

Kunio Mikuriya
WCO Secretary General Elect

Details



Key Note Speaker and Panellist for "*The international paperless environment in Customs*" Before being elected Deputy Secretary General by the Council in June 2001 Kunio Mikuriya spent 25 years with Japan's Ministry of Finance. During his career with the Ministry of Finance, Kunio occupied a variety of senior posts, which have given him broad experiences in Customs, trade development, budget, and financial policies. He served as Director of International Negotiations, Director of the Enforcement Division, and Director of the Research and International Affairs Division in the Tariff and Customs Bureau. He also served as Director of the Salaries and Allowances Control Division and as budget controller in the Budget Bureau. He was a Counsellor

at the Japanese Mission in Geneva and participated in the Uruguay Round negotiations; this experience enabled him to acquire an excellent knowledge of trade-related issues. Since January 2002, he has been leading an effort to co-ordinate the work of the WCO Secretariat with other international organisations such as the WTO, with financing bodies such as the World Bank, IMF, etc., and the private sector

At the Conference

Mr Mikuriya introduced the first four elements of the WCO's Customs in the 21st Century with the ten building blocks to develop a strategy and action plan for global Customs.

The 1st block is the globally networked customs with seamless connected supply chains where Customs interest is shifted from traditional import to the entire supply chain including export and transit. For this there needs to be advanced electronic exchange of data (with the Data Model), mutual recognition of controls and the AEO concept. Mr Mikuriya said that the EU is on board but the WCO want to enlarge this to outside EU as well.

The 2nd block is better co-ordinated Border Management, for this Single Window and one stop Shop concepts are essential which the EU is also looking at. The 3rd is intelligence driven risk management to enable the use of scarce resources (100% scanning is not helpful in this). With the 4th being the Customs Business Partnership which is to increase understanding between trade and Customs and produce mutually beneficial outcomes.

So how to move forward in the 21st century? Mr Mikuriya said that the WCO has already built an inventory of WCO standards and programmes and they have identified a gap between the aspirations of the building blocks and the reality on the ground. There needs to be best practise and guidelines but for this there must be more research with help from academia, international organisations, business and from regional experiences.

Mr Mikuriya also mentioned the 100% scanning issue and that the WCO is still committed to lobbying against this issue and pushing for a risk management approach.

PowerPoint

Kunio Mikuriya Presentation available on the front page of the CLECAT website