UNNExT Workshop on Legal Framework for the Single Window

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SESSION 5:

DATA QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS

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Overview of Data Quality

- Data quality, relating to accuracy and integrity of content, integrity and provability, and interoperability among systems, must be addressed both in building a Single Window system and in its continued operation

- Poor data quality in shipping and customs is a global concern that requires planning and vigilance to overcome

- Where it is anticipated that a Single Window facility will be interoperable with other countries' Single Windows, a high level of certainly needs to be provided that information and data will be accurate

International Legal Standards Related to Data Quality

- **Recommendation 35:**

  - *The quality of data (i.e. its accuracy and integrity) processed within a single window environment is vital. Therefore, it is important to determine the responsibility for entering data into the single window facility and the subsequent processing of this data within the single window facility.*

  - *When it comes to data processing within single window facility it is necessary to determine for each step who is the data controller. To this end, audit trails need to be established by means of identification, authentication and authorization and proper logging and recording mechanisms*

International Legal Standards Related to Data Quality

- UN Electronic Communications Convention adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2005

  - Article 14 of the Convention, *Error in Electronic Communications*, provides for the withdrawal of electronic data under certain specific circumstances where a party has not had the opportunity in the online system to correct an error

  - Consideration could be given to developing a legal standard based on this approach for Single Window operations

Practical Considerations

- *Content –* Clear and straightforward data inputting instructions are a priority for those who also wish to maintain high data content quality.   This includes:
    - *Accuracy and completeness*
    - *Internal consistency*
    - *User interface design considerations*
    - *Timeliness*
    - *Responsibility for content accuracy*
    - *Audit for content accuracy*
    - *Fitness for their intended uses in*
    - *Availability of data*

Practical Considerations

- *Format –* Where data is to be shared, as in the NSW and especially in the ASW environment, consistency and/or interoperability of the format of the data is a critical aspect of data quality.

- *Integrity –* Data integrity should be built into the Single Window system; regulations need to be developed that address the following issues:

  - *Compliance with established security standards*

  - *Assurance of security in establishing identities of data creators*

  - *Assurance of data integrity in capturing, storing, archiving, retrieving and transmission*

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the system. If there is a problem with poor data,
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