



Tax alert: **Launch of Revamped Preferential Certificate of Origin (eCoO) 2.0 System**

12 December 2024

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) is launching the revamped "eCoO 2.0" system for the Preferential Certificate of Origin (eCoO).

In a nutshell



Launch of eCoO 2.0: The revamped Preferential Certificate of Origin (eCoO) 2.0 system shall be effective from 21 December 2024, offering features such as multi-user access, Aadhaar-based e-signing, an integrated dashboard, and Cost Sheet Digitization.



Data Migration: All data from the legacy eCoO system, including Preferential and Non-Preferential Certificates of Origin, as well as e-wallet balances, will be migrated to the new platform shortly after the stabilization of the new system.



New Filing Process: Exporters shall file new Preferential CoO applications via eCoO 2.0 system starting from 21 December 2024, while applications submitted before that date and subsequent actions pertaining to those applications, shall continue to be handled on legacy eCoO 1.0 system.



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Launch of Revamped Preferential Certificate of Origin (eCoO) 2.0 System:

The DGFT has launched a revamped version of the Preferential Certificate of Origin (eCoO) “**System eCoO 2.0**” to streamline the certification process for exporters. This upgraded system introduces new features such as:

- **Multi-User Access:** Exporters can assign multiple users/applicants under a single Importer Exporter Code (IEC).
- **E-Signature Options:** Aadhaar-based e-signing is now available in addition to digital signature.
- **Integrated Dashboard:** A unified platform for easy access to eCoO and related services such as FTA information, trade events etc.
- **Cost Sheet Digitization:** Improved tools for easy preparation and submission of cost sheets.

Key dates for implementation include:

- **Application submitted on or after 21st December 2024:** Exporters shall file Preferential CoO applications through the new eCoO 2.0 system.
- **Application submitted before 21st December 2024:** Applications submitted before that date and subsequent actions pertaining to those applications shall continue to be handled on legacy eCoO 1.0 system.

Additional Facilities:

- **Guidelines for opening of Administrator account for eCoO issuing agencies-** All authorized issuing agencies must designate an administrator and shall register on the portal. All issuing agencies must:
 - **Designate an Administrator:** This administrator will manage online user and office functions. The administrator must register on eCoO 2.0 as a 'CoO Authorized Agency'.
 - **Add Office Details:** The Administrator should add details of all regional offices, including enabling e-wallet facilities if desired.
 - **Upload Stamp and Signature Images:** Upload clear images of stamps for all regional offices and signatures of all Issuing Officers. Ensure the background is removed.
 - **Manage User Accounts:** The Administrator can activate, deactivate, or map issuing officers to specific offices.
 - **Ensure Accurate Payment Gateway Setup:** Correctly input Merchant ID and Checksum to avoid errors for exporters.
- In a similar line, all issuing officers of the agency/chamber are required to register on the portal and register their Digital signature certificates to enable them to digitally sign the eCoOs.
- The **E-Wallet Facility** will be available, but migration of funds will happen after the stabilization of the new system. A separate notification will be issued regarding this transfer.
- **Verification of eCoO** by the Authorities can be done through the eCoO 2.0 platform without logging into the portal or by scanning the QR code provided on issued CoO certificates.
- **Steps for verifying eCoO on the portal without login credentials:** “Go to eCoO 2.0 website (<https://trade.gov.in>) → Home Page → Get Certificate of Origin Tab → Click on Verify Certificate → Enter CoO Certificate Number → enter capture code → Click on Verify Certificate → All the details in the CoO certificate will be shown on the screen”.
- **Exporters' login credentials on the DGFT website will work on the new eCoO 2.0 system.** Exporters must register on the DGFT website, if not done already, and link their email to their Importer Exporter code (IEC).
- The updated eCoO 2.0 User Guide and FAQs will be available on the "Get Certificate of Origin" section of

<https://trade.gov.in>. DGFT/Authorized Agencies will also hold Exporter Outreach Programs to raise awareness about the revamped eCoO facility, with further details provided by the authorized agency.

- Exporters and stakeholders can reach out to the CoO Helpdesk for eCoO-related issues, suggestions, or feedback through the following channels:
 - **Toll-Free Helpline:** Contact the DGFT Helpdesk at 011-23061495 or 011-23061499 (Monday to Friday).
 - **Email Inquiries:** For clarifications or further assistance, email the CoO Helpdesk at coo-dgft@gov.in.

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