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ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Division of Technology, Industry and Economics OzonAction Branch

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THIRD PARTNERS' MEETING

GREEN CUSTOMS INITIATIVE (GCI)

REPORT

GreenCustoms

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM,
WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
1-2 MARCH 2007

Introduction:

The Third Meeting of the Green Customs Partners was held in Brussels on 1-2 March 2007. It was hosted by the World Customs Organization at its Headquarters and was held in parallel to WCO's Enforcement Committee. It was the occasion of agreeing on the completion of the Green Customs Training Guide and on the strategy to outreach. The objective is to make the most of the Guide as a support for training of customs officers.

Please see a list of Participants and the final Meeting's agenda in Annexes.

Summary of the sessions and agreed actions:

1st March 2007

Welcome Remarks

Mr. Michael Schmitz, Director of Compliance and Facilitation, WCO, delivered the introductory remarks. He welcomed the participants and underlined the importance of raising the awareness on customs and environment in all the main political arenas, including the UN Security Council or the G8 for example. He mentioned that on new topics such as environment, WCO will venture if there is expression of strong political will. He mentioned Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) as a similar example. UNEP and its partners should thus bring this dimension to the table. Environment is currently rising on the agenda of the WCO member countries, after cases such as the one related to hazardous waste in Côte d'Ivoire. He underlined that Green Customs is welcomed at the WCO and he pointed that the Council Meeting (June 2007) could be a good opportunity to diffuse the published version of the Green Customs Guide.

Ms. Ludgarde Coppens, Policy and Enforcement Officer, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and Pacific – DTIE, responded on behalf of Ms. Sylvie Lemmet, Director, UNEP DTIE. She thanked the WCO for hosting the meeting and for demonstrating such support to the initiative. She assessed that the completion of the Guide was a key milestone and that Partners now had the responsibility to agree on common actions starting from that milestone.

The participants then introduced themselves. They recognized the support of their respective organizations for the Initiative, but also underlined, following Mr. Schmitz' remark, that a key objective of the Green Customs Initiative should be to ensure high-level awareness and support for implementation of MEAs by customs administrations.

Mr. Etienne Gonin, Associate Programme Officer, UNEP DTIE-OzonAction then presented the agenda and the expected results of the Meeting. The agenda was approved by the participants.

Session 1 – Activity Report

Summary:

Mr. Gonin presented the progress report of the initiative, based on the road map of the work plan approved in April 2006. The progress report is available as an Annex to this report. Ms.

Coppens then described an overview of regional Green Customs activities since the beginning of the partnership, including workshops but also related initiatives such as the Regional Forum on Combating Environmental Crime (created in Asia Pacific), the Project Sky Hole Patching and Regional Enforcement Networks. She underlined outcomes such as the creation of an informal Prior Informed Content procedure in Asia Pacific for the Montreal Protocol – inspired from the successful experience gained by other MEAs.

Mr. Sellar from CITES underlined that his secretariat would like to be involved in the Regional Forum facilitated by ROAP – although CITES does not have a regional structure in Asia Pacific, they do feel they would want to be informed of the developments in that forum. This would also help ensure synergy with other initiatives such as the ASEAN Wildlife Trade Initiative.¹

Mr. Bankobeza from the Ozone Secretariat pointed that it was important that Partners integrate Green Customs activities within each of the Partners' internal work plans. This would support the idea that Green Customs does help them fulfil implementation of their own MEA. This is a particularly important point to convey to the Parties of each of the organizations and agreements.

Mr. Fu from the WCO Secretariat underlined that for an outsider, it may be difficult to differentiate between the specific activities of the GCI partners (or of specific initiatives such as Project Sky Hole Patching) and what specific services Green Customs is bringing. He indicated that it might facilitate the work of the Initiative if Partners agreed on Terms of Reference for the partnership. This will help ensure consistent development of and continued support for the Initiative, including from the WCO. Participants welcomed this suggestion and supported the preparation of Terms of Reference.

