



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.

REPUBLICA MOLDOVA | AEO | MOLDOVA | SERVICIUL VAMAL

AUTORIZAȚIE AEO

MD - AEO - 000
(Standard autorizatie)

I. Titularul autorizatiei AEO: _____

II. Autoritatea emitentă: SERVICIUL VAMAL AL REPUBLICII MOLDOVA

Titularul însușit în baza Legii:

Agent economic autorizat

- Simplificări vamale

- Securitate și siguranță

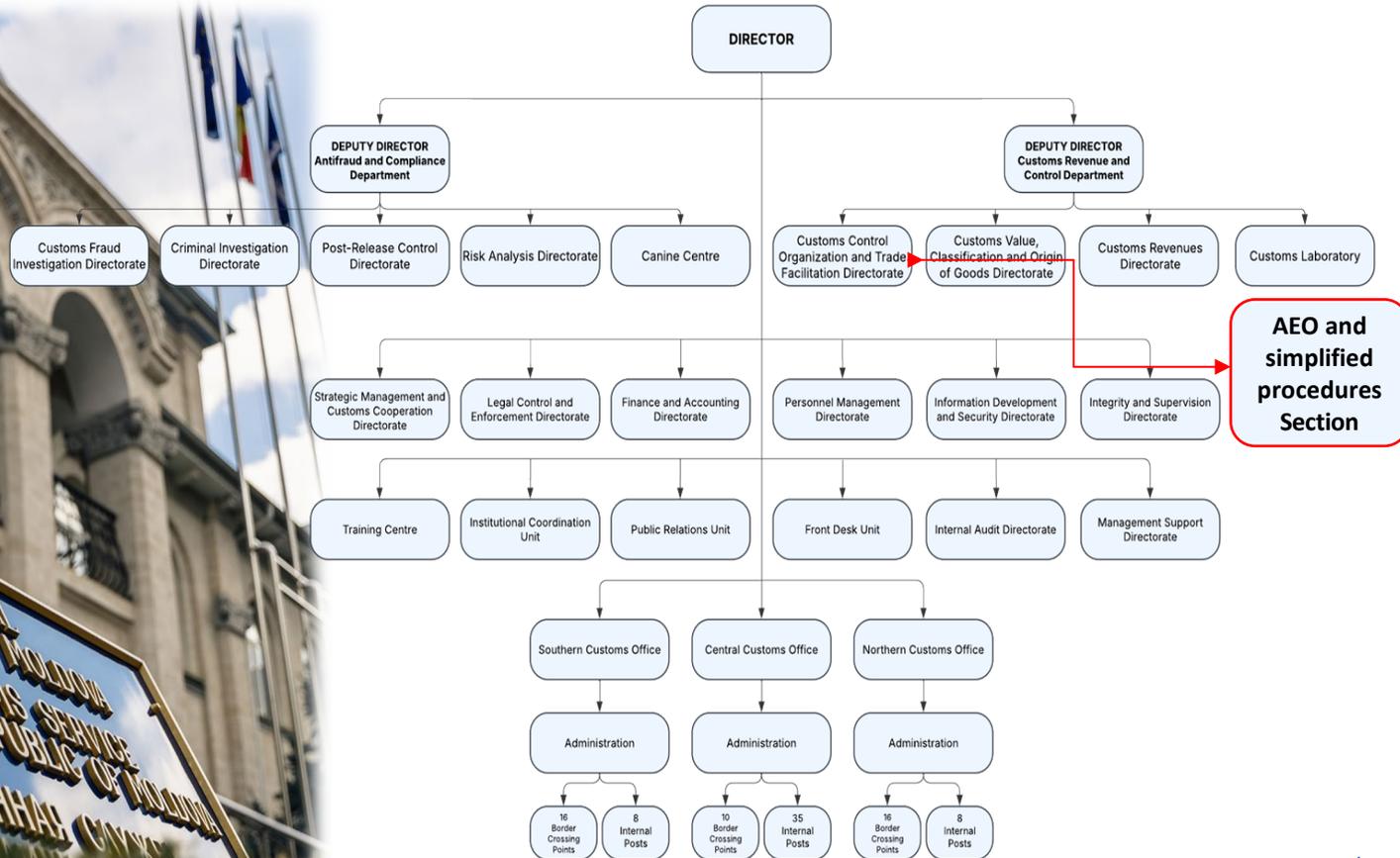
- Simplificări vamale/Securitate și siguranță

