



SAFE Framework of Standards 2018 Edition



Adoption of SAFE 2018 Edition

On July 26, 2018, the World Customs Organization (WCO) published the 2018 edition of the SAFE Framework of Standards, following its adoption by the Council.

The Council was established in 1950 by the Convention establishing a Customs Co-operation Council (CCC), having its Inaugural Session in 1953. The Council is the premier decision making body of the WCO, into which all WCO bodies report. Each WCO Member has the right to be represented in the Council, which aims to secure the highest degree of harmony and uniformity in Member’s Customs systems. With administrative support provided by the WCO Secretariat, the Council is mandated to study, develop and improve on Customs procedures and legislation.

During its 2018 annual session, the Council achieved consensus regarding the update of the SAFE framework at the end of June 2018. The SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade, is updated every three years, and establishes minimum international standards to achieve its objectives.

This triennium review ensures that the SAFE remains relevant, and reflects new opportunities, challenges and associated solutions for global trade benefitting all WCO Members.

The SAFE Working Group

The WCO held its 19th Meeting of the SAFE Working Group in Brussels, Belgium between February 21 - 23, 2018. It was here, that the 2018 edition of the SAFE Framework of Standards was finalized by over 100 delegates represented by WCO Member administrations, partner government agencies, the Private Sector Consultative Group (PSCG), international organizations and academia.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Ana B. Hinojosa, WCO Director Compliance and Facilitation, underlined the importance of the SAFE Framework of Standards and associated tools. Key among its functions is the enhancement of supply chain security and facilitation through enhanced partnerships based on trust, transparency and technology.

The updated SAFE Framework of Standards was presented to the June 2018 Policy Commission and the Council for adoption and subsequent publication.

Inside this issue:

SAFE 2018 Adoption	1
SAFE Working Group	1
SAFE Framework & Its Versions	2
Four Core Principles of the SAFE	2
SAFE Objectives & Principles	3
SAFE 2018; Pillars of the SAFE	3
Capacity Building and Implementation	4

SAFE 2018

The SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade (SAFE Framework)

The SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade was adopted by the WCO Council at its Annual Session in June 2005. This unique instrument combined modern supply chain security standards with a new approach to securing international trade, which was largely facilitated by developing closer partnerships between Customs and the business community. It was recognized that the end-to-end management of goods moving across borders, could not just lie in the hands of government officials but the owners and conveyers of these commodities had a critical role to play in their safe and efficient movement. The SAFE Framework is a non-binding international instrument that has since been regularly updated, to reflect new and emerging developments in technology and trade trends since its inception. Over the years, the WCO has rolled out various versions of the SAFE in a bid to fulfilling its mission of facilitating the global implementation of the instrument.



Dr. Kunio Mikuriya
WCO Secretary General

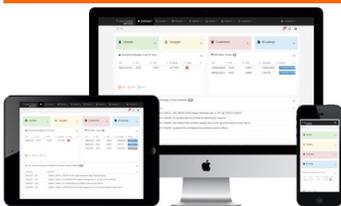
“All WCO Members and stakeholders should deepen the implementation of the SAFE Framework and its associated tools in an effective and harmonized manner to further strengthen supply chain security and facilitation, by leveraging the collective lessons learned thus far and the new opportunities outlined in the 2018 edition of the Framework.”

Previous Versions of the SAFE Framework

- The 2007 version of the SAFE Framework incorporated detailed provisions on the conditions and requirements for Customs and Authorized Economic Operators (AEO)
- In June 2010 the WCO issued its SAFE Package which brought together all WCO instruments and guidelines that support implementation of the SAFE Framework
- The June 2012 version of the SAFE Framework included new parts 5 and 6 in respect of Coordinated Border Management and Trade Continuity and Resumption
- The June 2015 version of the SAFE Framework includes, inter alia:
 - an addition of a new Pillar 3 to foster closer cooperation between Customs and other government agencies, ensuring an efficient and effective government response to the challenges of supply chain security.

SAFE Framework of Standards

Four Core Principles



Advance Electronic Manifest Information

Requirement to harmonize electronic information on inbound, outbound and in-transit cargo

Consistent Risk-Management Approach

Commitment to employ a consistent risk management approach to address security threats

Inspection of High Risk Cargo at Port of Origin

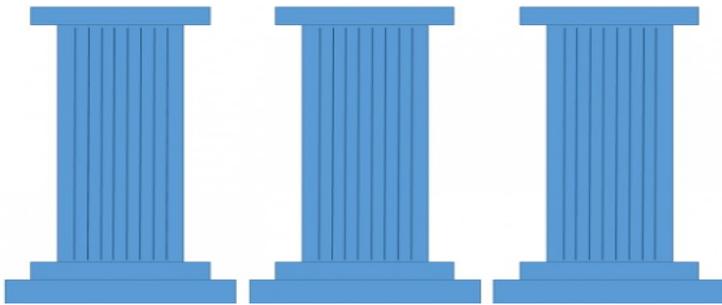
Outbound inspection of high risk consignments and their conveyances, preferably using non-intrusive inspection methods

Enhanced Trade Facilitation for Legitimate Trade

Benefits to be accrued to businesses that meet minimum supply chain security standards and best practices

Pillars of the SAFE Framework

The SAFE Framework employs a three-pillar strategy to institutionalize its four core elements. Pillar 1 addresses Customs-to-Customs network arrangements, Pillar 2 outlines Customs-to-Business partnerships and Pillar 3 emphasizes Customs-to-other Government Agencies co-operation. To increase and facilitate widespread implementation among WCO Members, each pillar of the SAFE consists of a set of standards that are consolidated to guarantee ease of understanding. The SAFE draws directly from existing WCO security and facilitation measures and programmes developed by Member administrations, in an effort to comprehensively manage the WCO's overall strategy.



