

WCO Time Release Study (TRS)

Presentation in Technical Session II:

Methodologies for Understanding Trade and Transport Bottlenecks and Ascertaining their Costs.

Inception Meeting in

Trade and Transport Facilitation Audit in South Asia and Promoting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for Inclusive, Equitable and Sustainable Development in South Asia

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Outline

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- Objective
- Scope
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- WCO Tools
- National Practices
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Development

- 1994:WCO PTC adopted the study on the Time Required for the Release of Goods (Handbook) to undertake TRS.
- 1994-1997: Small Number of Customs Administration conducted Studies.
- 2001: TRS Guide Adopted and online software developed.
- WTO members submission for negotiation "Establishment and Publication of Average Release Times using TRS" in NGTF.
- Initially designed for inbound goods, it is also applicable for implementation phase of CBM.

Objective

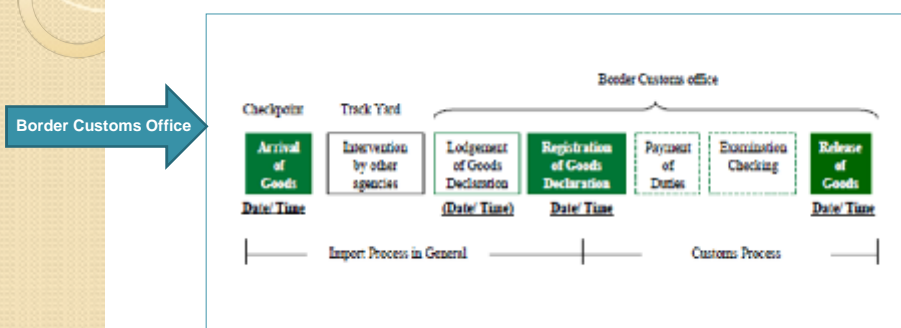
- To Measure the average time taken for the release of goods from their arrival to their release,
- To Measure the average time taken for each activity in the release process, for example, the time taken for physical inspection,
- To identify the weaknesses in the release process,
- To Identify the constraints affecting release; and
- To suggest corrective/remedial measures to improve the time required for the release of goods.



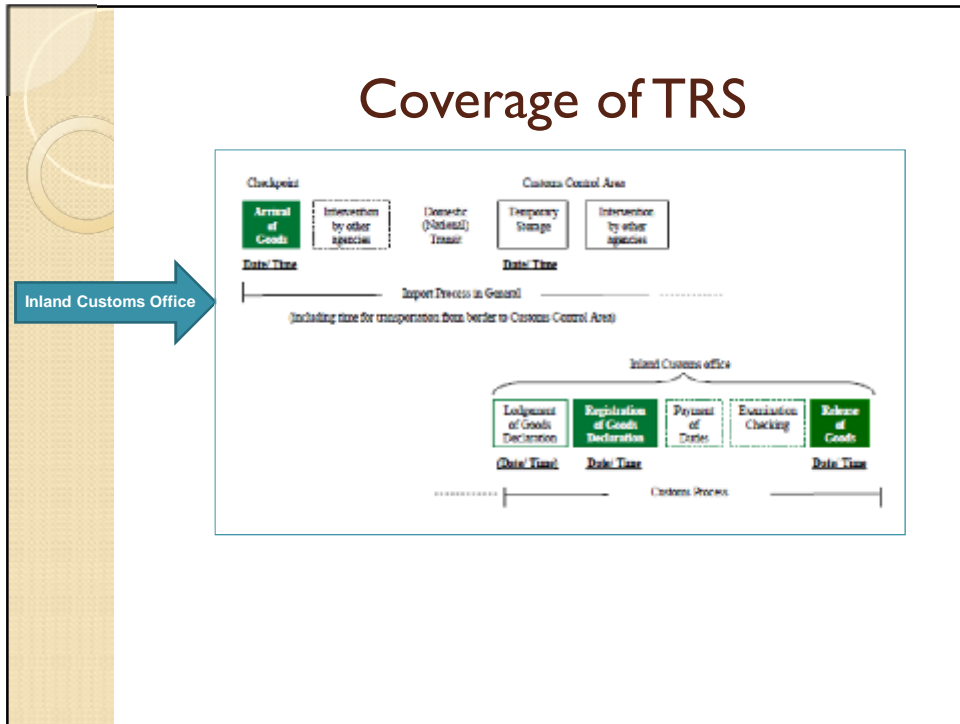
TRS as a Trade Facilitation Tools

- ✓ WCO TRS is a systematic tool to measure trade facilitation performance with a view to improving it through;
 - ✓ Performance measurement (for Customs, OGAs and trading community);
 - ✓ Identifying bottleneck processes affecting customs release;
 - ✓ Assessing new procedures, operations, etc.;
 - ✓ Establishing baseline TF performance measurement;
 - ✓ Identifying opportunities for TF improvement;
 - ✓ Estimating the country's approximate position as a benchmarking tool;

