



Customs Service of  
the Republic of Moldova



# AUTHORIZED ECONOMIC OPERATOR IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

COMMITTEE ON TRADE FACILITATION  
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

4 June 2025



WTO OMC



# AEO PROGRAM – LEGAL FRAMEWORK



## *International:*

- WCO SAFE Package: SAFE Framework of Standards to secure and to facilitate Global Trade;
- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement/2017, Art.7.7 Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators;
- WCO AEO Compendium.



## *European Union:*

- Association Agreement EU-Moldova/2014, Chapter V. Trade and trade related matters;
- Union Customs Code (UCC): Regulation No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 October 2013;
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2014/2447 of 24 November 2015;
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 of 28 July 2015;
- Authorized Economic Operators Guidelines (TAXUD/B2/047/2011-Rev.6).



## *National:*

- Customs Code of the Republic of Moldova, 95/2021, Section 4 "Authorized Economic Operator" (into force 01.01.2024);
- Government Decision No. 92/2023 on the implementation of the provisions of the Customs Code;
- Order of the Customs Service No. 481-O/2023 regarding the approval of the Methodological Norms regarding the verification of applicants and holders of AEO Authorizations.





# Overview of the AEO Program in Republic of Moldova



## *Who can apply for AEO status?*

Any economic operator, who is a resident of the Republic of Moldova and fulfill the conditions/criteria set in of the Customs Code Nr 95/2021, may apply for the status of Authorized Economic Operator.

## *Types of AEO authorizations:*

- ✓ AEO for Customs Simplifications (AEOC)
- ✓ AEO for Security and Safety (AEOS)
  - ! Both types may be held at the same time resulting in one combined authorization (AEOF).

There is unlimited validity, but robust monitoring.

## *Depending on the type of authorization granted:*

AEOC- benefit for the simplifications set in the Customs Code

AEOS – benefit from facilitations of customs controls relating to security and safety carried out at customs border.

## *Conditions for granting AEO status:*

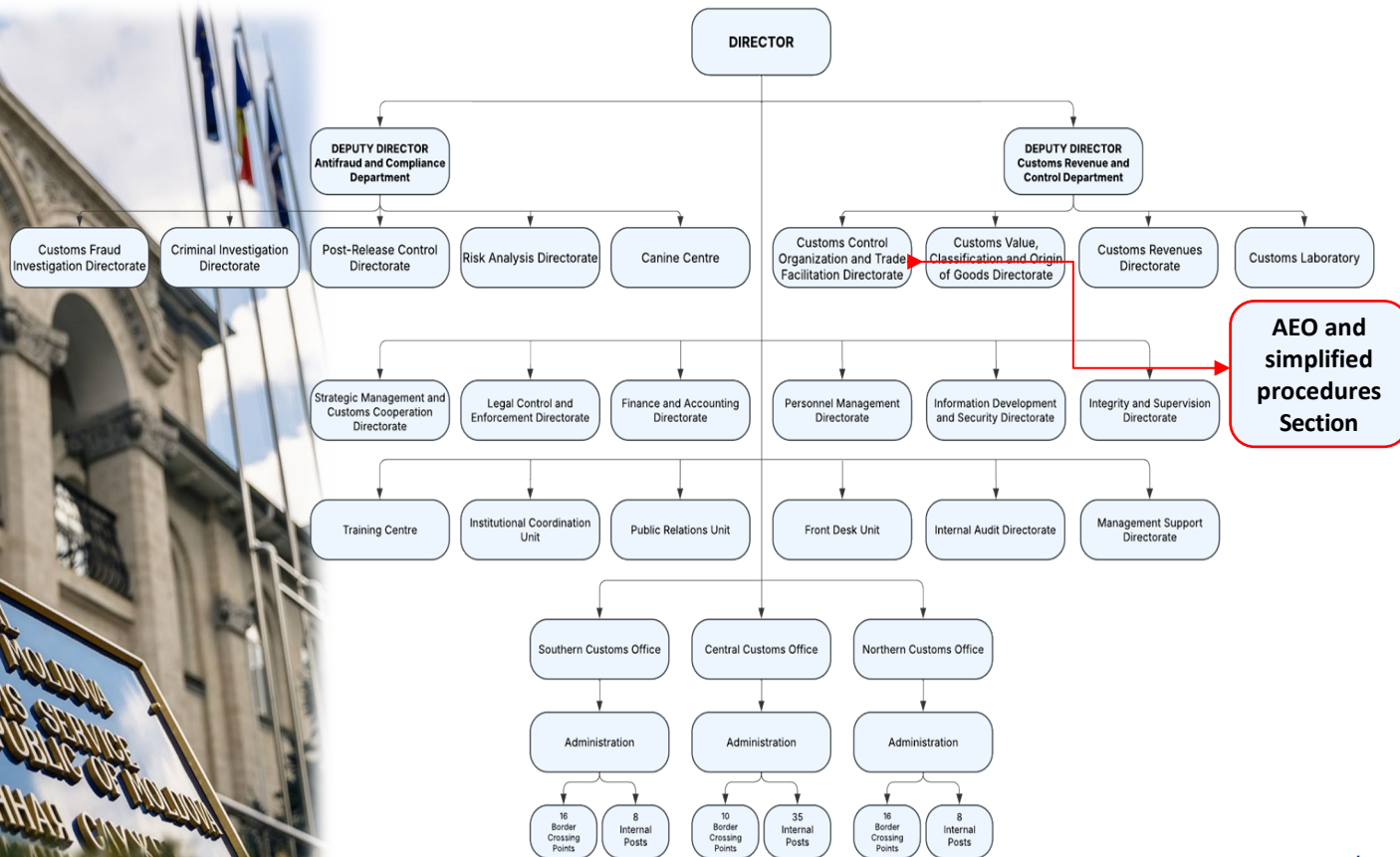
Each type of authorization requires the fulfilment of specific conditions/ criteria.

