



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION<sup>1</sup> (WCO)  
AND  
RIGA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (RTU)**

*TO PROMOTE CO-OPERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROVISION  
OF WORLD-CLASS CUSTOMS TRAINING, EDUCATION, CAPACITY BUILDING  
AND RESEARCH*

**The World Customs Organization (WCO) and Riga Technical University (RTU), collectively referred to hereafter as “the Parties” and individually as “the Party” :**

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the WCO whose mission is to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations is the sole competent global intergovernmental organization in Customs matters,

**ACKNOWLEDGING** also that the Centre for Customs Consultations at RTU (CCC RTU) is an international centre of excellence, providing a focal point for Customs training, education, advisory services and research capabilities,

**RECOGNIZING** the desire of both Parties to assist Customs administrations in their efforts to meet the challenges of the modern business environment and adapt to changing circumstances, by promoting international communication and co-operation, and by fostering integrity, human-resource development, transparency, improvements in the management and working methods of Customs administrations and the sharing of best practices,

**NOTING** that the WCO is committed to enhancing regional Customs training, education and capacity building, in particular through its e-learning programme and through its Regional Offices for Capacity Building (ROCBs) and Regional Training Centres (RTCs),

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<sup>1</sup> Established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council.

**RECOGNIZING** also the potential synergies between the Parties through their commitment to world-class Customs training, education, capacity building and research,

**Hereby agree as follows :**

**General**

1. To develop a long-term strategic alliance that will benefit the aims and objectives of both Parties.
2. To permit reference to the professional association between the two Parties to be made by either Party in public documents such as information brochures, subject to the prior approval of the other Party.

**Training, education and capacity building initiatives**

3. To explore opportunities to co-operate and minimize duplication of effort in the areas of training, e-learning, capacity building and management development.
4. To seek to maximize the level of articulation between the training and development programmes provided by the WCO and its Members and the postgraduate programmes provided by RTU.
5. To explore opportunities to jointly progress regional training, education and capacity building activities through ROCBs and RTCs.
6. To facilitate co-operative arrangements by providing the CCC RTU with observer status on the High Level Working Group on Capacity Building, Training and Technical Assistance, as well as access to the WCO Members' Web site.

**Research**

7. To collaborate, at the request of the WCO, on strategic research activities that will assist the WCO and its Members to position themselves in order to meet the future demands of the global economy.

**Intellectual property**

8. To recognize the respective ownership of materials based upon the source and the individual Party's contribution to the commissioning, writing and preparation of such materials.
9. To reach agreement on the use of each other's intellectual property on a case-by-case or on a general basis. The agreement, which may involve a fee, should be in writing and specify any conditions regarding the use of the material.
10. When either RTU or the WCO agrees to allow the other Party to use its material, this is done on the basis that the assigning Party has the right to license the use of the material.

## Communication

11. Formal communication between the Parties will generally be between Professor, Dr. oec. Aivars Krastiņš (CCC RTU) and Mr. Joe Kelly, Senior Technical Officer (WCO).

## Legal force

12. This Memorandum of Understanding does not create legal rights or obligations. The Parties will co-operate in good faith to implement this Memorandum of Understanding.

## Modifications

13. Modifications to this Memorandum of Understanding are to be made in writing subject to the formal consent of both Parties.

## Period of validity

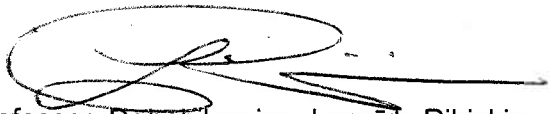
14. This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force until terminated by either Party giving three months' written notice to the other Party.

In witness whereof, the undersigned legal representatives of the Parties hereto have duly affixed their signatures on the two originals of this Memorandum of Understanding in the English language.


Done at ..... 08/09 ..... on ..... 2005.



Michel Danet  
Secretary General  
World Customs Organization



Professor, Dr.habil.sc.ing. Leonīds Ribickis  
Vice-Rector for Science and Research,  
Riga Technical University



Professor, Dr. oec. Aivars Krastiņš  
Director  
Centre for Customs Consultations,  
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