

## Notice to Traders



### **Hong Kong Customs Implements Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Authorized Economic Operators with Israel Customs**



The Hong Kong-Israel Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on the Authorized Economic Operators (AEOs) becomes operational with effect from **20 February 2020**.

The Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) signed the MRA with the Israel Tax Authority (ITA) on 26 June 2019. The MRA not only fosters closer cooperation between C&ED and its counterpart in Israel in promoting a secure and efficient flow of goods in the international supply chain, but also further strengthens the trade competitiveness of Hong Kong companies in Israel.

Under the MRA, local companies accredited by the C&ED as AEOs can enjoy Customs facilitation, such as reduced examination or prioritized clearance, for goods exported to Israel upon arrival. Similarly, companies which have been certified by the ITA as AEOs will have their exported goods cleared expeditiously upon arrival in Hong Kong.

To enjoy clearance facilitation under the MRA, AEOs have to follow the procedures for the implementation of the Hong Kong-Israel MRA at **Annex**.

### **Joining the Hong Kong AEO Programme**

If you are not a Hong Kong AEO right now, you are cordially invited to join the Hong Kong AEO Programme to enjoy the clearance facilitation. Please contact our AEO Enquiry Hotline at 3759 2153 or visit our AEO website ([http://www.customs.gov.hk/en/trade\\_facilitation/aeo/index.html](http://www.customs.gov.hk/en/trade_facilitation/aeo/index.html)) for more information about the Programme.

For enquiries on this Notice, please contact us at 3759 2153.

Customs and Excise Department

**Procedures to Enjoy Mutual Recognition Benefits  
Under  
Hong Kong – Israel MRA**

**Hong Kong AEO Exporting Consignments to Israel**

1. Your company should provide your company name certified under the Hong Kong AEO programme accurately in shipping documents.
2. Importers / Customs brokers in Israel will enter your company name when lodging import declaration through Global Gate system which will recognize the AEO status of your company and Customs facilitation will be granted. HK AEO code is not required in the Global Gate system.

**Importing Israel AEO Consignments into Hong Kong**

1. Your company should ask exporters in Israel (if they are AEOs) to accurately furnish their **Company Names** and **Operating Addresses** certified under the AEO program, together with other cargo information, to their carriers (i.e. Airlines or Container lines).
2. Carriers will use such information in completing cargo manifests of the conveyances, which will be used for Customs clearance by the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department.