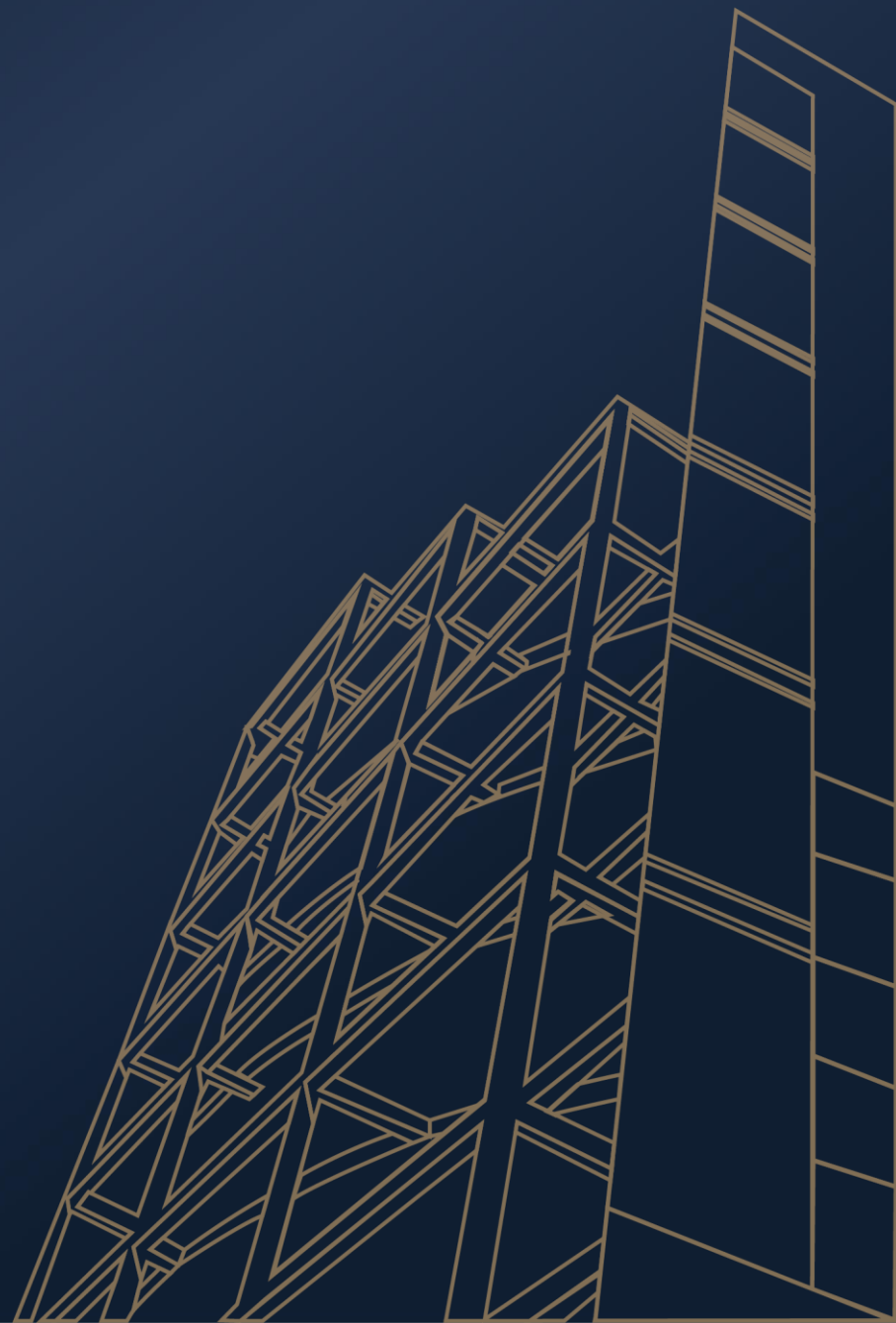




# Mercator Program

MALDIVES

18th – 27th November 2019





# Mercator Programme

- **Objective**

This World Customs Organization (WCO) support mission was undertaken between the 18th and 27th November 2019 by two senior Customs officials, one from the WCO Secretariat in Brussels, one from the United Kingdom's Revenue and Customs service.

