



Brussels, 4 February 2015.

UPDATE AND REPORTS

Inter-sessional developments

(Item IV. (a) on the Agenda)

Introduction

1. This document aims to compile inter-sessional developments which would be of relevance to the PTC, but which have not otherwise been covered under any other PTC agenda item.
2. For further updates, please see the separate reports under this PTC agenda item IV.

Revenue package

3. In June 2013, the Policy Commission and Council endorsed the Revenue Package Action Plan, Phase II. Since then, work has been progressing on the various activities and deliverables contained in the Action Plan. The Action Plan is divided into two parts: Part 1 - Implementation of new Revenue Package tools endorsed by the Council in 2012 and Part 2 - Further initiatives. At the Policy Commission in December 2014, an update on the progress made regarding the implementation of the Revenue Package Phase II Action Plan was reported.
4. The Council in June 2014 approved the revised Terms of Reference for the new Working Group on Revenue Compliance and Fraud (WGRCF) in order to ensure implementation of the Revenue Package. Subsequently, the first meeting of the WGRCF took place from 1 to 3 December 2014 at the WCO Headquarter in Brussels.
5. Below are some of the main outcomes of the 1st meeting of WGRCF:
 - Mr. Matthew ROSEINGRAVE (New Zealand) was elected as Chair and Mr. Batra HARDEEP (India) was elected as Vice-Chair. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson were elected for a period of one year and are eligible for re-election.

- The WGRCF discussed the issue of responsibility for non-revenue topics such as environmental crime, health and safety, consumer fraud, as well as cultural heritage, which were previously managed by the Working Group on Commercial Fraud. The Meeting concluded as a recommendation, that in the future these items could be dealt with directly by the Enforcement Committee (EC).
- The WGRCF noted that the possible revenue-related actions could be included in the next draft Compliance and Enforcement Package (CEP) Action Plan to be presented to the EC in March 2015, and also agreed that a commercial fraud action plan and topic of e-commerce should be included in the next draft CEP Action Plan.
- The WGRCF agreed to continue engagements with the OECD as mandated by the June 2014 Policy Commission, in terms of broadening mutual cooperation by identifying specific areas and potentially developing a model MoU/ guidelines/ protocols/ standards to facilitate working arrangements between the two authorities at national level, recognizing the varied organizational structures that exist.
- Other issues that were discussed included Revenue Gap and Trade Transparency, Trade-based money laundering and cash couriers, Informal Trade, Rules of Origin, Infrastructure and diagnostic tools, Illicit Trade.

Compliance and Enforcement Package

6. The Compliance and Enforcement Package (CEP), adopted by the Council in June 2013, was designed to embrace the full range of compliance and enforcement-related WCO instruments and programmes, and aimed to address high-risk areas. Under this concept, the instruments and programmes were grouped into four main categories: Tools, Technology and infrastructure, Partnerships, and Projects and operations.
7. A draft Action Plan to implement and further develop the CEP had been endorsed by the Enforcement Committee in March 2014 and by the Council in June 2014. The Action Plan consists of 20 actions divided amongst the different components of the CEP. Some of the actions are continuous activities to be carried out on an ongoing basis and others have concrete deliverables with a pre-established deadline. It is envisioned that the Plan will be reviewed on a yearly basis by the Enforcement Committee, and regular reports on the status of its implementation will also be presented to the relevant WCO working bodies.
8. At the 72nd session of the Policy Commission, the update (Doc. SP0494) on the progress made to date regarding the implementation of the CEP Action Plan was reported. The next draft CEP Action Plan will be presented to the EC in March 2015.