IBFD Course Programme
Global Trade and Customs

Amsterdam / 2-3 April 2020
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Summary
This two-day course on global trade and customs offers participants the opportunity to gain knowledge of the most fundamental issues relating to global trade from a customs perspective. The course provides an analysis of general customs topics, such as rules of origin and customs valuation, and of some specific areas, such as the correlation of customs valuation and transfer pricing, and the VAT aspects of specific customs processes, together with a discussion of customs procedures in the European Union, the United States, Brazil and China.

Overview and Learning Objectives
This course provides an overview of the main concepts of the global trade and customs legislation around the world. Customs valuation, tariff classification and origin are common challenges for customs professionals and the course will help the participants to obtain a comprehensive understanding of how these rules impact their businesses. Besides the general concepts, this course provides some country-related information that will help participants to understand the local legislation and practical approach of the customs authorities. Up-to-date information on the latest developments relating to global trade will also be included, such as the most recent trade war.

This is an interactive course with a maximum of 32 participants. Participants will have access to relevant online collections on the IBFD Tax Research Platform for a period of two weeks. Presentations will be made available in electronic format.

Field of Study
Taxes

Who Should Attend?
The course is suitable for practitioners in tax advisory firms, tax specialists in commerce and industry, and government officials.

Course Level and Prerequisites
This is an intermediate-level course. Participants taking this course will be expected to have a good understanding of customs processes. The course is designed for customs and tax professionals who want to learn more about trade implications that are of particular interest to businesses operating in an international, cross-border context.
Day 1

08.30 - 09.00  Registration

09.00 - 09.20  Welcome and IBFD Overview

09.20 - 10.20  Introduction – Trade and Customs Relevance in the 21st Century

- Free trade vs national interest
- Historical overview
- Legislative framework

10.20 - 10.40  Break – Refreshments

10.40 - 12.10  Customs Valuation

- Transaction value and circumstances influencing it
- Alternative methods in accordance with the Customs Valuation Agreement
- Transfer pricing and customs valuation
- Application of customs value by other taxes (e.g. VAT/GST)

12.10 - 13.30  Lunch

13.30 - 14.30  Rules of Origin and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)

- Relevance of origin status
- Methods to determine origin
- Proof of origin
- Usual structure and content of FTAs

14.30 - 15.30  Tariff Classification

- International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
- Rules of classification
- Relevance of classification for other taxes

15.30 - 15.45  Break – Refreshments

15.45 - 17.00  Customs Processes and VAT/GST

- Import procedures
- Export procedures
- Warehousing regimes
- Transit procedures
Inward and outward processing
Indirect exportation
Experiences with different Incoterms
Low-value consignments (present and future)

Day 2

09.00 - 10.00 Incoterms and Their Implications for Customs and Tax Purposes
- Customs implications of free carrier (FCA) and carriage paid to (CPT) outbound
- Delivered duty paid (DDP) and representation during customs formalities
- VAT and Incoterms (DDP and import VAT, indirect exportation)

10.00 - 10.30 Union Customs Code
- Overview of the code and the 2016 changes
- Last sale before import vs first sale for export
- Authorized economic operator (AEO)
- Special regimes
- Relevant FTAs in the region
- Brexit

10.30 - 10.50 Break – Refreshments

10.50 - 11.50 Union Customs Code (continued)

11.50 - 12.50 Brazil
- Overview of the Brazilian customs environment
- Duties and taxes upon importation
- Special customs regimes
- Relevant FTAs in the region

12.50 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.30 United States
- US customs rules
- Export controls and embargos
- Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (CTPAT)
- Relevant FTAs in the region, including United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA)

15.30 - 15.50 Break – Refreshments
15.50 - 17.00  China

- Overview of Chinese customs environment
- Duties and taxes upon importation
- Special customs procedures and regimes
- Relevant FTAs in the region
- China-United States trade war