



## World Customs Organization

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02.08.2023 / Brussels  
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Dear Director General,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Customs Organization (WCO), with the financial support of the Japanese Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF/Japan) is holding a regional (Asia/Pacific) accreditation workshop for Technical and Operational Advisors (TOAs) on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). The workshop, which is intended for English-speaking participants and will be delivered face-to-face, is provisionally scheduled to be held from **10 to 13 October 2023** in Kashiwa, Japan.

The main objective of the workshop is to build up the pool of highly qualified experts capable of promoting WCO' standards and tools relating to the IPR, Health and Safety Programme, organizing and conducting capacity-building activities on behalf of the WCO and supporting the Secretariat and Members in the implementation of operational activities designed to combat counterfeiting and piracy.

The accreditation workshop, which will take place in English, will provide an opportunity for candidates who have proven experience in the field of IPR to demonstrate their strategic and operational skills and their capacity to work within an international team. The proposed candidates should have a high level of knowledge in the areas referred to in Annex 1 (IPR accreditation assessment criteria).

The candidates who have successfully completed this workshop will then be invited to take part in a mission, in a country or online, and, depending on the capabilities they demonstrate at that time, may be granted their accreditation as WCO Technical and Operational Advisors on IPR.

If you would like to propose one or two candidate(s) for this workshop, please complete the attached NOMINATION FORM (Annex II) and return it by **25 August 2023**. The selected candidates will be informed by e-mail no later than 1 September 2023.

Please note that the associated costs (travel, accommodation, among others) for **One (1)** participant per country in the workshop is to be covered by the WCO. This will cover an economy class air ticket and subsistence allowance (including accommodation) as admissible under the WCO rules.

Should you require any further information on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Maurice Adéfalou, WCO Technical Officer and Compliance IPR, Health and Safety Programme Manager (e-mail: [Maurice.Adefalou@wcoomd.org](mailto:Maurice.Adefalou@wcoomd.org);

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tel.: +32 (0)2 209 9453), and Mr. Giovanni GAETA, Technical Officer, Capacity Building  
(e-mail: [giovanni.gaeta@wcoomd.org](mailto:giovanni.gaeta@wcoomd.org); tel : 32 (0)2 209 9372).

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kunio Mikuriya".

**Kunio Mikuriya**  
Secretary General

Enclosures: (2)

- IPR accreditation assessment criteria.
- Nomination form.