Digitalization of Customs and Border Management
Jabu Matse

What is happening and what are learning?
Digitalization and digital transformation can drive agility in the real-time economy hence promoting transparency, predictability, and integrity whilst fighting arbitrary or abusive tax enforcement and fraud.
# e-Certificate of Origin

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is it?</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Lesson learned</th>
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| The e-CoO replaces the manual Certificate of Origin which is issued by the issuing authority in the country of origin of the goods. The trader applies online, can trace the application, and gets the response on the submission digitally, thus infusing efficiency in the process. | • Guaranteed preferential treatment where origin is approved.  
• Paperless and environmental friendly.  
• Reduces time and cost of doing business.  
• Eliminates fraud through its optical watermarking technology.  
• Reduces errors and duplicate entries.  
• Improved record of statistical data | Reduced diversion of goods resulting to submission of legitimate acquittals.  
Improved communication and cooperation with other Customs Administrations.  
More countries are working on piloting e-CoO Framework. |
# e-Customs Tariff

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<td>The online Tariff presents on one platform, all information that relates</td>
<td>• Easy access to Tariff Codes and up-to-date information on the Harmonised System and real-time</td>
<td>• Availability of e-Customs Tariff increased transparency resulting in less reliance on 3rd parties.</td>
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<td>to tariff regulatory measures applied to international trade.</td>
<td>amendments</td>
<td>• Improved compliance due - so avoiding penalties.</td>
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<td>• Accurate Duty Calculation of the goods a trader intends to import.</td>
<td>• In-house quality checks may lead to termination of external clearing services, thus reducing</td>
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<td>• Assist the business community to properly plan and budget before committing on importing goods.</td>
<td>lead times.</td>
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# e-Advanced Ruling

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<td>It is a legally binding ruling issued by a competent authority to the online applicant of goods on Tariff Classification, Origin, and Customs Valuation.</td>
<td>• Ensure predictable Customs decisions.</td>
<td>Increased number of technology users due to Digital Instruments.</td>
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<td>• Traders can make informed business decisions based on legally binding rulings.</td>
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<td>• Assist traders comply with Customs laws.</td>
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<td>• Promotes transparency and consistency in Customs operations.</td>
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# SADC AEO Digital Transformation Framework

## What is it?
SADC AEO Digital transformation is the integration of digital technologies into all aspects of SADC AEO operations.

AEO stands for Authorised Economic Operator which is a Trader that has been granted a trusted status by a Customs Administration following its being compliant with Customs Laws.

All SADC AEOs will be accredited at the Member State level based on a regionally agreed standard.

## SADC AEO Digital Transformation will address
- Border Coordination towards a common goal of trade facilitation
- Harmonisation of digital elements.
- Improved revenue collection
- Reduced cost of compliance and revenue collection.
- Improved capability of the Unique Consignment Reference (UCR) function - Customs Connect.
- Elimination of paper-based processes (across all Cross-Border Regulatory Agencies)
- Enhanced quality of trade statistics
- Improve automation e.g. electronic gate pass.
- Traceability - clear audit trail
- Data Matching and Integrity - legitimate acquittals.
- Access to information - Customs Information Portal.

## Lesson learned
- AEO is a smarter control program with better but less intrusive controls that produces facilitated, faster, and more predictable processes.
- AEO Mutual Recognition may facilitate the collateral waiver of the Regional Customs Transit Guarantees (RCTG) through trust-based relationships.
Thank you for your attention!!