



**World Customs
Organization**

Comparative Study on Certification of Origin June 2020

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**Workshop on Advancing Electronic Origin
Data Exchange in APTA**

17 November 2021

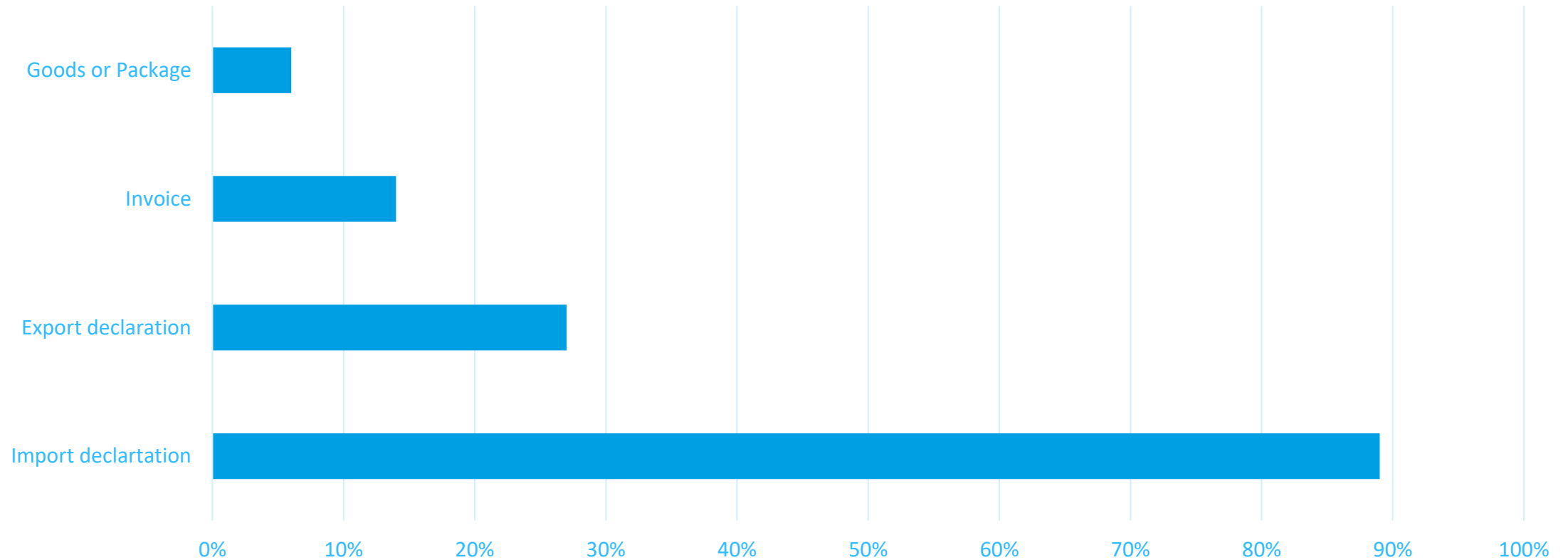
- To capture the present situation regarding certification of origin (preferential and preferential origin)
- Questionnaire sent out to all WCO Members in 2013
- 2020: Updated the findings based on available information and statistics
- The findings led the WCO Secretariat and the WCO members to the development of the WCO Guidelines on Certification of Origin

