

#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



# BETWEEN WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION AND

THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE IN BANGKOK, THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

This memorandum was concluded on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 between the World Customs Organization, hereinafter referred to as "the WCO", and the Customs Department of the Kingdom of Thailand, hereinafter referred to as "the TCD", individually referred to as "the Party" 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 increased use and availability of new information and communication technologies;

**Acknowledging** significantly heightened awareness of the need for Customs administrations to play a more meaningful role in protecting society from a range of threats to national security;

**Acknowledging** the changing trading patterns, the need for more facilitation of fair trade, and at the same time support the health and safety of the citizens and protect national security, 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 TCD in supporting the WCO in its efforts to provide assistance to WCO Members;

Have agreed as follows:



## Article 1 Objectives

- 1. The Parties will establish a WCO Regional Training Centre, hereinafter referred to as the Customs Academy Training Centre, in Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand.
- 2 The WCO will use the facilities of the Customs Academy for the purposes of regional training, technical assistance meetings and other Customs-related events.

## Article 2 Area for Development Cooperation

- 1. In order to achieve the objectives laid down in Article 1, the TCD will make available to the WCO its Customs Academy located in Bangkholaem District, Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand.
- 2. The TCD will continue to run the Customs Academy, and use it for its own national and international programmes.

## Article 3 Executing Agency

The TCD designates Customs Academy, Human Resource Management Division as the executing agency responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

## Article 4 Implementation

- 1. The Parties will communicate to each other their training plans in order to define the use of the facilities of the Customs Academy. The WCO should give advance notice of not less than 2 (two) months before each planned event, along with the necessary information to confirm the event.
- 2. Within 1 (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 Customs Academy

The TCD will make available classrooms and dormitories, together with regular training aids, meeting rooms and other service facilities of the Customs Academy, for use by the WCO.

## Article 6 Settlement of Dispute

Any difference or dispute that may arise over the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be resolved amicably through direct negotiations or consultations between the Parties.

## Article 7 Status of the Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding does not aim to create legally binding obligations or supersede domestic laws of the Parties.

## Article 8 Amendment

This Memorandum of Understanding may be reviewed or amended at any time by mutual consultation and consent in writing by the Parties. Such revisions or amendments shall enter into force on such date as may be determined by the Parties and shall form an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding.

## Article 9 Entry into Force, Duration and Termination

- 1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signature.
- 2. This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain into force for period of 5 (five) years, and could be extended with the written consent of the Parties.
- 3. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the validity and duration of any ongoing programmes or activities made prior to the termination of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed in Brussels, Belgium, respectively, on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in 2 (two) original copies in English, all texts are equally authentic.

For the World Customs Organization

Dr. Kunio Mikuriya

Kurio Mikes

Secretary General

For the Customs Department of the Kingdom of Thailand

Mr. Patchara Anantasilpa

Director-General