Partners discussed the extent to which the Initiative aims at awareness raising and training. It would be counter-productive for the Initiative to have too ambitious goals in terms of specialized training. As the same time, Mr. Bankobeza the initiative started also on the basis that small developing countries requested joint training sessions on several MEAs at the same time. In small countries with limited number of customs officers, there is not the same level of specialization such as port vs. airport customs officers, for example, than in larger countries. Moreover, their time for capacity building programs is very limited. Especially for small developing countries, the idea of joint training should not be lost.

The modalities of the workshops were also discussed.

Agreed Actions:

Communication, co-ordination and planning:

1. A list of planned activities for 2008 with tentative dates should be distributed end of 2007 so that each partner can comment and plan for participation in those activities. Responsibilities on who takes the lead for these activities should be clearly defined.

By whom: GCI Secretariat

By when: November 2007

2. Each partner should integrate Green Customs activities in its own 2008 work plan and also announce GCI activities in its 'future activities' and agendas

¹ TRAFFIC is participating in the Regional Forum on Combating Environmental Crime.

By whom: Each of the GCI Partner organizations.

By when: January 2008

3. Partners wish to be kept informed of activities in the regions related to enforcement / combating environmental crime, even if not directly under the Green Customs Initiative – to the extent it relates to their mandates.

By whom: GCI Secretariat, in consultation with UNEP Regional Offices.

Ongoing basis

Terms of Reference:

4. UNEP should propose a first version of Terms of Reference for the Green Customs Initiative, for comments and approval by the Partners.

By whom: UNEP

By When:

- Draft to be circulated by end April 2007
- Comments should be received in May – June 2007 for approval by July 2007.

Organization of Workshops:

5. Rosters of trainers/resource persons should be established by each of the Partners at the regional level. This will avoid over-stretching the limited resources and time of the secretariats.

By whom: GCI Secretariat to circulate a request for information and contacts, Partners to provide the information

By When: As soon as possible

6. The resource persons on each of the MEAs should be accredited by each of the Partners prior to the workshop. Clear guidelines should be given to the presenter to avoid counterproductive sessions.

By whom: The organizer of the workshop should receive from the Partners the name of the contact person in the region for invitation to the workshop. Each partner is in charge of establishing the contact with this resource person to brief him/her for his/her presentation.

By when: During the preparation of the GCI workshops.

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Session 2 – Green Customs Training Guide

Summary:

Mr. Gonin facilitated the session. After a brief introduction explaining the process of completion of the text and the work of the drafting task force, constituted by Mr. Nash (Chair) from CITES, Ms. Rugarabamu from Basel, Mr. Curlin for OzonAction, assisted by M. Gonin and De Jesus. After approval of the title of the Guide and of the structure, specific discussions were held on details of the finalized draft circulated to the Partners a few days prior to the Meeting.

Regarding the needs of each of the Partners (number of copies of the Guide), participants gave priority to CD-Roms rather than paper copies. It is more convenient to transport and can include supplementary information on each of the MEAs. A certain number of copies should

be made available for COP Meetings as well as some stocks in offices that can be taken to the workshops.

It was agreed that the best would be to use the WCO channels of distribution for the Guide. Printing files should be made available, especially to organizers of national workshops. The electronic version of the Guide (pdf version) should be made available free on the Green Customs site, whereas a small fee could be charged for paper copies.

Partners approved the actions described below. These tasks are the responsibility of the drafting team, unless a specific remark mentions otherwise. Although no specific deadline was given, these tasks should be completed at the latest by April 2007.

Agreed Actions:

7. Steps for completion of the Guide:

Partners approved the cover, introduction etc. under the following conditions:

- A table of contents should be added
- Logos should be visible on the cover page (and specific waiver can be requested to UNEP's publishing board if needed) and UNEP should not be on the top of the others. Otherwise, logos can be put on the first page inside as a second best option.
- The name of the GCI Guide should also be visible on the bind of the Guide.
- Mr. Sellar asked to check that cheetahs would be the most appropriate picture on the cover page for CITES.

