



Session Report

Please know you may design the structure of this report to better suit the session. It's important to capture the key outcomes and solutions proposed for the future.

Session Title: Customs as a Leading Example of Institution-Specific Responses to Corruption

Date & Time: Wednesday, 07.12.2022, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm GMT -5

Report prepared by: Andrea Hampton, Manager – Anti-Corruption and Integrity Promotion (ACIP) Programme, World Customs Organization and Alan Azar, Canada Border Services Agency, Senior Analyst

Moderated by: Andrea Hampton, Manager – Anti-Corruption and Integrity Promotion (ACIP) Programme, World Customs Organization and Alan Azar, Canada Border Services Agency, Senior Analyst

Panellists:

Introduction

- Andrea Hampton - Manager – Anti-Corruption and Integrity Promotion (ACIP) Programme, World Customs Organization

Opening Remarks

- Christine Constantin - Global Affairs Canada Director of the Counter-Terrorism and Anti-Crime Capacity Building Programs
- Lisa Stensrud - Norway Agency for Development Cooperation Anti-Corruption Policy Director

Panellists

- Alan Azar - Canada Border Services Agency, Senior Analyst
- Francis Tepeka Malawi - Revenue Authority, Chief Investigations Manager

- **Matthew Klein - United States Customs and Border Protection, Assistant Commissioner - Office of Professional Responsibility**
- **Selina Clarke-Graham - Jamaica Customs Perspective, Deputy CEO, Operations**

Share the thematic focus of the session, it's purpose and corruption risks?

The possibility of corruption within a Customs organization represents a threat to both the economic development and security of a country.

The focus of this session was to provide participants with a view of what certain Customs administrations (CBSA, US CBP, Jamaica Customs Agency) around the world are doing to combat corruption, both collectively and individually, using the experience of the World Customs Organization (WCO) Anti-Corruption and Integrity Promotion (A-CIP) Programme as a focal point for discussion.

Participants were provided with the opportunity to hear of the importance of how tailored responses to corruption within specific organizations can have an impact, and evoke change.

Summary of panellists' contributions & discussion points (please be as detailed as possible)

Key Themes:

- Integrity represents a core value that must be embraced by employees within customs organizations.
- Having strong controls in place to combat corruption is required.
- Demonstrating both trust and transparency is key for public institutions to fully combat corruption.
- Integrity is a central point for a customs organization. This is benefit to the organization as it optimizes trust, creates a healthy workplace, and ensures continued productivity.
- The WCO Revised Arusha Declaration continues to be an effective instrument that can be used by customs organizations to prevent and combat corruption.
- Customs organizations with national initiatives and strategies have proven to be effective in preventing corrupt behaviour and actions.
- Awareness and training with a focus on integrity is a valuable resource that can be used to ensure that staff within customs organizations have the tools required to reduce corruption.
- Systems and processes need to be in place to effectively reduce corrupt behaviour.
- Risk assessments are a valuable tool that should be utilized by Customs organizations to ensure that risks are appropriately identified, controlled and managed.
- The benefits of conducting internal assessments based on the criteria identified within the Revised Arusha Declaration is an effective approach to ensuring a

culture of integrity within a customs organization.

Main outcomes of session (include quotes/highlights and interesting questions from the floor)

Integrity practitioners were provided with:

- Various organizational perspectives of an institution-specific approach to corruption from the following organizations rather than one that looks at the sector as a monolithic whole;
- New approaches that have been taken to help put integrity and anti-corruption policies into practice.

Key recommendations for the future and concrete follow-up actions

The WCO A-CIP Team will identify, through the discussions, those IACC participants with a particular interest in engaging with this topic. Following the workshop, the Team will use this information to expand the network for collective action in combatting corruption in Customs. This will be done through continued dialogue and exchange and invitations for involvement in A-CIP Programme activities, where appropriate.

What can be done to create opportunities for scaling up the solutions discussed in the session? And by whom?

The WCO A-CIP team will continue delivery technical assistance and capacity building to help selected WCO member countries undertaking measures to implement priority areas of the Revised Arusha Declaration.

Is there a specific call to action to key stakeholders, such as governments, businesses, funders, civil society, young people, journalists or any other stakeholder that should be noted? Please specify if relevant.

Recognise that while cross-sectoral approaches to Corruption are critical, it is equally important to understand the needs and specific circumstances of certain institutions, particularly those with high risks such as Customs and provide tailored approaches to complement the wider anti-corruption activities.

Rapporteur's name and date submitted

Andrea Hampton and Alan Azar, 07.12.2022