SAFE 2018 Version

According to the WCO, the 2018 version of the SAFE Framework is an updated, dynamic instrument that balances facilitation and control, while promoting the security of the global trade supply chain. SAFE 2018 seeks to strengthen the co-operation between and among Customs administrations, primarily through information exchange, mutual recognition of controls, mutual recognition of AEOs and mutual administrative assistance. Version 2018, also calls for enhanced cooperation with government agencies entrusted with regulatory authorities over certain goods (e.g. weapons, hazardous materials) and passengers, as well as entities responsible for postal issues. A requirement of advance electronic data is now required for postal items, as well as an addition of text relating to data quality. The harmonizing of data filing requirements and Single Window concepts have also be added to the update. Additionally, the Framework provides for certain minimum tangible benefits to AEOs, while providing a comprehensive list of benefits for AEO traders. The 2018 SAFE updates contribute to augmenting the objectives of the SAFE Framework and is predicated on mutual trust and transparency amongst Customs, relevant government agencies and economic operators. New opportunities have now been created towards achieving a common goal of enhancing supply chain security and trade efficiency.



Objectives and Principles of the SAFE Framework

- Establish standards that provide supply chain security and facilitation at a global level to promote certainty and predictability.
- Enable integrated and harmonized supply chain management for all modes of transport.
- Enhance the role, functions and capabilities of Customs to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century.
- Strengthen co-operation between Customs administrations to improve their capability to detect high-risk consignments.
- Strengthen co-operation between Customs administrations, for example through exchange of information, mutual recognition of controls, mutual recognition of Authorized Economic Operators (AEOs), and mutual administrative assistance.
- Strengthen co-operation between Customs administrations and other Government agencies involved in international trade and security such as through Single Window.
- Strengthen Customs/Business co-operation.
- Promote the seamless movement of goods through secure international trade supply chains.

SAFE 2018

Capacity Building and Implementation

Capacity Building assistance is a core feature of the WCO's implementation strategy for the SAFE Framework. Harmonization and sustainable implementation of the SAFE, is supported by the WCO through its capacity building efforts, which are required to meet the needs of Customs and its stakeholders in a structured and ongoing manner. Although some aspects of the SAFE can be implemented immediately, the WCO recognizes that some aspects will require phasing. Enhanced capacity building strategies have been deemed an appropriate solution for implementation of the SAFE, but must be supplemented by strong political will and integrity among individual Customs administrations to ensure success. A phased approach should be utilized when employing implementation strategies to the SAFE, which should be implemented in accordance with each administration's capacity and the necessary legislative authority.

The SAFE Framework provides a consolidated platform which will enhance global trade while diminishing threats to global security. Implementation of the SAFE benefits altogether, governments, Customs administrations and the business community. The SAFE 2018 seeks to deepen the implementation of the Framework and associated WCO tool, in an effective and harmonized manner, while leveraging collective lessons learnt and new opportunities.

WCO Tools to aid in the Implementation of the SAFE Framework

- AEO Validator Guide
- Mutual Recognition Arrangement/ Agreement (MRA) Strategy Guide
- MRA Implementation Guidance
- Advance Cargo Information (ACI) Implementation Guidance
- Updated Integrated Supply Chain Management Guidelines
- Guidelines on Trader Identification Number (TIN)
- Handbook on Data Analysis
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on linkages between the SAFE AEO Programme and Article 7.7 of the WTO TFA



**JAMAICA CUSTOMS AGENCY
INTERNATIONAL & INDUSTRY LIAISON UNIT**

Myers Wharf
New Port East
P.O. Box 466
Kingston 15

Phone: 8769225140-8 ext.3028/3182
E-mail: international.liaison@jacustoms.gov.jm



Country Above Self

We're on the Web!
<http://www.jacustoms.gov.jm>



The International and Industry Liaison Unit is committed to raising the level of awareness on topics relating to the Caribbean Community, as well as issues concerning the wider topic of international trade, to both our internal and external stakeholders. Our monthly newsletter seeks to highlight global trade topics and their importance to Customs Administrations worldwide and specifically how they affect the Jamaica Customs Agency. As we realize our vision of becoming a modern Customs administration delivering excellent service, we recognize the importance of knowledge transfer in delivering our objectives and use this forum as our way of contributing to the vision of the JCA. The International Liaison Unit is located at the Myers Wharf head office and our officers are available to respond to your queries and clarify any points of concern.

Prepared by: *Marsha Wilson-Maxwell
CARICOM Officer
International & Industry Liaison Unit*

Email: *marsha.wilson@jacustoms.gov.jm*