



WCO Work in preferential origin

WCO Knowledge Academy
Rules of Origin
Brussels, 4-5 July 2011

Tangle of Free Trade Agreements



Preferential Rules of Origin

- Action Plan to improve the understanding and application of preferential rules of origin (2007)
- Revenue Package Action Plan (2010)

WCO Preferential Origin Action Plan

- Adopted by the WCO Council in June 2007
- Aiming at improving the administration and management of preferential rules of origin by Member **customs administrations**
- Helping to improve the understanding and proper application of preferential rules of origin by the **business community**

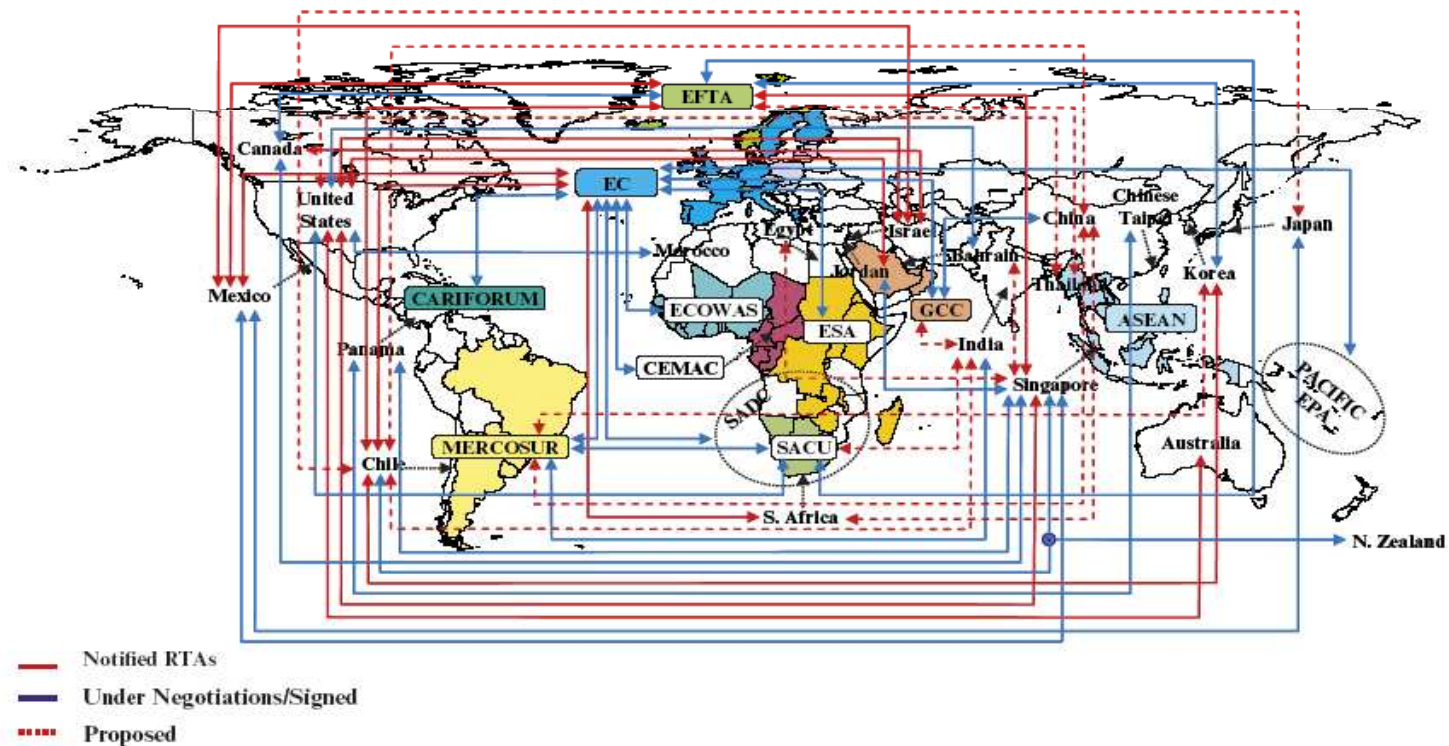
WCO Preferential Origin Action Plan

- 5 Key issues:
 - Database
 - Comparative study
 - Training
 - Adaptation of WCO structures
 - New positioning of international role of the WCO

What the Origin Sub-Directorate is doing

- Establish and maintain a Database of Preferential Arrangements
 - Legal text of all FTAs
 - Rules of origin applicable to the FTA
 - Available to Members of WCO and private sector
 - Updated regularly
 - Search and query functions
- <http://wcoomdpublishations.org/rules-of-origin/origin-db.html>

Database of preferential trade agreements



Database of preferential trade agreements

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES
WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

Search All Agreements Compare rules Maps Links Forms Sample

Last updated

AGREEMENT NAME	COUNTRIES INVOLVED	ACTIVE	ENTERED INTO FORCE	LAST UPDATED
Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)	Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates	✓	January 1, 2003	April 17, 2009
Egypt - Turkey	Egypt, Turkey	✓	March 1, 2007	April 17, 2009
Pacific Islands Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA)	Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, Federated States of, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	✓	April 13, 2003	April 17, 2009
United States - Bahrain	Bahrain, United States	✓	August 1, 2006	April 17, 2009
United States - Singapore	Singapore, United States	✓	January 1, 2004	April 17, 2009

Find agreement(s) for following countries or regions

ASEAN
CARICOM
EFTA
European Union
MERCOSUR

* No country selected returns all the agreements

Search

What the Origin Sub-Directorate is doing

- Undertake a comprehensive study of free trade arrangements and related rules of origin
 - Highlighting major differences and commonalities
 - Outline basic standards and norms
 - Neutral academic comparison

Comparative study

- Increase the level of support and understanding
- Recurrent themes which apply to all preferential arrangements
- Highlight of major differences and basic standards and norms
- More modules and agreements will be added

What the Origin Sub-Directorate is doing

- Increase Training and Technical Assistance
 - Target customs administrations and business community
 - Develop e-learning in origin matters
 - Provide technical assistance on rules of origin
 - Strengthen partnership between customs and the business community
 - Raise awareness of customs and trade in origin issues
- Revise mandate and role of WCO in order to implement the Action Plan

Training / Technical assistance

- At request of WCO Members
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Regional level (ROCB)
- National level
- Pool of experts (accreditation workshops)
- Training for private sector

Revenue Package Action Plan

A guide on verification of preferential origin

- Provide reference for establishment or development of a standard verification procedure
- Establishment of national structures for managing verifications
- Good practices approach

What's next

- Translate comparative study and develop its modules
- Collect more FTAs and related rules of origin and update the database
- Develop existing e-learning origin modules and draft new modules
- Prepare draft guidelines and handbooks as WCO Global Standard to support customs in their management and application of the rules
- Look to increase the use of risk analysis and increase administrative cooperation