Issuing Certificates of Origin: Industry Chamber’s Experience

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Role of Chambers of Commerce

- International Convention Relating to simplification of Customs formalities, 1923
  - Recognition of Chambers as competent authorities and credible trusted third-parties for issuance of CoOs by Governments worldwide

- Widespread network of Chambers across the world made process of acquiring CoO simple and easy
For exports that do not bestow any right to preferential tariffs

Designated authorities issuing Non- Preferential CoO in India:

- Chambers of Commerce and
- Other issuing authorities listed in the Foreign Trade Policy of India – include DGFT, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN INDIA AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE ONLY NON-PREFERENTIAL CoO
Non-Preferential Certificate of Origin - 2

Non-preferential CoO required by buying countries for implementing measures and instruments of commercial policy, such as:
- checking import restrictions
- anti-dumping duty
- labelling and marking requirements
- Government procurement
- compiling trade statistics
- *Or for any other trade regulations that distinguish domestic from foreign goods, or distinguish among foreign goods*

Procedure of Issuing Non-Preferential CoOs by Chambers of Commerce in India

- Chambers of Commerce receive request from exporter desiring Non-preferential CoO
- Exporter submits following documents
  - CoO Application Form: details of exporter/importer/quantum/origin of inputs/consumables used in export product
  - Invoice copies
  - Packing List in duplicate
  - Fee for issuing CoO (different for Member and Non-Member companies)
  - Indemnity Bond
- Chamber of Commerce verifies all necessary documents to check credibility of details and origin of goods criteria given in CoO
- Authorized signatory of Chamber of Commerce issues the CoO only if goods are meeting the rules of origin prescribed by the importing country
### Format of Non-Preferential Certificate of Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Goods consigned from (Exporter’s business name, address, country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Reference No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Goods consigned to (Consignee’s name, address, country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>(Combined declaration and certificate) issued in ---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Mean of transport and route (as far as known)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Item number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Marks and number of packages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Number and kind of packages, description of goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Origin criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Gross weight or other quantity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Declaration by the exporter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is hereby certified, on the basis of control carried out, that the declaration by the exporter is correct.

Place and date signature and stamp of authorised signatory

### Measures taken by Chambers of Commerce

**to avoid misuse**

- **Indemnity Bond**: Declaration by exporter which indemnifies the issuing Chamber against any investigation / claim about the authenticity of the information provided in the CoO
- **Data Collection**: All CoOs issued are preserved for the requisite retention period for any post-verification queries

**to maintain CoO related data**

- Number of CoOs issued – but not compiled centrally anywhere
- Number of members and non-members getting CoO issued
Certificate of Origin

Non - Preferential

Preferential

Preferential Certificate of Origin - 1

- For agreements / schemes under which India receives tariff preferences for its export

- Issued only if goods comply with ROO prescribed under the FTA/PTA

- Can be used to check Non-Utilization of FTAs/PTAs
Designated authorities issuing Preferential CoO in India

- Listed in the Foreign Trade Policy of India
- Includes:
  - Export Inspection Council of India
  - Other Agencies authorized for select Preferential Trade Agreements (including APTA) include
    - FIEO
    - Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) for Engineering goods, Chemicals, Gems & Jewellery, Handloom etc
    - Commodity Boards: Rubber, Spices

Electronic Certificates of Origin

*feeds into the larger trade facilitation goal of the country*

Advantages

- Encourage paperless trade – as is also a UNESCAP mandate
- Reduced transaction costs for exporters
- Data Security
- Faster Processing and Issuance
- Easy Post-Verification

Way Forward.....

- Need for harmonized formats for issuing CoO
- Need to build technical capacity of issuing authorities and trading community: FICCI being Focal Point for business in India could collaborate with ESCAP APTA Secretariat
Thank You...