



Activity Title and Number: EU-China Seminar on Parcel Security and Facilitation A405-C4

Beneficiary: General Administration of the People's Republic of China (GACC), State Post Bureau (SPB), China Post

Location and Date: Beijing, 23-25 November 2015

Stakeholders: N/A

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

The United Nations Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the World Customs Organisation (WCO) are leading international work to modernise the way the postal system interfaces with customs to improve security and efficiency. The EU is also actively developing new regulatory policies in consultation with other regions (the United States and Canada) and with public and private postal operators to adapt the postal system and customs to these growing challenges. These collaborative initiatives have resulted in major policy developments that will have a concrete legal and operational impact on customs cooperation between the EU and China.

To lay the groundwork for the implementation of these reforms, DG TAXUD, GACC and SPB have sought technical assistance to enable expert exchanges on the legal, policy and operational implications of the changes to the SAFE Framework and EU legislation to improve parcel security and facilitate parcel passage through customs. A number of pilot programs have been carried out by the EU, the United States, Canada and the UPU to test the efficiency and effectiveness of institutional and technical solutions for advanced data exchange between the postal system and customs. To assist the EU to share the outcomes of these pilots with Chinese customs and postal officials, the EUCTP II organised a seminar to facilitate the exchange of views on the costs and benefits on parcel security and facilitation.

Activity Description

This seminar involved the participation of representatives from DG TAXUD, GACC, SPB, China Post, local customs officials, the United States Department of Homeland Security, the United States Customs and Border Protection, the UN Universal Postal Union, EU Member State Customs officials, and public and private EU postal operators.

Chinese and EU experts discussed the following topics: (a) international and EU legal and policy developments; (b) the results and lessons learned from data pilots; (c) the technical solutions for advanced data exchange; and (d) customs-postal cooperation to enhance security and facilitation.



Participants at the seminar

Results and Dissemination

- Explained and provided practical examples of the benefits of origin and destination of using Advanced Electronic Data (AED);
- Discussed the global context for use of AED with particular reference to e-commerce, safety and security and legislative developments;
- Provided insight into the practical application of customs clearance using AED with reference to prohibitions and fiscal restrictions;
- Provided examples of best practice in customs-postal cooperation;
- The participants gained insight into the challenges facing postal operators and customs authorities in generating/providing/receiving/utilising AED