



## THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN IMPROVING THE CUSTOMS PROCEDURES OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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### Annotation

This article discusses the customs regulators and the trend of the emergence of primary standards in the field of customs, the history of the introduction of international customs standards in the Republic of Uzbekistan. In particular, the current international standards in the customs system of the country and international standards that can be implemented in the future in our national legislation were highlighted. The author puts forward the problems of harmonization of the customs legislation of the country with international standards, its causes, as well as recommendations and comments on the improvement of customs procedures on the basis of international standards.

**Keywords:** customs standards, international criteria, harmonization, national legislation, World Customs Organization, World Trade Organization, Eurasian Economic Union, Kyoto Convention on Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures, implementation in international law, legal institutions of customs, improvement of customs administration.

The Preamble to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan states: "The people of Uzbekistan: ... recognizing the supremacy of the universally recognized rules of international law, ... shall adopt this Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan." This means that as a sign of any democratic state, the norms of international law take precedence over national legislation. Article 17 of the Constitution once again emphasizes that the foreign policy of our country is based on the universally recognized rules and norms of international law.

Transformation of the customs administration into a system that fully meets international standards and effectively uses the achievements of modern advanced technologies is one of the main requirements for the creation of an investment climate in our country and the development of international trade.





"... It is necessary to improve the system of control and infrastructure related to foreign trade," he said. In particular, based on foreign experience, it is necessary to reform the activities of customs, sanitary, quarantine, veterinary and other agencies that carry out control at customs posts. In 2020, it is necessary to adopt about 3,000 standards, increase their number to 10,000 and the level of harmonization with international standards by 40% ... "- said the implementation of international standards in the development of TIF.

To date, ISO (International Standard Organization) has developed 23,512 international standards for goods and services, including 424 standards in the field of customs. In addition, the World Customs Organization and the World Trade Organization (WTO) adopted the SAFE Program (2018 edition), the E-Commerce Border Standards for Crossing the Border (2018), and the Customs Union. The International Kyoto Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Procedures (2006 edition) and a number of other normative documents regulating customs matters serve to unify and harmonize procedures in international trade

As a result of reforms in recent years, the country has adopted 5,893 standards (2,900 by the end of the year) based on new international requirements, while for the convenience of entrepreneurs, 5,981 obsolete standards, which negatively affect the mechanisms of a market economy, standards were revised. Today, 14,521 or 47.4% of the 30,661 standards in the regulatory document fund are in line with international standards.

In order to develop technical regulations and their implementation in 2020, 4 general and 4 special technical regulations were adopted. The total number of technical regulations was 48 (36 general, 12 special). By the end of this year, it is planned to develop 6 technical regulations (as of November 1, 2020). To date, it has become a member of 135 international technical committees on standardization. Out of 52 technical regulations in force in the Customs Union, 25 have been harmonized with the technical regulations approved in our country. In order to harmonize customs legislation with international instruments, a number of laws and regulations have been adopted.

Also, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On additional measures to improve the customs administration and increase the efficiency of the State Customs Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan" PF-5582 (2018), the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan We can also cite the Decree No. PF-6005 "On Improving the Activities of Service Bodies" (2020).





Chapter 29 of the Customs Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan contains the Risk Management System, according to which the standards of the BBT "First Pillar" - Standard 4 - Risk Management System, Standard 6 - Initial Electronic Information, Standard 9 - Security Assessment is currently used in practice in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

According to the results of 9 months of 2020, the average time spent on customs clearance of exports at the customs posts of the state is 59 minutes, and the average time for clearance of imports is 3 hours 42 minutes. In 2019, the average time spent on clearance was 53 minutes for exports and 3 hours 36 minutes for imports. This means that the crisis of the Covid-19 pandemic has not bypassed the customs sphere. In this regard, the introduction of sectoral international standards in the national customs system, taking into account the negative effects of the pandemic period and the development of effective methods of combating it, is urgent.

Sergei Moser stressed that the institutes of customs law should be studied in seven groups. They include: subjects, functional nature, customs operations, customs procedures, customs and tariff regulation, notarial regulation, law enforcement and grievance redress.