Authorizations are subject to reevaluation and may be suspended, modified, revoked.





# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AEO





## AEO CONDITIONS AND CRITERIA



Conditions and criteria	AEOC	AEOS	MD Customs Code
Economic Operator established in the Republic of Moldova	X	X	art.36
Lack of debts to the national public budget	X	X	art.38
Compliance with customs and taxation rules	X	X	art.39
Financial Solvency	X	X	art.40
Appropriate Record Keeping	X	X	art.41
Practical Standards of Competence & Professional Qualifications	X		art.42
Security & Safety Standards		X	art.43





## AEO BENEFITS



Benefits	AEOC	AEOS	MD Customs Code
Easier admittance to customs simplifications	X	X	art. 37 (1)
Fewer physical and documents based controls	X	X	art. 37 (2)
Priority treatment for control	X	X	art. 37 (3)
Possibility to request a specific place for customs controls	X	X	art. 37 (3)
Prior notification	X	X	art. 37 (4), (5)
Mutual Recognition		X	art. 37 (8)





# MUTUAL RECOGNITION AEO MD-EU



M O L D O V A

UKRAINA

ROMANIA

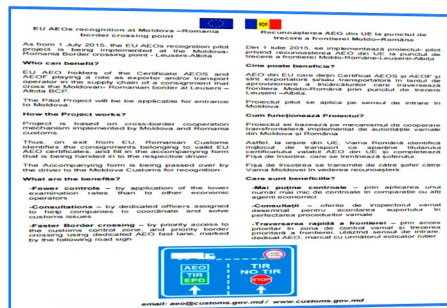


2019

Formal request

2015

Pilot Project of unilateral recognition of AEO  
Programmes EU-MD  
BCP MD-RO Leușeni-Albița



Proposed Work Plan on Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) of the Authorized Economic Operator Programme in the European Union (EU) and the Authorized Economic Operator Programme in Moldova – provisional (subject to the COVID 19 developments)				
Stage	No	Task	Description of Action	Proposed Schedule
Stage 1: AEO Programme related issues	1.	Assessment of the legislation of Moldova	Legal assessment by DG TAXUD-AJ	Q2/2020
	2.	Recommendation to Moldova	Recommendation to Moldova based on the legal assessment by DG TAXUD-AJ	By the end of Q2/2020
	3.	Validation	Validation of the legal assessment by visiting AEO auditors and AEO operators in Moldova to determine experience and capability regarding the implementation of the AEO programme on Moldova by DG TAXUD AJ and E4.	Q3/4 2020
	4.	MRA Benefits	Engage and discuss MRA benefits by DG TAXUD AJ and E4	Q3/4 2020
Stage 2: IT related issues	5.	IT related issues and data protection	Parties should be able to identify each other's authorized economic operators. Therefore, agreement is to be established on electronic data exchange procedures, including required IT related processes. In this context also requirements on data protection and data security issues have to be discussed and resolved as well. By TAXUD B units.	TAXUD prepared and processed (IC) on AEO MRA & developing the specifications of the IT system. The document was agreed between both parties.
	6.	Data protection related issues	Establish equivalence by TAXUD E4	
Stage 3: Mutual Recognition Agreement	7.	MRA Test	Discuss the MRA test body by TAXUD E4	
	8.	Signing of MRA	Finalize MRA test. Each respective administration's internal approval and legal vetting of MRA test for signing (via e-mail exchanges) by TAXUD E4	
Stage 4: Implementation	9.	Implementation including Monitoring of the implementation	Prepare for MRA signing (e.g. date, venue and other arrangements for signing) by TAXUD E4	
	10.	Implementation including Monitoring of the implementation	Monitor the implementation of the programme through procedures by TAXUD AJ (for the AEO included experts).	



