



MINISTRY OF  
INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

# ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Valued Customers,

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION AND EXCHANGE OF PREFERENTIAL CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN (PCO) DATA BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA UNDER THE ASEAN-CHINA FREE TRADE AREA (ACFTA) AND THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (RCEP)

The Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) signed the Joint Arrangement on the Electronic Origin Data Exchange System on 21 November 2025 to strengthen cooperation in the electronic exchange of Preferential Certificate of Origin (PCO) data.

Following the signing of the Joint Arrangement, Malaysia and China will commence the real-time electronic exchange of PCO data, including Back-to-Back and Movement Certificates, under ACFTA and RCEP, **effective 1 June 2026**.

This initiative is expected to improve trade facilitation, customs efficiency, and the authenticity of origin data through the secure and efficient exchange of PCO data, while reducing reliance on paper-based processes.

The implementation currently applies only to trade between Malaysia and China.

All applications for PCO issuance shall continue to be submitted through the existing Electronic Preferential Certificate of Origin (ePCO) platform in accordance with the current procedures and requirements. Approved PCO data will subsequently be electronically transmitted and exchanged between the relevant authorities of Malaysia and China.

A new fee in relation to this initiative will be introduced. However, the fee will be waived for a period of two (2) months commencing from 1 June 2026.

For imports into Malaysia using PCOs issued by China under this initiative, Malaysian importers are advised to refer to the relevant announcement and requirements issued by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD).



Exporters, importers, and other relevant parties are advised to refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for further information regarding the implementation of this initiative.

For further information or enquiries, please email: [pco@miti.gov.my](mailto:pco@miti.gov.my).

MITI appreciates the continued cooperation and support of all stakeholders in ensuring the successful implementation of this initiative.

Thank you.

**Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry**

28 May 2026

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# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION AND EXCHANGE OF PREFERENTIAL CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN (PCO) DATA BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA UNDER THE ASEAN-CHINA FREE TRADE AREA (ACFTA) AND THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (RCEP)

### 1) **What is the implementation of electronic transmission and exchange of PCO data?**

This initiative involves the real-time electronic transmission and exchange of PCO data between Malaysia and the People's Republic of China under the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

### 2) **When will the implementation take effect?**

The implementation will take effect on 1 June 2026.

### 3) **Does this initiative replace the existing ePCO system?**

No. Exporters shall continue to apply for the issuance of PCOs using the existing Electronic Preferential Certificate of Origin (ePCO) platform and procedures.

The implementation only involves the electronic transmission and exchange of approved PCO data between the relevant authorities of Malaysia and China.

### 4) **Do exporters still need to apply for a PCO through ePCO?**

Yes. Exporters are still required to submit PCO applications through the existing ePCO platform in accordance with the current application procedures and requirements.

### 5) **Which countries are currently covered under this implementation?**

The implementation currently applies only to trade between Malaysia and China.

For exports to ASEAN Member States under ACFTA and exports to Korea, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand under RCEP, the existing physical PCO issuance and submission procedures shall continue to apply.



**6) Which Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) are covered under this implementation?**

The implementation covers:

- ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA); and
- Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

**7) What types of Certificates of Origin are covered?**

The implementation covers:

- Form E issued under ACFTA;
- RCEP Certificate of Origin; and
- Back-to-Back/Movement Certificates issued under ACFTA and RCEP.

**8) Will exporters still need to print and provide physical copies of the PCO?**

In principle, where the PCO origin data has been successfully transmitted and accepted electronically by the importing authority, the physical copy of the PCO may not be required.

However, during the transitional implementation period, exporters are advised to coordinate closely with their importers/consignees and the relevant importing authorities in China, as the physical copy of the PCO may still be required for customs clearance, verification, or contingency purposes.

**9) Are there any changes to the current PCO application procedures?**

No. The current application procedures and requirements under the ePCO system remain unchanged.

**10) Are there any changes to the supporting documents or origin declaration requirements?**

No. The existing supporting documents, origin declaration requirements, and verification procedures for PCO applications remain unchanged unless otherwise notified by MITI.

**11) Will any new fees be introduced?**

Yes. A new fee relating to the implementation of the electronic transmission and exchange of PCO data will be introduced.

However, the fee will be waived for a period of two (2) months commencing from 1 June 2026.

Further details regarding the applicable fee mechanism will be announced separately, where applicable.

## 12) What are the benefits of this implementation?

The implementation is expected to:

- facilitate faster customs clearance;
- improve verification efficiency between authorities;
- reduce administrative processes;
- minimise the risk of document loss or forgery; and
- enhance trade facilitation between Malaysia and China.

## 13) What should exporters do during the transitional implementation period?

Exporters are encouraged to:

- ensure the accuracy of information declared in the ePCO application;
- coordinate closely with their importers/consignees in China; and
- comply with any additional customs requirements imposed by GACC.

## 14) What happens if there is a technical disruption or system unavailability?

In the event of any technical disruption or system unavailability, the existing manual verification and operational procedures may continue to apply, subject to the requirements of the relevant authorities.

In such cases, exporters may be requested to provide supporting documents or physical PCO copies, subject to the requirements of the importing authority.

## 15) What should Malaysian importers do for imports from China?

For imports into Malaysia using PCOs issued by China under this initiative, Malaysian importers are advised to refer to the relevant announcement and requirements issued by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD).

## 16) Who can be contacted for further information?

For further information or enquiries, please email: [pco@miti.gov.my](mailto:pco@miti.gov.my).

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