At present, the national customs system includes "Single Automated Information Systems", "Electronic Declaration", "Preliminary Declaration", "Interactive Services", "Application of Customs Control Techniques", "Profiling", "Risk Management System and Audit". Institutions such as "authorized economic operators" and "single window" have been introduced in the national customs service. Most of them are reflected in the Customs Code adopted in 2016, as well as in a number of laws and regulations.

Based on the above, we can make the following comments and recommendations:

In contrast to national automated information systems as an integral part of the Global Trade Facilitation and Security Standards (SAFE program), real-time systems provide information on goods and vehicles not for different organizations in one country, but for a number of countries around the world. we can cite the ASYCUDA program, which is currently being positively evaluated by many customs administrations. The system, developed by UNCTAD in Geneva, is used in more than 90 countries around the world. The goal of ASYCUDA is to radically develop customs clearance, which can be achieved by simplifying and computerizing customs clearance procedures, thereby reducing administrative costs.

ASYCUDA's implementation strategy is designed to address the task presented by such a complex reform agenda. It aims to ensure the full transfer of know-how to ensure the



long-term stability of the country. At the same time, it requires strong national commitments at all levels and ensures a continuous assessment of progress. The project activities will be carried out in three stages: In the preparatory phase, an assessment of the actual situation will be carried out. The national team, together with international consultants, will identify areas for reform, such as the introduction of international codes, rationalization and simplification of customs clearance procedures, harmonization of forms with international standards and modernization of national customs legislation in accordance with the Kyoto Convention. doing them can take much longer.

The test implementation phase includes the preparation of ASYCUDA's national configuration, i.e. coding of tariffs and compliance with rules and regulations, inclusion in data management tables (codes and addresses of advertisements, codes for тамоплиation of posts, etc.), such preparation options. Computers for pilot offices (usually headquarters, airport, seaport, land border and internal customs) have been installed and tested, confirming that the configuration of the system fully meets the needs of the population. The reforms initiated in the first phase are continuing due to simple necessity. If the skills and know-how in the first two phases are successfully completed, this phase can be carried out by the national team with little or no support from international experts. The third stage is more of a logistical problem than an intellectual one: it requires physical preparation to computerize all facilities, a large amount of preparation based on the usual training courses of the second stage, as well as technical installation and support of computer systems. on identified sites. Custom software configurations are simply copied from the appropriate pilot sites. Among the active users of the program, which will be implemented in three stages, we can meet our neighboring countries Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan. This will allow them to make effective use of their experience as Central Asian states.

On 21 December 2020, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Accession of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Kyoto, as amended on 18 May 1973 and 26 June 1999) was adopted. This raises the issue of harmonization of many normative documents, first of all, the Customs Code. As we know, the draft Customs Code in the new edition was discussed on the website regulation.uz, which received more than 100 suggestions and comments. Membership in the Kyoto Convention, together with its main and additional annexes, means that the new version of the draft code should reflect the provisions of the convention, which are not included. For example, the





Kyoto Convention, as well as a number of other conventions and international instruments, should include a definition of the term "customs clearance" and its norms should be included in the articles of the code. The definition of the term "clearance" is specified in Chapter 2 of the General Annex, which means "completion of customs clearance required for the release of goods for domestic consumption, export or other customs procedure."

When it comes to the Kyoto Convention, its General Appendix 3 Chapter 3.3; 3.4; It should be noted that Standard 3.5 is dedicated to "Joint Customs Control". These standards are widely used in the United States, Canada, European countries, and the Baltic States. Features of international standards of joint customs control:

- Harmonized and mutually recognized between states;
- Sharply reduces customs clearance for countries with common borders;
- Requires the cooperation of neighboring countries;
- Improves customs trade integration: reduces procedures, eliminates unnecessary processes. These standards are an integral part of the Coordinated Border Management.

In conclusion, the harmonization of customs procedures with world standards will primarily serve to accelerate the process of accession to the Eurasian Economic Union and the World Trade Organization.

Secondly, it will be the basis for the rise of our country's customs in the international rankings and indices.

Third, liberalization of the investment climate, unification of customs procedures, as well as transportation of goods and vehicles across borders will reduce costs and time.

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