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Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems

Managing Risk for Post-Pandemic Trade: Guide for Border Regulatory Agencies

Submitted by the Chair of the Group of Experts

Summary

This document presents an accessible implementation roadmap for building integrated risk management and compliance systems at the border in support of Recommendations R, S, T and V. The concept of this guide was initially presented to the twenty-ninth session as a collaboration with the International Trade Centre (ITC).

This document is presented under the responsibility of the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems to the Working Party for information and eventual comments. It will be processed as a publication by ITC and the possibility of joint publication is being studied by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

1. Border agency cooperation and an integrated approach to risk management at the border are a key to a more efficient use of resources and improving border compliance while ensuring that non-compliant and dangerous products are not placed on the market.
2. Improving efficiency of border control and import compliance requires development and implementation of a comprehensive risk management strategy. This publication presents a coherent and integrated approach by border regulatory agencies in developing countries to conduct risk management. It aims to support trade development following the COVID-19 pandemic that depends on the safety, efficiency and predictability of international trade procedures. Furthermore, an integrated strategy strengthens the risk management principles and proposed practices of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements, in particular those of the Trade Facilitation, Technical Barriers to Trade and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Agreements.
3. This guide provides a unique, first-of-its-kind roadmap to design and implement a framework not only for a modern, effective risk management system – but also integrated and interconnected, where all border agencies holistically carry out their mandate in a synchronized and coordinated manner with a view to curb the time and cost of doing business.
4. With this guide, border regulatory authorities, policymakers and economic operators can work concertedly to enhance their national risk management systems and contribute to build resilience of supply chains beyond the COVID-19 pandemic and future crises.
5. This guide is a collaborative effort between the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the WP.6 Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems. It is being finalized for publication by ITC. ECE is studying the possibilities of making this a joint publication.
6. The content of the guide is provided in Annex to this document in the format that it has been finalized.
