MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION[1] AND THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

This Memorandum of Understanding is concluded between the WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (hereinafter the "WCO") and the INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (hereinafter "IATA").

The WCO and IATA may also be individually referred to as "Party", or collectively as "Parties".

HAVING REGARD to the Revised Kyoto Convention on the simplification and harmonization of Customs procedures which requires, inter alia, computer applications implemented by Customs administrations to use internationally accepted standards,

AWARE of the common interest that exists between Customs administrations and Airlines in the secure, efficient transportation and clearance of cargo,

RECOGNIZING the growing trend towards the reduction of paper and the benefits that a paperless trading environment can bring,

NOTING the ever increasing level of automation in the airline industry and the increasing number of Customs administrations that are introducing electronic systems,

BELIEVING it is necessary to have close cooperation to achieve simplification and harmonization between Airlines and Customs administrations,

CONSIDERING that close cooperation between the Parties is desirable for achieving these goals,

The Parties agree that such objectives can be pursued through:

ARTICLE I - COOPERATION

1.1. The WCO and IATA agree to strengthen mutual cooperation and endeavour to adopt mutually relevant guidelines on the development and operation of technical arrangements and initiatives.

1.2. The Parties shall strive to endorse agreed upon standardized procedures on automated processing of electronic data related to transportation of cargo, in a manner to be defined by the Parties.

1.3. The Parties shall endeavour to formalize, maintain and update such agreed upon standards in line with current or future procedures to be defined by the Parties.

1.4. The Parties shall also strive to promote, to the extent possible, the implementation and widespread use of the agreed upon standards and procedures.

ARTICLE II – MUTUAL CONSULTATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2.1. The Parties may consult each other, as needed, on matters of common interest for the purpose of achieving the aims set forth in this Memorandum of Understanding.

[1] Established in 1952 as the Customs Cooperation Council.

2.2. In particular, the Parties may decide to exchange information in fields and projects of mutual interest, in accordance with the aims and provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding such as:

- The WCO SAFE Framework of Standards
- Customs in the 21st Century
- WCO Data Model
- E-freight
- Electronic Air Waybill
- Air cargo security

2.3. The Parties agree that, in order to safeguard confidentiality of any information to be mutually disclosed, the signature of a preliminary confidentiality agreement may be required.

2.4. The Parties further agree that all administrative matters linked to the execution or operational feasibility of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be decided and formalized in documents to be agreed upon later by the Parties, as the case may be.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signature by both Parties.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be reviewed upon the request of either the Secretary General of the WCO or the Director General of IATA and may be amended by mutual agreement in writing.

Either Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at any time by giving the other Party written notice of three months.

The Parties hereby agree that this Memorandum of Understanding shall fully replace and supersede the Memorandum of Understanding previously signed by the Parties on 20 June 1988, as well as any extensions or amendments thereof.

In witness whereof, the Parties have concluded the present Memorandum of Understanding in 2 (two) originals in each of the English and French languages and appended their signatures thereto.

FOR THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

Kunio Mikuriya,
Secretary General

Date: 8 March 2011

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

Giovanni Bisignani,
Director General & CEO

Date: April 5. 2011

Thomas S. Windmuller
Corporate Secretary