



## INFORMATION NOTE

### **Subject: A.TR movement certificates issued electronically bearing a QR code**

The issuance of A.TR movement certificates is regulated in the framework of the legislation on EU-Türkiye customs union and more precisely by the provisions laid down in the Decision 1/2006 of the EC-Turkey Customs Cooperation Committee of 26 July 2006, laying down detailed rules for the application of Decision No 1/95 of the EC-Turkey Association Council<sup>1</sup>.

At the beginning of 2020, EU partner countries having a free trade agreement with the Union were confronted with the impossibility to provide movement certificates signed by hand, stamped in wet ink or in the right paper format, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was therefore considered appropriate to adopt exceptional measures applicable on a reciprocal basis, to ensure the full implementation of preferential trade.

The customs authorities of the EU Member States and EU partner countries were invited to accept movement certificates issued electronically with a digital signature, stamp or cachet of the competent authorities, or a copy in paper or electronic form (scanned or available online).

These measures were also applicable to the A.TR movement certificates for the purpose of free circulation of goods within the EU- Türkiye Customs Union. Such practice was based on the flexibility provided for in Article 10 of Decision No 1/2006. According to this provision, A.TR movement certificates are to be submitted to the customs authorities of the importing State in accordance with the procedures applicable in that State.

The EU and Türkiye acknowledge that the experience under the exceptional measures adopted due to the COVID-19 pandemic was positive and consider appropriate to maintain the good practices introduced under the exceptional circumstances during the COVID-19 pandemic. To this end, a Decision of the EU – Türkiye Customs Cooperation Committee is in preparation to provide for the acceptance of A.TR movement certificates

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 265, 26.9.2006, p. 18–38

issued electronically when submitted at importation, bearing a QR code and without a wet-ink signature with effect as of 8 July 2024

**Pending the adoption of a Decision of the EU–Türkiye Customs Cooperation Committee, the customs administrations of the EU Member States are invited, as of 8 July 2024, to accept A.TR movement certificates issued electronically as of the same date when submitted at importation, bearing a QR code and without a wet-ink signature.**

The authenticity of A.TR movement certificates issued electronically by Türkiye can be verified on the unique link for every movement certificate, which starts with "<https://mdc.gtb.gov.tr>", "<https://uygulama.gtb.gov.tr>", "<https://istanbul.ebirlik.net/>" or "<https://ankara.ebirlik.net/dolasim/app>" (accessed by scanning the QR code on the certificate or by typing the path printed on the certificate).