Digital Frontiers: Customs Embracing Innovation with Traditional New Partners

Standardizing Maritime API and BRI/PNR

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IMO Convention on Facilitation

"Facilitate maritime traffic by simplifying and reducing to a minimum the formalities, documentary requirements, and procedures on the arrival, stay, and departure of ships engaged in international voyages."

Development of a Global API and PNR Dataset for Maritime

2020: WCO mandate to develop, in coordination with the IMO, a Global Dataset Standard

Goal: replicate API and PNR data processes used in aviation to harmonize and enhance passenger data requirements in the maritime sector

Benefits:
- minimization of the cost to industry
- accuracy of information
- completeness of data
- protection of personal data
- timeliness
- efficiency and efficacy of data management/risk management.

- **Advance Passenger Information (API)**
  - Equivalent to FAL Forms 5 and 6

- **Passenger Name Record (PNR) / Booking Name Record (BNR)**
  - Equivalent to booking information

- **Passenger Facilitation and Control Working Group (PFCWG)**
  - Created in 2021 to develop the new dataset

- **Permanent Technical Committee (PTC)**
  - Absorbed the work of PFCWG in 2023

Summary of Relevant Outcomes

IMO FAL Sessions

FAL 46
- Revised the IMO Compendium on Facilitation
- Added API and PNR datasets to be included in priority data sets
- Changed 'PNR' to 'BRI'

FAL 47
- Approved a new version of the IMO Compendium which included the API datasets
- Took note that PNR/BRI datasets were not finalized

FAL 48
- PNR/BRI datasets finalized
- Postpone BRI dataset inclusion in the IMO Compendium
- Proposal to add a new output in the work programme

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- Close collaboration with PFCWG through various changes and versions of data model specification

- Initial implementation of file extraction with data model as presented

- Ready for pilot program kick off

- Data transmission protocol to be established and tested subsequent to initial pilot

Long term goals of BRI Pilot & Next Steps

Takeaways

- Importance of customs and port cooperation related to processes and security

- Need for standard format for crew and passenger information

- Align the development of any new passenger data standard with the IMO FAL Convention

- Support of proposal to add a new output to the work program to include API/BRI declarations in the FAL Convention