to Japan Customs for its strong and continuous support to the ROCB A/P since its establishment in 2004.

Mr. Nishino shared his appreciation for the ROCB A/P's work in capacity building for the Asia-Pacific region. He recognized the importance of its ongoing activities and exchanged views with Mr. Tajima on continuing close cooperation.

During the visit, Mr. Tajima introduced the outline of the ROCB A/P, including its key functions and major activities, especially the current situation of capacity building activities in the region and the future direction of the ROCB A/P.

Mr. Tajima expressed his hope for continued close partnership with Japan Customs in the years ahead.

Courtesy visit to Director General of Thai Customs Department

12th December 2025, Bangkok, Thailand



Mr. Jun Tajima, Head of the ROCB A/P and his colleagues, paid a courtesy call to Mr. Phantong Loykulnanta, the Director General of Thai Customs Department.

Mr. Tajima expressed his sincere gratitude towards the ongoing support on hosting the ROCB A/P office and providing instrumental manpower since its establishment in 2004 as the host administration.

On this occasion, Mr. Tajima took this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Phantong Loykulnanta on his new appointment of the Director General of Thai Customs Department. He also appreciated Thai Customs support to Mr. Jaemin Cho, whose tenure coming to an end this January 2026. Mr. Loykulnanta expressed thanks ROCB A/P colleagues for the valuable contribution to the Region and showed his commitment to support WCO's Regional capacity building activities by hosting ROCB A/P and Regional Training Centre (RTC) Thailand. Both parties reaffirmed their continuous cooperation.

ROCB A/P and Korea Customs Service discuss further Collaboration on Rule of Origin and the use of Artificial Intelligence

15th December 2025, Bangkok, Thailand

ROCB A/P welcomed a delegation from the Korea Customs Service (KCS) led by Mr. Soon-deuk Ma, Director of the Origin Verification Division. The delegation, including four other Customs officers from KCS, Seoul Regional Customs, and the Customs Valuation & HS



Classification Institute, paid a courtesy visit to discuss enhanced cooperation in the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Customs, particularly in the area of Rules of Origin.

The delegation met with Mr. Jun Tajima, Head of ROCB A/P, together with Mr. Jaemin Cho, Program Manager; Mr. Mark Ho, Program Manager; Ms. Asuka Nagamatsu, Program Manager; and Ms. Chananchita Rueng-o-cha, Assistant Program Manager.

During the meeting, Mr. Tajima extended a warm welcome to the KCS delegation and expressed his appreciation for the continued support of the Korea Customs Service, particularly its contribution to the WCO Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF) Korea and related capacity-building activities, including the Data Analytics Workshop. KCS delivered a presentation introducing recent trends and practical applications of AI technology in origin verification processes, especially within post-clearance audit procedures.

ROCB A/P and KCS exchanged views on recent WCO initiatives concerning Rules of Origin, as well as broader AI strategies and applications in the Customs area. This was followed by an interactive question-and-answer session based on the respective presentations of both parties.

Both entities recognized the importance of close collaboration in exploring the effective use of AI technologies in Customs administration, including Rules of Origin, that may be able to enhance targeting capabilities and modernize enforcement strategies among Asia Pacific Members.

The meeting concluded with both parties reaffirming their commitment to strengthening cooperation and advancing capacity-building efforts across the region.

ROCB A/P joins Twinning National Ozone Officer-Customs Workshop on the Controlled Substances under the Montreal Protocol

18th – 19th December 2025, Luang Prabang, Lao PDR



The Twinning National Ozone Officer-Customs Workshop on Strengthening Enforcement of Trade Control of Controlled Substances under the Montreal Protocol was held from 18th to 19th December 2025 in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. On behalf of WCO Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P), Mr. Jaemin Cho, Program Manager and Ms. Grace Ye, Program Manager, participated in the workshop to support regional cooperation.

Bringing together Customs officials and National Ozone Officers from across the region, the workshop provided a platform to review trade control mechanisms under the Kigali Amendment and the Montreal Protocol. Key sessions addressed the importance of effective

licensing systems, data reporting, and the implementation of specific HS codes for controlled substances in the AHTN 2028.

Participants engaged in practical working groups focused on enhancing risk profiling management to target ODS/HFC shipments. Discussions also covered the transboundary movement of used controlled substances and their linkages with the Basel Convention, emphasizing a lifecycle approach to refrigerant management.

As part of the capacity-building session, Mr. Jaemin Cho presented ROCB AP's ongoing efforts in capacity building, including the Green Customs Initiative. The session highlighted ROCB A/P's commitment to multilateral operations and workshops focused on enforcement related to environmental issues and risk management, thereby enabling Customs administrations to respond effectively to emerging trends in illegal environmental trade.

The meeting concluded with recommendations for strengthening regional information exchange and interagency coordination. ROCB A/P expressed its sincere appreciation to UNEP OzonAction, the WCO Secretariat, RILO A/P, and the Lao PDR Customs for their collaboration in making this workshop a success.

Welcome message from Ms. Chananchita Rueng-O-Cha

Greetings colleagues



My name is Chananchita Rueng-O-Cha. I am the new Assistant Program Manager at the ROCB A/P. It truly is an honor to become a part of the team that has such an essential role to enhance the capacity building of members in Asia Pacific as a whole.

As for my previous experience, I was working in Human Resource Development as an international relations officer, handling workshops, trainings, and seminars related to various Customs fields such as Risk Management, Enforcement, and Rules of Origin. This position signified me of what effective tools and project initiatives could bring beneficial and worthwhile outcome to the Customs officers and administration itself.

In 2023, I had transferred to Rules of Origin section where I achieved valuable knowledge and experiences in Free Trade Agreements negotiations. My responsibilities also included analyzing and verifying on Certificates of Origin pending preferential tariff treatment and conducting lectures and seminars regarding Rules of Origin.

Stepping into this role in ROCB A/P, I am grateful and truly looking forward to together work with colleagues all over the region

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