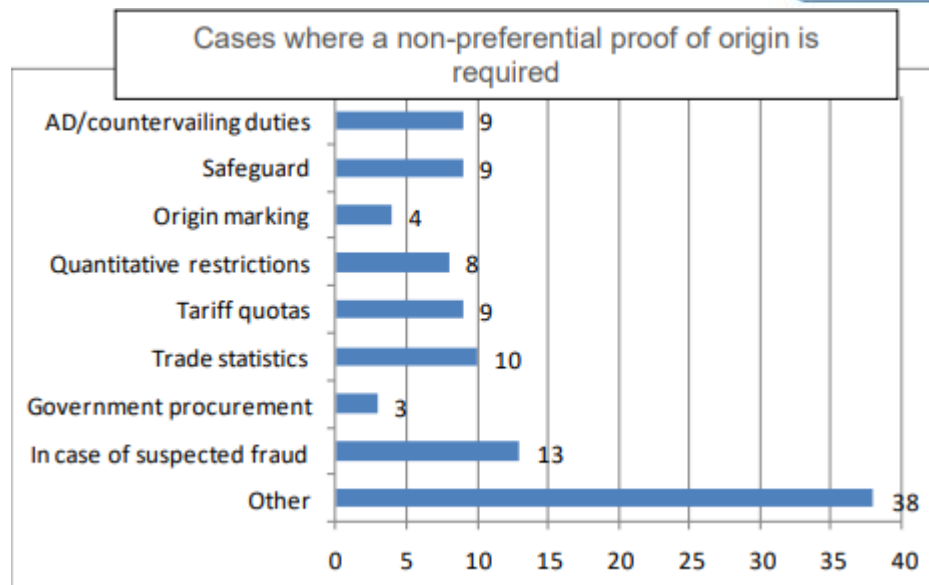
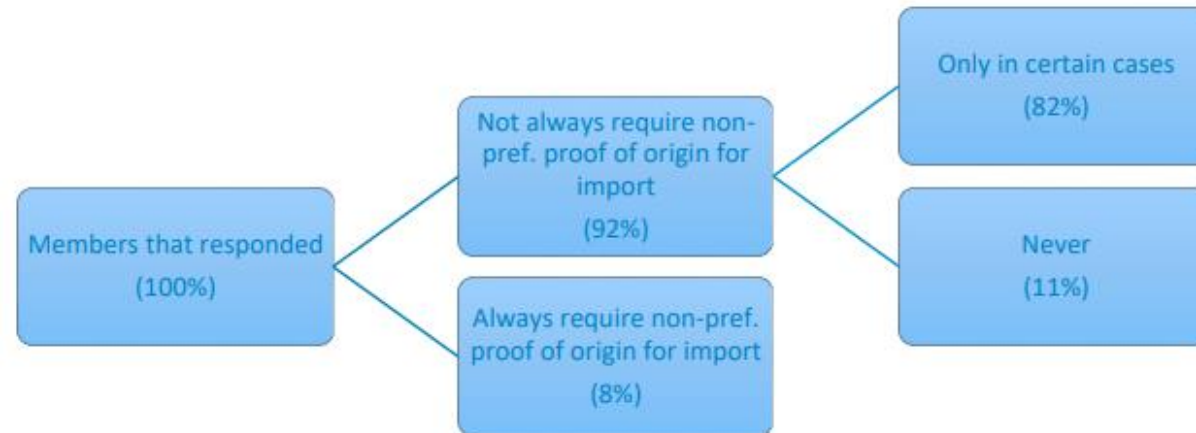


Key findings:

- The vast majority of responding Members do not require any non-preferential proof of origin for import.
- Some Members use non-preferential certificates of origin for purposes that are not supported by the WTO Agreement on Rules of Origin. This approach appears to imply inconsistency with international standards.
- Certificates of origin appear to be causing some extra costs in doing business with certain countries.

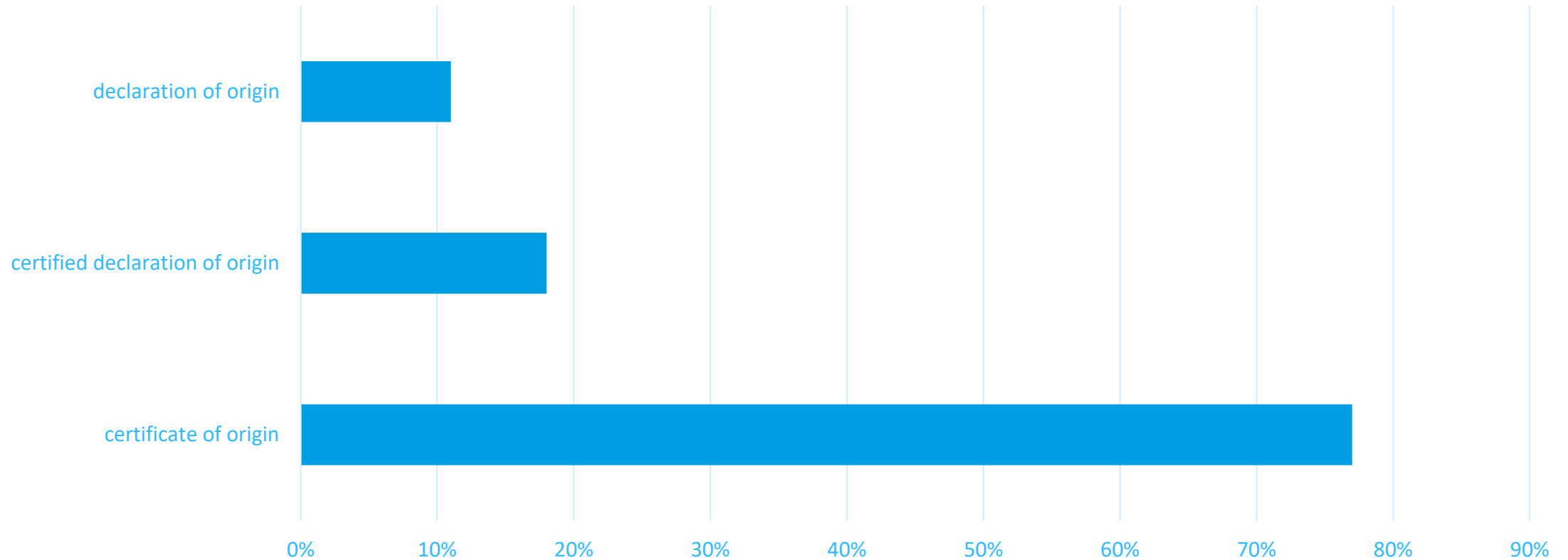
Indication of Origin





As for the details described under 'other', most of the concerned Members mentioned that it was on a case-by-case basis, and that it was up to the Customs authorities to decide whether a non-preferential proof of origin would be requested.

