

Opening of the WCO's 55th Fellowship Programme

The 55th English-speaking Fellowship Programme was launched in Brussels on Monday 12 September 2011.

This Programme forms part of the work to develop the management capacities of Member administrations in support of Phase II of the Columbus Programme. It is designed to provide extremely promising young managers from Member administrations with training in supervisory and management techniques, so as to help them carry out reform and modernization within their respective administrations in a dynamic and sustainable manner.

This latest Programme brings together 13 participants who were welcomed by Mr. Kieck, Director, Capacity Building Directorate. This introduction served as a prelude to a series of conferences given by WCO experts, as well as to the seven-day Leadership and Management Development Course, facilitated by experts from the Dutch and the Canadian administrations. The fellows also benefited from a round-table discussion with the Secretary General of the WCO, Mr. Mikuriya, during their first day at the Secretariat.

The participants will remain at WCO Headquarters until 7 October 2011 in order to prepare an in-depth study on a subject of their choice, under the supervision of a Secretariat tutor, and to make recommendations to their respective administrations for possible subsequent implementation. Lastly the participants will spend a fortnight in one of the Programme's partner Administrations (Japan, the Netherlands or Sweden) to round off their study trip.

The English-speaking Fellowship Programme is funded by the Customs Administrations of Japan, the WCO and by the CCF Netherlands fund for West and Central Africa.

List of countries participating in the 55th Fellowship Programme:

Afghanistan	Egypt	Indonesia	Jamaica
Kirgizstan	Laos	Namibia	Nicaragua
Nigeria	Sri Lanka	Swaziland	Tonga
Uganda			