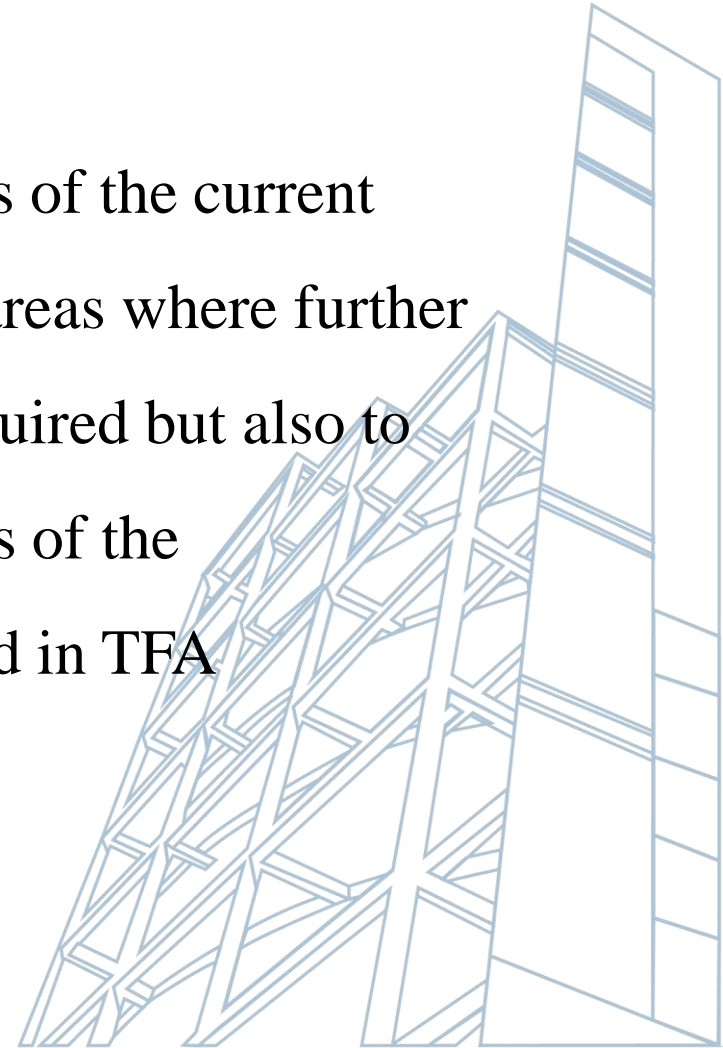




# Mercator Programme

- **Objective (cont...)**

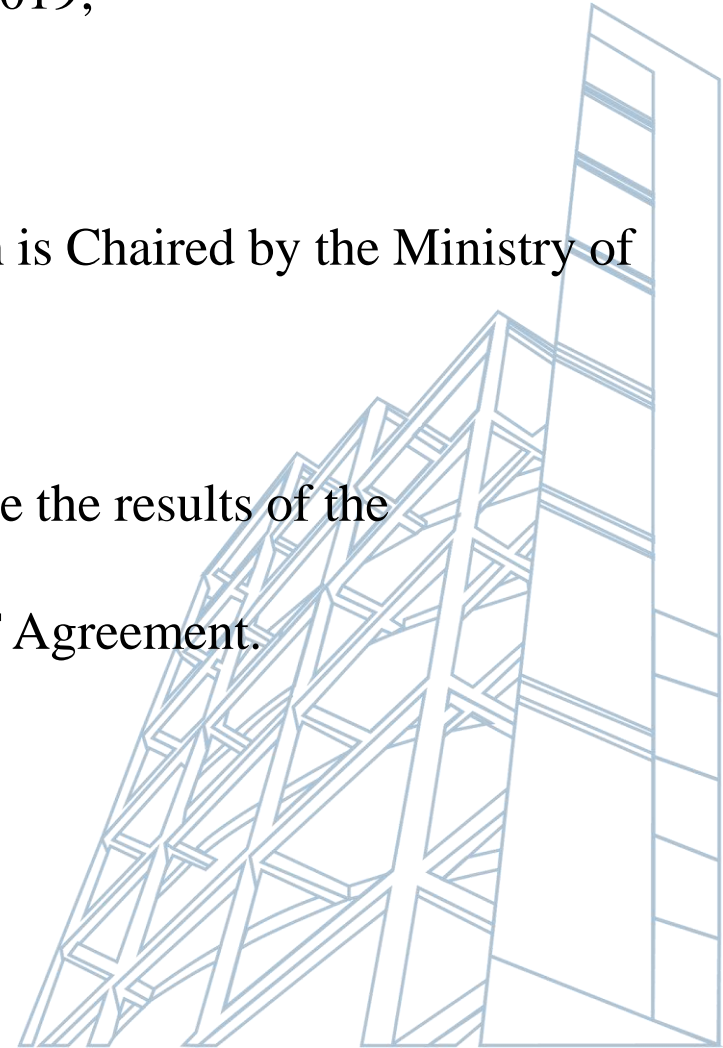
The objectives of the mission were not only to provide an analysis of the current position in respect to effective TFA implementation and identify areas where further Customs capacity building and/or technical assistance may be required but also to ensure that all TFA activities are aligned to the strategic objectives of the administration and that of other government stakeholders involved in TFA implementation.



