

TRADE FACILITATION

MRA CONDUCTS 2ND TIME RELEASE STUDY

After a first study in 2016, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) is conducting a second Time Release Study (TRS) from Monday 15 October to Friday 16 November 2018. The TRS, developed by the World Customs Organisation (WCO), measures the average time taken between the arrival of import and export cargo at the port or airport until their release or shipment. The TRS helps to identify bottlenecks in the process of clearing of goods and to propose how the cargo dwell time may be reduced. The TRS is, therefore, a trade facilitation tool which can significantly impact on the supply chain.

Mauritius was amongst the first five countries to ratify the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Facilitation Agreement in 2015. Consequently, a workshop on TRS was facilitated by the WCO in April 2016 at the MRA Custom House. After the workshop, whereby key stakeholders were initiated to the TRS, the MRA Customs Department conducted its first TRS in September 2016. Some key findings of the study are as follows:

IMPORT PROCESSES	SEA	AIR	EXPORT PROCESSES	SEA	AIR
Vessel/ aircraft arrival up to gate-out	5.15 days	1.9 days	Submission of the BOE up to loading on vessel/ aircraft	4.4 hours	4.5 hours

In view of improving the cargo dwell time in Mauritius and to further facilitate trade, the MRA Customs Department is carrying out a second TRS from Monday 15 October to Friday 16 November 2018 and it relies on the usual collaboration of its valued stakeholders in this endeavour.