

Coordinated Border Management (Germany)

1. Description of initiative

The German Customs Administration favours the model of Coordinated Border Management (CBM) between border police and customs rather than the model of Integrated Border Management (IBM). According to our view, a coordination of border management in principle implies a strict separation of competences between the border police on the one hand and the customs administration on the other hand. The fact that interferences and conflicts regarding the respective competences ensures a smooth cooperation between the two entities.

However, our CBM model provides for a comprehensive transfer of competences for any first action at the border if necessary. This means that, for any first action at the border a customs officer is competent to carry out the tasks of a police officer and vice versa. This cooperation is not restricted to the officers at the border but may also imply assistance of other customs or police authorities if necessary.

2. Impact of initiative

In our view one crucial benefit of our CBM model is raising awareness for the tasks and responsibilities of the authorities involved (border police/ customs). Another benefit is that infrastructure and equipment (e.g. vessels) may be shared and costs are reduced.

3. Relevant government agencies

- Animal quarantine
- Environment
- Finance/Treasury (in cases of money laundering)
- Plant quarantine
- Police
- Port Authorities

4. Relevant private sector parties and industry groups

If needed, we cooperate with the airport and sea port operating companies which support our procedures and controls.

5. Actions included in the initiatives/practices

- Joint controls (including joint examinations)
- Authorized officers powers on behalf of other government agencies
- Information sharing (apart from SW)
- National targeting centre
- Passenger or crew movement coordination
- Joint controls over the means of transport

- Other (In case of enforcement and joint controls technical support, if needed, is mutually provided by the border police as well as the customs administration)