

## WCO's AEO EXPERT'S PROFILE

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE ACCREDITATION OF AEO EXPERTS:**

The rapidly and dynamically changing world requires continuous and efficient change management. Through the journey of reform and modernization in an efficient and effective manner, AEO Experts are individuals that possess the capacity to accompany, guide and mentor organizations. The expected objective of this WCO accreditation process is to enlarge the pool of WCO AEO Experts, in order to respond to increasing Members' demands for capacity building/technical assistance related to AEO Implementation and Validation.

### **PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES:**

WCO AEO Experts are focused on implementation of AEO programmes, including establishing partnerships with Business, conducting Validations and negotiating Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA), based on the SAFE Package, which includes the SAFE Framework of Standards, Customs- Business Partnership Guidance and the AEO Implementation and Validation Guidance. They have proven expertise in fields ranging from the below key areas:

- AEO Implementation and Validation processes;
- Customs procedures including pre-arrival processing;
- Risk Management; and
- Coordinated Border Management.

### **QUALIFICATIONS and COMPETENCIES:**

In order to be accredited as a WCO expert in the area of AEO, candidates need to demonstrate most of the following requirements:

#### **1. Personal Skills**

- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Personal suitability and the aptitude required for international development work (open-mindedness, patience, self-awareness, cultural awareness, empathy, etc.).
- A high level of self-motivation, flexibility and commitment to task completion.

- A broad view of, and interest, in international events.
- Appropriate and professional behaviour during the WCO's capacity building activities;

## **2. Academic and Professional Career Expertise**

- University level education or equivalent ongoing professional experience of working within a Customs Administration (at least 5 years).
- Proven experience in implementing Customs modernization processes.
- Expertise of AEO Implementation and Validation.
- Understanding of risk management procedures.
- Understanding of Coordinated Border Management.
- Understanding of major challenges for AEOs.
- Understanding of the process of negotiating and implementing AEO MRAs.
- Demonstrated understanding of the latest trends in AEO developments, including developments in the use of IT and data exchange.
- Experience as an advisor, facilitator, trainer or mentor.
- Customs management experience would be a strong asset

## **3. Knowledge of WCO Standards and Instruments**

- Thorough understanding of WCO strategies and approach.
- Robust knowledge of the key WCO standards and tools such as, *inter alia*:
  - ✓ SAFE Framework of Standards.
  - ✓ The Revised Kyoto Convention;
  - ✓ AEO Implementation and Validation Guidance;
  - ✓ Customs - Business Partnership Guidance;
  - ✓ Strategy Guide for AEO MRA;
  - ✓ AEO Compendium; and
  - ✓ WCO Customs Risk Management Compendium.

## **4. International Experience**

- Experience in working in multiple cultures and in an international environment.

## **5. Vocational Skills**

- Ability to communicate effectively and engage with senior Customs managers, as well as other border management and trade representatives and private sector representatives.
- Ability to facilitate group discussions relating to public administration reform and modernization.
- Ability to work effectively in a team by contributing to common objectives.
- Ability to communicate clearly in writing, demonstrating the competence to think and analyze logically and comprehensively.
- Proven analytical abilities and reporting skills.
- Excellent oral, written and IT communication skills.

## **6. Language Skills**

- Proficiency level of French required. Additional languages are an advantage.