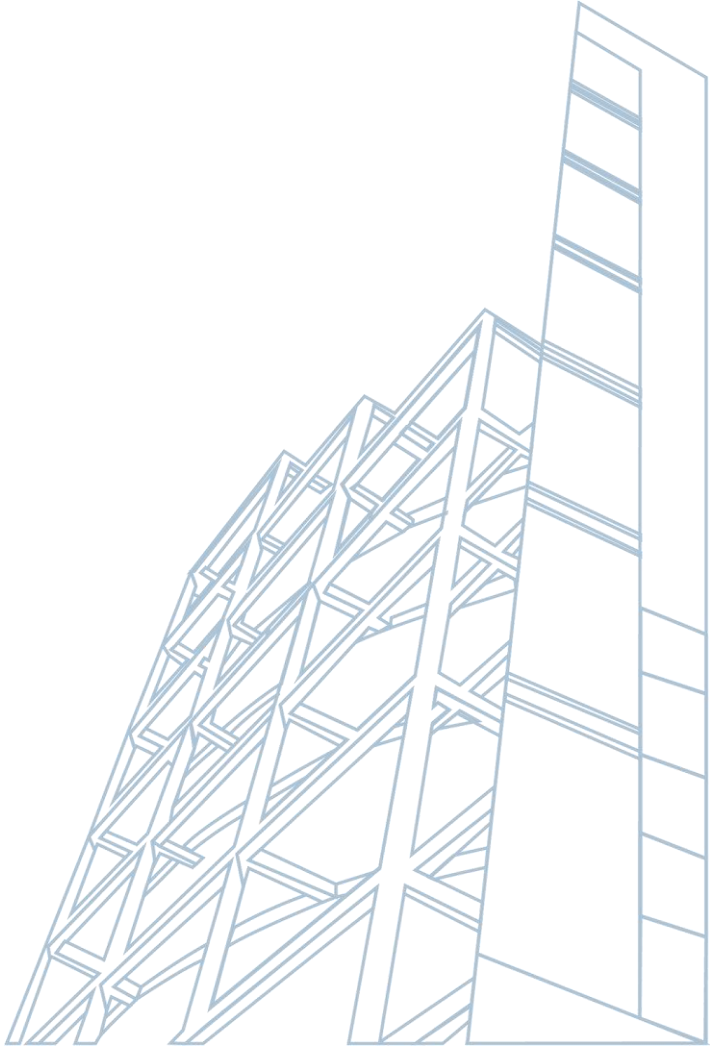


# Introduction

- Maldives has ratified the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement on 1st October 2019;
- Gap analysis was conducted in 2015
- National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF) was formed in 2015, which is Chaired by the Ministry of Economic Development (MED) and MCS is a part of the committee.
- The Strategic Plan matrix 2020-2024 of MCS has been worked out to prioritize the results of the categorization and notification of category A, B and C commitments of the TF Agreement.



