



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL ROAD
TRANSPORT UNION

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BETWEEN THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL (CCC)
AND THE INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT UNION (IRU)

RECOGNIZING that offences against Customs laws, particularly drug smuggling, are prejudicial to the economic, social, fiscal and security interests of States and to the interests of all parties involved in legitimate international trade, and that such offences may involve the use of a variety of transport modes and handling facilities,

NOTING that the escalation in drug trafficking has caused Customs authorities to increase their surveillance and controls,

AWARE that such increased controls could result in additional expense and costly delays to road transport operators, and road transport users engaged in legitimate trade,


BELIEVING that increased co-operation between road transport operators and Customs authorities could significantly assist those authorities in the gathering of information and other aspects of combating Customs fraud, in particular drug smuggling,

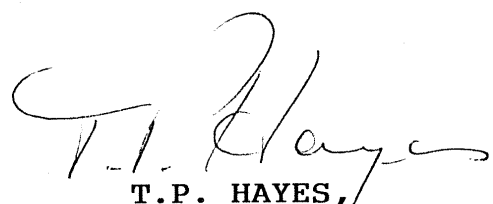
BELIEVING also that such co-operation could be of benefit to all parties in legitimate trade including road transport operators and their customers,

THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL AND THE INTERNATIONAL ROAD
TRANSPORT UNION have agreed as follows :

- (i) To strengthen the co-operation between the two organizations,
- (ii) To examine and develop together ways in which co-operation and consultation between road transport operators and Customs authorities could be improved with a view to combating Customs fraud, in particular drug smuggling,
- (iii) To seek to ensure a better understanding by road transport operators of Customs authorities' tasks and problems and vice-versa, thereby facilitating a productive exchange of information between the two parties,
- (iv) To consider practical ways in which road transport operators and their staff might assist Customs authorities in the detection of Customs offences, in particular those relating to drug smuggling.

Done at Brussels on 17 August 1989.


M. de GOTTRAU,
Acting Secretary General
for P. GROENENDIJK,
Secretary General of
the International Road
Transport Union.


T.P. HAYES,
Secretary General
of the
Customs Co-operation
Council.