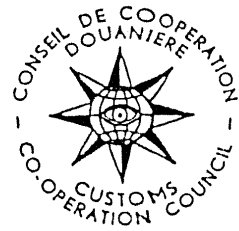


ifpi



Memorandum of Understanding

between

the Customs Co-operation Council

and

the International Federation of Phonogram

and Videogram Producers

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL
AND THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
PHONOGRAM AND VIDEOGRAM PRODUCERS

RECOGNIZING that some Customs administrations currently have a role to play in helping to eradicate trade in pirated and counterfeit goods, whilst others may have a potential for developing such a role,

RECOGNIZING further the limited legal authority, competence and resources of Customs administrations in the area of intellectual property rights,

BELIEVING that trade in pirated and counterfeit goods has reached substantial proportions in recent times,

BELIEVING also that the trade in pirated and counterfeit goods encourages the involvement and activities of criminal elements,

NOTING that the increase in import and export of pirated and counterfeit goods may necessitate increased surveillance and controls by Customs administrations,

AWARE that such increased controls could result in additional costs for importers, exporters and other commercial operators engaged in legitimate trade,

AWARE also that the import and export trade in pirated and counterfeit goods may equally involve Customs offences,

BELIEVING that increased co-operation between IFPI and Customs administrations where legally allowable could significantly assist those administrations in the gathering of information and identification of suspect goods,

BELIEVING also that such co-operation could be of benefit to legitimate trade,

THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL AND THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PHONOGRAM AND VIDEOGRAM PRODUCERS have agreed as follows :

- (i) To strengthen further the co-operation between the two organizations,
- (ii) To examine and develop together ways in which co-operation and consultation between IFPI and Customs administrations could be improved with a view to combating the importation and exportation of pirated and counterfeit goods,
- (iii) To facilitate a constructive exchange of information between producers, importers, exporters and Customs administrations where legally allowable,
- (iv) To consider practical ways in which IFPI and producers, importers and exporters and their authorized representatives might improve awareness of the problem and assist Customs administrations in the detection of importation and exportation of pirated and counterfeit goods.

Done at Brussels on 8 June 1988.



Ian D. THOMAS,
Director General
of the
International Federation
of Phonogram and
Videogram Producers



G.R. DICKERSON,
Secretary General
of the
Customs Co-operation
Council