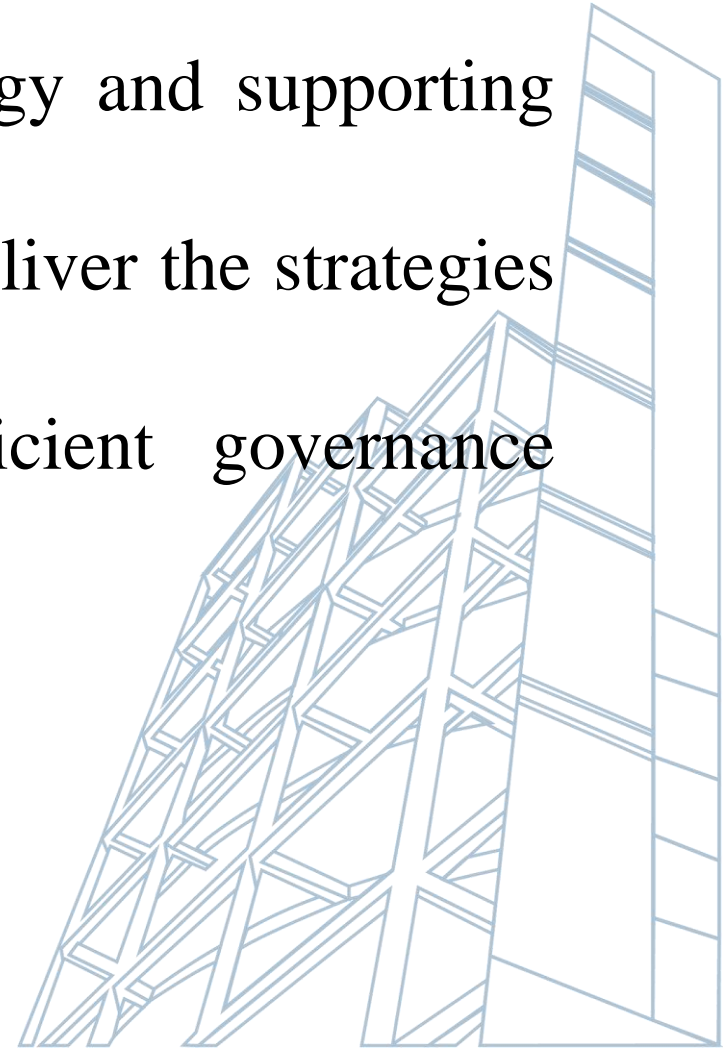






# Overall Impression of MCS

- MCS Strategic Plan 2020-2024 provides the strategy and supporting framework to move TFA implementation agenda, deliver the strategies from a practical perspective and have an efficient governance framework
- Need to work in partnership with other agencies





# Overall Impression of MCS

- Improve the role of National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF)
- Create efficient Donor coordination and project management activities for effective delivery
- Establish a formal Project Management Office
- Introduction of new Automated systems





# TF Measures Introduced by MCS

- Implementation of Advance Ruling
- Adoption of Pre-arrival processing
- Introduction of E-payment
- Simplification and harmonization of Customs process and procedures
- Allowing electronic copies of declarations with supporting documents
- Establishment of PCA activity
- Exchange of data with other government agencies through web service functionality







# Recommendations proposed

## Article Recommendation

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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Collaborate with trading community to enhance the structure, content, and user-friendliness of the external website to ensure it is consistent, transparent and easily accessible manner.               |
| 2 | Establish Customs to Business forum to enhance the consultation with trading community & to ensure all impending changes to Customs regulations and procedures are effectively cascaded to stakeholders |
| 5 | Enhance existing test procedures and framework to ensure they are being managed in an effective manner and are aligned to international best practice   |
| 6 | Ensure all fees and charges continue to be relevant and proportionate and are being applied consistently and published in an easily accessible manner   |



