



World Customs Organization

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Dear Director General,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Customs Organization (WCO) will provide an opportunity for twelve (12) Customs officials from developing country Members to take part in the **“WCO Regional Customs Laboratory Professionals Programme”**.

The main objective of the Programme is to offer the possibility for technical officials to expand and update their knowledge and skills in the chemical analysis of goods for the purpose of classification under the Harmonized System (HS). The Programme is designed for laboratory analysts who are or will be working in Customs laboratories, to gain practical experience at one of the WCO/Asia Pacific Regional Customs Laboratories (RCL) in either Japan, the Republic of Korea or India, and gain knowledge about the HS at the WCO Headquarters. The detailed objectives of the Programme are set out in Annex I.

This Programme, funded by the Customs Administrations of Japan, the Republic of Korea and India, will be conducted in English.

Under this Programme, Customs officials of an appropriate technical level will be selected and will spend **one week, from 16 to 20 October 2023**, at the WCO Headquarters. Then, the participants will be divided into three groups and each group will attend a six-weeks' training at an RCL, in either Japan, the Republic of Korea or India, **from 23 October to 30 November 2023**, to acquire practical experience.

This is a needs-oriented training programme which takes into consideration each trainee's needs and situation of their home administration. However, there are requirements set for candidates to ensure they will have sufficient analytical knowledge to benefit fully from the Programme. More detailed information on the requirements, conditions regarding the training and logistics, is set out in Annex I.

If you wish to nominate a candidate for this Programme, please return the attached nomination form (Annex II) and application form (Annex III), duly completed by your Administration and the candidate respectively, to the WCO Secretariat (e-mail: rcl.hsclassification@wcoomd.org) **by 30 June 2023**.

Please note that applications received after the deadline will not be considered. If you nominate more than one candidate, please indicate the order of priority of the candidates.

If you have any questions or need clarification regarding this Programme, your staff may contact Mr. Kazuhiro TONAI (tel: +32 2 209 92 71; e-mail: rcl.hsclassification@wcoomd.org).

WCO/OMD

I look forward to receiving nominations of candidates for the WCO Regional Customs Laboratory Professionals Programme.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kunio Mikuriya', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Kunio Mikuriya
WCO Secretary General