



11th Annual WCO Picard Conference
Manila, Philippines
27-29 September 2016
CALL FOR PAPERS

The World Customs Organization and the Philippine Bureau of Customs are pleased to announce the 11th annual WCO Picard Conference. The Conference will take place in Manila, Philippines, 27-29 September 2016.

You are invited to submit your research for presentation at the conference. Papers should focus on Customs or, more globally, the regulation, dynamics, and practices of international trade.

Although not required, writers could consider submitting research on the following topics: Digital Customs; security; taxation and other revenue matters, and illicit trade.

Digital Customs, which is the WCO's annual theme for 2016, refers to any automated or electronic activity that contributes to the effectiveness, efficiency, and coordination of customs activities, such as automated customs clearance systems, the single window concept, the use of "Big Data", electronic exchange of information, websites to communicate information and promote transparency, and the use of smart phones.

The *Security* topic refers to the contribution of customs to secure territories at the border and against threats accompanying trade flows, in different frameworks and environments: from borderlands where trade is highly facilitated to conflict and post-conflict zones where customs and civilian enforcement agencies seek to restore the presence of the State.

Taxation and other revenue matters include, but are not limited to, the sub-themes of the relationship between transfer pricing and Customs valuation, the use of taxation to reduce negative externalities and internalities, informal trade practices, classification and valuation, excise taxes, and VAT.

The *illicit trade* topic includes any international trade non-compliant with cross-border regulations, including both prohibited and legal goods.

The Conference in particular welcomes and encourages attendance and paper submissions from customs professionals as well as researchers from academic disciplines, such as anthropology, criminology, economics, political science, geography, history, international relations and international trade, and law. The WCO Research Unit is particularly interested in an interdisciplinary approach with different perspectives, approaches, and methodologies regarding contemporary systems of regulation and control at borders, and papers co-authored by customs officials and academics. The WCO Research Unit has taken this approach at other research conferences with great success.

Please note that papers are required; abstracts alone will not be considered.

Papers should be submitted in accordance with following requirements:

- A minimum of 2,000 words and a maximum of 10,000 words (not including the bibliography).
- Arial font size 11.
- Footnotes rather than endnotes should be used.
- Submissions should be in English or French (they can be translated from the original language).
- Papers do not have to be new; they can be working papers or papers already published.

Ample time will be allowed for discussion and simultaneous interpretation will be provided at the Conference in the aforementioned two languages.

Alternatively or in addition, you are invited to propose a panel consisting of two or three speakers on a cohesive subject that would include the presentation of research already conducted or nearing completion by 15 June 2016. The WCO would like to encourage customs and academics to engage on comparative and policy relevant research on customs issues: panel proposals are an ideal format for such discussions to take place.

To respond to this Call for Papers, please submit papers or panel proposals with the following details by email to picard2016@wcoomd.org no later than 15 June 2016:

- Name, title, and biography (maximum 250 words) of author or authors
- Current position, organization, and country of author or authors
- Contact email and telephone
- Proposed title of paper
- While papers are required, authors should also include an abstract of no more than 300 words.

Authors will be notified by 15 July 2016 of selection or non-selection of their paper for presentation at the Conference.

The WCO is particularly grateful to:

- The Philippine Bureau of Customs for hosting the Conference.
- The Korea Customs Service for its donor support.
- The Scientific Board Members, including Sam Bautista, Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, Juha Hintsa, Alena Ledeneva, Mick Moore, Dennis Ndonga, Cedric Parizot, Gaël Raballand, Jeffrey Snyder, and David Widdowson, for participating in the selection of papers.

If necessary, the WCO will seek to identify funding for reasonable travel and hotel expenses for a small number of presenters selected under this Call for Papers that lack institutional backing.

Options for publication of selected papers can be discussed with authors.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email picard2016@wcoomd.org.

Information about the conference including venue, accommodation, visa requirements, and registration, will be made available in due course at the following website address: <http://www.wcoomd.org/en/events.aspx>

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