



DUTY TRAVEL REPORT

REGIONAL TRADE RISK & ENFORCEMENT TRAINING (ABF PACIFIC CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM)

Staff Member	Mohammed Ajaz
Destination:	Hilton, Denarau, Fiji
Source of funding:	ABF funded Workshop for the Member participants. CEA was funded through Budget reallocation from savings of Activity Code: 2023-20-1-1.4
Travel Dates:	Depart Suva: Monday 03 June 2024 Arrive back in Suva: Thursday 06 June 2024
Purpose of Travel:	Attended the training as an observer since our members are the main participants.
Activity description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 Customs Administrations attended the training with 14 participants (2 from each country except Fiji had 4). The countries in attendance were as follows: (Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Nauru, Niue). (CEA attended as an observer, however, equally interacted along other participants)• The training entailed around the ABF sharing their experiences in the field of trade, revenue, and enforcement to strengthen trade facilitation and increase revenue capability. The program was covered under the various sessions as per below:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Trade enforcementb. Risk management and complex tradec. Intelligence gathering and reportingd. Revenue evasion and targeting methodologiese. Revenue case studies (discuss various projects)f. Money laundering and illicit financial flowsg. Trade base money launderingh. Countering e-commerce risksi. Exportsj. Audits and investigation• Participants were overwhelmed with ABF's approach towards strengthening their trade risk profiling and targeting capabilities which consequently leveraged their revenue capability and blocking revenue leakage.• It was encouraging to note the ABF's Trade Risk Model implementation based on 3-Level interceptions (Detect/Deter/Disrupt).• Participants were able to share their experience through discussions vis-à-vis, ABF ran quizzes across the days to test the understanding of the topics by the participants.

<p>Outcomes:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participants agreed that the PICs lack implementation of most international standards and practices due to lack of awareness and budget constraints. However, noted that most standards can be applied in phases and at smaller magnitude that can resolve the budget constraints. • The participants agreed that they will go back to their administration's and create awareness, especially on the trade risk model by determining the "most traded and highly dutiable commodities" that needs stringent trade profiling and targeting. • The participants and ABF also agreed to increase information sharing and leverage connectivity in the Pacific.
<p>Recommendations/follow up activities:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through discussions, the OCO has realized that there is an opportunity to bring training to Members on two very special topics, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Risk Management, Intelligence Gathering and Reporting. b. Audits and Investigation • For other trade related assistance or mentoring, Members can engage with the ABF on bilateral arrangements.
<p>Acknowledgement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The OCO acknowledges the contribution of ABF in the Pacific for the capacity building of Customs Officers in the trade field. • Sincere appreciation to the participating Members for allowing the officers to attend the training.
<p>Meeting documents where available (to put on server with hyperlink):</p>	<p>The documents for training can be found here.</p>

Photos:

