



**SINGAPORE CUSTOMS**



## **JOINT MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **ASEAN-Wide Self-Certification Scheme comes into effect on 20 September 2020**

The ten ASEAN Member States signed the First Protocol to amend the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) to implement the ASEAN-Wide Self-Certification (AWSC) Scheme on 22 January 2019. The First Protocol has since been ratified by all ten ASEAN Member States and will take effect on 20 September 2020.

The AWSC is a single unified self-certification scheme across all ASEAN Member States. It is a trade facilitation initiative that allows Certified Exporters (CE) to self-certify the origin status for their goods to be eligible for ATIGA preferential tariff claims, in lieu of obtaining a Certificate of Origin (CO) from Singapore Customs. Self-certification enables CE to prepare origin declarations on certain commercial documents such as the commercial invoice, billing statement, delivery order or packing list at their convenience.

The AWSC facilitates intra-ASEAN trade as shipments will not be held back by the administrative procedures of obtaining a CO and eliminating the need for manufacturers to submit Manufacturing Cost Statements for locally manufactured good.

“Singapore Customs is pleased to be part of the AWSC scheme which seeks to simplify export formalities, bringing about greater convenience, cost savings and reduced administrative burden for our businesses. The AWSC demonstrates Singapore Customs’ ongoing efforts and commitment to enhance the level of facilitation we render to our

companies in support of promoting intra-ASEAN trade and beyond”, said Mr Ho Chee Pong, Director-General, Singapore Customs.

“The implementation of the AWSC comes at an opportune time. It reflects ASEAN’s determination to simplify customs procedures and strengthen supply chain connectivity amidst disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. It will also bring about practical benefits to our businesses during this challenging time”, said Mr Luke Goh, Deputy Secretary (Trade), Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Exporters in Singapore exporting goods in a back-to-back arrangement under ATIGA may also apply to be a CE under the AWSC scheme, subject to fulfilling the minimum eligibility criteria to be a CE.

Businesses interested in utilising AWSC scheme can find out more in Circular No. 06/2020 issued on 1 September 2020 or ASEAN Wide Self-Certification page on Customs website at [www.customs.gov.sg/businesses/certificates-of-origin/awsc](http://www.customs.gov.sg/businesses/certificates-of-origin/awsc).

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**Singapore Customs  
Ministry of Trade and Industry Singapore**

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**Annex A: Quotes from Singapore companies on the ASEAN-Wide Self-Certification Scheme**

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**Annex A: Quotes from Singapore companies on the ASEAN-Wide Self-Certification Scheme**

Company Name	Quote and Spokesperson
Chinatown Food Corporation Pte Ltd	<p>“The Implementation of the ASEAN Wide Self Certification (AWSC) scheme benefits SMEs by increasing the efficiency of our export documentation preparation, bringing greater convenience through time savings and eliminating the requirement of Certificate of Origin (CO). This scheme is really helpful.”</p> <p>Emily Kwek, Head of Department, Chinatown Food Corporation Pte Ltd.</p>
Aalst Chocolate Pte Ltd	<p>“With the implementation of the AWSC, it helps to reduce costs and time while maximising the efficiency and versatility of limited resources. “</p> <p>Vivian Lim, Export Manager, Aalst Chocolate Pte Ltd</p>
PSA International	<p>“As a trusted partner to cargo stakeholders, PSA is glad to support the AWSC Scheme which promotes enhanced efficiency in cargo flow. The scheme gives greater convenience to beneficiary cargo owners, saves time and costs, and ensures a seamless port clearance process. PSA looks forward to further strengthening supply chain connectivity and facilitating smooth and efficient cross-border trade.”</p> <p>Mr Ong Kim Pong, Regional CEO Southeast Asia, PSA International</p>