Types of non-preferential proof of origin

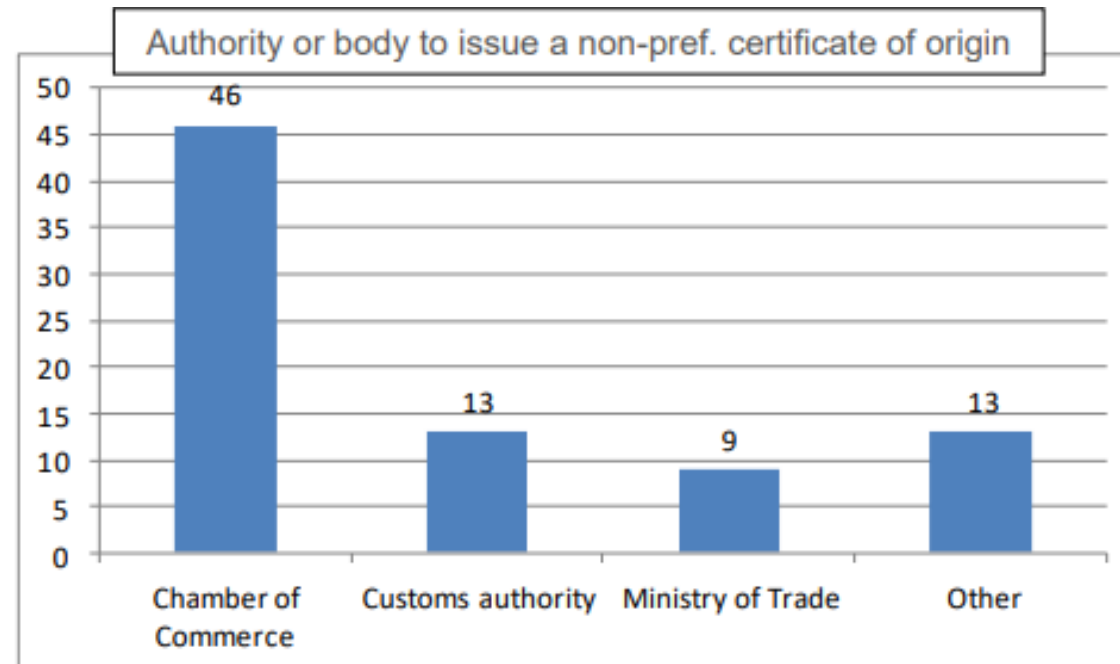


Going digital!

More and more Chambers are issuing e-COs. China, the UK, the Netherlands, Belgium, South Korea and Spain have reported the largest e-CO issuing volume and among them, China and South Korea offer only e-COs (China issuing around **4 million e-COs** and South Korea issuing **550K e-COs** in 2019).*

In 2019, a total of **65%** of chambers providing e-CO services are offering either e-CO application or a full e-CO issuance process.*

**According to the International Chamber of Commerce*



Verification

45 Members (68%) indicated that they provide origin information to the requesting Customs administrations or other administrations. Such provision of information through administrative cooperation may be based on several international frameworks. 31 Members indicated that it was based on a bilateral agreement.

Key findings:

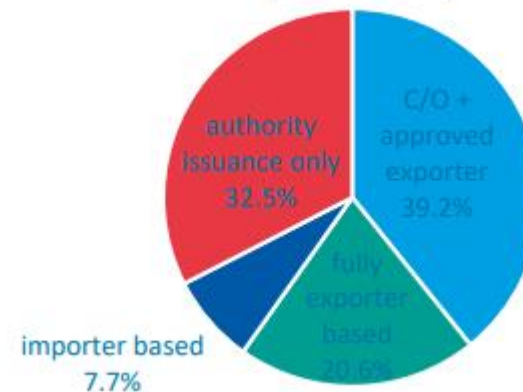
- More than half of the FTAs studied introduce a kind of self-certification of origin, i.e. approved exporter, fully exporter-based certification, or importer-based system.
- The authorized/approved exporter system - often coupled with authority issued certificates - is mainly used in the FTAs involving one or more European countries, while the fully exporter-based certification system and the importer-based certification system are typically utilized in the FTAs by countries in the Americas.
- The registered exporter system introduced by the EU goes a step further in facilitation than the approved exporter system, and can therefore be considered as a kind of fully exporter-based certification.

Key findings:

- More than half of the FTAs provide several different certification procedures which allow traders to choose the appropriate option.
- Recently-concluded inter-regional agreements appear to prefer self-certification of origin, particularly, the fully exporter-based certification system and the importer-based certification system with less or no involvement of the competent authority of the exporting country.
- Intra-African and intra-Asian agreements appear to prefer the certification of origin by competent authorities

Proportion of Certification Systems

PROPORTION OF CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS
(1994-2019)



Blockchain technology



- Solving the knowledge gap without disclosing confidential information
- Reduce risks and costs
- Enhance compliance, supply chain visibility and trust between different stakeholders



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Thank you

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