



**MIDDLE EAST  
REGIONAL TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE CENTER**

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**Modernizing Customs Procedures to Achieve the Objectives of the  
African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)**

***IMF Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) Workshop supported by the Government of Japan  
and the IMF Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center***

**January 16-18, 2024**

With the support of the Government of Japan, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) 's Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center (METAC) and Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) hosted a three-day regional workshop in Cairo, Egypt, during January 16 to 18, 2024. The workshop focused on modernization of procedures used by customs administrations in the region to achieve the objectives set by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement and was the sixth such workshop on this topic organized by the IMF during FY2024.

The workshop was attended by 18 participants from customs representatives of Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Somalia and Tunisia, as well as the Union of Arab Maghreb (UMA), the Embassy of Japan and the World Customs Organization (WCO); the workshop was facilitated with presentations from IMF and WCO experts. The main topics covered were the Management and Control of AfCFTA Preferential Origin and Improved Customs Procedures within Africa. Participants were invited to share their experiences in what proved to be an open and highly interactive workshop.

**METAC is a collaborative venture with financial support from development partners (Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, the European Union, and France), member countries, and the IMF.**

