

Press Releases

Hong Kong Customs holds AEO Expert Mission and Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China (with photos)

The Customs and Excise Department of Hong Kong (C&ED) today (November 29) and tomorrow (November 30) is holding the AEO Expert Mission and Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China. The two-day event is supported by the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Secretariat and the Economic and Technical Co-operation Work Programme under the ASEAN-Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement. It is the first large-scale event focused on the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) matters held between ASEAN and Hong Kong, China since the launch of the Hong Kong AEO Programme by the C&ED in 2012. Under the theme "We Connect for Safety and Prosperity", about 50 AEO experts from Customs administrations of ASEAN Member States, Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao took part in the AEO Expert Mission today.

Today's event began with an opening speech delivered by the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho. She emphasised that with the distinctive advantages of enjoying strong support of the motherland and being closely connected to the world, it is important for Hong Kong to maintain close connections with ASEAN Member States, Mainland China and Macao in ensuring the smooth operation of the global supply chain and facilitating legitimate trade. Other distinguished speakers, including the Head of Trade Facilitation Division of ASEAN Secretariat, Mr Cuong Ba Tran, and the Deputy Director General of the Department of Enterprise Management and Audit-based Control of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China, Mr Zhu Fang, also shared their valuable insights on AEO programmes.

During the event today, representatives from Hong Kong, China and all ASEAN Member States delivered presentations on the experiences and challenges in implementing their respective AEO programmes. Interactive workshops were also conducted, dividing participants into groups to facilitate in-depth exchanges of expertise on matters regarding AEO programmes and putting forward the mutual recognition arrangement.

The AEO Expert Mission and Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China will continue tomorrow with the Symposium, in which Action Plans for AEO Mutual Recognition Arrangement and a memorandum of understanding will be signed with various Customs administrations.

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The Customs and Excise Department of Hong Kong today (November 29) and tomorrow (November 30) is holding the AEO Expert Mission and Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China. Photo shows the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho, delivering an opening speech at the Expert Mission held today.



The Customs and Excise Department of Hong Kong (C&ED) today (November 29) and tomorrow (November 30) is holding the AEO Expert Mission and Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China. Photo shows the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho (first row, centre), with officers from the Customs administrations of the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Member States, the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China, Macao Customs Service and the C&ED.

Source - <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202311/29/P2023112900556.htm>

Press Releases

AEO Expert Mission and Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China successfully concludes with fruitful results (with photos)

The AEO Expert Mission and Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China, the first large-scale event focused on the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) matters held between ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and Hong Kong, China since the launch of the Hong Kong AEO Programme by the Customs and Excise Department of Hong Kong (C&ED) in 2012, successfully concluded today (November 30).

The AEO Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China was held today as the highlight of the event. Around 200 representatives from ASEAN Member States, Customs administrations of Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao, government officials, the business sector, trade associations, took part in the Symposium today to foster discussions and exchange insights with stakeholders in trade facilitation and business development in the ASEAN region and Mainland China.

The Symposium today started off with an opening ceremony officiated by the Principal Guests of Honour, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau; the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho; the Head of Trade Facilitation Division of ASEAN Secretariat, Mr Cuong Ba Tran; the Director General of Macao Customs Service, Mr Vong Man-chong; the Deputy Director General of the Department of Enterprise Management and Audit-based Control of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), Mr Zhu Fang and representatives of ASEAN Member States.

During the Symposium, the C&ED concluded the Action Plans for AEO Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) with Customs administrations of Cambodia and the Philippines. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Enhancing AEO Co-operation in the Greater Bay Area among Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao Customs was also signed by representatives from the GACC, the C&ED and Macao Customs Service, witnessed by Mr Yau, Ms Ho and Mr Vong.

The Symposium continued with the presentation of Hong Kong AEO Partnership Awards to Hong Kong AEOs in recognition of their excellent performance on promoting the Hong Kong AEO Programme.

It was followed by panel sessions in which representatives from the Government and business sectors fostered discussions on the opportunities and challenges of extending business in the markets of ASEAN and Mainland China.

The two-day AEO Expert Mission and Symposium has yielded fruitful results. First, the C&ED has successfully concluded the Action Plans for MRA with the Customs administrations of Cambodia and the Philippines, marking a significant step towards the conclusion of MRAs in a near future. Second, consensus has been reached that Customs administrations of ASEAN Member States and Hong Kong, China share a common vision to safeguard security and safety in the supply chain. They will further enhance co-operation on matters regarding AEO programmes and pressing ahead with the MRA. Third, the signing of the MoU on Enhancing AEO Co-operation in the Greater Bay Area among Mainland Customs, Hong Kong Customs and Macao Customs will further strengthen the co-operation of the three administrations in implementing the AEO Programme in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and thereby bringing more benefits to the AEOs and fostering further development in the region.

The Hong Kong AEO Programme was launched in 2012. Currently, the C&ED has ratified MRAs with 14 Customs administrations of the Mainland, India, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, Canada, Mexico, Indonesia and Macao, China. Under the MRA, AEOs from the signatory countries or regions can enjoy reciprocal trade facilitations including reduced inspection rate and prioritised clearance.

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The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau (eighth left); the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho (eighth right); and other guests today (November 30) officiate at the opening ceremony of the AEO Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China.



The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau, today (November 30) delivers a speech at the opening ceremony of the AEO Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China.



The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho, today (November 30) delivers a keynote address at the AEO Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China.



The Assistant Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr Rudy Hui (right), exchanges the signed the Action Plan for AEO Mutual Recognition Arrangement with a representative from Customs administration of Cambodia at the AEO Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China held today (November 30).



The Assistant Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr Rudy Hui (right), signs the Action Plan for AEO Mutual Recognition Arrangement with a representative from Customs administration of the Philippines at the AEO Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China held today (November 30).



The Memorandum of Understanding on Enhancing AEO Cooperation at the Greater Bay Area among Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao Customs was signed today (November 30) by representatives from the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China, the Customs & Excise Department and Macao Customs Service, witnessed by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau (back row, centre); the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho (back row, left); and the Director General of Macao Customs Service, Mr Vong Man-chong (back row, right).



The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho (first row, centre), takes a photo with participants at the AEO Symposium for ASEAN and Hong Kong, China, held today (November 30).

Source - <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202311/30/P2023113000598.htm>