TRADE DIGITALISATION IN ASEAN: PROGRESS AND CONTINUED REFORMS

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• Fully roll out the National Single Windows in all ASEAN Member States, and widen the scope of the ASEAN Single Window project to include more documents and stakeholders in all ASEAN Member States.

ASEAN WORK PROGRAMME ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE
• Promote interoperability and align e-commerce-related regulations and standards to facilitate cross-border transactions.

THE BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN ROADMAP: AN ASEAN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AGENDA TO ACCELERATE ASEAN’S ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DIGITAL ECONOMY INTEGRATION
• Establish ASEAN Single Window connections to ASEAN’s Dialogue Partners, while ASEAN continues parallel work to expand the number of trade documents to be exchanged electronically amongst each other;
• Accelerate the full implementation and promote the use of the ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS).

HANOI PLAN OF ACTION ON STRENGTHENING ASEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND SUPPLY CHAIN CONNECTIVITY IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
• Promote the use of science, technology and innovation, digital economy, and provide mechanisms to facilitate customs clearance and processing to allow businesses to continue operations amidst the economic challenges...
ASEAN Single Window (ASW) is a regional initiative that integrates National Single Window (NSW) of ASEAN Member States (AMS) with an objective to expedite cargo clearance and promote ASEAN economic integration by enabling the electronic exchange of cross-border trade-related documents.
**Benefits**

**Hardcopy Form D**
- Exporters submit the application to Certification Issuing Authority (CIA)
- CIAs will assess and issue the certification to exporters
- Form D sent by exporters to Importers (via courier) 2 days
- Importers submitted Form D to Customs 1 day

*Average time: 3 days*

**Electronic Form D**
- Submit applications for e-Form D to NSW
- CIAs will validate and issue e-Form D and send it to NSW of importing countries
- Customs of Importing countries will assess and grant the preferential tariff treatment.

*Less than a minute.*
Benefits

Time Saving

Number of e-Form D

- 2019: 489,426
- 2020: 799,408
- 2021: 881,032

Time saving

- In 2021: 5.3M days
- 2019: 3M days
- 2020: 4.8M days

In 2021
A Journey to a Highly-Integrated and Cohesive Economy catalyzed by the ASW

ATIGA e-Form D
- January 2018, Live exchange of the ATIGA e-Form D began among Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- December 2019: All AMS joined the exchange of ATIGA e-Form D

ACDD
- December 2020, Live exchange of the ACDD began among Cambodia, Myanmar, and Singapore.
- March 2021, Malaysia and Thailand joined the exchange.
- January 2022: Philippines joined the exchange.
- May 2022: Brunei and Indonesia joined the exchange.
- LA and VN are expected to join within 2022.

e-PHYTO CERTIFICATE
- Indonesia and Thailand targeted to start the exchange in 2022.

Among ASEAN
- e-Animal Health
- e-Food Safety

With Dialogue Partners
- e-CO Form E with China
- e-CO Form AJ with Japan
- Customs Declaration with USA
Objective

To **simplify** and **harmonize** transport, **trade and Customs regulations** and to establish an effective, efficient, integrated, and harmonized transit transport system in ASEAN.

ACTS is designed to balance the facilitation and control of the goods in transit, moving from place to place between the participating ASEAN Member States.
ASEAN Customs Transit System

What is transit of goods under the ACTS?

Goods move under **single digital Customs Transit Declaration** submitted at departure and valid throughout the whole journey.

**Goods move freely** from one location to another **crossing** as many **borders between participating ASEAN Member States** as needed in the sealed compartment on a truck under Customs control and **suspension of duties and taxes**.

**Duties and taxes are only paid at the country of import** wherever that may be after transit is completed.

**Single truck** is used to transport the goods cross border **from departure location all the way to the destination location**.

**Single Bank Guarantee** covers the duties and taxes at risk for the cross border entire journey.
## Progress

- ACTS has been operated in 6 Participating ASEAN Member States: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam since 2 Nov 2020
- **Promoting the use of the ACTS through the following initiatives:**
  - The ACTS Private Sector Partnership Outreach Events
  - Two-Country Transit Pilot between Cambodia and Viet Nam

## Future Plans

- **Live Operation for Myanmar targeted in 2023**
- Integrating the remaining AMS in Borneo Corridor into the ACTS
- Include other modes of transport, e.g. railway, into the ACTS
FOODS FOR THOUGHTS – CONTINUED REFORMS

1. SUNSET CLAUSE ON PAPER-BASED FORM D: towards the full issuance of e-Form D in all ASEAN Member States

2. ADOPTING INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES OR BEST PRACTICES ON CROSS-BORDER E-COMMERCE, I.E. LUXOR RESOLUTION ON CROSS-BORDER E-COMMERCE, IN ASEAN AS APPROPRIATE
   • consideration of guidelines for the exchange of information on e-commerce data between Customs administration and e-commerce operator

3. STRENGTHENING ASEAN REGULATORY FRAMEWORK THROUGH THE ATIGA UPGRADE NEGOTIATION
   • Good Customs Practice COULD BE considered

4. SPILLOVER EFFECTS FROM OTHER INITIATIVES, operationalization of the pathfinder programme of the AEO MRA (2023), and the possibility of exchange of e-ASEAN Wide-self Certification (AWSC) through the ASW.

5. CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGIES such as AI and big data analysis to be utilized, e.g. deployment of equipment and facilities such as X-rays equipment for small cargo search based on AI, and promoting the automation of inspection sites.