The Role of Customs in ensuring a safe trade regime for strategic goods

UNSCR 1540 & the WCO Strategic Trade Control Enforcement Programme

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Resolution 1540 imposes **binding obligations** on all states to take and enforce “effective measures” to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons and their means of delivery, including, inter alia,
- Export, transit, trans-shipment, and border controls
- Law enforcement to block illicit trafficking of related materials

- Requires states to act beyond an expression of commitment
  - **Legislation, implementation, and enforcement**
UNSCR 1540 Requirements and the Role of Customs

• Regarding “materials, equipment, and technology covered by the relevant multilateral treaties and arrangement...”
  • Paragraph 3.c
    • Establish effective border controls and law enforcement efforts to detect, deter, prevent and combat ... the illicit trafficking and brokering in such items...
  • Paragraph 3.d
    • Establish, develop, review and maintain appropriate effective national export and trans-shipment controls over such items...
Challenges for Customs in controlling transfers of sensitive materials

- Competing Customs priorities
- Balancing Trade facilitation and enforcement
- Lack of effective targeting tools
- Lack of pre-arrival information
- Incomplete accompanying paperwork making identification difficult
Challenges for Customs in controlling transfers of sensitive materials (cont.)

- Limited Knowledge of Customs inspectors
- Lack of awareness of controlled goods / control list
- Lack of safe areas to examine dangerous goods
- Limited capacity of /or access to Customs / Government laboratories
Challenges

• Including Enforcement of UNSCR 1540 in Customs Mandate
• Establishing control list and clear legislation for Customs Enforcement
• Greater mutual awareness of each others roles - Customs, Licensing etc
• Improved inspection facilities, equipment and targeting tools
• Training
STCE Training Modules

POLICY TRACK

• Definition and Importance of Strategic Goods
• International Legal Frameworks and Regimes to Govern Strategic Trade
• Components of a National STCE System and the Role of Customs

OPERATIONAL TRACK

• Definition and Importance of Strategic Goods
• STC Post-Clearance Audit
• STC Risk Assessment, Profiling, and Targeting
• CBRN materials, WMD-related dual use materials and equipment, weapons and military equipment
STCE Implementation Guide

• The international standard for Customs issues related to STCE
  • Adopted by the European Union, the United States, the Proliferation Security Initiative, and numerous capacity building outreach programs

• Available in English, French, Arabic, Spanish, and Russian
Elements of STCE Programme

1- Development and update of STCE training curriculum and STCE Implementation Guide
2- Organization of a Train-the-Trainer workshops for STCE and accreditation of experts in this field
3- Deliver STCE national technical assistance based on the WCO Training Curriculum and mentoring
4- Promotion of best practices in STCE within Customs administration through workshops and mentoring
5- Organization of further STCE-related law enforcement operational exercises (Cosmo)
6- Enhancement of industry outreach activities at the global level and national level and
7- Coordination with broader counter proliferation and 1540 implementation efforts
Training and Mentoring
Embedding STCE in the Customs Mandate

- Supporting Thai Customs run STCE Training workshop for ASEAN Countries in July 2019
- Supporting Pakistan Customs establish Counter Proliferation Unit in Islamabad and Karachi
- Supporting OPCW deliver CWC related training to Customs audiences
- Support Kenya Revenue Authority develop an African focused STCE training
- Delivering Customs focused STCE training for EU P2P
- Syndicating STCE for 14 Customs administrations
Future WCO STCE support to Pacific Region States

IDEAS:

• Regional Training Approach
• Train the Trainer and Oceania specific Curriculum development for regional focus list goods
• Technical Support and mentoring from Neighbouring Customs Administrations
• Regional awareness operations
Any Questions

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