



Memorandum of Understanding
between
the World Customs Organization
and the
General Directorate of Customs of the Dominican Republic
regarding
the Establishment of a World Customs Organization
Regional Training Centre in Santo Domingo Este, Dominican Republic

The World Customs Organization¹, hereinafter referred to as the WCO, and the General Directorate of Customs of the Dominican Republic², hereinafter referred to as the DGA (Dirección General de Aduanas de la República Dominicana) :

ACKNOWLEDGING the enormous challenges facing Customs administrations due to increasing volumes of trade, globalization of trade, and regional integration;

ACKNOWLEDGING that changing trading patterns, the need for more facilitation of trade and the requirement to produce more with limited resources calls for enhanced co-operation among Customs administrations and with the WCO;

RECOGNIZING that international and regional co-operation provides a useful framework for the promotion of Customs effectiveness and efficiency;

RECOGNIZING that the dissemination of information, training and technical assistance are indispensable for the uniform implementation of key Customs-related international conventions, recommendations and other standards;

RECOGNIZING that the WCO provides relevant and meaningful training and technical assistance to its Members;

RECOGNIZING the important role and the significant potential of the DGA in supporting the World Customs Organization in its efforts to provide assistance to WCO Members;

¹ Established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council, Rue du Marché, 30, B-1210 BRUSSELS, Belgium.

² Ave Abraham Lincoln No. 1101 casi esquina John F. Kennedy, Ensanche Serrallés, Santo Domingo.

Have agreed as follows :

Article 1

The WCO and the DGA will establish a WCO Regional Training Centre, hereinafter referred to as the Training Centre, in Santo Domingo Este, Dominican Republic. The WCO will use the facilities of the Training Centre for the purposes of regional training, technical assistance meetings and other Customs-related events.

Article 2

In order to achieve the objectives laid down in Article 1, the DGA will make available to the WCO its Customs Training Centre at the location known as "kilómetro 17 de la Autopista las Américas, del Sector Nuevo Amanecer, Santo Domingo Este, República Dominicana".

Article 3

The DGA will continue to run the Training Centre, and use it for its own national and international programmes.

Article 4

1. The Parties will communicate to each other their training plans in order to define the use of the facilities of the Training Centre. The WCO will give advance notice of not less than 2 months before each planned event, along with the necessary information to confirm the event.
2. Within one month from the date of signing of this Memorandum of Understanding the Parties will designate liaison officers to co-ordinate matters arising from its implementation.

Article 5

Technical conditions for the use of the Training Centre

The DGA will make available classrooms, together with regular training aids, meeting rooms, residential rooms and other service facilities of the Training Centre, for use by the WCO.

Article 6

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signature.
2. This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either Party at any time, by written notification. This Memorandum of Understanding shall cease to have effect immediately after the receipt of such notification by the other party.
3. This Memorandum of Understanding can be amended by mutual agreement of the Parties, in written form.

Done in Brussels, on this 29th of June 2007 in two copies in the English and Spanish languages.



Michel DANET
Secretary General
World Customs Organization



Eduardo RODRIGUEZ APOLINARIO
Subdirector General Técnico
General Directorate of Customs
of the Dominican Republic