

Promoting Cross-border Paperless Trade in Viet Nam in the New Context

Anh-Duong Nguyen

Director, Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM), Vietnam

Over the past years, Viet Nam has deepened efforts to modernize customs operations and trade facilitation practices. As digital transformation in trade progressed during the COVID-19 pandemic, Viet Nam also actively considered the roles and benefits of cross-border paperless trade. The speaker argues that the benefits of cross-border paperless trade are several folds: (i) improved operational efficiency in trade and smaller costs; (ii) improved visibility of trade flows; (iii) enhanced competitive advantage in trade; (iv) induced improvements in other areas that support effective trade liberalization; and (v) innovation of digital government and digital society. However, to realize the benefits, Viet Nam needs to simultaneously improve legal and technical readiness for cross-border paperless trade. The author then elaborates on the key areas that need reforms for promoting cross-border paperless trade.