

WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES





THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the World Customs Organization and the Federal Ministry of Finance of the Federal Republic of Germany regarding the establishment of a World Customs Organization Regional Dog Training Centre in Germany for Western Europe

- The World Customs Organization¹ hereinafter referred to as the "WCO", and the Federal Ministry of Finance of the Federal Republic of Germany hereinafter referred to as the "Federal Ministry of Finance", and collectively referred to as "the Parties":
- 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 cooperation among Customs administrations and with the WCO;
- 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:

¹ Established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council.

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The WCO and the Federal Ministry of Finance will establish a WCO Regional Dog Training Centre in Germany for Western Europe.

The Federal Ministry of Finance will use the facilities of the two existing dog training centres in Germany for the purposes of regional and international training of doghandling specialists and dogs for detecting narcotic substances, tobacco products and other materials, and for regional and international cynological exchanges.

According to their availability, these facilities may also be used for international training of dog-handling specialists and sniffer dogs, and relevant exchanges and meetings organized by the WCO.

Article 2

The Federal Ministry of Finance will continue to own and run the dog training centre, and use it for its own national and international programmes.

Financial and technical issues will be negotiated between the Federal Ministry of Finance and the requesting party.

Article 3

- 1. The Parties will communicate to each other their training plans in order to optimize the schedule of the facilities of the WCO Regional Dog Training Centre.
- 2. The WCO should give advance notice of not less than three months before each planned event, along with the necessary information to confirm the event.
- 3. Within three months from the date of signing of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties will designate liaison officers to coordinate matters arising from its implementation.

Article 4

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 giving the other Party written notice of three months.
- 3. The termination of the Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect on the expiry of the notice period of three months unless the Parties agree on a specific date of termination.
- 4. This Memorandum of Understanding can be amended by mutual agreement of the Parties, in writing.

Done in Brussels, Belgium on 28 June 2014 in two originals in English and German, both texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Kunio Wikuriya Secretary General

World Customs Organization

Peter Bille

Deputy Director General of Customs,

Federal Ministry of Finance of the Federal Republic of Germany