



World Customs Organization

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10.02.2021 / Brussels
21HL0026E

Dear Director General,

I am pleased to inform you that the 7th **Executive Programme in Customs and Business Administration (EPCBA)**, intended for **senior Customs executives of developing countries**, will be held online **from 5 to 30 April 2021**, under the sponsorship of Customs Cooperation Fund of Korea (CCF-Korea). In view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Secretariat has decided to deliver the Programme in a blended learning format. **The offline programme of four weeks will be determined at a later stage** for those who completed online sessions.

This EPCBA Programme targets management-level officials of Customs administrations of developing-country Members. As you may be aware, the role of Customs in the 21st Century has evolved beyond revenue collection to include a much broader role in the international supply chain. In order to be effective, management-level officials, the key drivers of Customs authorities, need to have not only technical professionalism in Customs matters but also a wide range of knowledge on international trade and management.

In this respect, the World Customs Organization (WCO), sponsored by CCF-Korea, provides the EPCBA Programme so that targeted participants may acquire holistic and systematic knowledge not only in Customs technical areas but also in theories of international trade and management.

This Programme will be held online in the first phase and offline in the second phase for 12 selected Customs officials from Member administrations. In this regard, I kindly invite your Administration to identify and nominate a candidate who meets the following criteria:

- A senior manager **having more than ten years of service** in Customs and who will continue to work for more than two years in his/her home administration after the Programme;
- A Bachelor's degree with proficiency in both **written and spoken English**;
- Available during the **whole period** of the EPCBA Programme;
- Receive his/her **Administration's approval to enroll and dedicate** full time to the Programme morning.

Detailed Conditions of candidacy and selection are specified in the attachments.

For those selected to participate in this Programme, all the costs including tuition fee (both online and offline) and air tickets, etc. needed for the stay in Korea (should the face-to-face programme take place) will be covered.

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Please find appended hereto a set of documents explaining the administrative provisions governing the Programme, as well as the nomination form. The nomination form must be completed in English and returned by e-mail to **WCO Capacity Building Directorate** and **Seoul National University (SNU) Office** at the indicated address, by **5 March 2021** (no later than 17:00 Korea Standard Time (KST)). Please note that applications received after the deadline will not be considered. **The candidate's application must be supported by the Administration.** The selected candidates will be informed **by 15 March 2021** via e-mail.

Only a limited number of candidates can be accepted as this is subject to the resources provided by the donor for this Programme. In this regard, it is strongly recommended to nominate no more than two candidates. If you have any questions regarding this Programme, a member of your staff may contact Mr. Sungsig Kim at the WCO Capacity Building Directorate (E-mail: sungsig.kim@wcoomd.org; or Tel.: +32 2 209 94 22) or Prof. Chongsup Kim at Seoul National University (SNU) (Email: chongsup@snu.ac.kr; or Tel.: +82 2 880-5812 or Mobile: +82 2 10 2307 8951).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kunio Mikuriya'.

Kunio Mikuriya
WCO Secretary General