

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 20 October 1999

11963/99

LIMITE

ENFOCUSTOM 51

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

from: Customs Cooperation Group

on : 15 October 1999

1. Approval of the agenda

The Group approved the agenda as set out in telex 4307 of 6 October 1999.

2. Report on the Experts meeting of 4 October 1999

The Group took note of the results of the above meeting (11679/99 ENFOCUSTOM 50).

3. Convention on the use of information technology for customs purposes

a) Technical development (8865/99 ENFOCUSTOM 27)

The Group

- was informed of the outcome of the experts meeting of 5 October 1999 on technical aspects of the first option for the development of the 3rd pillar Customs Information System;

11963/99 WF/vj EN
DG H II 1

- invited the Commission services to send to delegations further technical specifications about the above first option;
- will come back to this item at its next meeting.

b) Rules of procedure of the Joint Supervisory Authority (10909/99 ENFOCUSTOM 43)

The delegations took note of

- the draft rules of procedure prepared by the European Data Protection Commissioners;
- the fact that it will be for the future Joint Supervisory Authority to adopt its rules of procedure.

4. <u>Convention of 18.12.1997 on mutual assistance and cooperation between customs</u> administrations

- Application of the Convention to the excise duties (9347/99 ENFOCUSTOM 34, 9784/99 ENFOCUSTOM 35)

The Group

- agreed that the Convention will be applicable to the excise duties;
- invited those delegations which think that their language versions should be corrected, to send proposals to the Council Secretariat.

5. Customs cooperation with the Russian Federation

a) Second meeting of Sub-committee n° 6 (28/29 September 1999, 9189/99 ENFOCUSTOM 30)

The Group was informed of the results of the above meeting, in particular of those concerning money laundering and cooperation between EU and Russian law enforcement agencies.

b) Case study on Double Invoicing (10531/99 CRIMORG 111)

The Group

 was informed by the Presidency of the structure of double invoicing as instrument of organised crime;

- had an exchange of views on this problem;
- invited the Presidency to inform the President of the Multidisciplinary Group on organised crime of this exchange of views.

6. Proposal for a computerised records system for customs purposes in the EU Member States (9260/99 ENFOCUSTOM 22, 10568/99 ENFOCUSTOM 39)

The Group

- examined the arguments set out in ENFOCUSTOM 39 in favor of a computerised records system for customs purposes;
- will continue to examine these arguments at its next meeting.

7. Other business

a) Cooperation with Albania

The Belgian delegation informed the Group of the difficulties Belgium has with the requests from Albanian authorities for assistance in customs matters.

b) Internet fraud (8022/99 ENFOCUSTOM 22)

The French delegation informed the Group of the results of the seminar on the preparation of an action plan to tackle Internet fraud.

c) Collective evaluation (9765/1/99 EVAL 41 ELARG 82 REV 1)

The Finnish delegation drew the attention of delegations to a problem concerning the Czech Republic (page 13 of the document, shortcomings).

11963/99 WF/vj EN
DG H II 3