# Recommendations proposed

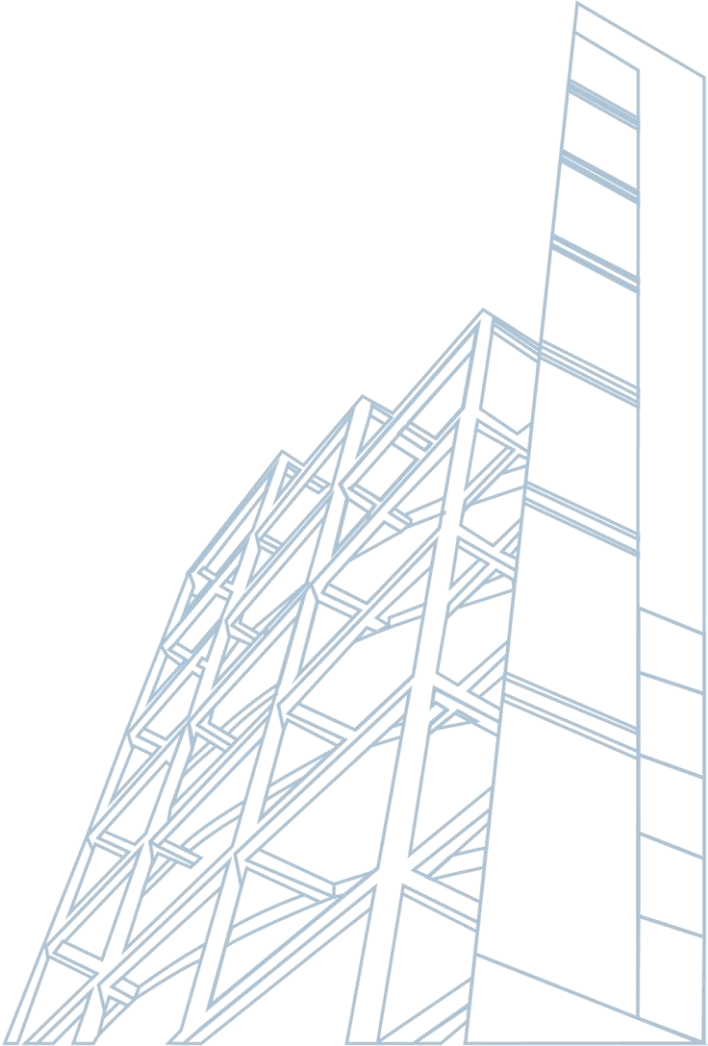
Article	Recommendation
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure internationally recognized principles and practices of an effective risk-based approach is fully embedded and applied</li><li>• Strengthen existing PCA Program</li><li>• Expedite the introduction of a comprehensive and effective AEO Programme</li></ul>
8	Ensure strategic working arrangements with other government agencies are effective
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop Maldives National Single Window (MNSW)</li><li>• Establish a comprehensive and effective management and assurance framework</li></ul>
12	Ensure MOUs and agreements with other Customs administrations are relevant and effective.



# TFA Maturity Model Assessment

- MCS undertook the TFA Maturity Model Assessment last year December
- Total score was 77
- Overall Maturity Assessment
  - Level 3: Emergent
  - Member has prime responsibility for TFA measures and is fairly compliant and deploys targeted assistance where necessary.
- Projects are carried out under guidance of project operation standards and an implementation strategy









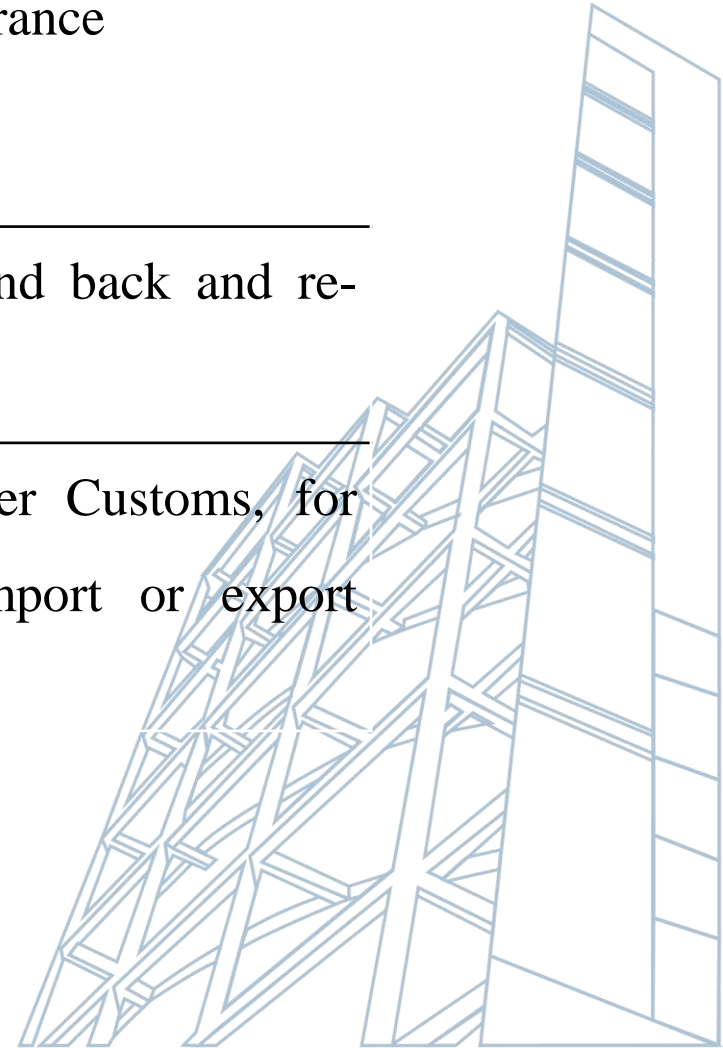
# Current Status (latest notification)

