



**RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE TENTH MEETING OF CAPACITY BUILDING
CONTACT POINTS AND OFFICERS IN CHARGE
THE MODERNIZATION OF CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS
OF THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (WCO) WEST
AND CENTRAL AFRICA (WCA) REGION
KINSHASA, FROM 24 TO 26 SEPTEMBER 2019**

The 10th Meeting of Capacity Building Contact Points and officers in charge of modernization of the Customs Administrations of the West and Central Africa Region was held from September 24 to 26, 2019, in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, under the theme: ***"Mastering Project Management and Performance Measurement for better implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) "***.

This meeting, which is part of the ongoing implementation of the regionalization policy in the area of capacity building and Customs modernization initiated by the World Customs Organization (WCO), recorded the participation of fourteen (14) Customs administrations representing their respective countries, the Vice Chair's Office, the WCO Secretariat, the ROCB-WCA, the Regional Training Centres of Brazzaville and Ouagadougou and UNCTAD.

At the end of the meeting, the participants made the following recommendations:

- **To the Vice Chair and the WCO Secretariat :**

- 1- Include in the agenda of the next meeting of Directors General of Customs, an awareness session on leadership and its impact on the success of reform;
- 2- Encourage Member Administrations of the Region to share their experiences and good practices, particularly within the framework of the Regional Coaching Programme;

- **To the WCO Secretariat :**

- 1- Intensify initiatives to seek support for the entire WCA Region in the areas of HRM, strategic management and stakeholder engagement ;
- 2- Improve coordination with the ROCB-WCA, in the processing and analysis of capacity building requests from the Customs Administrations of the WCA Region;
- 3- Help the Region to organize a regional workshop on key performance indicators in 2019;
- 4- Extend training on security in the WCA Region.

- **TO ROCB-WCA :**

- 1- Prepare for the attention of member administrations and regional structures, tools to assess the relevance and impact of capacity building activities carried out in the WCA Region;
- 2- Finalize the revised terms of reference of Contact Points with a view to their adoption at the next meeting of the Committee of Experts;
- 3- Set up a Regional Working Group (GTR) made up of the ROCB, the RWG on IT Customs administrations (Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire and The Gambia), responsible for developing strategic indicators, particularly for building dashboards;
- 4- Organize a regional workshop on data analysis;
- 5- Develop a capacity building programme in project management for Customs administrations;

6- Set up a Contact Points assessment tool.

- **To the RTCs :**

1. Should develop their own training strategies.
2. Perform benchmarking with other regions on strategies for revitalizing WCA regional training centres.

- **To Member Customs administrations of the WCA Region:**

- 1- Continue to share experiences and good practices within the Region, particularly within the framework of the Regional Coaching Program;
- 2- Administrations which have terminated their contracts with inspection companies should continue sharing their experiences and good practices with other Administrations in the Region and to present a report during Contact Points meetings on the impact of taking back ownership of their outsourced functions;
- 3- Actively participate in a timely manner in questionnaires and surveys, particularly those initiated by the WCO and regional structures;
- 4- Strengthen their capacities in project management;
- 5- Develop a national strategy for the implementation of the AfCFTA;
- 6- Actively participate in National Trade Facilitation Committees;

7- Develop and implement a data analysis strategy in accordance with the WCO Manual on Data Analysis.

- **To Contact Points:**

1- Inform the ROCB-WCA as soon as possible of collaboration agreements concluded by their Administrations, specifying the partner countries and the areas of collaboration;

2- Prepare and send a summary report of capacity building activities within their administration to the WCO Secretariat and the ROCB-WCA, by the end of November of each year at the latest, with a view to preparing the annual report of WCO activities.

Done in Kinshasa, September 26, 2019

The participants