Action: UNEP to check with Mr. Nash to approve this picture or suggest an alternate (for example: tiger).

- Copyright: there should a standard statement, acknowledging that the document can be copied as much as possible, provided the content if not changed and the authors are acknowledged.
- A foreword should be proposed for signature by UNEP's ED and WCO's DG. The text should be drafted by UNEP and WCO and the completed text approved by all partners.

Action: UNEP to draft the proposed text for the foreword, send it to WCO. The finalized text should then be approved by all partners and sent for signature by both UNEP's ED and WCO's DG.

Partners approved Chapter 1 under the following conditions:

- WCO should not be referred to as an enforcement agency. It is a technical, intergovernmental agency rather than an enforcement one. All international organizations should be grouped rather than Enforcement Agencies vs. MEA secretariats.
- Consequently: the format of boxes should be avoided in Chapter 1, as these boxes are now too long.
- Rather than grouping by clusters (chemicals vs. wildlife, for example), an alphabetical order should be followed.
- An explanation that treaties/organizations are grouped by alphabetical order should be included in the Preface, so that the reader knows the underlying logic.
- DELC and the Chemicals Branch of DTIE will add text for Chapter 1, but UNEP should only be presented as one entry rather than separate ones.

Partners approved Chapter 2 under the following conditions:

- The GCI secretariat should propose to the approval of all partners a title for that chapter. Several options were discussed:

- A short version, which would be simpler for customs' understanding and would also cover 'Non-MEA' agreements such as the CWC: 'Overview of the Agreements'
- A slightly longer one, which would keep the key 'buzz' word of MEAs: 'Overview of the main trade-related MEAs'.

- Partners agreed that some treaties needed more space to present their agreements to customs officers (i.e. Biosafety is the longest section in Chapter 2).

Partners approved Chapter 3 under the following conditions:

- Partners recognized that the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions were not included yet in that Chapter as the implementation experience will only allow in future versions of the Guide to include meaningful advice for this cross-cutting chapter.
- The alphabetical order should be followed here too.
- Mr. Sellar underlined that it would be better not to include individuals' names as contacts, as the contact point regularly change and it would be counter-productive to write to someone and receive no feedback. The best option for all Partners would be to create / indicate generic email addresses rather than nominal ones.

Partners approved the conclusion under the following condition:

- Remaining grammatical errors should be corrected in the conclusion.

Partners also requested that the Guide go through professional editing before publication. They also agreed that additional materials such as case studies could be included in Annexes to the Guide.

Partners agreed to provide relevant high-resolution graphics, logos and pictures, as requested by the person in charge of the final layout. The GCI secretariat will thus gather these documents and propose the final layout to the Partners including pictures and graphs.

8. Publication and distribution of the Guide

- Partners will indicate their exact needs in terms of CD-Rom and paper versions of the Guide, knowing there will only be a limited number of paper copies.
- As soon as completed, the final edited text of the Guide will be made available on the Green Customs web site (pdf version – for free). For facility of use, the pdf version should include bookmarks and activated links to the relevant web sites.
- A plan for distribution will be set up, giving priority to the WCO channels of distribution (in particular: distribution of copies and CDs at WCO meetings such as the Council Session in June 2007).
- The Guide will also be sold through the Internet (for paper versions) and available to the Partners as on-demand printing.

By whom: Partners to send their needs. The GCI Secretariat will compile the requests and indicate availability.

By when: 15 May 2007

9. Inclusion of Annexes to the Guide

- The Guide should include Annexes, for which some of the partners have already provided inputs. The Annexes must include a summary of HS Codes for goods covered by the MEAs and the CWC, as prepared by the WCO (Contact point: Mr. Izaak Wind). The updates to this table should be made available on the Green Customs web site.
- It was indicated, following the Partners' Meeting, that a matrix with correlation tables between HS codes and some other International Conventions is available. This matrix is published on the WCO Web site for the public and is updated regularly (see: http://www.wcoomd.org/ie/En/Topics_Issues/HarmonizedSystem/Correlation_Tables_English_January_2007.pdf). This link should be included on the Green Customs site. If included in an annex to the Green Customs Guide, an explanation should be given in the main text of the Guide.

