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# CCL Brief

Ministry of Finance, Japan

Central  
Customs  
Laboratory



**W**CO A/P Regional Workshop on Customs analysis (2013): For a new stage of regional cooperation in the Customs analysis field.

The “WCO Asia Pacific Regional Workshop on Chemical Analysis for Customs Purposes” was held at the Central Customs Laboratory (CCL) of Japan in Kashiwa, Japan from 16 to 19 December 2013, under the sponsorship of Customs Cooperation Fund/Japan. A total of 29 participants from 21 Asia Pacific Customs Administrations, the WCO and ROCB A/P participated in the Workshop.



A scene of lecture by WCO senior officer

Through the Workshop, participants reaffirmed that Customs Laboratory provides its scientific support properly and rapidly for uniform application of HS classification as well as for identification of controlled substances, such as illicit drugs, etc., at the border and is therefore an important element of Customs administration to effectively and efficiently achieve Customs missions.



Group photo

This 4-days workshop was the first regional workshop specific for the Customs Laboratory matters in the A/P region since November 2003, and actually focused on (1) emphasizing the importance of Customs Laboratory for achieving Customs missions, (2) sharing information on the experience and challenges faced by regional members, and (3) obtaining knowledge of WCO instruments and tools relating to the Harmonized System in particular Customs Laboratory works. It provided an excellent opportunity for all A/P regional members to share their latest challenges on Customs analysis matters and to discuss effective way in strengthening regional cooperation in the area of Customs chemical analysis.



A scene of Poster Session: as a new approach in WCO workshop for effective and efficient information sharing.

This workshop, which was implemented as part of the ongoing trial program on the WCO Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL) initiative, enhanced the participants’ recognitions for the value of this initiative in order to further strengthening regional cooperation in the area of customs chemical analysis.

## Customs Chemist Conference: Driving-force of sustainable development of Customs analysis technique

The 50<sup>th</sup> Session of Japan Customs annual Chemist Conference was held at the CCL on 27 and 28 February 2014. This year, the conference shared and discussed with customs chemists a total of 19 studies focusing on Customs laboratory's matters, i.e. HS-related analysis (8), drug analysis (6), forensic (2) and inspection device (3).

## Sharing information for contribution to ensuring secure and safe society

Mr. Naoyuki Teshigawara, Chief Chemist for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Analysis section, was invited, as a speaker, to a symposium in the 134<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan which was held from 27 to 30 March 2014 in Kumamoto, Japan. He illustrated the trends in novel psychoactive substances seized in Customs inspection and explained recent Japan Customs laboratory's challenges against such emerging risks.



A scene of lecture at the symposium

## Challenges for improvement of Customs laboratories' capabilities at the regional/global level.

The CCL has implemented a trial program for establishment of a WCO Regional Customs Laboratory (RCL)<sup>1)</sup> since February 2013. Under the program, the CCL received two groups for attachment training under the newly started

"WCO/Japan Regional Customs Laboratories Programme"<sup>2)</sup>. Six chemists from WCO members (1<sup>st</sup> group: Costa-Rica, India and Mongolia; 2<sup>nd</sup> group: Indonesia, Thailand and Turkey) successfully completed the training courses with their active participation. The CCL wishes their success in home Laboratories and to continue its contribution to WCO members for improvement of Customs Laboratories' capabilities.



A scene of the attachment training for the 1<sup>st</sup> group, from 28 Oct. to 11 Dec. 2013



A scene of the attachment training for the 2<sup>nd</sup> group, from 3 Mar. to 16 Apr. 2014

The following attachment training courses are scheduled at the CCL under the WCO/Japan Regional Customs Laboratories Programme<sup>2)</sup>:

- 1<sup>st</sup> group: from 14 October to 28 November, 2014
- 2<sup>nd</sup> group: from Spring 2015

1) Please refer to CCL-Brief (October 2013)

2) Please refer to the following URL:

(<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/nomenclature/activities-and-programmes/wco-customs-laboratories-programme.aspx>).

Don't hesitate to send your comments or questions to [cclmaile@mof.go.jp](mailto:cclmaile@mof.go.jp) You can find further information about the CCL, Japan at our homepage ([http://www.customs.go.jp/ccl/e\\_index.htm](http://www.customs.go.jp/ccl/e_index.htm)).

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