

# **AEO**Uruguay

# Uruguay and the United States signed a Work Plan for a Mutual Recognition Agreement on AEO Programs

In a ceremony that took place on February 1, 2016, the United States of America and Uruguay signed a Work Plan for a Mutual Recognition Agreement on AEO Programs, between both the Customs Administrations of both countries.

The signing of the agreement was attended by the Commissioner of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Gil Kerlikowske ; Chargés d'Affaires a.i. of the United States Embassy, Bradley Freden and the Director General of Uruguay Customs, CPA Enrique Canon.

This Mutual Recognition Agreement will contribute to facilitating and ensuring trade between the two countries. It will also result in mutual benefits for all the AEOs who are part of the two programs, which



will mean an improvement in competitiveness for Uruguayan foreign trade operators that are linked to the United States.

After the signing, Kerlikowske emphasized that ""This Joint Work Plan is the next step for the consolidation of cooperation between our countries in securing the global supply chain, in Uruguay, the United States and dozens of countries around the world." He added that "as one of the top five trading partners of Uruguay, the United States is committed to work to preserve and strengthen our economic relationship."

Finally, he highlighted that in fiscal year 2015, the United States imported more than \$ 585 million in goods from Uruguay, while the country exported nearly \$ 1.5 billion to Uruguay. On the other hand, CPA Enrique Canon emphasized his satisfaction with the signing of this agreement, which is the result of several years of joint work.

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This event was attended by Cr. Enrique Canon, Customs Operations Manager Mr. Andres Mendez and the Director of the AEO Department Ing. Diego Casella, all of them representing the Uruguay National Customs Directorate.



in Santana Livramento, Adilson Valente, represented Brazilian Customs.

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Undersecretary

and

(Brazilian

Customs

Brazil