

WCO AEO Conference Shenzhen May 2024

New Zealand Customs: Supporting Environmental Sustainability & Social Responsibility



NEW ZEALAND
CUSTOMS SERVICE
TE MANA ĀRAI O AOTEAROA

**Protecting and promoting
New Zealand across borders**

New Zealand Strategies Te hau marohi ki anamata

Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy: New Zealand's Emissions Reduction Plan (2022)

New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan contains strategies, policies and actions for achieving our first emissions budget and contributing to global efforts to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

The National Adaptation Plan looks at the impacts of climate change with us now and into the future and sets out how New Zealand can adapt.

Te Rautaki Para: Aotearoa New Zealand

Waste Strategy is New Zealand's roadmap for the next three decades for a low emissions, low waste society built upon a circular economy

Rautaki Mana Arai Customs Strategy 2023-

2028 sets out that we will develop approaches to reduce emissions and waste and contribute to environmental stewardship, as well as explore options to help traders and transport operators reduce their carbon footprints



Changing standards for importers and exporters for Border Compliance

Product Stewardship

- Priority products (tyres, refrigerants, e-waste, agrichemicals, plastic packaging, farm plastics)
- Border levies for some products
- Importer & Exporter Compliance
- Voluntary accreditation schemes

Waste Legislation

- Waste Minimisation Legislation
- Export and Import Prohibitions
- Hazardous Waste Requirements
- Disposal Standards for Seized Goods
- Permits and Licences

Clean Energy Standards

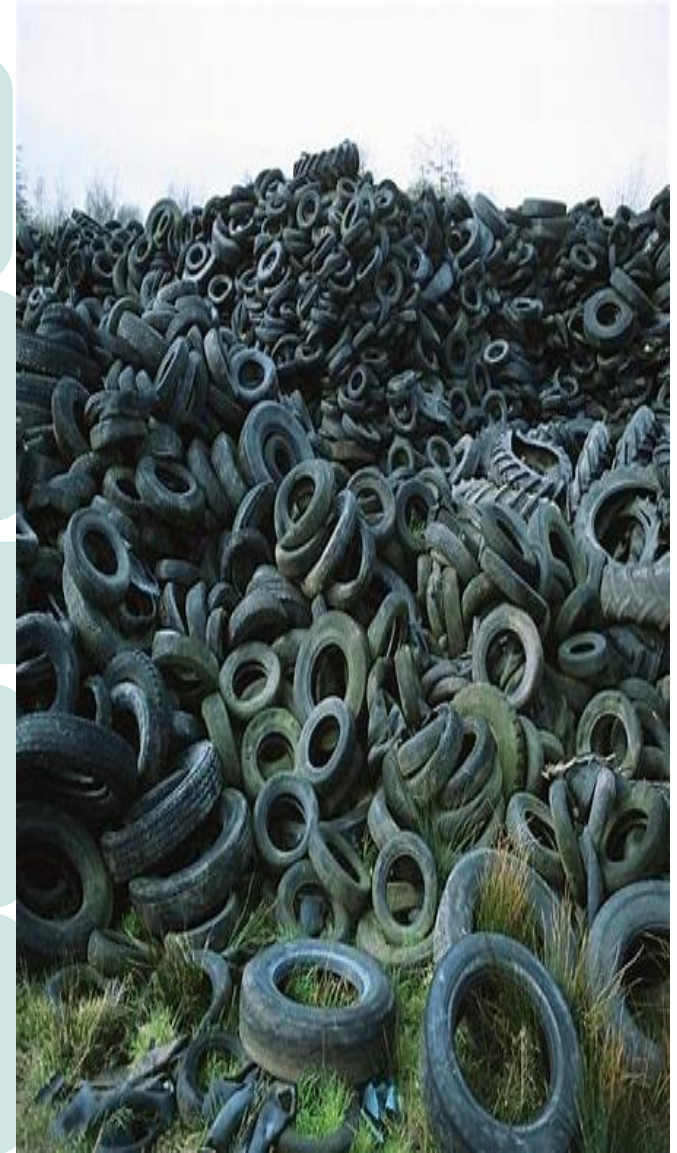
- Energy Efficient Standards (eg air conditioners, fridges)
- Product Labelling
- Clean Car Standards

International

- “Green” HS
- International List of Green Goods
- SAFE Working Group discussions
- Bilateral Green Customs arrangements
- Potential Border Tax adjustments or other border levies or taxes

Social Responsibility

- Review of Modern Slavery and Worker Exploitation laws
- Health and Safety at Work Act – relationship with Ports and Warehouses
- Company reporting
- Emissions targets and transition from fossil fuels



Focus Area 1: Harmonising control and facilitation measures with environmental agencies

New Zealand Customs priority is to work with other agencies to agree on efficient and effective border measures:

- Agree definitions of relevant goods
- Use of measures such as classification rulings, publication, industry engagement to advise importers and exporters of changing requirements
- Use of our Trade Single Window for import and export declarations to meet environmental requirements and repository for import and export data
- Consider potential for Customs duty collection systems for product stewardship levies where relevant (including duty deferral)
- Compliance and enforcement roles clearly agreed with relevant agencies





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NEW ZEALAND CUSTOMS SERVICE

Working
Tariff
Document

Focus Area 2: International Engagement

New Zealand Customs second focus area is to work constructively with international partners to:

- Agree definitions of relevant goods
- Develop Applicable standards that could be used for facilitation and compliance
- Identify workable approaches in key international instruments in the WCO
- Work with our trade department and other agencies on international agreements
- Identify opportunities for testing approaches with other countries

Challenges and Considerations for AEO Programmes

- Standards are being developed – border compliance models can be applied for imports and exports of particular goods
- New Zealand's current approach is to apply risk management principles to compliance and facilitation for import and exports
- Some standards are allowing firms time to transition eg clean energy, emission targets – can transitional approaches be recognised
- Verification to standards sits with environmental agencies and private sector– may need to consider how Customs recognises agency and private sector accreditation
- AEO programmes such as New Zealand's Secure Export Scheme are based on SAFE and meeting minimum security requirements – it is not clear yet how other standards can be incorporated
- AEO benefits works on recognition of common standards by partner countries – international agreement is critical to facilitation
- Commitments under MRAs and trade agreements require Customs agencies to co-operate on facilitation standards – as border measures are developed there may be scope for mutual recognition

