

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL

DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME

AND THE

CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL

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The United Nations International Drug Control Programme (hereinafter referred to as UNDCP) and the Customs Cooperation Council (hereinafter referred to as CCC*),

WISHING TO COORDINATE their efforts within the terms of the Charter of the United Nations and the Council Convention which established the CCC as well as other applicable agreements, resolutions and declarations within their respective mandates;

RECOGNIZING THAT UNDCP has responsibility for coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities as mandated by General Assembly Resolution 45/179;

RECOGNIZING THAT THE CCC has the responsibility for assisting Customs Administrations worldwide in defining drug control policy and drug law enforcement programmes which contribute to the fight against illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through its focus on prevention, inspection, investigation and prosecution;

BEARING IN MIND the requirements of international drug control treaties;

WISHING TO ESTABLISH effective cooperation with a view to enhancing international drug control efforts;

AWARE THAT such cooperation should be developed in the light of experience and practical action;

UNDCP and CCC (hereinafter called the Parties)

agree upon the following relating to drug control and law enforcement activities:

ARTICLE I

MUTUAL CONSULTATION

1. The Parties shall consult regularly on policy issues regarding training and technical assistance and other matters of common interest for the purpose of achieving their objectives, implementing their mandates and coordinating their respective activities.

* Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) is the official name of the World Customs Organization (WCO)

2. The Parties shall keep each other informed of developments in any of their activities and projects that are of mutual interest. Each Party will take into consideration the observations of the other Party with a view to promoting coordination and cooperation.

3. Whenever appropriate, consultations shall be arranged between representatives of the two Parties to determine the most effective manner in which to organize particular activities and to secure the fullest utilization of resources.

ARTICLE II

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS

1. Each Party will designate an official as focal point for the maintenance of close, direct and continuing contacts with a view to ensuring the implementation of the provisions of the present Memorandum of Understanding.

2. The Parties shall coordinate their efforts to achieve the best use of available information including seizure data and legislative information relevant to drug smuggling and to ensure the most effective utilization of their resources in the collection, analysis, publication and diffusion of such information.

3. Subject to such restrictions and arrangements as may be considered necessary by either Party to preserve the confidential nature of certain information and documents, full and prompt exchange of information and documents concerning matters of common interest shall be made between the Parties.

4. The Parties shall invite each other to attend as observers meetings convened under their respective auspices and which consider matters in which the other party has an interest or technical competence.

ARTICLE III

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1. When in the interest of their respective activities, either Party may seek the other's technical expertise and cooperation. In this regard, executing agency agreements, cooperation agreements and letters of agreement on specific programmes will be elaborated as necessary to clarify the role of each party in the undertakings and to facilitate joint planning of activities.

2. The Parties shall cooperate in the development and implementation of technical assistance programmes at the country, regional or international level.

3. In this process the Parties may combine their own human and financial resources. The Parties shall also collaborate in identifying appropriate consultants and experts to implement joint programmes and to assist in technical programmes undertaken by either organization.

4. The implementation of joint programmes shall be subject to the availability of adequate resources to be determined for each activity by both Parties in accordance with their respective relevant regulations and rules.

5. Joint project activities shall be subject to the approval of individual project documents by both Parties and to periodic evaluation to be agreed upon. They shall also be subject to the programme of work approved by the policy-making bodies of the Parties.

ARTICLE IV

TECHNICAL MEETINGS AND MISSIONS

1. The Parties will consult each other to ensure the greatest possible degree of coordination in regard to meetings and missions of technical experts concerning questions in which both Parties have an interest.

2. Whenever appropriate, the Parties shall consult each other on their country, regional and international level programmes and projects.

3. The Parties may, in appropriate cases, agree to sponsor on terms to be arranged in each particular case, joint consultations and technical meetings concerning questions in which both Parties have an interest. The manner in which action recommended by such joint consultations and meetings is undertaken shall be agreed between the two Parties.

ARTICLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The present Memorandum of Understanding will take effect upon signature by both Parties and will remain in force unless terminated by mutual consent or by either Party giving six months' written notice of termination to the other Party. The provisions of this Memorandum will, however, remain in force beyond the date of such termination to the extent necessary to permit an orderly completion of activities and settlement of accounts between the Parties.

2. The Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by mutual written consent. Each Party will give full and sympathetic consideration to any proposals advanced by the other Party to that effect.

3. In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have on behalf of the Parties hereto signed this Memorandum of Understanding on the day and year below written.



Giorgio GIACOMELLI
Executive Director
United Nations International
Drug Control Programme



James W. SHAVER
Secretary-General
Customs Co-operation Council

Vienna, 6 November 1996