

RESOLUTION OF THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL
ON GLOBAL SECURITY AND FACILITATION MEASURES
CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE SUPPLY CHAIN

(June 2004)

RESOLUTION OF THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL
ON GLOBAL SECURITY AND FACILITATION MEASURES
CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE SUPPLY CHAIN

THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL^(*),

NOTING THAT :

- (1) global trade and other developments such as e-commerce are shaping the international environment in which Customs administrations function;
- (2) the predictability and further harmonization of the international trade supply chain contributes to the development of the global economy;
- (3) all modes of transport, including land, sea, air and mail operations can be exploited and used to perpetrate acts of terrorism and organized crime;
- (4) there is a mutual need and shared responsibility for all entities in the supply chain to secure and facilitate the movement of legitimate trade and to promote economic security;
- (5) the WCO and its Members have started to respond to these new challenges through the ground-breaking and excellent work accomplished by the Task Force on Supply Chain Security and Facilitation, including :
 - (i) the Integrated Supply Chain Management Guidelines;
 - (ii) the International Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters (Johannesburg Convention);
 - (iii) the WCO Data Model, incorporating the key data elements for the identification of high-risk consignments; and
- (6) significant progress has been made by some Members in implementing supply chain security and facilitation measures and there is a need for all Members to introduce and apply such measures in accordance with their capability and taking account of capacity building programmes.

RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS :

A. A High Level Strategic Group, comprising a small, diverse group of Directors General, who are committed to active participation, shall be established to :

- (1) provide leadership and guidance on enhancing the position of the WCO and Customs administrations on security and facilitation matters;
- (2) build upon and consolidate the work of the Task Force;

^(*) Customs Co-operation Council is the official name of the World Customs Organization (WCO).

- (3) prepare a WCO framework for the security and facilitation of global trade to be presented for the consideration of the Policy Commission within 12 months;
- (4) further develop the concept of integrated supply chain management and related Customs matters;
- (5) develop and define standards on integrated supply chain security and facilitation and related Customs matters;
- (6) make recommendations to enhance the capacity building provided to Members in the areas addressed by the High Level Strategic Group; and
- (7) develop strategies to assist in the implementation of new measures by Members.

B. The High Level Strategic Group shall :

- (1) report to the Policy Commission;
- (2) consist of the Chairperson of the Council, the Vice-Chairpersons and other members identified by the Chairperson in consultation with the Vice-Chairpersons; and
- (3) involve in the appropriate manner the private sector and other relevant intergovernmental organizations.

C. Member Customs administrations shall :

- (1) commit themselves to :
 - (i) implementation of the WCO instruments relating to security and facilitation as early as possible;
 - (ii) implement modern Customs procedures and administrative measures, such as information and communication technology and risk management techniques, embodied in the revised Kyoto Convention; and
 - (iii) expeditious accession to the revised Kyoto Convention and to the Johannesburg Convention.
- (2) take urgent steps, in consultation with their Governments, to :
 - (i) develop an action plan to implement supply chain security and facilitation measures;
 - (ii) mobilize key stakeholders to ensure that Customs administrations play an essential role within an integrated Government response towards supply chain security and facilitation measures;
 - (iii) monitor and report to the Secretariat, through the Vice-Chairpersons, on the progress being made towards implementation of supply chain security and facilitation measures; and

- (iv) maintain and ensure a high degree of good governance and integrity in their Customs administrations.

D. The Secretary General shall ensure that :

- (1) the necessary technical assistance and support is provided to the High Level Strategic Group;
- (2) a mechanism is developed for Members to report progress on implementation of WCO supply chain security and facilitation measures to enable the Secretariat to monitor and evaluate progress;
- (3) assistance is provided to enable Members to participate in pilot projects to test the implementation of WCO supply chain security and facilitation measures;
- (4) Members are kept informed of supply chain security and facilitation and other related developments in other intergovernmental organizations;
- (5) further work is carried out to explore the concept of integrated border management, or closer co-operation between border agencies, and to further advance the single window concept;
- (6) guidance is provided on effective processes, methods and techniques to enable the Customs community to enhance global trade, through increased supply chain security and facilitation;
- (7) the Customs' contribution, as part of an integrated Government response to the United Nations Security Council Resolutions, especially Resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1456 (2003), is fully explored, in order to contribute towards a "sustained comprehensive approach involving the active participation and collaboration of all States, international and regional organizations, and by redoubled efforts at the national level";
- (8) assistance is provided to Members in terms of guidance, advice and support on the financing of supply chain security and facilitation initiatives, particularly with regard to developing countries;
- (9) the activities of the High Level Strategic Group are promoted with the media and with other international organizations; and
- (10) proposals are submitted to the Policy Commission at its next session on the feasibility of organizing a WCO Ministerial Forum.

E. The Policy Commission, at its December 2004 Session, shall review the progress made with the implementation of this Resolution by the High Level Strategic Group, the Secretariat and the Members.