Customs Mutual Assistance Agreements (CMAA)

In June 1967, the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC), known since 1994 as the World Customs Organization (WCO), adopted a model bilateral convention on mutual administrative assistance for countries to implement as part of a national customs policy. U.S. Customs and Border Protection has used this model as a basis for negotiating Customs Mutual Assistance Agreements (CMAAs) with other foreign administrations since joining the CCC in 1970. Domestic and foreign courts recognize each agreement as a legal basis for wide ranging cooperation.

Such a legal framework is vital because of explosive growth in the volume and complexity of international trade. Great demands are being placed on customs administrations around the world. With government resources not able to keep pace with this growing trade, customs administrations rely on mutual assistance as a powerful investigative tool.

The agreements allow for the exchange of information, intelligence, and documents that will ultimately assist countries in the prevention and investigation of customs offenses. The agreements are particularly helpful for U.S. Attaché offices, as each agreement is tailored to the capacities and national policy of an individual country's customs administration.

Following are countries with whom the United States has Customs Mutual Assistance Agreements, as of January 2014.

1. Algeria, 22. Germany 45. Morocco  
3. Australia 24. Greece 47. New Zealand  
5. Azerbaijan 26. Hong Kong 49. Norway  
7. Belarus 28. India 51. Panama  
8. Belgium 29. Indonesia 52. Paraguay  
11. Canada 32. Italy 55. Poland  
13. Colombia 34. Jordan 57. Romania  
16. Denmark 37. Latvia 60. Slovakia  
17. Dominican Republic 38. Lithuania 61. South Africa  
19. European Community 40. Malta 63. Sweden  
20. Finland 41. Mauritius 64. Turkey  
21. France 42. Mexico 65. Ukraine  
23. Ghana 46. Netherlands  
24. Greece 47. New Zealand  
25. Honduras 48. Nigeria  
26. Hong Kong 49. Norway  
27. Hungary 50. Pakistan  
28. India 51. Panama  
29. Indonesia 52. Paraguay  
30. Ireland 53. Peru  
31. Israel 54. Philippines  
32. Italy 55. Poland  
33. Japan 56. Portugal  
34. Jordan 57. Romania  
35. Kazakhstan 58. Russian Federation  
36. Korea 59. Serbia  
37. Latvia 60. Slovakia  
38. Lithuania 61. South Africa  
39. Maldives 62. Spain  
40. Malta 63. Sweden  
41. Mauritius 64. Turkey  
42. Mexico 65. Ukraine  
43. Montenegro 66. United Kingdom  
44. Mongolia 67. Venezuela

Other Customs Mutual Assistance Agreements:
American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) - Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) Agreement Regarding Mutual Assistance