

Customs Accredited Clients Programme CACP

For further information;

visit www.zra.org.zm Call: 4111 Email: advice@zra.org.zm The Customs Accredited Clients Programme (CACP) is a voluntary and compliance program established by the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) in 2008, based on the World Customs Organization (WCO) Framework of Standards (FoS) on Atuthorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme.

The aim of this programme is to secure and facilitate global rade that would assist customs in exercising effective controls on imports and exports with minimum interventions at the border.

To be eligible an importer or exporter must:

- Have been operating for a minimum of three years prior to application;
- Have an excellent compliance record with tax and customs requirements and other regulatory requirements in general; and
- Have robust business systems, effective security management systems and adequate internal controls.

Requirements for Accreditation to CACP

Importers and exporters should complete the application form for CACP and the self- assessment checklist and send to the office of the Assistant Commissioner — Audit and Business Risk (ABR) or the nearest customs office or client service centre for onward transmission to ABR.

This process involves the following:

- Validation of the checklist through due diligence audits;
- A recommendation will be made to the Customs Risk Management Committee (CRMC) for approval for qualifying applicants;
- For unsuccessful applicants, improvement plans may be considered to assist the applicants in improving their compliance to regulatory requirements through the improvement of systems and internal controls;

For successful applicants a full accreditation to the programme is made accompanied by an agreement in the form of a Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) and an improvement plan where necessary.

Benefits of CACP membership

The programme is aimed at reducing customs clearance time and thereby reducing the cost of doing business.

Accredited members have the benefits of:

- Release of shipment with minimum scrutiny;
- Zero border intervention (100% blue lane)
- Preferential treatment (special release) and clearance at the border.
- Differentiated graphic presentation/identifier of customs declaration document through assigned logo;
- Destination Inspections, at Inland Customs Office or at the Accredited Clients premises;
- Less customs audits as reliance is placed on the client's systems and internal controls;
- Client Relationship Managers and Focal Contact Persons at the border thus improving Customs services and accredited taxpayer relations.
- Expedite clearance of goods even during downtimes
- ZRA Facilitated client education and coaching with the objective of enhancing compliance management.
- Eligibility for self-audit or self-assessments leading to no penalties for own corrective disclosures.