10. Availability of documents on the web site

- The GCI Secretariat may wish to consider the creation of a closed section of the GCI web site for authorized users. Some of the information, for example on risk indicators, should indeed be under restricted distribution rules, limited to enforcement officers. In the meantime, the GCI site can make reference to the CEN restricted web site of the WCO for risk indicators' documents.
- A feedback section should be included on the web site about opinions on the Green Customs documents.
- The GCI Secretariat would propose a plan for a restructuring of the GCI site in coming months.

11. Availability of a Flyer on the Green Customs Initiative

- Partners approved the principle of a GCI flyer, with the following recommendations:
 - the text should be shortened, particularly the information on background documents ; and more pictures be added
 - the flyer should convince the reader how the initiative can be useful to them, with links on where to find more info.
 - boxes should be added to highlight key information
 - two sections in the flyer should be clearly separated: a 'policy' section, for decision-makers ; and a more practical sections for customs specialists who may wish to know where to find training documents.

By When: If possible, a version of the flyer should be made available by the COPs of the Partners this year, starting with the COP of the Stockholm Convention (April-May 2007).

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Session 3 – Presentation by the Partners

Summary:

OPCW:

Mr. Wade presented the activities of his organization planned for 2007, including 4 workshops for customs as well as supplementary activities, targeting groups such as parliamentarians. He also introduced the wide range of support tools that have been created to help customs accomplish the complex tasks attached to the CWC. He underlined that there are opportunities for Green Customs' messages to be fed into lots of these meetings. Mr. Wade mentioned the importance for OPCW to gather case studies and instances where customs actions have led to critical seizures. He and Mr. Cardozo gave a few examples. Mr. Shende of UNEP insisted that Green Customs should give more publicity to such exemplary cases of seizures in our various fields of action. This should not be limited to seizures but also how it led to a prosecution and meaningful penalty. Even if not all information can be published, schemes can be put in place to encourage such publicity of remarkable actions by customs officers: participants presented their organization's experience with setting up excellency awards for customs officers (and particularly the CITES Secretary General's Certificate).

Basel Convention Secretariat:

Through Mr. Madsen, the secretariat indicated that the Basel Convention had held its last COP end of 2006 and was still in the early stage of implementation of the Work Programme. Noting that the next OEWG of Basel will take place in September 2007, a side event would be welcomed on this occasion. It was also mentioned that the CWO and Basel will shortly renew their MOU for cooperation.

World Customs Organization:

Mr. Hui Fu thanked the Partners for providing inputs to the document circulated at the WCO Enforcement Committee Meeting on MEAs. WCO sees a benefit in Green Customs and Mr. Fu pointed that suggestions on how WCO can help further this partnership are welcome. Mr. Shende pointed that the WCO infrastructure and networks are essential for the success of Green Customs – particularly the RILOs, the Regional Offices for Capacity Building and the Regional Training Centers. He also called for a brainstorming meeting with Mr. Kunio Mikuriya, Deputy Secretary, WCO, on the development of the cooperation. The role of WCO will obviously be key in the dissemination of Green Customs training products.

