



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
AND
THE GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OF CAMBODIA
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
A WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE
IN PHNOM PENH, THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was concluded on 29 June 2024 between the World Customs Organization, hereinafter referred to as “the WCO”, the General Department of Customs and Excise of Cambodia, hereinafter referred to as “the GDCE”, 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 that changing trading patterns, the need for more facilitation of fair trade, while 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 GDCE in supporting the WCO in its efforts to provide assistance to WCO Members;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1
Purpose and Principles

1. The Parties will establish a WCO Regional Training Centre, hereinafter referred to as the Customs National School, in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia.
2. 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
Area for Development Cooperation

1. In order to achieve the objectives laid down in Article 1, the GDCE will make available to the WCO its Training Centre located in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia.
2. The GDCE will continue to run the Training Centre, and use it for its own national and international programmes.

Article 3
Executing Department

The GDCE designates Customs National School as the executing department 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 Training Centre. 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 MoU, 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 GDCE will make available classrooms and dormitories, together with regular training aids, meeting rooms and other service facilities of the Training Centre, for use by the WCO.

Article 6
Financial Obligation

With a view to facilitate the implementation of programmes or activities of this MoU, the Parties shall be liable for financing the implementation of programmes or activities of this MoU.

Article 7
Settlement of Dispute

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

Article 8
Amendment

This MoU 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 MOU.

Article 9
Entry into Force, Duration and Termination

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

Done in Brussels, Belgium, respectively, on 29 June 2024 in 4 (four) original copies, 2 (two) copies in English and 2 (two) copies in Khmer, all texts are being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the World Customs Organization



Mr. Ian SAUDERS
Secretary General
World Customs Organization

For the General Department of Customs
and Excise of Cambodia



Dr. KUN Nhem
Minister Attached to the Prime Minister
Director General of the General
Department of Customs and Excise of
Cambodia