



Summary Result of Study Tour

On Pre-Arrival Processing and Risk Management in International Trade

Thailand, 15-17 October 2019

Deputy Director General of Cambodian Customs, Mr. Pha Engveng, led a delegation of ten Cambodian Customs Officials to a study tour on pre-arrival processing and risk management of internationally traded goods in Thailand from 15-17 October 2019. The purpose of the study tour was



to enable regional exchange and inspire public-private partnership around these specific aspects of customs administration by providing an opportunity for Cambodian officials to discuss with colleagues at Thailand's busiest trade hubs and customs checkpoints, as well as with representatives of key private sector players in the global trading industry. The tour was facilitated by the ARISE Plus Cambodia project, with assistance from GIZ Thailand, and kindly hosted by Thai Customs – a peer organisation of Cambodia's General Department of Customs and Excise (GDCE) under the ASEAN umbrella.

Gonzalo Herrera, Attaché at the Delegation of the European Union to Thailand, welcomed the Cambodian officials on October 15th. The EU is the principal funder of the ASEAN-wide ARISE Plus initiative, and the bilateral project in Cambodia is co-funded by the EU and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Subsequently, Dr. Tong Hua, Program Manager at the World Customs Organization's Regional Office for Capacity-Building in Bangkok (WCO-ROCB), delivered a background presentation around global practices in risk management and moderated a discussion on the topic.



In the following two days, the Cambodian Officials gained first-hand insights into Thai customs procedures around both maritime and express goods.

On maritime goods, the delegation visited the Bangkok office of Maersk,

one of the world's biggest shipping lines, as well as the Thai Customs office at the country's main commercial port in Laem Chabang. At the Maersk office, they learned about the perspective and processes of the company's customs house brokers. The visit also featured a presentation of Trade Lens, a trade-related block chain database developed by IBM, which



is used by several key players in the global maritime shipping industry as well as by various customs authorities (including in Asia). At Laem Chabang, the delegation was welcomed by Director Mr. Yutana Phoolpipat, who presented recent reforms and current customs procedures at the port, and given a tour to see the modern container scanning facilities in action.

On express goods, the delegation visited the country's famous Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok and combined visits at the 'Hub and Gateway' of DHL – one of the world's leading parcel delivery services – and at the airport's Customs Office, where Director Mr. Phantong Loykulnanta and his team presented impressive statistics on how pre-arrival processing drastically reduced release times of express goods.

Cambodian Customs also shared their experiences and good practices during the technical exchange with Thai customs, and the study tour provided good inspiration for GDCE on how to further develop their risk management procedures. The ARISE Plus Cambodia project is mandated to support GDCE in these efforts to ensure the full implementation of the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement in Cambodia by 2023.

ARISE Plus Cambodia, the national Cambodian component of the ARISE Plus Regional Programme, is co-financed by the EU and the BMZ. Implemented by GIZ, the project runs from 2019 to 2023 and aims to support greater connectivity and economic integration between Cambodia and the rest of ASEAN through implementing the AEC Blueprint 2025 and strengthening institutional capacity.



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