

COMESA Regional ASYCUDA++ Project

Status Report

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Background

- COMESA founded in 1993 as a successor to PTA, which was established in 1981.

Objectives

- One of the Objectives of COMESA is to
 - ❖ cooperate in strengthening the relations between the common market and the rest of the world and
 - ❖ in the adoption of common positions in international fora.

Customs modernisation

- **Asycuda ++ Implementation within the region**



ASYCUDA ++

- Nine countries are using Asycuda ++ for facilitating merchandise trade as well as providing national and regional trade statistics. These are Burundi, Ethiopia, Malawi, Rwanda, Sudan, Madagascar, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



ASYCUDA ++ New Sites

- Five countries are implementing Asycuda++ and are at various stages of implementation. These are Unions des Comores, Kantaga Province of DR Congo, State of Eritrea, Republic of Seychelles and Kingdom of Swaziland



ASYCUDA ++ New Sites

- State of implementation



ASYCUDA ++ New Sites

- Technical and functional training was provided to implementing countries by the regional UNCTAD experts and UNCTAD in-country experts respectively.
- The period of November – December 2007 is the implementation period for all the five countries.



ASYCUDA ++ New Sites

- The COMESA Regional Centre will continue to assist these countries going live in Asycuda++ and monitor the system's expansion to other sites



System Harmonisation

- To summarise it all , $\frac{3}{4}$ of COMESA member states are now using one customs system (Asycuda ++) though with different national flavors. There is need for harmonization of Customs Procedures which will in turn assist in the correct compilation of the COMESA regional trade statistics.

System Harmonisation

- Consultancy work has already started in the harmonisation of Customs Procedures for all countries which have migrated to Asycuda++. Proposals for the harmonisation of CPCs in the COMESA region based on the ASYCUDA++ structure will be made available for consideration.

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- Thank you