

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL
CONCERNING THE USE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
TRADE DATA ELEMENTS DIRECTORY (UNTDDED)
(26th JUNE 1990)¹**

THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL,

DESIRING to facilitate the international exchange of data between Customs administrations and between Customs administrations and trade users,

CONSIDERING that it is desirable that internationally agreed and universally applicable data element names, data element descriptions and character representations should be used in such trade data exchange,

CONSIDERING that it is desirable that the same names, descriptions and representations should be used for data elements irrespective of the context in which trade data is being exchanged (e.g. between exporter and carrier, exporter and importer, importer and Customs, etc.),

NOTING that these standard data elements can be used with any method of data interchange, on paper documents as well as with other means of data communication, can be selected for transmission one by one, or used within a particular system of interchange rules, e.g. UN/EDIFACT,

FURTHER NOTING that a subset of UNTDDED constitutes the EDIFACT DATA Elements Directory (EDED) also recommended by the Customs Co-operation Council specifically for use in electronic data interchange (EDI),

CONSIDERING that the Directory has been accepted by the International Standards Organization as an international standard, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 9 of the Directory constituting International Standard ISO 7372,

RECOMMENDS that Members of the Council and all members of the United Nations Organisation or its specialised agencies, and Customs or Economic Unions should use the data element names, descriptions and character representations contained in the United Nations Data Elements Directory (UNTDDED) and future updated versions of this Directory in trade data exchange between Customs administrations and between Customs administrations and other trade users.

REQUESTS Members of the Council and all members of the United Nations Organisation or its

¹ Note : This Recommendation supersedes the Council Recommendation of 21 June 1988 concerning UNTDDED.

specialised agencies, and Customs or Economic Unions which accept this Recommendation to notify the Secretary General of their acceptance, of the date from which they will apply the Recommendation, and of the conditions of its application. The Secretary General will transmit this information to the Customs administrations of all Members. He will also transmit it to any Customs administrations of non-Members or any Customs or Economic Unions which have accepted this Recommendation.