

BANGLADESH: TECHNICAL READINESS FOR CROSS- BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE

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OVERALL ASSESSMENT

- Bangladesh overall readiness level in ICT infrastructure is fair, and willingness of stakeholders to move into paperless trade environment is high.
- National Bureau of Revenue (NBR) Customs has implemented the e-Customs. 37 OGAs have signed MOUs with NBR for connectivity to e-Customs.
- National coordination committee establish with Inter-Agency governance structure.

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

- Capacity building needs are high. Consideration should be given to capitalizing on the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (FA-PT), which Bangladesh has signed.
- This can help improving overall paperless trade environment and also effectively coordinating capacity building and technical assistance from relevant international development organizations

INFORMATION GATHERED - PAPERLESS TRADE SYSTEM AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

INSTITUTIONAL AND GOVERNANCE BODIES FOR ELECTRONIC DATA EXCHANGE IN PAPERLESS ENVIRONMENT

- It is reported that there are political commitments to implement paperless trade systems as evidenced by a National Single Window Law, which has been proposed to supplement the existing ICT Act.
- Bangladesh has established the National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) with the Minister of Commerce as its head. It has representations from all relevant public and private organizations.
- Technical implementation of the NSW is under the supervision of the National Board of Revenue (NBR). 37 OGAs have signed MOUs with NBR.
- It is expected that a National Decree from the Prime Minister's Office to formalise this will be issued this year.

INSTITUTIONAL AND GOVERNANCE BODIES FOR ELECTRONIC DATA EXCHANGE IN PAPERLESS ENVIRONMENT

- The Ministry of Commerce officially heads the NTFC, although NBR is the de facto chair for NTFC whereas Customs is the lead agency for the National Single Window (NSW).
- The NTFC and NSW sub-Committee include both government and private stakeholders. Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and certain chambers of commerce are represented on such bodies. The Central Bank of the country is also a member.

LEVEL OF AUTOMATION

e-Customs

- e-Customs has been implemented utilizing the ASYCUDA solution for receiving, processing and issuance of approvals, electronically.
- It is integrated to commercial banks for duty payments.
- Digital signatures currently not used.
- Other community partners are currently in planning stages for electronic data/document exchange and submission and an MOU has been signed.

LEVEL OF AUTOMATION

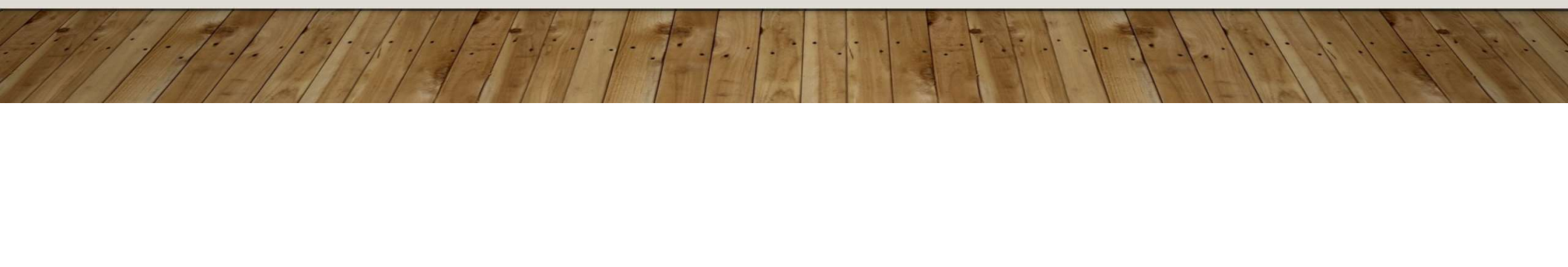
e-Port

- Reported that Chittagong Port has implemented Port EDI / Container Terminal Management System (CTMS).

e-License / e-Permit

- Reported that currently at testing and planning stages for e-SPS and e-CO (Export Promotion Bureau).

National Single Window

- In the progress of securing the IT firm to develop the NSW.
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LEVEL OF AUTOMATION

Timeline

- Reported to implement electronic transactions towards paperless trade environment to be ready by end of December 2020.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PAPERLESS TRADE

Network

- VPN Fibre Optics are installed at all major cities. Broadband connectivity is provided to all border crossing points (BCPs).
- Interface Architecture for network connectivity / Government Secured Intra-net (GSI) which connects 314 Ministries and agencies.
- Network is secured under the provisions of the Digital Security Agency and Act of 2018 together with the ICT Act 2006.
- Fully implementation is expected under the Government Manifesto of Vision 2021.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PAPERLESS TRADE

Data Center and Disaster Recovery

- Currently, the e-Customs system is hosted within the premises of NBR.
- With the completion of NSW, it will be hosted in the Data Center established by the Government's ICT Division. It is a Tier III Data Center with the DR located about 200 kms away. The Tier IV Data Center will be completed by the end 2019.
- Business Continuity Plan for the country to be ready by end 2020

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PAPERLESS TRADE

IT Security

- Digital Security Act 2018.

Communications Protocol

- XML

Business Process Re-engineering

- NBR (Customs) Only

Data Harmonization and Standardization

- NBR (Customs) Only. Adopted WCO Data Model 3.7

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PAPERLESS TRADE

Capacity Building

- Awareness program and workshop was conducted Only for users of the e-Customs system.

Awareness

- They are fully aware but requested more capacity building in modernization of business processes, BPR and Data Harmonization, awareness and communications programs.

COMPUTER LITERACY (PRIVATE SECTOR) / ACCEPTANCE / CHANGE MANAGEMENT / COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMS

Computer Literacy And Modernization (Private Sector)

- Level of computer literacy is high as more trading communities have their own business applications for business and operations.

Budget Constraints

- Budget constraints are mainly in IT related resources e.g system architects, programmers, project manager; and IT application / hardware.

INFORMATION GATHERED - NATIONAL STATUS TOWARDS CROSS-BORDER DATA EXCHANGE



CROSS BORDER DATA EXCHANGE CAPABILITIES

- e-Customs (ASYCUDA). It supports cross -border data exchange.
- Discussion being held with Indian Customs
- NSW is not implemented. It is still in at procurement stage. Cross- border data exchange capability is a pre-requirement in the technical specifications.

INFORMATION GATHERED – OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST

DATA MODEL AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

- Data harmonization and standardization has been conducted by NBR (Customs) is based on the WCO guidelines and WCO Data Model 3.7.

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS PROCESS RE-ENGINEERING CAPABILITY

- Technical capacity exists within NBR (Customs), but transfer of this capacity and knowledge to OGAs would require some resources, possibly outsourcing to third party.

AEO AND RISK MANAGEMENT

- Currently, Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) is being piloted on Yellow/Green/Red channels.
- It is targeted to introduce Blue by the end of 2019.

THANK YOU