UNEP Chemicals / Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions:

Mr. Madsen, from UNEP DTIE Chemicals, represented both that Branch and two secretariats (Rotterdam and Stockholm). He presented the SAICM (Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management) process and its objectives in terms of implementation, as regards illegal traffic. It consists in preventing illegal traffic in chemicals, by strengthening existing processes and facilitating information-sharing. He mentioned the importance of this topic during the 24th session of the Governing Council of UNEP held earlier in 2007. He presented the main findings of the meeting held in Prague in November 2006, which analyzed information on the magnitude of illegal traffic in chemicals; the different types of chemicals' uses and transports which left opportunities for illegal traffic; and the life cycle approach to the management of chemicals, which has to include the role played by customs at the points of entry and exit of chemicals in a country. The life cycle approach will be the basis for the joint work of UNEP and UNDP with pilot countries on testing this approach of sustainable

management of chemicals. One of the objectives of the SAICM work will also be to determine indicators of progress in the sustainable management of chemicals.

Ozone Secretariat:

Mr. Bankobeza presented the recent developments in the field of the Montreal Protocol related to combating illegal traffic. He cited the Decision of the Meeting of the Parties requesting a study on possible tracking systems for ODS (XVII/16) and the recommendations of this study included in a Decision XVIII/18 of the last MOP, held in 2006. One such recommendation is to spread examples of best practices in use of the licensing systems. At the moment, the Secretariat and Parties are working on the development of common documents for licensing systems. It is also important to spread information from other MEAs on trade issues. The decision adopted at MOP 18 also requested to seek feedback on the use of the UN COMTRADE and E-Grid systems to track and monitor trade in ODS.

CITES Secretariat:

Mr. Sellar presented CITES activities, pointing at the limited resources available for the Secretariat, with most activities relying on external funding. However, the secretariat has a very specific role, defined by the convention, on monitoring implementation. A CITES CD-Rom for customs was developed 5-6 years ago. It will soon be complemented by another CD, including sessions for judges and prosecutors. In terms of enforcement, CITES has produced films (on trade in ivory and big cats), and help issue alerts along with Interpol and the WCO. A Briefing document is being prepared on Control / Delivery. Enforcement task forces have been created on Tigers, Great Apes and Falcons, for example. Posters have been used to raise awareness. A training module has been developed on combating corruption. A succinct material was developed on how to be a good trainer. Mr. Sellar underlined that the objectives of Green Customs and of CITES training being quite different, the tools developed by CITES were much more practical. He pointed that it was important to use opportunities of other organizations' training of customs to bring up related MEA issues – citing the 'Container Programme' of UNODC/WCO as an example.

UNEP DELC (formerly: DEC):

Mr. Kreilhuber presented the work of the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions, in relation to Green Customs. He pointed that DELC has a mandate to identify synergy in implementation of MEAs, across themes and target groups. DELC has been interested in Green Customs as it helps their mandate. In the field of enforcement and compliance, DELC developed Guidelines and a Manual, which is now available on its web site. It has also worked on a program for Judges. This experience has shown that it is important to reach out to the whole enforcement chain and not stop at only one stakeholder. DELC in the past provided substantive and financial inputs to Green Customs and aims at continuing to do so. Among the other related objectives of DELC is to provide inputs to national implementation plans: this includes, for example, ensuring a larger enforcement side in national implementation plans – this could be an entry point for Green Customs.

The day ended with the recognition by participants of the importance of this sharing of experiences between partners. Mr. Shende pointed that among the stakeholders to involve in Green Customs activities are Ministries of Finance – reinforcing the point that addressing the whole enforcement chain is important.

Agreed Actions:

- 12. Partners agreed on the principle of **creating an annual ‘Green Customs Award’** for exemplary work / seizure by customs officers in the field of environment and customs.

Action: The GCI Secretariat to prepare a draft note for this award and work with Partners having experience in that field (CITES, WCO...) to propose an award scheme to the partnership.

By When: September 2007

- 13. The GCI Secretariat should be in contact with relevant Partners to propose / **prepare side events at major upcoming COPs / related international meetings**. In particular: the Stockholm Convention COP (April-May); CITES COP (June) and Basel OEWG (September). A follow-up meeting with Mr. Mikuriya should also be organized to discuss further the possible role of the WCO in the outreach of Green Customs.

Relations and synergy with other programs of the WCO such as the container program should also be explored.

