Memorandum of Understanding
between
the World Customs Organization
and
the Korea Customs Service
regarding
the Establishment of a World Customs Organization
Regional Customs Laboratory for the Asia/Pacific Region
in Jinju, Republic of Korea

The World Customs Organization (hereinafter referred to as the “WCO”) and the Korea Customs Service (hereinafter referred to as the “KCS”),

which may be referred to as “Parties”,

Acknowledging the enormous challenges facing Customs administrations due to increasing volumes of trade, globalization of trade, and regional integration;

Acknowledging that changing trade patterns, the need for further trade facilitation and the requirement to achieve more with limited resources call for enhanced cooperation between Customs administrations and the WCO;

Recognizing that international and regional cooperation provides a useful framework for the promotion of Customs effectiveness and efficiency;

Recognizing that Customs laboratories are important elements of Customs administrations and their provision of analytical and scientific support significantly contributes to the achievement of the mission of Customs;

Recognizing that the WCO provides relevant and meaningful training and technical assistance to its Members in respect of modernization of their Customs laboratories and chemical analysis for Customs purposes, as well as in respect of other related scientific matters;

Recognizing the important role and substantial contribution of the KCS in supporting the WCO in its efforts to provide assistance to WCO Members;
The Parties have decided to cooperate as follows:

1. The Parties will confer the status of WCO Regional Customs Laboratory (hereinafter referred to as the “RCL”), on the Central Customs Laboratory and Scientific Service (hereinafter referred to as the “CCL”) in Jinju City, South Gyeongsang Province, Republic of Korea.

2. The WCO will, in the context of the RCL’s operation, provide regional training, technical assistance and an information-sharing service in respect of chemical analysis for Customs purposes, as well as other related scientific matters.

3. The KCS and the CCL will provide training manuals, conference rooms, laboratories and other facilities for the operation of the RCL, to the extent compatible with the functions of the CCL.

4. The conditions, procedure and the funding of the cooperation events will be agreed between the Parties on a case-by-case basis.

5. The Parties will exchange lists of their authorized officers designated to coordinate issues arising from the implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding, as well as relevant e-mail addresses, not later than 30 days from the date of signing of this Memorandum of Understanding.

6. (1) The Memorandum of Understanding shall be applied from the date of its signing.

(2) The Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by mutual consent of the Parties.

(3) The Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either Party at any time, subject to three months’ written notification in advance to the other Party.

Signed in duplicate on 30 June 2018, in the English language.

For the World Customs Organization

Kunio MIKURIYA,
Secretary General of the World Customs Organization.

For the Korea Customs Service

Yung Moon KIM,
Commissioner of the Korea Customs Service.