

Digital Customs: Foreign Experience And Current Problems Of Their Solution In Uzbekistan

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Annotation: *This article analyzes the importance of advanced modern information and communication technologies in the reform of the customs administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan and foreign experience in the development and application of digital customs on the example of foreign countries: the United States and China. The quality level of customs administration, implemented through the management of innovations in the field of customs, was assessed on the example of interdepartmental data exchange systems and automated information systems. Based on the experience of foreign countries, ideas were developed aimed at reforming the activities of customs authorities, relying on the most optimal methods and means available to them.*

Keywords: Digital economy, foreign economic activity, foreign trade, digital customs, State Customs Service, Logistics, Information and communication technologies.

1. Introduction

The digital economy means the creation of hybrid intelligent systems, technologies, goods and services in business, trade, logistics and production, changing the nature of Information Communications and infrastructure, implementing a holistic model of the management of the activities and development of the state, increasing the volume of exports and imports in the economy, foreign trade. The new approach should ensure long-term economic growth and competitiveness of the country based on high-quality changes. It is planned to achieve certain goals as a result of the complete transition to the digital economy. One of them is to reduce the costs of the state for the provision of public services in the implementation of foreign trade with the use of digital technologies, as well as the costs of participants in foreign economic activities. Today, consistent reforms are carried out in our country aimed at increasing the efficiency of the activities of the state customs service authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan using modern information and communication technologies. The work carried out on the implementation of the World Trade Organization, the World Customs Organization and other international organizations standards and recommendations on the implementation of national legislation requires improvement of Customs Administration and simplification of customs procedures. At the same time, "paperless and electronic customs" does not develop to the extent necessary, methods of combating smuggling, smuggling of counterfeit products, corruption, illegal currency transactions and evasion from payment of customs duties require the use of modern and tested methods of Customs Administration. Customs Administration should be adapted to the conditions of the developing Uzbekistan economy. The main task of the study is to develop innovative ideas that will enable us to carry out effective and optimal customs control in the field of foreign trade. In international practice, economic problems and the means by which they are solved, allow us to take into account the experience of developed countries and the relevant conclusions in solving the problems of formation and implementation of the main ideas of the digital economy in our country.

2. Methods

2016-year was declared the year of the "digital customs" by the World Customs Organization. In the context of globalisation and the transition to the digital economy, innovation is prioritizing the development of the service sector. According to the Oxford Dictionary, the digital economy is an economy that operates mainly on the basis of digital technologies, in particular, electronic transactions carried out through the internet. "General digitization" creates new networks that radically change traditional trading. At the same time, there is no term "digital customs" in the interpretation of world-famous dictionaries. However, one of the WCO News publications states that the term "digital customs" means the use of digital systems to pay customs duties, control the flow of goods, citizens, vehicles and currency, as well as protect international trade against crime. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the 2020-year, which is recognized as the year of development of science, education and the digital economy, was the first step towards a new Uzbekistan. In particular, the decree of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On reforming the Customs Administration and improving the activities of the state customs service authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan" in the field of Customs in the current year, in particular, measures were defined to reform the customs system in our country on the basis of international standards and principles, in particular, With this document, in 2020-2023, the concept of reforming the customs administration and increasing the efficiency of the activities of the authorities of the state

customs service of the Republic of Uzbekistan was approved. It covers the following areas of development and improvement of the activities of customs authorities:

- further improvement of the regulatory and legal framework in the field of Customs;
- development of the institutional framework for the activities of customs authorities and infrastructure objects with optimal use of available forces and Means;
- ensuring transparency and efficiency of customs authorities through the introduction of modern and advanced information and communication technologies in the field of customs within the digital economy;
- improvement of the implementation of fiscal functions of customs authorities, simplification of tariff and not-for-profit regulation of foreign economic activity;
- fight against violations of the legislation on smuggling and Customs;
- training, retraining and further improvement of skills and qualifications of customs officers, ensuring their social protection;
- further development of mutually beneficial cooperation with international organizations and customs services of foreign countries.

