

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4th Meeting of the Subcommittee on Customs and Rules of Origin

18 May 2012, Sarajevo

The Subcommittee on Customs and Rules of Origin meeting was held in Sarajevo with the participation of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia.

The meeting was opened by the welcome address of Ms. Ermina Salkicevic-Dizdarevic, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She stressed the priorities of the chairmanship of Bosnia and Herzegovina which are facilitating trade through information exchange between customs and other governmental agencies, particularly the ones at the border, deepening the work on rule of origin and putting more efforts to catch upon the developments in Pan-EuroMed Convention, strengthening the administrative capacity through preparing regional training programmes, and increasing the level of administrative cooperation between CEFTA customs authorities. The Chair informed that the results of two technical meetings that were held before would be reported during the first meeting of the Subcommittee under the Bosnia and Herzegovina chairmanship. During the presentation, the Chair stressed that the objective of their work program was to promote simplification of the customs procedures with a view to facilitating trade without undermining the importance of smooth functioning of diagonal cumulation between the CEFTA Parties. There are four different components where the activities under each are grouped. These are as follows: Trade facilitation; Rules of Origin; Training; Administrative cooperation;

During the network meeting, the representatives of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Serbia agreed on the following recommendations and to submit them to the Subcommittee on Customs and Rules of Origin:

Establish a formal working group of CEFTA risk analysis experts that will propose modes of further cooperation in the field of risk management, such as:

- a. Exchange of relevant information while observing national regulations of CEFTA Parties,
- b. Creating and applying complex common risk profiles,
- c. Systemic exchange of data on controls executed based on the established risk profiles,
- d. Work program

Improve the current level of the implementation of the SEED project in order to fully utilize it,

Recognition of the results of customs controls and AEO within CEFTA,

Organize study tours among CEFTA Parties aimed at exchanging experiences and best practices,

Organize joint seminars at all levels.

Furthermore, on the proposal of the Chair, CEFTA Parties that were present during the meeting recommend working more on synchronization of working hours, pre-arrival information where regional action can potentially create immediate positive impacts.

During the meeting also were discussed for Meetings and activities to be held in 2012, The Chair presented the upcoming meetings and activities that were foreseen by the work programme and provided detailed information about their content.