

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 1ST WORKING GROUP MEETING ON CUSTOMS RISK MANAGEMENT

The CEFTA Working Group on Customs Risk Management meeting was held in Skopje on 25 April 2013. All delegates from CEFTA Parties, appointed as members of the Working Group were present during the meeting except the delegates from Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Moldova. The Chair of Subcommittee on Customs and Rules of Origin invited representatives from the IFC Trade Logistics Project who have exclusively attended the first part of the meeting regarding the preparation of the work programme.

The Chair expressed the importance of work on risk management in the regional scale and in relation to the EU compliance, and stated that progress that to be recorded by this working group would help trade facilitation. The Chair therefore encouraged the discussion in the Working Group in an informal setting. However, the issues on which the Working Group reaches an agreement will then turn to formal decisions that to be submitted to the Subcommittee on Customs and Rules of Origin for endorsement and to the Joint Committee for approval, if appropriate.

Agenda Item 1: Presentation from the representatives of the Customs Administration of Macedonia

The Chair invited the Macedonian Customs Administration to present the current state of play regarding customs risk management in Macedonia, and main outputs reached. The presentation is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- Macedonia adopted a strategy on customs risk management and established a committee on risk management. The Risk Management Committee includes all customs houses in Macedonia. The Macedonian Customs has established another committee on control and security. The Committee control and security works according to WCO SAFE and is tasked to monitor the efficiency of controls and equipment which are in use.

- All customs houses have risk groups which are tasked to provide information to the risk management committee. Upon the high interest of other CEFTA Parties in the discussion part, the Chair proposed sharing the documents regarding the strategy, and rules of procedure with CEFTA Parties.
- There are contact points in different governmental agencies. At the border the Macedonian customs have prepared joint trainings to get other agencies informed about the implementation of risk management.
- The main results of the customs risk management were presented. Accordingly, in imports the red channel selection percentage is 10%.
- In Macedonia there are 278 different risk profiles. Each customs office can create its own risk profiles. And customs officers are obliged to report all the results of inspections (positive and negative).
- There is no connection between SEED and SEMS developed by Macedonia.
- The Macedonia proposed IPR, goods subject to excise as possible areas of joint risk profiling in CEFTA.

Agenda Item 2: Discussion on the Concept and Drafting Work Programme of the Working Group

The Working Group has collectively drafted the attached work programme and agreed with the actions, means, expected outputs and timing corresponding to each activity.

Agenda Item 3: Exchange of information regarding current risk and intelligence

Members of the Working Group stated that they did not have for now any issues on which they would exchange of information regarding current risk and intelligence. However, all delegates present in the meeting agreed that the Working Group was a useful platform to exchange of information on current risks and intelligence for the future.