

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL**  
**ON THE SPONTANEOUS EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**  
**CONCERNING ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**  
**AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES**

(8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 1971)

THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL,

CONSIDERING that abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances constitutes a danger to public health and is prejudicial to Members' economic and social interests,

CONSIDERING that the illicit international traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is a major contribution to the illegal supply of such substances in many countries,

TAKING NOTE of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (New York, 30<sup>th</sup> March 1961) and of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (Vienna, 21<sup>st</sup> February 1971), both drawn up under the auspices of the United Nations,

HAVING REGARD to the Recommendation of 5<sup>th</sup> December 1953 of the Customs Co-operation Council on Mutual Administrative Assistance,

HAVING REGARD to the Resolution of 7<sup>th</sup> June 1967 of the Customs Co-operation Council concerning the prevention of illicit traffic in narcotics, stimulants and similar substances,

CONSIDERING that action to combat illicit international traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances can be rendered even more effective by the spontaneous exchange of information between Customs Administrations,

RECOMMENDS to Members that their Customs Administrations should spontaneously and without delay communicate to other Customs Administrations which may be directly or indirectly concerned any available information concerning :

1. operations which are known or suspected to constitute, or which seem likely to give rise to, illicit traffic in narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances;
2. persons known to be engaged in or suspected of engaging in operations referred to in paragraph 1, and vehicles, ships, aircraft and other means of transport used, or suspected of being used, for such operations;
3. new means or methods used for illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
4. products which are newly developed or used as narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances and which are the subject of illicit traffic,

POINTS OUT that this exchange of information should be conducted in such a way as to reinforce the activities of the other authorities competent to take action against the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

INVITES Members to consider the possibility of concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements with a view to intensifying action to combat illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Such agreements might be based on the Council's model bilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance for the prevention, investigation and repression of Customs offences,

REQUESTS Members who accept this Recommendation to notify the Secretary General of their acceptance and of the date from which they will apply the Recommendation. The Secretary General will transmit this information to Members' Customs Administrations.

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