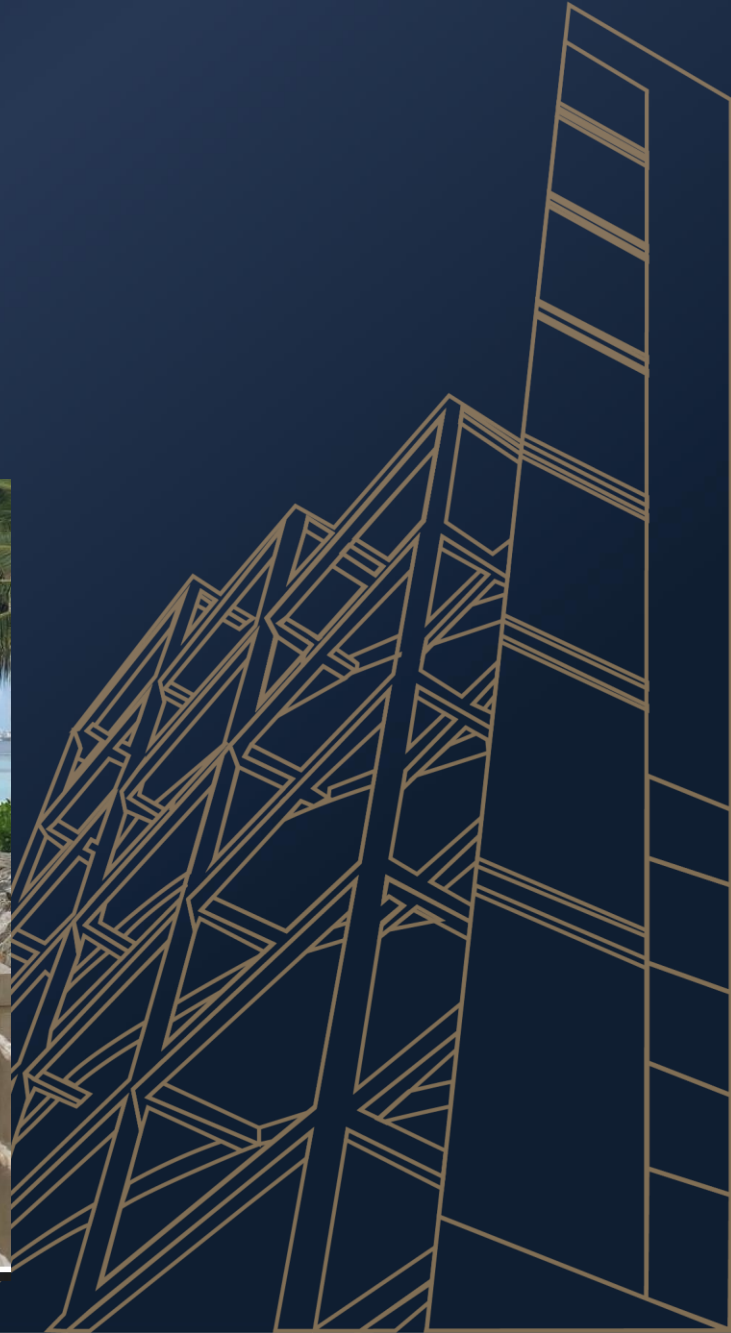
Article	Provision	Status
1.3	Enquiry points	Customs Support Centre has been established as a centralized enquiry point. Contact details of the Support Center is published on the Customs website.
3	Advance Rulings	Advance rulings are provided to HS classification and rules of origin. Regulation covering all the areas under this provision has been created and published
7.2	Electronic Payment	All payments made to Customs are made electronically.
10.1	Formalities & Documentation Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Document requirements and formalities are reviewed, best practices adopted for faster clearance and release under green channel</li><li>• Department is in place to review and harmonize formalities</li></ul>



# Current Status (latest notification)

Article	Provision	Status
10.2	Acceptance of Copies	Copies of all documents are accepted for clearance
10.8	Rejected Goods	MCS regulation provides opportunity to send back and re-consign the rejected goods
12	Customs Cooperation	MCS has already signed MOU's with other Customs, for exchange of information to verify an import or export declaration.









Thankyou