According to the decree, the railway transport organizations, by integrating their information systems into the information systems of customs authorities, provide information about the movement of carriages and containers under customs control to the customs authorities in real-time in an impartial manner.

- the customs clearance time of the cargo declaration is reduced from 3 days to 1 day due to the level of risk;
- by expanding the application of alternative types of customs control, the cases of tracking the goods in the company of customs are reduced, with the exception of cases established by law;
- The system of risk management of the state customs office was introduced at the border customs posts of the automobile;
- in the temporary importation of vehicles, the carrier will be provided with the opportunity to enter the temporary importation period before the expiration of the period of electronic re-importation in real time and to carry out the payment of the corresponding fee;
- the method of identification and evaluation of the output norm of processing products in the customs regime of processing "processing in the customs territory" is developed by the entrepreneur himself.

Rights granted to customs authorities by this decree:

- to carry out customs audit on goods and vehicles, proceeding to the places where they are stored and sold;
- carry out inspections on the accounting of imported and (or) imported goods and vehicles, including accounting and reporting documents, as well as on the proceedings of preliminary documents.

In general, the adoption of this decree on the basis of standards and recommendations of the World Trade Organization, the World Customs Organization and other international organizations to improve customs administration in Uzbekistan and simplify customs procedures, at the same time, the development of the "paperless and electronic customs" system, the formation of the "digital customs", which is a logical continuation of this system, the introduction of modern and tested methods of combating illegal currency transactions and evasion from payment of customs duties, as well as accelerating the implementation of universally recognized international norms and standards in the field of customs business to national legislation is of great importance.

3. Results and Discussions

The United States of America (in subsequent places - the US) has vast experience in the development and application of Electronic Declaration systems, as well as in the development of the digital economy. In 1984, the US began to introduce this system. Automation of Customs Declaration and control processes-ACS (Automated Commercial System) is a system developed in the mid-1990s. After the events of September 11, 2001 and the implementation of terrorist acts in the US, the omillarni analysis revealed the need to reconsider its general concept in Customs, Immigration and other types of activities. Organizations controlling the movement along the border began to take control of individuals, goods and vehicles under strict control. But soon it became necessary to establish a common service through the unification of some organizations in the country on the basis of mutual integration. Customs and Immigration Services, Other organizations have joined a single service called the border Customs Service and are known as border customs control (Customs and Border Protection-CBP). In the automation section, the National Conference "International Trade Data System" (ITDS) was adopted. The main goal of its creation is full and extensive control over the movement of individuals, goods, currencies and vehicles. Later, as an integral part of ITDS, the Customs Automated Commercial Environment (in subsequent places – ACE) customs system was formed. In the new version of the automated system significantly improved the information support of customs control processes. At the same time, a number of subsystems of the old ACS system are included in the documentary-related products and vehicles design as a component of ACE. In February 2018, the Customs and Border Control Service implemented seven main planned development programs of Ace. Thanks to this, the main stages of processing all data and loads are loaded into the Ace. ACE's goals in 2020-th year included the following:

- CBP automation;
 - Updating the online admission process;
 - Create unique identifiers for Experience Centers;
 - Transition to the national permit of the broker;
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- Single account of the owner of the ship;
- Updating the system of general preferences;
- Update shipping manifest data elements.

Chinese experience: in October 2016, the Chinese government launched a program aimed at carrying out state control of authorized economic operators (in subsequent places - AEO), taking into account the credit worthiness of the organization. A distinctive feature of the program is that the credit capacity of legal entities that have committed violations is reduced and state control over their activities is exceeded. Under the program, accredited legal entities are recognized as “developed by certified companies” (ACE) and receive the right to use 49 types of simplified procedures provided by government agencies, including the simplified customs service of China.

These simplifications are divided into six categories.

Category 1: “Green Lane” (“Green Corridor”) includes measures for accelerated licensing, registration and release of tokens. This category refers to the establishment of the tax authority “green corridor” for AEO, for which there is no debt.

