

RESOLUTION OF THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL
ON THE HIGH LEVEL STRATEGIC GROUP

(June 2005)

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THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL¹,

NOTING :

- (1) its Resolution of June 2004 on Global Security and Facilitation Measures concerning the International Trade Supply Chain;
- (2) the good progress made by the High Level Strategic Group in developing the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade;
- (3) the adoption of the Resolution of June 2005 on the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade.

RESOLVES that :

1. **The High Level Strategic Group shall** continue with its work as mandated by the Council.
2. **The High Level Strategic Group shall :**
 - 2.1. develop strategies to guide implementation of the Framework of Standards;
 - 2.2. make recommendations to enhance the capacity building provided to Members;
 - 2.3. consult with Members, Customs and Economic Unions, international organizations and business to share views and co-ordinate developments and measures within the international trade supply chain;
 - 2.4. form a Consultative Committee comprising business to advise it regarding progress and issues relating to the implementation of the Framework of Standards;
 - 2.5. consider, through the consultative efforts, the issues relating to the implementation and administration of the Framework of Standards and any amendments thereto;
 - 2.6. recommend measures to secure the uniform interpretation and application of the Framework of Standards;

¹ Customs Co-operation Council is the official name of the World Customs Organization (WCO).

- 2.7. recommend amendments to the Framework of Standards;
- 2.8. consider any other issues of relevance to the Framework of Standards that may be referred to it; and
- 2.9. complete the work outlined in the Customs Co-operation Council Resolution of June 2004 and the Policy Commission Resolution of December 2004, as set out in Annex 1 hereto.

3. **The Secretary General shall ensure that :**

- 3.1. the necessary technical assistance and support is provided to the High Level Strategic Group;
- 3.2. a mechanism is developed for Members to report progress on implementation of the Framework of Standards to enable the Secretariat to monitor and evaluate progress;
- 3.3. work is expedited in respect of the outstanding issues reflected in the Customs Co-operation Council Resolution of June 2004 and the Policy Commission Resolution of December 2004, as set out in Annex 2 hereto.

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In accordance with paragraph 2.9 of the body of this Resolution, **the High Level Strategic Group shall :**

- (1) further develop the concept of integrated supply chain management and related Customs matters;
- (2) provide guidance to the Secretariat on the development of a coherent/integrated WCO facilitation and security programme, including capacity building, which includes the Revised Kyoto Convention, the Framework of Standards and other WCO instruments, so that a holistic view of WCO work can be developed and publicized;
- (3) consider further development of, and work on, e-Customs;
- (4) continue to elaborate the role of Customs in the 21st Century, defining its role and options taking account of the new capabilities and professionalism that are required to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

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In accordance with paragraph 3.3 of the body of this Resolution, **the Secretary General shall** :

- (1) ensure that assistance is provided to enable Members to participate in pilot projects to implement the Framework of Standards;
 - (2) ensure that Members are kept informed of supply chain security and facilitation and other related developments in other intergovernmental organizations;
 - (3) ensure that further work is carried out to explore the concept of integrated border management, or closer co-operation between border agencies, and to further advance the single window concept;
 - (4) ensure that guidance is provided on effective processes, methods and techniques to enable the Customs community to enhance global trade, through increased supply chain security and facilitation;
 - (5) ensure that the activities of the High Level Strategic Group are promoted with the media and with other international organizations;
 - (6) ensure that proposals are submitted to the Policy Commission at its next session on the feasibility of organizing a WCO Ministerial Forum;
 - (7) identify new trends in international trade;
 - (8) develop a supply chain model and improve the WCO's understanding of the role of Customs and other agencies within it;
 - (9) encourage Members to implement instruments and techniques developed through the WCO;
 - (10) further develop the capability, effectiveness and efficiency of Customs.
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