# MUTUAL REGCOGNITION AEO MD-EU



<p>FINAL Version June 2020</p> <p><b>Customs Code comparison table AEO Mutual Recognition Agreement European Union - Moldova</b></p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WCO SAFE – origin and basic features</li> <li>Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 October 2013 laying down the <b>Union Customs Code</b> (UCC),</li> <li><b>Commission Delegated Regulation</b> (EU) 2015/2446 of 28 July 2015 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards detailed rules concerning certain provisions of the Union Customs Code (articles 11 to 18 and 23 to 30)</li> <li><b>Commission Implementing Regulation</b> (EU) 2015/2447 of 24 November 2015 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code (Articles 8 to 15 and 24 to 35)</li> <li><b>AEO Guidelines</b> TAXUD/B2/047/2011 revision 6 of 11 March 2016 (incl. Annexes "Self-assessment and explanatory Notes", "Threats, Risks and possible solutions", "Security declaration" and list of examples of information to be shared with customs authorities)</li> </ul>
European Union	Moldova	
 <p><b>Authorised Economic Operator Programme</b></p> 	 <p><b>Authorised Economic Operator Programme</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WCO SAFE – origin and basic features</li> <li><b>Customs Code (CC) of the Republic of Moldova</b> (<i>Section 28<sup>l</sup> Authorised Economic Operator, articles 195(1), 195(2), 195(3);</i></li> <li><b>Government Decision no.647 of 07.08.2014</b> on the implementation of the provisions of the Customs code; (<b>Regulation AEO</b>).</li> <li><b>New Customs Code (New CC) of the Republic of Moldova</b> (articles 36 to 43).</li> <li><b>Customs Order no. 41-O of 25.01.2019</b> on approval of the Methodological Norms on the verification of applicants and holders of the AEO Authorisations. (AEO guidelines).</li> </ul>

## 11. OVERALL CONCLUSION

THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF THE EU AND MOLDOVAN AEO PROGRAMMES ARE COMPATIBLE

FURTHER DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT COMPATIBILITY OF THE AEO COMPLIANCE CRITERIA WILL BE GATHERED AND ASSESSED DURING THE ON-SITE VALIDATION PHASE OF THE PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AEO PROGRAMME IN MOLDOVA.





# MUTUAL RECOGNITION AEO MD-EU



**November 2021-EU validation mission  
regarding the AEO Program in the  
Republic of Moldova**



**February 2022-EU-MD MRA  
validation visit to Romania**



**May 2022-EU-MD MRA validation visit to  
Germany**





# MUTUAL RECOGNITION AEO MD-EU



**DECISION no 1/2022 - INTO FORCE 1 NOVEMBER 2022**

## **Who can Mutual Recognition Decision of the EU-MD AEO Programmes benefit from the advantages of the?**

Holders of AEOS Authorization - covering security and safety and combined Authorization (AEOC/AEOS - customs simplifications/security and safety).



## **What are the benefits offered to members of the AEO program for safety and security?**

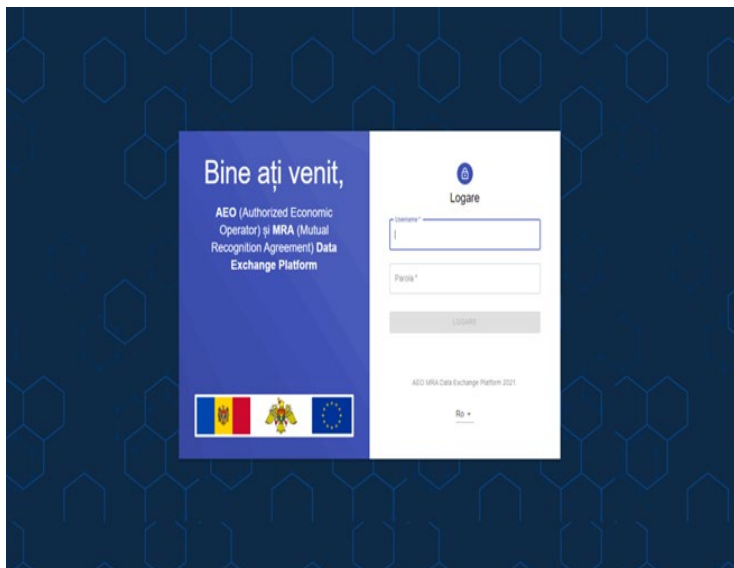
- ✓ reduced security and safety controls;
- ✓ recognition of business partners during the application process;
- ✓ priority treatment at customs;
- ✓ common business continuity mechanism;
- ✓ prioritizing control of shipments subject to entry or exit summary declarations submitted by a program member.