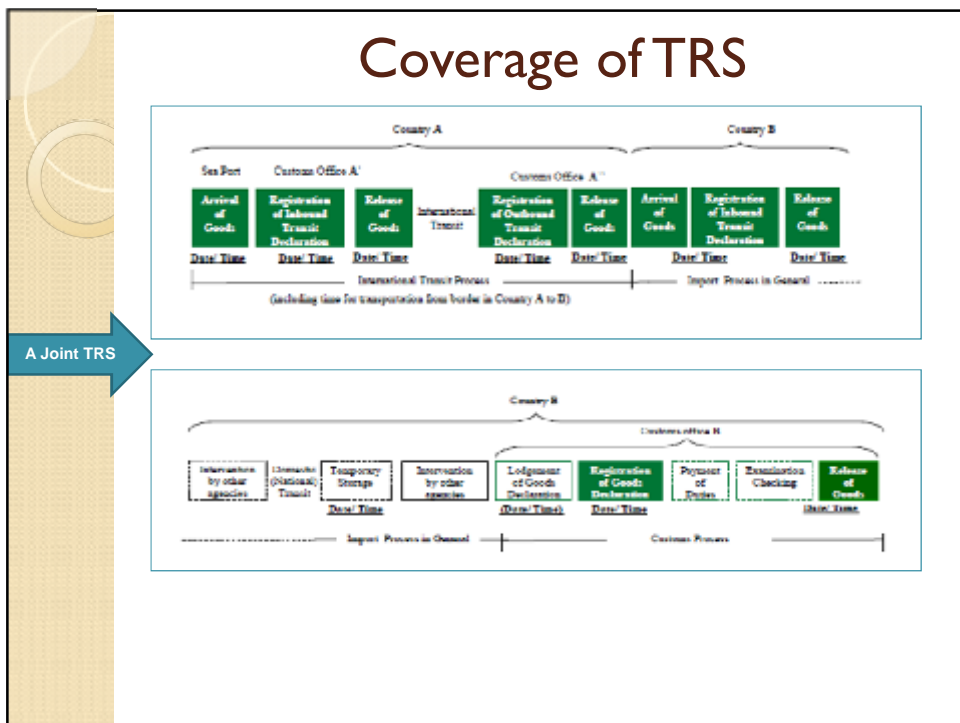
Coverage of TRS



Coverage of TRS



Coverage of TRS



Methodology

- Measure the average time between the arrival and release of goods.
- Measure the time required for each steps between arrival and release of the goods
- Measure the time required for customs clearance of goods
 - By region
 - By individual customs office
 - By type of traffic

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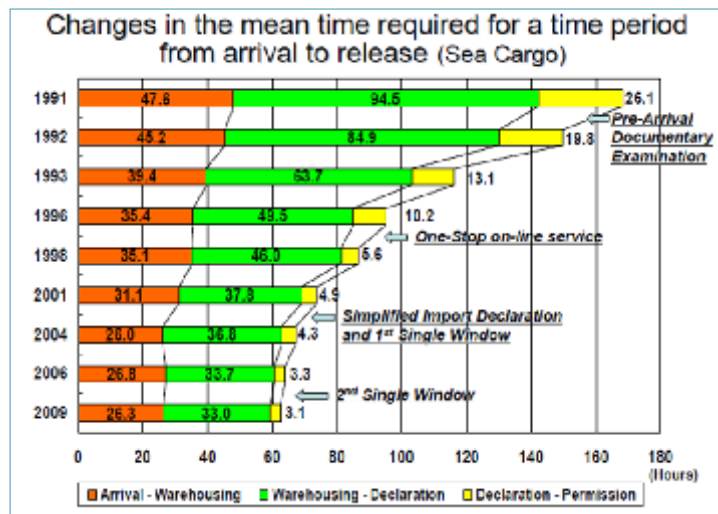
Three Phases

- A. Preparation of the Study
 1. Working Group establishment,
 2. Determination of Scope and Design of the Study;
 3. Planning and Methodology;
 4. Detailed Drawing Plan.
 5. Sample
 6. Forms
 7. Simplified Form
 8. Test Run
- B. Collection and Recording of Data
- C. Analysis Data and conclusion
 1. Verification of Data,
 2. Analysis of the Data ,
 3. Final Report,
 4. Press Release,
 5. Proposals for Changes,
 6. Continuous Improvement.

WCO Tools on TRS

- 1) Guide To Measure The Time Required For the Release of Goods - Version 2 in 2011
- 2) Internet Software for the TRS
<http://members.wcoomd.org/trs/index.asp>
 The software has functions for developing a survey questionnaire, completing an analysis and producing a report on a TRS
- 3) User Manual for TRS Software

National Practices : Japan



Source: Guide to Measure the Time Required for the Release of Goods - Version 2. 2011 (WCO)

National Practices :Australia

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Arrival to documents	-2.1	-3.0	-3.3	-3.1	-4.1
Arrival to customs unimpeded	-1.5	-2.2	-2.4	-2.2	-3.1
Arrival to ready to pay	-1.1	-1.7	2.3	2.0	2.9
Arrival to availability	-1.2	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.5
Arrival to release	-1.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	-0.3
Arrival to clearance	-1.8	1.2	0.7	0.9	0.4

- Shows Sea Cargo Multi Year Trend
- Improvement of 1.4 days from 2007.
- Factor Impacted;
 - Industry improving own processes,
 - Awareness campaign of an early reporting,
 - Refine RM
 - Annual TRS study confirming early reporting and clearance.

Definition

- Arrival: Ship arrives at port of discharge,
- Availability: Physically available for delivery.
- Documents: Consignment fully reported/ declared at Customs.
- Customs unimpeded: Risk Assessment, evaluation and processing is complete.
- Ready to pay: Free of impediments.
- Release: Permission is given to remove from Customs control.
- Clearance: Permission for home consumption from all agencies.

Source: Time Release Study 2011, Australian Customs and Border Protection

TRS: With Reference to Nepal

- Nepal Customs has not conducted TRS as yet.
- Four Years Customs Reform and Modernization Strategies and Action Plan (2013-17) includes conducting Time Release Study.
- Asian Development Bank in association with WCO has planned to conduct the TRS in Nepal.

