

**Regional Forum on APTA Preferential Trade Data and
Issuance of eCO, 22-24 Oct 2013, Korea**

Issuance of Electronic Certificates of Origin

Buavanh VILAVONG

DDG, Dept of Import and Export
Ministry of Industry and Commerce
Contact: buavanh.v@laomoic.org

Procedures on CO issuance

1) Checking if product eligible for preferential access

2) Verifying product origin (rules of origin)

3) Applying for certificate of origin (CO)

Application for CO

- Currently, application is only made in hard copy – no online system yet
- Supporting documents accompanying application:
 1. Completed APTA form
 2. Invoice and packing list
 3. Cost statement/working process
 4. Customs declaration
 5. Transportation docs e.g. Bill of Lading
- Fees: US\$12 \$/set
- Application processing time: 1-3 working days

Introducing pre-export verification



- Confirmation of Product Eligibility (CPE)

- Issuance of CO

Data on APTA CO issuance

	No. of APTA CoO issued (Export destination wise)	Total FoB value of exports	No. of cases where a request for verification was made
2009-2010	None	None	None
2010-2011	None	None	None
2011-2012	None	None	None

Possible explanation: key APTA members (China, India, Korea) all grant non-reciprocal preferences to Laos and are also dialogue partners of ASEAN

Way forward

- Issuance of electronic CO will be very helpful for Lao exporters: time and cost saving
- Dept of Import and Export is contemplating on CO 'online application' and data collection

but it could take time given current infrastructure and capacity of issuing authorities

- Technical assistance needed:
 - Setting up IT infrastructure
 - Software development
 - Training officials and traders