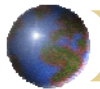# APEC Self-Certification Pathfinder Operating Guidelines

Submitted by: Singapore

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APEC Self-Certification Pathfinder Operating Guidelines

Participating Economies

- Australia
- Canada
- Japan
- Korea
- New Zealand
- Singapore
- United States

Pathfinder Initiative

- Initiative involves :
- 1) APEC pathfinder participants agreeing to practice self-certification with FTA partners based on a set of common operating guidelines; and
- 2) A capacity building program to encourage adoption and ensure successful implementation.

Common Operating Guidelines

- Implementation is based on individual economy circumstances and its relationship with its respective FTA partner.
- The trader's declaration of a product's economy of origin is accepted in good faith by the importing authority.

Common Operating Guidelines

- The declaration is allowed to be made on an invoice, company letterhead, or other format as agreed to between the partner economies.

Common Operating Guidelines

- Verification, carried out selectively based on risk assessment and/or intelligence, is shifted to the post-importation phase. However, there is nothing to prevent verification steps being undertaken at the time the import entry is lodged if Customs wishes to do so.

Common Operating Guidelines

- Comprehensive and effective legislation that contains adequate penalties against the importer is required to deter false declarations and enable recovery of customs duties due.
- Claiming procedures between importer and importing authority are conducted electronically to reduce paper work.

Common Operating Guidelines

- A declaration should include, at a minimum, a full description of the goods, the six-digit Harmonized System Code for the goods, and the names of the producer and importer, if known.

End of Presentation