2 March 2007

Session 4 - Discussion on the development of the Work Plan:

Summary:

- Partners initially discussed the approach for delivery of Green Customs activities at the regional level.

Ms. Coppens gave a presentation on the proposed activities in all the regions, for which many requests have been received from countries. She brought a particular focus on the activities in Asia Pacific. Partners noted that the phrasing of the objectives of proposed activities was particularly important. Some of the objectives at the regional level, as included in the presentation, were described as too broad. The core goal should remain advanced awareness raising as described in the ToR of the initiative to be finalized by the partnership.

- **Agreement on the strategy**

Partners agreed on the strategy of delivery of Green Customs, which can be summarized in the three core phases described below. It is noted as a preamble that the ultimate objective is to develop a Green Customs training package for customs administrations at the national level. The phases below are elements to make the use of this package effective for customs officers.

1. Awareness-raising

There are two elements of awareness-raising:

- *High-level awareness-raising at the global level:* Green Customs should be presented to governmental and other participants during COP-level meetings and other opportunities (SAICM regional-level consultations, etc.)
- *Awareness-raising at the national level:* in some regions, it has been estimated that a complement to the first phase of awareness raising on Green Customs is necessary, at the national level. Short briefing sessions for key national stakeholders on the necessity of linking environment and customs will be organized. This is proposed in the West Asia region.

2. Regional-level Train-the-Trainer approach

The objective is to create a pool of trainers at the regional level who can then use the national Green Customs package to build capacity of customs officers at the national level. The regional approach is used to outreach to several countries at the same time and also facilitate exchange of experience between resource persons and trainers from different countries. This approach will be pilot tested in 2007. The generic format would be a 4-day course.

3. National-Level activities

The Green Customs national package will then be used at the national level. In some cases, Partners will use the approach of direct delivery of the training to test the content of the national package. In most of the cases though, this training will be done by the persons having participated in the regional train-the-trainer workshops. Ultimately, it is hoped that the package will be integrated in the national core training curriculum of national training academies (in their inception as well as 'refresher' courses for customs officers).

The **planning of approved activities for 2007** is included in the Annex.

- This general approach was approved by the participants with the following conditions and remarks
 - *There are financial and manpower constraints for Partners* and they will not be able to send staff to each of the activities planned in 2007. This does reinforce the importance of the packages prepared for the training sessions and the instructions given with those.
 - These constraints also apply to the Regional Training Centers of the WCO – of which staff will be primary targets for the regional train-the-trainer workshops. The RTC staff will be resource persons for further national-level training but, evidently, not the organizers of such training workshops.

- **Discussion on the funding of Green Customs activities**

The Secretariat indicated that funding was available for the approved activities in 2007 but not beyond. The sustainability and predictability of the funding for such a partnership was thus discussed. Mr. Bankobeza noted that as benefits appeared for each of the Partners, it would be important that some of the Green Customs activities be integrated in the core budgets of each partner. It was thus proposed that the creation of a Green Customs Trust Fund be considered. Without predictability of the funding, the activities are bound to suffer from a certain lack of long-term planning. This also demonstrates the need to promote the initiative with each of the Partners' stakeholders.

Regarding long-term sustainability of the Initiative, the possibility of a GEF-funded project was also discussed. Such a project would focus on national delivery of the Green Customs module. For a number of pilot countries determined with the Partners, a follow-up at the national level would be undertaken to adapt the generic package to the need of the country and to ensure the effective inclusion in the national curriculum. Awareness of key national stakeholders would also be raised through specific tools and consultations. During the meeting, the long-term-sustainability nature as well as the replicability of the results were underlined as very positive elements. It was also argued that gathering precise case studies with national examples would be a particularly useful outcome of such a project.

