

## **Stakeholders Meet to Shape the Future of Cross-Border Trade through the AEO Programme**

**Maseru, Lesotho – 20 June 2025** – Revenue Services Lesotho (RSL) organised a high-level stakeholder engagement session on 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at Victory Hall, bringing together importers, exporters, and key players in the trade and logistics sector. The engagement aimed to shape the future of cross-border trade through the implementation and expansion of the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Programme.

The session served as a platform to sensitize the business community on the objectives, benefits, and progress of Lesotho's AEO rollout. Key discussions included updates on upcoming pilot activities, digital trade facilitation initiatives, and opportunities for enhanced trade flow and security across borders.

Stakeholders actively contributed insights to align the AEO programme with the needs of local businesses and strengthen its implementation in Lesotho. The collaborative dialogue underscored RSL's commitment to fostering a more efficient and secure trading environment in the region.

The AEO Programme is a World Customs Organization (WCO)-endorsed global initiative designed to secure and facilitate international trade. Its implementation brings tangible benefits across various sectors:

For Revenue Administrations: Optimized resource allocation, reduced physical inspections, and enhanced risk management.

For the Private Sector: Streamlined trade processes, cost savings, improved supply chain security, and reduced delays.



For Government Agencies: Better oversight of trade flows, stronger enforcement against illicit trade, and harmonized customs procedures.

RSL remains committed to working closely with stakeholders to enhance Lesotho's trade competitiveness and streamline cross-border processes in alignment with international standards.

-Ends-

For clarification, please contact RSL's PR Desk: 62112502/58839868