Category 2: “Less Inspection” (“reduce the number of checks”) includes rules for reducing the number of checks associated with the AEO.

Category 3: “Priority Treatment” (“priority protection”) includes measures in which concessions are granted to companies that need real estate protection services in order to obtain a patent, register a trademark and protect judicial rights.

Category 4: “Simplified Procedure” (“simplified procedure”) includes measures to reduce the maximum number of documents required from a legal entity.

Category 5 “Major Reference Benchmark” (“main reference criteria”) includes measures aimed at maintaining accredited AEO accounting systems that are necessary for verification by government agencies participating in the program.

Category 6: “Pilot Reform Project” (“automatic reform project”) category includes measures aimed at ensuring the priority rights of AEO and monitoring the practice of their use.

The Chinese state council has created an inter-departmental data exchange system, thanks to which the Chinese customs service provides information about the AEO and shares it with government agencies. The results of state control are transferred to the system, so it is not required to conduct it again. If the enterprise is suspected of illegal activity, as well as non-fulfillment of the established requirements and obligations, the information is immediately sent to the Customs Service of China, suspends the status of the AEO or removes legal entities from the relevant Registration Authority. In China, the enterprise engaged in foreign trade knowingly acquires bilateral qualifications at the same time, applying online on the platform of the “single international trade window”, it can send the necessary documents for submission to the customs offices without visiting the local customs authorities and control points. The platform was recognized by the UN as “measures to simplify trade” and was first used in the Shanghai Free Trade Zone. The initial qualification of the enterprise on customs and quarantine declarations remains in practice. If the enterprise was registered only for the submission of customs or quarantine declarations, it became possible to obtain bilateral qualifications by sending an application to the platform from June 1, 2018 year, which provides for direct cooperation between state authorities, including customs authorities and participants of foreign economic activity. Thus, quarantine control is an integral part of the entire customs clearance. The Chinese government seeks to accelerate the integration of Customs and control authorities and, accordingly, to amend the legislation regulating the activities of the authorities in order to achieve the desired result. Thus, all relevant laws, regulations and regulatory documents will be reviewed to ensure that certain provisions are amended, revoked or explained in a timely manner. In order for the integration to be carried out without the most problems, measures that ensure the implementation of customs control, as well as forms of documentation such as declarations and licenses, must also be combined. It is planned to change the templates and commercial documents, as well as to every year more than 6 thousand enterprises use online services. Through the “replace and update the stamps and seals placed on them. Such integration makes it possible for participants in foreign economic activities to interact with two public services, reducing the time and cost required for registration. According to the Chinese media, “Internet+Customs” service platform, importers and export enterprises can apply for the registration of the recipient or the sender, the modification and cancellation of the information, the monitoring of the state of processing in real time and the free publication of the “registration certificate” issued by the Chinese customs. Printing of certificates is carried out within 2 hours.

The development of China's digital customs will at the same time reduce the time of customs clearance, ensure direct interaction of government agencies with the participants of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, make corrections and additions to documents and information, submit applications and register them online. reflects the possibility of transmission. All this reflects the innovations that will occur mainly as a result of government reforms in the field of foreign trade and customs legislation. It is very common to introduce an experimental procedure for passing laws in a particular field. Thus, the experimental laws pass the test of time and finally come into force. In most cases, this practice will be successful. After planning large-scale economic changes, the government will carry out reforms in the framework of this work of the activities of customs and regulatory agencies, and then throughout the country.

4. Conclusion

Given the current problems in customs practice, we propose the following:

- Optimization of duplicate permits;
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- Encouragement of certain areas of entrepreneurs through the introduction of “green, red and yellow” corridors, based on the principle of “honest entrepreneur” in the field of certification;
- Further improvement of human resources;
- Limiting the human factor through the use of advanced information technology in the procedure for obtaining and issuing permits.

The digitization of the customs authorities will reduce the costs of foreign economic activity and put an end to red tape. In addition, it will significantly contribute to the growth of the country's foreign trade turnover, which in turn will increase customs revenues in the state budget.

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