Regional Organizations Cooperation Mechanism for Trade Facilitation Annual Meeting (ROC-TF)

Update on ROC-TF Activities

Trade Facilitation Unit, ESCAP

9 September, CIECC, Beijing, China

Outline

- What is ROC-TF?
- Recommendations from 2012
- ROC-TF Activities
- Performance Monitoring Framework (later)
- Challenges and Way Forward (later)

What is ROC-TF?

- **Regional Organizations Cooperation Mechanism or ROC-TF** is a cooperation mechanism for the sub-regional, regional, UN and other international organizations involved in Trade Facilitation activities in the Asia Pacific region.
- Objective: To facilitate exchange of information, identify synergies and collaborate for effective implementation of Trade Facilitation initiatives.
- It was established following up on the explicit recommendation of the ESCAP Member States to the Secretariat in July 2011 to support the creation of a region-wide coordination mechanism, bringing together representatives of key regional organizations active in trade facilitation.
- First meeting took place in Seoul titled Dialogue on Regional Cooperation for Trade Facilitation, back to back with APTFF2011, co-organized by ESCAP and ADB.

ROC-TF Activities since last annual meeting (Oct. 2012)

• Bi-annual Newly Designed Electronic Newsletters



- Joint Calendar of Events (internal)
 - <u>ROCTF calendar Latest.xls</u>

Recommendations from Annual Meeting, Colombo, October 2012

- Develop a joint ROC-TF calendar of trade facilitation events -Completed
- Publication frequency of newsletters from quarterly to biannual - Changed
- Focus future ROC-TF newsletters more on new knowledge products (e.g. publications) Changed
- Continue to hold the annual ROC-TF meeting and to open it to more organizations involved in trade facilitation activities in the Asia-Pacific region Pursued
- Encourage all ROC-TF organization to join the GFP initiative Need more effort

Recommendations from Annual Meeting, Colombo, October 2012 (2)

- Systematically invite each other to relevant trade facilitation events, even if as observers *ESCAP received 3-year Guest status for APEC SCCP meetings, need further cooperation among organizations*
- Share information on trade facilitation monitoring and assessment tools developed by ROC-TF



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