# MUTUAL RECOGNITION AEO MD-EU



**The information platform on exchange of AEO data – developed with the support of the European Union ensures the mutual and real-time transmission of updated information regarding the holders of AEO Authorizations**



Upon receiving consent from its Programme Member/ authorization holder, the Customs Authorities exchange the following information:

- ✓ Name;
- ✓ Address;
- ✓ membership status, namely authorised, suspended, revoked or cancelled;
- ✓ validation or authorisation date when available;
- ✓ unique identification number (for example: EORI or AEO numbers).



# MONITORING MISSION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF MUTUAL REGOGNITION AEO MD-EU



The scope of the mission was to evaluate the benefits and the practical implementation of the Mutual Recognition of the EU's AEO Programme with MD, according to Art. 7 par. 2 of the Decision 1/2022 of the European Union (EU) - MD Customs Sub-Committee, to confirm the continuous compatibility of MD's AEO policies and processes in person and to ensure that the policies are aligned and implemented appropriately.



*Conclusion and Recommendations:  
Positiv Report presented by delegation*



# MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM E-AEO



**Implemented since 01.01.2024**

Government Decision no. 412/2023 regarding the establishment of the Management Information System an authorized economic operator authorization



<https://ecustoms.trade.gov.md/>

- creation of an automated system of records, management of the AEO authorization, in accordance with the national and international regulations related to the status of AEO
- standardizing the processes associated with consultation, request, examination, management, auditing, monitoring, reassessment, issuance, suspension, relevant to the AEO institution.





# THE EVOLUTION OF AEO IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



**Statistics:** In the period 2014-2024

**Valid - 147 AEO Authorization**

**AEOC – 101**

**AEOS – 10**

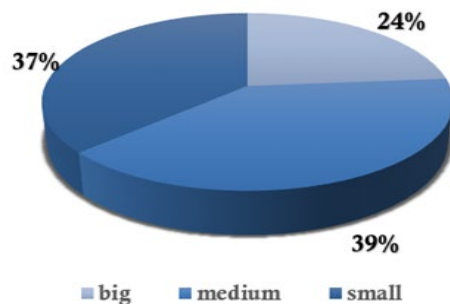
**AEOF – 36**

*Producers - 25%*

*Exporters/Importers – 63 %*

*Transportes – 9,6 %*

*Customs Brokers - 2,4 %*



Valid AEO authorizations – 156 (01.05.2025)

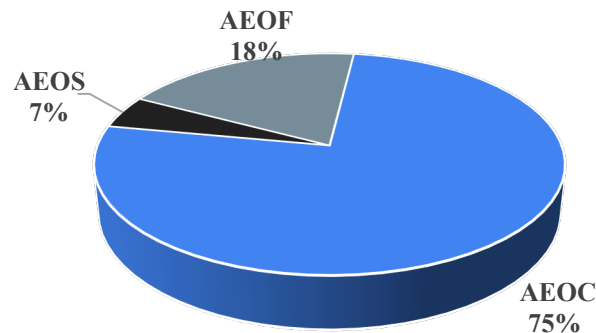
AEO authorizations withdrawn – 39

Suspended AEO authorizations – 7

**AEOC – 104**

**AEOS – 14**

**AEOF - 38**







# AEO Public Awareness Campaigns



The Council was assigned the mission to facilitate the dialogue between the representatives of the business environment, donors' community and policy makers so as to develop a favorable social-economic climate and non-discriminatory, transparent business environment, which would be attractive for investment.



<https://trade.gov.md/ro/articles/aeo>

Moldova Trade Information Portal (M-TIP) aggregates and integrates Moldova's regulatory information related to external trade and useful data for importers and exporters, AEO.



The Customs Advisory Committee to the Customs Service is a platform for open and transparent customs-business dialog that brings to the forefront the common concerns of the business community in their interaction with the customs authority on customs policies and other issues relevant to the business community.

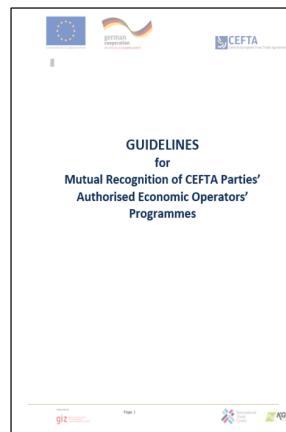




# PLANS FOR FUTURE EXPANSION AND REGIONAL COOPERATION



- ✓ Additional Protocol V to the Accession Agreement to the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA)
- ✓ Joint Decision nr.1/2019 on the establishment of a validation procedure for the mutual recognition of the national AEO programs of the CEFTA Parties in relation to safety and security entered into force on April 1, 2020.
- ✓ March 2021 - AEO program validation mission in the Republic of Moldova for mutual recognition of AEOs in CEFTA Parties.





# THANK FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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