



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The State Customs Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

And

The World Customs Organization

Regarding

The Establishment of a World Customs Organization Regional Customs Laboratory

In Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan

The State Customs Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred as "SCC") and the World Customs Organization (hereinafter referred as "WCO"), hereinafter referred as "Participants",

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

Acknowledging that the need for further trade facilitation and the requirement to achieve more with limited resources call for enhanced cooperation between Customs administrations and the WCO;

Recognizing that international and regional cooperation provides a useful framework for the promotion of Customs efficiency;

Recognizing that Customs laboratories are important elements of Customs administration and their provision of analytical and scientific support significantly contributes to the achievement of the mission of Customs;

Recognizing that the WCO provides relevant and meaningful training and technical assistance to its Members in respect of modernization of their Customs laboratories and chemical analysis for Customs purposes, as well as in respect of their related scientific matters;

Recognizing the important role and substantial contribution of the SCC in supporting the WCO in its efforts to provide assistance to WCO Members;

Have reached the following understanding:

1. The Participants will confer the status of WCO Regional Customs Laboratory (hereinafter referred to as the "RCL") on the Customs Laboratory of the SCC in Tashkent, the Republic of Uzbekistan.

2. The WCO will, in the context of the RCL's operation, provide regional training, technical assistance and an information-sharing service in respect of chemical analysis for Customs purposes, as well as other related scientific matters.

3. The SCC will provide training manuals, conference rooms, laboratories and other facilities for the operation of the RCL, to the extent compatible with its proper functioning.

4. Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of promoting regional cooperation and networking will include:

- Exchange of information and experience on methodologies and techniques of analysis within the applicable legal framework;
- Participation in conference, forums, consultations, seminars, Symposiums, round tables and other events organized by either of the Participants;
- Joint research and development, and the preparation of analytical reviews.

5. The conditions, procedure and funding of the cooperation events will be agreed between the Participants on a case by case basis within the framework of their respective regulations on the matter.

6. The Participants will seek to promote dialogue with other WCO Regional Customs Laboratories, for the purposes of exchanging experiences and best practices.

7. The Participants will exchange lists of their authorized officers designated to coordinate issues arising from the implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding, as well as relevant e-mail addresses, not later than 30 days from the date of signing of this Memorandum of Understanding.

8. Any difference concerning the application of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be resolved through consultations between the Participants.

9. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended and supplemented by mutual written consent of the Participants.

10. This Memorandum of Understanding is not an international agreement and does not create any rights or obligations between the Participants.

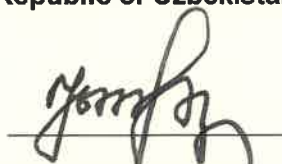
11. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force from the date of its signing.

12. Either Participant may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at any time, subject to written notification to the other Participant. In such case, application of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be terminated three months from the date of receipt of such notification.

Signed in Tashkent, on 25 November 2021 in two original copies in the Uzbek and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.

In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text version prevails.

**For the State Customs Committee of the
Republic of Uzbekistan**



Akmalxuja Mavlonov
Chairman of the State Customs Committee
of the Republic of Uzbekistan

For the World Customs Organization



Kunio Mikuriya
Secretary General of the
World Customs Organization