

Government of India  
Ministry of Finance  
Department of Revenue  
Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs  
WCO Cell, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tower II, Jeevan Bharti Building,  
Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001  
Tel: +91-11-21400124  
Email:- [indiawco-cbec@nic.in](mailto:indiawco-cbec@nic.in)

F No. 15021/40/2016-Dir.(ICD)/Pt-1/

Dated: 02/12/2021

To

All Members of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs  
All Pr. Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of Customs and Customs (Preventive)  
All Pr. Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of GST / Customs  
All Pr. Director Generals/ Director Generals  
All Joint Secretaries/Commissioners working in the Board

Respected Madam/Sir,

**Subject: International Customs Day (ICD) Celebration 2021, seeking nominations for award of WCO Certificate of Merit—reg.**


International Customs Day (ICD) is celebrated worldwide, every year on 26<sup>th</sup> of January, to commemorate the inaugural session of the Customs Cooperation Council held in Brussels on 26<sup>th</sup> January 1953 with the participation of representatives of 17 member countries. The convention establishing the Council had been signed on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 1950. In 1994, the Customs Cooperation Council adopted a new name — 'World Customs Organization (WCO)'. On 26<sup>th</sup> of January every year, the Customs administrations of member countries of the WCO organize various national events to celebrate the occasion and to promote a dedicated theme, chosen every year by the WCO Secretariat for the International Customs Day and to be continued throughout the year.

2. In continuation of this customary practice, the WCO Secretariat has decided to dedicate International Customs Day, 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 to the united efforts of Customs to emerge from the coronavirus crisis and support people and businesses by strengthening the global supply chain, reinforcing collaboration, harnessing technology and putting "people" at the centre of the transformation process, with the slogan "Customs bolstering Recovery, Renewal and Resilience for a sustainable supply chain".

3. On this occasion, the Customs officers and representatives of the private sector who have demonstrated their commitment to the united efforts of Customs, as per above so far to emerge from the coronavirus crisis and support people and businesses by strengthening the global supply chain, reinforcing collaboration, harnessing technology and putting "people" at the centre of the transformation process, would be awarded "WCO Certificate of Merit".

4. You are requested to recommend/nominate names of suitable officers and representatives of the private sector for awarding the WCO certificate of Merit, along with the justification/proposal for their nomination. The nomination and the justification/proposal (along with the vigilance clearance and APAR grading for the last 5 years in case of the nominated Customs officers) should reach the WCO Cell on or before **20<sup>th</sup> December, 2020**, so that their names can be considered by the Board for awarding the WCO Certificate of Merit. The nomination may also be sent by email to [hardeep.batra@gov.in](mailto:hardeep.batra@gov.in) & [indiaawco-cbec@nic.in](mailto:indiaawco-cbec@nic.in)

Yours faithfully,

  
02/12/2020  
(Hardeep Batra)  
Commissioner, WCO Cell

Copy to the Web Manager, NIC with the request to upload it on the CBIC website.