

**Customs Expert Group  
Report of November 30, 2005**

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**I. OPENING REMARKS**

Welcome to participants, and explanation of the transitional nature of this meeting.

**II. DISCUSSION OF NEED FOR CHAIRPERSON**

Todd Reves opened the discussion by volunteering to assume the chair responsibilities, and sought out other members who would be interested in either chairing the meetings or providing periodic support. Asha Menon volunteered to assist by acting as a co-chair.

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND PREVIOUS MEETING REPORT**

Asha read through the report of the last meeting. The group unanimously adopted the report and the current agenda.

**IV. OUTCOME OF THE WCO IPR TASK FORCE**

Larry Burton discussed SG Danet's vision of the newly created WCO IPR Task Force. The Task Force will focus on the following areas:

- a. FTZ operations and transiting goods
- b. CEN information exchange
- c. Destruction and recycling of forfeited goods

d. Internet piracy

It is contemplated that the four focus areas will be the four sub-groups within the Task Force. We discussed the potential overlap with the functions of the IPR Strategic Group, and agreed that the Group is already addressing most of the focus areas the SG identified. SG Danet has requested to address the WCO IPR Strategic Group at its next meeting in late-February or early-March 2006. We decided to coordinate the next meeting around the SG's schedule, which Larry will confirm.

**V. OUTCOME OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> GLOBAL CONGRESS ON COMBATING COUNTERFEITING**

Pierre Bertrand summarized the high-points of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Congress. Four primary agenda items were announced:

- a. Raising awareness of the growing menace of counterfeiting and piracy to the global market.
- b. Cooperation and coordination in enforcement actions.
- c. Capacity building.
- d. Improving legislative and enforcement initiatives (briefly discussed Japan's plan to introduce a new treaty)

**VI. FREE ZONES CONTROL CHECKLIST**

Wilfrid Roge did not attend the meeting; the issue was tabled until the next meeting.

**VII. FRAMEWORK FOR WCO IPR STRATEGIC GROUP TRAINING SESSIONS – DISCUSS AND FINALIZE THE STANDARDIZED TRAINING CURRICULUM**

There was some confusion as to who had the latest version of the document. Asha mentioned that there were suggestions for changes to the document Todd provided to Brigit in May, but that these suggestions could not be recounted. We decided to move forward with the version provided by Asha to the group. One minor change was to replace the title of Sec. VIII with "Open Session/Q&A". The following assignments of substantive areas were made:

Sec. III	Challenges for IPR enforcement – Larry Burton
Sec. IV	Border Enforcement: Procedural Aspects – Dutch Customs and Luxembourg Customs
Sec. V	Risk Analysis – Dutch Customs and Luxembourg Customs
Sec. VI	Case Studies/Practical Exercises – US Customs

**VIII. WCO DIAGNOSTIC FRAMEWORK FOR IPR**

We agreed that due to the transitional nature of the meeting, a complete discussion of the outstanding sections of the framework could not happen. Winfrid Kooij

distributed the section on Intelligence, and Larry Burton distributed the section on Integrity. Very little discussion took place. Todd Reves stated that he would compile all sections provided by Larry Burton into one document (most likely .pdf) and will post the document to the WCOIPR member's website. Members are encouraged to review all sections in preparation for the next meeting.

**IX. HANDBOOK ON RISK INDICATORS**

Again, very little was discussed, as there seemed to be some confusion as to what was the latest version of the handbook. Jan Oomen addressed a few noticeable changes regarding images, and said that he would look at it closer to determine what changes Brigit made to the document.

**X. GUIDE TO BONDS AND SECURITIES**

We agreed that the document would be beneficial to administrations in developing a method in which to protect customs and the importer in cases of improper detention and/or seizure.

**XI. DOCUMENT TO INFORM POLICY COMMISSION OF WCO IPR STRATEGIC GROUP ACTIVITIES**

**XII. ALL OTHER BUSINESS**