III. Data la care autorizația produce efecte: _____

Director general al Serviciului Vamal _____



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 REGOGNITION AEO MD-EU



2015 Pilot Project of unilateral recognition of AEO Programmes EU-MD BCP MD-RO Leuşeni-Albița

2019 Formal request

EU AEOs recognition at Moldavia - official border crossing point

An Annex 1, dated 2015 to the EU AEOs recognition pilot project in Romania, implemented at the Albița-Roșiori Buzăi border crossing point.

What are the benefits?

EU AEOs holders of the Certificate AEOs and AEOs holding in force of authorized natural persons companies in the supply chain of a consortium that allows the Authorized Economic Operator border of Leuşeni.

The Pilot Project will be for application for services in Moldavia.

How the Project works?

Project is based on a bilateral cooperation agreement implemented by Moldova and Romania.

Project is based on the bilateral cooperation agreement signed in 2015 between the Moldovan and Romanian authorities, which provides for the recognition of AEOs in the supply chain of a consortium that allows the Authorized Economic Operator border of Leuşeni.

The accompanying forms is being passed over by the driver to the Moldavia Customs and recognized.

What are the benefits?

Customs clearance is by application of the lower assessment rates than to other authorized economic operators.

Partner Border crossing - by priority access to the customs area, which is not subject to control by the following road sign.

aeo@customs.gov.md | www.customs.gov.md

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	Status
Stage 1: AEO Programme related issues	1.	Assessment of the legislation of Moldova	Legal assessment by DG TAXUD-A3	Q2/2020	Assessment of Moldova's AEO legislation was completed on both current customs code and future customs code in line; recommendations were sent to the Customs services of EU and Mold AEO Programmes are compatible.
	2.	Recommendation to Moldova	Recommendation to Moldova based on the legal assessment by DG TAXUD-A3	By the end of Q2/2020	
	3.	Validation	Validation of the legal assessment by visiting AEO authorities and AEO operators in Moldova to determine equivalence and compatibility regarding the implementation of the AEO programme in Moldova by DG TAXUD A3 and E4.	Q3/4 2020	Due to the current travel restrictions this step was postponed until the visits can be carried both to Moldova and to a EU AEO (pending period).
	4.	MRA Benefits	Explore and discuss MRA benefits by DG TAXUD A3 and E4	Q3/4 2020	
Stage 2a: 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 ICS on AEO MRA & developed the specifications of the IT system. The agreement was agreed between both parties.
	6.	Data protection related issues	Establish equivalence by TAXUD E4		
Stage 3: Mutual Recognition Agreement	7.	MRA Text	Discuss the MRA text body by TAXUD E4		Finalize MRA text (with respective administration's national approval and legal vetting of MRA text (in signing (via e-mail exchanges) by TAXUD E 4
	8.	Signing of MRA	Prepare the MRA signing (e.g. date, venue and other arrangements) for signing by TAXUD E4		
Stage 4: Implemented on	9.	Implementation including Monitoring of the implementation	Monitor the implementation of the programme through procedures by TAXUD A3 (for the AEO technical aspect).		



MUTUAL RECOGNITION AEO MD-EU



FINAL Version June 2020			
<p>Customs Code comparison table AEO Mutual Recognition Agreement European Union - Moldova</p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCO SAFE – origin and basic features • Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 October 2013 laying down the Union Customs Code (UCC), • Commission Delegated Regulation (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) • Commission Implementing Regulation (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) • AEO Guidelines 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) 	
<p>European Union</p>  <p>Authorised Economic Operator Programme</p> 	<p>Moldova</p>  <p>Authorised Economic Operator Programme</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">11. OVERALL CONCLUSION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF THE EU AND MOLDOVAN AEO PROGRAMMES ARE COMPATIBLE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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.</p>	



MUTUAL REGOGNITION 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 REGOGNITION 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?

