NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION BODY 2018 AND 2019 ACTION PLAN

III. Expert Group on Customs Procedures

Chair: Snežana Karanović, Assistant Director, Ministry of Finance, Customs Administration

Proposed actions:

- 1) **Reduce time needed to issue advance rulings** on tariff classification and origin of goods.
- 2) Make provision for online filing of applications for advance rulings on the origin of goods and applications for rules of origin knowledge tests in preparation for gaining Approved Exporter status.
- 3) **Promote the role of the private sector and train private sector officers** in making use of simplified customs procedures and Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) status, including:
 - a) Making provision for recognizing AEO status for CEFTA member states and PR China;
 - b) Ensuring customs officials do not require duplicate information from AEOs if it has recently been submitted;
 - c) Ensuring customs officials give preference to AEOs when processing applications for official opinions, and ensuring AEOs benefit from expedited procedures for approval or amendment of approval for setting up customs warehouses.
- 4) Pre-arrival processing and **risk assessment of express parcels**.
- 5) Make provision for introduction of **risk assessment** systems by inspections bodies.
- 6) Where certificates of origin are issued, consider separating the time at which customs debt is assessed from the time it is incurred (Art. 253 of the Customs Law regulating the "no-drawback" rule).
- 7) Consider instituting a time limit for correcting information in a customs declaration once it has been submitted without the declarant being held responsible for a misdemeanor.