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AFRICAN ALLIANCE FOR E-COMMERCE

Recommendations

AAEC Webinar on SW Experience
and Emerging Opportunities during and Post Covid-19

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The African Alliance for e-Commerce is a framework for exchange and sharing on trade facilitation

- It aims to promote the concept of national and regional single window in compliance with recommendations of international institutions. Single window boosts development of inter and intra regional trade in Africa; business are more competitive and ready to meet challenges of globalization

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Recommendations

1. Within the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) the AAEC has a role to play in advancing the concept of the Single Window Systems as a tool to facilitate trade in line with the WTO TFA and working very closely with the African Union.

2. In the African region however, there are numerous fundamental challenges including limited internet access, affordability, reliability and electricity reliability that will need to be addressed as a prerequisite for successful electronic single windows;

3. The Covid-19 pandemic seems to have catalysed to a certain extent the degree of digital acceleration in Africa. This is therefore an opportunity to advance the electronic single window concept in the region. In view of this, the Covid-19 situation should accelerate the digitalization agenda in the region.

Recommendations

4. As countries establish National Single Windows it is important that they should all function effectively at comparable level. In addition, it is important to have appropriate national and regional legislations that complement each other;

5. The African continent has clear opportunities for ‘regional’ electronic single windows that need to be pursued. As the region pursues this agenda, clear procedures for the Regional Single Windows should be identified and established;

6. It is paramount to encourage the adoption and implementation of World Customs Organization tools as a precondition for better response, uptake and effective implementation of the Single Window. Customs is a key player in the Single Window agenda

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Thank you