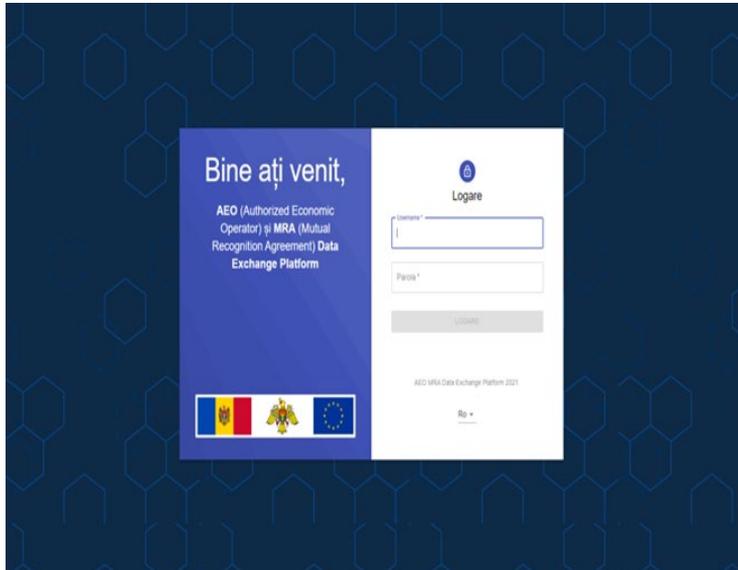
- ✓ reduced security and safety controls;
- ✓ recognition of business partners during the application process;
- ✓ priority treatment at customs;
- ✓ common business continuity mechanism;
- ✓ prioritizing control of shipments subject to entry or exit summary declarations submitted by a program member.



MUTUAL REGOGNITION 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

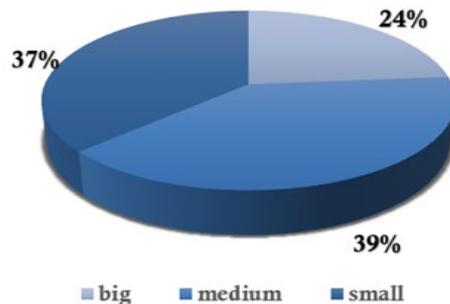
AEOF – 36

Producers - 25%

Exporters/Importers – 63 %

Transportes – 9,6 %

Customs Brokers - 2,4 %



Valid AEO authorizations – 156 (01.05.2025)

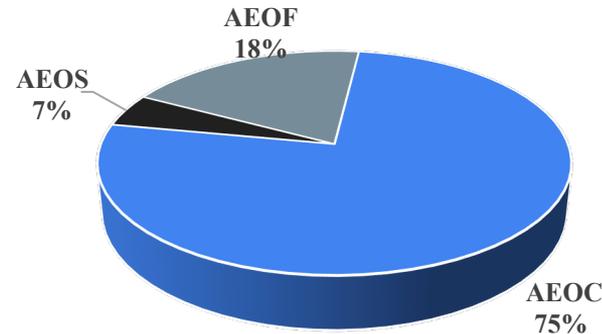
AEO authorizations withdrawn – 39

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.

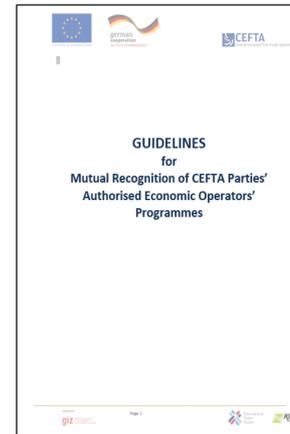




PLANS FOR FUTURE EXPANSION AND REGIONAL COOPERATION



- ✓ 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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