- **Presentation by the WCO of their e-learning module.**

The session concluded with the presentation by Mr. Thibault Hermes of the WCO Secretariat on the e-learning platform developed for customs officers. He pointed that e-learning has become one of the key priorities of capacity building at the WCO in recent years and that the offer of training was growing fast. He indicated that ca. 13,000 customs officers now had access to the training modules on the platform, through different modes of delivery (global, regional or national servers). He demonstrated the first e-learning module developed on an MEA – on CITES, which includes numerous pictures and interactive exercises. Participants were appreciative of the demonstration and noted that e-learning should be, in the near future, a central element of the delivery of Green Customs – with a high potential for sustainability of the training.

Agreed Actions:

14. Creation of the National Green Customs Packages

Partners should provide inputs on the content of the national package related to their conventions. Based on the initial experience gathered during the first phase of regional awareness workshops, they should indicate what should be the typical content on their field, in particular:

- agreement on a model agenda for national training (2 day-format)
- preparation of a presentation on the treaty / MEA (as much as possible referring to the text of the Guide)
- preparation of indications to the presenter / resource persons
- information on specific points which may be complex to present in the workshop, and information on whom the participant can contact for further clarification.

By When:

The generic Green Customs National package should be completed by end of June. A number of pilot workshops will allow a testing of the draft of these packages.

By Whom:

The GCI Secretariat, with assistance of involved UNEP divisions and branches, will request and coordinate inputs for constitution of this package.

15. Coordination of inputs to the Workshops

The organizers of the Train-the-Trainer workshops will contact, through the GCI Secretariat, the different partners for their specific inputs for the Train-the-Trainer regional workshops. In particular, they will seek agreement on:

- the agenda and concept note of the Train-the-Trainer workshops
- key messages to be given to participants at the workshop
- the resource persons available in the region

By When: as soon as possible once dates of workshops are confirmed with countries organizing. The first ones are taking place in May 2007.

By Whom:

The GCI Secretariat, with assistance of involved UNEP divisions and branches, will request and coordinate inputs.

In case of pilot national workshops organized by UNEP, the procedure will be the same.

Also, specific conditions will be provided to organizations wishing to organize Green Customs training at the national level – these conditions will have to be met as prerequisites for the event/workshop to be able to use the name ‘Green Customs’.

16. Fundraising for an e-learning Green Customs module.

Partners agreed that a Green Customs e-learning module should be included in the next work plan and that fundraising should start in 2007.

By When: as soon as possible.

By Whom: The WCO Secretariat and UNEP to take the lead, in consultation with Partners.

17. Developing complementary activities to customs training:

Some participants underlined their specific interest in other activities complementing the agreed core of activities in 2007. They agreed to take the lead on the following items:

- Prosecutors Training: UNEP (DELC and GCI Secretariat)
- Workshop on implementation in Free Trade Zones: OPCW and GCI Secretariat.

Additionally, some activities were not included due to funding constraints. This is the case in particular of the back-to-back sessions on Green Customs proposed with the RILO annual meetings in the Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia subregions. Specific funding will be sought with donors which may be interested in activities in that region.

By When: throughout 2007

By Whom: GCI Secretariat

Communication with the other partners on these activities will follow in 2007.

CONCLUSION: Partners thanked the GCI and WCO Secretariat for the organization of the Meeting. They underlined that the next Partners Meeting should be able to report very substantial results of this partnership.

LAUNCH of the GREEN CUSTOMS TRAINING GUIDE

Following the completion of the Meeting, the Green Customs Training Guide was presented during a side event of the WCO Enforcement Committee Meeting, with keynote speeches by Mr. Kunio Mikuriya, Deputy Secretary of the WCO Secretariat, and Mr. Shende. In the afternoon, a roundtable discussion was organized between partner representatives and customs officers interested in learning more about the Green Customs Initiative. Customs officers provided feedback on their needs and national experiences.

ANNEXES – SEE ATTACHED

ANNEX I: AGENDA

ANNEX II: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ANNEX III: ACTIVITY REPORT (APRIL 2006 – FEBRUARY 2007)

ANNEX IV: PLAN OF ACTIVITIES IN 2007